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VOL. 55 | ISSUE NO. 31 | FEB 26, 2015

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February 26, 2015

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## Golden Spatula

John Gabriel



Looking so fly with that checkered bowtie, John sure is one hell of a swell guy. When we say that for this kid, the only limit is the sky, we are telling the furthest thing from a lie. We hope he sticks by for more than the pizza pie, and some great Gauntlet memories that are sure to come by.

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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 uses an ink milked from the teat of Aphrodites herself. We urge you to recycle/make sense of the web of lies the Bilderberg Group is spinning using 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 eic@thegauntlet.ca.

## The Cover

Design by Ariane Carmichael

THE GAUNTLET ALWAYS  
ACCEPTS NEW  
VOLUNTEERS

## TUITION AND FEES »

## Student leaders concerned Alberta may scrap inflation-tied tuition cap

Chris Adams  
News Editor

Alberta's student leaders are worried the provincial government may scrap the inflation-tied cap on tuition in the wake of potential budget cuts to post-secondary education.

Current regulations stipulate that tuition can't be raised more than the rate of inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Tuition increases this year were capped at 2.2 per cent.

But CPI-capped tuition isn't written into law, it's only a regulation in the Post-Secondary Learning Act. While the government would have to pass a motion to remove the cap, Alberta's student leaders aren't sure of its future.

The provincial government can't confirm cuts to the budget until it's released at the end of March. But the low price of oil has left a \$7-billion shortfall in revenue and provincial politicians have hinted at what's to come.

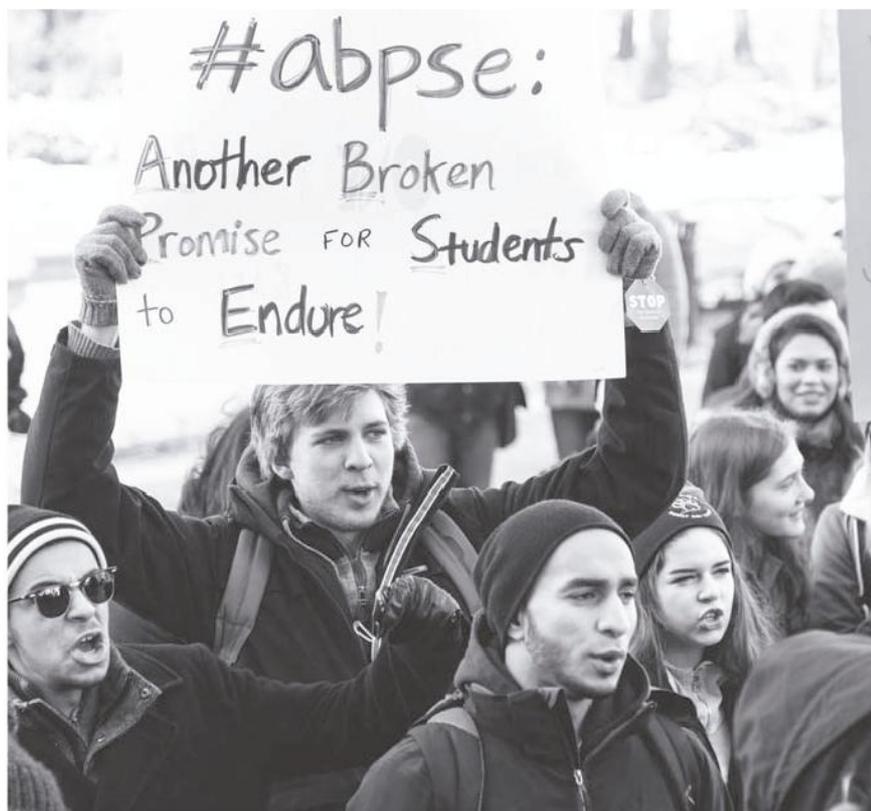
Alberta finance minister Robin Campbell said on Feb. 11 that the province is likely facing a nine per cent cut to spending. Minister of municipal affairs Dianna McQueen said "every line item in every ministry is on the table."

Current Students' Union vice-president external and incoming president Levi Nilson said since the funding situation is so uncertain, CPI-capped tuition isn't safe from being scrapped.

"It could be changed on Saturday. It could be being changed right now. Prentice just needs to get his ministers together and say, 'we're going to get rid of this.' There doesn't need to be a public vote, there doesn't need to be a debate," Nilson said.

Cameron McCoy, Grant MacEwan Students' Association president and Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) vice-chair, said CAUS wants to keep the tuition cap intact. They're afraid students will have to fill the funding gap left by budget cuts, warning that universities could "change tuition at will" if the cap is removed.

"That's incredibly dangerous. This



Hundreds of students protested the government's "broken promises" in November.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

would be an entirely different game. We could easily become the highest costing province in education if funding is continued to be cut," McCoy said.

University of Calgary provost and vice-president academic Dru Marshall said administration is planning budget cut scenarios, including a five per cent cut to funding.

Nilson called a five per cent cut the "best-case scenario," but added that it's tough to prepare for cuts before the budget is announced.

"If it's anything more than five, it's going to be a huge problem," Nilson said. "[The U of C] could probably weather a five per cent cut. Anything more than that and we're in trouble."

Grant MacEwan's funding was cut by seven per cent in 2013. McCoy said another seven per cent cut would be devastating.

Rumours surrounding cuts to post-

secondary funding have circulated since the price of oil plummeted late last year. But McCoy said he's simply stopped listening.

"What I'm hearing more is a five per cent cut, that's more of the common language that's going around," McCoy said.

CAUS will lobby the provincial government to keep CPI-capped tuition in the Post-Secondary Learning Act. But McCoy said he's fine if it stays a regulation as long as it doesn't get cut.

Liberal MLA for Calgary-Buffalo Kent Hehr said the high cost of education should encourage the government to keep the cap.

"If this cap is lifted, it'll be detrimental to equality of opportunity. Whether you're rich or poor, you should have the opportunity to go to school. This mechanism allows some semblance of that to carry on," Hehr said.

CAUS hasn't met with minister of advanced education Don Scott since he took office in September 2014. They have their first meeting scheduled with Scott at the end of March.

"Knowing that he's had meetings scheduled that've got rescheduled indefinitely, I don't put any weight into us actually getting it," Nilson said. "The biggest thing is not having access to the minister."

Nilson acclaimed the SU presidency for 2015-16. U of A vice-president external Navneet Khinda and Mount Royal University president and CAUS chair Erik Queenan will both serve as president of their student unions next year.

"We're kind of the same group coming back. Since we're all still bitter about market modifiers, we're not being held back by any kind of pretence of keeping a good relationship," Nilson said.

# Debit and credit purchase may come to Stör

Scott Strasser  
News Assistant

The Students' Union operations and finance committee will meet on Thursday, Feb. 26 to discuss whether or not to allow debit and credit payment at Stör.

Stör currently has a cash-only policy. SU vice-president operations and finance Adam Swertz said they've considered installing debit and credit machines before, but kept it cash-only to maintain prices and put less of a strain on their accounting department.

"We run the Stör as a service, so we're trying to make it the cheapest convenience store it could possibly be," Swertz said. "Bringing in credit and debit machines, there's automatically a debit charge that would have to be associated. Then there are the maintenance fees and the fee upfront to buy them. We would have to raise our prices, which was one of the main reasons we didn't want to do this in the past."

But SU science representative Kean Bexte, who suggested operations and finance committee bring in debit and credit machines a few months ago, said the policy is inconvenient for students who would rather pay with debit or credit cards.

"Students don't like carrying around cash anymore," Bexte said. "When I'm buying a pack of gum or something, I don't want to have to break a \$20 bill to do that and then carry around three \$5 bills and a toonie."

If Stör offered debit, students



SU vice-president operations and finance Adam Swertz said they kept debit and credit out of Stör to keep prices down.

SCOTT STRASSER

who use them would pay around 25-cents extra per transaction. The 25-cent fee wouldn't apply to those who pay in cash.

Most vendors in MacHall already apply a 25-cent fee for debit users. Bexte said students have continued to use their cards despite the fee.

"The consultation I've done with students so far has shown they're excited about this idea and that 25 cents isn't much for them to actually be able to use the Stör," Bexte said.

Fourth-year sociology major Jen Kim has worked as a Stör cashier

for three years. She agreed with Bexte that credit and debit machines would likely increase business.

"Not everyone carries cash. I know most customers would like using debit machines," Kim said. "Lots of customers have said that we need it."

Op-Fi committee will discuss whether to implement a six-month trial period, which could start in September.

"It's definitely an option," Swertz said. "That's something we've tossed around. We're looking into if that's possible, whether Moneris

Students don't like carrying around cash anymore. When I'm buying a pack of gum, I don't want to have to break a \$20 bill.

—Students' Union science representative Kean Bexte

[the company who would supply the machines] would do that."

But Stör isn't the cheapest place on campus to get your snack on. A bottle of Pepsi, a pack of Dentyne Fire and a four-pack of Reese's

Peanut Butter Cups costs \$6.20 when purchased together at Stör. Varsity Pharmacy, which is across the hall from Stör, charges \$5.13 for the same items, paid with debit, credit or cash.

## Do it anywhere. All you need is your student ID and 3 minutes.

SU General Election  
[su.ucalgary.ca](http://su.ucalgary.ca)

Do it during lunch. Do it on the bus. At the library. In the middle of the night. With your friends. While you're distracted in class.

Wherever and whenever. Just, don't forget to do it.

Vote, that is!

The SU General Election is right around the corner and it's your chance to choose who represents you next

year. Unlike other elections, you don't have to drive to a polling station or wait in line. You can quickly and easily vote on your phone, computer or tablet. All you need is your student ID and three minutes.

Online voting for the election starts at 9 a.m. on March 3 and goes until 4 p.m. on March 5. If you'd rather vote at a physical polling station, they'll be set up around campus at the TFDL, MacEwan Student Centre (North Courtyard) and Science Theatres from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. all three days of voting.

If you think your vote doesn't matter, think again! Your Student Legislative Council (SLC) represents you on numerous issues, including the SU's stance on tuition and student fee increases, study space, safe and affordable housing, quality teaching and various strategy committees on the future plans for the university.

These elected officials are also responsible for the SU's \$15 million annual budget, food vendors in MacEwan Student Centre, representing you to the university administration and all levels of government, bursaries and scholarships and Clubs funding.

Check out this year's candidates and their platforms on the SU website at [www.su.ucalgary.ca/elections](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/elections). Don't forget to make your mark on voting days - no matter where you are, or the time of day!

From March 3 to 5 look for the VOTE button online at [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca), visit your student centre, or drop by one of the polling stations.

Don't forget to join us at the Den on March 5 at 5:30 p.m. for election results!



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

# Questions loom on open textbooks



Current Students' Union president Jarett Henry.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

Alexander Kim  
Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary has entered the two-week campaign period leading up to the Students' Union elections. A lot of promises are being made, many of them about open textbooks.

Open textbooks are available for free online and are licensed under creative commons. This allows instructors to edit and re-purpose the work and students don't have to pay for them.

Almost all the vice-president external candidates have promised to seek more money for open textbooks.

David McDonald said he'll promote them to faculty members and lobby the Alberta government for additional funding. Tristan Bray also wants to lobby the government for more money. Kyle Schole wants to "expedite delivery" of open textbooks.

But vice-president external Levi Nilson said open textbooks largely fall under the vice-president academic's portfolio since the government provided \$1.8 million in funding last April.

"As far as getting the dollars [for open textbooks] on campus, it's over with," Nilson said.

Both candidates for vice-president academic put open textbooks in their platforms. Stephan Guscott wants to change the faculty promotion and tenure guidelines so that contributing to an open textbook is considered when faculty members' performances are evaluated.

Guscott said that since the development of open textbooks is not currently considered in assessments, there's little incentive for instructors to spend their time working on them. Vice-president academic candidate Sherin Mohammed also identified this as a problem.

Mohammed proposed an open textbook pilot program. She wants to get faculty members to start using open textbooks in classes and survey students to see what they think. This strategy was successful in shifting Math 211: Linear Methods I to using

an open textbook.

Current vice-president academic Hana Kadri thinks changing the promotion and tenure guidelines is a good idea and she has already begun discussing this at General Faculty Council.

U of C biology instructor William Huddleston said he would support the change, but student leaders should focus their efforts on executives rather than instructors.

"If [the SU] got the students behind this movement and got the attention of the faculty's higher executives, that might make instructors take a serious look [at open textbooks]," Huddleston said.

The government formed a steering committee to oversee the distribution of the \$1.8 million. The committee has received 93 statements of interest for funding open textbooks. From those, the committee

**// If [the SU] got the students behind this movement and got the attention of executives, that might make instructors take a serious look.**

—Biology instructor William Huddleston

requested about 25 proposals.

SU president Jarett Henry sits on the steering committee. He said he was disappointed that none of the proposals would affect larger introductory courses at the U of C.

"I think this is a really good start and I'm enthusiastic about the impact it will have at U of C and across the province, but I think it showed me that there's more work to be done," Henry said.

The steering committee will decide which proposals to fund by early April.

## BRIEFS

### City Council rejects budget freeze on public art

City Council decided earlier this week that troubled economic times don't justify axing the public art budget, as some councillors suggested.

Councillor Jim Demong motioned for council to cut public art out of the budget, a portfolio that takes up around one per cent of the city's budget every year. However, council voted 9-5 in favour of keeping the public art budget.

Works funded by the City include that big blue circle on 64th and the wavy cloud light thing everyone trips out inside.

### Chicago Police Department "black site" uncovered

The *Guardian* reported on Wednesday that the Chicago Police Department have been using a warehouse called Homan Square for unauthorized detentions, to deny legal council to detainees and, in some cases, beat them.

Those taken to Homan aren't booked, meaning they're kept out of official police records. Police often detained people there for up to 24 hours before giving them access to legal council.

U.S. Justice Department officials called for an investigation into the site, saying people's constitutional rights may have been seriously violated.

Those detained at Homan were reportedly shackled in the building for hours. The *Guardian* reports that one man was found unresponsive in one of the warehouse's "interview rooms." He was later pronounced dead.

