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#### Golden Spatula



Elizabeth Scott

The wonderful Elizabeth Scott is the winner of the highly prestigious Golden Spatula this week. We honour Elizabeth for her unscientific approach to humour, her comic drawing powers, her opinions on feminism and her ability to win Taylor two bags of M&M's. You make everything good.

#### Furor Arma Ministrat

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The *Gauntlet* is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire *Gauntlet* staff. Editorials are chosen by the majority of the editorial board. The *Gauntlet* is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the *Gauntlet* follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: thegauntlet.ca. The *Gauntlet* is printed on recycled paper and uses a unicorn based ink. We urge you to recycle/inhale the *Gauntlet*.

#### Letter Policy

Letters must be typed, double-spaced and received by Monday at 4 p.m., and must include the author's name, student ID number, telephone number and signature. Letters will not be printed if they include attacks of a strictly personal nature, statements that discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or sexual orientation, or libelous or defamatory material. All letters should be addressed to "Editor, the Gauntlet," and be no longer than 300 words. The *Gauntlet* retains the right to edit submissions. Letters can be delivered or mailed to the Gauntlet office, Room 319 MacEwan Students' Centre, or sent by email to editor@thegauntlet.ca.

#### The Cover

Design by Evangelos Lambrinoudis II  
 Photo by Adrienne Shumlach

# Black History Month is for everyone

In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, an African America historian, initiated "Negro History Week" to recognize the contributions of black people that were all too often overlooked in historical texts. Today, we celebrate Black History Month in February to acknowledge the accomplishments of black people. Although the achievements of black people are many, they are often contrasted with numerous injustices when looking at the past.

One cannot ignore the horrors of the trans-Atlantic slave trade that brought African people to the Americas. Nor can we dispel the humiliation black people endured after years of servitude while being treated like second-class citizens. Though it is difficult to accept, denying the inequities of the past is as much a problem as ignoring the achievements.

Throughout history, black people have made numerous contributions to civilization. The sophisticated African systems of mathematics used to build the pyramids were later appropriated by others. Ibn Battuta, the Moroccan explorer of the 14th century, travelled to more places than Marco Polo. The invention of the light bulb in 1879 would not have been possible without Lewis Latimer's carbon filament. More recently, George Carruthers invented the far ultraviolet electrographic camera that was used in the 1972 Apollo 16 mission to capture images of the Earth's outer atmosphere and deep space objects. These are just

a few examples of the great things black people have done.

It has now become part of black history tradition to enumerate the many contributions to progress and industry made by black people. Less often recognized are the subtle achievements of the adaptations black people have made when encountering new and unusual circumstances.

Black people were originally from Africa, but they have made their home in virtually all habitable parts of the world. What many people alive today don't realize is that every human being on the planet originates in Africa. Up until 1987, most people believed that humans in different geographic areas evolved separately. But with a greater understanding of human genetics, along with corroborating fossil evidence, we can now trace every human lin-

age back to a single woman who lived 200,000 years ago in Africa. Mitochondrial Eve, the mother of humanity, was black.

What would have Dr. Woodson said to this groundbreaking discovery? Would he have continued to find ways to elevate black people in history? Or would he have pursued another course of action that would demonstrate to people that colour is subordinate to our shared commonalities?

In many ways, Dr. Woodson's ideas have merits that are still relevant today. It is important to remember our past and acknowledge beneficial contributions to society.

In the past, the atrocities we experienced were due to failing to see our own humanity in others. Through division, we committed deplorable acts that continue to traumatize and debilitate people.

The whole idea of race was a socially-constructed phenomenon that was used to justify slavery, war and genocide. This phenomenon continues to elude us on our path to peace and justice.

It is not only important for us to recognize our achievements as a unified people, but it is also imperative for all of humanity to see that we are connected by more than just colour. No matter what colour we think we are, we can rest in the knowledge that we are all one people. And no matter where we go, we are not outsiders — we are home. We can all celebrate in the achievements of black people because we, as members of the human race, are better off because of them. Black History Month is something everyone can take part in because we are all part of the same human family.



## contents

### news

Talking sex, solar cars, women in leadership, MacHall and a recycling competition, **page 4.**

### entertainment

We talk about the U of C's *The Vagina Monologues*, interview comedian Doug Mutai and review some albums, **page 8.**

### features

What are your views on feminism? A two-part feature on gender issues starts with this topic, **page 11.**

### opinions

Voting with dollars to get the attention of corporations and makeup is not exclusively for female use, **page 14.**

### sports

The U of C swim team gets ready for the CIS championships, another edition of trainer's corner and Flames prospects in the CHL, **page 16.**

# It's just sex, let's talk about it

## The U of C gets ready for its second annual Sexual and Gender Wellness Week

**Tim Louden**

Gauntlet News

With files from Michael Grondin

The excitement is palpable as the University of Calgary gears up for its second annual Sexual and Gender Wellness Week from Feb. 11–15. A carnival, seminars, panel discussion and other events will be held in MacEwan Student Centre throughout the week to educate students about healthy sexuality.

“Our core goal is to provide a forum for dialogue about issues relating to sexual health, relationships and gender expression. For students, now that they're older, they have more critical-thinking skills to engage in these topics in a way that might be more meaningful,” said registered psychologist at the Students' Union Wellness Centre and a committee member for Sex Week Carolyn Claire.

Workshops during Sex Week are varied, from discussions about pornography and healthy relationships to sexual violence, sexually transmitted infections, orgasms, feminism, healthy relationships, religion and sexual violence prevention.

In Canada, 854,817 people have contracted an STI at one point in their lives. Worldwide, 448 million contract an STI every year.

Although Claire says safe sex awareness has improved over the last 10 years with the rate of unplanned pregnancies dropping, she says these workshops are still important for students to be informed about risks and learn how to communicate sexual boundaries.

“There's been a lot of fluctuation [in STI rates]. Calgary is kind of known as a hotbed,” she said.

In addition to talking about



Adrienne Shumlich

U of C's Sexual and Gender Wellness Week explores safe sex and healthy relationships.

safe sex, Claire said Sex Week will raise awareness of sexual orientation and gender expression.

“I think there's something for everyone,” said Claire, adding that the Sex Week workshops are an excellent opportunity to re-

ceive comprehensive sexual education about healthy sexuality.

There will be panels, seminars with sex experts and film screenings.

Claire emphasized the importance of students' involvement in

Sex Week, adding that the week is driven by student involvement.

“We want to keep meeting the needs of students,” said Claire.

First-year psychology student and member of the Q Centre Richard Pham said there needs to be more dialogue about sex.

“In the gay community we have talks and panels all the time. I don't know about the rest of the community, but it seems really generic,” said Pham. “I think people need to talk about sex more often, and more regularly. It's important to know about these things, because people do it all

the time. Sex is normal and, if you don't know about it, it can get messy.”

According to Women's Resource Centre co-ordinator Nanako Furuyama, Sex Week is an opportunity to discuss healthy sexuality. She said that many people are afraid to talk about sexuality.

“Students are hesitant to talk about sex and there's a lot of very important information that students need to know to prevent diseases or to maintain healthy sexuality,” said Furuyama. “It is very important to have normalized conversation around healthy sexual relations, relationships, sexual health and wellness.”

Furuyama wants to have Sex Week every year to increase dialogue and sexual knowledge.

The Q Centre will be hosting panels to introduce students to the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender and queer community, dispel stereotypes and familiarize students with the vocabulary used within the community. There will also be a film screening with free popcorn and drinks at That Empty Space.

Third-year U of C drama student Marie Boston said that dialogue around sex, though important, is not enough to erase negative attitudes of sex.

“Talk around sex needs to be more respectful, and we need to respect people's views because there are a lot of negative attitudes and issues that people should be more aware of,” said Boston. “I think some of the dialogue is a little bit too objective, and it objectifies sex, so that in a sense could be changed.”

“Our core goal is to provide a forum for dialogue about issues relating to sexual health, relationships and gender expression.”

– Carolyn Claire, Wellness Centre psychologist

### SEX FACTS

- On average, 30 minutes of sex burns 200 calories.
- When erect, the average penis is between 5–7 inches long. The average vagina is 2.5 inches long.
- 1 out of 3 women have trouble reaching orgasm during sex.
- The average Canadian loses their virginity at 16.5 years old.
- Chlamydia is the most common STI in Canada. In 2004, 63,000 new cases were reported in Canada.
- Over 10 billion condoms are used every year.
- 854, 817 Canadians have contracted an STI at one point.
- Worldwide, 448 million people contract an STI every year.



To comment on this story  
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## campus quips

What is your favourite form of contraception?



