



INDEPENDENT
CAMPAIGNS
PROMOTE SU
DISCOURSE

pg. 7

U CALGARY
ALUMNA TO
PREMIERE CHOIR
COMPOSITION

pg. 17

FOUR DINOS
TEAMS MAKE
PLAYOFFS,
TWO REMAIN

pg. 20

VOL. 57 | ISSUE NO.30 | Mar 2, 2017

READ THIS

BEFORE YOU VOTE

PG. 10

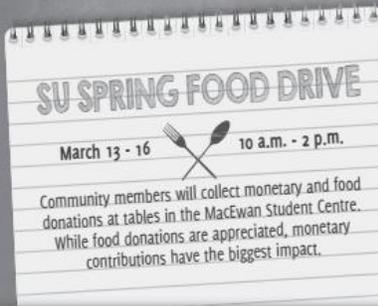


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General Election 2017

GAUNTLET NEWS

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Samuel Cheffins



When taking Sam's photograph for this illustrious award, our photographer had to take a step back to make sure all his hair was in the frame. In all seriousness, Sam came through with some last minute photos that were much appreciated this week. Thanks, dude.

"I'm going super-slayan in this mutha fucka."

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. Editors 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.

The Gauntlet is printed on recycled paper and uses an ink made of frozen tuition icycles. We urge you to recycle/build an impenetrable ice-tuition fortress using the Gauntlet.

Letter Policy

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

The Cover

Design by Samantha Lucy

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The Gauntlet's local and national sales are managed by FREE Media, an agency representing the campus press in Canada. View our Ad Sheet online for rates and publication dates. Questions about the Gauntlet's ad policy can be directed to Ron Goldberger at (403)-607-4948 or online at yfc@f-media.ca.



TUITION FREEZE »

Cannon suggests province might not provide tuition freeze backfill

Saima Asad
News Assistant

There could be some minor revenue shortfalls in the operating budgets of Alberta's public post-secondary institutions next year.

In her opening address to General Faculties Council on Feb. 16, University of Calgary president Elizabeth Cannon said the U of C will "probably not receive backfill funding" from the Alberta government in the upcoming year.

The backfill funding would make up for a potential revenue shortfall from the current tuition freeze. In 2016, the Alberta New Democratic Party government supplied the province's 26 public post-secondary institutions with about \$16 million in total.

The U of C provided the following statement on Cannon's remarks:

"The University of Calgary works closely with the Government of Alberta to maintain strong government support for the university's operating budget. While we do not anticipate tuition backfill funding in this year's budget — and have not included it in the university's budget projections for 2017-18 — this government has been supportive of stable and predictable funding for post-secondary education in Alberta and we are optimistic that the provincial budget will maintain that support."

Outside of a freeze, tuition increases in Alberta are capped by the Canadian Consumer Price Index.



LOUIE VILLANUEVA

Cannon said she does not expect backfill funding.

Each post-secondary institution's governing board votes on inflationary tuition increases — usually a couple per cent — every year.

"The fact that we're in this situation highlights the need for a sustainable and predictable solution to tuition right now," U of C Students' Union vice-president external Tristan Bray said. "This would not be an issue if tuition had risen by the rate of inflation this year, as in the regulation."

Domestic tuition rates in Alberta have been frozen since September

2015. The freeze was originally slated to expire in September 2017, but the NDP government announced in October 2016 that it would extend the freeze by an extra year to allow for a thorough review of the province's tuition and fee model.

"The review is still underway, but once it is finished, the outcomes — along with those from the system resourcing [funding] review — will inform recommendations for cabinet which would be in place for the 2018-19 year," ministry of advanced education spokesperson Ben Lof said.

Lof also said it would be premature to comment whether or not the government will supply backfill funding before the budget is released.

"Our government is investing in our institutions and has been clear on its commitment to stable and predictable funding, which allows for world-class education and affordability for students," he said. "Instead of the cuts of the previous government — including cuts planned for these past two years — our government has made two per cent increases to the base grant of every institution for the past two years. We have made it clear that we will continue to support them."

If the NDP does not supply backfill funding, the U of C could lose roughly \$2-4 million dollars next year, depending on student enrolment. Revenue from student tuition accounts for about 18 per cent of the U of C's operating budget.

Bray said that even though it's a small amount in relation to the university's overall revenue, the shortfall could have a negative impact on teaching and learning at the U of C.

"It could lead to possible cuts in any number of areas. It could lead to larger class sizes. It could lead to cuts to programs and services that students use," he said.

Cannon also said in her opening address at GFC that the U of C will pay about \$2.5 million in increased utilities next year due to the recently implemented provincial carbon tax.

The NDP will likely release their budget in March or April.

RESEARCH »

Law professor studies online shaming

Tina Shaygan
Opinions Editor

University of Calgary Faculty of Law professor Emily Laidlaw recently published an article exploring online privacy, particularly regarding free speech and human rights.

The article — "Online Shaming and the Right to Privacy" — was published in the academic journal *Laws*.

Laidlaw said she was intrigued by the problem of online shaming.

"I wanted to look at it through a particular lens. I wanted to explore what exactly is happening online when people are being shamed,"

Laidlaw said.

Beyond illuminating the weaknesses in the law regarding online privacy, the article argues that "there is a crucial difference between a desire to wrap everyone in a bubble and create a right to be treated nicely as opposed to recognizing a right to be free from assaults on one's dignity and identity."

Laidlaw said her research helps illustrate legal weaknesses related to online shaming.

"At the moment, we have traditional conceptions of what privacy means but what is happening to people is different," she said. "What we need to do is revisit the laws to see how they should be better

shaped and developed to better address the harm of what is happening to people [online]."

At the same time, Laidlaw said her research illustrates that dealing with online shaming is sometimes out of the bounds of what the law can do.

"A lot of the time, people say this should be illegal, this is horrible, how can people post such terrible things online? Sometimes the answer isn't through the law," she said.

Laidlaw completed her PhD at the London School of Economics in 2011, focusing on the intersection of human rights and online regulations. She said the issue of

online shaming was a natural next step for her research.

"The wall you keep coming up against at the moment is the issue of online abuse," she said. "We have this major social problem. You can't have a female politician who comments on the world online without being subject to horrendous abuse."

Laidlaw said the current legal structures aren't working and there is a need to reimagine how these areas are approached.

Laidlaw has presented her research in Paris, New York and throughout the United Kingdom. She also recently presented a seminar at the U of C regarding internet regulation and privacy.

The Gauntlet's annual poster critique



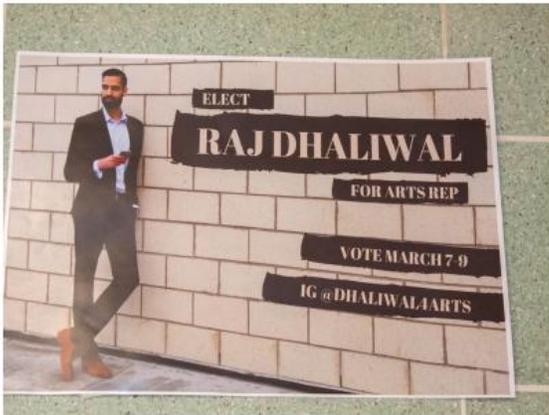
Bernie would've won.



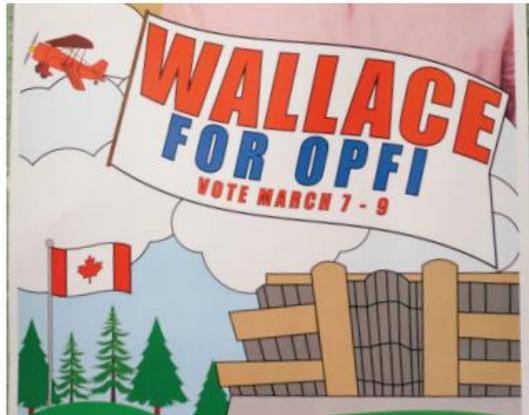
Just out of frame, a group of high school seniors pose for grad photos.



According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way a bee should be able to fly.



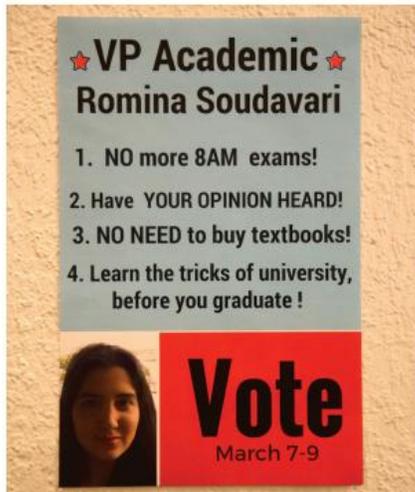
When you're waiting for your Uber like...



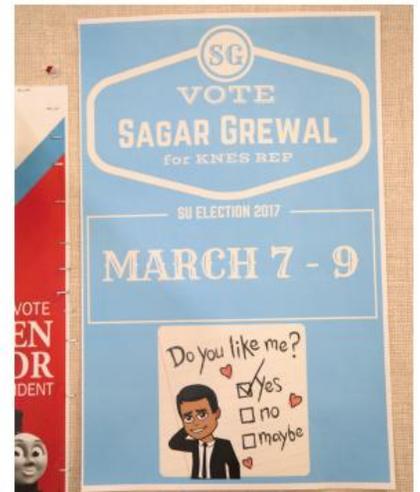
Where did Wallace get that drawing of MacHall from? It looks awfully familiar.



In the game of Students' Union politics, you win and no one cares



This looks like an e-mail link that we should never click on.



What year were Bitstrips popular again? 2012?

LABOUR RELATIONS »

Aramark workers' union members canvas campus as negotiations reach boiling point

Kate Jacobson
Gauntlet News

Members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) Local 401 came to the University of Calgary campus on Feb. 27 to canvas students about the ongoing negotiations over a collective agreement between Aramark and the union.

Aramark is the U of C's official food service provider. They operate the residence Dining Centre, provide catering services and run food vendors, including Tim Hortons. Employees at these locations successfully unionized with the UFCW in April 2016 and are currently negotiating their first collective agreement.

Tom Hesse is the UFCW's chief spokesperson at the bargaining table. He said the union's biggest issue is staff scheduling.

"There's a large number of students, people have other jobs. It's not as though they can make an easy living on the wages that Aramark are paying them," Hesse said. "People need predictability in their lives. It's just patently unfair. The employer has adopted an entirely unreasonable position on scheduling."

Union organizer Joe Irving was

one of the members canvassing students on campus. He said the UFCW wants to make sure U of C students are aware of the dispute before a potential strike.

"We're trying to let them know some of the issues that are happening and getting them to support the workers by giving them a wave or a thumbs up, just to let them know that they're behind them 100 per cent," Irving said.

Aramark vice-president of corporate communications Karen Cutler said the UFCW reduced the amount of bargaining days from five to three this month.

"We have had several meetings with the union and continue to bargain in good faith under the guidance of the Alberta Labour Board," Cutler said. "We were supposed to meet for a longer duration earlier this month but the union reduced the time."

Irving says the UFCW sees scheduling as an issue of respect and dignity in the workplace. He hopes the issues facing Aramark workers will resonate with U of C students — some of whom work for Aramark.

"Some of these students may deal with these issues on a regular basis so we want to make those connections and let them know that someone is trying to fight

for them," Irving said. "Good jobs come from actions. Good jobs come from people taking a stand."

Irving says the canvassing on Feb. 27 received a positive response from students.

"By letting students know exactly what the issues are, they're able to make a connection with the workers that they see on a regular basis," Irving said.

In the event of a strike, the UFCW would ask students to support the workers by not purchasing anything from any of the Aramark locations.

According to Cutler, Aramark is currently planning for the possibility of a strike.

"Our goal [remains] to reach a fair agreement that works for everyone," Cutler said. "However, we do have contingency plans in place to continue to serve the campus in the event of a strike."

Hesse feels that the UFCW is moving closer to a possible strike vote.

"The employer is not showing a sufficient measure of flexibility at this point to prevent a strike vote and a possible strike," Hesse said. "If the employer isn't bargaining reasonably and in good faith at the bargaining table, these sorts of tremors appear before there's an earthquake."



UFCW members canvassed in MacHall.

GENESIS KAYEMBA

HIRING



SECTION EDITORS:

The Gauntlet is hiring the following positions for the upcoming year: **News Editor, Opinions Editor, Entertainment Editor, Sports Editor, Humour Editor, Photo Editor, Digital Editor, Video Editor** and **Volunteer Coordinator**. All positions are salaried. Full job descriptions are available online at thegauntlet.ca/hiring.

Applications are due **March 3 at 4:00 p.m**. Resumes and cover letters can be dropped off in person to Editor-in-Chief Melanie Woods or sent over email to eic@thegauntlet.ca. All candidates must be available for an interview on March 11, and complete an editing test with the current editor in their position scheduled during the week prior to that interview day. Position hirings will be announced **March 14 at 6:00 p.m.**

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Humans of UCalgary to release book in March

Ashar Memon
Gauntlet News

The University of Calgary is full of unique people with diverse interests. But in the hustle and bustle of university life, it can often be difficult to make connections. Humans of UCalgary wants to change that.