### West Edmonton Mall named as target in al-Shabaab video

Somalian terrorist organization al-Shabaab released a video last week calling on budding young North American terrorists to attack the continent's largest malls, including West Edmonton Mall.

A masked man claiming to be from the militant group called for attacks on malls across North America and Europe, including Minnesota's Mall of America.

Al-Shabaab attacked Nairobi's Westgate Mall in 2013, killing 66.

A former Canadian Security and Intelligence Service officer called the threat "very serious."



Are you part of a non-profit or charitable organization?  
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The Committee of 10,000 collects a small levy from the 27,000 undergraduate students of the University of Calgary to give to charitable causes throughout the city of Calgary. The Committee of 10,000, comprised of students, gives away approximately \$19,000 annually, with up to \$5,000 per group. The intention of the committee is to build relations with the community outside of the university.

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# SU Election Schedule

## Thursday, February 26:

-Vice-president student life forum at 12:00 p.m. in MacHall's south courtyard.  
-Faculty of arts forum at 2:00 p.m. in MacHall's south courtyard

## Friday, February 27:

-Vice-president academic forum at 12:00 p.m. in MacHall's south courtyard.  
-ESS super-soaker all candidates forum at 5:00 p.m. in ENGG.

## Monday, March 2:

-Meet and Greet with candidates acclaiming positions this year at 12:00 p.m. in MacHall's south courtyard.  
-Muslim Students' Association executive candidates forum at 4:00 p.m. in MacHall's south courtyard.

## Tuesday-Thursday, March 3-5:

-Voting. Check your student centre for information on how to do it.

## Thursday, March 5:

-Unofficial results announced in the Den at 5:00 p.m. Then, we party.

SU ELECTION »

# The Gauntlet's annual poster-critique



Finally, a ladies' man. He's either running for vice-president external or this is an advertisement for a gigolo.



This looks like it took a lot of effort, but why is Count Dracula dressed up as Indiana Jones?



Julie Le on the left just smiled at Julie Le on the right. Julie Le on the right has no fucking clue who the other one is.



Really economical to do your poster on your old bed sheet. You can hardly see the pee stains.

## THE GAUNTLET IS HIRING: PUBLICATION MANAGER



### POSITION SUMMARY

The Publication Manager provides administrative support for the Gauntlet, manages the paper's advertising and offers interpretation and direction to allow the Board of Directors to make informed decisions. The role also provides guidance and mentorship to the Editor-in-Chief. Reporting to the Board of Governors, the Publication Manager is responsible for providing management services, including administrative, financial operations and procedures, and advertising management, for the Gauntlet.

### EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS

- Demonstrated organizational skills with ability to multi-task and manage priorities.
- Effective analysis, problem-solving and decision-making skills.
- Superior time management skills to manage deadlines and meet goals and objectives.
- A creative, outgoing and energetic personality combined with self-motivation required to succeed in a competitive environment.
- Ability to work independently.
- Experience in nonprofits and student publications preferable.
- Sales experience preferable.
- Completed university or college degree.
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator, and WordPress.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage and implement long-term strategy for the Gauntlet.
- Interpret and communicate organizational and contractual policy to ensure that all members of the Gauntlet operate in accordance with stipulated regulation.
- Manage the Gauntlet's finances, including payroll and working with the paper's accountant.
- Provide advice and strategies for improvement to the Board of Directors on managerial and financial matters.
- Organize and implement campus outreach strategy for the Gauntlet.
- Work with Editor-in-Chief to develop and present an annual budget to the Board of Directors.
- Identify and apply for appropriate grants.
- Manage on- and off-campus distribution.
- Maximize advertising revenue.
- Ensure client requests and proofs are accurate.
- Prepare and submit client advertising proposals.
- Manage and update web advertising.
- Maintain the Gauntlet's digital and physical archives.
- Assist Editor-in-Chief with all technology-related problems.

Full-time: 35 hours/week

Start Date: May 1, 2015

Send a resume and cover letter  
to [business@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:business@thegauntlet.ca) by Feb 27.

# Current Students' Union vice-president external acclaims presidency for 2015-16



Incoming president Levi Nilson said he's the first president to be acclaimed in decades.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

Chris Adams  
News Editor

Kate Jacobson  
Opinions Editor

He oversaw a wide-scale advocacy effort fighting market modifiers in 2014, a task that took up the majority of his time. Nilson's efforts, while admirable, largely failed with the government's approval of all three U of C modifier proposals.

With another year of budget cuts, potential program rollbacks and tuition uncertainty ahead, Nilson's in for a tough year. We talked to the acclaimed

president about his role next year, what he brings to the table as president and what his campaign would have looked like if he had to run one this year.

**The Gauntlet: How does it feel to be acclaimed as SU president?**

Levi Nilson: To be honest, super weird. It's nice to know that I can just continue working in my current role and not have to take this time off to

“ I really wish that we would have reached out to families, get them to say 'how is this going to affect my child who's going into the engineering program.

—Acclaimed SU president-elect Levi Nilson

campaign. That means I can keep going on the Get Out the Vote campaign, I'm writing a policy for the Canadian Alliance of Students' Associations and kind of keep doing the day to day.

At the same time, this is my first time not running in an election in a couple years and I'm the first acclaimed president in decades. It's kind of uncharted territory. I kind of wish I could have ran a campaign, but it's nice for my physical and mental well-being.

The democratic legitimacy of me just being acclaimed and not having to run a yes/no is questionable. It's just weird.

**Next year's president at the University of Alberta and Mount Royal are also acclaiming their positions. You've worked closely with them in CAUS this year. How's that relationship going to play out?**

I've been working with Erik Queenan [from Mount Royal] and Navneet Khinda [from U of A] quite a bit, especially on the market modifier file because Mount Royal and U of A are both a part of CAUS. To be honest, we've all been pretty high profile this year, which may have contributed to us being acclaimed. We have been running pretty aggressive campaigns not only in the media, but on campuses. We did the first protest that CAUS has done in five years. We put up a pretty stiff opposition and people really saw that.

**What do you expect will take up most of your time as president?**

Budget cuts for sure. That's going to [take up] the end of my term as vice-president external and going into my term as president. It's so unknown at this point. It's so hard to tell what we're going to do. But we're basically going to be putting all projects aside to deal with the ramifications of what's coming down the pipe.

**How would you rate your performance as vice-president external?**

It's hard to rate myself, but I do wish that I would have done more outreach to the community and involved not

just university students. I think we did a good job of involving U of C students and getting our message out in the media and to the administrators that were doing the consultation, however hollow that word is now. But I really wish that we would have reached out to families, get them to say 'how is this going to affect my child who's going into the engineering program.' I know politicians listen to families more than they do university students.

With the short timelines, we released some government documents telling people that it happened and then it was just negotiation after negotiation after consultation. Hindsight's 20/20.

**What about the MacHall lease negotiations?**

Basically if there isn't a deal done by the end of this term, it's going to be me doing the end of the negotiations. It's taken three years. We're pretty close to a deal, but I don't know if they're just waiting [SU president] Jarett and [vice-president operations and finance] Adam out. I know that's what happens year to year. They're kind of just jerking us around, generally.

They don't really want to have a very detailed agreement. We want something that's detailed because we obviously have trust issues with everything that's happened over the last little while. For us to get a fair deal that really spells out the rules and responsibilities that each of us would play in the building has been tough. That's going to be the biggest thing other than budget cuts that I'm going to be dealing with.

**Do you think administration's waiting for a weaker operations and finance?**

I think they're just waiting for a weaker exec. It's going to have to be SLC that signs a deal. I think they would love for weak executives to come in and sign a deal that isn't good for students and then be done with it. I know Jarett and Adam have been pretty tough on them so far this year and now they're kind of pushing it down the line.

## THE GAUNTLET IS HOLDING ELECTIONS

On March. 4 the Gauntlet will elect a new news editor and editor-in-chief for 2015/2016. Anyone who has contributed to three issues of the Gauntlet prior to the election can vote or run. All you have to do is help copy edit for the next three papers. That's Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. And you get free pizza, yah turkey. Candidates for the positions must post a campaign poster on the Gauntlet's east-facing windows by Feb. 27.



short  
formWill you vote in  
the Students'  
Union election?"Yeah. A buddy of mine  
is running."- Adrian Alviar,  
fourth-year kinesiology"Possibly. I really hate all the  
campaigning this year."- Melika Mostoyfa,  
second-year psychology"Maybe. So far nothing has  
caught my eye."- Artin Rezaee,  
first-year engineering"Absolutely. It's important that  
students get a say."- Karla Ravela,  
fifth-year international relations

Photos and Interviews: Alexander Kim

## EDITORIAL »

## What to look for before voting

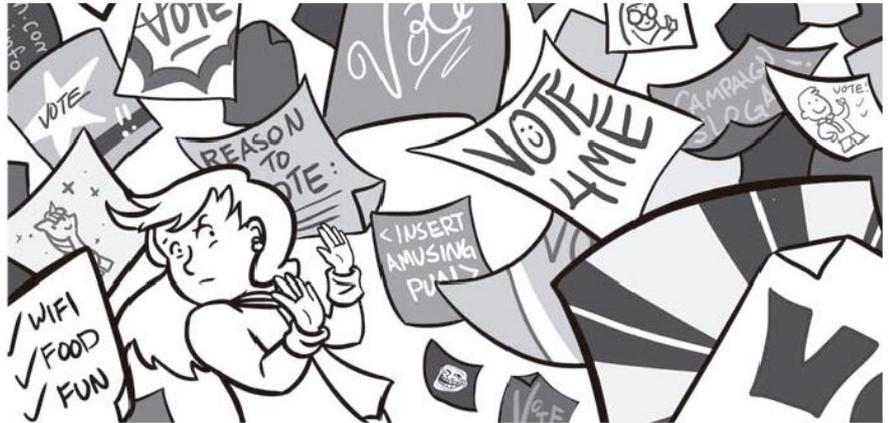
The day campaigning for the Students' Union election begins is overwhelming. You arrive on campus to find every inch of blank vertical space plastered with posters. There's a disproportionate number of your fellow students walking around in themed costumes trying to get your opinion on student government.

But voting is still important. The SU is the face of the student body to the public and the powerful. Elected executives work full-time and earn a hefty salary. They control MacHall and a budget of \$18-million dollars. It's easy to dismiss student government as a joke, but our union is substantial enough to be worth your time.

Unless you're an SU representative or you work at the *Gauntlet*, you probably don't pay much attention to student politics. This makes deciding who to vote for a hard call. It's difficult to tell who's prepared for the job without doing some research, and it's easy to be fooled by someone with slick campaign posters or a charming personality.

Knowing what responsibilities fall under each portfolio is important. Every year, some topics are so pervasive that everyone wants to talk about them — transparency, mental health, fee hikes. But executives don't just get to work on the projects that interest them. Each position has a certain set of responsibilities.

The vice-president external is responsible for representing students at the municipal, provincial and federal levels of government. The budget and



TIFFANY SENGSAVANG

lease negotiations are controlled by the vice-president operations and finance, while the vice-president academic is responsible for undergraduate research and classes. Planning events is under the direction of the vice-president student life. The president's portfolio is the most flexible, but they're generally in charge of setting a direction for the SU.

Candidates that didn't bother learning the responsibilities of the position they're running for aren't worth your time.

The SU can't change everything they want. We'd all like it if tuition was lower. But that isn't going to happen, and a candidate promising that is just trying to win a handful of votes.

This isn't to say that fee hikes aren't important. But candidates who claim

they can stop large-scale, endemic issues in a one-year term don't have realistic goals. Look for candidates who plan to tackle large issues with small, manageable steps. We have a better chance of getting somewhere if we focus on local issues and tangible changes instead of grandiose promises.

Every year, there's almost a complete staff turnover among elected SU executives and representatives. This means candidates will propose already failed ideas.

Inter-faculty events are cancelled year after year because no one participates in them. Apps are difficult and costly to develop and maintain. And the SU already listens to every piece of student consultation they can get their hands on. If a candidate couldn't find out what was happening less than four

years ago in an organization they want to run, they're not a good choice.

And watch out for candidates with platforms made up of buzzwords. Sustainability. Awareness. Transparency. Accountability. These words mean that the candidate didn't have enough ideas to form an actual platform, but they still want to get elected.

Candidates need ideas they can implement. If their entire platform is rhetoric, they'll spend a year in office without anything to show for it.

For better or for worse, the people running around campus in costumes will be in control of an organization with an \$18-million budget. If you plan on voting, put some thought into it.

Kate Jacobson  
*Gauntlet* Editorial Board

## STUDENT LIFE »

## Campus needs designated prayer space

Chase Little  
*Gauntlet* Opinions

University is difficult. Chasing a perfect GPA can be a crippling source of stress. If we add in non-academic struggles, life can be dark at times. And in times of need, many students turn to prayer for solace. Religious students deserve designated spaces where they can pray.

Around 1,700 people utilize the multi-faith prayer rooms every week. But the space isn't equipped to handle that many people. The rooms offered are small, and students are often forced to pray in stairwells and hallways.

Most students aren't religious. But

just because religious students aren't in the majority doesn't mean their needs shouldn't be met.

Being religious doesn't have to imply a total devotion to faith. Even students who aren't devout might be comfortable with the idea of a higher power. Prayer, alongside spaces where we can freely practice it, is a valuable resource.

These rooms provide a private space for students that reaffirm both the spiritual and practical importance of prayer to devout students. For religious students, prayer offers a few brief moments of peace every day. Whether or not you believe in the spiritual power of prayer, there's obvious benefits to taking a few minutes every day for

inward reflection.

While prayer might conjure up an image of counting rosary beads or swaying back and forth, prayer is common to the vast majority of religions. It's more than directing specific thoughts to a person, deity or object. Prayer provides moments of clarity in our hectic lives and allows students to fulfil their religious or cultural obligations. Multi-faith prayer spaces can also free us from the tensions of religious division. In fact, worshipping in the company of others can create a sense of community.

If we consider the amount of time students spend on campus each day, a large designated prayer space should

exist. Having the space to worship according to one's religious traditions is important to the student experience.