“The pill. It's easier and it cuts down on condom costs.”

– Andrew Zimmer,  
first-year  
computer science



“I use an IUD.”

– Avril Humphrey,  
third-year  
nursing



“Birth control for women.”

– Thomas  
Kranjcevic,  
third-year  
engineering



“I use birth control.”

– Nicole Kameka,  
fourth-year  
english

# U of C solar team builds new car

Schulich Delta can seat two people and will be fully solar powered

Michael Grondin  
News Editor

The University of Calgary's solar car team unveiled their fourth-generation solar car prototype, the Schulich Delta, on Feb. 1. The car is completely solar powered and will be ready to hit the streets this May.

Members of industry and the university administration were in attendance at the unveiling.

The Schulich Delta was designed with practicality in mind. It is more spacious than the team's previous model, the Schulich Axiom.

Just over 40 students from several different faculties are part of the Solar Team. The Schulich Axiom won several awards, including best Canadian car in the World Solar Car Challenge in 2010. It had three wheels and could reach 130 kilometres per hour.

The Schulich Delta has all of its controls on the steering wheel and only has a brake pedal. Solar panels feed energy into a rechargeable battery.

According to third-year commerce student and project co-chair and business manager of the solar team Susie Kubik, the Schulich Delta has a completely new design.

"It is a radical change from all of our previous generations," said Kubik. "We decided to take a dif-



courtesy Riley Brandt/University of Calgary

The Schulich Delta solar car was unveiled on Feb. 1, 2013.

ferent route with the Schulich Delta. It will still be a great race car but we also wanted it to be very practical."

The Schulich Delta will compete this October in the World Solar Car Challenge in Australia.

Kubik hopes the team can

maintain the same success with the Schulich Delta.

"We want to maintain our top standing as the top Canadian team in the World Solar Car Challenge and we want to increase our standing in the world," she said.

When the car is complete, the

team will go on a tour of Alberta to test the car and educate Albertans about sustainable practices.

Third-year mechanical engineering student and project co-chair and engineering manager Mico Madamesila expressed excitement for the Alberta tour.

"The tour of Alberta has a two-fold purpose: we want to raise awareness about sustainability and at the same time we want to test the car, get it on the road and see how it fares on open public roads," said Madamesila.

Madamesila said that projects like the solar car show that sustainable practices are beneficial for technological advancement.

"I think it's a good way to inform people that sustainable technology is very much alive, that it's very much capable of replacing the energy system we have now," said Madamesila. "It's a way for students to also get some good experiential learning while at the same time it's a way to have fun and show off our car and hard work to the community."

Fourth-year natural science student and project communications manager Jillian Stephenson hopes that initiatives like the solar car project will spark more interest in the industry to find eco-friendly solutions.

"We really emphasize the fact that we have to be sustainable, and we have to be looking for more resourceful means to use energy," said Stephenson. "I think we really do a great job in our community outreach to emphasize that we need to move forward in a more sustainable way."

To comment on this story  
visit [thegauntlet.ca](http://thegauntlet.ca)

2007 >> 2008 >> 2009 >> 2011 >> 2013

The U of C solar team unveils its first car, the Soleon. The team takes part in a 3,000 kilometre race in Australia.

U of C students race the new Schulich 1, beginning in Dallas. They finish sixth out of 25 teams.

The new Axiom car is faster, more efficient and costs \$100,000 less than the previous model.

The Schulich Axiom is the top-finishing Canadian car in an Australian race.

The newly-designed, two-seater Delta car is unveiled.

## 101 Things You've Always Wanted to Know about Sex

Hayley Wade  
VP Student Life



Admit it: you have questions about sex. Everybody does! That's why from February 11-15, the Students' Union, SU Wellness Centre and the Women's Resource Centre (WRC) are teaming up to bring you Sex Week. Check out workshops, films, lectures and discussions all around MSC, covering everything you've ever wanted to know about sex.

### Let's Get Physical

The obvious headliners of Sex Week are the workshops and discussions that relate to the body. Keep informed and keep yourself safe and healthy by attending sessions about orgasms or STIs. Remember to mark your calendar to do a testicular self-exam.

### Say You, Say Me

Communication is an important part of any relationship. Drop by Executive Council Chambers on Tuesday for "FB, Friends with Benefits, Hookups and Beyond..."

### Girls on Film

Throughout the week, you can check out a variety of sex and gender related films. On Tuesday night, drop by That Empty Space for Q-Centre and Fairytales' special movie night. Then on Wednesday stop by the WRC for "Positive Women: Exposing Injustice" for a film screening and discussion.

### Just Can't Get Enough / I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For

Not to worry, we're not done yet. On Monday come by the Sex Week Carnival in the North Courtyard of

MSC. Other workshops and lecture topics this week include "Modern Masculinity"; "Introduction to Kink & BDSM"; "Porn: A Conversation"; "Gender and the Media"; "the Bible and Homosexuality" and more! Finally, check out our "Ask the Sexperts" question panel on Thursday, and "Alphabet Soup: An Intro to the LGBT Community" on Friday.

Sex Week runs February 11- 15 throughout MSC. For a complete list of Sex Week events and details, visit [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)



The Students' Union advertisement is provided by the SU and published without Gauntlet editorial revision.

# Women in leadership video

**Michael Grondin**  
News Editor

Academia creates an environment for world-class leaders to grow, and Women in Leadership, a club at the University of Calgary, is in the process of creating a video to showcase the diverse range of women on campus that are an inspiration to students.

WIL aims to empower women at the U of C through collaborative projects and a platform for discussion. The club was started in the 2011-12 school year.

Students' Union vice-president academic Kenya-Jade Pinto come up with the idea for the video with WIL vice-president communications and U of C student Emma Popoola in the 2011-12 school year. The production of the video has just begun.

According to Pinto, diversity will be an important factor in the video. It will be under five minutes and will debut in late March.

"Women in Leadership has decided to create a video of diverse stories of women on our campus," said Pinto. "We're looking for narratives from women on campus of all different backgrounds and we're casting that really wide."

The video will include stories from both men and women.

**/// We're looking for narratives from women on campus of all different backgrounds.**

— Kenya-Jade Pinto, SU vice-president academic

Pinto said the stories must speak about women who have been an inspiration.

"We are taking stories that pertain to women in leadership. What woman inspires you? What does it mean to be a woman in leadership? Why do students feel it is important to have a Women in Leadership club on campus?" said Pinto.

Currently, only the first few interviews have been conducted.

"We really want to dig into each little pocket of the university campus to get these voices," said Pinto. "This video is meant to show that women in leadership come from all different walks of life."

According to fifth-year international relations student and president of WIL Stephenie Healey, this video will help empower women on campus.

"This project was originally intended to promote the club and celebrate the things it has accomplished in its first two years of existence," said Healey. "We are now focused on crafting a video that is

simply an extension of our mandate: to engage a diverse group of women to inspire them to take on leadership roles, and to be a forum for them to share and discover what being a woman in leadership means to them."

She hopes that roughly 30 or more individuals will participate in the video.

"It's not going to be like a docudrama or anything. It will be a short and sweet, inspiring video from hopefully a lot of different people," said Healey. "We want to get a very diverse group of individuals with varying passions and degree backgrounds."

Upon completion, the video will be displayed on the Loop throughout the MacEwan Student Centre.

For more information or to participate visit [wilucalgary.ca](http://wilucalgary.ca)

# RecycleMania

**Riley Hill**  
News Assistant

The University of Calgary will be taking part in RecycleMania, a competition between North American universities over who can collect the most recyclables from Feb. 3 to March 30.

The competition has several categories, including most organics recycled, most bottles and cans recycled and the greatest weight of recycled materials. Success is also measured by how little garbage is produced during the eight-week competition.

According to Office of Sustainability co-op engagement coordinator Amy Glassman, the U of C will be looking to do well in the competition this year.

"This is our third year competing. We're in the benchmark division, so that means we're more just striving to achieve a personal best," said Glassman.

This will be the competition's 13th year. Last year, over 600 universities competed.

Glassman said there will be

several programs to better the U of C's chance of success.

"From March 4-7, we will be having RecycleMania week in the dining centre," said Glassman. "Volunteers will be in the dining centre promoting the different programs to help for the event."

To help reach their goal, the Office of Sustainability has set up an Erase the Waste 200 gram pledge on their website. The pledge asks students to reduce their waste by 200 grams per week from now until RecycleMania's conclusion on March 30.

Competitors will also get some assistance from the new compost educators program beginning on Feb. 25. Staff will stand by garbage and recycling bins during peak hours in MSC to help students choose the appropriate bins for their waste. The compost educators program is based off a similar program used at the Calgary Folk Music Festival.