Those familiar with the Humans of New York Facebook page will recognize this U of C variant, which showcases stories and photos of students, faculty and alumni with diverse backgrounds.

U of C health sciences student and Editor-in-Chief Tingting Yan started Humans of UCalgary in October 2015. The Facebook page now has over 2,700 followers.

"At first it wasn't exactly a club — I just took a camera and I started shooting and talking to people around the university," Yan said. "I would walk around on campus and I'd be like 'this person seems to have time, so why not give it a try' and people were really nice and open about it."

Yan said over time, the club evolved and has partnered with over 10 other clubs to showcase the campus community's passions and interests.



Club founder and Editor-in-Chief Tingting Yan said the club has grown immensely.

SCOTT STRASSER

"When you talk to people you realize how cool they are and how many different backgrounds they share," Yan said. "Not everybody comes from the same three high schools in Calgary, which is what a lot of people think coming into university."

The club was a recent recipient of the Champions for a Healthy Campus prize — a \$5,000 grant for student ideas committed to promoting campus community — as well as the Students' Union Spotlight Club of the Month award. A not-for-profit coffee table book

is expected to launch this month, with an accompanying launch party in late March.

The book will be distributed to offices around the university to provide the club with a greater physical presence on campus.

"We thought that Humans is a

very digital platform — not everybody is on Facebook all the time and that's our primary way of reaching people," Yan said. "With a book, we can put it in public, visible areas, so it was kind of a cultural thing to be able to have a hard copy coffee table book."

According to Yan, university administration has also contacted the club to use its material on official U of C social media pages.

Yan said that above all, the page will always be about the people.

"If we made one person smile because someone shares something funny, or if we made one person want to join a club, or if we made one person think that maybe they'll stay a bit longer and get coffee with that person in their class, then I think that's what makes me really fulfilled in the end. I think that's what drives a lot of my team," Yan said. "It's that whole spirit of understanding where other people are coming from and understanding that our experiences are diverse, but that we're all in this together."

You can check out Humans of UCalgary at facebook.com/HumansofUCalgary. The club's book launch event will occur on March 23 in That Empty Space from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Don't miss live drama and music performances, this month at the School of Creative and Performing Arts.

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Saturday, March 4 at 8 p.m.
Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall



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Thursday, March 9 at 8 p.m.
Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall



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March 16-18 at 8 p.m.
University Theatre

OPINIONS

EDITORIAL»

Individual candidate platforms promote diverse governance

To put it lightly, the Students' Union election period is not particularly popular at the University of Calgary. Thousands of gimmicky posters plaster the walls around MacHall, while costumed candidates run around campus begging students they've never met to vote for them. It's easy to see why most students grumble about the ordeal every March when they return from reading week.

But it could be worse. Behind all the memes and theatrics of the campaign period is a complex set of rules and regulations that SU candidates are supposed to follow. The amount each student is allowed to spend on their campaign, the number of posters they are allowed and even the size of those posters are just some of the policies that dictate SU elections.

Most of the SU's election policies are well-thought-out and the result of learning from past mistakes. For instance, many places on campus — including libraries, bathrooms, the Den and residence buildings — are now designated as "no campaign zones." If you don't want SU candidates to approach you this week, stick to these areas.

Most importantly, the current policies ensure that students with diverse opinions can be elected. Student associations at other universities should learn from the U of C in this regard.

An easy example is slates. In pre-



vious years at the U of C, candidates were allowed to run together under the same platform and slogan and could pool their resources. They could take turns approaching students throughout the day to ensure their platforms were heard by more voters. But slates were banned following the 2014 SU election.

Proponents of slates argue that they encourage students to run in the SU election who otherwise would not be confident enough to do so. And at the faculty representative level, this sometimes makes sense. Is there really that big of a difference in the platforms of the various Faculty of Arts representative candidates? Not really.

But slates — commonly referred to as "parties" at other universities in Canada — harm student democracy at the executive level. In 2016 at Ryerson University in Toronto,

a large group of students ran for various Ryerson Students' Union positions under the "Impact" slate. Working as a team, Impact swept the executive elections. That means the entire RSU executive team this year is essentially part of the same political party with the same platform and mandate.

Independent executive candidates allow for different ideas in Students' Legislative Council. That's important because it ensures various student voices are heard.

At the U of C, SU officials will actually debate with each other over issues, instead of just rubber-stamping everything that comes through council because they're accountable to their own platform. Even on seemingly insignificant things like proposed changes to verbal reporting policy, our elected officials take firm stances and take each other to

task to stand up for their constituents. It's clear that an election full of independent candidates leads to better discussion in student government.

This is an indirect result of our SU's election policies — specifically the lack of "political parties" at an executive level. While it means members of SLC are more likely to bicker and argue with each other, it also ensures that students' interests are actually being considered by our elected officials.

Of course, friends still campaign together, forming unofficial "slates." Don't be surprised if you see two costumed candidates colluding. But when every executive candidate has their own platform, there's hope for at least some debate at SLC.

SAMANTHA LUCY

Scott Strasser
Gauntlet Editorial Board

short form

Which SU election candidate has the best posters?



"I like Graham Duff's posters."

— Nurmeen Mukred,
third-year accounting



"Tina Miller is the only one I remember."

— Hassan Qureshi,
first-year communications



"I like the Thomas the Train guy, Steeven Toor."

— James Jonathan,
first-year health sciences



"Ryan Wallace."

— Sherin Mohammad,
fifth-year education

Photos: Justin Quaintance
Interviews: Tommy Osborne

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT »

You must put in the work for summer jobs

Jesse Stilwell
Gauntlet Opinions

Your summer job search should be in full swing by now. If it isn't, don't blame the struggling economy when you don't find something interesting and lucrative. According to Statistics Canada, the Canadian economy added 48,000 jobs in January alone. While they aren't all in Alberta, that growth means we can't blame all our problems on a slow energy sector. There are jobs and students deserve to fill them. But prepare to work hard for them.

Even though this economic downturn feels like it has been going on forever, it does not mean we have an excuse to lose our motivation to search for jobs.

Take the time to spruce up your resumé and brush up your interview skills so you stand out from your competitors. If you don't work twice as hard in these tough times, someone else will. You can't blame the economy if you end up working a boring job while someone just like you got an interesting summer internship with more effort or networking.

There are many interesting volunteer and extracurricular opportunities at the University of Calgary that can pad your resumé while you look for employment. There is nothing wrong with adding some extra volunteer hours or taking an extra course to learn different skills if it means you'll have a competitive edge when an employer skims through your

application. If you start your job search early, you'll have enough time to put something unique on your resumé as you continue your search.

Career Services at the U of C is also a great resource. Getting an expert to read over your resumé, cover letters or any other documents you need for an application can be really helpful and something that other candidates who aren't on campus might not have access to. As post-secondary students, we should be using the resources available to set us apart.

It's okay to feel discouraged if you are applying for jobs and don't hear back from any of them. But it isn't the end of the world and you will eventually find something that appeals to you. Every

interview and application is a learning opportunity that you can use to better your skills and help you feel more comfortable with the pressure of the hiring process. Don't let the struggling economy give you a poor attitude that will show in your interviews.

Being a university student means you have access to a job market that is exclusive to you and your peers. You might never have access to this type of market again. Don't let tough times take away from your motivation. Instead, use the uphill battle to push you out of your comfort zone and better your skills to make you a more appealing candidate for any opportunities you come across. You can find an interesting job for the summer but only if you are willing to work hard for it.

Mental health discussion must address poverty

Tina Shaygan

Opinions Editor

Mental health on university campuses is a crisis. According to the 2016 National College Health Assessment, 13.1 per cent of the respondents from the University of Calgary reported having seriously considered suicide at some point in the past year. Of the 1,004 U of C respondents, 18.9 per cent reported having been treated for or diagnosed with anxiety, and 15.4 per cent reported having been treated for or diagnosed with depression over the past year.

The U of C is not alone in these statistics. Throughout Canada, students have reported feeling hopeless, depressed and anxious. Various surveys show rising numbers of mental health illnesses throughout Canadian colleges and universities. While some of these increases are likely due to stigma reduction efforts and increased self-reporting, approaches to addressing student mental health miss some fundamental points.

The U of C recently created the Campus Mental Health Strategy and invested in increasing mental health resources available to students. The Students' Union has also started a variety of initiatives like De-Stress Packs and Pet Therapy to help alleviate stress during exam season. Other more concrete actions include expanding Well-



Depression for Canadian students is on the rise. PUBLIC DOMAIN
ness Centre hours and counselling services.

Next week, U of C will give an update on the Campus Mental Health Strategy and provide more information to students about the resources available to them on campus.

But beyond a discussion of the resources available, the Campus Mental Health Strategy should recognize poverty as a significant variable impacting students' mental health.

The U of C Campus Mental

Health Strategy states that "research-intensive universities create cultures that demand high performance while promoting excellence and achievement, and also carry the risk of stress, stigma and challenges to mental health."

While the stress and pressure of university is likely a cause of hopelessness and anxiety for students, we need to look beyond the walls of classrooms for help.

The average university student is likely financially supported by

student loans or a minimum wage job, getting the absolute minimum amount of sleep needed to function and living off of ramen noodles. Universities must improve students' overall quality of life to see improvements in students' mental health. We can't put students in a shitty basement suite, ask them to finance their ridiculously expensive education with no money left for any other hobbies or activities, feed them packaged food and wonder why there is an anxiety epidemic on campuses.

According to a Hungry for Knowledge survey, 40 per cent of Canadian post-secondary students are food "insecure," with 20.1 per cent reporting that this affects their mental health. According to Statistics Canada, student's wages can fall below the poverty line — but generally go back up again after graduation. Studies have shown a relationship between material standard of living and depression. And while mental health issues are complicated, poverty can further contribute to the rise of these problems.

Universities and organizations advocating for student mental health need to recognize student poverty as a problem that they can work to eliminate. I'm not suggesting that money is going to cure anxiety, but alleviating some financial stress, as well as providing students the chance to work less and have the option of engaging in anything not related to

school or work could help.

The U of C Campus Mental Health Strategy currently recognizes that "the overall stress of being a university student, juggling multiple demands in association with an academic schedule, social life and extracurricular activities, puts students in a vulnerable position."

But it is unclear what is being done to address students being put in this vulnerable position in the first place. And more importantly, there is a lack of recognition that student poverty can increase students' vulnerability to begin with. In fact, if you search 'poverty' in the Campus Mental Health Strategy document, zero results come up.

While increased access to resources and stigma reduction are invaluable, we need to recognize what actually causes students anxiety and depression beyond course workload. Both mental illness and student finances have been identified as important issues individually. It's time we link the two to address the campus mental illness epidemic. While university is hard work, it doesn't have to come at the expense of your mental health.

Students facing poverty are much more vulnerable to depression, anxiety and other mental health issues. We must recognize accessibility, food security and standard of living in order to effectively combat mental illness on campuses. The Campus Mental Health Strategy won't be complete without it.

CANADIAN POLITICS »

Municipalities must support undocumented immigrants

Aisha Sajid

Gauntlet Opinions

Last week, Montreal city council passed a motion declaring Montreal a sanctuary city — the fourth in Canada. According to Montreal mayor Denis Coderre, the move was in direct response to the attempted Donald Trump executive order travel ban in the United States. Sanctuary cities are cities that implement policies and procedures to protect and provide services to illegal immigrants.

Since January, there have been many reports of immigrants illegally crossing the Canadian border. Many faced dire circumstances, travelling for days and losing fingers or toes to frostbite in the Manitoba and Saskatchewan cold. Sanctuary cities by themselves do not do enough to protect these border crossers. While Trump's executive order has ignited responses from cities and other organizations, we must do more to address these issues.

Immigration is hard enough — waiting for an extended period to receive a green card or immigrant

status and passing the citizenship test while constantly trying to prove your 'Canadian-ness.' Members of the federal Conservative party like Tony Clement are calling on the government to crack down on these illegal border crossings, claiming Canada no longer has the resources or ability to take in more people into an already "overloaded system."

People like Clement have legitimate concerns, as there is no extensive approach to tracking individuals that cross the border to seek asylum — a border simply marked with a yellow tape distinguishing Canadian and American land. But if security is the main issue, the conversations should be about improving the immigration system. Blaming the system is more productive and pragmatic than blaming the people who had the — as some would say — audacity to cross the border illegally, then seek refugee status through legal conventions.

Despite the promise of sanctuary cities, crossing into Canada does not promise a safe haven. The Safe Third Country Agreement between Canada and the U.S. details that refugee claimants must seek asylum in



Montreal has declared itself a sanctuary city, the fourth Canadian city to do so. COURTESY ARTUR STASZEWSKI
the first country they land in, meaning that even if they came to Canada, an undocumented status makes it extremely difficult to be granted access to services such as housing and food banks. Sanctuary cities help these immigrants, but the declaration should be more than just a symbolic gesture. Though immigrants fall under federal jurisdiction in terms of allowing or denying their entry, the facilitation of their activities is the duty of the municipalities. Being free

from persecution requires municipalities to work closely with police and border services.