Equality doesn't mean that everyone is given the exact same resources. It means that students are given the amenities that lead to them having an equal quality of life. For religious students, this includes the ability to carry out religious practices and rituals at school.

The need for a larger designated prayer space is vital to improving student life on campus. It's also a valid demand of religious students. Almost anyone could understand this if they just found a quiet moment to look inside and think.

# We deserve your vote

David Song  
Gauntlet Opinions

Students stay busy. There's a constant stream of academic work and for most of us, the classroom is a major source of stress. It's easy to see why voter turnout in the Students' Union election is low. Last year, only 28.8 per cent of eligible voters went to the polls. The number was only a one per cent increase from the year before.

The University of Calgary is also a commuter campus. In 2012, only eight per cent of students lived in residence. The rest are people like me, who commute to school for class. We might stick around for some extracurricular activities, but the bulk of our time is spent off campus.

It's true that undergraduate students have a lot on our plates, and we can't be blamed for declining to make MacHall the centre of our lives. But that doesn't mean we get a free pass to ignore the SU.

They're one of few liaisons between students and administration. As an organization, the SU speaks on behalf of our shared interests — affordable tuition, legalized secondary suites and better student services. They manage the university's most important student services and are the reason students have affordable health care, can get cheap textbooks and can catch a



LOUIE VILLANUEVA

movie on Monday nights.

But it's hard to get a good sense of what students want when most of us couldn't be bothered to take five minutes and fill out a ballot. This isn't the SU's fault. The lack of voter turnout is on us. The SU is making important decisions without those choices being truly representative of student wants.

A referendum in last year's election asked students if they would

approve a MacHall redevelopment fee. This fee would have given the SU more control over MacHall. If you attend the U of C, chances are that you pass through MacHall everyday.

Ultimately, 61 per cent of voters turned the fee down, but that 61 per cent represents only around 17.5 per cent of the student body. It's likely that more than 20 per cent of the student body use MacHall on a daily basis, and all other students should have had the option to say yes or no.

The result of the referendum doesn't matter. The problem is that it wasn't a representative decision. If we want the SU's decisions to represent us, we have to buy into democracy on campus.

The commuter campus excuse is wearing thin. Whether you're on campus for three hours a day or 13, the U of C is our school. We're given an important say in how it's run, and it's easy to get educated on the basics of student politics. You can read candidate's platforms on the SU website. The Gauntlet has an election supplement with reviews and endorsements. CJSW interviews all of the candidates. There are forums in MacHall where you can ask the candidates questions, and they'll respond to email and Facebook messages. There's no excuse for not voting.

And even if you think it's a complete waste of time, filling out a ballot takes less than five minutes. There's even a giant button on your student centre that reminds you to vote.

You're getting a degree from this place. It's the least you can do.

# Slates encourage students to run in campus elections

Ala Buzreba  
Gauntlet Opinions

There are fewer posters than usual on campus this year. Part of this is due to less candidates. Incoming president Levi Nilson was acclaimed, and most executive positions have fewer candidates than usual.

While there's always fluctuation in the number of students running for the Students' Union, the lack of candidates is due in part to the absence of slates.

Slates are when two candidates run under the same platform and slogan, appearing on each other's campaign materials and sharing costs.

Students' Legislative Council (SLC) voted on the issue earlier this year, but banning slates through SLC failed after it was bundled with other, more controversial bylaw amendments. This means the Chief Returning Officer got to make the decision when they released their elections policy. The CRO often takes policy cues from SLC, so it's easy to see why slates were banned.

A lot of people think that slates are unfair. It can be hard to compete against two people if you're an individual candidate.

Running on a slate provides support for candidates during a stressful time. Campaign days are long, students are apathetic and constantly talking to strangers is exhausting.

That said, running is an invaluable experience. It's rare that students our age have the ability to come up with policy, debate in front of audiences and participate firsthand in the democratic process.

If this election is your first, running in a slate makes doing all this seem possible. Having a second person around helps you to grow your network and gives you a shoulder to lean on.

Slates also used to give students more money for their campaign. If you're running for faculty representative, candidates get \$150 to spend on their campaign. Slates doubled that to \$300 for one platform, albeit one with two people. You can barely get enough quality posters for \$150, let alone handbills and a

decent photographer. The added money puts your face on twice as many posters.

There were 18 candidates for arts representative last year, and every winner was part of a slate. Running on a slate was clearly a huge advantage, despite the fact that two of the representatives won their position without their other half.

It's obvious why slates helped candidates — they got to campaign with someone as equally passionate about student government as they were.

In the faculty of arts, there are four positions up for grabs. It's only fair that candidates should be able to team up and work together. It's not like slates were restricted to certain groups of people. Everyone had the capability to grab a friend and run for the SU together.

## /// Banning slates just puts up another barrier for students trying to participate in politics.

This year, there are only five candidates running for arts representative. Last year there were 16. This means all but one will be elected to serve a one-year term on SLC. The reduction in candidates for faculty representatives likely has something to do with the lack of slates.

Banning slates just puts up another barrier for students trying to participate in politics. It also ensures that only a certain type of person gets elected — those who are loud, outgoing and involved with clubs and associations on campus.

Everyone should have the ability to run for the SU, and wanting to share the burden with a friend shouldn't be something shameful or forbidden. If we want the SU to accurately represent everyone who goes to school at the University of Calgary, we need slates.

## Gauntlet Opinions Needs Volunteers and Writers

1. Send us an email at [opinions@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:opinions@thegauntlet.ca)
2. Visit us at Room 319 in MacEwan Student Centre
3. Send us a carrier pigeon  
Latitude - Longitude:  
51.078766, -114.13041



# SU should allow negative campaigning

Caitlyn Madlener  
Gauntlet Opinions

Politicians aren't the most honest people. Whether it's the Premier of Alberta trying to cover up an expense scandal, the mayor of Toronto smoking crack or a lowly student representative misusing student money, there's always some incident, ineptitude or expenditure politicians don't want voters to know about.

Banning negative campaigning in Students' Union elections allows candidates to hide these blunders.

Imagine you're running for the SU and discover that your incumbent competitor has been misappropriating thousands of student dollars to take lavish trips to the Banff Springs Hotel. This fraudulent and dishonest use of student money is something that should affect a voter's views of the candidate, and attacking the candidate's decisions would be the responsible tactic.

Unfortunately, the SU has a ban on negative campaigning. Communicating and campaigning on this

indiscretion would result in your disqualification from the race and the election of a potentially dishonest and fraudulent candidate.

Allowing negative campaigning would do more than protect us from cases of fraud or ineptitude. Regardless of your political stripe, we all know that politicians over-promise and under-deliver. Negative campaigning helps voters realize the impossibility of many candidate's unrealistic ideas.

We might like to believe that the faculty of arts representatives can abolish tuition fees, but that isn't going to happen. Negative campaigning would help hold unrealistic candidates to account.

Negative campaigning also helps educate voters. When you're buying a laptop, you don't just look at the manufacturer's website or take everything the salesperson says for granted. You look for user reviews and see what their competitors offer. You look for both the good and the bad. We don't ban different laptop manufacturers from "negative advertising," or ban people from



CHASE LITTLE

reviewing products just because their opinion isn't positive enough.

The SU's policies hinder us from becoming more informed voters and they tarnish our university's reputation for free speech. This particular policy was a significant factor in the SU's "F" grade on the 2013 Justice Centre for Constitutional Freedom's

Campus Freedom Index. University is about freedom of expression, even for ideas we find contentious or distasteful.

Concerns about negative campaigning appear legitimate. People fear that a candidate's character might be besmirched. Though compassionate, this is a bad argument.

Tarnishing the character of a dishonest and fraudulent candidate is a good thing. If a candidate is inappropriately attacked, that isn't "negative campaigning" — it's libel. And the notion that negative campaigning will hurt a candidate's feelings is disappointing at best. No student can spend their entire life sheltered from mean words.

Not everyone voting in the SU election has the time, resources or motivation to research every candidate. Negative campaigning allows us to outsource this to other candidates who invest their time and money in the election. Without negative campaigning, no candidate would ever discuss their own shortcomings. Negative campaigning exposes the things that informed voters should be talking about.

Our ban on negative campaigning is an unfortunate aspect of student democracy. Our campus should be a place for discussion, even if that discussion becomes heated, negative or inflammatory. If you disagree, go ahead and negatively campaign against it.

## Summer Hiring Fair

Tuesday, March 3, 2015  
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Upper Track - Jack Simpson

Come find your summer job at this fair!  
This fair attracts employers from all industries. Find summer, part-time and full-time opportunities.

[ucalgary.ca/careers](http://ucalgary.ca/careers)

# 2015 STUDENTS' UNION ELECTION SUPPLEMENT



LOUIE VILLANUEVA

## The Supplement

Every year during reading week, the *Gauntlet* puts together a Students' Union election supplement to inform students on the candidates and what they hope to achieve.

We invite all the executive candidates to our office for a five-minute platform pitch and a 10-minute Q & A. Our panel of *Gauntlet* staff and volunteers picks apart their platforms and grills them on some of the more

pressing issues they will face if elected. Some falter under the pressure, while others rise to the occasion and demonstrate their confidence and ability.

We know the election can be annoying. There will be posters smothering the walls and candidates begging for your votes. It's easy to tune it all out. But the SU is the University of Calgary's strongest student voice and, they have your interests at heart.

There's no point sugar-coating it. Next year will be difficult for the SU. Provincial budget cuts are sure to impact U of C students. It's more important than ever to elect capable officials who will be able to deal with possible austerity measures while still advocating for students.

After checking out our reviews, look for our panel's personal endorsements on the back page — the candidates who we feel

would do the best job if elected. But don't just take our word for it. All of the candidates' platforms are on the SU website.

You can't properly judge a candidate solely on a poster or 90-second classroom visit. We hope this supplement helps guide your decision on who you want your future SU leaders to be. And of course, don't forget to vote Mar. 3-5. You can vote online through your student centre or fill out a ballot in MacHall.

## Panelists

**Fabian Mayer**  
Supplement Editor

**Riley Hill**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Sean Willett**  
Production Editor

**Connor Sadler**  
Entertainment Assistant

**Diltaj Atwal**  
*Gauntlet* Writer

**Scott Strasser**  
Supplement Editor

**Chris Adams**  
News Editor

**Melanie Woods**  
Humour Editor

**Hayden McBennett**  
*Gauntlet* Writer

**Alexander Kim**  
*Gauntlet* Writer

# President

The president is the leader of the Students' Union who maintains relations with the university administration, chairs many committees and has a vote on the Board of Governors. The president oversees the work of the SU executives and the Student Legislative Council.

## Levi Nilson



"The next year we're basically going to be weathering budget cuts and making sure that costs aren't passed on to students."

Levi Nilson is acclaimed as Students' Union president. He's well prepared and has the right personality and resume to lead the Students' Union in the tough year ahead.

Nilson has been involved in the SU for a couple of years. When he was an arts representative in 2013 he co-founded the Faculty of Arts Students' Association. The organization has since become the place where wannabe SU executives and representatives are socialized into the student-government clique. A few of this year's candidates are walking the road he paved.

He was the vice-president external this year and he's always been one of the more vocal members of Student Legislative Council with a knack for asking uncomfortable questions.

Nilson spent his year as vice-president external in conflict with powers greater than his office. He caught an early victory last May when the Alberta government made money available for open textbooks, though he acknowledged

that this had little to do with his work.

Last September, the province gave an open call to post secondaries for new market modifiers. Nilson, in his role with the Council of Alberta University Students, leaked the document to the media, taking the fight to the government and University of Calgary administration early. He organized protests, got plenty of time in the press and found creative ways to put pressure on administration. He has also been vocal in the city-wide debate on secondary suites.

Though he fought hard on these issues, Nilson doesn't have much to show for his efforts other than a drawer full of newspaper clippings. All three market-modifier proposals at the U of C passed and city council is still stuck in gridlock on secondary suites. Nilson said he expects some small reforms will pass soon, but the major breakthrough he fought for is unlikely.

Nilson will face greater challenges next

year as president. The U of C is "probably going to see at least a five per cent cut," as he said during his interview. A larger cut hasn't been ruled out.

Nilson will be a wartime president, which is exactly what the SU needs. But students will judge his success at the job by what he can protect during deep spending cuts. He will have to show that he can accomplish more as president than he did as vice-president external.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- SU vice-president external, 2014-15
- SU arts representative, 2013-14
- Co-founded FASA, 2013-14

# External

Vice-president external is the Students' Union representative to federal, provincial and municipal governments. The vice-president external represents students at lobby groups, campaigns and sits on many internal committees such as Policy Development and Review.

## David McDonald



"Financial means should never be an obstacle preventing a student from pursuing their career in post-secondary."

David McDonald is a passionate and reasonably well-informed candidate who is aware of the big issues facing students. But he lacks the ideas and experience necessary for the high-pressure job of vice-president external.

Like most candidates for the position, market modifiers sit at the top of McDonald's platform. He is particularly concerned with where the extra revenue from market modifiers is spent.

His platform also includes securing government funding for open textbooks, reforming provincial criteria for financial aid, pushing to legalize secondary suites and getting students to vote in this year's federal election. All are noble causes and standard platform material.

McDonald sees the rising costs of education as the most important issue facing students. He has his priorities straight, but his ideas on how to accomplish those goals lack creativity.

Provincial budget cuts will make the next year difficult for students, the Students' Union and the university. When asked how he would accomplish his goals, McDonald's answers were limited to lobbying MLAs, councillors and administration. This is standard territory for the job and hardly worth putting in a platform.

McDonald's platform doesn't provide a clear plan on how to deal with further tuition hikes. Tuition increases are likely next year and every candidate should have a clear position on how to fight them.

McDonald has been in the Residence Students' Association, but he doesn't have much experience interacting with the powerful people he will have to lobby if elected. His interview didn't inspire confidence on this front.

McDonald wants to secure future funding for open textbooks and promote their use to faculty. Promoting their use falls under the

vice-president academic's portfolio and securing future funding would be difficult given the province's financial situation.