For more information visit [recyclemaniacs.org](http://recyclemaniacs.org)

## KIRTAN YOGA

### Meditation by chanting Sanskrit Mantras

Kirtan, is the singing of sacred mantras, accompanied by classical Indian instruments and some Western instruments (such as the guitar, flute, violin, saxophone). It is a call-and-response style of singing which involves the audience in the performance. The leader sings one line or verse and the guests chant in response. It is an ancient and well-known art to calm the mind, open the heart and connect with the Divine Consciousness. It is a culture where everybody can take place and make their own spiritual experience.

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# 5,000 students consulted on MacHall Master Plan

**Michael Grondin**  
News Editor

“It does seem pricey, but it depends on what we get out of it,” said Nolan Trach, a third-year business student at the University of Calgary, about the MacHall Master Plan.

The proposed MacHall Master Plan, which was unveiled in October 2012, will overhaul MacEwan Student Centre at an estimated cost of \$150 million. Over 5,000 students have been consulted in the past five months — 1,000 consultations were in the past few weeks — to gauge students’ opinions of the proposed plan.

The Students’ Union has been increasing consultation efforts through surveys and by asking people in food lineups in MSC. A final town hall meeting was held on Feb. 5 with one of the designers of the draft plan Martin Jones in attendance to answer questions about the direction of the plan. Fewer than 10 students showed up to the event.

SU president Hardave Birk is proud of the SU’s commitment to speak with students.

“It’s clear that students care about what’s going on in the building, and that is really important to us,” said Birk. “Also, hav-

ing higher numbers of students being consulted allows us to make better decisions with what we will be doing with MacHall in the future.”

The proposed plan will increase space and flow in MSC, with over 10,500 square metres added to the building as well as a new underground loading facility.

Though the plan and its price are not set in stone at this time, students have expressed uncertainty about how the plan will be funded and whether construction will close off the building to students.

Third-year U of C electrical engineering student Roberto Cabedoni said the planning for the proposal does not address the true concerns of students. He also said that by the time the construction is complete, he may not be around for the final result.

“I think it’s an effective use of money, but it’s not an effective use of planning,” said Cabedoni. “If they are going to close MacHall for such a long time, and we are not going to have a space for hanging out or getting food, then I don’t think it’s a good idea.”

However, upgrades are needed to MSC’s operational and mechanical systems, according to a performance review of the building

conducted in 2010.

“I can see why we need some upkeep in the building. It seems out of date and it definitely needs some changes,” said Trach.

U of C facilities management and development vice-president Bob Ellard is behind the planning. He said that it is important to understand students’ needs and wants before any construction begins.

“It’s a long process to get to where we need to be,” said Ellard. “This plan is like a road-map in giving us some guidance as we develop the building.”

Construction on the building may not commence for several years. The SU will continue their efforts to speak with as many students as possible before any dirt is moved.

Fifth-year political science and history student Rachel Martin said the plan is unnecessary.

“Personally, as a student, I don’t see too much wrong with MacHall as it is right now,” said Martin. “I feel [the plan] is a waste of money. I see renovations happening all over the place on campus and I feel there are a lot of other things they could be doing.”

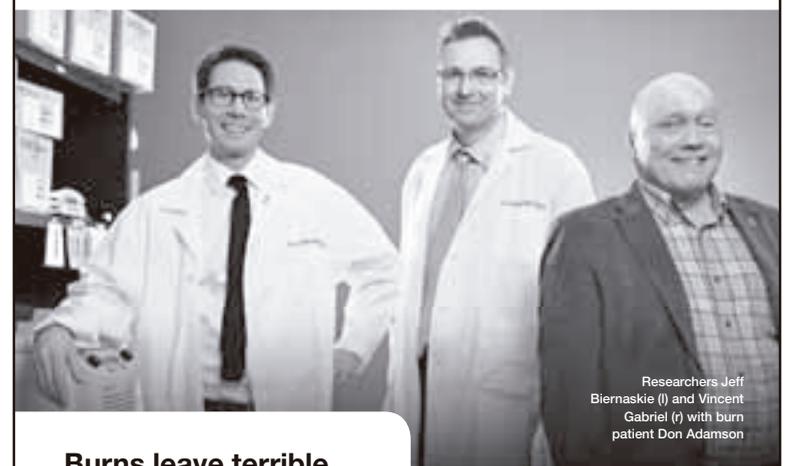
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Michael Grondin

U of C student Nolan Trach said MacHall needs to be updated.

## Collaborating for Improved Health



Researchers Jeff Biernaskie (l) and Vincent Gabriel (r) with burn patient Don Adamson

### Burns leave terrible physical and emotional scars.

While the skin grafting surgery required for severe burns is life-saving, it results in permanent disfigurement, discomfort, and psychological trauma.

Jeff Biernaskie, PhD, and Vincent Gabriel, MD, hope to improve the function of skin grafts through the use of adult stem cells. If successful, this will allow burn patients to regenerate their own skin tissue so that it looks and acts more like normal skin.

#### Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions’ (AIHS) Collaborative Research and Innovation Opportunities (CRIO)

Project supports Drs. Biernaskie and Gabriel’s research as well as 20 other collaborative projects that are tackling priority issues in the areas of health, wellness, and health services so that we all benefit from the resulting innovations.

Learn more about how we are making a difference:  
[aihealthsolutions.ca](http://aihealthsolutions.ca)

Meet the following successful lead applicants from the peer-reviewed 2012 CRIO Project competition:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Dr. Matthias Amrein UC</b><br>Lung tissue repair                        | <b>Dr. Adam Kirton UC</b><br>Stroke in newborns                                       |
| <b>Dr. Finlay McAlister UA</b><br>Hospitalization outcomes                 | <b>Dr. Christopher Power UA</b><br>Multiple Sclerosis diagnosis and therapy           |
| <b>Dr. Arya Sharma UA</b><br>Obesity management                            | <b>Dr. Hans Vogel UC</b><br>Eye disease treatment                                     |
| <b>Dr. Jeff Biernaskie UC</b><br>Skin graft improvement                    | <b>Dr. Zelma Kiss UC</b><br>Depression treatment                                      |
| <b>Dr. Rajiv Midha UC</b><br>Cells for nerve repair                        | <b>Dr. Derrick Rancourt UC</b><br>Stem cell generation                                |
| <b>Dr. Susan Slaughter UA</b><br>Sustaining research in practice           | <b>Dr. Michael Woodside UA</b><br>Parkinson’s disease treatment                       |
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# The Vagina Monologues



The University of Calgary presents Eve Ensler's iconic play for the first time in over a decade.

Evangelos Lambrinoudis II

**Sean Willett**  
Entertainment Editor

Society has a problem with vaginas. People seem to have no difficulties discussing the intricacies of male genitalia, yet there are still many who see the vagina as a taboo topic — mostly because women have been conditioned by society to be ashamed of their sexual organs. Thankfully, there is a play that has been helping women free themselves from this embarrassment since 1996: *The Vagina Monologues*.

This year, the University of Calgary will be hosting a performance of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues*, presented by the Women's Resource Centre and the Werklund Foundation Centre for Youth Leadership Education. The play will be performed from Feb. 12–13 at the Boris Roubakine Recital Hall and all proceeds will go to the Discovery House, a women's shelter in Calgary. Dr. Shirley Steinberg, the play's director and the director of the Werklund Foundation, says that the impetus to have *The Vagina Monologues* at the U of C came from the shock that they were not here already.

"I was at the Women's Resource Centre as a collaborator and I asked, 'So when are *The Vagina Monologues* this year?' and they just sort of looked at me and said 'We don't have them,' " explains

Steinberg. "I said, 'But every big university has them every year,' and they said, 'Well we don't, and we've always wondered about that.' "

While the U of C did host *The Vagina Monologues* over a decade ago, they have not become a part of the university the way they have in other post-secondary institutions. Steinberg felt that a comeback was needed, and with prior experience in theatre, she was the perfect person to make it happen.

"My former world was one of a theatre director, so it was very clear to me that we need to usher ourselves into the 20th century, let alone the 21st century, in Calgary," says Steinberg. "Most universities do have it once per year, so that became a very important part of the decision. This kind of became the cause célèbre, and so we decided to do it."

The play is presented as a series of monologues from several different characters, each with their own experiences to share about their vaginas. While the monologues change every year, the theme of the vagina as a tool of empowerment stays the same. Steinberg believes that *The Vagina Monologues* can help to free women from the stigma attached to their vaginas, and help them to feel more comfortable and more confident with their bodies.

