

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

June 2, 2004
Volume 12 Issue 22



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THE VOICE

Jun 02, 2004

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CLASSIFIEDS!



We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to voice@ausu.org, and please indicate if we may publish your letter in the Voice.

RE: Modern Sexism, May 26, 2004 - v12 i21

Dear Editor;

I was surprised to find that the article entitled "Modern Sexism" in the May 26th issue of the voice was less an informative article and more a thinly veiled rant written by a disgruntled employee. I didn't see the fact that the author was passed over for this position as a sexist move, I see it as a clear case of her not being the right person for the job.

It was hard to seriously consider any of the author's points regarding sexism in the work place, or even empathize with her, in light of the fact that the two of the key players in the story were described in such bitter unflattering ways.

To insinuate that the Fireman has something wrong with him because he can't find a job in his own field -- "This guy works where I do because he can't get a job in his own field (which says a lot already)" -- insulted me. I also cannot find a job in my field, what does the author feel that says about me? Am I less qualified than my co-workers? Not likely. As for the description of supervisor, to write that the woman is having marital trouble and therefore hired the fireman because she needs more men in her life, does nothing for the author - except prove that this entire 'article' is nothing more than an outlet for the author's sour grapes.

I'm sorry to think that this fellow student would assume that an interviewer would take all the information needed from a resume and cover letter and would not feel it necessary to sell her credentials during the interview process. Perhaps her competition had more charisma, a better attitude, and was better able to show the supervisor how they as a candidate could be a benefit to the organization. Hopefully the author will learn from this experience, and learn how to compete and take a loss gracefully, and not blame such losses on sex discrimination.

I would hope in the future that the Voice would take better care to not give such inappropriate statements validity by placing them in the articles section.

**Sincerely
Heather Gardiner
Canmore, Alberta**

THE VOICE

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frequent contributions

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Are you ready to graduate?

AU convocation 2004 takes place this year over the June 11th to 12th weekend. The undergraduate ceremony is on Friday June 11th, and the graduate ceremony is on Saturday, June 12th.

You may be eligible to convocate this June if you have finished all of your degree requirements. Students who are only just finishing their final course may not have received a convocation package or invitation yet. If you believe you should be graduating this June, see the AU convocation pages for information, and contact the convocation office to find out if you can still apply. You will find contact names and emails on the Contacts page in the convocation section.

For all convocation 2004 information, use this link:
<http://www.athabascau.ca/convocation/general/index.htm>

New Graduates, Contact The Voice!

If you are graduating this June, the Voice wants to hear from you. We are seeking grads for the student profiles column (you'll get a free Voice coffee mug if you participate) and comments from grads about this year's convocation ceremonies. We are also interested in photographs from convocation for our graduation scrap book.

For more information, contact the Voice editor at voice@ausu.org, or look for a Voice representative on the AU grounds during the ceremonies.

You do not need to attend convocation in Athabasca to participate -- comments and profiles from all grads are welcome and appreciated.



NATURE NOTES:

from the backyard to the biosphere

By Zoe Dalton

Extending Community

It was one of those days- sunny, warm, green, lush. No season other than spring could offer such a prize as a day like this. It was a day of laughter, camaraderie, observation, learning, and sharing. It was a native plant tour; a bus load of people from as many walks of life as there were participants in the outing. Old and young, experienced and novice, professional and amateur, shy and bold. But by the end of the day, on the way home from our tour, everyone knew everyone. I had said happy birthday, congratulations on a new baby, expressed sympathy for the purchaser of a ramshackle house, and left with new friends.

There's something about going out with others to enjoy nature that has a tendency to bring people together in a completely unique way. I couldn't help smiling when I heard bounding enthusiasm in my neighbour's voice over a particular plant, or as I watched as everyone crowd around our guide, anxious not to miss a word he said about the specimens before us. This was a special group of people on a special mission: to enjoy being in nature together.

I couldn't help but think to myself as I made my way home that the storied solo quests into nature, wonderful and powerful as they are, shouldn't overshadow the value of being out there with others. So much less revered is the idea that venturing out into the wilds with others can be a powerful experience all its own, and one that leaves not just you replenished and restored, but the others with whom you interacted as well.

I was left with a strong impression as the day came to a close. What many of us seek as we make our way to the wildlands is a feeling of connection, connection to something deeper than the everyday hubbub allows us to experience, connection with something bigger, something timeless, and with our own selves. My excursion with other ecology enthusiasts highlighted that connection with people, with nature, and with ourselves, go hand in hand in a surprisingly natural and possibly necessary way.

Just as we tend to exclude nature from our idea of 'community', so we often exclude people from what we consider a 'true' experience of nature. But bring the two together and the blend of human and natural community building has a strength not to be underestimated.

Ecological woes can easily get us down; the word futility is likely used nowhere more than in the environmental community. There is nothing more de-motivating than one's loss of hope. And there is nothing more re-motivating than a day spent with people who, with each other's energy, can know again that there's plenty to be done, and plenty of us to do it.

Zoe Dalton is a graduate of York University's environmental science program, and is currently enjoying working towards a Master of Arts in Integrated Studies with Athabasca U. She can be reached for comments or questions at zk_dalton@hotmail.com.

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE

Choosing the right university degree

By Debbie Jabbour



We often wonder what the end result will be for us once we graduate and become the proud owners of a university degree.

Students at AU might be interested to know that for those of us who are members of the older generation, our employment chances may be higher than for university graduates of the younger set.

In an *Edmonton Journal* article entitled, "Generation Underemployed," Jill Thielman discusses the job market and recent graduates. Although Alberta has the lowest unemployment rate in Canada (4.5 percent in April), this rate is much higher for young people - males aged 15-24 have a rate of 10.3 percent, females 7.6 percent.

For adults over 25, however, the overall rate drops to about 4 percent.

What this means is that many young university graduates are unable to find work in the area of their education, and this situation sometimes persists for years after graduation. The primary causal factor has been identified as a lack of experience, and this is affecting graduates with degrees in virtually every discipline - MBA's, Engineering, Arts, Commerce and Political Science students were all interviewed, and all of them expressed frustration at their inability to find satisfactory employment in their chosen field.

According to some reports, these university graduates are coming up empty because the jobs of their dreams are still being occupied by the "baby boomer generation." One training consultant notes that significant retirement of the baby boomers won't begin for another six years, and that even then, many will continue to hold onto their jobs.

