



STUDENTS'
UNION
ELECTIONS NEED
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FROM
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VOL. 56 | ISSUE NO. 29 | Feb 25, 2016

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Golden Spatula

Stefan Kim



Stefan Kim wandered up to our office and his demerol exerted a calming influence on our entire office. Unfortunately, chaos returned after he left. Please come back Stefan, the Gauntlet is, to quote our editor-in-chief, "neal effed" without you.

Furor Arma Ministrat

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The Gauntlet is the official student newspaper of the University of Calgary, published most Thursdays throughout the year by the Gauntlet Publications Society, an autonomous, incorporated body. Membership in the society is open to undergraduate students at the U of C, but all members of the university community are encouraged to contribute. Opinions contained herein are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily represent the views of the entire Gauntlet staff. Editorials are chosen by the majority of the editorial board. The Gauntlet is a forum open to all U of C students but may refuse any submission judged to be racist, sexist, homophobic, libelous, or containing attacks of a strictly personal nature. We reserve the right to edit for brevity. Grievances regarding the Gauntlet follow a three-step process which requires written decisions from the Editor, the GPS Board of Directors, and the Ombudsboard. The complete Grievance Policy is online at: thegauntlet.ca. The Gauntlet offices are located on Treaty 7 land.

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The Cover

Design by Samantha Lucy

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SU ELECTION »

MacHall among biggest issues in annual Students' Union election

Lianelle Barraza
News Assistant

Voting for the upcoming SU election will take place from March 1-3, bringing with it a new wave of candidates, posters, platforms and promises.

Aside from the 12 positions that have already been acclaimed, students can vote for a total of 29 candidates for nine open SU positions. Three candidates — Nick Boots, Jordan Grant and Stephan Guscott — are running for SU President. Candidates and their platforms can be found on the SU website.

Second-year international business and international relations student Rushil Krishna said he is interested in the SU election. He believes it's important for students to know about campus affairs.

"I want an SU who is going to be accountable and engaging to students," Krishna said. "I want to vote for candidates who not only listen to student opinions, but actually address them."

One of Krishna's biggest concerns is accurate student representation. He said that with the current mediation between the university and the SU, his vote will go to candidates who are willing to listen to students.

"It is important to have representatives who are accountable and reflect the needs of students," Krishna said. "The MacHall dispute makes this year's election more interesting because I want to see how candidates decide to address the issue of MacHall's management."

SU ELECTION »

VP external candidates vie for votes at forum

Fabian Mayer
News Editor

The three vice-president external candidates for this year's Students' Union election faced off at a forum in MacHall before an audience of roughly 50 students.

Each candidate spoke at length about eliminating the loopholes that allow tuition increases beyond the rate of inflation, as well as advocating for provincial mental health funding.

Martin Cruz focused part of his platform on ensuring student desires are represented in the SU's lobbying as part of the Council of Alberta University Students.



The campaign started this week, with voting days taking place from March 1-3.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

Co-Chief Returning Officer Nolan Hill said that the election offers a chance for students to vote for officials who will best represent their needs next year.

"There are many strong candidates running, so naturally we're excited about the results of the election," Hill said.

Hill claims student engagement in the election is high. He expects high voter turnout this year, and believes the SU has made it easy for students to learn more about the election process.

"Whether it's advocating to

improve student life or to make programs and events accessible and affordable, the SU does all kinds of work to serve and represent the student body, which is what makes the election important," Hill said.

Second year biological sciences student Agnes Visan said that although she is interested and wants to give an educated vote in the election, she is not as informed as she would like to be.

"My interest in a candidate usually comes from their posters and their claims," Visan said. "I think a lot of candidates have some

refreshing and interesting ideas, and I especially like the lower parking price idea."

Krishna said that he admires how candidates have brought new and interesting ideas, like lower parking prices. However, he thinks candidates may have trouble following through on their goals.

"To be honest, I look for a candidate who offers a realistic and solid plan," Krishna said. "What I've noticed is that many candidates have brought forth many idealistic goals, but I want something that can really make my student life here better"

"We need to ensure what we're bringing [to CAUS] is what students actually want," Cruz said.

Tristan Bray is running for the second consecutive year after losing by one per cent of the vote last year. He stressed the opportunities new provincial and federal governments bring.

"Now is the time to really pressure both governments for student-friendly policies because we have student-friendly governments," Bray said.

Jen Tokarek also referenced the provincial NDP government. She argued the SU should strive to have a good relationship with the province.

"I don't want to antagonize the government. We have a government

that's willing to listen to us right now and I want to start off on a good foot with them," Tokarek said.

Second-year psychology student Evan Jovanovic was getting food in MacHall when he stopped to watch the forum.

"They all impressed me in their own ways. They're clearly all intelligent people who know what they're talking about," Jovanovic said.

Jovanovic was still undecided following the forum. He wants to look over the online platforms before voting. However, Jovanovic did say he was impressed by Martin Cruz's experience and knowledge of the issues.

The forum included a speed round

where candidates were asked about facts they would need to know as vice-president external. The first candidate to raise their hand got the first chance at answering each question. Cruz answered the most correctly with three, followed by Tokarek with two and Bray with one.

One of the most interesting portions of the event came during audience questions. A questioner confronted Bray about his fraternity placing a pig's head on a rival fraternity's lawn each year.

Bray claimed the act is a tradition and said he thinks there remains room for inter-fraternal rivalry on campus.

Provincial mental health funding in jeopardy

Fabian Mayer
News Editor

Uncertainty looms around the state of mental health funding for post-secondary institutions in Alberta. A \$3-million grant for the province's three biggest universities expires this August and it is currently unknown if the NDP government plans to renew this funding in their upcoming budget.

Both the Students' Union and the university have lobbied the government to renew this funding. SU vice-president external Romy Garrido said the issue is one of their top priorities.

"When we meet individually with MLAs throughout the year, it's one of the first things we talk about," Garrido said.

Garrido has heard from a few sources that it looks unlikely this funding will be renewed.



The SU Wellness Centre was able to expand its services due to the provincial funding.

JARETT EDMUND

"It is a little bit demoralizing and discouraging when you hear that, in the economic times that we're in, there isn't a whole lot of funding going around," Garrido said.

The Alberta government faces a

considerable budget shortfall this year. Economists expect a deficit of at least \$6-billion.

The funding was first put in place three years ago by the PC government. It allowed the SU Wellness Centre to hire additional

counsellors and extend hours. According to Garrido, there may be staff cuts if the provincial funding is not renewed.

All three candidates for vice-president external in this year's SU election have made renewing

mental-health funding a central platform point.

Garrido said the SU hopes a decision on the matter will come sooner rather than later, but couldn't provide a timeline.

"We're hoping for the end of February, but given that it is government it could be next month — or who knows," Garrido said.

The government recently released its mental health review headed by Liberal leader Dr. David Swann and NDP MLA Danielle Larivee.

The review included a recommendation to "create healthy and supportive post-secondary campus environments through health promotion, addiction and mental health campus services, and community partnerships." No funding promises were mentioned.

Neither the ministry of health nor advanced education responded to a request for comment.

CITY »

U of C prof says lower speed limits not enough to ensure pedestrian safety

Fabian Mayer
News Editor

Pedestrian safety has been in the spotlight recently as several city councillors push for new regulations to reduce the number of pedestrians hit by cars.

On average, one pedestrian is hit by a vehicle every day, according to a report by the *Calgary Herald*. The report showed 95 pedestrians have been killed between 2005-14.

A new pedestrian strategy for the city will go before city council in April. The strategy aims to improve pedestrian safety while making Calgary a more walkable city. One of the report's key recommendations is to reduce residential speed limits from 50 to 40 km/h.

Francisco Alaniz Uribe has studied Calgary's neighbourhood design for over 10 years as part of the University of Calgary's Urban Lab research group. While he thinks lowering speed limits may be part of the solution, he believes the city could do more.

"The approach to limiting the speed shouldn't just be signage and the policing of that signage," Uribe said. "It should be based on the design of the street, and this is where we run into trouble."

Uribe said that over the past 50 years, streets have been designed with more emphasis on the car.

"We have been designing the

streets wider and wider," Uribe said. "And when you have more space you tend to speed."

Uribe said retrofitting streets where frequent collisions occur will do more to improve safety than other proposed solutions.

"Thinking of changing the speed limit, putting some signs up and then asking the cops to give more tickets — that's a very short-sighted approach," he said.

Uribe was cautious when describing the potential for what he called this "bolder" approach.

Thinking of changing the speed limit, putting up some signs and then asking cops to give more tickets — that's a very short-sighted approach.

— Urban planning researcher
Francisco Alaniz Uribe

"It all depends on political will and our leadership approach to these problems," Uribe said.

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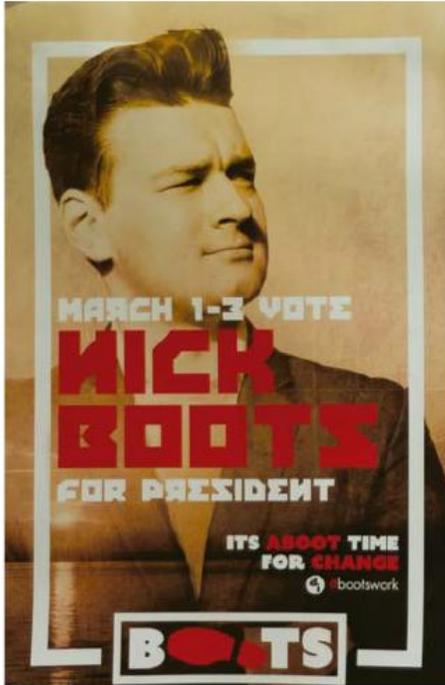


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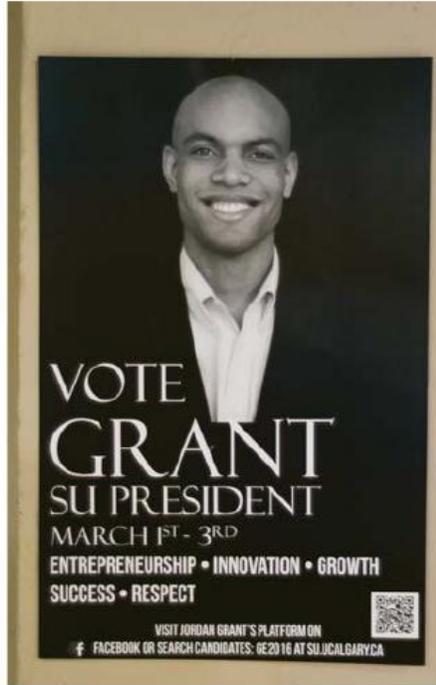
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SU ELECTION »

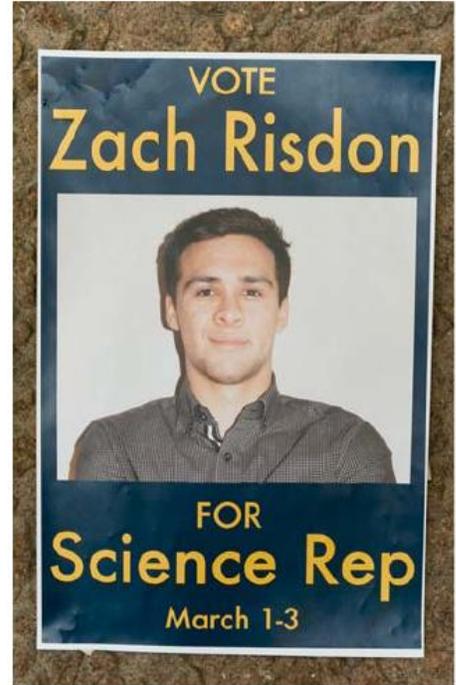
The *Gauntlet's* annual poster critique



This Soviet-style campaign poster really resonates with today's youth.