"It's emancipatory," says Stein-

berg. "Originally, Eve Ensler was just doing some ethnography, getting narratives from women about their embarrassment about their vaginas. Men talk about their penises all the time. We make penis jokes, there's a performance called *Puppetry of the Penis* and we build buildings that look like penises. There's this phallic world that we're all kind of conscious of, but vaginas are different. So Ensler put together these monologues in the '90s and realized that they were blowing people away — that it was a very emancipatory way for women to share and become equitable with their own sexuality and sexual organs."

However, the play is not simply about playfulness and sexuality. There is a darker side to the performance, one that addresses the grim realities of how difficult life as a woman can be.

"Of course, an important piece of that was the knowledge that women are being constantly raped and harmed and disfigured vaginally," says Steinberg, "and the amount of female circumcision that exists in many third-world countries."

While she found it difficult to balance the lighter side of the play with the darker side, Steinberg believes the humour present in *The Vagina Monologues* is still very important in helping to fight against oppression.

"With oppressed people there tends to be more humour than people who are very bourgeois and have never had anything happen to them," says Steinberg. "I think humour is the way some people stay alive."

One of the most important parts of *The Vagina Monologues* is the way it offers a chance for any woman to perform, since no prior experience in acting is required to audition.

"Because it's done as a reader's theatre and because it's suggested we don't use many actors at all, we have a lot of women who are never on stage," says Steinberg. "So it is doubly emancipatory in a lot of ways. I like that direction."

Two of the play's actors, Gael James and Crystal Yarham, are students in the U of C's education program. They explain that they hope *The Vagina Monologues* can help raise awareness about the violence some women go through in our society.

"I think it educates people, both some women and some men, about vaginas," says James. "It's also a really wonderful fundraiser. It builds awareness about our need for a women's shelter and about violence against women, since a lot of these stories are about violence performed against women and their vaginas. Maybe this will get people to think twice before they do something awful."

"I think it is a really important cause, and I think that a lot of times women, especially women with children, feel like they can't get out of a bad situation," says Yarham. "Since all of the proceeds are going to a women's shelter here in Calgary I think that will help bring a lot of awareness to this problem."

Every year, *The Vagina Monologues* help women leave behind the shame society has attached to their vaginas, while educating audiences about the importance of feminism. Steinberg is quick to dismiss claims that feminism is no longer relevant in today's world, explaining that while things may seem different at a glance, there is still a lot that needs to change.

"As a woman and a feminist, nothing's changed," says Steinberg. "It looks better, of course, but the reality is that we have fewer women leading Fortune 500 companies than we did 40 years ago. Women have only now been allowed into combat roles in the American military, when of course they have been brutalized and murdered throughout the ages in warfare. I'm not one that thinks we've come a long way. I think we have a long way to go. I don't think we're in a post-feminist era."

# Doug Mutai is better than YouTube

Calgarian comedian wants people to see stand-up live

Alicia Ward  
Gauntlet Entertainment

While almost anyone could call themselves a fan of stand-up comedy, far fewer people could claim to regularly enjoy it live. Calgarian comedian Doug Mutai believes that live stand-up comedy can't be compared to watching it on video.

"You might think you like comedy on YouTube or tv, but it's so much better live," says Mutai. "I remember my first live show, I was like, 'Whoa!'"

Despite this, Mutai was introduced to the world of stand-up comedy the way many aspiring comedians are — through watching it on tv.

"I was watching a comedian on television and said, 'I could be doing that,'" says Mutai.

The decision to try stand-up comedy paid off for Mutai, a graduate of Lethbridge College's business program. Along with winning a recent local stand-up contest called Yuk Yuk Calgary's Chase Your Butterfly Competition, Mutai has also performed at venues across Canada, including at the CBC Winnipeg Comedy Festival. However, Mutai says that nowhere is quite as good as home.

"Every place has parts that are just Calgary transplanted, you know?" says Mutai. "Calgary will always be my home. Maybe someone who's from somewhere else will think their place is the best."

Calgary is home to many talented comedians, ranging from open-mic amateurs to full-time professionals. It is a community that never stays the same, and Mutai explains that this is one of his inspirations.

"Everyone has their own performance style . . . it's constantly changing," says Mutai. "Usually it's someone who does something

different or interesting that inspires me."

Another important aspect of Calgary's stand-up comedy scene is the ease of which someone can start performing stand-up. There are a large number of open-mic nights and amateur shows across the city that actively encourage newcomers to try their hand at performing, allowing aspiring comedians to hone their skills and begin to build a fanbase.

"It's really easy to get a start," explains Mutai. "You just have to show up."

One of the most popular weekly comedy nights in Calgary is hosted at Broken City: Comedy Monday Night. For the price of \$5.00, audience members are treated to a long list of performers, including first timers, casual jokers and dedicated comedians. The popularity and success of Comedy Monday Night at Broken City has made it the longest running open-mic night in western Canada. The evening is hosted by an established comedian, and always finishes with a popular headliner. The community is bursting with willing performers eager to secure a spot on the stage but, according to Mutai, it rarely gets competitive.

"Everyone wants to go up, but for me everyone is there to have a good time," says Mutai.

Mutai clearly loves what he does and, while he is the first to admit that comedians are egotistical, he is also very humble about the praise he receives. To him, job satisfaction comes from audience satisfaction.

"It's great when people come up to you and tell you that you did a good job," says Mutai. "I've had people say I've made their night."

While it is possible to see Mutai's videos on YouTube, he would prefer it if you saw it the way stand-up is meant to be seen: in person.

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ALBUM REVIEWS



## Tegan and Sara *Heartthrob*

January 29, 2013 (Warner Bros. Records)

Calgarian indie-rock giants Tegan and Sara's seventh studio album *Heartthrob* is destined to be met with cries of 'sell outs' by self-proclaimed 'true fans.' On the surface, it's easy to see where these jaded fans are coming from. *Heartthrob* trades in the acoustic-rock soundscapes that defined *The Con* and *So Jealous* for a wall of production that sounds like '80s synth-pop mixed with the kind of music you might hear on a Katy Perry record.

No one that has been keeping tabs on the duo since the release of their 2009 album *Sainthood*,

which hinted at a more electronic sound for the band, should be overly surprised by this transition. The duo's collaborations on electronic dance tracks like Morgan Page's "Body Work" and Tiesto's "Feel it in my Bones" made it obvious that the band was looking to explore new sounds and genres.

This seemingly blatant attempt at making a mainstream pop record would be concerning if the songwriting had suffered. Thankfully, the core of *Heartthrob* is the same as any other Tegan and Sara record. It is filled with emotionally charged, almost embarrassingly candid lyrics with hooks so effortlessly memorable you'll be singing them in your sleep, topped with arguably the best vocal harmonies in music today.

The highest point of *Heartthrob* is the back-to-back power-pop bliss of "How Come You Don't Want Me," an infectious catchy song that anyone who's ever been left behind in a relationship will relate to, followed by "I Couldn't Be Your Friend," a venomous track about a relationship gone horribly wrong.

The only low point on *Heartthrob* comes with "Love They Say," a song that only barely survives its clichéd lyrics through the merit of its strong melody and convincing vocal performances.

All in all, Tegan and Sara have made the transition to electro-dance-pop with thrilling results. If this is the future of dance music, I might just have to start shaking my ass.

**Jordan Clermont**



## Ra Ra Riot *Beta Love*

January 22, 2013 (Arts and Crafts)

The product of Syracuse University returns for its third full-length album, *Beta Love*, a decidedly more upbeat release than 2010's *The Orchard*.

Constantly being accused of being a Vampire Weekend cover band, Ra Ra Riot certainly step outside their comfort zone on this album — with mixed results. The album is remarkably fast-paced and rarely stops to breathe, something that can be jarring upon a first listen.

On *Beta Love*, RRR's trademark orches-

tral rock gets a technological makeover with drum machines, glitchy synths and stripped instrumentation. Wes Miles's swooping, impossibly high falsetto is prominently featured throughout the album, sometimes ad nauseum.

*Beta Love* features Miles's vocals far more prominently than in previous records. Rather than being a tasteful section on a few songs, Miles's voice consistently operates between the Temper Trap and a dog whistle.

What charmed listeners on 2007's *The Rhumb Line* was the mixture of catchy choruses and brooding instrumentation that made RRR stick out from other indie rock acts of the mid-2000s. However, on *Beta Love*, RRR seems to abandon subtlety in favour of high-tempo, frenetic synth-rock. On tracks like the incredibly catchy "Angel, Please" and the unapologetically pop-oriented "Dance With Me," RRR communicate a readiness to enter mainstream radio play.

Lyrical, Miles still occasionally revisits familiar themes on tracks such as "When I Dream" and "For Once" and as the album progresses the songs begin to sound akin to what one has come to expect from RRR.