For "baby boomers" the message is mixed. For those who are currently employed - this could mean that our university degree may be parlayed into improved employment prospects within our current field, giving us opportunities to advance. Others, like myself, who are embarking on a new career path mid-life, may find that we are starting at entry-level employment in competition with younger graduates. We may well be in the same boat when it comes to lacking a required level of career-related experience - but mature students also have a distinct advantage - that of life experience. We do have a perceived disadvantage of fewer productive work years ahead, yet even this is changing.

The labour market is increasingly "greying," with older workers remaining on the job long past traditional retirement years, and this is a topic I will be addressing in a future article.

Post-secondary education, however, continues to be the single most important factor in determining whether one will find employment. A key component of employment success is choosing the right occupation and degree. A recent survey was undertaken by DBM, a global human resources consulting company, in order to identify employment areas that will experience growth during the next ten years.

One of the most important findings of the survey was that high school diplomas will no longer carry much weight, with the number of organizations requiring a post-graduate degree likely to double by 2013. Of careers that will see the most growth, the top four identified in the survey were technology/IT; sales/marketing; engineering/technical; and human resources.

Jobs that will decline include administration/clerical; general management and middle management. (Of interest to note, previous DBM findings calculated in October, 2003 had identified healthcare/pharmaceutical, finance, and professional services as the most popular hiring sectors over the six months following that survey.)

Some degrees will likely always be more likely to lead to a career that is a "labour of love" rather than wildly successful. Fine Arts degrees tend to fall into that category, and many graduates with degrees in art have resigned themselves to always having to work in another field to make a living, while pursuing their art part time. This is not the expectation a graduate with an engineering degree usually has, however, so the discouragement of these young graduates is understandable. It was noted that many graduates from two-year technical programs had greater success at finding work than those with four-year university degrees, and this is an important point to keep in mind when seeking career training.

Some other interesting items from the DBM survey:

- job seekers who are willing to "reinvent" themselves and remain flexible were more likely to succeed in securing employment.
- 53% of professional jobs are obtained through networking, while only 7% are found through print advertisements, and 4% through the Internet.

In the DBM summary of the "most desirable worker" of the future; "well-educated with a university degree" and "a desire for continuous learning throughout their career" topped the list. Since these are main goals of our studies at AU, we can be reassured that we are on the right path.

Edmonton Journal online references:

Generation Underemployed:

<http://www.canada.com/edmonton/edmontonjournal/news/archives/story.html?id=e41bb3c6-9b78-4157-8882-ac2b1b234b12>

EDCetera, Frustrating to the Nth Degree

<http://www.canada.com/edmonton/edmontonjournal/news/archives/story.html?id=6fc6183f-50b4-469f-a7e8-f3b2ad989ee3>

Thielman, Jill (2004). Generation Underemployed, ED Magazine, The Edmonton Journal May 29, 2004.

DBM Canada. The future of Work: <http://www.dbmcanada.com/>

DBM research shows job market slow to rebound in improving economy. March 16, 2004:

<http://dbmext.dbm.com/portal/public/dbmnav.nsf/mainFrameset?openframeset&frame=Main&src=sitemap/982b11c48ff8096f85256e5900730ffe?OpenDocument>

DBM Survey reveals industry sector hiring trends. December 4, 2003:
<http://www.dbm.com/portal/public/dbmnav.nsf/search/d0dd407e4f326fcc85256df200657fdf?OpenDocument>

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 recently served as the president of the Athabasca University Students' Union.

FROM THE OUTSIDE: FLAMES FANS

Amanda Lyn Baldwin



When I moved to Calgary, more than ten years ago, those who encouraged the Flames were losers. The team hadn't won much since 1989 and was going nowhere. Their recent pleas to the government and the fans for more funding can attest to that.

Amazingly, this season, they've turned a complete 180. Captain Jarome Iginla is so hot he basically melts the ice, not to mention Miikka Kiprusoff, who could stop a bullet from getting in his net.

After making it into this year's playoffs (which we were proud of from the get go) the Flames went on to defeat the Vancouver Canucks, the Detroit Redwings, and most recently the San Jose Sharks. Right now, they're battling it out with the Tampa Bay Lightning in the Stanley Cup Playoff.

We're ahead in the series, two games to one, with 4 more to go. The next game is at the Saddledome on Monday, May 31st (home), Game 5: Thursday, June 3rd (away), Game 6: Saturday, June 5th (home), and if it goes far enough, Game 7: Monday, June 7th (away). All games are at 6pm.

The support this underdog team has received from their hometown is incredible. Almost every vehicle is sporting a Flames flag either in/on their window or on their antenna. I've even seen some with spray paint professing their loyalty. I had my boyfriend pick me up a flag for my car, but I never received it as it made its way into his own collection (two flags and a sticky thing on the back window).

Even businesses are getting into the Flames spirit, offering great deals on game days. At the beginning of the playoff race Blaskin & Lane (not just tires), ran a promotion where they would give customers (who'd bought tires) their money back if the flames won the cup. After Calgary whooped San Jose, the promotion was cancelled.

After each game, downtown Calgary (17th Ave.) is the spot to be. Last Saturday's game (Game 3, on the 29th) brought down over 40,000 people, including women brave enough to bare their breasts to the public. It's definite that at least 35,000 of the fans were men just waiting for these girls to show their stuff.

When the flames won the Western Conference Final, in their 6th game against San Jose, I was up until at least 3am, waiting for the "ruckus" to die down. I heard horns, fireworks, sirens, even gun shots. It was unbelievable, since I live across the city from the Saddledome (and 17th Ave). I'm sure that the liquor stores are making a whole whack of cash on game nights.

All in all, my support goes to the Flames too, as much as I hate hockey and sports. See, it's my opinion that athletes shouldn't ask/accept as much money as they do, if they're truly playing for the love of the game. We all know that next year the Stanley Cup Champions will need to be paid even more money than has been forked out this year, but hey, imagine the amount of money that the City will make when the Flames win the cup. My bet is on game six (final home game).

For more information on the Calgary Flames, team, standings, schedule, and history, visit: www.calgaryflames.com

Education will be election issue, student groups vow

Parties reveal competing visions for future of post-secondary

By Stephen Hui
CUP National Bureau Chief

BURNABY, B.C. (CUP) -- If post-secondary education is not a major election issue, it should be, Canada's leading student groups say.

The Canadian Federation of Students and Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec, representing 600,000 students across the country, have joined forces to call for increased federal funding for post-secondary education and propose measures to reduce student debt. They hope the major political parties will hear their demands.

"The clock is ticking, of course," said Ian Boyko, CFS national chair, by telephone from Ottawa. "Because once the parties' platforms are out, it makes it infinitely more difficult to try and change it."