In the past, minor infractions and petty crimes like speeding have resulted in people being deported. Many cities such as Toronto have instituted a 'don't ask' policy if a crime is committed. While these policies are positive steps, more needs to be done by all levels of governments to protect refugees.

SOCIAL JUSTICE CLERIC »

Pride is for people, not institutions like the police

Melanie Woods
Editor-in-Chief

At its annual general meeting in January, Toronto Pride agreed to demands from Black Lives Matter to ban police floats from the annual event. In recent months, the Vancouver Pride Society has also faced petitions both for and against police participation in its annual parade.

These are just two examples of a wave of discussion sweeping Canada regarding police involvement in Pride.

The case in Toronto is largely due to a documented history of police brutality towards people of colour and other marginalized identities in the city. Whereas in Vancouver, pro-police involvement activists have expressed concerns that banning police from Pride would rewrite decades of relationship-building by the force and the city's LGBTQ community.

Two weeks ago, 13 Calgary Police Services officers filed formal harassment complaints and urged cultural changes within the organization. The conversation about police culture has already started here. Talk of police involvement in Pride will inevitably surface.

Every city's relationship between



Institutions like the Calgary police services do not belong in the Pride Parade.

JUSTIN QUAINANCE

the police force and its local marginalized communities is unique. Regardless, police — and business or companies for that matter — should not march in Pride.

There are two reasons groups or individuals march in Pride — either they're LGBTQ or they want to be allies to the LGBTQ community. Both are good reasons. But there is a big difference between a group or individual marching for support and an institution marching for public relations.

The first "Pride" celebration was Stonewall in 1969, when LGBTQ folks rioted following a police raid of the Stonewall Inn. Pride celebrations

sprung up in subsequent years to unapologetically celebrate LGBTQ life and identity. But in the past decade, Pride has become more of an opportunity for large institutions and businesses to boost their image as accepting and diverse. And that includes the police.

I don't love the fact that the only rainbow flag I own is emblazoned with the Winners logo. I was hit with a moment of confusion at last year's Pride Parade when a huge Uber float rolled past me, followed by WestJet and the Calgary Flames. And I hate that it's not just called Calgary Pride, but "ATB Financial

presents Calgary Pride."

Pride is for the LGBTQ community, not public relations and distributing branded rainbow swag. The groups that march in Pride should be community groups and those that directly benefit LGBTQ people. Politicians pushing pro-LGBTQ legislation, local labour unions, gay bars, LGBTQ youth programs, HIV Community Link and the Fairy Tales film festival — those are the groups that should be marching. Those are the groups Pride started for.

Pride is not for police and other institutions or businesses to espouse an inclusive agenda especially when

the facts prove otherwise.

According to the CBC, Calgary Police Services killed more people in 2016 than any other municipal force in the country. The recent issues with the Calgary Police Services aren't explicitly about LGBTQ issues, but they are evidence of a negative and hostile culture. Covering that up with rainbows and smiles for a parade one day a year won't fix that — similarly, ignoring police brutality in Toronto won't make it go away.

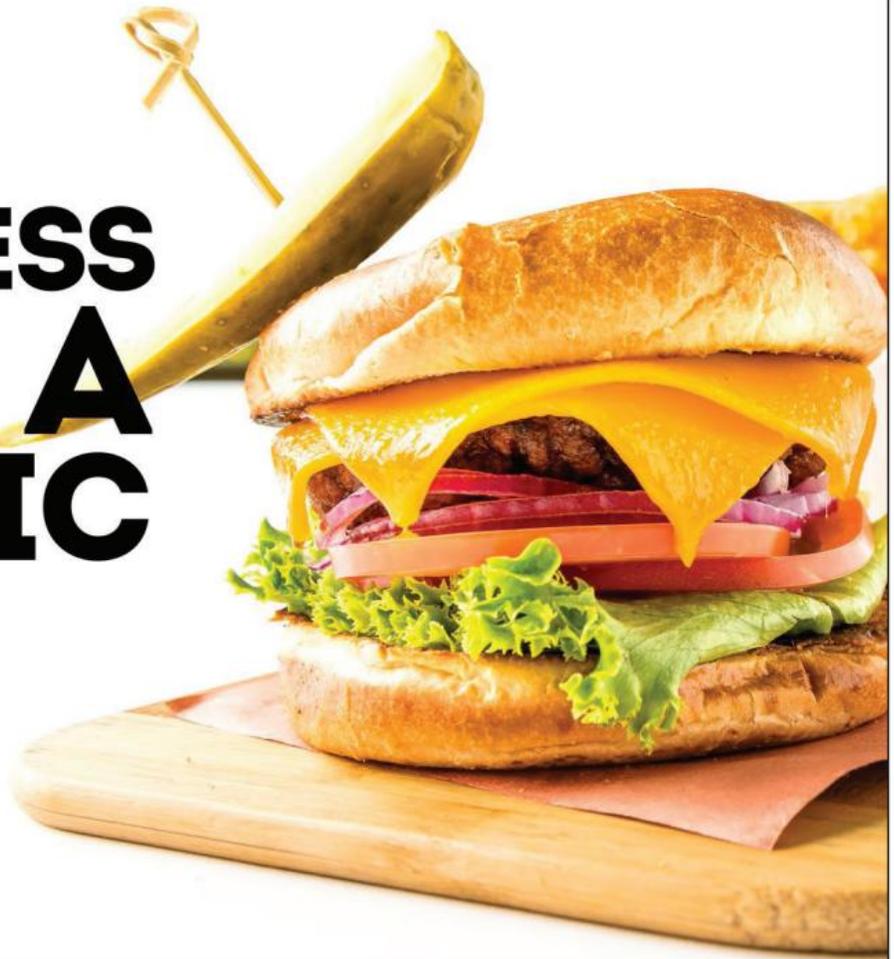
I want police present at Pride. Any large-scale event requires police presence in terms of security and crowd control. This is especially the case when the group celebrating is susceptible to hate crimes or abuse. As an LGBTQ person marching, I'm happy to see police there because it makes me feel safer if some nut-job shows up screaming at me that I'm going to burn in hell.

But securing the event and marching in it are two very different things.

Everyone attending or marching in Pride deserves to feel safe, accepted and welcome. That's the point of Pride. In light of Black Lives Matter protests across the country and the harassment complaints here in Calgary, a formal police presence marching in the parade doesn't contribute to that.

DON'T MESS WITH A CLASSIC

THE DEN EST. 1969



2017 STUDENTS' UNION ELECTION SUPPLEMENT



JUSTIN QUAINANCE

The Supplement

Every year during reading week, the *Gauntlet* puts together our 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 candidates vying for executive positions to our office — after the one time every year that we actually clean it — for a five-minute platform pitch and a 10-minute question and answer session. A panel of *Gauntlet* staff picks apart the platforms and grills candidates on some of the key issues they would face if elected.

Last year, the MacHall ownership dispute between the SU and the University of Calgary demonstrated the need for strong student government. The dispute — and the ensuing lawsuit — was inherited by this year's Students' Legislative Council and will be passed on to whomever is elected this March. The failure of the injunction application this year and the resulting loss of control over roughly \$1.9 million in MacHall-based revenue puts the incoming SLC in a difficult position. U of C students need competent student leaders now more than ever to address the MacHall ownership issue and

work in the interest of students.

We know the election period can be annoying. Posters cover every possible inch of wall space and costumed candidates invade your classes to beg for votes. Student elections can seem juvenile and meaningless, but their outcomes are still significant. The SU's decisions and policies affect the student body as a whole, whether it's fighting for tuition fee regulation or keeping country music out of Bermuda Shorts Day. It is crucial we elect capable officials who have our best interests at heart.

Since you can't properly judge a candidate on an outdated meme poster or a 90-second

classroom pitch, the *Gauntlet* is here to inform you of the candidates' qualifications and platforms. Once you've read our reviews, look for our panel's endorsements on the last page. 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 period if you have any questions.

And of course, don't forget to vote March 7-9. You can vote online through your student centre or in person via ballot boxes in MacHall.

Panelists

Saima Asad
Supplement Editor

Derek Baker
Humour Editor

Melanie Woods
Editor-in-Chief

Jason Herring
Webmaster

Scott Strasser
News Editor

Tina Shaygan
Opinions Editor

President

The president is the leader of the Students' Union. They have the most flexible portfolio, but are generally in charge of setting the direction of 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 is aware of the challenges facing the SU.

Branden Cave

In his opening pitch to us, Branden Cave said that he wanted University of Calgary students in 25 years to look back on his year as Students' Union president as "a turning point for students on campus." But consisting of mostly obvious points, Cave's platform doesn't exactly promise sweeping change.

That being said, with a year of SU executive experience already under his belt, Cave is a conservative, safe and responsible choice for SU president.

Having served this year as vice-president operations and finance, Cave has the most sophisticated understanding of the MacHall dispute among the three candidates. Cave says he spent the past year developing positive relationships with university administration and is confident that a return to the negotiating table would result in a verdict that benefits students. While not a flashy approach, Cave's strategy prioritizes a quick resolution in order to move

on with future redevelopment of the building.

Many of Cave's other priorities are fairly obvious. His ideas about the upcoming Calgary municipal election fall more under the portfolio of the vice-president external, but it's nice to see that he's on board with bringing the election to campus. And prioritizing student space during campus redevelopment is always a good thing.

His weakest platform point is his "President's Consultative Task Force." Cave is convinced he'll be able to showcase direct student voices, but we have trouble believing it won't be anything more than another unproductive cog in the SU's bureaucracy. Cave says he will focus on recruiting a variety of students to the task force, but it's incredibly difficult to get uninterested student involved with the SU. We elect our student representatives for students to have a direct voice in student government. It's hard to justify adding yet another appointed committee.

As vice-president operations and finance, Cave carried himself extremely professionally and is responsible to a fault. While he would make an incredibly competent leader of the SU, he runs the risk of being bogged down by policy minutiae or unnecessary committee work. But even his worst ideas — like the consultative task force — show a level of careful thought and low risk behind them.

Ultimately, Cave's ideas are safe, sound and clear. His experience as an SU executive makes him an ideal choice for president. He's not going to shake up the system, but he would keep things rolling.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU vice-president operations and finance 2016-17
- Students of the Arts and Science Honours



"I know how to lead student organizations and make an impact that lasts just beyond the year that I'm in office."

Graham Duff

When he ran for vice-president student life last year, Graham Duff impressed our panel with his creative platform and attention to research and logistics. While he did not inspire the same level of confidence with his interview this year, Duff would still make a capable Students' Union president.

Duff said his biggest priority is reaching an agreement with University of Calgary administration over MacHall ownership. The SU lost operational control of the building to administration last year and Duff wants to work with the university to craft a "control and share" solution that benefits both parties. It's good to see Duff take a practical approach to the issue, though it doesn't necessarily set him apart from the other candidates' similar stances.

Another priority of Duff's is improving student employment opportunities. He wants to work with university administration to increase the number of paid research positions for stu-

dents and lobby the provincial government to expand the Student Temporary Employment Program to provide year-long funding. Duff's research into student employment issues is a highlight of his platform, though more fitting for the vice-president external portfolio.

Duff also wants the SU to be more accountable and transparent to the student body. By simplifying the way the SU summarizes its budget and financial statements, he claims students will be more willing to scrutinize them. He also wants to make it easier for students to petition the SU to vote on policies by decreasing the number of signatures required from 2,500 to 500. Duff's intentions are commendable, but it's unclear how on-board the future vice-president operations and finance would be with his ideas, as budgets and policy fall within that portfolio.

While Duff's platform shows he has a firm grasp of issues facing the SU, his biggest weakness is that he wants to do too much. His plat-

form is nearly twice as long as the other candidates' and he could only get through half of it in his five-minute platform pitch — even though he seemed to prioritize speaking over breathing.

He also runs the risk of stepping on the toes of the other executives. With such an expansive platform, it feels like Duff wants to run the entire SU singlehandedly.

Criticisms aside, Duff is still a viable choice for president. He has been a constant figure in campus politics this year, is well versed in the biggest issues facing U of C students and thoroughly understands the university's various governing processes. It's obvious he's been preparing for this election for a long time.

Selected Qualifications:

- Faculty of Arts Students' Association vice-president operations and finance 2016-17
- Deputy speaker, Students' Legislative Council



"I have a lot of [plans] that are short-term that I want to have delivered immediately."

Steeven Toor

Steeven Toor has a strong understanding of student issues and is a viable choice for Students' Union president, despite a few questionable platform points.

Toor takes a more aggressive stance on the MacHall ownership dispute than the other candidates, stating that he will continue to pursue student ownership of the building. He said past student investment in the building needs to be recognized and that he wants to consult with students to shape what MacHall will look like in the future. He recognizes that the lawsuit is negatively affecting both students and the university administration, but said he still would have filed the lawsuit if he were in former SU president Levi Nilson's shoes. He wants to maintain positive relations with administration and his demeanour suggests he would be a level voice in negotiations.