Perhaps what is so striking is just how much fun the album is on almost every track. On the whole, the departure is stark and the product uneven, but hearing RRR diversifying their sound makes for an interesting listen.

**Taylor McKee**

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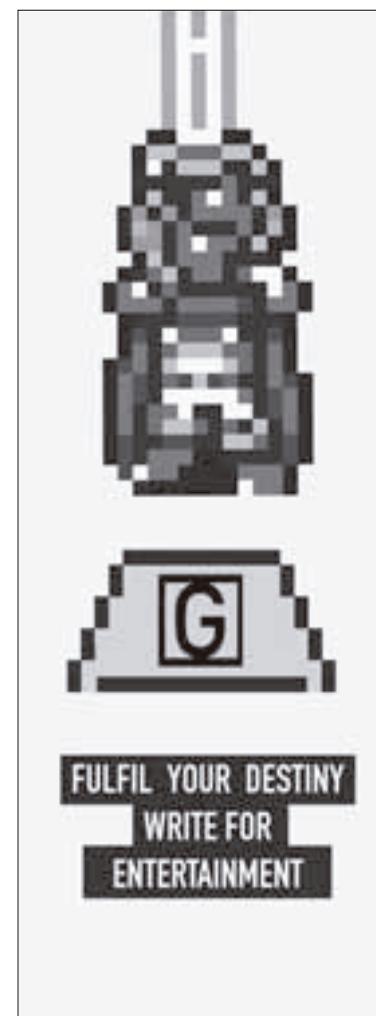
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# The many faces of Feminism

Welcome to the Gauntlet's two-part feature on gender issues. Below are articles written by a variety of people responding to the question, "What are your views on feminism?" Want to respond? Comment at [thegauntlet.ca](http://thegauntlet.ca).

**Elizabeth Scott**  
First-year English



Feminist thinking and behaviour has become so prevalent in the past few decades that it is impossible to ignore. There are increasingly more female CEOs and breadwinners in families, but for some reason it is difficult for many people to accept the idea of a woman supporting a man on a much smaller scale, for example when a couple goes out to dinner. While couples may split the cost of a meal, it would not be unusual for a man to offer to pay for the entire thing. If a woman were to do this, however, it would be unexpected.

In this scenario it would not be surprising for a man to provide for a woman, but much more unusual to see a woman do the same for a man.

I once dated someone who was so controlling of my finances that

I would rarely be able to pay for my share of things. He insisted he was spoiling me, even after I told him I wanted to contribute and not being able to do so made me very uncomfortable. Not being able to make my own choices or have control over such a personal aspect of my life made me feel as if my voice was insignificant in the relationship. I can understand treating your date to a movie from time to time, but the idea that women need or desire complete support is archaic.



**Michelle Heumann**  
Second-year English,  
history minor

As a child in the '80s, I grew up hearing stories of second-wave feminism. Proto- and first-wave feminism fought for women to have human rights, such as the right to vote, and the right to leave an abusive husband. Second-wave feminism appears to have promoted women's rights at the expense of men's and I believe it tells women lies, like teaching that women can have sex with no consequences, and that, if there are consequences, an abortion is simply the removal of useless tissue.

Second-wave feminism wanted some rights that seem important, but I think they had some

negative consequences. For example, the fight to have women equal in the workplace created an economy where a middle-class household needs two incomes, preventing a parent from staying home. My stay-at-home mother was once told by a woman at a bank that women shouldn't be allowed to list 'mother' as a career. Not all women are the same, but feminism seems to want to fit all women into a feminist-approved identity.

There are a range of ideas and many negative connotations connected with the term 'feminist,' which is why I do not identify as one. 'A Vindication on the Rights of the Human Race' would be a more positive ideal than a cross-gender struggle that pits North Americans against one another, when we could focus on helping women and men in non-democratic cultures, caring for the needs of others above our 'first-world problems.'

**Nicole Foussekis-Stewart**

Fourth-year English



To determine my 'views' on feminism, I have to somehow extricate myself from myself; to become a frame of the frame of the frame (in infinite sequence) of the object and attempt to (and

then subsequently fail to) form an objective judgment. My views on feminism are therefore of feminism.

The concept of feminism has negative connotations because it appears to privilege a certain idea — the femme, the woman — which is directly threatening to the latent, masculine structure that underlies significant portions of our social existence. Surely, it's not acceptable for someone to admit or proclaim that they're a 'masculinist!' or that they believe in 'masculinism!' — so how can we allow and use feminism, which claims to be a comprehensive term for equality, over a more inclusive concept?

Simply, any other term would fail. Any other term would dissolve into complacency, into a rhetorical euphemism, into the conglomerate of words that currently sustain the very system that feminism affronts — that of the privileged, masculinized centre. We need the word because it speaks, it addresses and it challenges. It must privilege the reclaimed 'other' in order to counteract the unbalance that is upheld by a discourse that does not label itself as 'masculinist' but essentially is. Today, feminism is the informed voice of post-modern hyperawareness. It is the voice of challenge, of absolute refusal, of

negation — and in that negation, the possibility for total, uninhibited creation. It is the place, the platform, from which the voice of the 'subaltern' can arrive, declare and be. It is a word that we refuse to relinquish.

Some of these voices can be found through the 'Who Needs Feminism?' campaign. Google it! It's amazing.



**Boaz Schuman**  
Final year,  
philosophy and English

One brilliant innovation of feminism is the decoupling of sex and gender: the words man and masculine are no longer synonymous; rather, masculinity — and femininity — are actions performed in and determined by social surroundings. Femininity, then, is a category of socially determined actions, rather than an inborn state or quality of being. One is not born masculine or feminine.

The effect of this insight on the still ongoing emancipation of other groups from discrimination is manifest. The LGBTQIA (for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning, intersex, and asexual or ally — someone sympathetic to the cause) community has largely followed a  
*see FACES OF FEMINISM, page 12*

# Faces of feminism, continued from page 11

parallel, if structurally opposite road: sexual orientation is not what one does, but what one is. Hence the emphasis on being born this or that way.

Skeptics about our recent freedoms with respect to gender and sexual orientation — I know you're out there — should bear in mind that these freedoms are shared by everyone: no longer do any of us have to be constrained to such tight (and arbitrary) rules of normative behavior, which limited and rendered cliché so many aspects of the lives of people throughout much of history.

## Sarah Dorchak

Fifth-year English and communications



One of the toughest things about current-day feminism is that no one can define what it means. No one wants to be labeled as the 'femi-nazi' who burns bras and hates men. Our culture is constantly telling women to be silent, sexy yet untouchable, confident with no strong opinions.

The biggest problem is when women turn on each other for being too much or too little into feminism.

It's a crazy story about how I became confident in myself and in feminism. Due to the relationships I had been in, and the way I was raised and bullied, I was afraid to be myself. The only way I felt comfortable to finally come into myself

happened to be through a relationship with one of my best friends. He helped me create a space where I could express myself without fear, where I could try on different identities like friend, lover, intellectual — without worry of what he would think.

Unfortunately because I was only able to come to terms with myself through a relationship with a man, my journey is often deemed inauthentic by other feminists. This is not fair, especially because it was the patriarchal culture that made me feel unable to find myself on my own in the first place. I am extremely lucky and fortunate to have found someone who allows me to grow in myself as well as in the relationship and I don't see how that makes my feminism less authentic than a woman on her own.

Feminism to me isn't about standing up to someone else. It's about being the best Sarah I can be; being the best woman, individual, scholar, lover and friend I can be. I do this not for other people but for myself. As soon as you start second-guessing yourself with other people's reactions, thinking, "Will they think I'm a bitch? Will they think I'm a pushover?" you've lost your chance to live for yourself. This isn't an excuse to be a jerk. It's a way to make the decisions that are best for you.

I'm Sarah Dorchak, and I can do anything. Not because I'm a woman, not because I'm a feminist, but because I am myself.

## Victoria Parent

First-year science



The word 'feminist' unleashes a rampage of negative connotations. First thought: a power-tripping girl sitting on a hill setting her bra on fire while stating that the government should make female hygiene products free for it is a female necessity. The debates surrounding feminism or masculinity have never been a 'battle of the sexes' but a conflict of genders, an interminable power struggle where there is no winner.

Gender is shaped by culture and is ultimately an optional performance; in effect, men can take on 'female' roles and women can take on 'male' roles. Men and women are equal — yet different.

None of these are set in stone, but unfortunately the 1950s way of thinking of gender roles is still relevant to some — a woman's 'job' is to bake you pies, fix you sandwiches, pop out babies and lie your clothes out for you like you're a four-year-old child. A man's 'job' is to wear the suit and set up the tent when you go camping. Hopefully the case for egalitarianism soon becomes accepted by all.