In a joint policy document released May 26, the student groups urge the federal government to increase transfer payments for post-secondary education to the provinces by \$3.6 billion. They blame Liberal cutbacks during the 1990s for rising tuition fees in most provinces.

The student groups are also asking the government to exempt student grants from income taxes, establish a system of needs-based grants, rescind the 10-year bankruptcy prohibition on student loans, and reject loan repayment models based on income. Their demands aren't limited to the education system though; the document also recommends federal funding for public transit and proportional representation in Parliament.

"If the Liberals can't commit to making real change for post-secondary education," Boyko said, "then we're going to do everything we can to make sure they find themselves in a minority government position."

While the Liberal Party has not issued its education platform, Hedy Fry, a member of Parliament from Vancouver, said the party aims to increase the proportion of Canadians with post-secondary education from 39 to 50 per cent over the next decade. She said it is looking at ways to expand and change the tools available to help students finance their education.

According to Fry, the Liberals want to expand the federal government's role in education beyond funding to have a hand in its administration, which falls under provincial jurisdiction.

"We have to come up with a cost-sharing venture to allow us to work with the provinces," the MP said. "It may be that if we could do that, we could help them to bring down tuition, or at least not raise tuition anymore."

Fry hinted Prime Minister Paul Martin would announce more money for post-secondary education. She blamed the lower levels of funding in the 1990s on the Brian Mulroney government.

"I think it's a bum rap to say that we cut," she said.

A representative for the Conservative Party said that until its platform is made public, the party isn't prepared to comment on specific issues.

The New Democratic Party's platform advocates lowering tuition fees by 10 per cent, as well as upping federal funding to support a nation-wide tuition freeze. It calls for more funding for research to stop the privatisation of research on campus. The NDP wants to replace the Millennium Scholarship Fund with needs-based grants, and supports crediting interest accumulated on student loans against graduates' income taxes.

One key issue in post-secondary education, according to Fédération étudiante universitaire du Québec spokesperson Nick Vikander, is the plight of international students. Although international students typically

pay higher tuition fees than their domestic counterparts, they aren't allowed to work off-campus in most provinces.

"It's a really difficult situation for them," Vikander said from Montréal. "We're asking the federal government, at least as a first step, to allow them to work part-time to help them meet some of their needs."

The Bloc Québécois takes up this cause in their platform. The party also demands the federal government increase its transfer payments for education to Québec.

Christophe Fortier-Guay, spokesperson for the Bloc's youth wing, said the party is concerned about federal interest in playing a greater role in education.

"It is starving the provinces by not giving the money that they need in education," he said from Montréal. "What happens next is -- when they have financial problems like we have now -- they come with a cheque. But this cheque comes with conditions, national Canadian priorities."

A Liberal or Conservative minority government, Fortier-Guay said, might help the Bloc achieve some of its aims in Parliament.

While the Green Party platform states it wants to reduce the "up-front cost" of tuition fees, the party's Halifax candidate said their ultimate goal is to make post-secondary education free.

"We'd like to move to it as quickly as possible," said Michael Oddy, the Greens' education critic. "Because we see it as in the public interest to have a well-funded, publicly accessible education system from early childhood through to university graduation."

Charles Ungerleider, sociology of education professor at the University of British Columbia, called the affordability of post-secondary education a crucial issue for students -- one he expects the major parties to address with commitments that are more specific as the campaign rolls on.

"That shouldn't be the dividing line in Canada," the professor said from a Richmond shopping mall. "We're too rich a nation to allow the ability to pay to be the distinguishing feature between those who go and those who don't."

Voters head to the polls June 28.

AU COMPUTING SERVICES HELP DESK - SUMMER HOURS

The Computing Services (CS) Help Desk's summer hours will be 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m daily, from July 5 through August 27. The CS Help Desk can be contacted by using the online trouble reporting form at

http://www.athabascau.ca/html/depts/compserve/helpdesk/students/helpdesk_students.html
(with the form link in the upper left), emailing helpdesk@athabascau.ca
or phoning 1-800-788-9041, ext 6405. Make sure you leave your name, student ID number, and, if calling outside these hours, a number where you can be reached the next working day.

GARDEN DELIGHT II



From
Where
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

Have you ever decided to spade up some established grassy area in your yard because you just had to plant more flowers? Have you ever moved rocks, concrete blocks, or timbers to add definition to your garden? Have you ever transplanted trees or shrubs by hand? Have you ever gone head to head with the quack grass and dandelions common to most yards? Have you ever dragged lengths of garden hose for miles?

Have you ever hurt yourself gardening? Chiropractor Brad Remenda sees the results daily in his practice.

The late, late spring often frustrates gardeners and possibly adds a sense of urgency to getting the job done. After all, with our short zone 2 season, gung ho gardeners don't have forever to rake, mulch, spade, plant, transplant, weed, water, prune and upkeep. So working too hard and too long in perhaps the wrong position gets us onto Brad's treatment table.

"Lower back pain is the most common gardening injury we see," says Remenda. "And much of the pain and discomfort is preventable with proper pacing, tools and techniques."

"Dwayne (fellow chiropractor and brother) and I advise our patients to go slow. You can't do it all in one day, nor should you. Taking frequent breaks is essential. Using long handled, ergonomically designed tools like shovels and rakes increases your reach and reduces the strain on your back," adds Remenda.

"Avoid twisting your back when lifting or performing repetitive motions like raking. It's been said a million times but it's true---bend at the knees rather than the waist. That lets your legs do the hardest part. It goes without saying that good physical conditioning makes for a stronger back," concludes Remenda. "And of course icing the injured area and seeing your chiropractor for an adjustment makes good sense."

Gardening guru Mark Cullen says the second area most prone to gardening pain is the knees. Using kneepads and always bending only one knee at a time prevents undue stress on the back and knees.

Cullen recommends garden tools with padded grips and long, extensible handles. Ratchet pruners are easiest on arthritic hands. Choosing the right tool for the job is common sense. A short-handled spade may be ideal for moving lightweight compost around. For some serious digging the pros use long handled shovels. Keeping your back as straight as possible and bending the knees slightly is the safest stance.

Working smarter instead of harder is something I'm really trying to aim for. I've got way too many areas that aren't properly mulched for water retention and weed suppression. A simple "Y" fitting at the outside tap and two lengths of hose dedicated to different areas cuts down on the dragging I do. Sweet-talking your man into the really heavy lifting is also advised.

Finally, frequent breaks on a chaise lounge in the shade of a specimen tree with a drink in hand while cloud watching have got to be good for back. I just know it. From where I sit.

