

# MAGAZINE

Vol 11 Issue 30 July 23, 2003

# NO MORE RULES

Tuition deregulation means all bets are off for tuition increases

### Family Bonds What's normal?

Internet Addiction Physiological causes

# Graduate profiles...

Plus: Canadian FedWatch!, Flicks & Folios, Dear Sandra, and news, announcements and opportunities from your university and beyond.

# THE VOICE

#### Jul 23, 2003

### Volume 11, Issue 30

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Council of Alberta University Students

Athabasca • Calgary • Alberta • Lethbridge

CAUS represents university students across Alberta. Visit the CAUS and the Tuition CAUSE websites to learn more about what CAUS is doing to keep Alberta tuitions affordable.

CAUS: http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/caus/alpha/ Tuition Cause: http://tc.su.ualberta.ca/

Wayne E. Benedict Shahzadi Bhatti Teresa Neuman Debbie Jabbour

> Laura Seymour Karl Low

Tamra Ross Low

The Insider



# We love to hear from you! Send your letters to <u>voice@ausu.org</u>, and please indicate if we may publish your letter in the Voice.

#### Dear Voice,

I would like to publicly thank the AUSU for the gift pack sent out to students in the recent months.

The package was so fun to receive in the mail! Lots of little goodies and useful things! It was a great pick-me-up in the midst of finals and assignments.

#### Lee-Anne Akister



### THE VOICE

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Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low

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### **EDITORIAL PAGES**

#### THIS WEEK

#### NO MORE RULES - THE IMPACT OF TUITION DEREGULATION by Sandra Moore

Alberta's bill 43 may mean the end of tuition regulations for students at AU. There are many opinions on how this will affect AU students. This week, read Sandra's views on the issue, and then send us your comments for the next Sounding Off column.

#### FAMILY BONDS by Wayne E. Benedict

How much time do you spend with your adult siblings, parent, and other relatives? Do you think it's normal to drift apart, or are your family ties still integral to your lifestyle...

#### **REALITY SHOWS ARE WORTH A SECOND LOOK** by Teresa Neuman

Teresa wonders what reality television would look like if they depicted real families...

### Athabasca University in the news

AU Professor John Baggaley spoke recently with Toronto's Globe and Mail about distance learning technology in the article E-Learning Coming of Age. Read the whole story here: <u>http://www.globetechnology.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20030710.welearn0710/BNStory/Technology/</u>

### **Coming Soon**

The Voice will soon announce a writing contest for all AU students. The prize will be substantial, and we're looking forward to lot of great submissions. Watch this space for details to come soon.

### **Fiction Wanted**

The Voice fiction feature has become popular, but submissions have been slow. Send us your best fiction today, and it might become our next feature.

### **Attention Budding Writers**

The Voice needs some new voices. We know you have plenty to say, so why not get paid for it. Send us a writing sample or article for submission and you might be published in an upcoming issue. It's fun, it's easy, and it pays. Contact <u>voice@ausu.org</u> for more details.



### NO MORE RULES – THE IMPACT OF TUTION DEREGULATION By Sandra Moore



When gas prices and insurance costs increase consumers vehemently demand regulations from the government. Why? Because the government is capable of influencing these companies to keep prices relatively affordable. This is the reason why many post secondary institutions like AU fall under government legislation that imposes strict regulations against tuition increases.

Currently AU is looking to be removed from the tuition policy in the province of Alberta. Under government legislation, AU needs to present increases to tuition to the stakeholders (students and the public) and the Alberta Government. If the increases cannot be justified or the proposed percentage of increase is too high (max. of \$267 per full load equivalent per year), tuition

does not increase. However, if tuition is deregulated at AU this safety measure will be removed. There will be no more strict regulations and consultation with stakeholders will not be mandatory. In layman's terms this translates into the possibility of sudden and dramatic increases in tuition for every AU student. It could also translate further into the creation of a post-secondary education obtainable only by those who are able to afford it. Translate it further into a hell of a lot of business and law graduates and few social services graduates. Students will be forced to go into high-income careers just to pay off their student loans.

The question is, why does AU want to be removed from the tuition policy in Alberta? The answer lies in one word: expansion. Unlike most traditional universities, AU's funding comes mainly from what we pay for tuition, which works out to approximately 70%. The remaining 30% comes from other sources such as government funding and alumni donations. Traditional universities are able to rely on generous alumni and corporate donations, as well as endowments that compose a large percentage of their funding, AU cannot. So, in order to expand and compete with other universities in luring students onto their virtual campus, AU needs money.

Alumni and corporate donations are low, government funding is low, so where will the money come from to expand? Our pockets. Tuition accounts for the majority of AU's funding, but right now under the tuition policy they can only raise it as high as the government allows. Once removed from the tuition policy, if their campaign is successful, they will have fewer restrictions and raising tuition will not be the arduous process it once was, which in turn will direct less attention on obtaining other revenue sources.

Instead of concentrating on expansion, shouldn't AU be concentrating on educating the students they presently have? Instead of lobbying the Alberta government to remove AU from the tuition policy, shouldn't their efforts be concentrated on lobbying the other provincial and territorial governments across Canada for funding or even the feds for that matter, since AU is **CANADA'S** Open Learning University?

As students we are consumers of education and we have the right to demand that AU remain under the tuition policy to ensure that each and every one of us will be able to afford to complete our degrees. We also need AU to remain under the tuition policy to avoid encouraging other universities and governments to look toward tuition deregulation, which could possibly prohibit our children from attending university. Voice your comments and concerns on this issue on the student discussion forums <u>www.ausu.org</u>, accessible under "Message Forums" on the top menu bar.

#### **KEEP EDUCATION AFFORDABLE FOR ALL!**

Let us know what you think. Send your comments on this issue to <u>voice@ausu.org</u> for the next Sounding Off column.

### **AUSU THIS MONTH**



### **CHAT WITH AUSU ONLINE**

Apologies to those students who tried to attend the Sunday, July 20th chat time. AUSU was experiencing server problems and the councillors were unable to get into the chat room.

If you have a question for AUSU, or would like to get to know your council, drop by the chat-room [accessible through the 'Message Forums' option on the AUSU home page <u>www.ausu.org</u>. You will need an AUSU web site account.] during one of our chat times and talk live with AUSU council members or your Voice editor. **All times are MST** 

Wednesday, July 23	9:00 AM	Sandra
Monday, July 28	10:00 AM	Councillor Shirley
Thursday, July 31	4:00 PM	Shirley
Friday, August 1	7:00 PM	Councillor Karl
Saturday, August 2	2:00 PM	Voice Editor Tamra
Tuesday, August 5	2:00 PM	Karl

More chat times to be posted soon...