Synergy • Team • Dynamicness
Fecundity • Buzzwords • Respect



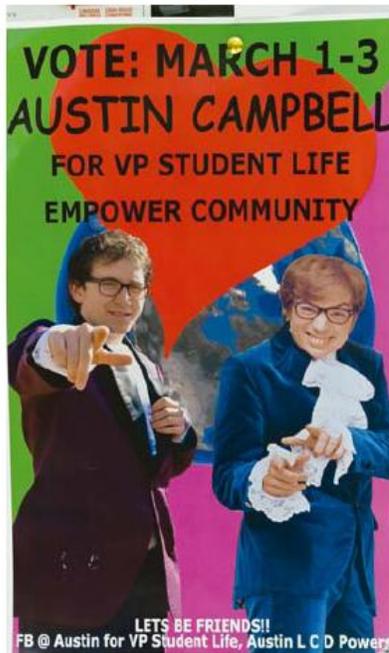
Zach Risdon is just a normal boy. I wouldn't trust him one bit.



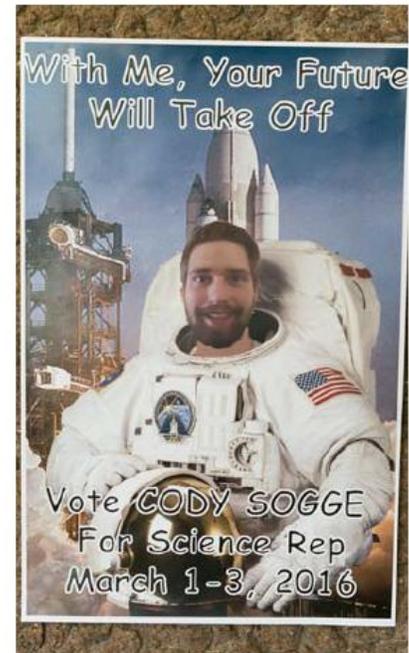
Such a plethora of beard-related themes available and Guscott chose a famously beardless character. Booooooo.



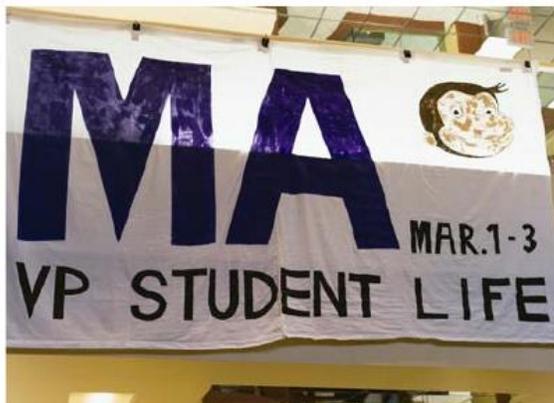
This man knows how to dab! He's got my vote.



Great concept. Flawless execution. 10 out of 10.



We hope to God this man's use of comic sans is ironic.



A leprosy-riddled Curious George must work as a campaign mascot to make ends meet.

short form

How do you think the SU elections could be improved?



"We need to spread more awareness."

– Kenneth Gabriel,
first-year engineering



"I'm not interested in the elections."

– Katie Denslow,
second-year kinesiology



"There should be a stronger social media presence."

– Izza Ahmad,
first-year child studies



"There's no good way to inform yourself."

– Duncan Brownsey,
fourth-year chemistry

Photos: Stephan Kim
Interviews: Andy Gosse

EDITORIAL »

Students' Union elections need better posters and real debates

Students' Union elections mean poster-covered hallways and candidates begging for votes with in-class speeches. And while University of Calgary SU elections are generally well-run and boast comparatively high voter turnout, there are still ways to improve them.

The most visible part of the campaign is the thousands of posters littering campus. These posters inform students who is running for each position, but that's often their only purpose. Platform points are a rarity on posters. Instead, candidates' gimmicky campaign themes feature prominently.

Costumes and gimmicks are inevitable and can help generate interest in the election. But the SU should take steps to minimize the chance of students simply voting for the candidate with the best theme.

Some people will diligently read platform pitches on the SU website, but let's not kid ourselves — most students have little interest in student politics. However, that doesn't mean they don't care about how the SU is run, and it should be as easy as possible for these students to read candidates' platforms.

One policy that would help accomplish this goal is requiring posters to include at least some information about a candidate's platform. It would provide a simple way for all students to familiarize



SAMANTHA LUCY

themselves with the platforms, and could even lead to candidates spending a little less time on their slogans and jokes and a little more time on the issues.

But it's not enough to just have rules in place — they also need to be enforced. Opposing candidates and their cronies would no doubt keep a sharp eye out for violations. These could then be reported to the chief returning officers — who would take down the poster and reprimand the campaign putting them up. This is already

the policy for existing poster violations, so enforcing new rules for posters would be fairly easy.

Candidate forums are another campaign fixture. The hour-long question and answer periods for each position draw literally tens of students to MacHall's north courtyard. The forums offer an opportunity for candidates to go through their platform, but tough questions are rare and a candidate critiquing a competitor's ideas is unheard of.

This is primarily because each

candidate gets a chance to answer every question and debate between candidates is not allowed. Why candidates are coddled in this way is unclear. We expect SU executives to negotiate with university administrators and convince government officials their student ideas are worth listening to. Asking candidates to defend their ideas on a public stage is one way of finding out how prepared they are for this part of their jobs.

Forums don't need to be turned into all-out debates, but more lively discussion would be a good thing. Bad and unfeasible ideas need to be identified as such, and this won't happen unless candidates are free to confront each other.

Some might argue that more confrontational forums would be another hurdle to students running, but the commitment required to run in the election is already so high that it seems unlikely this addition would dissuade many students. And if students hope to run without having their ideas scrutinized, then perhaps they should reconsider their plans.

The SU should constantly be looking at ways to improve their elections. New rules for posters and forums where candidates actually get a chance to challenge each other's ideas are two ways to do just that.

Fabian Mayer
Gauntlet Editorial Board

OLD MAN YELLS AT CLOUD »

Do you really need to ask that in class?

Jason Herring
Gauntlet Columnist

Nothing can derail a lecture faster than a student who asks bad questions in class. Most of us have our own stories about moments where someone in our lecture raises their hand to say something that makes the whole room groan. Whether it's a student asking something that's already been said because they weren't paying attention or someone trying to make themselves look smart by spewing big words, it's clear many students at the University of Calgary lack some basic lecture participation etiquette.

In many classes, especially ones that only last 50 minutes, professors

and TAs need to rush through their notes to fit a concept into a single lecture block. Every second taken away by inane questions makes it more difficult for them to convey all of their material in a clear and concise way. Since time is often tight, it's important to weigh whether your question or comment is valuable — not only to you, but to the whole class — before you speak.

A few things are obviously inappropriate. Correcting minor mistakes in the notes or on the whiteboard are perhaps the most obnoxious examples. If the person leading your class flubs up their grammar or misspells a word while preoccupied with teaching, it shouldn't affect your learning

experience. And walking into class late and then expecting the professor to give a short recap of something explained while you weren't present is obscene.

But the worst of all is when a student's question is nothing but a thinly-veiled attempt to make themselves look smart. There's a number of methods these culprits use — among the most prevalent are asking a normal question but talking as if you're a walking thesaurus, or using your question to bring up a loosely-related concept that's out of the current class' scope just to prove you know about it.

Don't get me wrong — there are certainly times when it's appropriate and valuable to ask questions in class.

When a concept or a slide isn't clear for you, there's a good chance that other people are confused about the same thing. And in smaller, participation-based lectures where questions and remarks are encouraged, well-formed opinions help liven up the class and open discussions.

Most inquiries, though, are better suited for office hours. If something really isn't clicking with you, nearly all professors will be happy to sit down with you and talk through these problems. Optional tutorials offer a similar environment.

Let your instructors teach. When you're one student in a crowded lecture, there's always a better way to be heard.



COURTESY YOSEF SILVER

Partnering with Israel would benefit U of C's research

Alice Fischer
Gauntlet Opinions

Last year, the University of Calgary announced new funding and expanded opportunities to encourage international study, research and training. These opportunities include the 50th Anniversary International Undergraduate and Graduate Scholarships, which are granted to outstanding international students from 25 different countries. To my surprise, Israel is not on the list of designated countries.

Academic cooperation with Israeli universities would be a win-win situation for both countries. Israeli universities are among the top science and technology institutions in the QS Top University Rankings 2015. The Israel Institute of Technology is known for its computer science and electrical engineering departments, and

already has relationships with other North American universities.

Israeli universities also specialize in areas important to the future of both the U of C and Canada. The Institute of Technology is a global leader in water conservation research, and the Weizmann Institute of Science is developing new methods of carbon capture to help reduce the environmental impact of industrial processes. Bringing in faculty and students from these schools would facilitate an exchange of ideas, giving the U of C more opportunities to develop clean, sustainable technology.

But it isn't just the U of C that could benefit from these partnerships. Due to recent oil and gas discoveries in Israel, Israeli universities could learn from existing knowledge and expertise we have in Calgary. The Institute of Technology recently opened a natural

gas and petroleum engineering program, mainly staffed by professors from Texas and Norway. Only one of the professors in this program comes from Canada, despite our wealth of knowledge in this field.

The lack of Israel's inclusion in this student and faculty exchange is made even stranger by the fact that the U of C has in the past partnered with the Institute of Technology — the two schools collaborated on the Israel-Alberta Neuroscience Symposium just last year. There is no reason this already strong relationship couldn't be expanded.

A student and faculty exchange between the U of C and Israeli universities would benefit everyone involved. The U of C would raise its reputation as a global intellectual hub, while also helping other schools learn from decades of knowledge and experience.