**Reprinted with permission*



Klein Broo-Ha-Ha Part Two

The Provincial Government of Alberta has released a statement showing that Athabasca University has cleared Premier Ralph Klein of any plagiarism charges. In the release they include a letter from Athabasca University sent to Klein from Ken Collier. The letter says that upon reviewing the work with the tutor comments, including those noting the errors in citation, no further action is warranted.

In the release, Klein is quoted as saying "It has disturbed me that Albertans might have been left with the impression that I behaved dishonestly in completing my course work." As well it should. Unfortunately, the other side of the coin is that if he's not dishonest, he's simply dumb. Not necessarily for citing things wrong, but for the more obvious screw-up of

having received the paper back, with tutor comments about errors in citations, and then submitting an unmarked copy to the public record. How much damage has Premier Klein done to the reputation of Athabasca University with this completely thoughtless act? How little sense did it take to not realize that if the tutor caught this, his political opponents would be equally likely to pick up on it?

Klein apologists tend to suffer this with a shrug and a remark about him only being human. They conveniently forget that this particular human has an incredible record of shoving his foot firmly in his mouth on issues of all kinds. Just recently I recall a comment that an Alberta farmer might have decided to "shoot, shovel, and shut-up" about a BSE ridden cow, to a group of people with influence on whether Alberta would be able to export beef to the United States again. And then there was a drunken slur to a working homeless man at a shelter that he should "get a job". For those apologists, I give you this: if you like where Alberta is now, imagine where it could be if we had a leader that didn't consistently screw up in public.

Beyond this, there remains the question on how he managed to get 77% on what is, citation issue aside, a paper that is, to me, mediocre at best. Is it favouritism on the part of the tutor? Not necessarily. As we all know, all tutors are subjective to some degree. Many of us also know that certain tutors, courses, or even certain programs are easier to get higher marks in than others. It's not fair, but it's unfortunately the nature of education. So it's possible this is just within the normal variation of marks within courses and programs.

If only I knew which tutor it was. I could use a GPA boost.

Where there's Smokes, there's Lawyers.

The Provincial Government of British Columbia is suining the tobacco industry. The reasons given are that the industry knew their product was harmful, but marketed it as if it was not. To me, this isn't a big deal. After all, part of marketing is de-emphasizing the negative.

However, they also claim that the tobacco industry wilfully acted to suppress research showing the risks of smoking, and this certainly seems to be grounds to sue. When you're taking action to make it harder for people to learn the risks (as opposed to not telling people the risks yourself) then you're crossing the line into endangering the public.

However I personally think that litigation is the wrong way to go. Unfortunately the British Columbia government is more interested in the cash they can grab than they are in really dealing with the health issues (as

evidenced by the continued non-prescription sale of cigarettes). If they were not, the right way to go would be to remove all tobacco-related exceptions and exemptions from provincial and federal laws, and then simply re-evaluate cigarettes as if they were a new product coming on to the market.

If it was found that they could still be sold under certain restrictions, so be it.

If, on the other hand, it was found that the products were, say, as dangerous as rat poison, then the tobacco companies would be barred from advertising their products for human consumption. If they can find some other use for smokes and advertise them that way, I'm all for that.

After all, I could use a good laugh. And seeing someone pick up a box with a great big "rat-B-gone" logo on it so that they could smoke the stuff inside. I'd just have to laugh.

A native Calgarian, Karl is perpetually nearing the completion of his Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Information Studies. He also works for the Computer Sciences Virtual Helpdesk for Athabasca University and plans to eventually go on to tutor and obtain his Master's Degree.

Students launch campaign urging voters to 'Think Education'

CASA Press Release

OTTAWA, May 27, 2004 — With the launch of a national campaign today, students from coast-to-coast will challenge voters and political candidates to prioritize post-secondary education in next month's federal election. An initiative of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations, the 'Think Education' campaign also aims to promote youth participation in the electoral system.

"It's time that we had a serious debate in this country on the current state and future of our post-secondary education system," said James Kusie, National Director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA). Ten years of cuts to transfer payments have resulted in the largest tuition increases in Canadian history and students expect commitments from all political parties on restoring funding for colleges and universities.

The focal point of 'Think Education' is an interactive website (www.thinkeducation.ca) designed to educate voters and provide them with the tools to get involved. The website will also serve as a resource for young people seeking information on the electoral process. Additionally, the campaign will feature newspaper and radio advertising, events in ridings across the country, and the release of two important reports on student poverty and youth engagement in the politics.

A distinctive feature of the campaign website is an interactive tool that allows parents to forecast the costs of their children's education. Based on historical data from Statistics Canada, the cost calculator considers the province and program of study in its projections.

"When Canadians see what it will cost for their children to get a degree, they'll demand that the federal government reinvest post-secondary education," said Kusie. CASA is advocating for an increase of \$3.9 billion in annual funding to colleges and universities through the creation of a dedicated transfer to the provinces for post-secondary, and the expansion of grants for students from low-income families.

CASA is a non-partisan, non-profit organization representing 19 student governments and nearly 300,000 college and university students from coast-to-coast.

Featured link: <http://www.thinkeducation.ca>



A PIRATE OF HER OWN Book Review

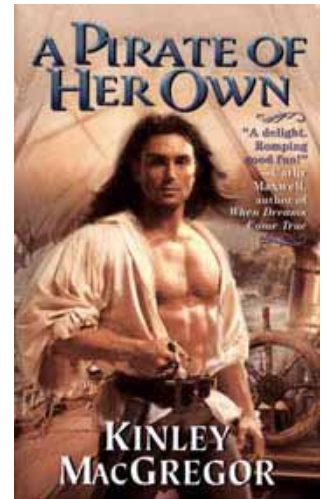
By Laura Seymour

June is Romance Month

What possessed me to bid on this book from Ebay? That's complex. There's a hunky open-shirted guy on the cover, but he's no Fabio. The subject of pirates has long been an interest to my husband and me. And then the write up of the book by the seller added to it. "He is the Sea Wolf, a dreaded pirate who stops English navy ships and frees impressed American sailors. Few know Morgan Drake's name, and none guesses at his past. Except, that is, a nosy Savannah reporter named Serenity James. Determined to protect his secrets at any cost, Morgan sets sail for Savannah...and Serenity."

I won and I'm really pleased I got it. This was one good read.