#### NEW FEATURED TUTOR ON THE AUSU WEB SITE

Nanci Langford

History and Women's Studies

Nanci Langford is a tutor in History and Women's Studies, currently teaching the six courses that make up the core requirements for a degree in Women's Studies. For the next year, until August 2004 she is also an acting coordinator of Women's Studies. Nanci began her career with Athabasca in 1992...

Read more at: <u>http://www.ausu.org/tutor/index.php</u>

#### AUSU COMMITTEES SEEK MEMBERS



AUSU Committees are looking for student members who can volunteer just a few hours a month to answer email or attend teleconferences. Anyone who wants to become involved with AUSU Student Council can gain great experience and insight through committee work.

**The External Committee**, chaired by Shirley Barg, needs representatives from Atlantic Canada, Saskatchewan, and Northern Canada. Contact Shirley at <u>sbarg@ausu.org</u> if you would like to get involved, and help improve services to AU students in your area.

**The Academic Committee** is back up and running under chair Tamra Ross Low. We will be working on ways to help assess student satisfaction with AU's academic services, and need student input into how we should collect data, and what questions we should be asking. Contact Tamra at <u>trosslow@ausu.org</u> for more information.

### FAMILY BONDS *Wayne E. Benedict*



I consider myself to be rather analytical and I've always found it intriguing that some people maintain extremely close family ties throughout their lives. Personally, I have been somewhat emotionally distant from my extended family for as long as I can remember—practically to the point of reclusiveness. My sisters and I keep in touch twice or thrice per year, my mother and me once per month, and my father and me once per week. I meet up with the more extended family relations on an *ad hoc* basis only, running into each other whenever chance provides the opportunity.

I live in a city of 75,000 people which contains at least a dozen of

my aunts and uncles, and at least twice that many cousins; but I almost never interact with any of them. It's not that there is any kind of enmity at all; to the contrary, I enjoy all of my family. That's why I find my familial relations so interesting from a rational perspective. I see other people going to great lengths to maintain close ties with their families, traveling thousands of miles to "family reunions", or going out of their way to get home for Christmas so that they can all be together for the holiday (it's just another day to me). Sometimes I wonder if my family's genetics contains a distance-maintenance gene...

I moved into the house that I presently live in six years ago. After I bought it I learned that one of my cousins lived directly across the street from me. In all that time he has been to my house once and I to his twice. However, we wave and smile to each other on the street all the time. Often I find myself in stores talking to people to whom I know that I am related (they make that obvious) but I cannot for the life of me place whose progeny they are or *how* we are related. I laugh and nod my head as we talk and leave the conversation wracking my brain as to who I just conversed with. Yesterday I went to my neighbors' house to borrow a shovel. The couple were in their front yard talking to a man from whom they had just bought a car. I tried not to interrupt their business as I requested the tool but the man suddenly said to me: "Why do you look like my cousin Wayne?" I responded that: "My name is Wayne, but I'm not your cousin." After a second I asked, "Who are you?" And he responded: "So-and-so's son." "Oh," I said, "You are my cousin!" We chatted for a while and I asked him if he knew that our mutual cousin lived across the street from me. He didn't.

So what, you might ask, is the point of this article? Well, I am truly interested if there are other families out there similar to mine. Those that like, and sometimes even love, their distant relatives but keep a respectful distance from each other—leading parallel but separate lives. Sometimes I feel like we are sociological anomalies. Are we? Let me know at <u>wayneben@telus.net</u>

Wayne E. Benedict is a Locomotive Engineer at BC Rail and President of the National, Automobile, Aerospace, Transportation and General Workers Union of Canada (CAW) Local 110. He is working toward his Bachelor of Human Resources and Labour Relations at Athabasca University.



### INTERNET ADDICTION - PHYSIOLOGICAL CAUSES By Shahzadi Bhatti



The Internet has revolutionized the computer and communications world more than any other technology. The invention of the telegraph, telephone, radio, and computer set the stage for this unprecedented integration of capabilities. At once, the Internet is a worldwide broadcasting capability, a mechanism for information dissemination, and a medium for collaboration and interaction amongst computers regardless of geographic location.

The remarkable growth of the Internet has had an intense effect on mass communication, especially in North America. The Internet began as a means of

communication within the US government after the nuclear war. As Bruce Sterling writes in his *Short History of the Internet*, "The principles were simple. The network itself would be assumed to be unreliable at all times. It would be designed from the get go to transcend its own unreliability. All the nodes in the network would be equal in status to all other nodes, each node with its own authority to originate, pass, and receive messages. The messages themselves would be divided into packets, each packet separately addressed. Each packet would begin at some specified source node, and end at some other specified destination node. Each packet would wind its way through the network on an individual basis." Hence, the basic structure for the Internet was born.

The Internet represents one of the most successful examples of the benefits of sustained investment and commitment to research and development of information infrastructure. By means of the Internet, a user has access to a wide variety of services such as electronic mail, file transfer, vast information resources, interest group membership, interactive collaboration, multimedia displays, etc. The Internet consists primarily of a variety of access protocols. These include e-mail, FTP, HTTP, Telnet, MUD, and Usenet news. Today, the Internet plays an immense role in the area of mass communication. Since the Internet was developed in bits and pieces, mass communication researchers initially overlooked it.

Nowadays, almost every household in North America consists of one, if not two, computers. In 1997, a survey conducted by Nielsen Media Research Interactive Services indicated that there were six million users of the Internet over the age of 16. Of them, 43% were women, nine million were fulltime students, 49% were college degree holders, and 46% lived in households receiving an annual income of over \$50,000. With such a high number of users, the Internet is guaranteed to become addictive to many individuals.

Addiction to the Internet can cause psychological pain to an individual. They may start lacking in their work performance, adopt laziness, and lack adequate social behaviour. For instance, many individuals that are addicted to chat lines on the Internet may face some very serious psychological dilemmas such as relationship break ups over the Internet and being hurt emotionally. Hence, the Internet may result in psychological disadvantages to its users.

I decided to visit an "Internet Addiction Discussion Group," which is an Usenet message group on the internet. Many people had posted questions, suggestions, and other information with relation to the topic of Internet addiction. I decided to read a few postings and post messages as well. One of the postings that caught my attention was about the "Cause of Addiction." I learned that when surfing the Internet, the movement of computer animations, flashing lights, advertisements, and the brightness of the monitor stimulate the right brain. After spending too much time sitting in front of a bright monitor, the left-brain becomes tired of the visual stimulus. Hence, the left-brain's activity decreases. This may be the reason that eyestrain tends to develop in the right eye. According to one of the writers on this Discussion Group, eyestrain develops more in the right eye because 55% of the optic nerve crosses over from the right eye to the left-brain. Thus, the right brain continues to be stimulated by the movement of computer animations, flashing lights, advertisements, and the brightness of the monitor. As per the Cognitive Dissonance Theory, without the left-brain processing visual input, dissonant cognitions are dumped into the right brain. Hence, the Cognitive Dissonance Theory shows one the outcomes of too much Internet use. This causes a state of confusion, dissociation, and obsession.