Toor stressed that a priority of his is to tackle discrimination at the U of C, citing recent anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic posters found on cam-

pus. He wants to confront the problem through a "Diversity Fund," which he says would invest in innovative ideas. It might not eliminate intolerance on campus, but it is a novel idea that Toor says is an important first step.

Toor plans to donate \$4,000 — 10 per cent of his executive salary — to the Diversity Fund, in accordance with his personal religious views. He said further funds could come from outside sources, including the U of C or the Board of Governors, but securing that money wouldn't be easy. The other problem is this idea's potential for longevity, as future presidents may not want to donate their salary.

Additionally, Toor hopes to increase student representation on Board of Governors standing committees, citing concerns that half of the board's committees don't currently have any student input. He plans to accomplish this by continuing to voice these concerns to the board, but whether that will have any impact remains to be seen.

With regards to accountability, Toor also promises an open-door policy with roaming office hours to make himself more available to students. Other executive candidates promise this as well, and it's good to see SU hopefuls promise to be more visible on campus.

Toor recognizes the responsibilities of the president and seems prepared to take them on. While faculty reps usually run for a vice-president position before they make the jump to the president's office, Toor's confident interview shows he wouldn't be phased by the responsibility.

Toor is definitely the underdog of the presidency race and not all of his ideas are home runs. But he's got the leadership skills to be a successful president.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU Cumming School of Medicine representative 2016-17
- Executive manager of a family business



"The way to go about [fighting discrimination] is with education and creating a positive dialog."

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.

Courtney LeBlanc



"I'd rather utilize my soft power and create those relationships."

Courtney LeBlanc delivered her platform succinctly and confidently. Her strong and original ideas coupled with her assurance of maintaining work done by previous Students' Union executives makes her a viable choice for vice-president academic.

LeBlanc wants to advocate for all departments to post course outlines of previous classes online, as many students read previous outlines to see what they're getting into. LeBlanc cited past discussions within the Faculty of Arts Teaching and Learning Committee about this objective to prove the concept is feasible. However, these discussions would need to happen with other faculties for this goal to be implemented. If accomplished, this would benefit every student.

Her second point is advocating for faculties to list when courses will next be offered so students can plan for graduation. Though she admitted that this goal is idealistic — planning

far into the future may not be feasible for many courses — she did note that other Canadian universities list when a course will next be offered, meaning there is precedent.

LeBlanc also wants to work on getting credits from other universities to transfer over to the U of C. Currently, this can be a six-month ordeal and LeBlanc wants to work with Enrolment Services to streamline the process. She wants to get more courses listed in databases of the Alberta Council of Admissions and Transfers. This would actually be very difficult to execute internally as the registrar's office is complex and such a project would involve convincing other universities to speed up their own transfer credit processes.

In continuing with the work of her predecessors, LeBlanc wants to expand funding for the Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS) and push to promote the use of Open Educational Resources (OER). Though LeBlanc's platform is

not very research-oriented, she plans to build upon her previous relationships with possible donors for URS. As for OER, she hopes to take notes from other universities who use these resources to see how they could be used at the U of C. She also hopes to make departments already aware of the funding in place. However, these statements make the issue seem simpler than what it actually is — if it were this easy, classes would already be using OER.

Building positive relationships with faculties and administration will be key for LeBlanc to achieve her platform. Thankfully, LeBlanc's exuberant personality and emphasis on "soft-power" might make this possible.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU Faculty of Arts representative 2016-17
- Peer Helper with various Leadership and Student Engagement programs

Tina Miller



"My priority is the first point I put on there, which is the research. It would be valuable across all faculties."

With an attainable platform and a strong work ethic, Tina Miller is a sound choice for vice-president academic. She understands academic issues faced by students and already has the connections needed to accomplish her goals.

Miller's approach to undergraduate research involves creating a centralized database to provide students with a more direct path into research. The database would also help with grant applications and opportunities to showcase finished projects in poster fairs and symposiums. This hasn't succeeded in the past, so she has a tough road ahead of her.

Also regarding research, Miller wants to offer workshops through the Students' Union for writing research applications and abstracts. This is a practical idea that could benefit students more immediately than the database.

The SU vice-president academic is the lead organizer of the Undergraduate Research Symposium (URS). Miller has experience with the URS,

having sat on the selection committee last year. After recent controversy around URS abstract selection, she said she wants to give students on the selection committee more training, but maintains that the symposium should focus on featuring research that all students can understand.

Miller also wants to make academic advising more accessible to students by creating an online system for scheduling appointments with enrolment services. Other services already have a similar scheduling system and Miller knows exactly who to work with to make this happen. Her other plan — bringing peer-mentoring to more classes — is similarly feasible.

It's difficult to get professors to commit to Open Educational Resources (OER), but Miller's ideas seem effective. She wants to encourage instructors to use OER by focusing on modifying existing resources and hopes to convince the university to add use of OER to considerations for teaching awards. She also wants to use exist-

ing funding to put more textbooks in reserve at the library. These are concrete and well-thought out ways of making academic resources more accessible to students.

Near the end of her interview, Miller acknowledged the work of her predecessor and said she plans to continue working on issues like changing exam deferral procedures and obtaining a fall reading week. These long-term initiatives are important and it's good to see them mentioned, even if they aren't priorities.

Miller's experience and accomplishments on this year's Students' Legislative Council are valuable, but it's her confidence and encyclopedic knowledge that make her an excellent candidate to take on the vice-president academic portfolio.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU Faculty of Science representative 2016-17
- Leadership and Student Engagement Student Advisory Council

Romina Soudavari



"My campaign centres around thoughts and ideas I've gotten from students over the years of attending the U of C myself."

Romina Soudavari is a well-intentioned but unprepared candidate for vice-president operations and finance. While some of her platform points are appealing, Soudavari lacks research on how to achieve most of her goals.

Soudavari's main platform point is changing exam times from 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. She argued that other institutions such as the University of Lethbridge have implemented similar schedules. She suggested that more exams could be written in empty classrooms to make up for the loss of scheduling time.

Unfortunately, Soudavari lacked a concrete plan on how she would go about achieving this at the U of C, which is much larger than the U of L. She lacks a solid understanding of administration at the U of C and does not realize that this goal is likely impossible. She also did not know who the current registrar is, proving a lack of preparation.

Another one of Soudavari's main goals is to

have students donate their old textbooks to an open textbook program. However, this showcases a fundamental misunderstanding of how open textbooks work.

Soudavari also wants to host academic events and workshops that help students understand how the U of C operates. While this is a good idea, many academic clubs — including the Society of Undergraduate Economics, Faculty of Arts Students' Association and Easy Ace — already put on similar events. This could be a strong platform point if she is able to ensure her events are fundamentally different than the ones already put on.

Soudavari's strongest idea is her plan to implement mid-semester evaluations of teaching assistants. A mid-semester evaluation would help improve levels of instruction before students leave the classes and she suggested feasible outlets such as D2L for this. This platform point has been promised — and has failed — in

past years, but Soudavari provides a logical solution.

Another red flag is Soudavari's understanding of research — or lack thereof. She stated that outside the Faculty of Science, other disciplines at the U of C are not very research-focused. This is a misguided view of the university's academic priorities.

Soudavari is well-intentioned, but lacks important knowledge of the vice-president academic's role, including an understanding of the committee work required. More thorough research and additional experience on campus would make Soudavari a much stronger candidate if she wants to run in the future.

Selected Qualifications:

- Vice-president administration with the Mustard Seed U of C chapter
- Taught English overseas

External

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 or city councillors.

Shubir Shaikh

Shubir Shaikh's experience as a political club president, Students' Union Faculty of Arts representative and student-at-large on the University of Calgary Board of Governors makes him an experienced candidate for vice-president external. However, his interview didn't display the confidence necessary for the demanding external portfolio.

Shaikh wants to build off the SU's current lobbying priorities for the upcoming Calgary municipal election. These include pushing for secondary suite legalization, property tax exemption for university residences, improved transit access for students in under-served neighbourhoods and a large Get Out the Vote campaign. These are all commendable ideas, though they're admittedly already things the SU is doing.

Shaikh's best municipal idea is partnering with other post-secondary institutions to bring back the Calgary Student Caucus for a large Get Out the Vote campaign. This is a good approach to

lobbying that would ensure city council candidates are more aware of student issues.

Provincially, Shaikh's major focus is Open Educational Resources. He wants U of C professors to have an incentive to use OER, particularly for large classes like Economics 201. He admitted this would be tough, but said he could make headways alongside the Council of Alberta University Students. When prompted to provide a more concrete plan for success, he suggested public awareness campaigns, which is a good first step, though already in place at the internal level.

Shaikh's other provincial aims include closing tuition loopholes that allow for market modifiers, regulating tuition to be capped by the Consumer Price Index and expanding the Student Temporary Employment Program to be year-round. These are solid goals and standard platform material for any realistic vice-president external candidate.

Federally, Shaikh's ideas for working with the

Canadian Alliance of Student Associations are good, albeit unoriginal

Shaikh has sensible goals, but a concern has to be his lack of creativity — much of his platform is pulled directly from the SU's current external priorities. While this is a safe approach, Shaikh could benefit by offering more of his own ideas.

Shaikh's platform shows he clearly understands the role and scope of the external portfolio, but his soft-spoken nature lacks the poise or assertiveness of his opponent. That said, his previous SU experience and interactions with politicians through the Board of Governors make him well-prepared for the role.

Selected Qualifications:

- Board of Governors student-at-large, 2016-17
- SU Faculty of Arts representative 2015-16



"We can definitely make some huge headways if we tackle the right priorities carefully."

Kendra Toth

Kendra Toth has the ideal disposition of a vice-president external, displaying a balance of knowledge and personal charm in her interview. While her platform isn't as comprehensive as her opponent's, her warm personality and thorough research on the issues make her a strong choice for vice-president external.

Like her opponent, Toth's priority is the upcoming municipal election. She understands the major issues facing students and has already advocated against residence property taxes as the current president of the Residence Students' Association. Toth is the only candidate of any position to propose two forums on campus for this election — one for the mayoral race and one for the Ward 7 race. She also mentioned advocating for secondary suite legalization and a student transit fines appeal board. Both issues are vital to University of Calgary students, though they're admittedly already being pursued by the current Students' Union.

Toth said she is willing to work on advocacy for provincial student jobs, particularly surrounding the Summer Temporary Employment Program. Both candidates highlight these priorities in their platforms, which is reassuring to see. Toth differs in that she wants to expand the program to include internships and co-ops. She also wants to prioritize advocacy around tuition for both international and domestic students. These are already priorities of the Council of Alberta University Students and Toth said she is on board with working on these with CAUS.

The biggest concerns with Toth are her lack of governance experience outside the RSA and the fact she didn't bring up federal issues until prompted. She admitted that municipal and provincial priorities are more her focus. However, she was able to demonstrate a thorough awareness of federal advocacy issues when asked and said she is excited to advocate for student jobs and other issues on a federal level.

Toth's strongest quality is her demeanour. What she lacks in political experience, she makes up for with her friendliness and strong will to learn. Her answers to all our questions were concise, thoughtful and clear.

Ultimately, while her platform is less broad than her opponent's, Toth's personality makes her an excellent candidate for the position. Vice-president external is all about schmoozing with powerful personalities and Toth seems capable of schmoozing with the best of them.

Selected Qualifications:

- Residence Students' Association president 2016-17
- External Coordinator for the Residence Athletics Association 2015-16



"I'm a bit of a workaholic and love to put whatever I have into the position that I'm in."

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Operations & Finance

Briana Stallcup



"In order to uproot a system of oppression, you have to infiltrate it from within."

With a platform focused entirely around accountability and uprooting the system, Briana Stallcup is an adventurous and unconventional choice for Students' Union vice-president operations and finance. However, if elected, many of her ideas would be incredibly difficult to execute.

Stallcup's most intriguing platform point is convincing the university to publicly release the monthly budget pertaining to the \$19-million annual revenue they will collect from MacHall vendors — something the SU lost control over this year with the failed injunction ruling. In theory, more fiscal transparency from university institutions should be pursued. However, Stallcup seems shaky on the details of how this money is distributed in the first place, and convincing the university to do anything — let alone release financial details they don't want to — is no easy task.

Stallcup's banner idea is a reallocation of

funds, particularly regarding "Colour Night" — the SU's annual elected official transition party. Stallcup says the event creates a divide between the SU and students and proposed an open "meet-and-greet" with the student body instead. She's right that incoming and outgoing SU elected officials partying the night away doesn't scream open engagement, but it's a longstanding tradition in the SU. It's hard to imagine other members of Students' Legislative Council agreeing to give up their annual bash.

Similarly, Stallcup hopes to reallocate the thousands of dollars spent annually on "De-stress Kits," which she finds ineffective. However, she doesn't have any idea of what that replacement would be, claiming that she'll rely on science and consulting with other elected officials to find out what actually de-stresses students.