He has an adequate grasp of the position and is aware of the major issues facing students. He shows a lot of promise and has the making of a strong political personality, but he's not ready yet. Another year of observation of the SU is what McDonald needs to come out with guns blazing next year.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- RSA events commissioner, 2014-2015
- RSA student representative, 2013-2014
- Fourth-year political science honours student

## SU ELECTIONS 2015

### Online voting:

Starts: March 3 @ 9am  
Ends: March 5 @ 4pm

### Polling station:

10am - 4pm March 3 - 5

Unofficial results will be announced at the Den on Thursday March 5 @ 5:30 pm

Kyle Schole's review last year said he had a political demeanour and the drive to succeed, but lacked the understanding needed to successfully lobby politicians. He needed another year to prepare.

He accepted the challenge, walking into this year's interview with confidence and knowledge. He didn't just point out key issues in the vice-president external's portfolio, but had a working knowledge of them.

He called the consultation process for market modifiers "botched" and acknowledged that the inflation-tied tuition cap is in jeopardy. He's also concerned that market modifiers could become a regularity when provincial funding is uncertain.

Maintaining transit fees are a large part of Schole's platform. He's worried that University of Calgary students will have to foot the bill when Bow Valley College joins the UPass

system. UPass fee increases have generally been small so this is a relatively minor issue.

Schole wants to include students more in the Students' Union's advocacy strategy. He wants to make the advocacy task force (ATF) — which sits ad hoc — a permanent committee. He hopes this will create stronger advocacy efforts, although he would have a hard time getting students to participate.

He cited secondary suites and tuition costs as generational problems that need long-term solutions.

Schole regularly attends Students' Legislative Council and claimed to be the only regular student attendee of the ATF. He clearly has the drive and dedication having followed the SU closely from the sidelines all year.

Schole could prove to be a sturdy voice during a difficult year. He hits every point he's supposed to, but has few new solutions for

tuition increases, market modifiers or provincial advocacy. He may not have the fire we'd hope for in an external candidate facing a tough term in office, but Schole is a safe and competent choice.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Student Chair, Canadian International Council Calgary Branch, 2014
- Attendee of various SU committees, 2014–2015
- Arts & Science Faculty Coop & Internship Program Advisory Board, 2014

## Kyle Schole



"I want to look at how the su practices its advocacy strategy."

Romy Garrido's passion and knowledge of student issues make her an excellent candidate for vice-president external.

Garrido's main objective is ensuring market modifiers aren't passed again. Every candidate is making this promise, but Garrido's platform presents the most innovative strategy to make it happen.

Garrido wants to work with student clubs to host a lobbying training program. She said this would better prepare students who want to engage in provincial and federal politics. She also plans to change how the Students' Union lobbies the provincial government. While she intends to continue traditional lobbying efforts through the Council of Alberta University Students, she also wants to reach out to local communities to start a grassroots lobbying initiative. Garrido said that by demonstrating to the public that high tuition costs are a societal problem rather than just a student issue, she

can raise more support in the community. She admitted she hasn't had much lobbying experience, but showed a thorough understanding of the process.

Garrido wants to focus on student well-being by starting an awareness campaign for secondary suite reform. She also plans to lobby the federal government for new mental-health and sexual-assault policies. Few candidates mentioned sexual-assault prevention and it's refreshing to see a candidate recognize the issue's importance.

Garrido's ability to recognize the failings of traditional student lobbying strategies along with a willingness to try new ideas sets her apart from other candidates. She was also able to provide an impressive list of volunteer and executive positions she's held during her time at the U of C.

Garrido backed up her ideas with examples from other universities and cited statistics at the

drop of a hat, displaying an impressive level of knowledge. She demonstrated that she could keep cool under pressure, confidently responding to questions and criticisms of her platform with clear, well thought-out answers.

Garrido knows the ins-and-outs of this position and she has the confidence, skills and ideas to effectively fight for the best interests of U of C students.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Faculty of Arts Students' Association political science representative
- Consent Awareness and Sexual Education club vice-president external
- Canadian Political Science Students' Association academic director National Conference 2015.

## Romy Garrido



"My approach would be a grass roots, as well as traditional lobbying effort."

Tristan Bray brings useful political experience to the table, but he didn't communicate his platform as clearly as the other candidates for vice-president external.

Bray plans to show the government there is a high demand for open textbooks and that they save students money. Given the province's financial situation, this would be a hard sell.

Bray didn't know that open textbooks are already used at the University of Calgary. In a year where the vice-president external will likely spend most of their time lobbying potential tuition hikes, Bray's focus on open textbook feels like an odd priority.

With that in mind, Bray made good points on potential fee increases. He suggested not simply fighting inevitable tuition increases, but lobbying the government to amend the policies that let market modifiers happen in the first place. Bray's goal of applying permanent solutions to

the problem showcases an understanding of how decisions made today can impact the future. But it's nothing new, the Council of Alberta University Students has been lobbying these points for years.

Bray said he wouldn't support market modifiers in any situation, citing the existing inflation-tied tuition cap as a way to ensure education remains affordable and accessible.

Bray had some good ideas on mental-health initiatives. He stressed working with external sponsors like the Bell Let's Talk campaign to raise money for the Students' Union Wellness Centre. Bray's knowledge in this field was the highlight of his interview and platform.

Like many candidates, Bray tries to cover all the bases. Dipping into areas that aren't within the position's portfolio suggests he has a lot of big ideas, but isn't clear how to make them happen.

Bray was also defensive with follow-up

questions during his interview, generally not a good trait for someone who needs to lobby politicians.

There are a lot of candidates running for vice-president external. Bray's strength is his political experience. He is knowledgeable, but risks being lost in a crowd of well prepared candidates who are a better fit for the position.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- University of Calgary Liberals president
- Director-at-large of a constituency association
- Risk-management chair of a U of C fraternity

## Tristan Bray



"We fight market modifiers by showing that students vote."

# Operations & Finance

The vice-president operations and finance manages Students' Union's finances and interacts with university administration regarding capital planning and development. The position also chairs the operations and finance committee.

## Dan Jo



"I want to hear what the students have to say, and do what the students want."

Dan Jo has experience balancing the books at a few organizations, but doesn't know enough about issues facing the Students' Union to warrant your vote.

Jo's main platform points focus on increasing transparency in the Students' Union and keeping student fees low. Currently, the SU only releases a brief financial statement, showing how much revenue they collect and where it's spent. Jo wants to release an audited version of the statement, documenting where every dollar of SU money is spent. The other two candidates also plan to do this.

SU fees at the University of Calgary are among the lowest in the country and Jo wants to keep them that way. The SU hasn't increased their fees in years, so this seems like an unambitious goal.

When asked what he would do if students

requested additional funding for certain SU programs, Jo stated that he would look at the budget and "trim the fat" from other programs to find extra resources. He was short on specifics and heavy on catchphrases.

Jo also wants to use a Quality Money grant to create a texting system between students and Campus Security. He said that in some crisis situations, students might not have a chance to call security or reach a help phone. While this idea would be easy to implement, it's hard to imagine it making campus much safer.

While Jo knows the basics of the position and has some financial experience, he could not speak in depth about the MacHall lease negotiations and the university's contract with Chartwells Catering — significant issues for the position he is running for.

Above all, Jo wants to keep the ship sailing smoothly. It's a cause worth applauding, but with few ambitious ideas and a limited knowledge of the portfolio's pressing issues, Jo is not a strong candidate for the position.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Royal Canadian Navy mess treasurer
- Royal Canadian Navy cook
- Economics student with a minor in communications

## Kean Bexte



"Much like students deserve access to Wi-Fi, they deserve access to a safe campus."

Kean Bexte is a passionate, experienced and confident candidate with a well thought-out plan to accomplish his goals.

Bexte pledged to bring debit and credit machines to Stör. He said Stör is about convenience, but the cash-only policy makes it just the opposite. By offering debit and credit, Bexte hopes to make the vendor more convenient for students, albeit costing \$0.25 per transaction. Stör may undergo a six-month trial period with debit and credit machines this fall, so Bexte may not have to do much, though he claimed this was his initiative in the first place.

Bexte also wants to bring healthy vendors to MacHall. There may be a few vendors leaving next year and Bexte wants to prioritize incoming businesses that will serve healthy food. This is one of Bexte's biggest selling points, as

he was the only candidate to propose this on his platform.

He also mentioned the MacHall lease negotiations between the SU and the university. The SU gets most of its revenue from operating MacHall and the negotiations are crucial for the SU's future. He cited the \$19 million students have invested over the past 60 years as an important bargaining chip.

Bexte wants to improve campus safety by introducing a blue light system — an emergency response system used on many North American campuses. The lights' effectiveness is unclear, but Bexte seemed knowledgeable of their benefits. However, at \$5,000 per unit they're fairly expensive. Bexte said he would fund the lights with a Quality Money grant.

Bexte's knowledge of the issue and confident

interview showed he would be a shrewd negotiator to have on the students' side of the table.

Bexte has the experience and ability to achieve his goals. He's a solid candidate for the position.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Students' Union science representative, 2014–15
- Sat on Operations and Finance, Quality Money and Advocacy Task Force committees
- Policy intern for the Minister of Agriculture

## Sarah Pousette



"My platform is really focused on putting the su's money where its mouth is."

Sarah Pousette has plenty of financial experience on and off campus and enough Students' Union know-how to make her a solid candidate for the job.

Pousette hopes to sway the MacHall lease negotiations by touting the SU's investment in the building. The SU spent millions on the building and contributed the majority of the funds for MacHall's last re-development. Pousette wants to remind administration how important MacHall is to students and that she wouldn't budge on retaining control over its operation.

Pousette's negotiating tactic isn't the most creative, but she has her head in the right place. She's pragmatic enough to know the difference between campaign rhetoric and practical negotiations.

Transparency is everyone's favourite campaign buzzword, but Pousette gets it right. She wants to publish audited financials, have

committees produce quarterly reports and give Students' Legislative Council gallery members the same documents the SU provides elected officials. The other two candidates also plan to make the SU's audited financials public.

Pousette admits all of these goals would be easily accomplished. The SU already publishes SLC documents online, so it would be easy to provide hard copies as well. She said there's no reason for the SU to keep detailed financial information hidden.

Pousette also wants to prioritize new funding for clubs. She plans to expand clubs funding by \$10,000 and allocate more money for wellness and safe spaces in the budget. This includes prayer and other gender-inclusive spaces.

The first thing Pousette told us was that she didn't want to make unrealistic promises. She used buzzwords, but was self-aware enough to back her points up with substance.

She has enough financial experience to prove her worth. She's managed millions for the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, worked as a Sustainability Resource Centre Assistant and is currently the vice-president operations and finance for the Faculty of Arts Students' Association. FASA's budget isn't nearly as large as the SU's, but Pousette's capable of making the jump.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- 2012 project coordinator for the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede
- Vice-president Operations and Finance for FASA, 2014–15
- Programming Coordinator for Pacific Sport Northern B.C.

# Student Life

The vice-president student life chairs the clubs committee and is responsible for issues like active living, student engagement and mental health. They run Orientation Week, Frostbite and Bermuda Shorts Day, among other events.

## Kirsty McGowan



Kirsty McGowan is a strong contender for vice-president student life. She has relevant experience, attainable goals and a solid understanding of the job.

Bringing nap rooms to the University of Calgary is McGowan's best idea. She said a lack of sleep contributes to mental-health problems for students and that nap rooms have been successful at other universities. McGowan wants to set up a trial run in That Empty Space during Stress Less Week. If there's enough interest, she will look for a permanent location.

McGowan wants to improve Campus Security infrastructure by installing emergency phone towers around campus. The towers are equipped with a blue light that flashes when activated and immediately dials Campus Security. McGowan plans to install the towers in "high impact" areas like the LRT station and

near the residence buildings. She proposed using a Quality Money grant to install the towers, which cost \$5,000 each.

These towers are common on North American campuses and McGowan says they will help prevent crime. The evidence she provided for this claim was weak though the towers would have a strong psychological benefit.

McGowan wants to bring back inter-faculty events like Faculty Wars. That might not be worthwhile since inter-faculty competition hasn't been popular with students in the past.

She also wants to increase the SU clubs budget from \$40,000 to \$50,000 and introduce a junior executive training program for club executives. The program could prevent the slow death of clubs when executives leave or graduate without properly training successors. Clubs are an important part of the

student experience and McGowan has good ideas to keep it that way.

A few platform holes aside, McGowan offers the full package. She's been in the SU, involved with campus media and founded two clubs. She's participated in many facets of student life and is making reasonable promises she can deliver on. If you believe in her ideas, give McGowan your vote.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Arts representative 2014–2015
- Founder and president of the British Club
- Chair for U of C Relay For Life

"Lack of sleep is a huge contributing factor to mental-health issues and that isn't addressed."

## Matt Ray



Matt Ray is an intelligent candidate who would make a competent vice-president student life, though some of his ideas would be hard to implement.

Ray wants to boost student engagement, upgrade club infrastructure and improve mental health. His goals are admirable, but some of his ideas are unfeasible. That said, his priorities show he understands the role and what issues fall under the portfolio.

Ray wants to create a *Harry Potter*-style House Cup where faculties compete against each other for points. By attending Students' Union events, club events and Dinos games, points would be won for your faculty. The likelihood of a House Cup being successful is low. The SU had to cancel inter-faculty events last year due to low participation.

Ray's mental-health strategy is creative. He hopes to create peer-support programs where students could talk to trained peers about their problems. This would be a useful resource for students and the SU should consider it regardless of who wins the election.

Ray also wants to create a space on campus where students can write anonymous testimonials about the problems they face. This is another interesting concept that shows Ray recognizes the importance of mental health.

On clubs, however, Ray's ideas fall flat. He wants to develop an app where students could see a calendar of club events. Ray deserves praise for contacting a developer prior to his interview, but past candidates have promised

apps only to underestimate the time and cost of creating them.

Ray's wealth of experience in the Residence Students' Association shows he's a viable option, though his involvement on campus seems pretty limited otherwise. He has a couple of interesting ideas on how to improve student life at the University of Calgary, but also some unfeasible ones. That said, Ray is a strong candidate for the job.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- RSA chairperson, 2014–2015
- RSA student representative, 2013–2014
- Champion crowd pumper at We Day Alberta, 2014

"I've been passionate about student engagement and experience in residence."