Just to let you know, this is not your average mushball romance book. In fact, it isn't published by any of the usual romance book lines (Harlequin, Silhouette, etc). This is a Harper Historical Romance, and frankly later in the book it's just plain racy! Author Kinley MacGregor is a Southern U.S. gal, and quite frankly I'm disappointed her email is no longer in operation. I wanted to congratulate her on this fine project. I'm not the only reader who felt that. Fellow author, Cathy Maxwell wrote, "A delight. Romping good fun!" *Affaire de Coeur*, said, "IMPOSSIBLE TO PUT DOWN...Heart-stopping adventure...poignant...hilarious...compelling. Kinley MacGregor has a gift for storytelling."



If you're aware of pirate history this book will probably get your attention. It is well written with plenty of details of life and expectations in the given time period, 1793. This is hardly the heyday of piracy but it will do.

Our heroine, Serenity Adams, is a wisp of a woman who is able to work in her father's print shop, but just barely. Her father puts up with her desires to be an author but will not let her overstep her female boundaries. She is forced to stay quiet in the background most of the time. It's a shame it doesn't work! Of course every heroine in romance books has to be a real spirited girl.

Others have told her about a romantic pirate of the seas, The Sea Wolf, who supposedly sails on Triton's Revenge. Man! I'm on board already. This information gets put into the paper under her "pen name", S.S. James, and the Sea Wolf himself has read it. He is attempting to get out of people's minds and this writer's story is dangerously detailed. He of course doesn't know the writer is a woman. That's absurd!

Arriving in Savannah, Georgia he goes to the print shop and starts an argument with the writer herself, not knowing who she is! But it is Serenity's birthday and she believes this is a mean-spirited joke. She runs circles around the Sea Wolf and he doesn't quite know what hit him. So, he steps back out into the pouring rain and tries to figure it out. Kinley continues to do this for the remainder of the book, until we get to the racy part!

Are you up on your pirate time terms? Neither was I, but Kinley uses Serenity's innocence to explain them beautifully. I was delighted to find out about a "powder monkey" without feeling like too much of a dunce. Powder monkeys were in charge of the powder for cannons. Usually young boys, they made sure, in battles, that the men had the powder to shoot the cannonballs.

Serenity causes all kinds of havoc and seems to endlessly get in everyone's way as they decide to put her in dock. That means of course that she'll either sleep with the men...uh no...or sleep in the captain's quarters. Since there is only one bed, he is forced to sleep on the floor outside his own room!

After Morgan, the sea wolf, has his way with a willing Serenity, she disappears. Finally he shows up after more than a year as a drunken and miserable old sot. She has born a child—his of course. It is a son. He is too stupid to figure out that it's his -- my only argument with the entire book. Finally after a bit of help from a woman in the house Serenity is taught how to loop a man around her finger. Like Serenity I was never taught how to do that, and was surprised to find out that maneuvers I thought were painfully obvious actually work!

The ending isn't particularly genius. Romance formulas are unfortunately never going to change, but it was a fabulous read to get there!

Anyone interested in this 1999 book can check www.Ebay.ca. I'm going to sell it back again. If you want a great read, I recommend you step over to the Internet before you forget! Enjoy romantic June reading, even if you aren't a June bride.

Laura Seymour first published herself, at age 8. She has since gone on to publish a cookbook for the medical condition Candida. She is working toward her B.A. (Psyc).

This column focuses on a wide range of issues affecting post-secondary students. Students are encouraged to submit suggestions and educational topics they are concerned about, or personal experiences with courses or university situations they feel other students should know about. If suggest a topic or a course alert for taking notes, contact djabbour@ausu.org

STUDENT DEBT AND ECONOMY

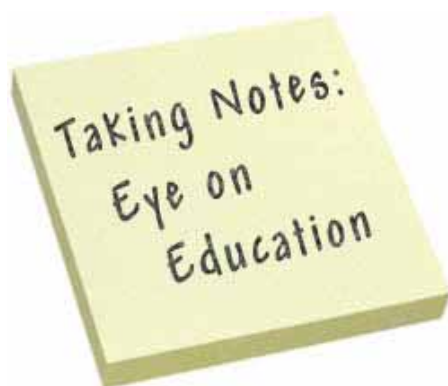
Debbie Jabbour

A letter from a student in one of Edmonton's local alternative/arts newspapers made an important observation that all of us should take notice of (Vue Weekly, Issue 445, April 29, 2004, www.vueweekly.com).

Chris Boutet, a recent graduate from the University of Alberta, commented that, as the "proud owner of an as-yet-unpaid-for \$20,000 English degree" he is very familiar with the latest Statistics Canada survey that cites student debt as rising more than 76 percent since the start of the 1990's.

Chris considers himself one of the lucky ones, he had support from family, and came out at the bottom of the scale, borrowing "only" \$20,000 over 2 1/2 years. He comments that most students owe far more than \$25,000, since this is a figure based on the cheapest degree and comes nowhere near what engineering, science or medical degrees will be repaying. But where he really hits home is in his comment regarding the impact this huge collective student debt will start to have on the Canadian economy as a whole. He makes a very logical observation: if a significant portion of the disposable income of 40 percent of young people ends up going towards paying their student loan, how much will be left over to reinvest in Canada's economy? A recent graduate facing a student loan payment of \$300-\$500 a month or more for the next ten years will not be rushing out to buy luxury items in a hurry - let alone essentials such as cars and homes. What will the impact be on our country's economic growth?

Only time will tell, but as Boutet points out, "with all these shiny new poor kids wandering around, the shrewd investor might expect a new boom era in the non-perishable food production sector" with a lot of Kraft Dinner in their future.



AUSU THIS MONTH

NEW AUSU EXECUTIVE ELECTED

This week, during the May 3rd council meeting, AUSU held an internal election to fill the three AUSU executive positions for this new term. The three positions were filled by acclamation, by a new President and Vice President External, and a returning VP Finance. The new Executive is:

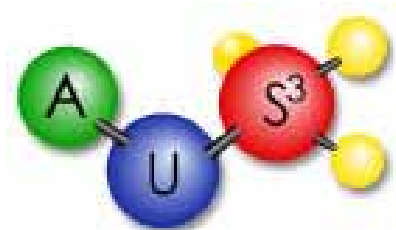
President: Mac McInnis

VP External: Teresa Neuman

VP Finance: Karl Low



NEW AUSU SPONSORED CLUB



The AU Science Students Society is now online.

The Athabasca University Science Students Society is the newest AUSU sponsored club. Open to all AU students with an interest in any of the sciences, the AUSSS (or AUS³ as they prefer to be known) has a website featuring links to AU science programs, science news, and links to websites and programs of interest to science students.

Encompassing all of the sciences, including biology, chemistry, astronomy, physics, computer science, environmental science, geology and health, the AUSSS is sure to have something for everyone.