## Erin Shumlich

Fourth-year psychology and English



Societal barriers that determine the way a woman should

act define femininity: shave everything below the neck, put on makeup, wait an appropriate amount of time before having sex.

One aspect of feminism is being able to break those barriers — if one so wishes — without reproach from others. Feminism isn't pitting men and women against each other — it is a break down of a dichotomous male-female world so that people of all sexes and genders can live together in harmony without having to perform their roles in society appropriately.

When Katy Perry was named *Billboard's* Woman Of The Year and said "I'm not a feminist, but I do believe in the strength of women," she was further proliferating the negative connotation of feminism — one that shouldn't exist, because feminism means different things to different people and goes beyond the academic first-wave, third-wave distinction.

Malala Yousafzai's feminism is for women to have the right of education. We need feminism because it doesn't exist in many places around the world or is bashed as a bra-burning sensational movement. We need feminism because Marissa Mayer, CEO of Yahoo, was reprimanded because she was pregnant and reprimanded again because she came back to work two weeks after giving birth.

We have a long way to go in the fight for equality and in breaking down gender barriers, which can

only be achieved if everyone steps on board and defines their own feminism.



## Annum Shah

Second-year communications

Feminism isn't a movement that should be clouded in negativity, nor should you have to label yourself as one to speak up against discrimination. The movement has plenty of negative stereotypes, which often become the reason why many shy away from calling themselves 'feminist.' Sensationalized negative stereotypes include whiny, butch, man-hating, razor-destroying women looking to destroy the very structures that hold up society.

Looking past these clichés, however, the core values of feminism are quite simple: equality for women. All that feminism is really looking for is a removal of discrimination and sexism. Why, then, has a movement that has fought for the basic rights we know today — suffrage, equality in the workplace, rights to property — earn the reputation that it does? It's easy to blame the media for choosing to focus on a small demographic of extremism, but perhaps the common feminist isn't doing enough to change the image either.

Equality shouldn't have to be a movement, especially not one that is satirized as feminism often is — it should be a given. Equality is a simple right that should be guar-

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### Gabriel Gana

First-year philosophy



**F**emininity. It is a simple word that describes what it means to be a woman, separate from the biological definition. It pertains to the behaviour, the attributes and even the expectations that women have traditionally. Whenever I hear the word, I always picture someone gentle and kind, with grace and poise, whose actions have the finesse of an opera conductor. This contrasts with the rash, coarse machismo that a man is supposed to display, being the protector and provider, as was the case a long time ago.

But ours is a continually changing society that has blurred this line between being masculine and being feminine. A woman can work jobs traditionally held by men — be it trucking, policing or construction — and be as skilled, if not more skilled, than their male counterparts. No one would think them any less femi-

nine, prejudice notwithstanding — and roles alone won't change what they are.

If deep down a woman feels a certain way, whether they act girly or tomboyish, it is still femininity, albeit their own unique brand that expresses femininity in varying degrees. Their attitude won't make them any less feminine than their peers. Femininity is what women want to make of it.



### Emily Leedham

Second-year English

**B**efore I explain why I am a feminist, let's first define what exactly feminism is — just so we're all on the same page. I'm going to use bell hooks's popular definition: "feminism is a movement to end sexism, sexist exploitation and oppression." That's it, really.

But I didn't become a feminist because of a definition, because it sounded like a good idea, because of Girl Power! or the Spice Girls. It wasn't because of any books I read or classes I took. I became a feminist out of necessity, as a survival tactic, because feminism

provided a way to cope with living in the world as a woman.

Virginia Woolf once said, "A feminist is any woman who tells the truth about her life." For me, feminism provides a means to tell that truth, a language to describe and validate my experiences as a woman in the world — experiences such as sexual harassment, inadequate access to sexual and reproductive health and education, gender-based emotional abuse, harmful body-image and self-esteem issues, to name a few.

In fact, feminism as a political movement is founded on the personal issues women encounter in their everyday lives. Just look at blogs like 'Who Needs Feminism?' and you'll see a plethora of personal accounts from women — no theory, no rhetoric. These women are simply telling the truth about their lives and demanding to be heard.

And, finally, feminism gives me a voice to demand change, to not accept the status quo or politely endure 'the way things are.'

Feminism is more than a political movement, more than a charity group to make me feel good about myself. It's a survival tactic,

a coping mechanism and simply part of who I am now.

### Erin Foreman

Third-year drama and English



**I**n downtown Calgary, my two roommates, our friends and I are walking to the bar for a birthday party. We've taken quite a bit of time earlier in the night to find the right dress, pick the right shoes.

What I'm not thinking as I walk down the street at 11 p.m. in downtown is, "I look and feel good! I did such a good job with this outfit." Instead, I'm thinking, "Thank God I'm with three other girls who are athletic, because I can see that guy at the train station looking us up and down, and over there, I can also see three drunk guys laughing and whistling at us."

By no means do all guys make me feel that uncomfortable, and not all men are like that. In fact, I appreciate the ones who aren't. However, I can almost guarantee guys will say no to these questions: Have you ever not put in earphones while walking home at night because you needed to be on

total alert of who was around you? Have you ever walked to your car with your keys pushed through your knuckles? Have you ever had someone compliment you on your ass — not once in the night, but about 11 times — all in a creatively new and repulsive approach?

You might know you mean us no harm — "so what, you get a lot of attention" — but do we? No. When we get harassed on the street, at the bar or walking home from work, we just think, "Will I get home safely? Am I going to walk away from this? I wish I had pepper spray. Will people hear me?"

My point is not that men are evil, but that the fight for equal rights is not over — and shouldn't be.

Walking home from the bar and being safe is only the beginning — women still have a long way to go, from derogatory 'jokes' to who gets hired in which jobs, and until women feel completely safe and respected, we aren't finished. We need to continue the journey of attaining equal rights for women in the world, and we are the generation that can make positive change.

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# VOTING WITH DOLLARS

## Making conscious choices about what we buy

**Sarah Dorchak**

Production Editor  
@StegoSaraha



The origins of the phrase “no shirt, no shoes, no service” actually derives from beachfront businesses that wished to keep sand out of their store and paying customers in. Instituting a dress code, albeit a very casual one, was a sure way to keep customers comfortable without any degenerates roaming through the doors.

I’d like to apply this phrase to a different phenomenon we see happening today: dollar voting. Dollar voting is a way for consumers to garner some power over a corporation’s production choices. For example, buying Dove soap rather than another brand tells corporations that you support the advertising message Dove has been promoting. But if you cannot afford Dove, it appears that you do not support Dove’s “Real Beauty” campaign.

Similarly, if one corporation uses child labour and has cheaper products, while another corporation doesn’t use child labour, but the products are costlier as a result, consumers who don’t purchase the more ethical product give the impression of supporting child labour, lower wages for workers at the store and poorer conditions for workers at the manufacturing plant.

Dollar voting is how consumers get corporations’ attention. If

only a small portion of the population dollar votes on higher cost, higher quality, high-end products, then the other part of the population is invisible to the corporation. No designer shirt, no brand-name shoes, no service.

Surely consumers buying high-end products keep in mind that their dollars vote, don’t they? They could, yes. But when breaking down the pleasure principle that drives most shopping, especially for designer products, most consumers would admit they did

not think about the manufacturing process that brought Levi’s jeans into a store.

There is a cultural assumption that high-end designer brands are equated with quality of product and of the person wearing it. This assumption, spurred on by perpetuated advertising messages that these expensive products will bring you happiness, is a fallacy. Yes, shopping does release dopamine that gives the shopper pleasure, but it’s an inauthentic pleasure that enforces an addic-

tion-like relationship.

What’s worse is that sales associates are trained to keep this relationship going. These associates are encouraged to maintain and increase sales by offering flattering language about products. “Those jeans really accentuate you in all the right places” and “This jewelry can bring magic to your outfit” are phrases that I hear while shopping, and that I, as a sales associate myself, am encouraged to use when engaging with consumers. Associates are trained to enforce the

assumption that this product will make you just a little bit more attractive, add just a bit more spark to your life, make you happy. We perpetuate the blind addiction.

Buying those designer heels gives you a dose of pleasure, but you can only sustain that pleasure if you keep spending. In this way, shopping pleasure is inauthentic. If it were authentic, it would be self-sustaining, like spending time with friends or finding value in yourself. You don’t need a repeated dose of self-respect to keep that feeling going, but you do need a repeated dose of shopping to satisfy the addiction.