## Patrick Ma



Patrick Ma is enthusiastic and ambitious, but his puzzling platform and lack of experience leave him unprepared for the job.

Ma's platform centres on three slogans: know your campus, know your city and know yourself. He said he wants to give students the opportunity to experience all that the university and the city have to offer.

"Know your campus" focuses on student engagement. Ma's plans include creating a calendar for club events, a club matchmaker app and promoting inter-university events, such as Dinos games. All of these ideas have been tried and failed in the past five years.

Ma said he wants to increase attendance at events like Pack the Jack and Kickoff. Ma's priorities are confusing considering how popular these events already are. If improving school spirit is his goal, it would be better for him to promote lesser known events.

His second platform point is to "know your city." Ma wants to bring local publications to MacHall so students can see what is going on in the city. Considering many local publications are already available on campus and that the *Gauntlet* promotes local events too, this seems like another unnecessary initiative.

Ma also plans to increase connections between alumni and students. He said he has reached out to the alumni association, who expressed interest in engaging with students. Networking with alumni would help students gain valuable connections related to their career paths. This is Ma's most creative idea and he is the only candidate to stress the importance of networking in his platform.

Ma's last goal, "know yourself," aims to combat the stigma surrounding mental illness on campus. It consists of two initiatives: creating more events for mental-health awareness and

securing alternative funding for the Students' Union Wellness Centre. He offered few specifics on either the events or how funding would be secured and almost nobody shows up to the mental-health events already in place.

Ma is enthusiastic, but his resume is thin, his ideas need work and his communication skills are not strong enough for the student-life portfolio.

#### Selected Qualifications:

- Mental-health research assistant
- TD Chinatown street festival coordinator
- Supervisor at Village Ice Cream

"I believe promoting [inter-university] events increases student engagement on campus."

# Academic

The vice-president academic is responsible for all relevant academic matters, including liaising with faculty representatives, promoting undergraduate research and increasing the quality of education and teaching.

## Sherin Mohammed



"I'd like to increase the awareness around the student ombuds office."

Sherin Mohammed is the current Students' Union education representative, a logical training ground for the vice-president academic position. The majority of Mohammed's platform points are well thought-out and attainable.

Her platform focuses mainly on the accessibility and quality of student support services, as well as enhancing the quality of education.

Her strongest point is an increased focus on the student ombuds office, since most students don't use it or know what it is. Mohammed wants to ensure professors tell students about it and gather feedback from students who use the office to better report its benefits. It's nice to see Mohammed acknowledge the ombuds office's importance and promote it as a useful student resource. She seems

practical and organized in her approach to this issue.

The highest-profile issue in the vice-president academic portfolio is open textbooks. Mohammed said she will work to integrate them into the University of Calgary classrooms. She plans to lobby administration and encourage professors to use them. Mohammed has methodical strategies for working with faculty to integrate them more fully.

Her most questionable campaign point is her plan for an app that will show open and available study spaces on campus. In concept, the app sounds fantastic. But like countless past candidates, Mohammed underestimates the time and money required for such projects. The history of apps on campus suggests this is an empty promise.

Overall, Mohammed is a good candidate.

She's aware of issues already under the position's portfolio. She also has considerable committee experience. Her plans for the ombuds office, more study-skills workshops and goal of increasing research funding are all noteworthy. They're also realistic, considering the vice-president academic's scope.

The study space app is a pipe dream. Thankfully, her campaign doesn't hinge on it and her other goals are solid and attainable.

### Selected Qualifications:

- SU education representative 2014–2015
- Get Out The Vote Club president 2014–2015
- Member of SU clubs, and operations and finance committees

## Stephan Guscott



"I really want to get faculty buy-in for open educational resources."

Stephan Guscott came into the interview like a seasoned professional. He has a capable grasp of the position, with realistic goals and clear means to achieve them. He was also well spoken and, for the most part, confident during his interview.

Guscott's platform rests on four goals: continuing Hana Kadri's current initiatives, working on an undergraduate research office, getting faculty to adopt open textbooks and reviewing the university's final exam deferral policy.

According to Guscott, 27 per cent of graduates wish they had been able to gain more research experience during their degrees, which is why it's a primary focus of his platform.

Guscott said that he has met with Kadri on several occasions to discuss his objectives. The

vice-president academic often has difficulty getting things done and it's important that he's laid the groundwork for some of his platform points.

When faculty publish research in a journal or textbook, it's considered scholarly activity. Contributing to open textbooks doesn't, something Guscott would like to change. He also wants to change the faculty tenure promotions guidelines to encourage professors to develop accessible, quality textbooks. These ideas benefit both students and faculty and would help push open textbooks to the next level.

Guscott wants to relax the final exam deferral policy. The policy was temporarily relaxed last April and Guscott believes students should be trusted with not having to provide a doctor's note. While noble, this would make it

easier for students to abuse the policy.

Guscott has researched his causes and has already taken steps to accomplish his goals. In addition to being this year's kinesiology representative, he also has a lot of Students' Union committee experience. Guscott is a great candidate by every measure.

### Selected Qualifications:

- SU kinesiology representative 2014–2015
- Member of SU teaching excellence awards, operations and finance, and policy development and review committees

## BOG Representative

The Board of Governors manages the operations of the U of C. The student-at-large representative attends BOG meetings and voices student concerns.

## Alex Procyk



"I care deeply about what the future of this institution may hold."

Alex Procyk has a grounded view of what the position entails and he has ideas for how to make his one vote on the Board of Governors matter.

Procyk plans on advocating for greater fiscal responsibility by encouraging better long-term planning and by voting against questionable spending decisions. He vowed to vote against any tuition raises, unless properly justified.

Of course, these platform points would be meaningless if Procyk didn't know how to work with the other members of the board. Procyk recognizes that students only have two votes on the board and put forth several ideas on how to win other board members over to the students' side.

Procyk wants to maintain a positive relationship between students and administration.

While this sounds nice on paper, promising to build bridges over traditionally impassable water hasn't succeeded in the past.

Procyk wants to unite the University of Calgary's faculties to provide a stronger voice on the board. He pointed out that students and faculties often share common goals and using the voice of the General Faculties Council to advocate for student issues would help students have a greater impact.

Procyk was collected and articulate during his interview, though he tended to use bureaucratic and long-winded language.

This would be a criticism if Procyk were running for any other position. But it's needed for a job that requires the ability to keep up with the bureaucratic language used by administrators.

By demonstrating that he has a realistic view of the limitations of the position, and plans to work within these, Procyk showed us that he would be a reliable fit for student representative.

### Selected Qualifications:

- Get Out The Vote Club communications director
- Constituency association vice-president Calgary-Varsity

## Amy Li



"I want people to be able to communicate with me."

Amy Li knows the ins-and-outs of the Students' Union, having already spent a year working with the SU as a science representative. Her campus experience, realistic platform and confident interview make her a sensible choice for the position.

Li's main focus is on the affordability and quality of education. If elected, she plans to vote against tuition increases, market modifiers and mandatory non-instructional fees. She also endorses the creation of more scholarships.

As for quality of education, Li says she would use her vote to support programs that

emphasize hands-on learning and research.

Li's second platform point is enhancing the student experience. She wants to endorse initiatives that promote student wellness. Her advocacy for mental health in recent years proves she's capable of achieving this. Li is the president and founder of the Distress Centre on Campus and she co-founded Outrun the Stigma, a charity run that advocates mental-health awareness.

Li's third platform focus is to increase the transparency of the board's student representative. Through social media, she wants to interact with students and bring their feedback

to board meetings. Li wants students to understand the roles and responsibilities of the position but she'll have a tough time convincing students to care.

Li's SU experience and previous achievements surrounding her platform points make her a strong candidate.

**Selected Qualifications:**

- SU faculty of science representative 2014–2015
- Founder and president of the Distress Centre on Campus club

## Annie Mushtaq



"Students are not just consumers at this school, we are vital stakeholders."

Annie Mushtaq's platform focuses on consulting with students and voicing their concerns at Board of Governor's meetings. It's important that students are heard at the board, but Mushtaq had few ideas that went beyond the basics of the job.

Mushtaq wants to consult with students face-to-face and through social media. Taking various approaches to consultation will help her reach students.

Mushtaq recognized that her one vote on the board isn't likely to swing votes one way or the other, showing she has a decent understanding of the position.

But with looming provincial budget cuts

and tuition increases, simply bringing the student perspective to the board won't be enough.

Unlike other candidates Mushtaq didn't have a plan to sway other board members to the students' side.

Mushtaq thinks past relationships between the BOG rep and administration has been too confrontational. She argues that students and administration share the goal of making a better university. Unfortunately, as we saw this year with market modifiers, students and administration often have different priorities.

Mushtaq said she would have voted no on the market modifier proposals but thinks the

inflation-tied tuition increase makes sense.

She has relevant experience volunteering with the Students' Union and being part of non-profits, but she does not have strong ideas on how to use her position to make an impact on the board.

**Selected Qualifications:**

- SU volunteer and member of the SU Committee of 10,000
- Former employee of Education Matters

## Michael Tom



"I think it's very important to voice what students actually believe."

Michael Tom's interview showed that he thoroughly researched the position and has the know-how to achieve his goals. His experience in provincial politics, the Residence Students' Association and a handful of non-profits also make him a great choice.

Tom said he crafted his platform based on social media and face-to-face consultation with students.

Tom said he would vote against all tuition hikes, including market modifiers, mandatory non-instructional fees and the inflation-tied tuition increase. He plans to combat these hikes by building relationships with

other board members and convincing them to vote with students.

As for his other goals, Tom plans to improve campus Wi-Fi and upgrade the university's worst classrooms.

Tom didn't make outlandish promises. He justified his initiatives with facts and statistics and presented a clear plan of action. He also had a working knowledge of the role's code of conduct, further highlighting his preparation.

Tom wouldn't need to be student rep to achieve some of his objectives, but he defended his candidacy well, claiming the position would give him a stronger voice and better access

to the people who could help him achieve his goals.

There are a lot of candidates for board rep, but Tom manages to stand out. His quiet confidence and varied resumé make him a front-runner in this year's most contested category.

**Selected Qualifications:**

- Acting president Crohn's and Colitis Canada, Calgary Society
- SU review board member 2013–2015

## Nick Boots



"We need to look at how the university is spending its money."

Nick Boots came across as a confident and reliable candidate, though not the strongest for the position.

He wants to focus on maintaining the cost of tuition. In the face of potential province-wide education cuts, that's a pretty lofty goal, but Boots' platform gave his plan to achieve it.

If tuition goes up next year, Boots wants to minimize the hike by convincing university administration to look at other funding sources. He suggests the university pursue corporate investments and donations before ramping up tuition costs extensively for students. The University of Calgary already does this, but Boots wants them to do it more,

While corporate investment is one way to take the burden off students, there's always a possibility of businesses influencing university policy. Boots shrugged this possibility off, saying any corporate influence on campus would be negligible.

Because the student representative only gets one vote on the Board of Governors, Boots wants to work closely with the Students' Union president to try and vote together. Seeing as the student representative and the SU president have recently voted differently on some issues, this is a good approach.

Boots also wants to consult with students on a larger scale before board meetings to

ensure his vote represents what students really want. To do this, he plans to use social media, posters, face-to-face communication and informal SU referendums on certain political issues.

No matter what questions were thrown at him, Boots gave confident, well thought-out answers. His objectives may be ambitious, but he has a reasonable plan to try and make them work.

**Selected Qualifications:**

- University of Calgary Campus Conservative Association vice-president finance
- Fourth-year finance major

# Endorsements



## Fabian Mayer

Supplement Editor

### External: Romy Garrido

Garrido will give students a strong voice in a year where one is desperately needed.

### Op-Fi: Bexte or Pousette

It's a toss up. Both have good ideas and are competent enough to balance the books.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

Nap rooms are the new puppy rooms — hop on the bandwagon, folks.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

He has a practical approach and he's done his homework, both prerequisites for the position.

### BOG Rep: Michael Tom

Tom is in tune with important student issues and has some impressive experience as a board member.



## Scott Strasser

Supplement Editor

### External: Romy Garrido

Garrido said she's been preparing for the role for over a year. Her thorough platform and solid interview justify that claim.

### Op-Fi: Bexte or Pousette

This one's too hard to call, vote for whoever's ideas you like more.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

McGowan's experience in multiple walks of campus life sets her apart from the other candidates.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

We looked for criticisms, but couldn't find much. Apart from maybe the spelling of his name.

### BOG Rep: Michael Tom

All were good candidates, but underneath Tom's quiet demeanour is a guy who knows he's the shit.



## Riley Hill

Editor-in-Chief

### External: Romy Garrido

Prepared and composed, Garrido also had the best ideas, though Kyle Schole improved a lot from last year.

### Op-Fi: Kean Bexte

A solid resumé and a mind built for negotiating contracts and bureaucratic ethics. Ice cold.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

She's more qualified and personable than the other two candidates. And nap rooms, hurry!

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

Both candidates are qualified, though Guscott had the better interview and resumé.

### BOG Rep: Who cares

Call me jaded, but this seems like the least important position up for election. All of the candidates would do fine.



## Chris Adams

News Editor

### External: Romy Garrido

She's got the fire we need in a vice-president external next year.

### Op-Fi: Bexte or Pousette

Bexte's got the SU experience, but Pousette's managed big budgets already.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

Her nap rooms are untouchable, her blue lights impregnable and she has an unmatched knack for student politics.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

His platform was as sharp as his suit, strutting through the door like an academic Ace Ventura.

### BOG Rep: Boots or Procyk

Vote Procyk for his smooth talking newspeak or Boots for his confidence and fortunate last name/slogan combo.



## Alexander Kim

Gauntlet Writer

### External: Romy Garrido

Garrido is the most informed and capable candidate to spend a tough year battling the province.

### Op-Fi: Sarah Pousette

Pousette knows what the challenges of the position will be and she's prepared to take them on.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

McGowan has experience and set realistic goals. She'll do the most with the portfolio.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

Guscott has concrete ideas and he's figured out solid strategies to put them into action.