Emotional trauma also causes cognitive dissonance, traumatic dissociation, and panic disorder. Photophobia is a symptom of panic disorder. The writer of the posting goes on to saying that some people become obsessed with the Internet because they suffer from "illogical emotions, illusions, and delusions." Also, due to the brightness of computer monitors, photophobia will exacerbate their condition. I was fascinated to learn so much about Addiction to the Internet from a Usenet group.

After learning more about Internet addiction, I realized that we never characterize any time spent in the real world with friends as "addicting". For instance, teenagers talk on the phone for hours with people they see everyday, but do we ever say they are addicted to the telephone? Of course not! People lose hours at a time, immersed in a book, ignoring friends and family, and often not even picking up the phone when it rings. Thus, socializing, or talking is indeed a very "addictive" behavior, if examined from the perspective of researchers who see Internet as an addiction.

Lastly, I decided to engage in an online activity to get a little taste of Internet Addiction. On YAHOO! Games page, I decided to browse through a few online games. I was stunned to see the amount of online games one can play. I decided to play Pool online for a little while. I played a few games with other users online, and a few with the computer. To my surprise, I spent about 45 minutes playing this game. I could not believe how addictive online games can be and how fast one can lose track of time. After spending approximately an hour playing YAHOO! Games, I decided to log out before I got too drawn into the game. It is indeed remarkable to see how far the Internet has gone today to ensure good fun and information for its users.

As the Internet continues to advance in its means of communication, more people will become drawn to this fascinating form of mass media. Hence, resulting in more Internet addicts. When surfing the Internet, one has to be cautious not to become so drawn into it that one loses track of time. This may lead to a severe case of Internet addiction, which can be harmful to oneself. Thus, it is better to keep the Internet at minimal usage, as surfing without a purpose may become a bad habit. One should not take the Internet for granted; it is a mechanism of technology that should be controlled very carefully and cautiously.

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#### By Teresa Neuman

### Want to be on TV? REALITY SHOWS ARE WORTH A SECOND LOOK



Looking for Mr. Right? So is Lisa. Still single at age 25, Lisa searches the US for the special man who wants true love as much as she does.

Are you "sexy and savvy?" Like to do stunts? Would an extra \$25,000 help your household budget?

Is reality meeting your expectations? If not, turn on the television. Any one of a number of shows might provide a reality you like better than your own. Currently living in a four channel universe, I see a lot of reality shows and find myself wondering, whose reality do they portray?

Not mine, that's for sure.

*Cupid* is the latest entry in the reality show ratings grab. The premise is relatively simple. Lisa, 25 and single, auditions thousands of prospective husbands and hopes to choose Mr. Right from those who made the "cut." I have a hard time believing Lisa can't find a husband. Lisa is attractive and has a successful career. To entice Mr. Right, the producers have provided a million dollar dowry, if Lisa and her new husband can stay married for one year. Some of the guys who auditioned for Lisa's hand reminded me of some pretty bad dates that I had been on. But that is where my connection to Lisa ended. I didn't meet Mr. Right until I was 34. And I didn't have a million dollars or a television producer to help me.

Relationship shows seem to be the most popular and the airwaves are full of them. *Mr. Personality, Paradise Hotel*, and *For Love or Money*, are just a few competing for ratings. It appears that the United States is full of lovelorn twenty-somethings. However, real people must be meeting and falling in love. Daily programming on The Learning Channel (TLC) features the popular reality shows *A Wedding Story* and *A Baby Story*. These shows portray everyday people falling in love, getting married and having babies. I wonder if the people featured in the TLC shows could pass along some relationship advice to Lisa and the other network lovelorn.

Stunt-based reality shows seem to be as popular as relationship shows. *Dog Eat Dog* is the latest entrant in the stunt show category. This show is similar to *Fear Factor* except that the stunts are performed in a television studio. According to *Dog Eat Dog* rules, (<u>http://www.nbc.com/nbc/Dog\_Eat\_Dog/index.shtml</u>) "sexy and savvy players" perform stunts and use strategy to eliminate each other from winning the top prize of \$25,000. After watching about 20 minutes of the show, I just couldn't see the point. While the contestants didn't have to eat bugs or eyeballs or bull parts like the contestants on *Fear Factor*, the stunts on *Dog Eat Dog* were just ridiculous. And worse, the contestants were vapid. One contestant, when asked why she wanted the prize money, replied that she didn't want her parents to support her any more. As it turned out, she only won \$5,000. Her parents will be supporting her for a while yet.

After watching a few of these shows, I wondered what my life would be like as a reality show. "My Big Fat All Too Real Reality Show" would go something like this:

About 7:00 am, guest hosts Anna Nicole Smith and David Hasselhoff, while making coffee and packing lunches, would welcome viewers and explain the rules. David and a camera team would follow me at work, attending meetings and wading through office politics. With the goal of not being voted out of the coffee room, co-workers would earn extra breaks by performing complicated photocopying jobs. At home, Anna Nicole would follow the arrival of a crew that would repaint and decorate the house. Then, contestants competing for cash and prizes would race against the clock to perform "harrowing" stunts such as trying to find a plumber on a

Sunday night to fix the leaking water heater or racing to the pharmacy before it closes during a Saskatchewan blizzard to replace a lost asthma inhaler.

At 5:00 pm, Anna and David would engage in witty dialogue with a guest chef who would create a gourmet meal using only supplies found in our cupboards. After dinner, "sexy and savvy players" would come over. Instead of performing dangerous stunts, contestants would compete for cash prizes by doing yard work, taking out the garbage and helping with homework. The contestant with the most cash would win the grand prize of watering the new sod while my husband and I relaxed with tall, cool drinks.

My "real" reality show is pretty dull compared to the glamorous network reality shows, which probably explains why viewers are watching so many. *Cupid's* Lisa is in for a big shock. Her glamorous life will change once she marries Mr. Right. Even with a dowry of a million dollars, one of them will have to take out the garbage and walk the dog. Everyday life just isn't as glamorous as the networks would have us believe. *A Lisa Story* might be more credible than *Cupid*. And, in the eyes of viewers, closer to "reality."