Not to say all shoppers are blind addicts, but the shoppers who are more likely to purchase these high-end products without thinking about how their dollar votes. And, unfortunately, designer products tend to have worse working conditions for manufacturing plants. The dollar voters who could see past this cultural assumption are the consumers that do not shop just for pleasure: the invisible mass the corporations don’t see, don’t advertise to, don’t serve.

The shopping addiction acts as an opiate, keeping consumers complacent about a corporation’s labour standards — or lack thereof. We really hold corporations accountable to their business ethics when we become aware of just how our dollar votes. Let’s take back our service regardless of our shoes and shirts.



## Makeup and masculinity

**Erin Shumlich**

Editor-in-Chief  
@erinshu



Women always have the option of accentuating their features with makeup. Before a night out at the bar, I make my eyes pop with a little eyeliner and tint my lips for

fullness. Although I’m confident with my body and how I look, I always feel better — even though I might not necessarily look better — with a bit of cover-up and blush. There are so many things and features to love about women, yet most women feel the need, or are socially pressured by the prevailing sentiment of beauty, to hide their

blemishes from the world.

Although this pressure to look good is an issue in its own right, the question we must ask ourselves is, When does makeup become too much?

Male beauty products have been on the market for years, with marketing strategies that are similar to female products

— they speak to the targeted demographic. Male products are latent with masculine terms and images, like blue packaging and a sexy female protégé, making it very clear that using the product is heteronormative and not, in any way, emasculating. Beyond the basic creams and cover-up, however, is where people begin

to get uncomfortable because males wearing eyeliner and mascara blur the lines of a normative male-female dichotomy.

The trend of males wearing makeup is picking up — the eye of the hurricane is South Korea.

According to the *Huffington Post*, the male cosmetics industry see MAKEUP, page 15

# Makeup and masculinity, continued from page 14



in South Korea was worth \$495.5 million in 2011, making the country the largest market for male skin-care products in the world. This trend doesn't stop in Korea — people of all types wear makeup in North America, whether obvious or not, and it is only projected to become more prevalent.

Personality aside, I have a very specific 'type': tall, dark and bearded. Perhaps this stems from the proliferation in popular culture of this prototypical male, or maybe it comes from the raw masculinity of facial hair. Regardless, this idyllic male is ubiquitous in North America — makeup counteracts the male idol.

This transformation from beard to eyeliner only raises questions because it opposes our ideals of masculinity.

There are also issues with make-

The transformation from beard to eyeliner only raises questions because it opposes our ideals of masculinity.

up that transcend the gender gap. Yes, makeup shouldn't be as prevalent. And, yes, people should feel confident with their natural selves. We also need to be smart consumers in a beauty-driven world. Like any other realm of consumerism, makeup has its issues — like animal testing and unsafe products — however, these issues can be resolved through product awareness. But makeup isn't something that is going to go away.

Men should be able to curl their

eyelashes and use cover-up for a little more confidence at the bar without reproach, just as women should have the confidence to go bare. Makeup doesn't inhibit us or mask who we are — it is just an option that should enhance our confidence and break a gender double standard. Males wearing makeup shouldn't change our perspective on beauty — beauty products become too much only when we consume blindly or place too much importance on looks.



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# Dinos swimmers primed for nationals

**Curtis Wolff**  
Gauntlet Sports

The University of Calgary Dinos men's swim team brought the Canada West championship banner home on Jan. 27, capping off an impressive weekend in Victoria. The title is the Dinos first CW championship since 2010.

The women also had a good showing, racking up 742.5 points in a second-place finish behind the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds. The strong showing will give the Dinos plenty of momentum and confidence heading into the Canadian Interuniversity Sport championships, which are being held at the U of C aquatic centre on Feb. 21-23.

"It was a good meet," said Dinos head coach Mike Blondal. "We had a really good recruiting year and we got some good recruits. We put together a good team. They swam really well and they were excited and fit."

This year's new recruits included standouts Russell Wood and Tiana Rissling, who won the CW Rookies of the Meet honours for the U of C.

"When we can win rookie of the year here, and ideally win rookie of the year at the CIS championships, it's just like getting first round draft picks in hockey," said Blondal. "Tiana was great throughout the meet and Russell Wood really stood out.

There were so many young rookies that stepped it up in a great way, it was pretty exciting."

Leading the Dinos was fifth-year breaststroker Jason Block, who won gold in all three men's breaststroke competitions despite twisting his ankle just two days before the meet. Wood, Rissling and Olympian Erica Morningstar were among 12 Dinos swimmers to capture gold in various individual and relay events.

The coaches were also impressed with the performance of first-year Bradley Crocker, who won bronze and managed to break the two-minute barrier in the 200-metre backstroke, an important milestone. "He's got really good talent and a monster work ethic," said Blondal. "He's dropped eight seconds off his 200-metre backstroke so far this year, which is pretty exciting."

The Dinos's hard work has paid off so far this year. The team trains up to 24 hours a week while going to school. During a 10-day Christmas training camp, the team swam a total distance of over 100 kilometres. Dedication to such a demanding training regimen requires a tight-knit team that supports each other on and off the pool deck.

"Their social life is more within the team," said Blondal. "I think at university it's hard to deal with the social aspect as well as the school and sporting aspects. Something has to give — you can't do all three of those at a high level."



Louie Villanueva

The Dinos now have their sights set firmly on nationals. Their main goal is to win another CIS banner for the U of C. The last time the U of C won a championship was 2011.

"My goals are to come home with a banner and to have excellent swimming," said Blondal. "If everyone takes care of themselves, we'll win the banner."

Hosting the CIS championships

will be a different experience for the Dinos. They will have the typical home-team advantage that most sports teams are familiar with, although Blondal hopes being at home won't affect the team's unity. "There is a disadvantage too, you don't get to go to a hotel and get the team all galvanized," said Blondal.

Blondal also hopes to see the community get behind the team and expects the stands at the Aquat-

ic Centre to be full in a couple of weeks.

"Swimming is a huge sport in Calgary, although people don't know it," said Blondal. "Calgary is the biggest swimming community per capita in Canada."

The CIS championships are being held Feb. 21-23 with finals starting at 6 p.m. each day at the U of C Aquatic Centre. The ticket price for students is \$5.

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# A look at Flames prospects in the CHL

Justin Azevedo

Gauntlet Sports • @azevedoj

After the World Junior Championships, the NCAA's Johnny Gaudreau received a lot of attention from Flames fans. However, the NCAA is not recognized as the premier developmental league for junior prospects. That distinction belongs to the Canadian Hockey League.

The CHL is made up of three sub-leagues: the Ontario Hockey League, the Western Hockey League and the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League. Each league covers a specific geographical area. The CHL has been around since 1975, with its three leagues undergoing very little change during that time. The league is unique in that for all intents and purposes the WHL, OHL and QMJHL are all separate entities yet they all play for the same championship trophy: the Memorial Cup.

The Memorial Cup is also unique. The tournament always takes place in one of the 52 Canadian cities within the league, and the teams participating are the three regional champions

as well as the host team. It's a bit of an odd setup, but the past few years the Memorial Cup has been one of the most satisfying tournaments to watch as a hockey fan.

The quality of play in the CHL is elite — CHL players are constantly in contention for the first overall pick in the NHL draft. This year, three or four — depending on which scout you fancy — of the top-five players in the draft will come from the CHL, including the number-one pick, expected to be either Halifax Mooseheads forward Nathan MacKinnon or Portland Winterhawks defenceman Seth Jones.

Tyler Wotherspoon, the Calgary Flames's most prominent CHL prospect, is from the Winterhawks. A second-round pick in the 2011 entry draft, Wotherspoon has gone from strictly a defensive player to one who's scored .55 points per game as a defenceman.

He has played on the top defensive pairing in Portland the past two years, making it to the WHL finals last year before losing to the Oil Kings in six games. Wotherspoon also had an excellent camp in De-



courtesy Bryan Heim

ember at the world junior tryouts and earned a spot on the Canadian world junior team, where he quickly moved his way up the lineup and solidified himself as head coach Steve Spott's top shutdown option.

The Edmonton Oil Kings are backstopped by another Flames prospect: Laurent Brossoit. Brossoit has performed above expectations since being picked in the sixth round of the 2011 draft. Last year, he made 1558 saves en route to a 42-13-5 record and a .915 save percentage. The playoffs are where he really showed his stuff — a 16-4-2 record to go along with a .933 save

percentage earned him an invite to this year's world junior camp. However, even though Brossoit only allowed 1.5 goals per game in camp, he was cut from the roster. There was a lot of confusion surrounding the decision, but Brossoit was unfazed as he returned to the Oil Kings, where his already stellar .920 save percentage and 12-3-3 record has now improved to a .925 save percentage and a 24-6-5 record. Brossoit has a .936 save percentage and a 12-3-2 record since returning from the camp.