### BOG Rep: All of them

It doesn't really matter. All the candidates are competent. Vote for whoever you think deserves a nice line on their resumé.



## Sean Willett

Production Editor

### External: Romy Garrido

Garrido showed a level of confidence and intelligence far beyond the other candidates.

### Op-Fi: Kean Bexte

I was surprised by Bexte's idea-packed platform, and even more impressed by how prepared he was to make good on his promises.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

Of all the candidates, McGowan is the most experienced, enthusiastic and prepared to do the job.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

Guscott was by far the most well-dressed person we interviewed, but it was his commitment to undergrad research that won me over.

### BOG Rep: Alex Procyk

Procyk has a clear idea of the role the BOG representative plays.



## Connor Sadler

Entertainment Assistant

### External: Romy Garrido.

Garrido's grassroots approach would give students a relevant voice on topics such as secondary suites and market modifiers.

### Op-Fi: Kean Bexte

Bexte was well prepared for the interview and knows the role inside and out.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

McGowan had an excellent platform and her ideas were well thought-out.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

Guscott's platform points are much better thought-out than Mohammed's.

### BOG Rep: Alex Procyk

Procyk understands the impact the student rep has and would work with admin to weather budget cuts.



## Melanie Woods

Humour Editor

### External: Romy Garrido

Garrido stands out for her charisma, knowledge and preparedness. I'm excited to see what she does with the position.

### Op-Fi: Bexte or Pousette

Both are well prepared and enthusiastic about the position.

### Student Life: Kirsty McGowan

Two words: nap rooms. No other candidate has such a novel platform point.

### Academic: Stephan Guscott

The sharpest of the sharp-dressed men, Guscott seems to have it all together.

### BOG Rep: Alex Procyk

Procyk is the kind of representative students need voting on the board. He's the safe choice. Vote Boots if you're looking for someone to shake things up a little.

## LOCAL ART »

## The truth is out there, north of Edmonton

Alexander Kim  
Gauntlet Entertainment

There's a UFO landing pad in St. Paul, a town of 6,000 about two hours north-east of Edmonton.

The landing pad and its historical context are the subject of *Space Fictions & the Archives*, an exhibition at The New Gallery by Canadian artist Jacqueline Hoang Nguyen.

Nguyen contrasts the silliness of the landing pad and the earnestness of the people who built it with Canada's immigration policies and colonial past.

"I'm using the site of the UFO landing pad as a symbol to talk about the arrival of aliens — aliens from out of space of course, but aliens also as immigrants," Nguyen says. "This site was constructed in 1967, which coincided with the implementation of the point-based system, the immigration policy that made Canada known as being multicultural."

Located in the centre of town, the landing pad is a concrete oval about eight feet off the ground and features a wall outlining a map of Canada. It was built in 1967, in celebration of



*Space Fictions & the Archives* explores science fiction and immigration.

ALEXANDER KIM

Canada's centennial. Jules Van Brebant, St. Paul's mayor at the time, said it was meant "to welcome everybody from this Earth, and also extraterrestrial beings."

The exhibition presents a photograph of the landing platform and a short film titled *1967: A People Kind of Place*. The film is the result

of two years spent exploring historical archives across Canada. Nguyen weaves footage of the landing platform's unveiling and politicians talking about multiculturalism together with clips detailing the stories of St. Paul's aboriginal community.

She exposes the hypocrisy around the idea of Canada being a

multicultural society.

"What is this dream of multiculturalism that has been engineered by a kind of state-fueled ideology? Multiculturalism comes from the implementation of a particular type of immigration system," Nguyen says. "It's not a multiculturalism that is imagined by the people."

Nguyen continues to explore these themes in her current work, *The Making of an Archive*.

While doing research for *Space Fictions*, Nguyen was surprised to find little representation of those who immigrated after 1967 in the archives.

"This idea of multiculturalism was put in place in '67, but then there are no documents or artifacts that are capable of actually encapsulating this paradigm shift that is happening within the Canadian state," Nguyen says. "And if there's no way of recording what multiculturalism is supposed to look like, how can we see the trajectory of how multiculturalism has changed or evolved?"

To change this, Nguyen is inviting immigrants and their families to digitize their photos from the time at the Gendai Gallery in Toronto to create a new archive that addresses immigrant experiences. She will conduct interviews and document the process.

*Space Fictions & the Archives* is on display at The New Gallery until March 28.

For more information visit  
theneewgallery.org

## LOCAL FILM »

## \$100 Film Festival returns film to its celluloid roots

Stephanie Tang  
Gauntlet Entertainment

The \$100 Film Festival, presented by the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers (CSIF), is celebrating small-format films for the 23rd year.

Historically, the festival challenged artists to create films on \$100 worth of Super 8 film, but now filmmakers may also use 16 mm film. While working with film has become unpopular since digital filmmaking is cheaper, festival director Nicola Waugh says small-format films give audiences a chance to see something new.

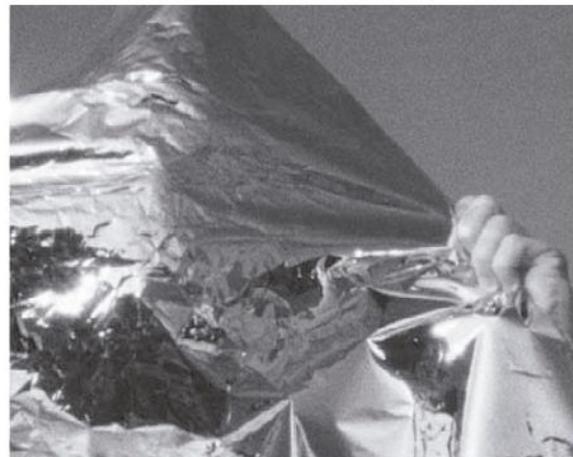
"Often the people who are working on Super 8 and 16 mm are experimental filmmakers because they're really interested in the process. They're doing alternative things to the film like scratching and manipulating and doing different kinds of double exposures," Waugh says.

"You're going to see films that you'll never see in Calgary for sure, so [it's a] rare opportunity to see some really under-the-radar stuff."

The festival's program displays a wide variety of techniques and themes. From a collection of stills choreographing the moon's influences on Earth in Malena Szlam's *Lunar Almanac* to the use of chromaflex to place splashes of colour against black and white in Richard Tuohy and Dianna Barrie's *Ginza Strip*, each film has a distinctive style.

Waugh says filmmakers can learn more about the filmmaking process by working with celluloid film.

"It teaches you the importance of each frame, each picture. It shows a lot more depth. A lot of people when they're watching film will think, 'oh, this just feels so rich, there's such a depth to it,'" Waugh says. "There's something there that people try to mimic with digital all the time, but there's just something that is lost



Mike Stoltz's *Under the Atmosphere* will be among the films shown at the \$100 Film Festival.

COURTESY MIKE STOLTZ

when you go to digital. There's this really beautiful tactile experience that you have when you watch a film that you really can't replicate."

This year, the festival is partnering with local arts organizations such as the Gallery of Alberta Media Art, Untitled Art Society and

EMMEDIA's Particle & Wave Festival to provide off-site programming.

Works from artists Noel Bégin, Christopher Payne and visiting artist Stephen Broomer will be displayed at sites throughout the city. Broomer will host an artist talk on Thursday, Feb. 26 and a workshop on Saturday, Feb. 28 both at the Alberta College of Art and Design.

The \$100 Film Festival will feature *Film/Music Explosion!*, a program where local filmmakers create a Super 8 film based on a song by a local band. The videos, which open each night's screenings, are then played alongside a live performance.

The \$100 Film Festival runs from Feb. 26–28. Screenings start at 7:00 p.m. at the Air Commons' Engineered Air Theatre. General admission is \$12 or \$10 for CSIF members, students and seniors. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door.

Find more information at  
100dollarfilmfestival.org

# Majora's Mask makes triumphant return on 3DS

Connor Sadler  
Entertainment Assistant

**T**he *Legend of Zelda: Majora's Mask 3D* is a re-release of the popular adventure game that debuted in October 2000.

The game focuses on Link, a young boy in pursuit of the Skull Kid, a forest imp who stole an ancient and powerful artifact called Majora's Mask. Using the mask's power, the Skull Kid pulls the moon out of the sky, causing it to fall into the land of Termina over three days, triggering the end of the world. Link has to relive the three days before the apocalypse over and over in an attempt to stop the Skull Kid and right all the wrongs the mask has caused.

To do this Link must find and rescue four giants who are locked away in dungeons in each region of Termina. This is the typical format of most Zelda games, but *Majora's Mask* adds pressure to clear dungeons quickly due to the imminent doom of the approaching moon. If the player runs out of time, the dungeons reset and have to be started from scratch. This makes any misstep in the dungeon more dangerous.

Between exploring dungeons, Link has to travel around Termina. The more you see of the world, the



*The Legend of Zelda: Majora's Mask 3D* is an immersive gaming experience.

COURTESY NINTENDO

more depressing and disheartening it becomes — the swamp has become poisoned and the mountains have surrendered to a never-ending winter. Almost every character you encounter has a problem of some sort. Solving them grants you valuable rewards, but the next time you fail all your hard work is undone.

Even after you clear a dungeon, you keep proof of your heroic deeds, but the ailments of the area return after a three-day cycle. After a few hours of playing, this can be

discouraging as you slowly realize there's no possible way to save everyone in Termina.

In addition to the usual items that Link gathers on his quests — such as a bow, hookshot and bombs — Link also gathers transformation masks. These items let him take the form of fallen heroes of Termina, allowing him to breathe underwater or walk through lava. Whenever Link changes form, a quick cutscene shows him in agony, adding to the game's dark tone.

*Majora's Mask* is an adventure game that borders on psychological horror. The game is engaging enough that players can immerse themselves in the story, but not creepy enough to drive away more casual players.

The pressure of the three-day countdown on the bottom of the screen makes you feel like the world is actually going to end. This intense atmosphere is *Majora's Mask's* strongest point, and it creates a story-centric game that stands out when compared to hack-and-slash adventures.

## CAMPUS STYLE »



Zha Shi finds the perfect balance between professional polish and casual with floral colours. Zha, a fifth-year medicine student, gets her threads at Zara and Vince. When Zha isn't studying in the TFDL, she can be found behind the keys of a piano or with her nose in a book.

Hayden McBennett

## STAFF PICKS »

FEB. 26 - MARCH 4

### Thursday, Feb. 26:

Local art-rockers Viet Cong play with guests Burnt Shrines and Fist City.  
Place: Commonwealth  
Time: 9:00 p.m.

### Thursday, Feb. 26:

Calgary Cinémathèque presents Agnès Varda's *Vagabond*. The film tells the story of a drifter named Mona who's found dead in a ditch. Flashbacks throughout the film chronicle the last weeks of her life.  
Place: The Plaza Theatre  
Time: 7:00 p.m.

### Friday, Feb. 27 to Saturday, March 7:

*Everybody Knows This is Nowhere*, a multidisciplinary performance that explores what it means to search for utopia and what exactly it is that we're searching for.  
Place: Theatre Junction Grand  
Time: Daily at 8:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, March 3:

*A Second Night to Remember*, current authors read the works of historic writers who inspired them,

such as Vladimir Nabokov, Iris Murdoch and Robert Kroetsch.  
Place: Shelf Life Books  
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 4:

*Late Night at the Plaza*, a variety show featuring local artists of all disciplines, as well as comedy skits and musical acts. Admission by donation.  
Place: The Plaza Theatre  
Time: 10:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 4:

Grownups read things they wrote as kids. Performers get up on stage and read everything from book reports and diary entries — often with embarrassing and hilarious results.  
Place: Broken City  
Time: 8:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, March 4:

Carla Olive hosts a singer-songwriter open mic night, where aspiring artists can perform.  
Place: Mikey's Juke Joint  
Time: 9:00 p.m.

## THE GAUNTLET IS HIRING 2015-2016 STAFF

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR  
GRAPHIC ARTIST  
SPORTS EDITOR  
OPINIONS EDITOR  
PHOTO EDITOR  
HUMOUR EDITOR  
ONLINE EDITOR



APPLICATIONS ARE DUE **March 9**.  
CANDIDATES MUST SEND A RESUME, COVER LETTER AND THREE  
SAMPLES OF THEIR WORK TO [eic@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:eic@thegauntlet.ca).

INTERVIEWS ARE MARCH 14.  
VISIT OUR OFFICE IN ROOM 319 ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF MAC HALL IF  
YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS.

## MULTIMEDIA »

# Video game music goes to the orchestra

Connor Sadler  
Entertainment Assistant

Pop culture and the orchestra don't usually mix. But *Video Games Live* brings the two together into a show that highlights the energy and excitement of the greatest music of gaming.

*Video Games Live* is an orchestral performance of the music from popular video game franchises. Created in 2005 by video game composer Tommy Tallarico, the concert has toured ever since, playing music from games like *The Legend of Zelda*, *Halo* and *Super Mario Bros*. The performance also features music from lesser-known series such as *Kingdom Hearts*, *Portal* and *Castlevania*.

There's more to look at on stage than just musicians. As the music plays, footage from the games are shown on screens accompanied by a light show. For some pieces, audience members can grab controllers and play the game on stage.

Tallarico says the show's interactivity and multi-media presentation highlight the appeal of video games.



*Video Games Live* turns gaming music into a multi-media concert event.

"What makes video games different from just watching a movie or watching a TV show? It's the interactivity, it's the fun, it's the storyline and it's the amazing graphics. We wanted to represent all of that in our show," Tallarico says.

He says there isn't one specific

genre of video game music, but that game soundtracks depend on what the tone of the game is and "sometimes it's rock and roll, sometimes it's electronic."

Tallarico started *Video Games Live* as a way to "prove to the world how culturally significant and artistic

video games have become."

The concert is also a way to promote video games as a mainstream art form and helps celebrate the way gaming builds a sense of community.

"You get thousands of young people in the room who are cheering. They feel this sense of pride like,

'look at this thing I love, this hobby that I love and this world of video games that I love' and it's being presented in a positive and artistic way," Tallarico says.