Teresa is enrolled in the Bachelor of Professional Arts Program, Communications Studies, at Athabasca University and is enjoying returning to school after 18 years. Teresa enjoys writing, union activism and gardening, and lives and works in Regina, Saskatchewan, with her partner Kevin and son Adam.

### **AUSU STUDENT GIFT PACKS NOW AVAILABLE**



AUSU students can now order their student gift packs, free courtesy of your students' union.

The packs are filled with AUSU logo items to help you study, relax, and learn more about AUSU.

Contact <u>ausu@ausu.org</u> to order your gift pack today!



### **FROM MY PERSPECTIVE** Professional organizations – why join?



Over the years I've held memberships in a variety of different professional organizations. Many of these were related to certain activities I was involved in at the time, and they represented a great diversity of interests - ranging from an acapella association to a safe childbirth association to a classic car group. Several years ago I joined another professional organization - the Psychologists Association of Alberta (PAA), and this past year I took it one step further and joined the Canadian Psychological Association (CPA), becoming the CPA undergraduate student representative for Athabasca University.

Why join professional organizations? There are many reasons. In the case of the Acapella Association I joined so that I could have my group listed on their website and newsletter, and so that I could maintain a connection with other acapella acts. I joined the classic car group so that I could qualify for special classic car insurance. Some organizations required membership so I could receive a particular service. For example, I joined the Association for Safe Alternatives in Childbirth (ASAC) so I could access and support the services of a midwife and have a homebirth - but I found my membership so educational that I maintained the connection long after my children were born. I joined the Alberta Motor Association so that I could justify for the services provided, and coverage was inconsistent. This was brought home to me when my daughter borrowed my car and locked the keys inside, yet when I requested AMA key rescue services I was told I had to pay another \$25 to make my daughter a member before they would unlock my car for her! I also found I could not justify continued membership with the Acapella Association - once my group was no longer actively performing the yearly fee became too much of a burden.

One drawback of membership in some associations is that a certain level of involvement is often required. The classic car group was always inviting me along on car rallies and trips I never had time to participate in, as much as I would have liked to. With non-profit organizations like ASAC, members are expected to participate in time-consuming fund-raising ventures. But overall, membership in a professional organization can be very beneficial, particularly for us as students.

I joined the PAA initially because I wanted to attend their yearly conference. With student membership costing \$50, and conference fee being cut in half for members - it was a good deal. Membership did require a sponsor, however - someone who is a chartered psychologist in the Province of Alberta needed to vouch for me. One of my psychology professors was willing to oblige, once I had thoroughly explained to her my reasons for wanting to join. This sponsorship is important, as the sponsor is endorsing you as a worthy member who they trust to maintain the professional ethics and requirements of the psychology profession.

What are the benefits to me as a student PAA member? In addition to being part of a group that advocates for the psychology profession, membership in such a professional organization looks good on a resume or CV. It gives strength to your voice to be part of a professional organization and enhances credibility. At the PAA conference I had the opportunity to earn continuing education credits for several of the sessions. These credits are considered very important for the practicing psychologist, a way to maintain current knowledge and abilities. For students, we can add these to our educational accomplishments and CV. Membership also entitles you to access libraries and professional journals, as well as discounts on purchase of psychological materials. Most professional organizations have also negotiated member discounts with insurance companies, car rentals, hotels, and many other services. There are website services members are entitled to, such as the online job

classifieds. Membership in a professional organization as a student can also increase your connections and opportunities to lobby for all kinds of student benefits and issues. Most importantly for me, membership in the PAA is a step towards building professional alliances with potential colleagues, a mark of a serious student seeking a career in psychology.

I joined the CPA this year for many of the same reasons. I had wanted to expand my professional connections and the types of information and services I could access. Unfortunately I could not afford to attend the CPA annual convention in Hamilton this year, but I did enjoy access to CPA journals for course projects. Becoming a CPA member also requires a sponsor, but since I am already a member of a provincial organization, this requirement was waived.

Interestingly, sponsorship is not required to become a student member of the American Psychological Association (APA), the American equivalent of the CPA. Student membership fees are very reasonable in that organization as well, and there are many benefits. However, as a Canadian psychology student I felt that it was more realistic to be involved with the CPA. Do you need to be a member of a provincial organization as well? Not necessarily. Across Canada there are provincial psychology organizations for each province, but not all of them even have the student membership option. Ontario and Saskatchewan do, and sponsorship is required. Manitoba allows student affiliates without sponsorship. The other provinces either do not have website membership information or are not open to student members. So for interested students, seeking direct student membership in the CPA may be the best option.

Student membership in the CPA is \$55.64, and includes subscriptions to several psychology journals, in addition to the numerous benefits already enumerated for the provincial association. Conference attendance for CPA student affiliates is a permanent \$35 (for early registration), since the CPA recognizes the importance of conferences for students. Among things that the student section of CPA are advocating for is representation on the CPA board of directors, improved student mentorship with university faculty, lobbying for student funding, opportunities for psychology students to present original research at CPA conferences, and initiatives to involve psychology students in research and professional development early in their studies.

An international student psychology organization is in the works, too, which is of particular interest to distance education students. Even for non-members, the CPA website provides a wealth of information and resources for psychology students. As the Athabasca University CPA Student undergrad representative, one of my responsibilities is to encourage membership in the CPA and provide information about the organization to interested students, so if you have any questions, please contact me at <u>djabbour@ausu.org</u>.

Membership in a professional organization that is related to your university studies and career goals can be a highly beneficial learning experience and an important part of pursuing professional recognition within your chosen field. Many other disciplines besides psychology have student membership options available within their professional associations, and I'd encourage all students to check these out, starting with your provincial associations. Generally student membership is at a very reasonable cost. Even if you choose not to become involved as a member, learning about these organizations and contacting them or perusing their websites can be an invaluable source of information that can help you make those important career and educational decisions.

Alberta Psychologists Association: <u>http://www.psychologistsassociation.ab.ca</u>

Canadian Psychological Association: www.cpa.ca

Debbie is a native Edmontonian, and a single parent with four daughters. She has worked as a professional musician for most of her life, and has enjoyed a rich variety of life experiences - with many more to come! Debbie is working towards an eventual doctorate in psychology, and currently serves as the president of the Athabasca University Students Union.



Sandra Moore spoke with Wanda Laurin at AU convocation... AU GRADUATE PROFILE OF WANDA LAURIN

#### **AGE:** 45

LIVES IN: Peace River, AB TRAVEL TIME TO ATHABASCA: 4 hours PROGRAM COMPLETED: BA - French YEARS IT TOOK TO COMPLETE: 14 FAVORITE COURSE: Geology 201 – The History Of The Earth

**LEAST FAVORITE COURSE:** "I can't say I didn't get into any course. I found it very serendipitous that I'd be taking a course that I really needed at that time in my life. **But** Geological Structures was a humdinger!"