The Flames have more depth in the CHL in players like Coda Gor-

don, Ryan Culkin, Brett Kulak and Patrick Sieloff — but all were just drafted this year and their potential ceilings are unknown. Then 17 years old, Gordon scored at a high rate but suffered from a fractured femur and missed a significant amount of playing time. As a result, he dropped to the sixth round, but he has scored 46 points in 51 games this year. Culkin, Kulak and Sieloff are all defenders playing top-end minutes for all of their teams but at this point in their careers, they have yet to develop into two-way players, as Kulak and Sieloff are typical bruisers and Culkin often abandons his post on the blue line to join the rush. Sieloff played at the 2013 World Juniors for the United States, but was used mostly as a sixth defenceman.

The Flames don't really have any elite prospects at the CHL level, but there is quite a mix of talent as well as a long time for the players to develop in the Flames organization. If even two of the six players mentioned become regular NHLers, the Flames's drafting will have been quite successful.

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## Trainer's corner

*Sarah Beth is a fourth-year kinesiology student graduating in June 2013. She currently works as a physiotherapy aide in the Sports Medicine Centre Physiotherapy Clinic and has experience as both a strength coach and softball pitching instructor.*

*She is hoping to pursue a career as both a personal and team trainer after graduation.*

Perhaps last semester didn't go as planned. You had to adjust to a new schedule with a plethora of assignments, midterms and finals. You were stressed out, caught the flu and spent too many nights at the Den.

Suddenly it is winter break and you haven't set foot in the gym and you may be feeling even more sluggish after the holidays. The start of the semester is a great time to get active and set up new routines, and the University of Calgary has many options. The best part is that this semester Active Living has given each student a \$25 credit to any wellness service, increasing affordability. Here are 10 ways to stay fit this semester.

1. Register for a fitness class. Days of Fitness is a program that offers free fitness classes for students every day of the week. These include indoor cycling, Yoga in That Empty Space, Boot Camp and Zumba.

2. Come to the gym. All students are already members. Visit in the morning hours if you want to avoid crowds.

3. Personal Training. Don't know what to do when you get to the gym or are looking for advice on how to develop an efficient work-

out program? Come work with one of our nationally-certified trainers who are currently students or U of C alumni.

The personal trainers can teach you how to build a smart and safe exercise program that works around your schedule so you can live a balanced lifestyle. You will start with fitness testing and a goal setting session. Students get discounted prices on personal training and there is also buddy training — so grab a friend and come check out some fun exercise options.

4. Sign up for an intramural sport. If you don't have a team, you can sign up as a single. Not only will you meet new friendly faces, but you will have a regular exercise activity in your schedule. Plus, you get freedom to dress up in whatever crazy team outfit you want to.

5. Get inspired by the Olympic training centre and go to the Oval to try some skating or running: students get in free with their ON-card. There is public skating most days — check their schedule out online. Don't like running on a treadmill or the track in the gym? With a 450-metre track and plenty of stairs, this option is great for someone looking to get away from the gym rush.

6. Climb the wall. Head to the basement of Kinesiology B building and give the bouldering wall a go. A low-cost climbing option, it can be done solo or with a group of friends. If you've never been bouldering before, there are intro bouldering classes — one night crash

courses — offered by the Outdoor Center throughout the semester to get you started.

7. Dust off the racquet and take some swings: the U of C has 13 squash and four racquetball/handball courts for student use in the racquet centre. Courts can be booked online, ensuring there will be an open court for you when you get there. If you have never picked up a racquet, Active Living offers rental racquets and a beginner course to get you on your way.

8. Fresh Air. Go outside and play on a not-so-average playground. Located behind the Oval and steps away from the residence buildings is an adult fitness park. This park has boxes for jumping or stepping up on, bars for pull-ups, pushups, dips and even a pulldown machine.

9. Drop-in gymnastics: Want a space to practice your trampoline skills? On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m., the university's Gymnastic Centre offers free drop-in gymnastics with professional coaches. Space is limited, so registration opens at client services at 3:00 p.m. each day for the evening.

10. Daily movement. Move as much as you can throughout the day: walk or bike to school, walk to classes, take study breaks to go up and down the stairs or go for a loop around one of the library buildings. As few as 10 minutes of activity will help improve your focus and concentration, increase energy levels and prevent those back and neck muscles from stiffening up while you study away.



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For more information please contact:  
Editor-in-Chief  
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All University of Calgary undergraduate students are eligible to run for these positions. Students interested in running must declare their candidacy by Wed, Feb. 27 at 5 p.m.

Applicants must be available for a one hour editing test on Thursday, Feb. 28 or Friday, March 1 and a forum on Friday, March 1.



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# Aggressive rabbits terrorize squirrels, students

Sarah Dorchak

Gauntlet Security Liaison

A new strain of rabies has infected the majority of University of Calgary rabbits, igniting fears that students may be in danger. Campus Security and university administration first learned of the rabbits' disease after finding several squirrels and magpies "torn to shreds," said university contact Angela Koenig.

"We thought it was the work of a coyote on campus, but the infected rabbits are ganging up on other animals," Koenig continued.

The majority of symptoms seen in the infected rabbits include increased aggression, red eyes and abnormal brown spots on their fur. U of C veterinary medicine professor Maggie Schultz said the symptoms were "similar to rabies," but that it was "abnormal to see

rabies in non-predatory animals." Schultz was called in to study the new strain of rabies and to determine how it affects the rabbits' behaviour.

"Something has changed with this strain of rabies that has allowed it to affect non-predatory animals in a different way than previously seen in predatory animals," Schultz said. Especially evident in this strain is directional aggression, she added.

Third-year economics student Kyle McKenzie was the first student to see and report the rabbits' strange behaviour. He saw a group of four brown-spotted, red-eyed rabbits "ripping apart" two squirrels on Feb. 1.

"It was horrific — there was fur flying everywhere," McKenzie said. "Those eyes, those deep red eyes... This will haunt me forever."

McKenzie watched in horror

as the rabbits attacked the squirrels, but left as soon as the rabbits started to hop towards him. "I thought, shit man, their eyes were glazed over like they weren't even conscious. Like zombies!"

Campus Security reported to the scene, at first skeptical of McKenzie's story. After following bloody footprints to the group of infected rabbits, Campus Security captured one for testing.

"There are groups of infected rabbits attacking animals rather than one rabbit attacking others. This indicates that they are directing their aggression toward others, not against themselves," Schultz said. "It's almost as if the rabbits are working together in order to feed."

Though Schultz says the new rabies strain is still contagious across species and through bites, Koenig explains there is no threat to stu-



Michael Issakidis

A new strain of rabies has been infecting rabbits on campus.

However, Koenig explains, if students see three or more rabbits together, they are advised to call Campus Security or to take a picture and tweet it to @UCalgary with their location.

"Despite the extreme aggression and squirrel carnage seen so

far, we have no evidence supporting the theory that students are in danger," said Koenig. "Campus Security and the university administration at this time do not see any ability for the rabbits to take down as large an animal as the North American student."

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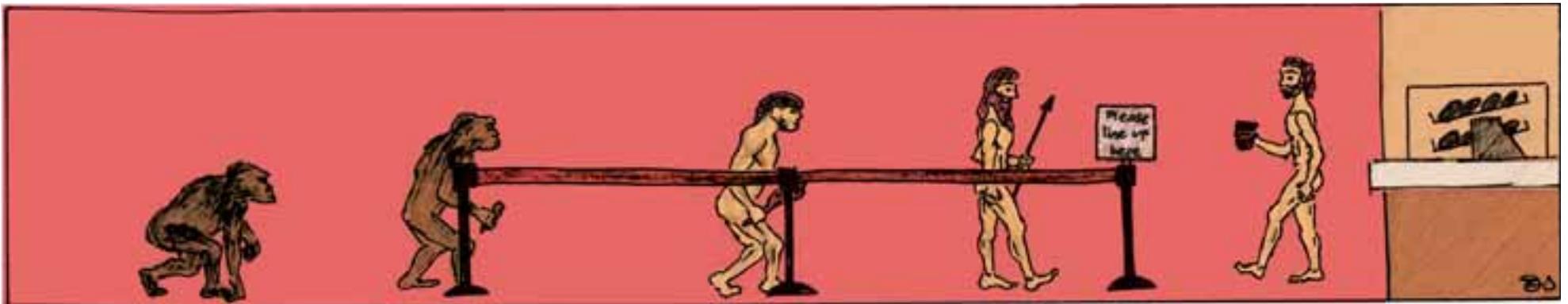
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