*Video Games Live* comes to the Jubilee Auditorium on Sunday, March 1 at 7:30 p.m.

COURTESY VIDEO GAMES LIVE

## FUN FACTS ABOUT CJSW

Want a quick primer on CJSW? These facts should get you started:

- We receive over 3,500 records per year.
- Mayor Naheed Nenshi read the news on CJSW when he was a student at the U of C.
- Our series "Today in Canadian History" hit #1 on the iTunes podcast charts with over a half-million downloads to date.
- We host around 100 live band performances in our studio every year.
- Our annual charity hockey tournament "Slurpee Cup" has raised over \$20,000 for local charities.
- CJSW was the first station in Calgary to feature a female DJ.
- "Megawatt Mayhem," Saturdays 10:00 to 12:00 PM, is the longest running metal show in Canada.
- Over 100 awesome local businesses support the station every year by participating in a discount card for station donors.
- We support over 50 different festivals through the year including Sled Island, Calgary Folk Music Festival, Afrikadey!, Lilac Fest, Blues Fest, and the Calgary International Film Festival.

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The station has over 300 volunteers from the university and community at large. Volunteers can receive industry-standard training in audio production, library archiving, and on-air broadcasting. Every DJ you hear on the radio is a volunteer who programs for the love of music and spreading the word to their communities.

Students from the University of Calgary can take advantage of spoken-word training from



our news department, access our 100,000-piece library, and make valuable connections in Calgary's arts and culture sector. If you host a show, you will have thousands of listeners ready to hear your message.

If you're interested in getting involved with Calgary's only campus and community radio station, email [office@cjsw.com](mailto:office@cjsw.com) or drop by the station located at Room 312 in MacEwan Hall, just around the corner from the Ballroom.

## WHAT IS CJSW?

CJSW is Calgary's campus and community radio station, broadcasting 24/7 throughout the city on 90.9 FM, and around the world at [cjsw.com](http://cjsw.com). The station is maintained and operated by a group of six staff members and over 300 amazing volunteers.

Our goal is to provide an alternative to commercial media by recognizing and promoting the diverse musical styles, points of view and cultures that exist within our city. CJSW strives to provide programming to a diverse audience by programmers that are varied in their ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical and mental ability. Our diverse programming includes music, arts, spoken word and multicultural programs.

With our ongoing commitment to providing a true radio alternative in the Calgary region, CJSW is listener-driven radio, with a very loyal audience. This loyalty is particularly evident during the station's annual week-long funding drive, during which the station raises approximately \$200,000 annually - the highest amount raised by any campus or community radio station in the nation!

A model for the rest of the community radio sector in Canada, the award-winning radio produced at CJSW shows the power, vitality and importance of volunteer-programmed radio.

LOCAL BEER »



Jake Clark at Village Brewery's facilities in Inglewood. LOUIE VILLANUEVA

## New Village Brewery beer is to die for

Sonny Sachdeva  
Gauntlet Entertainment

Nestled in the heart of Inglewood, Village Brewery has made a name for itself as a business that makes great beer and supports the local community.

Even the beers' names are locally inspired. Their newest release, a black saison called Undertaker, got its name from their accountant's grandfather who was an undertaker for a small village in Denmark.

Jake Clark, a spokesperson for Village, says the brew is more than a fresh mixture for a new season. It represents an effort in pushing the boundaries of beer making.

"It's definitely a very unique beer," Clark says. "There's no one else in the Canadian market making a black saison. I've only ever personally come across three or four that are made anywhere in the world."

What makes Undertaker unique is Village's decision to put their own twist on the brew.

"Usually a saison is not black. It's normally lighter, with lots of citrus notes. It's a drier beer, really effervescent, but we added a ton of malts into ours to flip and change it," Clark says.

Undertaker explores balanced, yet contrasting flavours. The strong malt aroma sets the tone for this complex beer that at first resembles a Guinness. But the similarities end there.

Undertaker is peppery and tart, but evolves to reveal bright citrus notes and a dark fruit sweetness courtesy of the Belgian candi sugar it's brewed with. Its boldness hits you immediately — with an alcohol content of 6.2 per cent, it ranks as the strongest of Village's brews — but the depth of flavour balances the beer nicely.

Undertaker is available at Co-op Wines Spirits Beer locations in Kensington, Midtown Market and Richmond. Six-packs are \$14.99.

LOCAL BOOKS »

## U of C professor's new book says jealousy isn't all bad

Alecia Nachtigal  
Gauntlet Entertainment

Jealousy affects everyone, often for the worse. In his new book, *Jealousy*, University of Calgary classics professor Peter Toohey says that despite its negative connotations, jealousy isn't such a bad thing.

"Emotions are hardwired into people and are there for evolutionary reasons," Toohey says. "Disgust stops you from eating poisonous things and anger allows you to protect your family."

Similarly, jealousy is used to defend against a devastating loss, such as losing your home or your partner. It's an emotion of self-preservation.

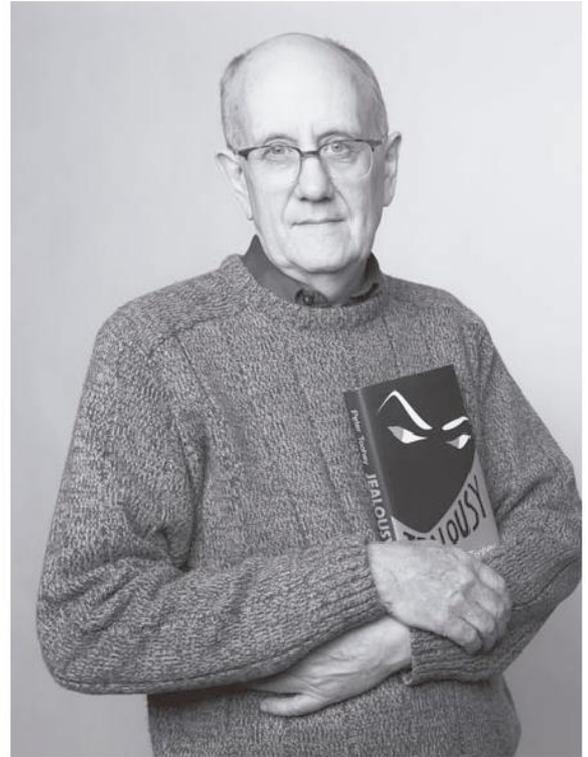
Although jealousy is often confused with envy, Toohey says there's an important distinction between the two. Jealousy involves a feeling of loss whereas envy is about gain.

He mentions that it's possible to use jealousy to improve personal and social contexts. In relationships, this emotion brings a sense of connection and attachment to a partner.

"People will use jealous promises to try to test a person and bring them back if they're starting to stray," Toohey says. "It's one means for people to firm up their relationships."

Toohey describes acting on feelings of jealousy as a way to seek personal justice, giving people the drive to fight for what they deserve.

"We want to say that we're beyond the need for jealousy but I don't



Professor Toohey examines jealousy in his new book. LOUIE VILLANUEVA

want to believe that," Toohey says.

Toohey redeems the emotion by asking, "Who doesn't feel jealousy, and who hasn't manipulated jealousy to their own advantage?"

As long as jealousy doesn't take complete control, it has a place in

our lives. Though moderation and balance are key, he says.

"Emotions are there for positive ends," Toohey says. "Jealousy binds us all together."

Toohey's book is available for purchase at the U of C bookstore.

Join our audience at 6:45 PM  
Tuesdays @ NUTV(MSC 315)

## SPORTS

WOMEN'S HOCKEY »

## Dinos sweep Huskies out of Canada West quarter-finals



STEPHANE ARNAULT



STEPHANE ARNAULT

## GAME ONE

Stephane Arnault  
Gauntlet Sports

The Dinos women's hockey team destroyed the University of Saskatchewan Huskies 5-1 at the Father David Bauer arena on Feb. 20.

The Dinos showed that scoring first comes easy on home ice in the playoffs after finding the back of the net in the game's opening minute. Forward Janelle Parent's backhand from the side of the net squeezed through Huskies goalie Cassidy Hendricks' right pad to make it 1-0 Dinos.

A few minutes later, Erika Mitschke pushed the lead to 2-0 after deflecting forward Kate Lumley's snap shot past Hendricks.

The Dinos came out firing early in the middle frame but Hendricks kept her team in the game by making clutch saves. The Dinos' resiliency paid off when Parent scored her second tally of the night on a breakaway, sliding it past a sprawling Hendricks to make it 3-0 Calgary.

Calgary peppered Hendricks with 16 shots in the middle frame.

"We have some good goalies in this league, but if you keep shooting at them and put them in a difficult position we're going to have rebounds," said Dinos head coach Danielle Goyette.

The Dinos kept their foot on the gas pedal in the third period. Just 1:10 into

the stanza, forward Bronwyn Stevens' beat Hendricks' blocker side to make it 4-0 Calgary.

Three minutes later, the Dinos threw salt in the Huskies' wounds when Iya Gavrilova's backhander fooled Hendricks glove side to put Calgary up 5-0.

However, Saskatchewan refused to throw in the towel. Defenseman Kira Bannatyne's rocket from the point beat Dinos goalie Carissa Fischer to spoil her shutout bid.

That would be all she wrote, as the Dinos shut the door the rest of the way to take game one 5-1.

"We played three consistent periods today and that's what we've been trying to do all year," Goyette said. "I don't think I could have asked for a better game from our team."

Fischer made 24 saves in the victory.

"She stepped up tonight and I'm really happy with the way she played," Goyette said. "She controlled her rebounds very well tonight. They didn't have a lot of opportunities to get to the second or third shot."

Fischer spoke about her performance in game one.

"It's a great feeling," Fischer said. "I've been working hard these few weeks."

The tilt had a rambunctious playoff atmosphere thanks to a terrific crowd.

"It gets your excitement up and your blood pumping," Fischer said.

Sonny Sachdeva  
Sports Assistant

## GAME TWO

The Dinos closed out their first-round playoff series against the Huskies with a 3-2 victory on Feb. 21.

Calgary outshot the Huskies 26-17 and tallied goals in all three periods, but Saskatchewan fought back until the end.

"It was a tough game today," said Dinos head coach Danielle Goyette. "It was a battle. We gave them a little more room today, more space to do something, but we adjusted well in the third. We came back and played our game."

Dinos forward Jenna Smith led the way, opening the scoring 12 minutes into the first period with a quick one-timer that beat Hendricks.

However, the Huskies fought back in the second period with a goal of their own. Saskatchewan forward Kaitlin Willoughby followed up on a failed breakaway attempt to put one past Fischer, tying the game 1-1.

Four minutes later, Dinos captain Gavrilova pressed into the Huskies' zone on a two-on-one with forward Alexandra Vafina. They dazzled the crowd with crisp passing and Gavrilova scored the go-ahead goal for the Dinos.

Calgary's first line of Gavrilova, Vafina and Smith continued their dominance in the third period.

Five minutes into the final frame,

Gavrilova put the puck on net as Smith rushed in alongside her. The initial shot was turned away, but Smith pounced on the rebound and tucked it into the cage for her second goal of the game.

The goal gave Smith her fourth point in the two-game series — the most for the Dinos and third-most among all Canada West players.

While the Huskies seemed thoroughly outmatched as the game wore on, they refused to back down.

As the clock wore down to the final minute, Gavrilova was sent to the box for tripping — her third minor penalty of the game — giving the Huskies a chance to make a late comeback.

With the Dinos already down one skater, the Huskies pulled their goaltender to make it six-on-four.

The advantage proved worthwhile as Huskies defender Julia Flinton wired one into the Dinos' net to bring the score 3-2.

The comeback effort proved fruitless, however, as the Dinos held on to win, ending the series at 2-0.

"We asked the best of each of our players and they gave it to us," Goyette said. "We played as a team this weekend and did what we were supposed to do."

Calgary now advances to the second round, where they will face the No.1 ranked University of Alberta Pandas in Edmonton on Feb. 27-28.

## Canada West

## Women's Hockey

School	POINTS	RECORD
Calgary	6	2-0-0
Manitoba	5	2-1-0
Regina	3	1-2-0
Alberta	0	0-0-0
UBC	0	0-0-0
Saskatchewan	0	0-2-0

## Men's Hockey

School	Points	Record
Alberta	49	24-3-1
Calgary	40	20-8-0
Mount Royal	35	17-10-1
UBC	31	13-10-5
Manitoba	30	15-3-0
Saskatchewan	23	10-15-3
Regina	19	8-17-3
Lethbridge	10	5-23-0

8

The number of Dinos invited to Canadian Football League combines this March.

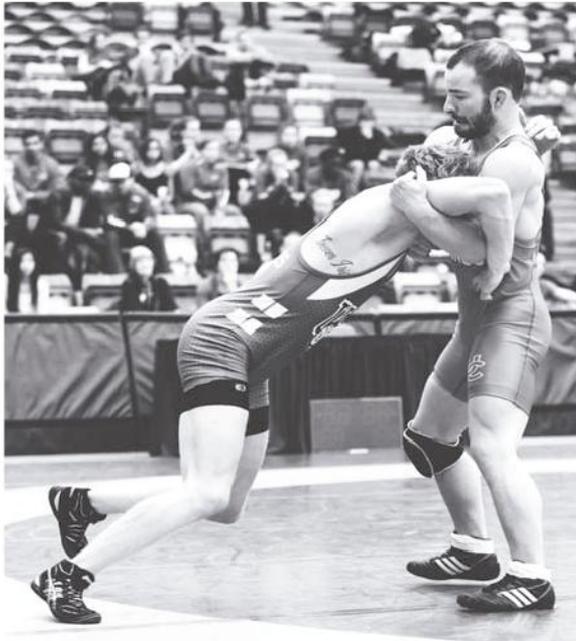
On the lookout  
Athletes to watch this week

## Fiona Doyle

Fourth-year Dinos swimmer Fiona Doyle was named female swimmer of the year at the CIS Championships in Victoria, where she racked up three gold medals and set a record-breaking time for the 50-metre breaststroke.

## Lars Schlueter

First-year Dinos men's basketball forward Lars Schlueter was named Canada West rookie of the year. Schlueter is the fifth Dino to win the rookie honours and the first since 2011.