Animal disease requires global effort

Sean Willett
Opinions Editor

A deadly disease is killing off salamanders across Europe as scientists scramble to halt the spread of this highly contagious fungus. While this disease has yet to reach Canada, our government should take immediate steps to ensure the safety of these already vulnerable amphibians.

While you probably won't ever see one strolling through your backyard, salamanders play a deceptively big role in Canadian ecosystems. They are so prevalent that in some Canadian forests, there are more salamanders than any other type of vertebrate in terms of sheer mass.

This makes Canada a perfect breeding ground for *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (*Bsal*), a fungal pathogen native to Asia. The disease has an almost 100 per cent mortality rate among most salamander species and can be carried by infected animals, water and soil.

On its own, *Bsal* would pose little threat to salamanders outside of Asia. But because of the international pet trade, humans have brought the disease to the Netherlands, Belgium, Germany and the United Kingdom within the last year. The disease has yet to reach North America, but salamanders on our side of the Atlantic are hardly safe — thousands of amphibians are imported into Canada, the USA and Mexico every year, including species susceptible to *Bsal*.

If *Bsal* does make it to Canada, there would be little stopping it from spreading across the country. Like other invasive species, fungal diseases are difficult to eradicate after they have established themselves in the wild. Our best hope is prevention

— the US Fish and Wildlife Service already placed a temporary ban on the import of salamanders, and Environment Canada would be wise to follow their lead. Though a ban on the salamander pet trade is an impractical permanent solution, it would give border agencies time to develop and implement stringent testing and screening procedures to identify and treat *Bsal* in imported animals.

But the spread of *Bsal* is a symptom of a larger problem, one that demands more than a disjointed case-by-case approach. The rapid spread of the disease across Europe proves these outbreaks cannot realistically be handled by individual governments working alone. Instead, this is a problem that demands a global response.

In an article published last year in *Science*, a group of researchers called for the creation of international infrastructure that would facilitate rapid responses to emerging infectious diseases in animals. Similar to the World Health Organization, a mandatory international system would ensure that the world's governments took immediate, coordinated action against the spread of these outbreaks.

As emerging leaders in environmentalism, Canada has a chance to start building this international framework — and the fight against *Bsal* is the perfect excuse to start. While individual governments can safeguard their own ecosystems, only by acting together can we help to protect all vulnerable species from the unintended consequences of human activity. If we don't, then animals like salamanders — and the forests they keep healthy — may not have a place in our increasingly interconnected world.

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

SU General Election
su.ualgary.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!

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 1 and goes until 4 p.m. on March 3. 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), Professional Faculties 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.

Who will you choose? Check out this year's candidates and their

platforms on the SU website at www.su.ualgary.ca/elections. Don't forget to make your mark on voting days - no matter where you are, or the time of day!

From March 1 to 3 look for the VOTE button online at www.su.ualgary.ca, visit your student centre, or drop by one of the polling stations.

Don't forget to join us at the Den on March 3 at 5:30 p.m. for election results!



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

2016 STUDENTS' UNION ELECTION SUPPLEMENT



The Supplement

Every year during reading week, the *Gauntlet* puts together a Students' Union election supplement to inform students on who is running, what they plan to do if elected and who we think is best for the job.

We invite all executive candidates to our office for a five-minute platform pitch and a 10-minute question and answer session. Our panel of *Gauntlet* staff picks apart their platform and grills them on some of the key issues they will face if elected.

This year more than ever demonstrated the importance of a competent student government. The MacHall ownership dispute between the SU and administration put student issues at the forefront of campus debate. Rather than caving in, the SU stuck to their guns and fought the university tooth and nail. Had we chosen incompetent leaders during last year's election, the outcome might have been very different.

We understand the SU election can be annoying. Posters cover every possible inch of

wall space during the campaign period and costumed candidates come to your classes to beg for votes. It can seem juvenile, but that doesn't mean the outcome isn't important. The SU's decisions affect the student body as a whole, and it's crucial we elect capable officials with our best interests at heart. And you can't properly judge a candidate on a goofy poster or 90-second classroom visit.

Once you've read our reviews, look for our panel's endorsements on page 13. These

are the candidates we feel would do the best job if elected, based on their interview, platform and previous experience. But don't just take our word for it. Every candidate's platform is on the SU website, and most candidates make themselves available during the campaign if you have any questions.

And of course, don't forget to vote March 1-3. You can vote online through your student centre or in person via ballot boxes in MacHall.

Panelists

Scott Strasser
Supplement Editor

Kate Jacobson
Editor-in-Chief

Fabian Mayer
News Editor

Jason Herring
Entertainment Editor

Sean Willet
Opinions Editor

Melanie Woods
Humour Editor

Louie Villanueva
Photo Editor

Emilie Medland-Marchen
Sports Assistant

President

The president is the leader of the Students' Union. They have the most flexible portfolio, but they're generally in charge of setting a direction for the organization. They also maintain official relations with the university, oversee the work of Students' Legislative Council and vote on the Board of Governors. Look for an assured, pragmatic candidate who's aware of the challenges facing the SU.

Nick Boots

Nick Boots has some platform points that make him a feasible choice for Students' Union president. However, most of his initiatives fall outside the SU's jurisdiction and would be difficult to achieve.

Boots took a populist approach to his campaign, consulting with students and campus organizations for months before crafting his platform. While admirable, this strategy resulted in some impractical goals.

Boots wants to advocate for cheaper textbooks and parking discounts on evenings and weekends. But parking prices at the University of Calgary are determined by assessing other post-secondary institutions in Calgary and charging similar rates, and convincing the third party companies in charge of parking to decrease their prices would be a hard sell. Boots argued large data collection and shrewd negotiating could show these companies their prices lose customers. His plan for battling textbook costs would use

a similar approach. But collecting statistics on a large scale is a huge time sink and — considering there's no chance this will work — it's a misplaced priority.

Although it's in his online platform, Boots didn't bring up the MacHall lease negotiations until prompted. When asked about it, Boots claimed he'd continue the fight for student control of the building, citing student investment into MacHall over the last several decades. But not bringing up the issue of his own accord is a red flag.

His catchiest ideas are a Bermuda Shorts Day-like homecoming party in September and a weeklong cultural fair to celebrate diversity on campus. He believes this party would give incoming students a chance to meet others before starting classes, decreasing loneliness later on. Regarding diversity week, Boots suggests ethnic student clubs could have booths to showcase their country's food and culture. His

conversations with Campus Security and current SU executives shows he understands the process behind planning these events.

One unique aspect of Boots' platform is his focus on charity. During the campaign period, he wants to set up donation boxes around campus to donate old shoes and shoe-shining stations where students can donate \$2 to the Calgary Drop-in Centre. It feels strategic, but using the SU election's publicity to do some charitable good is a noble cause. It's surprising other candidates aren't doing anything similar.

Boots' thorough consultation with his constituents and his strong personality make him a viable candidate for president. While most of his goals are impractical given the SU's authority, give him your vote if you like his ideas and passion.

Selected Qualifications:

- U of C Conservative Association president
- Fifth-year finance student



"I asked students 'what are your concerns with the SU, what do you want to see changed' and that's how I came up with most of my ideas."

Jordan Grant

Jordan Grant has a solid business resume, but this doesn't change the fact that his platform is filled with some baffling, misguided ideas.

Grant's platform focuses on attempting to turn the University of Calgary into an "entrepreneurial university." He thinks by shifting the school's focus towards small business and startups, the U of C can solve many — if not all — of its problems.

By building partnerships with venture capitalists and investment firms through unspecified means, Grant hopes to increase the funding and resources available to students wishing to start their own businesses. He claims this will not only help students find jobs, but also fix the economy, raise enrolment and cause university administration to be nicer to us.

Grant wasn't able to provide details on what these partnerships would entail, or how he

might go about making them while president of the Students' Union. These plans also assume there is significant demand for startup funding at the U of C, and ignores any students that may be uninterested in that type of opportunity.

His strangest claim — that a focus on entrepreneurship would cause administration to respect students and stop their efforts to take control of MacHall — also showed a profound misunderstanding of the relationship between the SU and the U of C.

Grant didn't mention the ongoing MacHall lease negotiations in his platform. He claims this is because the issue should be over by the time he takes office. This is a misinformed notion that demonstrates Grant's lack of awareness on issues facing the SU.

Grant's other main platform point is a plan to split the SU's policy review committee into two separate committees — one to review

past policy and one to develop future policy. He thinks too much policy is redundant, and believes keeping people who are drafting new policy separate from people who are examining old policy will somehow do something to solve this issue.

Grant has experience with the SU as a faculty representative, but this only makes his platform even more confusing. It's hard to believe that a member of the Student Legislative Council could have such misguided priorities.

Grant's ideas may appeal to some business-minded students, but his ignorance of key issues make him this year's weakest candidate for president.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU Haskayne representative
- President and co-founder of Elysium Inc.



"Entrepreneurship is really the best way to apply all the knowledge that students have."

Stephan Guscott

Stephan Guscott may not have a flashy campaign, but he has a complex understanding of the issues facing the Students' Union. He is easily the most qualified candidate for president, coming across as level-headed and poised during his interview.

Guscott's term as an SU executive means he understands the importance of MacHall ownership. Regardless of the mediation's outcome, the issue likely won't go away and next year's president needs to be prepared to follow through. Having already been involved in major decisions regarding the dispute, Guscott would be able to spearhead those decisions in the coming year. Neither of the other presidential candidates mentioned MacHall and when asked about it, they had nowhere near Guscott's understanding.

In addition to the pressing issue of MacHall ownership, Guscott wants to put a student representative on the university committee

that appoints members to the Board of Governors. Guscott says he wants students to hold the board accountable, something desperately needed in the wake of scandals like the Enbridge affair.

He also pledged to change the SU committee nominations processes in order to give students outside the SU the ability to sit on university committees.

These aren't the catchiest or most popular ideas, but they are practical and well thought out. More student representation at the upper levels of decision-making would only be a good thing.

Guscott seems knowledgeable about the upcoming provincial Adult Learning Systems review, the inevitable end of the tuition freeze, student representation on faculty councils and increased residence fees. He hit the main issues the SU will face next year without prompting.

Guscott's platform is about protecting students in the longterm. He would serve as a level-headed presence in negotiations over MacHall, and his plans to introduce more student voices on university committees would ensure student representation in the years to come.

After two terms with the SU, first as a kinesiology representative and then as vice-president academic, Guscott brings experience and a complex understanding of the boring but necessary aspects of student governance.

As drab and bureaucratic as his platform may sound, Guscott is qualified, professional and prepared to lead the SU next year.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU vice-president academic
- SU Faculty of Kinesiology representative 2014-15



"The largest issue next year is getting something resolved on MacHall."

External

Tristan Bray

The vice-president external is the Students' Union's representative to municipal, provincial and federal governments. They are also the primary delegate for the many umbrella lobbying organizations the SU takes part in. Vote for the candidate you think can hold their own in a meeting with cabinet ministers and city councillors.