FAVORITE TUTOR: Nicole Kunzle HIGHEST FINAL GRADE: 100% on some essays LOWEST FINAL GRADE: 52% in French literature



I met up with Wanda, her husband Paul and their children touring the science lab at AU on Convocation Day. Wanda says her family understood that she had course work to do and that she could get a little uptight when she was in the middle of an essay or studying for an exam. One of her daughters shared with me when asked how she felt about her mother going to school and said that she was a little upset her mom did not have as much time to play. Through obtaining a degree in French (while working part-time as a teacher), Wanda also passed her new knowledge onto her children and has succeeded in raising bi-lingual children.

She suggests to current AU students to set aside time each day to devote to studying and be strict with yourself, rewarding yourself with snacks!

Now that she is "so tickled pink to have accomplished this" she plans on taking piano lessons. "You guys know how to spoil us! I feel really pampered and excited to have come for this special occasion."

#### Congratulations Wanda Laurin, B.A.

Look for more grad profiles in upcoming Voice issues. If you are an AU grad and you were not interviewed on convocation day, contact <u>voice@ausu.org</u> to be a part of AU profiles. As always, we are seeking undergrads, tutors and staff for profiles as well.

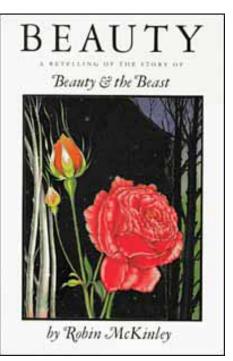


Well, I have to admit I've been taken off guard. I didn't expect to read a book from the "juvenile" section of the Calgary Public Library and enjoy it so much. Before you decide to disappear due to the age bracket let me tell you that this is a very sophisticated story in comparison to the original. I was told about this book a few years ago in college. I decided as a lazy summer reading project I would trust the woman who recommended it so highly and track it down.

The story begins with children born with names of personal qualities: Grace, Hope and Honour. Except Honour doesn't like her name. As a tiny child she tries to find out what the names in her family mean. Although her father manages to explain Hope and Grace somewhat she finds she still doesn't grasp her own name's meaning and stubbornly announces she'd much rather be called "Beauty." Since she sees herself as the least attractive child in the family she has trouble with the name but just as much with her given. After a while she just isn't willing to let go of the nickname.

BEAUTY: A retelling of the story of Beauty and the Beast Book Review

By Laura Seymour



After the family fortune is lost, they must sell almost every worldly possession and go somewhere they can make a reasonable living. They

move to an area near a forest. Gossipmongers in the area say the woods are enchanted and the family is told never to go near the area, nor even to its edge.

One day the father goes out and gets lost along the path as he is coming back from his trip. He goes into the castle and is fed and rests. As he leaves he remembers how his children have asked for nothing, except Beauty who wanted rose seeds if they aren't too expensive. Seeing a fantastic rose bush at the castle he decides clipping one for his daughter would be all right, except this action enrages the Beast who presents himself and tells the father that he must now come home within a month or send one of his daughters to stay. The Beast promises never to harm the child and that she will live well. Heavy with guilt the father returns home - with a rose made of gold. This sets up our tale and, of course, Beauty insists on being the daughter to go. The father and family are heavy with grief but realize the Beast must be dealt with.

Author Robin McKinley does a magnificent job of taking the original tiny child's story and turning it into a magical fable that even adults can enjoy. As soon as I reached a specific point in the book I found myself unable to read fast enough to get to the lovely end. There is no violence or gore in the story, only wonderful writing and wonder. And yes, if you have kids you can get it for them.

Peter S. Beagle, author of *The Last Unicorn* and *A Fine And Private Place* has a review on the back cover: "BEAUTY is the most delightful first novel I've read in years, and astonishingly skillful. Robin McKinley never slips up once. The writing is absolutely sure-handed, and the characterization never falters for a moment. I was moved and enchanted by the book. I didn't want it to end. Both as writer and reader, I can't wait to see what Robin McKinley does next. This first one is a marvel."

For those of you wanting a lovely read, without having to strain to follow a plot, I have to recommend Beauty to you. I hope you enjoy it.

### CANADIAN FED WATCH! NEWS ACROSS THE NATION...

### By Karl Low



#### **Victory Part One**

It wasn't unexpected, but it's still gratifying. The NAFTA panel has <u>ordered</u> the United States to correct it's determination that Canada was dumping softwood lumber into their markets. Apparently when the United States did their calculations to determine that we were providing lumber below cost, they were using the numbers from their own market, not from ours. A similar tactic would be if Canada declared American Oranges to be being sold below costs because it costs so much more to grow oranges up here.

The final determination on this case will be made on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, shortly after this article comes out. I am fairly confident, given all that we've seen so far, that it will be in Canada's favour. Hopefully what will follow from this is a proper determination that Canada's softwood lumber industry is not

subsidized, it's simply different. From that then would come a reversal of all of the duties paid so far, giving our companies somewhat of a boost to get them back to a competitive state. Unfortunately, the US's little ploy has already done the damage in putting thousands of our people out of work and severely hampering our lumber industry, giving their own industry time to begin to pull ahead.

What NAFTA lacks, of course, is any means to actually do justice in this matter. The people who were put out of work, who possibly lost their homes because of this unfair duty, will never be properly compensated for what they were put through. So long as the agreements allow imposition of duties without NAFTA approval, and no penalties for companies that benefit from when duties are imposed improperly, we will see this kind of behaviour continuing.

In fact, as the softwood lumber case comes to a close, we now have a <u>new case</u> to contend with regarding our grain. The United States is looking toward putting duties on our grain sales and transportation down to the U.S., in spite of the huge subisidies that America already provides to their own farmers. Having seen and beaten nine of these challenges already, the likelihood of a ruling going against Canada in this arena is very small, but this has not stopped an initial 4% duty being forced from our farmers in the interim.

In my view, instead of being able to impose preliminary penalties, government should be forced to take their case to the NAFTA arbitration process, and if it is determined then, by an impartial international group that unfair trade is going on, the penalties can be made such to not only compensate for the amount of subsidy, but also to compensate for the length of time it has been occurring. This would prevent the situation we see today, where an unfair accusation leads to an unfair hardship that is never really compensate for.