Stallcup believes character is the most important part of a candidate and her heart is definitely in the right place. Her prioritiza-

tion of student engagement and accountability are admirable and she is incredibly passionate about student issues. However, her platform is a lot of ideas with little concrete planning on how to accomplish them. When asked what she would do if SLC wasn't on board with some of her plans, she said she'd reevaluate and adapt to what people wanted. This lack of thought or planning is alarming.

Ultimately, Stallcup is this year's anti-establishment candidate. If an overhaul of SU tradition is what you feel is needed, feel free to give her your vote. However, don't trust that she'll be able to follow through on anything she promises.

Selected Qualifications:

- Executive for Society of Undergraduates in Economics
- Executive for Consent Awareness and Sexual Education student club

Ryan Wallace



"There are a lot of policies, and that can be difficult for students to navigate."

Ryan Wallace is a strong and competent candidate with a wide understanding of the issues that will face the Students' Union in the upcoming year. His platform centres around reviewing the SU's existing policies to improve their accessibility, as well as reviewing the effectiveness of the services offered by the SU.

Wallace's platform approaches transparency in a positive way. He believes improving access to information and policies would improve transparency. When questioned about the work of current vice-president operations and finance Branden Cave, Wallace offered constructive criticism that shows his approach to policy review differs from his predecessor.

Wallace wants to conduct a review of the Health and Dental plan to ensure its long term success. His approach to the Health and Dental plan shows his understanding of

the vice-president operations and finance's role as well as his familiarity with the SU in general.

Wallace plans on reviewing the services offered by the SU in order to ensure they are run efficiently and cost-effectively. This is part of his approach to minimize the short term damages of the MacHall injunction loss. While these ideas are not catchy, he demonstrates a practical approach to dealing with the short term implications of the injunction loss. He was able to cite specific obscure programs in need of review — such as the SU's online housing service — suggesting his accountability efforts aren't just an empty promise.

One red flag for Wallace is that he fell short when asked about his long-term plan for MacHall. The ownership lawsuit will likely continue next year and the vice-president operations and finance will play an in-

tegral role in the SU's position regarding the building's future.

Wallace has plenty of experience getting things done on campus through his work with the SU and the Haskayne Students' Association. While he may not have the most exciting platform, he has the experience and knowledge needed to effectively lead the SU's operation through next year.

Selected Qualifications:

- SU Haskayne School of Business representative 2016-17
- Former Haskayne Students' Association president and vice-president marketing

This Week MacHall

Monday, Mar. 6

Cinemanía in the Den: Hacksaw Ridge

Cinemanía: now in The Den! Great sound system, big screen and comfy couches... the SU presents free movies at 7 p.m. on Monday nights in The Den. This week: Hacksaw Ridge.

Tuesday, Mar. 7 through Thursday, Mar. 9

SU General Election Voting Days

Make your mark! Polling stations will be set up in MacHall, TFDL, Professional Faculties and Science Theatres, or vote online through your student centre. Voting closes at 4 p.m. on Thursday, Mar. 9. Join us in the Den for the election results at 5:30 p.m.!

Now until Mar. 10

Apply for Funding through the Committee of 10,000 program

Are you part of a non-profit or charitable organization? Would you like to receive funding? Apply by Mar. 10 at 4 p.m. Applications available at www.su.ucalgary.ca/10000.

Now until Apr. 7

Get Your Taxes Done for Free

SU Volunteer Services presents the Volunteer Tax Program. Get your taxes done for free Feb. 27 - Apr. 7. See www.su.ucalgary.ca/vtp for eligibility and to make your appointment. (New clients accepted until Mar. 31).

Taxes stressing you out? Get FREE help!

SU Volunteer Tax Program

The SU provides free tax filing services by professional student volunteers who are trained by the Canada Revenue Agency. All of our students, staff and faculty (with campus ID) are welcome to use our services. Please visit our website for eligibility criteria.

February 27 - April 7

Accepting new clients until March 31

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Clubs Office, Room NSC 130, near Juggs Hall

Make an appointment today!

vtp.ucalgary.ca | 403-220-2000 | su.ucalgary.ca/vtp





Complete listing of student events, concerts and more:
www.su.ucalgary.ca/events

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

Student Life

The vice-president student life is in charge of student clubs, events like Orientation Week, Frostbite and Bermuda Shorts Day, as well as mental health and overall student wellness initiatives. Pick a candidate who understands all parts of the portfolio and is enthusiastic about campus life.

Matt Abalos

Matt Abalos is determined to get students aware and engaged. Alongside experience on Students' Legislative Council this year, he demonstrates a fair understanding of what the position entails. However, many of his platform ideas are faulty.

Abalos wants to make students at the University of Calgary more aware of the services the Students' Union provides. He proposes creating a "Trivia Day" where he and support staff from the SU would question students on campus about resources available to them — get the question right and you get food, get the question wrong and you learn what the resource is. But those who are willing to interact with the SU are likely already aware of the resources on campus. Those who are skillful at dodging hallway canvassers — earbuds in, eyes forward — would not be reached.

Abalos also wants to create an SU app, even though all previous app proposals have failed due to their infeasibility. His idea to make this

proposal successful is giving honoraria to computer science students to develop the app. It's a weak solution with little thought put behind it.

His proposal to clarify how clubs can apply for funding would make a positive impact on campus and is easily his strongest point. His previous experience on the SU Clubs Committee means he knows how to engage with clubs and how funding applications are judged and distributed. This would make it easier for clubs to successfully apply.

Abalos also wants to push for improvements to campus study spaces and classrooms. Working with administration, he hopes to improve some of the U of C's spaces to leave a legacy. He demonstrated a good understanding of the university's Classroom Alteration Request and Facility Alteration Request program. However, he only listed applying for Quality Money grants to fund these renovations. Quality Money shouldn't be a catch-all method for SU executives to secure funding.

Abalos plans on tackling mental wellness on campus through the creation of "Paint Night." He said the event could be in collaboration with the Art House Union club on campus, which already provides workshops for students in visual arts on campus. When pointed out that paint nights can be quite expensive to host — paint, canvasses and session instructors cost a lot of money — Abalos said he hopes to work with local businesses and use Michael's coupons to cut back costs on the initiative. His other point in his mental health strategy is to increase awareness of resources, through events like his Trivia Day.

Abalos has the best of intentions. It's admirable to want to leave the university better than how he found it. However, his plans on how to do so need work.

Selected Qualifications:

- RSA student representative for two years
- SU Faculty of Arts representative 2016-17



"A lot of students tend to not be aware of resources on campus."

Hilary Jahelka

Hilary Jahelka's reasonable platform and past experience in activism make her a strong candidate for vice-president student life. As an executive of the Consent Awareness and Sexual Education club and member of the Implementation Committee for the University of Calgary's draft Sexual Violence Policy, Jahelka has already contributed to the work of the portfolio. Though a bit unoriginal, Jahelka's platform is thorough and achievable, especially for someone with her connections.

Jahelka wants to revamp the Junior Executive program implemented by former vice-president student life Kirsty McGowan in 2015. Jahelka's years of experience with CASE make her well informed about club issues and she has already spoken to the SU clubs coordinator to confirm that leadership transition is one of the biggest problems that clubs face. Jahelka hopes to change the program by implementing proper guidelines for clubs to follow. The platform point

may not be very unique, but it is practical and attainable.

Jahelka also wants to address abusive relationships on campus by implementing the "Stepping Up" program. She cited recent data from the 2016 National College Health Assessment survey to justify the program's need. The U of C already offers peer mentoring and bystander intervention training, but what makes this program different is its three-tier model. Jahelka based the idea on the success of the same program at Mount Royal University and the University of Lethbridge. Most importantly, Jahelka has already spoken to the director of the Wellness Centre about this program and is on track to achieve this goal.

Mental health is an aspect of the portfolio where Jahelka does not offer anything particularly new. That said, she understands that the work the current vice-president student life has done on mental health would be transitioned over to her. She mainly aims to keep things as they are.

But while she does hope to engage more students and reach out to a wider demographic, she did not present a concrete plan as to how she would do so.

Another intriguing point is Jahelka's philosophy that the student life role is an "activist" position. It's a unique idea that inspires hope that she'd be able to achieve certain platform points.

Jahelka's platform is safe and thoughtful, albeit slightly unoriginal. A strength is her activism-centered approach, as well as her focus on initiatives that she has already worked on in the past. While her platform does not contain many new ideas, what it does contain is important and achievable. Jahelka is incredibly knowledgeable and experienced and she has already taken steps towards fulfilling most of her platform points.

Selected Qualifications:

- CASE vice-president external 2016-17
- Community advisor in U of C residence



"My platform expresses my passion as well as my expertise."

Arshmin Kang

Arshmin Kang is well-intentioned, but he is the most ill-prepared candidate for vice-president student life. He lacks a fundamental understanding of what the role entails and seems largely unaware of the existing services on campus that are tied to the student life portfolio.

Kang wants to address loneliness and mental health issues on campus by increasing the Fitness Centre's operating hours. Citing research from his kinesiology degree, he said exercise can help with mental and emotional issues faced by students. The connection between exercise and mental health is an excellent observation that has the potential to make a great platform point, but Kang does not know how to tap into this potential. Plus, the gym is already open from 6:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. on most weekdays and 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. on weekends. Kang aims to convince Active Living that the extra staff and maintenance costs would be worth it in the long-run be-

cause it would decrease health care costs, but he provided no plan for how he would approach this.

Kang also wants to decrease parking fees on campus, even though parking fees do not fall within the Students' Union's jurisdiction — and especially not the vice-president student life's. The University of Calgary bases its parking fees on what similar-sized institutions charge and has stated in the past that they would not decrease these rates. Kang acknowledged that the task would be difficult to achieve, but doesn't seem to realize that it's practically impossible. He did offer an alternative solution for when his parking plan inevitably fails — a list of places just off campus where students can park for free.

Kang also wants to bring Mucho Burrito to MacHall. He acknowledged that this platform point falls under the vice-president operations and finance's portfolio, but Kang still included it in order to "get the ball rolling." He said he de-

ecided on Mucho Burrito after asking some people what they would like to see in MacHall and because Mount Royal University has one.

He also wants to raise awareness of existing services on campus. However, his own awareness seems lacking — he continually referred to the Q Centre as the "Q Room." He also lacks club experience, which is pivotal for the position.

Kang has the right intentions and will to improve the student experience, but he does not understand how to properly do so. He is unaware of what the portfolio entails and unprepared for the job. He also missed his first interview slot with us and had to reschedule. All in all, Kang is a weak candidate.

Selected Qualifications:

- Volunteer at Peter Lougheed Hospital
- Drug Awareness Foundation Calgary Volunteer



"I feel I have a good grasp on the difficulties students have and the difficulties they face."

Endorsements



Saima Asad
Supplement Editor

President: Branden Cave

Cave has the most relevant experience for the job, but the other two don't fall far behind.

Academic: Tina Miller

All the candidates have viable platform points, but Miller is the candidate students can rely most on. She'll get shit done.

External: Shubir Shaikh

Shaikh has an impressive amount of political experience under his belt, both on and off campus. He knows the issues well and has proven he can handle this job.

Operations and Finance: Ryan Wallace

The two candidates are great for vastly different reasons. Wallace's platform is more practical and he demonstrated that he has the ability to see it through.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

While all candidates are very passionate about their platforms, Jahelka's clearly stands out for her experience and knowledge of the issues.



Melanie Woods
Editor-in-Chief

President: Abstain

I am abstaining from endorsing president, as I will be moderating the *Gauntlet's* presidential debate on March 2. Check it out live on Facebook. It's gonna be wild.

Academic: Tina Miller

Miller understands the issues better than anyone else and brings new, exciting ideas to the table. And she actually knows what OER are!

External: Kendra Toth

Toth's genuine and friendly personality wins me over. She's the one I want representing me to the city, province and country.

Operations and Finance: Ryan Wallace

I've never seen someone so excited to review SU services. Wallace knows what SU programs aren't working and is willing to make them right. He's the only one we can trust.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

Jahelka seems born for this position and her view of it as activism is fresh and much needed. I'm with her.



Scott Strasser
News Editor

President: Graham Duff

All three possess strong leadership qualities, but Duff's level of preparation and dedication to campus politics this year is unprecedented.

Academic: Tina Miller

Miller's platform showed the most foresight, knowledge and research into what the academic portfolio entails.

External: Shubir Shaikh

The two candidates have very good — albeit similar — platforms. While Toth would also do great, I'm narrowly siding with Shaikh's political and SU experience.

Operations and Finance: Ryan Wallace

Stallcup's desire to shake things up fiscally at the SU is intriguing, but Wallace's experience in budgeting and student governance provides a safe and competent choice.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

Jahelka's opponents have made it easy for her to stand out this year.



Tina Shaygan
Opinions Editor

President: Abstain

I abstain from endorsing a candidate for SU president because I was formerly a roommate with one of them.