"The way we deal with advocacy has fundamentally changed with the change in government."

After losing by just one per cent last year, Tristan Bray returns to the fight for vice-president external with more confidence and a better platform.

Like the other candidates for the position, Bray suggested amending the province's Post-Secondary Learning Act to eliminate the loophole that allows for faculty-specific fee hikes known as market modifiers, as well as loopholes allowing mandatory non-instructional fees to rise faster than the rate of inflation. He also sees the possibility for legislation mandating student representation on faculty councils, which is an interesting way to get around administration's reluctance on that issue.

Bray plans to lobby the provincial government to amend post-secondary mental health funding from non-renewable lump funding to annual payouts based on the number of

students in each school. It's a large ask of a province facing a budget shortfall, but Bray argues the new government will be friendlier to these ideas than the Tories were.

With regards to student jobs, Bray wants to push the provincial government to increase the scope of the Student Temporary Employment Program, expanding eligibility to include recent grads and maintaining the program year-round. Though a lofty goal, this is an advantage for Bray, as neither of the other candidates mentioned student employment in their platforms.

He was also the only candidate to mention municipal issues. Bray briefly touched on the fee hikes to the UPass, and mentioned that he wanted to create an appeals process for students who forgot their UPass and were ticketed. While it's an excellent idea, it's unclear how receptive Calgary Transit

would be to the concept.

Bray is the most politician-like of any candidate running for the position. While this mostly makes him confident and well-spoken, he can occasionally come across as smarmy.

His platform is ambitious and he'll likely get bogged down on one or more of these issues if elected. But all of his platform points are solid. If he got only a handful of them done, it would still be a successful year for the Students' Union.

Selected Qualifications:

- Former Liberal club president
- Faculty of Arts Students' Association political science representative

Martin Cruz



"The centre of my campaign is to provide students a voice and have direct influence in the development of our advocacy policies."

Martin Cruz has the experience and qualifications to handle the vice-president external portfolio.

Cruz promised to expand the lobbying program piloted by current vice-president Romy Garrido and prep students for committee involvement. He also wants to secure mental health funding and advocate for amending the post-secondary learning act to abolish market modifiers and mandatory non-instructional fee loopholes. These ideas come up every year, but they're still good ones.

In his interview, Cruz demonstrated an in-depth knowledge of student lobbying, the upcoming review of Adult Learning Systems and organizations like the Council of Alberta University Students — key aspects of the portfolio.

His platform and interview were full of familiar buzzwords like "engagement,"

"advocacy" and "transparency." Despite this, Cruz has the knowledge and experience to follow through on at least some of his promises.

Cruz already has experience in student government and lobbying at the college level. His work as both the vice-president student life and president of the Red Deer College Students' Association proves his passion for advocacy and student politics. Since transferring to the University of Calgary, Cruz has also been involved with the Faculty of Arts Students Association as their vice-president operations and finance.

The vice-president external needs to be poised and confident when lobbying administration and the government. Cruz is both of these things.

He spoke about developing advocacy priorities and strategies at the U of C and then bringing those to organizations like CAUS,

instead of the other way around. This mentality of working from "the inside out," as he called it, is a pragmatic approach to the portfolio. And his focus on students in the university community to help lobby external stakeholders is smart and well thought-out.

If elected, Cruz would do a fine job with the external portfolio, though his ideas are pretty standard stuff.

Selected Qualifications:

- Red Deer College Student' Association President 2013–2014
- Faculty of Arts Students' Association vice-president operations & finance

Jen Tokarek



"Using that student voice to approach government directly and to make them accountable is the best means [of lobbying]."

Along with securing provincial funding for mental health, Jen Tokarek wants to close tuition loopholes and regulate mandatory non-instructional fees. She also plans to host digital townhalls on social media where students can ask politicians questions. The final pillar in her platform is ensuring the University of Calgary continues to receive funding for mental health initiatives.

All candidates for vice-president external have affordability and mental health funding somewhere in their platform. Compared to her competitors, Tokarek provided relatively few details on how she plans to accomplish her goals. When pushed for specifics, Tokarek often fell back on buzzwords and didn't demonstrate a thorough understanding of the issues.

In her interview and online platform, Tokarek states that all it takes to eliminate the market modifier loophole is a meeting

between ministers. While this is technically true, it diminishes one of the biggest problems faced by students in recent years. If it's so easy, how come it hasn't been done yet? She also provided little information on how she would convince ministers to have that meeting. If she can't, she doesn't seem prepared for a fight.

Hosting digital townhalls is a decent idea. But getting students to participate will be difficult and those that do are likely to be politically informed students already involved on campus. It's difficult to see what offering already engaged students another megaphone will accomplish. In a relatively short three-point platform, it seems like an odd priority.

When asked how she would like to see tuition regulated in Alberta, Tokarek said she favoured an inflation-tied cap on tuition. This is the most sensible option and she

should get points for picking it.

Tokarek is the only external candidate who is currently a member of Students' Legislative Council. Her experience as an arts faculty representative is a plus, but all three candidates have some experience that makes them a good fit for the position. Tokarek would likely do a fine job as vice-president external, but she brings few new ideas to the table and there are better options out there.

Selected Qualifications:

- Arts faculty representative
- Vice-president fundraising Consent Awareness and Sexual Education club

Student Life

The vice-president student life is in charge of events like Orientation Week, Frostbite and Bermuda Sports Day, as well as whatever wacky rooms the SU dreams up. Pick a candidate who understands all parts of their portfolio and is enthusiastic about campus life.

Zehra Buzreba

Zehra Buzreba has a fine-tuned grasp of social life at the University of Calgary. She understands the difficulty of meeting new people and the problems loneliness can lead to. She's clearly enthusiastic about these issues, but her ideas lack precision.

Buzreba wants to reallocate Students' Union events funding to host weekly events in the MacHall courtyard so students always have something to do. She says this idea, along with cleaning up the U of C's poster boards, was inspired by her time at SAIT. It's a decent idea, but logistics will be tricky and getting students to actually pay attention will be even trickier.

Buzreba has been involved with a large variety of clubs and organizations on campus. She was a host for NUTV, as well as a member of the Women in Leadership club and the Mustard Seed U of C. Buzreba said she feels like "more of an everyman" as a

result. She thinks the SU needs to target students who need it most, not those who are already engaged. This is an excellent approach to the portfolio and all student life candidates should keep it in mind.

Boosting Dinos pride on campus is another of Buzreba's main platform points. She said other post-secondary institutions in Calgary support their varsity teams more than the U of C. She plans to integrate Dinos swag into SU giveaways and prizes. Buzreba also wants to get Dinos players out promoting their own games. People have been trying to raise attendance levels at Dinos games for years, but outside of events like the Crowchild Classic and Kickoff, that effort has largely failed. There is little reason to believe Buzreba's approach would be any more successful.

She also critiqued some of the gimmicky approaches to mental health issues

on campus. Thankfully, this year's student life candidates haven't proposed any wacky rooms. At the same time, Buzreba's solution of hosting more events doesn't seem like it would help students all that much either.

Buzreba expertly diagnoses some of the U of C's issues. Unfortunately, her cures could be better thought out, and she came across as nervous during the interview. If she hones some of her ideas and remains as enthusiastic, watch out for Buzreba next year.

Selected Qualifications:

- Alliances in Marketing assistant director of Events
- Host for NUTV



"If this campus wants to reduce this feeling of loneliness it has to focus on the students who need it the most."

Austin Campbell

Austin Campbell is an eager candidate for the position of vice-president student life, but his lack of experience and limited knowledge of his own platform points make him unprepared for the job.

Campbell's platform focuses on implementing a start-of-year party called Community Unity, a partnership with American business Terracycle and the creation of faculty-specific social media communities.

Campbell hopes to have live music and art at the centre of his Community Unity event. Other candidates expressed similar ideas for back-to-school gatherings, but compared to his competitors, Campbell's understanding of the logistics for such an event was sorely lacking.

He has some relevant event coordination experience, but didn't have a concrete plan to ensure the success of Community Unity.

Campbell also wants the SU to partner with Terracycle to recycle commonly littered items

like cigarette butts as a form of revenue. He says the initiative is important because one cigarette butt can contaminate eight litres of water. Campbell seemed enthusiastic and passionate about green initiatives, but was shaky on most of the details.

It's a unique idea, but it's hard to see how the economic benefits would be anything but marginal. The initiative is also not within the vice-president student life portfolio, something Campbell admitted himself.

He also plans to strengthen the campus' sense of community with online spaces moderated by SU faculty representatives for students in each faculty to communicate with each other. Campbell says the project would launch in time for the fall semester and estimates that "at least half" of students would sign up.

The idea is dated and out of touch with currently-used social media communities on campus. He also mentioned wanting to start a

"Humans of UCalgary" page, but was unaware that the page already exists and has over 1,500 likes.

Campbell cited mental health issues as the biggest issue facing students. It's a valid answer, but surprising given he did not mention mental health initiatives during his platform pitch.

Campbell is definitely enthusiastic — he's attended more Student Legislative Council meetings than any of the other candidates. A couple of his ideas are interesting but none are fleshed out enough to seem feasible. Compared to others running, Campbell is a poor candidate for vice-president student life.

Selected Qualifications:

- Assistant operations manager with non-profit BassBus Arts foundation
- Event manager for Grow Calgary Urban Farm



"I want to bring my own ideas to the table because I think they're mostly pretty unique."

Graham Duff

Graham Duff's diverse platform and pride in the campus community makes him the ideal candidate for vice-president student life. His platform is well-balanced between fun events and student engagement.

Of all of the candidates, Duff's platform is one of only two that includes building support for the Dinos. His focus on athletics represents an aspect of campus life several other candidates neglect. Duff hopes to connect students to the Dinos during Orientation Week by incorporating their brand into O-Week swag. Although it's dubious whether this initiative will get more students out to Dinos games, it's a good start.

Duff also wants to introduce MegaDen — an orientation week event that would combine the Den and the MacEwan

concert space for the year's first Thursday. When asked about the possible downsides, Duff was prepared for any pitfalls, including cleanup, damages and special events liquor licensing. He was clear on the details and prepared to discuss the logistics of hosting such a big event.

Duff hopes to build benches at the bus loop with a Quality Money grant and advocate for better food labelling services in MacHall to distinguish kosher and halal options from other food items. While the benches will likely be more difficult than he suspects, it's an obvious and welcome solution.

Duff's platform mentions undergoing a review of mental health services on campus. Although this doesn't seem like much of a plan, it's more realistic than providing buzzword solutions to mental

health issues. Duff was realistic about the difficulties of appropriately improving mental health services on campus and had a plan that could improve mental health services in the long term.

Duff's greatest strengths are his research and knowledge of the student life portfolio. His platform points are viable and thoroughly thought out.