#### **Combating Cancer**

The Ontario Government is investing <u>one billion dollars</u> into the new Cancer Research Centre of Ontario. Their goal is nothing less than the elimination of breast and prostate cancer. Only two days later, Reuters released a <u>report</u> on how men can reduce their prostate cancer risk by taking their own health in hand, so to speak. Now, I'm not saying the two occurrences are in any way related, but I just found the coincidence funny.

In any event, one billion dollars is certainly a large stepping stone in the right direction if we're ever going to cure cancer. Let's hope it works.



Dear Sandra,

My husband has just started a new job and at the end of the month his company is having a staff family picnic. I am absolutely awful at crowd functions, but I don't want to appear snobby or uninterested. If I at least knew SOMEONE, it wouldn't be so bad! I need to be a better schmoozer, please help!!!!

#### Loser Schmoozer in the US

Dear Loser,

I can almost guarantee you that most people dread situations like this, especially when their husband's reputation could be on the line.

Here's some advice for surviving the day:

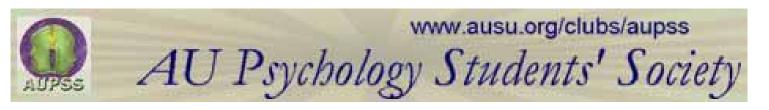
- One at a Time focus first on socializing with one person. Once you've found one friend you can navigate and mingle together.
- Get Personal forget small talk about the weather, people love to talk about themselves ask questions. For example, "What department are you in?" "What does your job entail?" Even in different situations, getting people to talk about what they are interested in or knowledgeable in is a great conversation starter and you might even learn something!
- Scope out the Extremes look for people who are either having a great time or a miserable time. To those wallflowers you'll come off as a sincere person and to the talkative types you won't have to carry the conversation.
- Don't be a Fake don't pretend to be something that you aren't just to fit in. If you don't understand something, don't be afraid to question it. You are not required to like each and every person you meet.

You can't turn an introvert into an extrovert, but I hope this helps to at least make the day remotely interesting, fun and stress-free! Have a great time!

### Sandra

I WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! TELL ME YOUR TROUBLES. YOUR CONFIDENTIALITY IS ASSURED.

This column is for entertainment only. Sandra is not a professional counsellor, but is an AU student who would like to give personal advice about school and life to her peers. Please forward your questions to Sandra care of <u>smoore@ausu.org</u>



### AUSU Council Meeting July 11, 2003, 14:00 MST Reported by Voice Editor Tamra Ross Low



Chair: Debbie Jabbour, President
AUSU Council Members: Shirley Barg, Nicholas Palamarchuk, Sandra Moore, Mac McInnis, Karl Low,
Minutes taken by: Carla Benavides
Also present - Voice Editor: Tamra Ross Low.

The July 11th council meeting was set at an earlier time than usual, and turned out to be a marathon session which ran nearly four hours. Accordingly, this report is long [but not NEAR as long as the meeting itself!]. Most councillors liked the earlier meeting time, however, and future meetings may also be scheduled for afternoon time slots. Once again, I'd like to remind all students that they may sit in at any AUSU council meeting by reserving a telephone line to call in for free. Contact the AUSU office to book a line once the next council meeting time is announced [watch the calendar on the AUSU website front page].

The Agenda was as follows:

#### **New Business**

Approval of Agenda	All
Adoption of Council Minutes (May 29, 2003)	All
Acceptance of resignation K. Getta	All
Formal proposal to AU in support of teaching assistants	D. Jabbour
Student discount project	D. Jabbour
Computer/personal development policy final draft	S. Moore
Committee Member recognition	S. Moore
Invigilator list for students	S. Moore
Student handbook/planner	S. Barg/M. McInnis
Bylaw decision	K. Low
Policies	K. Low
Budget advisory and strategic planning weekend	S. Moore
DeVry and the Alberta Transfer Guide	S. Barg
Peer Counselling program	S. Moore
Finance committee composition	D. Jabbour
General manager job description	S. Barg
Recommendation re addition of council members	S. Barg
Report on disabled students	S. Barg
Voice scholarship	T. Ross Low
Discussion of AUSU position on Bill 43	D. Jabbour/S. Barg

#### **MY REPORT:**

I attended the meeting to report on what happened. I am not an AUSU council member, and these notes are only my personal perspective on the meeting. Contact AUSU for complete information on any of these items.

#### Acceptance of resignation of K. Getta

After the agenda and the minutes from the previous council meeting were approved, AUSU President Debbie Jabbour brought forward a motion to accept the resignation of AUSU Councillor K. Getta. Ms. Getta's resignation had been presented to all council members a few weeks prior to the meeting, and was not part of the meeting package. Councillor Shirley Barg asked if it would be appropriate to discuss Ms. Getta's reasons

for leaving council, which were not clearly listed on her resignation. President Jabbour said that she had spoken personally with Ms. Getta, but did not feel that she could in good conscience discuss that conversation with council without Ms. Getta's prior approval. The rest of council agreed that this would not be appropriate.

On her resignation, Ms. Getta indicated that she had chosen to leave council and the finance committee for personal reasons. Her leaving was rather sudden, but it should be noted that she had served on AUSU council for some time, and was in fact part of the much beleaguered previous council as well. I did not have an opportunity to say goodbye to Karie-Anne, but would like to wish her the best of luck with her continuing studies and future plans, and to thank her for her assistance in understanding the financial details of The Voice when I first took over editorship.

#### Formal proposal to AU in support of teaching assistants

As reported in a recent Voice issue, AU currently has no official staff position for student researchers or research assistants. Although some research assistants are hired, there is no standard of remuneration or employee benefits, and the process of hiring can be complicated and require special permission to the hiring professor from the university. Dr. Lyle Grant of the AU psychology department has proposed that AU create a student researcher classification in their employee definitions, and he has asked AUSU for support on this program, since the union has already been involved in this issue. At this meeting, AUSU members agreed that the union should strongly support AU creating a student researcher position and that AU should be urged to consider hiring more student researchers and teaching assistants. There will be follow up on this issue.

#### Student discount project

Students at most universities are able to take advantage of incredible discount pricing on educational versions of software through university bookstores. AU students do not have this option, although the AU bookstore does sell the educational version of Microsoft Office at a reasonable price, though not nearly as cheaply as U of C students can get it.

AUSU is discussing how they can help AU students receive these same discount rates through other university's bookstores. More information is needed before this project can go ahead, but at the July 11th meeting councillors determined that it is well worth looking into.