Academic: Courtney LeBlanc

Two of the three candidates are very competent. While Miller has a deeper understanding of the position, LeBlanc's platform is better for the average student.

External: Kendra Toth

Both candidates have similar platforms but Toth brings a new set of experiences and perspective to the job. Her confidence and charisma are unmatched by her competitor.

Operations and Finance: Ryan Wallace

Wallace is an excellent candidate with an unmatched knowledge of the SU. He knows how to minimize the damage from the MacHall injunction loss.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

Jahelka is a confident, experienced, and qualified candidate with a passion for advocacy that other candidates lack.



Derek Baker
Humour Editor

President: Branden Cave

Though all three candidates are qualified for the position, Cave's past SU executive experience makes him the safest choice leading into next year.

Academic: Courtney LeBlanc

Both LeBlanc and Miller are a solid choices, but LeBlanc's platform applies to everyone, not just the research hopeful.

External: Kendra Toth

If we want our voices to actually be heard at the levels of government, Toth is the person for the job. What she lacks in political experience she more than makes up for in charisma.

Operations and Finance: Briana Stallcup

I should say Wallace, but I want to say Stallcup. She's the only one who genuinely wants to change the system and destroy the elitist sentiment within the SU.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

Jahelka's platform is the most well thought-out of the candidates.



Jason Herring
Webmaster

President: Graham Duff

All the candidates would do a decent job, but Duff has the most ambitious platform. His budget summarization idea is smart and attainable.

Academic: Tina Miller

Miller's knowledge of the inner workings of this institution is incredible. She will get things done.

External: Kendra Toth

What Toth lacks in experience she makes up for with her warm demeanor and passion for the position. She's the only candidate I would want speaking to politicians on my behalf.

Operations and Finance: Briana Stallcup

Stallcup is the most genuine candidate for any position, bar none. I agreed with literally everything she said. Her ideas are radical, but I think they deserve a chance.

Student Life: Hilary Jahelka

Jahelka's experience and well-researched platform make her the easiest choice of this election.

The Great SU Presidential Debate

Presented by the Gauntlet

Mar. 2, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Cassio room

Livestreamed at facebook.com/UofCGauntlet

LOCAL MUSIC »

University of Calgary alumna premieres choir composition at Bella Concert Hall

Rachel Woodward
Entertainment Editor

While Yellowknife is known for inspiring lots of layers in order to keep warm, it also sparked some musical inspiration for one University of Calgary alumna.

Yellowknife-raised Carmen Braden received her Masters of Music in Composition in 2015 from the U of C. She will debut her piece, *The Ice Seasons*, on March 12 at Mount Royal University.

Braden says she incorporated the soundscape of her childhood into the piece.

"Growing up in Yellowknife didn't exactly give me the clearest career path towards music, but when I went away to school and was studying more about it, I began to see my home in a different way," she says. "There's a lot of support [in Calgary]. There's a vibrant artistic community that I'm very deeply engaged with. But also — like my piece is showing — it's a place that has a lot of richness and opportunity to explore creativity in a lot of different mediums. I just happened to sink into the music."



Braden's piece will highlight the soundscape of her childhood in Yellowknife.

The piece will be performed by the award-winning Calgary Spiritus Chamber Choir. Braden says working with the group has been a positive experience.

"I'm not nervous for the music because the people who are performing it are top notch," she says. "At this point, it's almost like I have to start letting go. It's a control thing — I have to start kind of letting go of being in con-

trol of the music. That role for me is done. I'll be there and I'll be able to give critical comments, but even during the piece I'm not going to be the one singing. So the amount of control I have during the actual piece is pretty minimal, which makes me nervous."

While this won't be the first time Braden's work is performed. But she says writing *The Ice Seasons* was unique because of the

support she has in Calgary.

"It felt like I had found a community that I had been seeking," she says. "This was the place where I really decided to go deep and was able to. I felt extremely supported by the [U of C], the School of Creative and Performing Arts, all of my teachers that I had there and then of course the students that I was in the graduate program with, as well as the

undergraduate program [where] I got to know who I was."

Earlier this year, Braden released her debut album, *Ravens*, in which she pays homage to her childhood landscape through vocal and instrumental arrangements. She hopes that the performance of *The Ice Seasons* will resonate with audiences.

"I hope [the audience is] transformed. There might be ideas or sounds in the piece that maybe they haven't heard before or that they have heard and resonate with them in a different way. It's important for me to contextualize this piece from where it was inspired from — my home around Yellowknife," she says. "For people who haven't been to this part of the world, I hope they're transported or I hope they get a glimpse into what my experiences were like. It may be a challenging listen for them."

The Spiritus Choir will perform *The Ice Seasons* on March 12 at the Bella Concert Hall at Mount Royal University at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are available online.

For more information, visit
spirituschamberchoir.ca

LOCAL THEATRE »

Gracie brings polygamy and doubt to Calgary stage

Gurman Sahota
Entertainment Assistant

Beginning with an eight-year-old living in the interior of British Columbia as a part of a polygamous sect, *Gracie* is the struggle between the desire to belong to a community and growing doubt.

The piece is a collaboration between the Belfry Theatre in Victoria and Calgary's Alberta Theatre Projects.

Lili Beaudoin — who plays the title character, alongside 14 other roles in the play — describes the depiction Gracie's home life as normal without tokenizing polygamy. She says the girl begins to question the idea of marrying a man she does not know.

"The life she grows up in is normalized to her," Beaudoin says. "When the idea of marriage gets put on her, it's a completely different thing — she has to deal with her own opinions and her own

feelings on whether or not she's ready."

Beaudoin says playing 15 roles is a challenge.

"One of the biggest challenges for me is learning how to keep every character's argument alive," Beaudoin says.

Director Vanessa Porteous played a pivotal role in casting Beaudoin from a national search for Gracie. Porteous says she knew Beaudoin was an actor that could bring a youthful quality to the role but also has the charisma to hold the stage on her own.

The Belfry Theatre commissioned Canadian playwright Joan MacLeod to write the piece. Porteous cites MacLeod's way of creating theatre as one of the driving forces to producing this and other previous works by the playwright.

"Joan's writing is very topical. It's always something that is really pertinent to our normal lives in Canada and also universally,"

Porteous says.

Gracie has received positive reviews for its performances in Victoria and Porteous hopes that will continue in Calgary. She feels the play will resonate with Calgary audiences by revealing how we impose values on each other and how we demand people to conform to these values.

"Everybody can remember what it's like to grow up — some of the wonderful parts of being a kid and some of the more difficult parts when the adult world starts to impose itself on your life," Porteous says. "Even if we're not growing up in a polygamous, religious community, we have that in common with Gracie."

Gracie will show from Feb. 28 — March 18 at 7:30 p.m. at the Martha Cohen Theatre at Arts Commons. Ticket prices vary and are available online.

For more information visit
ATPlive.com



The play is shown through Gracie's eyes. COURTESY ALBERTA THEATRE PROJECTS



COURTESY DAVID BRADFORD

David Bradford turns life changes into new music

Rachel Woodward
Entertainment Editor

For the past 10 years, musician David Bradford has called Calgary home. The indie-pop singer-songwriter released the three-track EP, *Cry in Your Sleep*, earlier this year after collaborating with guitarist Russell Broom. Bradford says that working with Broom was an important milestone in his music career.

"He's amazing. For about 15 years, he was Jann Arden's guitarist and co-songwriter. But now he [is] kind of a jack of all trades. He's a bit of a powerhouse, to be honest," Bradford says. "The guy's definitely got a lot of accolades under his belt."

Bradford says the EP reflects his time making music in Calgary. When he moved here from the United States, he was unable to work. He says that gave him the opportunity to get back into songwriting.

"[Calgary's] not really on the map obviously as far as the music scene and the industry [go], but there's actually still quite a bit of life in Calgary and I think the cool thing about it is that it's not inundated with a lot of musicians," he says. "Once I left [my] rela-

tionship, music blossomed again for me and I started writing like crazy — I started playing a lot and I started getting more gigs. Eventually I got to the point where last year I was like 'Okay, let's go for this full time!'"

Bradford set up a GoFundMe account to raise funds to produce a full-length album. He hopes to raise \$20,000 to put towards a new release. He also hopes to branch out into different creative productions in the future.

"I want to dip my hand into pretty much everything — the bare bones, though, will always be songwriting. I'd love to get to the point where I'm writing for a lot of artists as well as myself," he says. "I'd [also] like to expand into things like voiceover work — so acting — [and] basically everything to do with the entertainment industry. I also do a bunch of comedic songs too, so I would love to get into doing some writing for that stuff too which is a lot of fun. I write everything."

Bradford's EP is available on iTunes and Spotify. Information about his upcoming gigs can be found on his Facebook page.

For more information visit dgrahambradford.wixsite.com/website

Crime Does Not Pay makes a musical out of comics

Gurman Sahota
Entertainment Assistant

How do you take violent comics and the tragic life of their creator and turn it into a musical? David Rhymer and Kris Demeanor's play, *Crime Does Not Pay*, will bring that story to the Calgary stage.

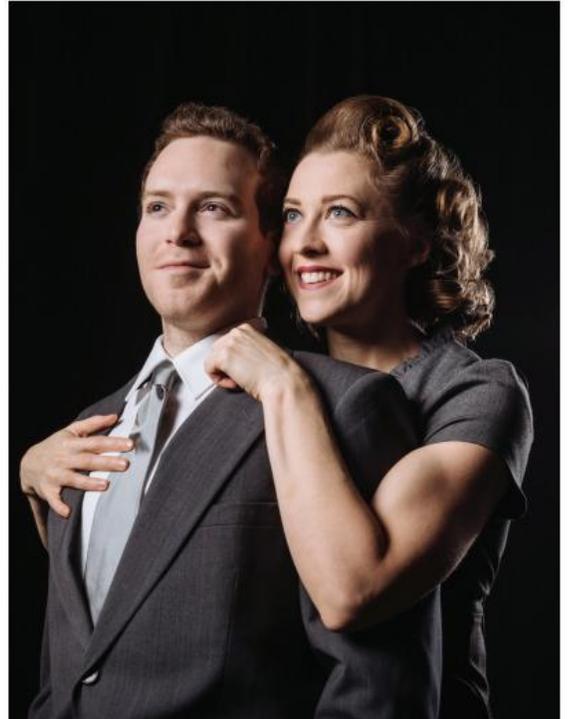
Co-produced by Downstage Theatre and Forté Musical Theatre, the show follows the life of Bob Wood, the creator of the *Crime Does Not Pay* comics, as his comics become famous. Wood struck fame and fortune for displaying graphic violence and sexuality in a post-World War II era. However, a new set of rules censoring comics emerged, rendering *Crime Does Not Pay* with waning interest and very little money for Wood. This resulted in a 11-day drunken tryst the creator goes on with his fiancée Violet, who meets a violent end when Wood hits her over the head with an iron.

Director Simon Mallett says Wood's biography influenced the musical. The murder raises questions about whether exposure to violent imagery can make someone violent.

"[The musical revolves around] when violence is rooted and what sort of circumstances bring about the violence," Mallett says.

The cast will also play the musical accompaniment, which Mallett says adds to the character of the show. He says the show also incorporates illustrations to create a machine-like quality while many pieces move together.

"There are a lot of moving pieces to arrange and then we've got all these original illustrations that Calgary-based comic book artist Tyler Jenkins has created for us, that really creates the visual world of the show," Mallett says. "The attempt through both set as well as costume is always to bring



COURTESY TIM NGUYEN

The play is an investigation of violence and media. [the] comic book to life on stage."

Mallett says the production is a fun show with a foil of dark material. He hopes audiences have a good time and also engage in meaningful conversation with each other about the show.

"The power of theatre is that you have people gathering in a shared environment and that creates an opportunity to engage them in a meaningful experience and potentially have a conversation with people who you might not encounter otherwise," Mallett says.

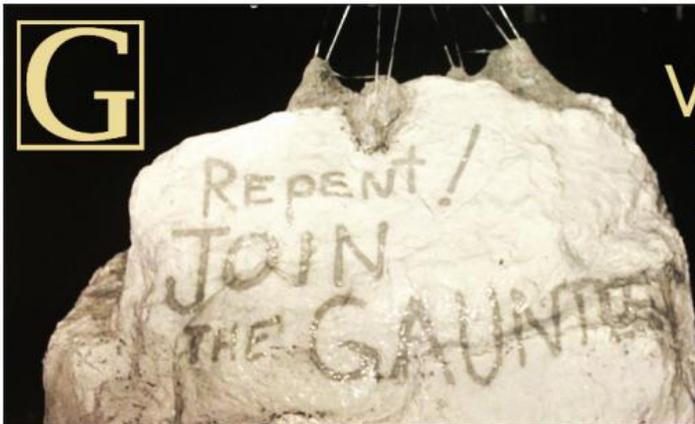
The company will facilitate post-performance discussions in order to encourage conversation and engage with the audience.