Selected Qualifications:

- Former chair of the Dinos Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
- League Coordinator on the U of C Intramural Sports Council



"You'd get to start on a fresh note, meet new people and have a good community building event."

Student Life continued....

Patrick Ma



"Focusing on the future of students would greatly improve student peace of mind."

Patrick Ma's second shot at running for vice-president student life shows he learned from our criticism last year. Ma's sophomore platform is more coherent and sensible than it was in 2015, though it lacks some of the passion and energy that used to set him apart.

While his goal to restructure club funding would be a welcome change, his plan to spotlight clubs in an email newsletter is irrelevant. And though his proposed Pizza Day sounds fun, Ma appears to have done little research on how this idea would actually be implemented or what its benefits are.

His ideas for supporting students are much stronger. Ma's plan to increase networking opportunities for graduating students is just as smart as when he proposed it last year, and his proposed audit of physical accessibility on campus could result in

dramatic quality-of-life improvements for physically disabled students at the U of C.

Ma's goals surrounding mental health also feature some strong ideas. He wants to work with the SU Wellness Centre to find and address the biggest sources of stress for students. Doing so could be useful in developing a more comprehensive mental health strategy, but more specifics on the plan are needed. His idea for revamping distress kits is similarly lacking in detail.

Ma enlisted the help of former vice-president student life Jonah Ardiel in running his campaign this year, and it shows — for better and for worse. His platform is packed with sensible ways to improve the student experience, but the way Ma talked about them felt rehearsed. He recited much of his online platform word for word during the interview. Initiatives for non-club focused

student engagement were also lacking, especially when compared to last year's platform.

Ma only seemed genuinely excited about his proposed Pizza Day, which was also his least organized idea. If he wants to succeed in this position, he will have to learn to blend this enthusiasm with thoughtfulness and sensibility.

However, these are small criticisms compared to last year. Ma has improved in almost every way, and is now a serious contender for vice-president student life.

Selected Qualifications:

- Faculty of Arts Students Association psychology representative.
- Mental Health Alliance co-creator

Academic

The vice-president academic is responsible for improving the academic experience and promoting undergraduate research. Their job mostly consists of sitting on committees, meeting with various members of university administration and administering programs like the Teaching Excellence Awards and Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Alicia Lunz



"I think more people would want to research if they knew how."

Alicia Lunz is acclaimed as the vice-president academic. While she has some interesting ideas in her platform, they'll need more thought if she wants to have a successful term.

Lunz's priority is giving students the chance to evaluate their TAS midway through the semester. By standardizing the way TAS receive feedback, she wants less discrepancy in how they grade their students. This goal shows up almost every election, and Lunz doesn't have any concrete ideas for making it a reality. She admitted it's a difficult task, but stressed that it's her biggest priority for the year.

She also wants to create volunteer-led seminars that teach students proper research techniques. Lunz says undergraduates might be discouraged from pursuing research because

they may not learn how to do it properly in their courses. She wants graduate students with relevant experience to lead the seminars, but the demand for such seminars is debatable.

Her most polished platform point is expanding student representation on the Academic Appeals Committee. Lunz wants students on the committee to be better trained in order to properly evaluate appeals. Her predecessor, Stephan Guscott, already laid the groundwork for this, and Lunz seems ready to finish what he started.

With no need to exert energy campaigning this year, Lunz has a great opportunity to learn the ropes to the academic portfolio early. She'll need the headstart to get some of

her plans off the ground.

Lunz has been around campus for a long time, which gives her a solid perspective of the academic issues facing students. She was the SU nursing representative for two years, with some recent success in the role, securing her faculty the opportunity to attend the rural skills weekend in Brooks. Her committee experience with the SU will also be a big asset.

All in all, Lunz has the tools to be a successful vice-president academic.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU nursing representative 2014-2016
- Quality Money and Nominations committee member

Operations & Finance

The vice-president operations & finance is responsible for the Students' Union's budget, SU policy and the operation and management of MacHall. They also chair several SU committees.

Branden Cave



"There's a lot at stake [with MacHall]. I don't want to play fast and loose with the SU's future."

Branden Cave's interview was a relief. He is acclaimed as the vice-president operations and finance, and has the seriousness and knowledge to manage the portfolio in a contentious year.

Cave mentioned the struggle over MacHall's ownership without being prompted, granting it a prominent place in his platform. He gave the issue the gravity it deserves, and was confident and articulate when defending student investment in the building.

The rest of his platform was comprised of smaller goals, like helping faculty representatives with their reporting at Students' Legislative Council and using Students' Union resources to help clubs draft sustainable policy and seek external sponsorship.

Cave also wants to publish the SU's budget online, which has been attempted before with limited success. However, he did acknowledge

the limitations of publishing the entire budget — third-party and confidentiality agreements — and seems prepared to back this generic platform point up with action.

One of his most interesting ideas is the creation of a Mental Health Fund similar to the Sustainability Fund. Students would access the fund by submitting a project proposal. While the project could have limited success, it's an approach to mental health backed up with an actual idea and refreshingly few buzzwords.

Residence issues form a sizeable chunk of Cave's platform. He wants to use the SU's lobbying power to push for better meal plan options in the Dining Centre and ensure that fee hikes in residence don't push it out of the reach of ordinary students. Cave acknowledged that neither of these issues are really in his portfolio, as the SU president is

traditionally responsible for issues involving residence. His prioritization of residence was out of place in what was an otherwise focused platform.

Of all the executive candidates, Cave had one of the best grasps of what his position actually entails. He knew his portfolio and what initiatives would require collaboration with other SU executives.

Cave will be an excellent representative for students in negotiations with university administration, and a steady hand on the SU's internal operations.

Selected Qualifications:

- Faculty of Arts Students' Association vice-president communications 2014-2015
- Residence Students' Association student representative 2013-14

Endorsements



Scott Strasser
Supplement Editor

President: Stephan Guscott

Guscott has the SU experience to be a reliable leader. The easiest choice of this year's election.

External: Tristan Bray

Bray showed the most growth since last year and I'm excited to see what he can do if elected.

Student Life: Graham Duff

Duff researched his initiatives better than the other candidates and also gave the best interview. I expected a bat flip after that home run.



Kate Jacobson
Editor-in-Chief

President: Stephan Guscott

Guscott is the only presidential candidate who grasps the seriousness of the MacHall lease negotiations. The other two would be an embarrassment.

External: Tristan Bray

Despite his smug demeanour, Bray impressed me with his platform and in-depth knowledge of post-secondary issues.

Student Life: Graham Duff

Duff is one of the few candidates whose platform will give students things they actually want.



Fabian Mayer
News Editor

President: Stephan Guscott

Guscott was the only candidate to bring up MacHall in his pitch. Base your vote entirely on this fact.

External: Tristan Bray

Bray is relatively qualified and has a relatively good understanding of the issues. He's the best candidate, relatively speaking.

Student Life: Graham Duff

Hands down the strongest candidate – both physically and platform-wise.



Sean Willett
Opinions Editor

President: Stephan Guscott

This isn't even close. Guscott may be boring, but he won't sink the ship. I can't say the same for the other two candidates.

External: Martin Cruz

Cruz may not be as charismatic as Bray, but he has more practical experience under his belt.

Student Life: Graham Duff

This position has some capable contenders, but Duff pulls ahead of the pack with his impressive attention to detail.



Melanie Woods
Humour Editor

President: Stephan Guscott

Guscott is the most prepared and qualified of any of the candidates, and it shows. He's ready.

External: Martin Cruz

Cruz and Bray are almost equal in terms of qualifications, but Cruz wins simply for being a little less smarmy.

Student Life: Graham Duff

Duff's MegaDen is a rare platform point that actually has thought put into it. He seems prepared to handle the position.



Emilie Medland-Marchen
Sports Assistant

President: Stephan Guscott

Guscott is the candidate most willing to tackle administration over MacHall ownership.

External: Martin Cruz

Cruz's strong platform coupled with his experience in student politics make him the most competent choice.

Student Life: Zehra Buzreba

Buzreba is passionate about tackling student loneliness and is the most authentic candidate for the position.

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Calgary developer prepares trip to San Francisco to show off indie puzzle game

Jason Herring
Entertainment Editor

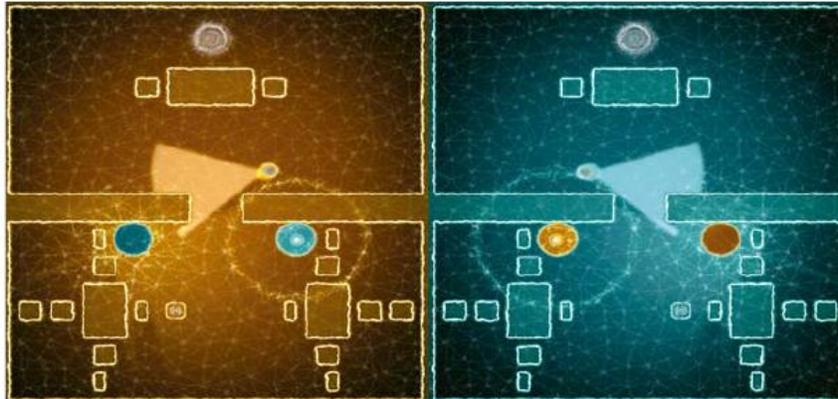
With a display of his new project secured for the biggest game development conference in the world, Radu Muresan has a lot to be excited for. His stealth puzzler *Semispheres* is expected to launch on a variety of platforms starting this April.

Semispheres is a single-player game where players solve puzzles by simultaneously controlling two characters in connected, parallel worlds. The unique mechanic, which Muresan says represents the two sides of the brain, is used to craft progressively difficult puzzles that must be solved with reason and dexterity.

Because of the game's unusual mechanic, Muresan says he's had difficulty conveying *Semispheres'* core idea to people who don't play many games.

"I used to refer to the game as a single play co-op, but that left some people a bit confused," he says. "What I meant was you play co-op with yourself. You control both the left and right sides of the screen at the same time, but independently."

The game melds two different genres — puzzle and stealth. While the former is fairly self-explanatory, stealth games are more niche. They ask players to accomplish tasks by



Semispheres lets you control two identical but independent worlds simultaneously. COURTESY VIVID HELIX

using tools to remain undetected and limiting resources to force conservative gameplay. While *Semispheres* contains elements of both genres, Muresan says the focus of the game shifted significantly since it was originally conceived in August 2014.

"That first version was more of a stealth game. Then it morphed into more of a puzzle game. Realistically, the two genres are close, but the puzzle genre is a bit more constrained," Muresan says.

Although he altered *Semispheres* as development progressed, Muresan thinks making necessary design changes shaped the game.