#### Computer/personal development policy final draft

As reported last month, AUSU has been working to create a program where councillors can use the personal development budget [money that councillors can apply for to attend professional conferences, etc] to purchase a computer. This policy is in recognition of the fact that a student must own a computer and have reliable internet access to be a member of students' council. Some councillors have not had the funds to purchase working computers, and their positions on council make them ineligible for the computer bursary that AUSU gives to needy students 4 times per year (see the AUSU website for more info on this program).

The program has been approved and councillors will be able to apply for funds once per year to purchase computer equipment.

#### **Committee Member recognition**

In an effort to improve volunteer participation and show appreciate for long term volunteers, Sandra Moore has proposed that AUSU send appreciation gifts to volunteers who serve as committee chairs, and clubs presidents. Gifts would be items such as mugs, t-shirts, and possibly the type of pad-folios that were given out as grad gifts by AUSU this year. Details are not finalized but the proposal was accepted by council and AUSU will work to develop guidelines for when gifts should be given to volunteers, and how much these gifts should be worth.

#### Invigilator list for students

AUSU has received some complaints/comments from students regarding the quality and price of invigilation services in areas outside of Alberta. The price of invigilation varies widely, and some centers have not been providing adequate services to AU students. AU maintains a list of invigilation centers for students who call in

looking for services in their area. However, this has led some students to believe that the only centers available are those on the AU list, when in fact many times there are a number of other options. AUSU is discussing the idea of keeping their own invigilator list, which will be continually updated with new invigilators, and which will track which invigilators have received complaints from AU students. Discussion of this issue will continue with AU.

#### Student handbook/planner

This item relates to the student handbook/planner that AUSU used to produce each year and distribute for free to AU students. This year, for the first time in many years, the planner was not produced and a student gift pack was issued in its place [contact AUSU to get yours]. The planner was discontinued only temporarily as it became clear that the planner should be revised to be more useful to students.

While investigating options for producing the planner, AUSU became aware that AU is planning to discontinue production of the very popular and useful Student Handbook that they have been sending to all new AU students in the past few years [I registered in 1998, so I haven't seen one, but I've heard many good things about these informative books]. Apparently AU has decided that the handbooks are too expensive to produce.

AUSU's planner/handbook committee became aware of this when they approached AU for some advice on handbook design, and people in the AU promotions department suggested that AUSU and AU might combine their talents and budgets to create a joint planner. This would mean a larger production run than AUSU is used to, since the book would go to every new student each year, plus every current student who requests one. On the other hand, AU would be able to provide high quality design services and some additional funding for the book.

To investigate this further, AUSU councillors and planner committee members Shirley Barg and Mac McInnis met with AU staff responsible for the AU handbook and began negotiations.

Many questions will need to be answered before the joint project will be further considered, such as - how much more will the planner cost if AUSU combines forces with AU, how much money will AU be offering [at the time of the council meeting the AU offer was \$5000 - a small fraction of the production costs, but this is a starting number and negotiations continue], and how long should the contract period for this project be. At this time, a 2 year period of production is under consideration. More information to come...

#### Bylaw decision

AUSU discussed the correct procedure for getting the new bylaws certified by Alberta Corporate Registry. The discussion included information on why certification is important, and the benefits of sending in the bylaws to registries ahead of time so that registries can point out any errors or omissions. The final step will be to have a single, AUSU Special General Meeting to approve the final bylaws.

Also under discussion was the effect that Alberta's impending Bill 43 will have on AUSU's bylaws. On this issue, more information is still needed and council will follow up in upcoming meetings.

#### Policies

Karl Low, chair of the legislative committee, has been going through the AUSU policies and making recommendations for revisions and updates. The policies have not been revised as a whole for some time, although changes to individual policies have been made over the years. AUSU is currently working on updating all of the policies, removing outdated documents, and ensuring that all previously changed policies are correctly updated in all versions of the policy manuals. These steps were not properly taken by previous councils, so this is a huge task.

At this meeting, Karl recommended the removal of several redundant policies, and also the removal of the policy which grants all leaving council members - whether they quit, or are simply not re-elected - a bonus of \$10 per each month that they served on council. AUSU accepted these recommendations.

#### Budget advisory and strategic planning weekend

Further plans were made for the AU Budget Advisory and Strategic Planning weekend, to be held in Calgary on the weekend of August 9th and 10th.

#### DeVry and the Alberta Transfer Guide and the Peer Counselling program

These issues were tabled until the next council meeting.

#### Finance committee composition

A very lengthy discussion ensued regarding whether or not the finance committee should be open to student members, or kept as an internal committee. After much debate, it was decided that AUSU should pursue the idea of student commissioners, who would sit on AUSU committees as observers and who would offer input. Other universities have similar student members on many committees, and in some cases these members act also as non-voting, non-paid council members as well. It is not clear yet how AUSU will implement these new student members.

#### General manager job description

AUSU has been working for some time to finalize the job description for the General Manager position. At this meeting, a final version of the job notice was approved and council discussed where the ad would be displayed.

#### **Recommendation re addition of council members**

AUSU has been discussing the idea of adding more council members, as there are currently at 6 members - 3 below the maximum. A deadline has now been placed on this process, although I am not clear on whether AUSU will add new members for certain, or simply investigate whether suitable members are available and interested. More info on this will come at the next meeting.

#### **Report on disabled students**

Shirley Barg has been in discussion with AU <u>Access to Students With Disabilities</u> coordinator Brenda Moore regarding unsatisfactory results for disabled students who had contacted AUSU for emergency funding in the past. The source of the problem has been identified [there was confusion regarding overlapping programs of AU and AUSU], and a new procedure will be put in place to ensure prompt handling of emergency funding requests for all students.

#### Voice scholarship

As Voice Editor, I have on a few occasions encountered writers who have not wished to be paid for a variety of reasons. Rather than simply leave that money in the Voice budget, I have decided to add that money to a fund for Voice scholarships, which would be supplemented directly from the Voice budget. At the council meeting I discussed two ideas for such scholarships: 1) a scholarship for students in need, sponsored by the Voice, and 2) a writing contest, which would serve the dual purpose of bringing extra submissions to the Voice, and helping to support student writers. Details of these scholarships/awards are being worked out. Look for the announcement of a writing contest in the very near future.

#### **Discussion of AUSU position on Bill 43**

Some basic facts about Bill 43 were outlined, but AUSU is still waiting for more details, specifically the position of AU on the bill and why AU wishes to be removed from the tuition cap. More details are expected soon.

For more information on any of the items mentioned in this report, please contact any AUSU councillor, or council as a whole. Contact information is on the AUSU website. All information presented above is based on my perspective as an observer, and more complete and detailed information can be obtained from council or the council website directly. Any errors or omissions are my own. I am not a member of AUSU council.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

For scholarships available through the Athabasca University Students' Union, see the AUSU website at <u>www.ausu.org</u>

NORTHERN STUDENT SUPPLEMENT (N.S.S.) Value: n/s DEADLINE: n/s

#### Administrator: Alberta Scholarship Programs

Notes: Available to residents of Northern Alberta. Submit application with the application for student assistance.