"The hope is always the shows

that we produce present the work in a way that allows for honest judgement of your own values against what is it you're seeing," Mallett says. "It's not about presenting a firm answer about one side or another but really to sort of provoke and open the door to conversation."

Crime Does Not Pay will run from March 2-5 and March 7-11 at the Arts Commons Engineered Air Theatre. Tickets are available online and over the phone. There will be a limited supply of free tickets available an hour before showtime in exchange for completing a survey.

For more information visit downstage.ca



Volunteer orientations Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. 319 MacHall Come work with us!

NEW MUSIC »



Rag'n'Bone Man
Human

February 10, 2017 (Columbia)

British singer-songwriter Rory Graham — known by his stage name Rag'n'Bone Man — returns to the music scene with *Human*,

a soulful collection of tracks that place Graham on the map as a lyrical genius. The 19-track album is an adventure that will surely get your blood pumping and your feelings floating to the surface.

Opening track "Human" immediately immerses listeners in heavy lyrics with a familiar and comforting voice. The track hits deep with powerhouse vocals that demonstrate Graham's range and songwriting abilities.

Human picks up in mood with second track "Innocent Man," which carries a more upbeat melody. The track never fails to elevate Graham's voice above

trumpet hooks and vibratos that feel more like cliffhangers than chorus-enders.

"Bitter End" gives listeners a taste of classic blues, as the album takes another dark turn into melancholic reflection for Graham.

The following track, "Be the Man," brings the album's spirit up while pushing a catchy melody back into the mix. At this point in the listen, Graham has created a rollercoaster of emotions, presenting upbeat notes just as your heart breaks from strong, emotional lyrics and vocals. Graham's raspy and intense voice feels unexpected, but totally welcome.

There is a bit of a lull in the

middle of the album as some slower songs settle into the halfway point. Songs can easily begin to weave together, as the album's length begins to take a toll on the listening experience. Songs don't fall through — they just seem transitional.

Tracks like "Die Easy" move the long album along, but Graham works to allow each track to feel special on its own. The song begins with an acapella verse that brings the album to a heartfelt pause. Graham keeps each song distinct in sound while carrying a story of a relationship's ups and downs throughout.

"Wolves" picks the album up again

with a funky and fun melody that is easy to get into. This track might have the angriest lyrics of the album, but they are warranted, as they perfectly encapsulate Graham's vocal strength and power. Not only does the track bring the energy back as the album begins to wrap up, but it establishes itself as a track worthy of a single.

Though the album is incredibly long, it leaves you asking for more. Final track "Healed" seems to be the kind of track you could listen to as you walk away from a heartbroken moment, but still feels like a perfect ending to a fantastic album.

Rachel Woodward

DATE NIGHT »

Spring into dating with maple syrup and '90s trivia

Nikayla Goddard
Gauntlet Entertainment

Want a date as sweet as your lover? Take them to the Maple Festival des Sucres on the weekend of March 4.

Heritage Park will host live performances, markets full of sweets, hay rides, magic and circus workshops

and more for you and your sugar to check out. Celebrating French-Canadian culture, history and traditions, the two-day event is filled with everything maple and Canadian. Don't miss the opening ceremony on March 4 at 9:15 a.m. The park is open until 5:00 p.m. both days.

The Kinkonauts' One Lions will take you and your date on an imagi-

native journey worthy of a wild bedtime story. *Like Father Like Son* takes place on March 4 from 8:00 – 9:30 p.m. and you can experience an improvised play created by audience suggestions that explores "the metaphorical and metaphysical spaces that exist in all relationships" for just \$10 at the LAB.

Aching for spring to arrive? Get

a taste of warmer weather at the All Things Spring juried art show hosted by the Federation of Canadian Artists on March 4 at the Edgemont Community Centre. Over 200 pieces of artwork inspired by spring will be on display for art lovers to check out for free, from 10:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

If you're looking to impress your date with your mad retro knowledge,

look no further than the '80s and '90s Music Trivia Night at the Ranchlands Community Association. For \$20, tickets include a night of friendly competition from 8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. There will be lots of cocktails to boost your memory skills and give you a better chance of winning all of the great prizes they have to offer. Get your groove on!

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www.csrst.com

CAMPUS STYLE »



JUSTIN QUAINANCE

We're digging this *Mad Max*-meets-minimalism aesthetic on fifth-year law and society major Jen Tokerak. Jen says she wanted an outfit that blends comfort and style — and with the play of black and tan in her look, she definitely pulls it off. A cozy Club Monaco turtleneck is paired with monochrome black leggings and Gravity Pope shoes. An oversized tan Oak + Fort duster adds a lengthy silhouette to the all-black ensemble. But by far the boldest part of this outfit is Tokerak's shaved head — which draws attention as a look all on its own. Aviator specs and a neutral backpack keep this outfit scholarly. But minus the bag and glasses, it's also versatile enough for the runway.

Emilie Medland-Marchen

Upcoming Games

Women's Volleyball vs. UBCO

March 3-4



The Dinos women's volleyball team will play the University of British Columbia Okanagan Heat in a best of three series. After the first two games, play will extend to a match on March 5 if necessary. Calgary is one spot ahead of UBCO in the Canada West standings. The game kicks off at 6:00 p.m. on March 3.

Calgary is one spot ahead of UBCO in the Canada West standings. The game kicks off at 6:00 p.m. on March 3.

Men's Basketball vs. Manitoba

March 3



The Dinos secured a quick and easy win over the University of Manitoba Bisons last year in the Canada West quarterfinals. This year, the Dinos are five spots ahead of Manitoba in the Canada West regular season standings. A win in this game would put Calgary in the Canada West finals for the second time in as many years. The game kicks off on March 3 at 8:00 p.m.

The game kicks off on March 3 at 8:00 p.m.

U Sports Top 8

Women's Volleyball

School	POINTS	LAST 10
Toronto	57.5	19-1
UBC	54.5	20-4
Alberta	53	22-2
TWU	51	21-3
Calgary	42	18-6
Montreal	39	15-5
Dalhousie	37.5	19-1
McMaster	31.5	16-3

Men's Basketball

School	Points	Record
Carleton	470	1-0
Ryerson	420	1-0
Ottawa	371	1-0
Brook	310	1-0
Calgary	271	2-0
McGill	201	0-0
UBC	183	0-2
Alberta	126	2-1

DINOS »



COURTESY BEN NELMS (FAR LEFT), LOUIE VILLANUEVA (LEFT), DAVID MOLL (RIGHT) AND EMILIE MEDLAND-MARCHEN (FAR RIGHT)

Four Dinos teams earn spots in the Canada West playoffs

Emilie Medland-Marchen
Sports Editor

Now that the winter semester is almost over, many Dinos teams have entered the playoff season. The Dinos sent four varsity teams to the Canada West quarterfinals this year — men's basketball, women's basketball, women's volleyball and men's hockey.

Although championship hopes were quickly dashed for the men's hockey and women's basketball teams, the Dinos women's volleyball and men's basketball teams are still knocking on the door of the U Sports Championships. The *Gauntlet* reviewed the playoff season for these four teams and put together our recommendations of upcoming games you won't want to miss.

Women's volleyball:

The women's volleyball team is the underdog of the athletics department this year, earning an impressive 18-6 regular season record — a significant improvement over their 2015-16 14-20 record. The key to the team's success has been consistency — they began the season with a seven-game win streak that was broken only by last year's Canada West champions, the Trinity Western University Spartans. The Dinos were guaranteed home-court advantage in the Canada West quarterfinals after double 3-0 wins

over the University of Regina Cougars in two games on Feb. 17 and 18.

The Dinos dropped their last two games of the regular season to the first-ranked conference powerhouse University of Alberta Pandas in back-to-back 0-3 games on Feb. 24 and 25.

The Dinos will have a chance to redeem themselves in the Canada West quarterfinals, where they'll square off against last year's CIS bronze medalists, the University of British Columbia Okanagan Heat. The best-of-three series starts on March 3 and will take place in the Jack Simpson Gym.

Men's basketball:

The Dinos men's basketball team had a lot on their shoulders this season, with hopes of repeating last year's success and earning another deep playoff run. The team had a 16-4 regular season record, placing them second in the Canada West behind the nearly perfect 19-1 University of British Columbia Thunderbirds. Calgary recently won the Canada West quarterfinals in two narrow wins over the Thompson River University WolfPack on Feb. 24 and 25.

Last season, guard Thomas Cooper was the Canada West regular season offensive leader, earning an average 25.8 points per game. His strength helped push the team to a Canada West championship — and later in the season, a spot in the CIS finals, where the Dinos posted

a second-place national finish behind the University Carleton Ravens. The first game of this year's Canada West quarterfinals will be a repeat of the 2015-16 season, where the Dinos faced off against the University of Manitoba Bisons. After pulling a dominant 100-74 win over the rival Bisons last year, the Dinos hope to repeat history in this season's matchup. Calgary will take on the Manitoba Bisons on March 3 at 8:00 p.m. in the Jack Simpson Gym.

Women's basketball:

The Dinos women's basketball team finished lower than they'd like in the Canada West standings this season — but that was no reason to count them out of the playoffs. After being shut out in the Canada West playoffs last year by the University of Regina Cougars, the Dinos were out for blood this season. An 11-9 Canada West regular season record earned them a spot against the University of Fraser Valley Cascades in the Canada West quarterfinals.

After coming out strong in the first game on Feb. 17 with a 67-48 victory, the Dinos couldn't capitalize on their early success in the best-of-three series. The Cascades put the nail in the coffin of the Dinos' season on Feb. 19, forcing a tight 69-60 win. The Cascades moved on to the Canada West Final Four, while the Dinos' 2016-17 season came to an end.

Men's hockey:

After a stellar 5-4 double-overtime win against the University of Mount Royal Cougars in the Crowchild Classic on Feb. 2 and a triple-overtime clutch win over the UBC Thunderbirds on Feb. 17, the Dinos ran out of gas for the second half of the Canada West playoffs. The team faced off against the U of A Golden Bears on Feb. 24 and 25 in Edmonton — but despite their hard work, the Dinos were one goal short of making the Canada West quarterfinals in both games.

The Dinos had trouble remaining consistent over the course of the year, posting an 18-9-1 record in the regular season. In most games, slow starts in the first period gave the team a lot to make up for in later moments. A considerable amount of overtime play tired out the team for the late season, where they had trouble staving off the No. 6 Golden Bears.

Although dreams of the Canada West championships are over for the Dinos men's hockey and women's basketball teams, women's volleyball and men's basketball will play on home turf in the Canada West Final Four. Unlike the regular season, entrance to playoff games comes at a small price for students — but with the strength of both teams at their peak, it will definitely be worth the ticket. Tickets can be purchased at the door of all Dinos playoff games.

DINOS BASKETBALL »

Dinos men's basketball headed to Final Four

Tommy Osborne
Sports Assistant

On Feb. 23, the University of Calgary Dinos men's basketball team defeated the Thompson Rivers University WolfPack 75-71 in a hard fought nailbiter. The Dinos struck first in the best of three series of the first round of the Canada West playoffs. They carried that momentum forward in the following game to take a 76-68 victory over TRU and advance to the Canada West Final Four.

The Dinos started out on a 16-point run to build a commanding 23-12 lead by the end of the first quarter. Fifth-year guard Thomas Cooper was unstoppable in the first, scoring 12 of the Dinos' 23 points. The good times kept rolling for the Dinos in the second quarter, as they continued to limit TRU's offence. The Dinos ended the first half in style, with three steals that led to fast-break layups and dunks within the final minute of the quarter. With an electric offence and stifling defence, the Dinos looked poised to continue their dominance in the second half.

But TRU had other plans. The WolfPack started the third quarter with a bang, going on an 18-point run fueled by smart passing and some Dinos defensive lapses. The WolfPack brought the score to a narrow 47-46. But despite the WolfPack's tenacity, third-year guard David Kapinga preserved the Dinos lead with an

impressive twisting layup. When the WolfPack brought it back to a one-point game again with a score of 52-51, Kapinga sunk a clutch three-point shot to prevent the WolfPack from taking the advantage. Overall, the Dinos were outscored 24-9 in the third quarter.

When faced with adversity, the Dinos responded. Heading into the fourth quarter with only a four-point advantage — compared to the 19-point advantage they had heading into the third — the whole team stepped up to keep the WolfPack at bay and win the game 75-71. Kapinga credited the Dinos' experience in tight play-off situations for their ability to rebound from a disastrous third quarter.

"I think it's just experience. We went pretty far last year, we battled a lot and we had a lot of games where we had to battle," he said. "It's just about knowing, experience, pushing and just staying consistent."

Kapinga was clutch for the Dinos in the fourth quarter, scoring 12 of the Dinos' 23 points to secure the victory. He also added much needed tenacity on defence that prevented the WolfPack from taking the lead. Kapinga credited his fourth-quarter heroics to the team and head coach Dan Vanhooren.