You can visit the AU home page at: <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/auss/index.php>

Contact auss@ausu.org for more information. Members of the AUSSS have access to a private forum on the AUSU website.

AUSU IN PERSON COFFEE GROUPS



Getting together physically with fellow AU students adds to your university experience. Other students will be able to understand and relate to the joys and frustrations of distance learning.

It's also a way to stay abreast of information relating to AU and the Athabasca University Students' Union.


See the Coffee Groups web page on the AUSU site, at <http://www.ausu.org/coffee> for a list of groups.

Anyone interested in starting up a group in your area (anywhere in Canada, from small towns to major centres) please contact LONITA at lfraser@ausu.org.

CHAT WITH AUSU ONLINE

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 <http://www.ausu.org>. You will need an AUSU web site account.] **Times are MST**

Mondays at 8:00 PM Councillor Karl Low



Searching for Internships

Shannon Maguire

A new regular Voice opportunities column
Check the News and Events section for new listings every two weeks

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF CANADA

Website: www.jobs.gc.ca

The government of Canada's Public Service Commission website is a very valuable resource for students searching for internships. They have numerous programs for students including the Post-Secondary Recruitment Program, the Federal Student Work Experience Program, Co-op/Internship Programs, the Management Trainee Program and the Accelerated Economist Training Program. More detailed information about all of these programs can be found on the Public Service Commission website.

The Post-Secondary Recruitment Program

This program is the vehicle through which Federal Government Departments hire new university graduates to fill entry-level positions. Most of these positions are full time permanent careers. Although, not an internship program it is a valuable program for students to be aware of when they graduate and begin looking for a career.

The Federal Student Work Experience Program (FSWEP)

This program provides secondary and post-secondary students with temporary student jobs in federal government departments that will provide them with experience working in their area and with the federal government.

Position Description: Various jobs available in federal government departments. Some departments simply let the Public Service Commission know when there is a job available and others have created programs. The list of departmental programs is available in the FSWEP section of the Public Service Commission website.
Pay: Yes. Determined by the Treasury Board of the Secretariat (TBS).

Eligibility Requirements: The program is only available for full time students attending an accredited secondary or post-secondary institution and who are returning to full time studies in the next academic term. Part time students may apply if they have a disability that is recognized by their academic institution.
Time and length of position: Temporary positions. Time and length varies with each position.
How to Apply: The only way to apply for this program is to apply online at the Public Service Commission website.

The Co-op/Internship Program

This program provides post-secondary students with work placements that are required to earn academic credit towards their degree.

Position Description: Temporary work placements in various fields with the federal government.

Pay: Yes. Determined by the Treasury Board of the Secretariat (TBS).

Eligibility Requirements: In order to obtain a work placement you must be a full time post-secondary student enrolled in an educational program that requires you to complete a work placement in order to graduate. The

program you are enrolled in must also be approved by the Public Service Commission. You can find a list of approved programs on their website.

Time and Length of Position: The length of the positions are determined by the academic institution and are usually 4 months long but may also last up to 18 months.

How to Apply: To apply or to get more information you must contact a Public Service Commission Co-op Coordinator in your area.

The Management Trainee Program

This is a program for graduates that will provide them with the training and work experience necessary to obtain intermediate level managerial positions with the federal government.

Position Description: Trainees will participate in a program consisting of work experience assignments and educational components. Trainees will complete 4 or 5 assignments with federal government organizations that last for 12 months each.

Pay: Yes. Determined by the Treasury Board of the Secretariat (TBS).

Eligibility Requirements: Applicants must be bilingual but those who are not may be eligible for government sponsored language training. Applicants must possess a master's degree from a recognized university. Applicants may apply with only a bachelor's degree if they are federal public servants in participating departments and agencies.

Time and Length of Position: The program is 4 years long.

How to Apply: You must apply through the Post-Secondary Recruitment Campaign. The next campaign will be starting around the end of summer 2004. Keep checking the Public Service Commission website for information.

Accelerated Economist Training Program

This is a program for graduates that will provide them with the work experience necessary to become intermediate level economic and public policy analysts for the federal government.

Position Description: Trainees will complete four six month long work assignments in the economic and public policy sector.

Pay: Yes. Determined by the Treasury Board of the Secretariat (TBS).

Eligibility Requirements: Must possess a master's degree in economics, public administration or related disciplines.

Time and Length of Position: The program is 2 years long.

How to Apply: You must apply through the Post-Secondary Recruitment Campaign. The next campaign will be starting around the end of summer 2004. Keep checking the Public Service Commission website for information.

IBM CANADA

Website: www.can.ibm.com/hr/intern.html

IBM Canada offers internships, co-ops and summer internship programs. You can visit their website for more detailed information.

Position Description: Various positions are available that would be of interest primarily to engineering, information technology, or business students but they also employ people in the area of consulting, education and training, finance, human resources, manufacturing and testing, media design, operations, retail, sales and technical writing.

Pay: Yes.

Eligibility Requirements: Must be a full time student attending an accredited post-secondary institution. Co-op opportunities are only available for students registered in an accredited co-op program who have completed two years of their degree. Internship opportunities are only available for students enrolled in an internship or experience year program who have completed the third or fourth year of their degree. Summer internship opportunities are available to all full time post-secondary students.

Time and Length of Position: Co-ops are 4 or 8 months long and start in January, May or September. Internships are 12 or 16 months long and start in May. Some may also start in January or September but these are limited. Summer internships start in May or June and end in September.

How to Apply: For co-op or internships your school must have an internship or co-op program and you must ask your school to contact 905 316 2000 or 1 800 IBM 4 YOU or ibmhr@ca.ibm.com. To apply for summer internships you can apply through IBM's human resources website (www.can.ibm.com/hr) which also lists the opportunities available.

Bank of Canada

Website: www.bankofcanada.ca

Position Description: Various internships. The bank of Canada employs people in positions such as economic experts, financial market analysts, financial analysts, professionals in different fields, and administrators.

Pay: Unknown

Eligibility Requirements: Must be a university student.

Time and Length of Position: 3-6 months long.

How to Apply: You can apply online at http://works.workopolis.com/customers/bankcanada/h_coop_e.html.

Air Liquide

Website: www.airliquide.com

Air Liquide is an international company and the world leader in industrial and medical gases and related services.

Position Description: Air Liquide has internships in accounting, administration and payroll, audit, communication, engineering, finance, healthcare, human resources, insurance, IT, law, logistics, management, marketing, procurement, production, research and development and sales.

Pay: Unknown.