**Contact Information:** Alberta Scholarship Program 9940 - 106 Street, 9th Floor, P.O. Box 28000, Station Main Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4 Phone: (780) 427-8640 Fax: (780) 422-4516 Web Site: <u>http://www.alberta-learning.ab.ca/scholarships</u> E-mail: <u>heritage@gov.ab.ca</u> Application: <u>http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/scholarships/forms.asp</u>

#### QUEEN ELIZABETH II SILVER JUBILEE ENDOWMENT FUND FOR STUDY IN A SECOND OFFICIAL LANGUAGE AWARD Value: \$5000 DEADLINE: n/s

Administrator: Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC)

**Notes:** Candidates must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents and be enrolled in the second or third year of their first undergraduate university program. Candidates attending a Quebec institution can be in their first year of a first undergraduate program.

#### **Contact Information:**

Canadian Awards Program Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada 350 Albert Street, Suite 600 Ottawa, Ontario K1R 1B1 Phone: (613) 563-1236 Web Site: <u>http://www.aucc.ca</u> E-mail: <u>awards@aucc.ca</u>

#### **RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS**

Value: annual award - see below DEADLINE: n/s

Administrator: Queen's University at Kingston

**Notes:** Approximately £10 000 annually. Tenable at the University of Oxford and may be held for three years. Must be an unmarried Canadian citizen or resident in Canada between 19 and 25 years old, and who has completed at least three years of study. Please contact for more information.

**Contact Information:** 

Student Awards Victoria School Building, 110 Alfred Street Kingston, Ontario K7L 3N6 Phone: (613) 533-2216 Fax: (613) 533-6409 Web Site: <u>http://www.queensu.ca/registrar/awards</u> E-mail: <u>awards@post.queensu.ca</u>





### **EDMONTON EVENTS**

**Announcing the First Corporate & Organization Team Challenge** 

CNIB Independence in Motion Walk/Run In Honor of Tony Thibaudeau Sept. 28, 2003 @ ACT Family Centre at Rundle Park **3 K Sensory Walk/8 K Run** 

Pledge forms are now available for both single participants and for organizational teams for this unusual family fun event featuring your choice of a: 3k Sensory Walk Scavenger Hunt (participants have a choice of Sensory Walk or Regular Walk) 8k Fun Run in support of the CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind). Both courses are wheelchair accessible.

There are numerous pledge and draw prizes to be won and the top organization or corporate team will win the coveted Tony Thibaudeau trophy. All pledge earners with pledges of more than \$100 will receive Walmart gift certificates totalling 10% of pledge amount (ie \$550 = \$55 in gift certificates).

**Early Bird Registration Prize:** All teams registering before August 15 will have their name put into a draw for an Interactive Family Fun Day with face painting, activities and entertainment for children donated by Wonderstuff and Ace Events.

RACE DETAILS at: www.events.runningroom.com/site/?raceId=556&contentId=3566

To register your organization's team please call Janice Boudreau at 460-1756 Single registrations can be made on line at <u>www.runningroom.com</u>

#### **CNIB Kathleen Huber Night Golf Tour**

September 12th (Rain or Dark) Victoria Park Golf Course The Most Fun You Can Have in the Dark!!!

There are a few team places still available for the Annual CNIB Kathleen Huber Night Golf Tour. This zany event will take place at the Victoria Park Golf Course on Sept. 12. To have a registration package sent out to you please call 460-1756 or e-mail alberta@cnib.ca > Both team and individual registrations are available. On behalf of more than 9,000 Albertans who are blind, visually impaired or deafblind and their families, thank you for helping the CNIB help people with vision loss achieve their goals!

For further information: Janice Boudreau 450-1756

Courtesy of: The Community Networks Group © Tel/Fax: (780) 474-6058 / Cell: (780) 995-6819

### **CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS**

### Contributed By AU's The Insider

• Distance Teaching & Learning Conference: - 19th annual -"Working Smarter - Building on Success" - Aug. 13-15, 2003 -Madison, Wisconsin. Details: <u>http://www.uwex.edu/disted/conference</u>



• AU Learning Services Conference - October 3 & 4, 2003 - Edmonton, Crowne Plaza Chateau Lacombe. Details to follow.

### **OTHER CONFERENCES**

- CAPDHHE [Canadian Association for the Prevention of Discrimination and Harassment in Higher Education] - To be held in Calgary, October 29 - November 1, 2003. <u>http://www.capdhhe.org/conference2/index.htm</u>
- **Teaching In A Digital Age** the impact of new communication technologies on teaching and pedagogy. I'Université de Montréal. <u>http://profetic.org:16080/coll2003/</u> [French only]
- China Conference 2003 Edinburgh July 2003. China Conference Info welcomes people from the commercial and educational sector involved in E-Learning, Distance Learning, Training, HR, IT Training, Localisation, ICT or Knowledge Management, to this world first international event. China represents the biggest target market for these sectors ever and is still largely untapped.

Entering the Chinese market place is a complex move. This conference provides a forum on exchange of market information not only on product and service requirements, but on specialist market entrance requirements. If you are working in any of these sectors you should seriously consider entering this event in your diary. The conference will be patronised by professionals from, China, the USA, Europe and Australia and represents the largest collective gathering of these specialists centred around the Chinese market ever!

For more information: <u>http://www.chinaconferenceinfo.com</u>

### **Summer Symposium on Health Ethics**

Wednesday 6 August 2003

The John Dossetor Health Ethics Centre (JDHEC) invites you to attend a one-day symposium on health ethics. This course will offer a series of presentations by JDHEC Faculty that will challenge you to examine and explore the essential place of ethics in health care practice.

#### For more information:

Website <u>www.ualberta.ca/bioethics</u> Email <u>Dossetor.Centre@ualberta.ca</u> Phone 780-492-6676

Know of an educational conference that is not on this list? Contact <u>voice@ausu.org</u> with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.



### **CLASSIFIEDS:**

Students of AU may print classifieds in The Voice free of charge (maximum three per issue) as long as they are not representing a company or product.

Classified ads should be submitted to the editor at <u>voice@ausu.org</u> with 'CLASSIFIED AD' listed in the subject title.

The Editor reserves the right to refuse any classified advertisement at her discretion. Thank-you.

# THE VOICE

c/o Athabasca University Students' Union 2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4 800.788.9041 ext. 3413

Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low

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