"I think in the first half I was getting the same looks as in the second half, it was just that they weren't falling in the first half, so coach kept telling me 'Next one's going in,'" he said. "Confidence



Thomas Cooper (#2) has been a major offensive force for the Dinos this year.

in my mind." Justin Quaintance

in game two, the Dinos started strong with an early 16-8 lead half-way through the first quarter, but TRU rebounded quickly, outscoring the Dinos by the end of the first. With the WolfPack leading into the second, the Dinos had a lot to make up for late in the game.

An impressive run in the final stretch of the series gave the Dinos a one-point lead of 67-66 midway through the third quarter. Three free throws by Mitch Ligertwood

and a layup from Jhony Verrone made the game 74-68 with less than a minute left in the fourth quarter. Cooper polished off the game with two more free throws, ultimately giving the Dinos an eight-point win.

With the Dinos taking both games against the WolfPack, they'll prepare to host the Canada West Final Four against the University of Manitoba Bisons on March 3 at 8:00 p.m. in the Jack Simpson Gymnasium.

DINOS BASKETBALL »

Three players shine for Dinos in game against TRU WolfPack

Tommy Osborne
Sports Assistant

On Feb. 23 and 24, the University of Calgary Dinos won back-to-back games over the Thompson Rivers University WolfPack in a best-of-three series. With the series sweep, the Dinos move on to the Canada West Final Four and are now one step closer to reaching the U Sports playoffs. The Dinos' victory was a solid team effort all around, but three players really stood out when lifting the team to victory.

#0 David Kapinga, third-year guard:

Kapinga carried the team on his back when the Dinos needed it the most. After squandering a 19-point lead in the third quarter, the Dinos let the WolfPack cut the lead on three separate occasions.

In the late game, Kapinga nailed an impressive layup and



Kapinga (left), Cooper (middle) and Veronne's (right) talents were on display. COURTESY DAVID MOLL



#2 Thomas Cooper, fifth-year guard:

Cooper started the game off with a bang, scoring 12 points in the first quarter and 19 by the end of the first half. His contributions gave the Dinos a significant 19-point lead heading into the second half — not sur-



#8 Jhony Verrone, fourth-year guard:

Verrone was a force to be reckoned with on defence. With his ability to completely neutralize his man, the WolfPack had a hard time scoring points with Verrone on the court. His ability to disrupt passing lanes and prevent the WolfPack from taking easy shots was huge. Like Kapinga, Verrone stepped up his game when it mattered the most in the fourth quarter. He had two steals for Dinos points in the fourth quarter while also adding five points, two rebounds and two assists. Overall, he finished the game with 11 points, four steals, four rebounds and four assists.

After winning both games against TRU on Feb. 23 and 24, the Dinos men's basketball team will now move on to the Canada West final four. With these star players on their roster, expect the Dinos to put up a strong effort against the Bisons on March 3.

Waking up earlier has many health benefits

Christie Melhorn
Volunteer Coordinator

During the majority of my undergraduate degree, I was the student who stayed up until 3:00 a.m. pounding through readings, snacking on whatever was available and tumbling out of bed in a disheveled heap to sprint to class. But in the last semester of my degree, I'm now the student who rises before the sun without moaning and groaning.

There is something peaceful about waking up with the rest of the world. While I was on a study abroad trip in Trinidad and Tobago, an anthropologist told our group that waking up early in the morning and taking a moment to acknowledge your natural surroundings is one of the kindest practices you can do for yourself — it reminds you that the world is in constant transition and you are a part of a larger whole.

While not all of us struggle in the morning, this type of wisdom can be easily buried by the hustle and bustle of student life. Even the temporary routine of staying up late, drinking another coffee and maybe sleeping in the next morning after submitting your paper messes with your internal clock and your head. Now that we're back from reading week, this is a great

chance to adjust your schedule and reap the benefits of waking up earlier.

Improved sleep:

Before developing a consistent sleep schedule, I forgot what a good sleep was. Going to bed or crashing for a nap at all hours of the day left me in a constant brain fog. Four hours of sleep was considered a decent rest. A stunted sleep schedule hinders your decision-making skills, weakens your immune system and increases cravings for sugar and caffeine. Collectively, these consequences are not only rough on your body but can damage your academic performance.

Forbes magazine explains that going to bed and waking up earlier helps your body sync with your circadian rhythm — your internal biological clock that structures when you feel most alert or sleepy throughout the day. While not everyone's circadian rhythm is the same, when in closer alignment with the sunrise and sunset, we secure a deeper sleep that leaves us feeling more present and content.

Time to work out:

Starting your day with an early workout boosts your mood and your metabolism. The endorphin pump from a run or weight-lifting ses-

sion leaves you feeling positive and optimistic. This comes in handy when you're frustrated by a suffocating workload. As an added bonus, bodybuilding.com explains that working out earlier cranks up your calorie burn throughout the day, keeping your body engaged and meriting an extra snack break while studying — just try to snack on something nutritious, like a handful of nuts or a banana.

Boosted grades:

The relationship between better sleep and higher grades is obvious. An alert mind and stable emotional state enhances our ability to listen, retain and explore new information. Coupled with exercise, greater sleep can solidify your focus and help you develop improved retentive and introspective skills. According to the American Sleep Foundation, strong sleep habits help us effectively memorize material and also help us to bridge and synthesize knowledge learned in different platforms. This fosters originality and creativity, which can not only translate into higher grades, but a higher sense of personal fulfillment.

More free time:

Beginning your day earlier means you have more time later in the day



An early morning workout can boost metabolism. COURTESY UNSPLASH
for recreation. Being a student means free time is in short supply. However, by developing a consistent early sleep schedule, your mind can work more effectively in the minimal time that you have. Ideally, the more efficiently you can study or get through assignments, the more time you can spend catching up on your favourite show or grabbing a bite with a friend. Having the time to sit and enjoy this time without a million things looming over you allows you to be more present in those moments, enriching your relationships with others and even yourself.

Once in awhile, we have to endure a night of frantic typing and endless double-doubles clouded by a sense of impending doom. I would not be so committed to or grateful for my new schedule had I not experienced a slew of traumatic all-nighters as a student. While it is impossible to adhere to a strict schedule every day, waking up earlier has offered me greater peace of mind and improved my academic performance.

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POSTER PROBLEMS »

Family of bears sues SU after forest home demolished to print campaign posters

Derek Baker
This is un-bear-able

As the 2017 Students' Union general election begins, any exposed surface on campus is once again plastered with candidates' posters from floor to ceiling.

However, one family of bears is feeling the negative effects of this year's election season.

"We woke up one morning to find all the trees were gone. All that was left were a few stumps," mother bear Gertrude Grizzly said. "I asked a lumberjack where it all went and he said it was going to some school in Calgary where the students pretend to be a government."

Feeling they had no other option, the Grizzleys are now taking the SU to court to recover damages.

Though the large number of posters during SU election season frequently draws the ire of students, this year appears to be especially excessive. In total, 600,000 hectares of forest were harvested in order to supply enough paper for every poster.

"Yeah, there are rules in place that limit the number of posters we're allowed to hang up, but they're more like suggestions. No one really enforces them," third-year Faculty of Arts representative Vera Vox said while preparing to print 2,000 copies of her poster. "Like, no one is actually going to go around and count each candidate's posters, so we just see how long the ink cartridges last."



Over 600,000 hectares of forest were clearcut to make enough paper for candidates' posters.

"Apparently, there isn't any sea ice to hunt on and they're all dropping like flies up there. So, that's great," Grizzly said. "We lost so many trees that less carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere, contributing to global warming. But I mean, just do whatever it takes to be elected faculty rep, am I right?"

Fearing a class-action lawsuit from the entire collective of Canadian bears, the SU has set aside a \$850,000 poster defence fund. The SU is determined that they can win any case that could be brought forward, because they



feel any judge will obviously take their word that they're in the right. Many candidates are still convinced that the only way to win a position on the SU is to have the most posters. Second-year Faculty of Science representative candidate Nate Newsbury felt that his campaign posters will have a positive impact on the world.

"My campaign centres around the theme of 'sustainability.' How will people know how sustainable I am without telling them on all these posters?" Newsbury said while taping his 700th poster to

a pillar. "If I'm elected as a science rep, I think it's really important to pursue sustainable goals to sustain the sustainability on campus."

Newsbury then noticed that his poster was crooked. He tried taking it off the wall, but the tape ripped the paper, forcing Newsbury to throw it in the garbage and try again with a new one.

Whether Grizzly wins her case or not, she says she will still remain optimistic of any outcome. "I'm a friggish bear. I'll just eat their faces off next time I see them. It's really a win-win."

MEME CRITIQUES »

Trash Dove meme doesn't reflect millennials' struggle

Joie Atejira
Meme-ologist

The 2017 meme calendar continues to update, with Salt Bae claiming top spot for the month of January. Smart Guy Pointing at His Head and Blinking White Guy were considered February front-runners, but there is another meme competing for the top spot this month, destabilizing the meme scale — the Trash Dove.

Starting out as a lowly Facebook sticker, the Trash Dove earned its individual identity and appeal to shitposters abroad as something to stimulate lolz, with the GIF version where it violently thrashes its body up and down. Its newfound popularity has surpassed its adorable status as a conversational sticker. It has surpassed the Guy She Tells You Not to Worry About and even may

replace "Cash Me Ousside" girl.

In terms of artistic quality, the Trash Dove is a decent drawing. The choice of purple livens up the pigeon's figure and shows good birds-of-colour representation. The animation style is subtle and creates a sense of longing in the viewer.

The most striking feature is the large, ever-staring yellow eye. The size is definitely not vicious or threatening. Instead, it inspires you to open your mind's eye and look deep into your soul. Truly, Trash Dove is worthy of being placed in New York's Museum of Modern Art. But if you've seen what else's in the MOMA, that's not necessarily a compliment.

The most important criteria for any image to become a modern meme masterpiece is its relatability, more than its versatility to be fused into any photo, video or phrase. Surely, an animation of a pigeon can be easily inserted into

a GIF of Donald Trump's signed legislation or be integrated into an alt-right group's symbol. But a meme's quality lies on how it connects to its viewer on an emotional or spiritual level. How can this pigeon be #relatable? Indeed, Salt Bae's smooth sprinkling resonates when one showers a text with emojis and Blinking White Guy becomes all of us when we are asked to define what "cells" are. But the one-dimensional bird caricature cannot — and will never be able to — reflect a millennial's struggle.

In conclusion, the Trash Dove deserves a spot in the trash where it came from and not alongside the greats of the meme calendar. It's no surprise that this stupid bird came to life on Facebook, where people still laugh at six-month-old memes. Now stop sending me messages with this garbage sticker.



Look deep into Trash Dove's yellow eye.

COURTESY SYD WEILER

CROSSWORD »

Feline
Crossword
By: Derek Baker

ACROSS:

- 2. Located in eastern Asia, many species of this big cat genus are critically endangered.
- 4. Also known as the dwarf leopard, this wild cat is found across Central and South America.
- 7. Stuck in a feud between basement cat and ceiling cat, this vintage meme website featured lolcats.
- 9. In *Lady and the Tramp*, a pair of this cat breed torment Lady during their eponymous song.
- 11. A breed of hairless cat.
- 12. Located in the Himalayas, this big cat species uses its long tail to maintain balance when leaping from rock to rock.
- 14. This cat has a splotchy coat.
- 17. A cat uses this part of their body to tell if their head will fit through an opening and not get stuck.
- 18. A vintage 2011 meme featured this pop tart-bodied cat flying through space.
- 19. Produced by relaxing the cat's vocal cords, this soothing hum means your cat is happy and relaxed.

DOWN:

- 1. This hypoallergenic breed is one of the largest breeds of domestic cat.
- 3. Despite its colourful name, this cat, originating from the city of Arkhangelsk, has beautiful grey fur.
- 5. Is that a reptile? No! This cat has soft black and brown fur.
- 6. This cat's creamy white fur comes in a long- and short-haired version.
- 8. "____!" said the cat.
- 10. This adorable cat breed was bred to have exceptionally short legs.
- 13. This cat breed is regarded for its flexibility.
- 14. Give some cats a whiff of this plant and watch them go crazy.
- 15. A genetic mutation in the American ____'s ears give this breed its name.
- 16. This domestic breed was bred with spots to resemble wild cat species.

LAST WEEK'S
CROSSWORD »

Congratulations to Amal, Kristine and Sophia for being the first to complete last week's crossword.

Pollmaster - Fernando Moreno

With reported sightings from the far reaches of the world, do you believe in the mythical Yeti?

Yes also gremlins, trolls and Astrology... OK not Astrology.

No - They are fiction like the the Tooth Fairy or Orville Redenbacher.

Maybe - I think I dated one. What? It was dark and prom was coming up.

Filbert Cartoons - L. A. Bonte

LOOKING FOR AN APARTMENT IS HOPELESS! I CAN'T AFFORD ANY OF THEM!

HMM... WELL HERE'S SOMETHING ALMOST IN YOUR PRICE RANGE... AND IT HAS... A WALK-IN-CLOSET?

OH! IT IS A WALK-IN-CLOSET!

IT'S PERFECT!