The Dinos had mixed results during the weekend's competition. LOUIE VILLANUEVA

## Dinos tackle Canada West wrestling championships

Scott Strasser  
News Assistant

The Dinos women's wrestling team won their first Canada West title since 2011 over the Feb. 13-14 weekend at the Jack Simpson gym.

Calgary finished the team event with 44 points — four ahead of the No. 2 University of Alberta Pandas, who have won the Canada West title for the last three years.

The Dinos earned their title against the Pandas in the final match, winning a series of duels.

"On the women's side, we had great success," said Dinos head coach Mitch Ostenburg. "They're the best team in Canada West and I think they're the best team in the country, so it was really neat to see them wrestle well."

Ostenburg was named Canada West women's coach of the year.

Individual gold medals for the Dinos came from Cara Nania in the 55kg weight class, Temitope Ogungbemi (63kg), Hilary Goble (72kg) and Holly Ellsworth-Clark (82kg).

On the men's side, U of A won their third consecutive Canada West title, finishing the team event with 45 points. The Dinos finished fifth in the six-team category.

"We knew going into the [men's] competition it would be a tough battle. Five of the six [teams] were ranked in the top-10 cis [Canadian Interuniversity] this year, so it's a really tough competition," Ostenburg said.

A weekend highlight for the men's team came in their second match against the No. 1 ranked University of Fraser Valley Cascades. Although the Cascades won more matches, the Dinos won because the Cascades didn't field a wrestler for every weight class.

"That was a pretty good performance for our men's team," Ostenburg said. "We were tied for sixth [nationally] in our last ranking and technically, we beat the No. 1 ranked team in the country."

Despite finishing fifth, fourth-year Dino Spencer Burk (65kg) said the competition was fairly even.

"There were some matches we lost that we could've won, but generally we performed fairly well. There were no blow-out matches," said Burk, who picked up bronze in his weight class.

The top-three wrestlers in every weight class qualified for the Canadian Interuniversity Sport national championships, which take place Feb. 27-28 at the University of Alberta. Fourteen Dinos qualified.

## Dinos sweep Bisons off a cliff to end their season

Ashton Chugh  
Sports Editor

In the last home game of his illustrious college career, Jarred Ogungbemi-Jackson led the Dinos to a convincing 93-81 win over the University of Manitoba Bisons on Feb. 21 at the Jack Simpson gym.

The intensity of the elimination game was apparent from the outset with both teams playing aggressive defence. Ogungbemi-Jackson credits the play of Australian guard Josh Owen-Thomas for the Dinos' success.

"Josh Owen-Thomas has one of the toughest jobs because he's always guarding one of their best players full court, rebounding and playing some point guard duties and he came up big," Ogungbemi-Jackson said.

The Dinos led the low-scoring half by a 36-35 margin.

After briefly falling behind in the third, consistent play from Bisons sixth-man A.J. Basi — who scored 20 points on the night — tied the game at 55 midway through the third. Owen-Thomas responded by scoring four straight points and Jasdeep Gill followed up with a three pointer. The highlight of the night came late in the quarter when Ogungbemi-Jackson threw a lob pass to rookie guard L.J.



Hegwood showed offensive promise against the Bisons. LOUIE VILLANUEVA

Hegwood for a vicious alley-oop dunk that had everyone on their feet, swinging the momentum back in Calgary's favour. The Dinos led 65-57 going into the fourth.

Calgary's lead was cut to three in the late stages of the fourth quarter, but the excitement of the game got to the Bisons as they committed a flurry of fouls throughout the stanza. The Dinos went 16-for-18 on their parade to the free-throw line to maintain their lead.

With 90 seconds left in the game, rookie of the year Lars Schlueter drilled a dagger in the hearts of the

Bisons when he hit a three, which secured the Dinos a trip to the quarter-finals.

Ogungbemi-Jackson scored a game-high 23 points, while adding six rebounds and six assists. As Calgary's playoff path will continue on the road, the fifth-year point guard kissed the Dinos logo at centre court after ending his home career.

The Dinos will travel on Feb. 27-28 to Abbotsford to take on the No. 1 University of Fraser Valley in a best-of-three game series.

Tipoff goes at 7 p.m. and the game can be watched live on canadawest.org.

### School of Creative and Performing Arts



### Sonic Escape

Daredevils with Instruments

March 7 at 8 p.m.

Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall, University of Calgary

Adults \$25 - Students/Seniors \$18

[scca.ucalgary.ca](http://scca.ucalgary.ca) or 403.220.7202

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2. Visit us at Room 319 in MacEwan Student Centre
3. Send us a carrier pigeon  
Latitude - Longitude:  
51.078766, -114.13041

### GYMNASTICS »



Tony Smith brought back the gymnastics program that has produced Olympic athletes.

SCOTT STRASSER

New

## Master of Accounting



Carleton University's Sprott School of Business is proud to announce our new Master of Accounting (MAcc), a rigorous program that will provide students with a gateway to a career as a Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA).

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## A gym gem lurks beneath the bowels of kinesiology

Scott Strasser  
News Assistant

University of Calgary students may be surprised to learn that we have a pretty kick-ass gymnastics centre.

Located in the basement of Kinesiology B, the centre was built in 1987 with Olympic facility funding. It has Olympic-standard equipment and has been home to athletes such as Kyle Shewfelt, who won Canada's first gold medal at the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

I recently learned of the weekly gymnastics drop-ins every Tuesday and Thursday night and I strolled down to the bowels of the KNES building to see what it was all about. What I found was pretty cool.

According to Active Living, drop-in gymnastics was offered for years at the U of C before it was cancelled because of staffing issues. After a long hiatus, they brought it back in fall 2013. It's now offered Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. with supervision from professional coaches.

Shewfelt's old coach, Tony Smith, still leads the men's program at the U of C. Smith is the Canadian National team director for the men's program, but he's also responsible for getting drop-in gymnastics back on campus.

Smith said he wanted to show the university community what the sport has to offer.

"I really noticed the lack of U of C

students coming to the centre, so I volunteered to head this thing up and get it back on track," Smith said. "The concept was to introduce gymnastics back into the student body as a way of keeping fit, having fun and exploring using your body in a different way."

According to Smith, 35-40 students come to the drop-in every week. It's become a popular place not just for gymnasts but other athletes as well.

"The variety of people we get in here is incredible, with the dancers, the parkour guys, the snowboarders and the ex-gymnasts," Smith said.

As I watched the acrobatics going on around me, I couldn't help but agree. There was a group of people by the trampoline, another by the pommel horse and a bunch of guys down by the vault. To my right, a woman balanced on the uneven bars while chatting with a spotter.

Third-year nursing student Ryan Trainer is a drop-in regular who's been coming since last term. He has a background in martial arts, but enjoys coming to the centre to work on the rings and the parallel bars.

"[The centre] is one of the top gyms I've been to. Everyone is friendly and the community is really great," Trainer said.

Another regular is second-year archeology student Jessica Woodhouse, who focuses on floor and trampoline exercises. She said she fell in love with the sport after coming to the drop-in for the first time

with a friend last semester.

"I've always loved watching gymnastics and just kind of fell in love with being able to learn it at my own pace and work on what I wanted to work on," Woodhouse said.

Of course, gymnastics is a sport with several risks. Participants must fill out a waiver at client services before they are allowed in.

Smith said safety is the primary concern and the coaches who supervise are chosen due to their size and ability to work with adults.

"We needed guys with muscles who could spot," Smith said. "The idea here is we want to teach and have a hands-on approach. If someone comes in and has never done a back-flip in their life, we can walk them through the steps and have the manpower to teach it safely."

Woodhouse said the professional coaching keeps her coming back.

"The professional coaching is really helpful and we're able to go up to them and ask 'hey can you help me with this?' and that's what they do," Woodhouse said. "They go through stuff step-by-step and give you progressions to work on."

Smith offered advice for any first-time drop-ins without gymnastics experience.

"Come in here and get a hold of coaches right away. Let them know you haven't done anything, ask them how to warm-up and where to start," Smith said.

FACULTY OF ARTS »

## English professor laces novels with cocaine

Melanie Woods  
 Proud English student

Full-time English students often have to read two or three novels a week. Add jobs, extracurriculars and other classwork, and many students resort to shortcuts to bypass reading the actual novel.

Professor John Winters plans to put a stop to this.

Beginning in Fall 2015, all of the required novels for Winters' ENGL 348 class will be lined with trace amounts of cocaine. Winters hopes that developing an addiction to hard drugs will help motivate students to make their way through works like *Canterbury Tales* in Old English.

"Even pop quizzes on the reading material haven't been sufficient in persuading students to actually do the readings," Winters said. "Hopefully a little cocaine will do the trick."

Winters said he's worked closely with the Chemistry department to



Winters' venture is set to make the University of Calgary millions.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

develop a system of synthetically binding benzoylmethylecgonine particles to the pages of classic novels.

"The cocaine is actually embedded into the paper during the printing process," he said. "Students then absorb it through their fingertips as they turn the pages. It's a fast, easy

high with no snorting required."

He said that the concept has already been approved by several major publishers.

Winters hopes the process will lead to lucrative sponsorships and endorsements from noted drug lords, both locally and worldwide.

"I'll have you know I have several

kingpins lined up to deal," he said. "They're very interested in committing their product to this endeavour. This will be a massive financial boost for the university. I can see the Pablo Escobar library taking shape within the next decade."

Winters said he could've used caffeine, sugar or some other stimulant,

but wanted to get the most intense results possible.

"Students won't be able to stop reading halfway through. Their minds won't wander to something else," Winters said. "Because they will be addicted to reading. And cocaine. They will definitely be addicted to cocaine."

Winters said not only will students' grades drastically improve, but they'll absorb more raw information faster, leading to less time needed to actually study.

"They'll be reading faster and more thoroughly than ever before as they search for that powdered gold," he said.

Winters said that crippling drug addiction is a small price to pay for an appreciation of the classics.

"I've been doing this for years and I'm fine," he said, red-rimmed eyes wide. "Totally fine. Great. Fucking great."

Winters then proceeded to rapidly recite the entirety of T.S. Eliot's "The Wasteland" from memory without blinking.

HOROSCOPES »

## Very serious old timey hornoscopes

Sean Willett  
 The wasps came for him

**Aquarius**  
 (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)  
 When you wake up one morning from unsettling dreams, you will find yourself changed in your bed into a monstrous vermin.

**Pisces**  
 (Feb. 19 - March 20)  
 You will eat the entire A&W Burger Family in one sitting, then throw up on your friend's cat. Why would you do that? Why would you vomit the entire A&W Burger Family on Constable Peepaws?

**Aries**  
 (March 21 - April 19)  
 You are going to get dick bugs.

**Taurus**  
 (April 20 - May 20)  
 Deciding to try something new, you go to one of those

places that lets people stay in isolation pods for an hour. While in the pod, you will have a vivid out-of-body experience where you kiss Knuckles from *Sonic the Hedgehog*.

**Gemini**  
 (May 21 - June 20)  
 In an effort to stop an assassin's bullet from hitting the owner of a local Little Caesar's franchise, you will have a near-death experience during which an angel will show you what the world would be like if you were never born. The angel will be voiced by Sinbad.

**Cancer**  
 (June 21 - July 22)  
 You will get horny in church. You will think sexual thoughts in the presence of God.

**Leo**  
 (July 23 - Aug. 22)  
 Guess what pal, you're gonna strike it rich. You're gonna start making those big bucks. With

your new-found money you're gonna buy a private island and begin hunting people for sport, until one intrepid would-be victim outwits your bloodhounds and kills you in your sleep.

**Virgo**  
 (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)  
 A howler monkey is going to bite your future son's penis in half. The other boys will call him Half-Dick Harold. Your only son. Your precious boy.

**Libra**  
 (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)  
 A talking car is going to call you a "teletubby lookin' ass motherfucker" on national television.

**Scorpio**  
 (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)  
 You are going to follow your life-long dream of being beaten up by a professional wrestler by getting into a violent altercation with John Cena. However, you will end up

pinning him in front of none other than WWE CEO Vince McMahon, earning you a shot at the heavyweight title at this year's Summer Slam.

**Sagittarius**  
 (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)  
 Terrible news — your dog is going to join the army. Your dog wholeheartedly believes that military intervention in the Middle East is justified and necessary. You commend your dog's bravery, but disagree with his jingoistic ideals. Who taught your dog these things? Maybe it was the other dogs. Maybe it was video games. Whatever the reason your dog made this decision, you are scared. You are scared for the life of your beloved dog.

**Capricorn**  
 (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)  
 Your ass will fall off. Your entire butt will be separated from your body and you will have to go to a hospital immediately because of this.

Have your friends stopped laughing at that one really great joke you made that one time?

Write humour for The Gauntlet!

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# DIVERSIONS

It Goes Without Saying -Dawn Muenchrath

**THIS WEEK**

If you are a continuing undergrad and haven't yet heard, Registration 2015 is happening early this year, with enrolment beginning in mid-March rather than in June. The first step of the process will be to find out your enrolment appointment time, available on Student Centre Monday, March 2. This will give most of you 2-3 weeks to do some research, see an advisor and generally get your educational affairs in order before you can start adding classes.

On a somewhat more trivial note, this Sunday is also World Compliment Day, so if you've found yourself thinking something nice about someone, say it, out loud and in person. For those of you whose MO tends towards sarcasm: watch your tone. On the other hand, for those of you prefer to be a wallflower, if someone tells you they love your sweater, don't a) tell them you love their sweater more, b) launch into an embarrassing story to change the subject or c) pretend to receive a fake phone call, throw your phone in the river and run away. Instead, smile, and say thank you. It's a little known fact, but the only correct answer to the question, "So you agree, you think you're really pretty?" is "Yes. Yes I do."



Filbert Comics -Andrew Labonte



HEY YOU! YEAH YOU. YOU THINK YOU'RE SO FUNNY? WELL THEN SUBMIT YOUR COMIC TO [illustrations@thegauntlet.ca](mailto:illustrations@thegauntlet.ca) AND SEE YOUR JOKE IN PRINT.



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