"I believe constraints are what make games. For me, it was mostly about power-ups and consumables, because in many stealth games you start with [a set number of items] and you're afraid to use them because you might run out and I wanted my players not to worry about it in my game," he explains. "But when I took out the restriction of not being able to access those tools all the time, it wasn't a very interesting game."

Muresan demoed *Semispheres* in showcases across the province over the last year, as well as at a conference in Boston. But the game will see its biggest audience yet in March

when it is featured as part of the Indie Mega Booth in San Francisco at the Game Developers Conference, which typically welcomes around 25,000 attendees.

"There's a larger group of us going to San Francisco from Calgary and I've been selected to be part of the Indie Mega Booth at GDC. It's a great honour for me because the admission is very selective, and it doesn't cost anything for us," Muresan says. "It's a free event and you get lots of exposure. I'm really proud to get in, and it'll definitely be the largest audience I'll show the game to."

Muresan plans to launch *Semispheres* on the Xbox One and PS4 in addition to a PC release, as well as a possible Wii U release. He will become the first Calgary developer to release a game on these consoles. Previous local game releases were exclusive to the PC.

Despite this, Muresan still thinks there's a long way to go before Calgary is known as a game-developing city.

"Funding for games is always a problem, regardless of where you are in the world, because it's a very competitive business and it's hard to make a living out of it. In Calgary specifically, we have some additional challenges because there's not many commercially successful companies in the city and Calgary isn't a cheap city to hire developers," he says. "Out of all the major cities in Canada, I don't want to say we're in the worst shape — but we're definitely having the least amount of success so far."

One thing is certain — as games like *Semispheres* start attracting international attention, Calgary is establishing itself as a city where great video games are made.

Semispheres is slated for release in April at a tentative price of \$10.

For more information and a link to the game's Steam Greenlight campaign, visit semispheres.com

MOVIE REVIEW »

Eddie the Eagle is a predictable but fun rompJarrett Edmund
Gauntlet Entertainment

Something special took place at the 1988 Winter Olympic Games in Calgary — it wasn't the improbable run of the Jamaican Bobsled Team, nor was it the heroic failure of an inexperienced British ski jumper. The true heroes of the event are the big-budget Hollywood dramatizations that followed — first *Cool Runnings*, now *Eddie the Eagle*.

Local enthusiasts eager to catch a glimpse of retro Calgary will be sorely disappointed. Like *Cool Runnings* before it, *Eddie the Eagle* is almost entirely fiction. The Bavarian countryside where the film was shot is sadly much more beautiful than our aged Olympic facilities. But with a few archival footage scenes, the illusion is complete.

Eddie the Eagle follows a bespectacled Eddie Edwards, played by Taron Egerton, and his hopeless quest to become an Olympic athlete. Edwards, a whimsical idiot and devoted milk drinker, appears doomed from childhood. Long-sighted with shoddy knees, he is consistently informed by both his blue-collar father and everybody else that he will never fulfill his dreams. But like all good underdog sports movies, *Eddie the Eagle* is only a few montages, a supportive mother and a washed-up coach away from achieving the impossible. The inspirational '80s music arrives right on cue.

The film unfolds in a predictable fashion. Edwards must conquer a series of obstacles, where — much to the disdain of those around him — he proves to be a lovable success. But what *Eddie the Eagle* lacks in surprises, it makes up for in



Eddie the Eagle — solid movie, questionable attire. COURTESY FOX MOVIES
performance. Egerton's impeccable comedic timing and delightful foolhardiness earn plenty of laughs throughout. And a Canadian tuxedo-clad Hugh Jackman plays the role of Edwards' washed-up mentor, a cigarette-smoking, whiskey-slugging former ski-jumper. Immune to both the freezing cold and gentle reminders of his age, the completely fictitious role of Bronson Peary is the perfect fit for Jackman. Banter

between the two actors forms the comedic lift of the film as it soars towards the inevitable. There's never any doubt that Edwards will succeed, but the predictability of the story doesn't subtract from the fact that *Eddie the Eagle* is enjoyable from start to finish.

Though pleasant, *Eddie the Eagle* doesn't deserve any medals of its own. Poor secondary character development and plot holes occasionally mire the experience. Relationships between the characters seem inconsequential. And although *Eddie the Eagle* may set the record for the longest cinematic wait to hear Van Halen's "Jump," the joy of the film lies in the hang-time after takeoff. Laced by Egerton's tremendous acting and comedic chops, *Eddie the Eagle* is the perfect reminder that a little determination can go a long way.

STAFF PICKS »
FEBRUARY 25 - MARCH 3**Thursday, February 25:**

SoundOff 2016, a music festival devoted to highlighting underexposed local musicians like Beach Season and Dragon Fli Empire. Sixteen national and international industry professionals are attending the event.
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Commonwealth Bar & Stage

Friday, February 26:

Calgary Underground Film Festival presents *Where to Invade Next*, Michael Moore's latest documentary. Moore visits foreign countries and analyzes how they differ from America and what the USA should learn from them.
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Globe Cinema

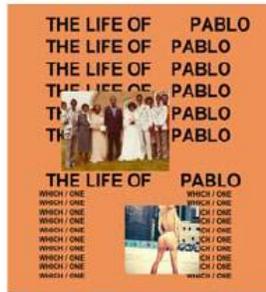
Saturday, February 27:

The Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers' 24th annual \$100 Film Festival concludes. The final night features a variety of low-budget short films shown in Super 8 and 16mm format.
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Engineered Air Theatre at Arts Commons

Sunday, February 28:

Listen to punk rock for charity at Griffest 2016. The event, which features local mainstays like The Shiverettes and Cowpuncher, aims to raise money for the Autism Aspergers Friendship Society of Calgary.
Time: 3:30 p.m.
Place: Broken City

NEW MUSIC »



Kanye West
The Life of Pablo
February 13, 2016 (TIDAL)

Kanye West last touched our lives in 2013 with his seventh album, *Ye-zus*. His long-anticipated follow-up, *The Life of Pablo*, is a thematically confused album marred by name changes and delays. But even though West's over-hyped album is out, as of Feb. 23, it's still not available for purchase — you can only stream a "work in progress" on Jay-Z's TIDAL streaming service.

The Life of Pablo takes from West's Christian faith, drawing parallels between the life of Paul the Apostle and West's own life and career.

The record is acoustically varied, using Pentecostal chants, '90s rap, auto-tune and a smorgasbord of other tricks to paint *Pablo*. On the album's highlights, the aural experience is great — but that's certainly not the case with some of the record's more unpolished tunes.

Tracks like the gospel "Ultra-light Beam," the controversial but funky "Famous" and "Real Friends" highlight the collection,

but many of the album's 18 tracks are a mess. Like his Twitter feed, *The Life of Pablo* is an uncontrollable force with surefire hits scattered among weak tracks that sound more like demos. Maybe West intended the album to be listened to like this, but many tracks feel like filler. It's clear the record would have been better with a slimmer run time.

A few of these filler tracks clock in around the two minute mark, most notably "Freestyle 4," "Feedback" and "Facts," a shoddy song focused solely on West's soured relationship with Nike. "I Love Kanye" is a rare moment of self-awareness, where West mocks fans who complain about how much his sound and demeanor have changed.

Even "Wolves" feels like a missed opportunity. It features touching lyrics but, according to West, the song is still unfinished, with a possible revised version coming when the album finally sees a retail release.

West's collaboration with Kendrick Lamar on "No More Parties in L.A." is a breath of fresh air late in the album, as contemporary hip-hop's two most iconic rapper's share a rich beat. The song focuses on Hollywood-centric problems, but — like the rest of *The Life of Pablo* — that's just Kanye West.

But it feels strange to excuse this shoddy album because it's "just Kanye West." The rapper is capable of greatness, but he needs to get his hubris in check before he makes another great record.

Kent Wong



St. Lucia
Matter
January 29, 2016 (Columbia)

Brooklyn-based artist Jean-Philip Grobler, better known by the alias St. Lucia, has recently made a name for himself in the electronica music scene. Originally born in South Africa, the songwriter earned a following with his solid debut, *When The Night*. After a few years touring worldwide with a full backing band, including a botched date at last year's cancelled X-Fest, Grobler returns with his second studio album, *Matter*.

The album is filled with pounding synths and drum machines, highlighted by Grobler's strong falsetto. Despite attempts to create an organic sound, the record is still dominated by synth-pop and doesn't deviate much in style from his last album.

Matter opens with "Do You Remember." It's an exuberant track, but it doesn't quite set the stage for rest of the album. That task is accomplished by "Home,"

which follows with a darker and stronger sound more representative of what's to come.

Previously released singles "Dancing on Glass" and "Physical" come next, and both are worthy standouts. The former conveys the importance of living in the present instead of fixating on the future, while the latter is a sensual track brimming with suggestive imagery. "Game 4 U" is arguably the best track on *Matter*, combining poignant lyrics with a danceable moderate tempo, creating a reserved and thoughtful combination. "I always knew my heart is just a game for you," Grobler sings, mourning an unreciprocated love. Combined with the airy "The Winds of Change," the album finds Grobler exploring more emotional ground on *Matter* than in his previous work.

"Love Somebody" slows down the album at its midpoint, offering a slow jam in a record filled with maximalist synths.

Closing off the album is "Always." Like the record's opener, the lack of an exaggerated percussion beat makes the track feel out of place, but it still ties a bow on the whole package.

Matter sees St. Lucia exploring a fuller sound, though not all his experiments succeed. But with most songs clocking in around the five-minute mark, the album is filled with exciting, fleshed-out tracks worthy of a spot on your playlist.

Derek Baker

Gauntlet Elections

On March 1 the *Gauntlet* will elect a new news editor and editor-in-chief for 2016/2017. Anyone who has contributed to at least three issues of the *Gauntlet* prior to the election can vote or run. Candidates for the positions will present their platforms on Feb. 26 at 3:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.



LOCAL MUSIC »



JARRETT EDMUND

The *Gauntlet* was on scene at Block Heater, the Calgary Folk Music Festival's new winter offshoot. Check out a full photo recap of the weekend at thegauntlet.ca.

OPINION »

Walking away from high-performance sport

Emilie Medland-Marchen
Sports Assistant

The day I knew I was ready to move on from long track speed skating stands out more to me than my best races. I remember skating alone in circles, wrestling with a year-long depression I couldn't shake. I remember stepping off the ice and knowing I was done.

My decision to quit wasn't made in a single moment — it is the hardest choice I've ever made, and I struggled for months to come to it. But after futile attempts at getting back to where I once was, it was during this solitary moment that I knew I was ready to move on.

For many, athletics are tied to identity. Athletes tend to define themselves by their sport, and have done so for most of their lives. When that suddenly goes away, it feels like a major loss — it's hard to picture what will come next, especially when an entire community that's been a major part of your life suddenly disappears.

Many university students know Sarah Pousette as a Students' Union executive. As vice-president of operations and finance, she was an integral part of this year's MacHall dispute. However, few students are familiar with Pousette's career as a high-performance speed skater.