Eligibility Requirements: Must be a student in a post-secondary institution.

Time and Length of Position: Varies.

How to Apply: You can post your resume on their website at http://www.airliquide.com/en/corporate/careers/student_zone/internships.asp or you can browse their current internship opportunities at <http://194.2.192.4/genial/genial.nsf?opendatabase&langue=eng&open=CSS>



Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with the word "events" in the subject line.

alberta

River City Shakespeare Festival Jun 24 - Jul 18, 2003
Heritage Amphitheatre, Hawrelak Park,
Edmonton, AB

* Playing The Merchant of Venice & The Twelfth Night

Show Times: Shows run nightly at 8 pm from June 24 to July 18, with Saturday and Sunday Matinees at 2 pm. No shows on: Mondays, Sunday, July 11, and Sunday, June 27. Don't forget, opening nights (June 24 and 25) and Tuesday nights (June 29, July 6 and 13) are Pay-What-You-Will

Tickets: \$15 for adults, \$11 for students and seniors.
Festival Pass: \$22 gets you admittance to both shows on any two nights of your choosing. Tickets are available at the park, or in advance by calling Tix On The Square at 420-1757 or online at www.tixonthesquare.ca
<http://www.rivercityshakespeare.com/>

british columbia

Bard on the Beach
Vancouver, BC
June 3 - Sept. 26, 2004
<http://www.bardonthebeach.org>
call the box office at 604-739-0559, or toll-free 1-877-739-0559.

Celebrating its 15th season in 2004, the Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival runs in open-ended tents on the waterfront in Vanier Park, against a spectacular backdrop of mountains, sea & sky. The 2004 season features the delightful domestic comedy The Merry Wives of Windsor, the courtship folly Much Ado About Nothing and the dark tragedy Macbeth.

ALCAN DRAGONBOAT FESTIVAL
<http://www.adbf.com/>
Vancouver, BC

Vancouver hosts the largest dragon boat celebration in North America. More than 180 teams plus entertainers, marketplace and food vendors and thousands of visitors take part in this unique 3-day event. Join us June 18, 19 and 20, 2004 at Concord Pacific Place, Science World and the waters of False Creek. Help celebrate our 16th edition and find out why there's more to the rhythm than a race!

saskatchewan

Government House Historical Society Victorian Tea - REGINA. SK
Tel: 306-787-5363; Fax: 306-787-5714

Enjoy a traditional Victorian Tea in Saskatchewan's unique and elegant Government House Ballroom. Tea served 1 - 4pm. 2004 dates: Mar 13 - 14, April 3 - 4, May 1 - 2, June 12 - 13, July 3 - 4, Aug 7 - 8, Sept 11 - 12, Oct 2 - 3, Nov 6 - 7, Dec 4 - 5 (reservations required for Dec dates only). Government House tours available. Groups of 8 or more, please call ahead. Due to construction, please call to confirm times. Mar 13, 2004 to Dec 6, 2004

Art Gallery of Swift Current presents Windowworks SWIFT CURRENT. SK

Tel: 306-778-2736; Fax: 306-773-8769

Email: k.houghtaling@city.swift-current.sk.ca

Web: <http://www.artgalleryofswiftcurrent.org>

Experience an intriguing, charming and beautiful exhibition of art and heritage presented throughout downtown windows in Swift Current. Talented artists present site-specific paintings, sculptures, installation artworks and dioramas. Apr 1, 2004 to Oct 31, 2004

ontario

North by Northwest
<http://www.nxne.com/>
June 10 - 12 2004 - Toronto, Ontario

Canada's largest music festival of its kind, North by Northeast has been offering emerging talent from around the world the chance to shine in front of audiences packed with music industry insiders and hard-core music fans for a decade. Performers from Canada, the United States (which contributed a full 1/3 of the overall entries), Japan, Israel, Germany, Wales, Sweden, the Netherlands, Iceland, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Italy, Scotland, Australia, Spain, New Zealand, Norway, Belgium, Finland, and, for the first time, the Czech Republic, are all vying for the nearly 400 performance showcase slots up for grabs at this year's 10th Anniversary edition of NXNE.

Delegate badges, which entitle the bearer to priority access and no cover charge at the clubs, full access to the conference Friday and Saturday, and access to NXNE Film screenings and panels, are a steal at the early bird price

of \$200 CDN/\$160 US and are on sale now. Registration on-line.

Children's Groundwater Festival
Kitchener, Ontario
May 31, 2004 to Jun 04, 2004
<http://www.cwec.ca/>

For event & ticket information:
Telephone: (519) 748-1914
E-mail: rsusan@region.waterloo.on.ca
Fax: (519) 748-0009

The Children's Water Institute, in cooperation with Doon Heritage Crossroads is pleased to present the Waterloo Wellington Children's Groundwater Festival. This fun and creative week-long festival features a variety of hands-on activities, demonstrations and displays which will challenge people of all ages to consider the source of and importance of water to themselves, the environment and society. More than 4,000 school children will take part in the week long Festival.

NIAGARA GRAPE AND WINE FESTIVALS
<http://www.grapeandwine.com/>
Niagara region of Ontario

The Niagara Grape & Wine Festival is a non-profit organization that runs a series of seasonal wine festivals in the Niagara region. The Niagara Icewine Festival, the Niagara New Vintage Festival, and the Niagara Wine Festival attract 100,000's of visitors to the area each year. The New Vintage Festival, for example, runs from June 12 to 27, 2004. You can find more information about it, and other area festivals, at their website.

TORONTO
Kodak Lectures

The Kodak Lectures is an ongoing international lecture series programmed by the School of Image Arts at Ryerson University in Toronto.

Since 1975, a veritable who's who from the world of image making has graced the stage at Ryerson, including Dutch photographer and video artist Rineke Dijkstra, Canadian "cyborg" Steven Mann, German artists Bernd and Hilla Becher, and Oscar-nominated Canadian filmmaker Atom Egoyan.