Pousette was a gold medalist at the 2011 Canada Winter Games. She skated for Team British Columbia and the Canadian National Development Team into her early 20s, before leaving the sport in 2012.

"It's funny, you forget a lot of things," Pousette said. "I remember one race I got a huge personal best — it was in the 3k — and that was a year after my gold at Canada Winter Games. I had this race where you're in that zone that very rarely happens in skating, where you're working hard and your body is working so well, working perfectly, gliding on the ice. And you remember hearing the people in the crowd. I remember that one race very specifically. You get to that feeling and you realize that's what you've been aiming for in skating."

Topping those emotional highs can be difficult after walking away from high-performance athletics. There's no environment quite like it. High-performance athletes usually train for four hours each day, forging connections in their sport's community that become more important than those outside of it.

Some speed skaters continue their university education while



SU vice-president operations and finance Sarah Pousette won a speed skating gold medal in 2011.

COURTESY CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE

pursuing their sporting careers, but many cannot. Pursuing an education while pushing yourself to mental and physical extremes twice a day is a delicate balance. At the highest level, skaters are limited to one or two classes a semester, or none at all. Trying to attain athletic excellence while taking a full course load is all but impossible. Pursuing the highest levels of achievement in any sport is an all-consuming experience.

This was one of the reasons Pousette chose to leave speed skating in the third year of her undergrad.

"I realized that as much as I love skating — and I do love it — I was loving school more," Pousette said. "I realized at that point that the challenge from skating, the competitiveness, I could have that in other areas of my life. I had a dream obviously — to go to the Olympics and to World Cups — but my other dream, to do development economics, was starting to be more important to me."

For many athletes, giving up on Olympic dreams brings a sense of failure. Every athlete has to face walking away from their sport eventually. The difficulty is knowing when the time is right.

But leaving high-performance sport doesn't mean giving up. Since quitting long track speed skating, Pousette has travelled to Ghana on an international exchange focused on economic development and won an executive position in the SU.

"I don't think I gave up a dream — I think my dreams changed," Pousette said. "I realized that I had been afraid to move on because I wouldn't

be good at anything else, and skating was always something that I was naturally talented at. I think I realized how much more of a world was out there, that I could participate in different ways. That's what led me to be so involved on campus — realizing that the Oval wasn't the be-all and end-all of this campus. It was actually just at one end, and there were so many other things in between."

When I made my own decision to leave speed skating, it helped to know that there were people like Pousette who had come before me, who had seen success both within the sport and outside of it. The feelings of inadequacy didn't go away, but I was comforted by the knowledge that people do move on and grow into other identities.

Ali Banwell is currently attending medical school at Queen's University. But in 2011, she skated on the same gold medal-winning team as Pousette. Banwell pursued her skating career until 2011, when she decided to focus on her studies in natural sciences.

"I remember finishing my last Saturday morning race and being relieved," Banwell said. "I wasn't actually worried that was it, that was the end. At that point, I was at the level where I was asking, 'Why am I still skating? Am I happy to be still skating? Is it taking away from other aspects of my life?' And I felt like it was."

Banwell explained that skating was always about achieving specific goals. She had her sights set on the Olympics, but eventually found herself re-evaluating her focus.

"It was a process," Banwell said. "A lot of people seemed perfectly happy to skate for the sake of skating, but for me there was always an end goal. They talk about the level of sacrifice that you need to have, but there's sacrificing time and effort and energy and then there's sacrificing years. And I just wasn't prepared to sacrifice years."

Leaving high-performance sport brings both a shift in identity and a significant change to your daily routine. However, Banwell and Pousette are proving that there can be success after sports. In fact, the skills you learn as an athlete — competing, working through adversity, striving towards a goal — are all applicable to other aspects of life.

“I don't think I gave up on a dream — I think my dreams just changed. I realized how much more of a world was out there.”

— Sarah Pousette

Since moving on from skating, Banwell has completed her degree in natural sciences, went on an exchange to Sweden's Lund University, won the PURE Research Award and graduated from the Arts and Science Honours Academy. But she still has moments of doubt.

"One aspect of it that I struggled with the most was identity," Banwell said. "I skated with the same people for so long that that was a big struggle. But someone outside of skating put it really well to me — just because I quit skating doesn't mean I quit being an athlete. And I didn't need to define success in that way. You can wrap your identity in different boxes, and just because you're quitting that particular competitive sport doesn't mean you have lost that part of you, necessarily. Reframing that was definitely a big part of the grieving process."

That process can be a jolting one.

"This year [as vice president of operations and finance] has been probably one of the hardest of my life," Pousette said. "And the only reason I think I got through it was because of the skills I gained as an athlete. I wouldn't trade this year for anything else that I've ever done before. This fall I had the chance to give a guest lecture on research that I got to use in Ghana, and that guest lecture was one of the coolest things I'd ever done. At the end of that lecture I felt more inspired than I had in my last year of sport, and I knew I made the right choice."

My experience will be different from others who have walked away. But one thing is true for all of us — the university campus is bigger than just a 400-metre ice surface. The hardest decision an athlete is forced to make is when to walk away. But after that, the whole world opens up. And it's worth taking part in.

HOCKEY »

Canadian NHL teams falling short

David Song
Gauntlet Sports

If the NHL's 2015–16 season ended today, not one of Canada's seven teams would qualify for the playoffs.

With the end of the season approaching, the possibility of Canada being shut out of the postseason is becoming more and more likely, as Canada's seven teams all currently rank among the bottom nine spots in the league's standings. Ottawa sits atop that pile with 62 points — six points out of a playoff spot — while Toronto holds the worst record in the league.

If the current rankings hold true and all Canadian teams do miss the postseason, then 2015–16 could serve as a historical disappointment for Canada. The last time we witnessed an NHL playoff run without a single Canadian team was nearly half a century ago, during the 1969–70 season. For 46 years since then, Canada has managed to send at least one club to the postseason. Last year was a notable step forward in this regard, as five Canadian squads made the playoffs, including the Calgary Flames.

But the Flames have regressed this year. Notable free-agent signings Dougie Hamilton and Michael Frolik have failed to offset Calgary's special-teams weaknesses, and goaltenders Jonas Hiller and Karri Ramo have left Calgary among the league's worst in terms of goals allowed.



While still top-ranked internationally, Canada has stumbled in the NHL this season. COURTESY S.YUME

The Edmonton Oilers — who entered this season with high hopes after drafting generational talent Connor McDavid last summer — have continued to reside in the league's basement. While McDavid has enjoyed a remarkable season — when healthy — the Oilers are once again last in the Western Conference.

There wasn't much hope for the Leafs to begin with, as the club has committed to a rebuild that figures to leave them out of the playoff race for the next few years. The Senators, a fellow Ontario club, seemingly have the talent to contend but have been sunk by poor defensive play and goaltending as well.

The Montreal Canadiens started out hot, winning their first seven games to earn the best start to a season in the history of their 107-year-old franchise. But losing star goaltender

Carey Price to a lower-body injury all but doomed the Canadiens' playoff bid, and the club that once seemed to be Canada's top contender has now lost 32 of 60 games.

Both the Vancouver Canucks and Winnipeg Jets have undeniable talent, but inconsistency has stalled both teams' 2015–16 campaign, resulting in them sitting eight and 12 points back of a playoff spot, respectively. With just over 20 games left in the season, Canada's teams would have to put together some significant winning streaks to even have a chance at making the cut.

Not only are our teams being outplayed in the NHL, but hockey's other nations are set to make their presence known at the upcoming NHL Entry Draft as well. The 2016 draft class projects to have no Canadian skaters selected in the top-five,

which hasn't happened in nearly two decades. Consensus number-one prospect Auston Matthews hails from Scottsdale, Arizona and the four top-ranked prospects beneath him are from Finland and the United States.

Make no mistake — there are still plenty of Canadian stars leading many of the elite American teams, and Canada has certainly not been usurped as hockey's top nation quite yet. However, recent trends in the NHL and junior leagues — along with a disappointing Canadian loss at the 2016 World Junior Championship in January — demonstrate that hockey's elite talent is more evenly dispersed right now than it has been for quite some time. Canada is still a powerhouse in the game it loves, but for the time being, it is no longer an unstoppable juggernaut.

BRIEFS

Canadian women's soccer team qualify for 2016 Olympics

The Canadian women's soccer team topped Costa Rica by a score of 3–1 on Feb. 19, advancing to the finals of the 2016 CONCACAF Women's Olympic Qualifying Championship. While Canada was eventually beaten 2–0 by the United States in the final game, their second-place finish secured a spot in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Canadian women's coach John Herdman is speaking at the University of Calgary on Feb. 25 at 12:30 p.m. in MacHall.

Canada takes home three gold medals at 2016 youth Olympics

Fifty-four Canadian athletes competed in the 2016 Winter Youth Olympics in Lillehammer, Norway on Feb. 12–21. Canada finished the tournament with three gold medals, two silvers and one bronze. The Canadian team's six total medals ranked eighth overall. Russia led the way with 24 total medals, while the United States and South Korea tied for the lead with 10 golds. The Youth Olympics began in 2010 with the inaugural Summer Youth Olympics in Singapore.

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MORE UNIVERSITY FUCKUPS »

Students' Union candidate actually Elizabeth Cannon in a bad disguise

Melanie Woods
Maggie's campaign manager

The annual Students' Union election was overcome with scandal this week after officials discovered that one of the vice-president student life candidates was actually university president Elizabeth Cannon in disguise.

Cannon was discovered beneath a pair of glasses with a fake nose and moustache at a forum on Tuesday when a student asked how she would keep administration in check.

"I've consulted with various community stakeholders and I believe we are doing a bang-up job," Cannon said.

Until this point, Cannon had been campaigning as "Maggie Cannon" on a platform of protecting the student experience, courting corporate investors and returning the SU to a state of constant fear of administration's power.

"If elected, I will ensure that the SU does what's best for everyone on campus, not just students," her platform read.

In keeping with the SU tradition of wacky campaigns, Cannon



Cannon was wearing a pair of those glasses with a fake nose and moustache.

LOUIE VILLANUEVA

themed her campaign around the hit Drake song "Hotline Bling."

"You know when that hotline bling, it can only mean one thing — the current SU executive does not understand the magnitude of running MacHall and it is best handled by administration," her posters said.

Like many candidates, Cannon attempted to incorporate a completely irrelevant theme into her actual platform.

"Students have started respecting administration less and doubting more, asking intrusive questions on the town hall floor, not lifting thine eyes like they had before," Cannon's

platform read.

Many students are surprised the SU didn't discover Cannon sooner.

"She was literally the embodiment of that Steve Buschemi 'Hello fellow kids' meme," third-year political science student Fred Mason said. "Honestly, she was carrying a

skateboard around at one point."

Mason said he usually thinks SU elections are pointless, but Cannon at least perked his interest.

"Are we actually voting for people on their leadership qualities or just their *Star Wars*-themed posters?" he said. "At least she knows how to pull off a power suit. And damn, 'Hotline Bling' is catchy."

SU officials expressed disappointment in Cannon slipping through the gaps in policy.

"We really should've noticed," returning officer James Spenner said. "I mean, she kept talking about 'investor interests' and the 'student experience.' Students don't actually care about the student experience as a concept — they care about MegaDen and Pizza Days."

Spenner said Cannon's platform also stood apart from the other candidates'.

"She didn't once mention a themed room, unneeded study space app or plans to overthrow administration with her powers as vice-president student life," Spenner said.

An independent review board immediately cleared Cannon of any wrongdoing.

GENUINELY BAD IDEAS »

Cancelled e-mail autoforwarding leads to chaos

Fabian Mayer
Could you send him the semester's notes?

Only a handful of days have passed since the university eliminated e-mail autoforwarding and students across campus are already feeling the impact.

Fourth-year international relations student John Barnes didn't see an e-mail saying his class was cancelled and showed up to find a note on the door of an empty classroom.

"It's chaos," Barnes said. "Sheer chaos!"

Barnes lives on campus, but said showing up to the cancelled class completely ruined his day.

"I don't even know how to check my ucalgary e-mail," Barnes said. "Whenever I go to class it could be cancelled and I would have no clue and miss out on watching another episode of *Scrotal Recall* on Netflix. Do you know how stressful that is? I might as well not go to class at all."

Third-year art student Miranda

Stevens sent a mass e-mail to her 400-person Anthropology 201 course after missing classes due to a death in the family.

"I had to go back home to be with my family," Stevens said. "Not one person responded to my e-mail asking for notes. Can you imagine that?"

Stevens worries about getting notes for classes she will miss while attending the funeral next week.

"My great aunt twice removed's exotic short-haired cat was so dear to us. With all that we're going through, not a single person has the decency to send me the entire semester's worth of notes," Stevens said.

One group of students started a club to lobby administration to reinstate auto-forwarding. The club, called Let All Students E-mail Everyone, boasts around 150 students on its e-mail list and seven paid members.

President Francis Davies said the timing of the change was disastrous for the student body.

"We started the club when five of

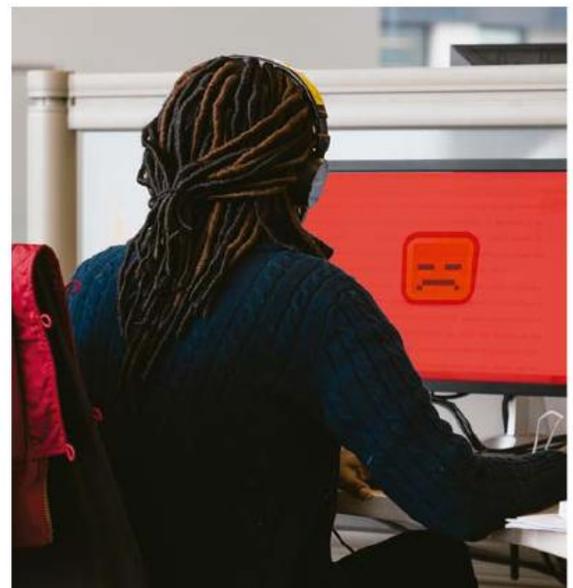
our computers stopped working for no reason three days before the mid-term," Davies said. "How are we supposed to ask our fellow classmates for assistance when they don't see our desperate messages?"

According to Davies, university administration has been unresponsive to the club's demands.

"The vice-president electronic communications and social media strategies told me that 'perhaps I could ask the student sitting next to me for notes,'" Davies said. "How ridiculous is that? I'm not actually talking to people."

The vice-president electronic communications and social media strategies was not available for comment, but provided the following e-mail statement.

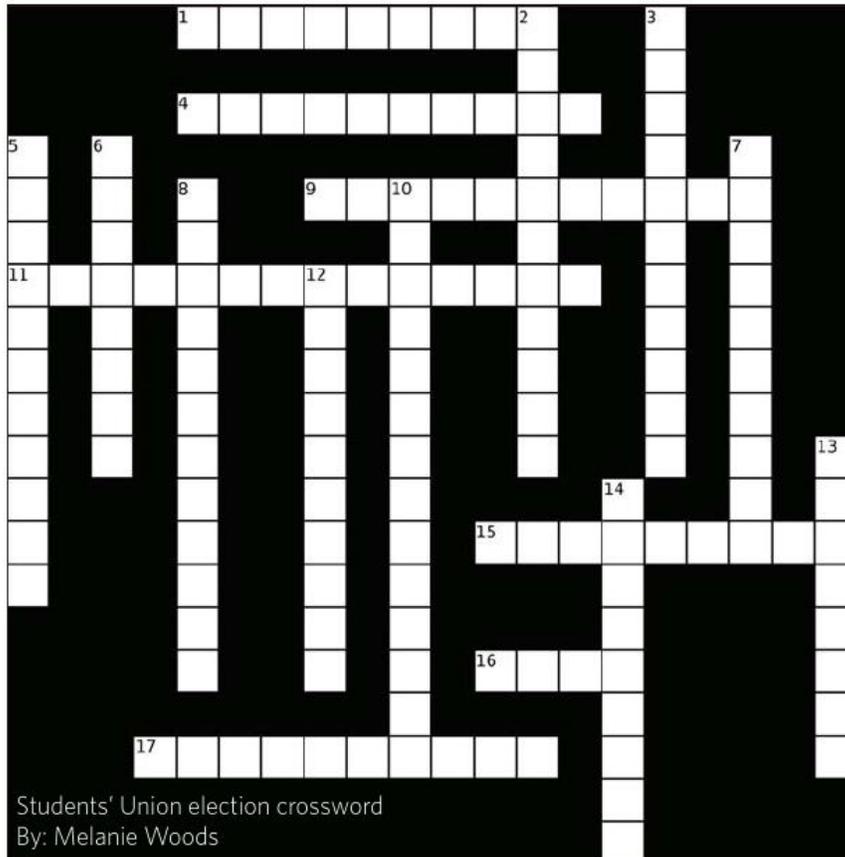
"The University of Calgary has engaged and consulted with a multitude of stakeholders on this issue and will do our utmost to ensure students continue to experience the student experience."



Students can no longer beg for all of a course's notes.

PRINCE AFRIM

CROSSWORD »



Students' Union election crossword
By: Melanie Woods

ACROSS:

1. This candidate promises to set up boxes around campus during his campaign where students can donate old shoes.
4. Vice-president external candidate _____ was once president of the students' association at Red Deer College.
9. He was acclaimed as vice-president operations and finance.
11. This presidential candidate was the only one who mentioned the ownership of MacHall without prompting.
15. This candidate promises a free Pizza Day.
16. _____ is the portfolio that is generally responsible for negotiations over MacHall.
17. Acclaimed as vice-president academic, she was the nursing representative on SLC for the past two years.

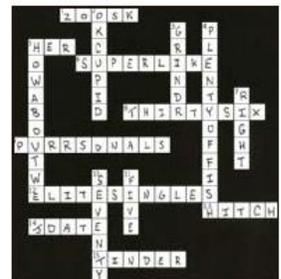
DOWN:

2. Surprisingly, none of this year's candidates for vice-president _____ proposed any new rooms.
3. This presidential candidate wants to turn the University of Calgary into an entrepreneurial university.
5. *Gauntlet* editor-in-chief Kate Jacobson endorsed this candidate, saying, "despite his smug demeanor, he impressed me with his platform and in-depth knowledge of

post-secondary issues."

6. This vice-president is responsible for lobbying external groups.
7. _____ proposes "digital townhalls" to communicate with the provincial government.
8. This candidate said "if this campus wants to reduce this feeling of loneliness, it has to focus on the students who need it most."
10. Vice-president student life candidate _____ thinks his ideas are "mostly pretty unique."
12. This candidate promises the creation of a "MegaDen" to replace the first Thursden of the year.
13. This vice-president's portfolio mostly involves sitting on university committees.
14. Levi Nilson was acclaimed in this position last year, but this year there are three candidates.

LAST WEEK'S
CROSSWORD »



The *Gauntlet* is hiring 2016-2017 staff

- Entertainment Editor
- Online Editor
- Graphic Artist
- Opinions Editor
- Humour Editor
- Photo Editor
- Sports Editor



Applications are due **March 8**.
Candidates must send a resume, cover letter and three samples of their work to eic@thegauntlet.ca.
Interviews are **March 12**.

Visit our office in Room 319 on the third floor of MacHall if you have any questions.

HOROSCOPES »

SU election horoscopes

Melanie Woods

Running for vice-president "who cares?"



Pisces
(Feb. 19 – March 20)
You will wake up tomorrow with presidential candidate Stephan Guscott's beard. It looks good on you.



Aries
(March 21 – April 19)
A terrified-looking man in a *Minions* costume will sprint past you in the hallway. After you realize no one is running a *Minions* themed campaign this year, you will start to worry.



Taurus
(April 20 – May 20)
When you cast your vote online, the computer system will instead prompt you to swear over the rights to all intellectual property you will ever produce in your life.



Gemini
(May 21 – June 20)
After ordering a dozen Tim Horton's coffees and getting "please play again" every time, you will roll up the rim on your thirteenth drink and find that you've been elected as the next Students' Union president.



Cancer
(June 21 – July 22)
You will run for an SU position on the platform of throwing a very large and very heavy rock through Elizabeth Cannon's window. You will win, do that and be arrested immediately.



Leo
(July 23 – Aug. 22)
You will decide to run for Board of Governors representative in the upcoming SU election when you realize it requires literally no work and you still get a sweet honorarium.



Virgo
(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
While walking to the train, you will stop and realize your boots have literally stuck to the ground. Your boots are stuck to the ground forever now. Curse your presidential candidate Nick Boots!



Libra
(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
Exasperated with endless election materials, you will decide not to vote in this year's SU election. Coincidentally, American Senator Ted Cruz is running for SU president this year. He will win by one vote.



Scorpio
(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
You will find yourself trapped in the "never-ending post-secondary existential angst room" proposed by one of this year's vice-president student life candidates.



Sagittarius
(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
You will sell advertising rights on your body to a vice-president external candidate for a sizable sum. Aren't you excited to have "Bray's Anatomy" tattooed on your face?



Capricorn
(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
Four science representative candidates will accost you in the hallway asking for your vote. Three hours later, authorities will find your body in Science Theatres covered in fun stickers and printed-off platforms.



Aquarius
(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
Presidential candidate Jordan Grant will convince you to incorporate yourself and start selling your organs for money, providing investment opportunities for the whole student body – including your body.

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