You may contact Robert Burley at (416) 979-5167 for more information. A list of the presenters can be found via their website.
<http://www.ryerson.ca/news/events/imagesandideas/>

newfoundland

GATHERINGS
St. John's, Newfoundland & Labrador
May 02, 2004 to Jun 18, 2004

<http://www.craftcouncil.nf.ca/>

For event & ticket information:
Phone: (709) 753-2749; Fax: (709) 753-2766
E-mail: info@craftcouncil.nf.ca

The Craft Council Gallery, 59 Duckworth Street, presents a group exhibition that explores a contemporary response to embroidery as seen through the eyes of four young Newfoundland artists: Stephanie Barry, Susan Furneaux, Catherine McCausland and Libby Moore. The work investigates this emotional connection that each artist feels toward their chosen craft, to this land and its people, and to each other. Opening reception Sunday May 2, 2-4 pm.

nova scotia

Histoires de la Baie
Belliveau Cove, Nova Scotia

Histoires de la Baie. Guided interpretive walks in three coastal parks in the Municipality of Clare; Parc Joseph et Marie, Smuggler's Cove and Mavillette Beach Park. Highlights Acadian culture, folklore, natural history and local ecology (tides, marsh, clams, etc). Tours available in English and French. Regular tours offered weekly June to October, see website for detailed schedule. Special tours available upon request. Admission: \$5 adults, special rates for groups. May 1, 2004 to October 1, 2004

Admission: \$5 adults, special rates for groups.
<http://www.clarenovascotia.com>

Photography Show
Liverpool, Nova Scotia

Photography Show. Sherman Hines Museum of Photography. Photographs from a recent book by Sherman Hines featuring Mahone Bay, Wolfville and others. Subject to change.

May 1, 2004 to December 23, 2004 - Admission: free
<http://www.shermanhinesphotographymuseum.com>

Soiree Acadienne / Acadian Music
Pubnico, Nova Scotia

Soirée Acadienne / Acadian Music. Musée Acadien, West Pubnico. Music by local artists with singsong of Acadian songs. Bring your musical instrument. Everybody welcome! Taste traditional food. First Wednesday of each month. May 5 - Nov 3, 2004
Admission: \$4.00 - <http://www.museeacadien.ca>

Farmer's Market
Belliveau Cove, Nova Scotia

Farmer's Market. Belliveau Cove Wharf. A quality merchandise market open in the Parc Joseph et Marie Dugas at the Belliveau Cove Wharf beside the tourist bureau. Products available include meats, produce,

prepared foods, herbs, plants, art, craft & much more.
Open Saturday mornings from 9 am to 2 pm.

May 15 - Oct 9 - Free - <http://www.clarenovascotia.com>

Spring Art Exhibition Yarmouth, Nova Scotia

Spring Art Exhibition. Sign of the Whale, 543 Hwy. 1
Yarmouth, NS. May 21 to June 12; Admission: Free.

Photography Show Liverpool, Nova Scotia

Photography Show. Sherman Hines Museum of
Photography. "Sherman Hines: Annual Outhouse Calendar
Show". A humorous look at outhouses from around the
world. Subject to change.

May 26 to September 30; Admission: free
<http://www.shermanhinesphotographymuseum.com>

Scotia Festival of Music Halifax, Nova Scotia

Scotia Festival of Music. Dalhousie Arts Centre. A two-
week celebration of chamber music featuring over 50
public events including concerts, recitals, lectures,
master classes, clinics and workshops. The guest artists
and faculty are all internationally acclaimed musicians
and the performances are of the highest calibre.
Admission: concerts are \$25 (\$20 for students & seniors).
All other events (i.e. rehearsals & classes) are \$5 each,
free with a \$25 "All Events Pass".

May 30 to June 13 - <http://www.scotiafestival.ns.ca>

Seacoast Celtic Concerts Musquodoboit Harbour, Nova Scotia May 15, 2004 to Sep 18, 2004 <http://www.seacoastescapes.ca/>

For event & ticket information:
Telephone: (902) 889-3662; Fax: (902) 484-6991
E-mail: bbaker@seacoastescapes.ca

Seacoast Celtic Music Events are held at the Petpeswick
Yacht Club in Musquodoboit Harbour (35 minutes from
Halifax) on selected Saturday Nights. Food and Bar service
begins at 7:00 and the music starts at 7:30.

Stone Soup Festival Moser River, Nova Scotia May 15 - Oct 31 - <http://bay-of-islands.org/festival/>

For event & ticket information:
Telephone: (902) 347-2602 Fax: (902) 347-2602

E-mail: gail@bay-of-islands.org

Originating in 2002, Stone Soup Festival is a gathering
place for musicians, songwriters, storytellers and variety
performers to see and be seen. Hosted Eastern Shore
Talent Showcase in 2003 offering exposure to new talent.
Studio on site at the Bay of Islands Centre and ongoing
events all summer long.

Themed festival based on the experience of bringing a
skill or talent to 'add to the pot'. Stone Soup 2004
features open mic, outdoor camping venues, including
writers, storytellers, theatre and sustainable living events
from May 15 to Oct 31. The Eastern Shore in Concert is
featured on the Jul 30 - Aug 1st long weekend, 2004.

OPEN ART EXHIBITION OPENING Amherst, Nova Scotia

Open Art Exhibition Opening. Cumberland County Museum
& Archives. Exhibit of Cumberland County Artists and
Artisans. Apr 26 to Jun 12 - Opening free, exhibit daily
admission. <http://www.creda.net/~ccmuseum/>

YUKON ART SOCIETY Whitehorse, Yukon - May 25, 2004 to Aug 13, 2004 <http://www.steveslade.com/park.htm> Info: (867)668-3136 - Email: steve@steveslade.com

Steve Slade, working with the Yukon Art Society,
produces a 12 week summer concert series in Downtown
Whitehorse. It features a different "act" every lunch hour
(M-F) beginning immediately after the May long weekend
and runs through till early august. Every week there is a
different visual artist showcased. This festival is free to
the public.

international

ALEXANDRIA, VA - USA In2Words: Numbers & Words June 10-July 18 and July 24-August 22 DEADLINES for both exhibitions: FRIDAY, APRIL 2. \$25 for slides of up to 3 works - Call 703.838.4565 x 4 Email: targetgallery@torpedofactory.org

SASE to: In2Words, 105 N Union St, Alexandria VA, 22314

An exhibition in two parts exploring the use of numbers
and words in art. Part One: Numbers, juried by Sarah
Tanguy, Independent Curator, Washington, DC, exhibit
dates: June 10-July 18. Part Two: Words, juried by
Krystyna Wasserman, National Museum of Women in the
Arts, Washington, DC, exhibit dates: July 24-August 22.
All artists/all media. Broad interpretations encouraged.
Artists can apply to both exhibits. Awards up to \$650.

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with "events" in the subject line.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

Value: Not specified

Application Deadline: June 15

Notes: Inuit, Metis, status and non-status First Nations students enrolled in a post-secondary program of at least a two-year duration at a recognized technical institute, CEGEP, college or university in Canada

Fields of study include business, science, engineering, information technology, education, social work and social sciences.

Contact Information:

National Aboriginal Achievement Foundation

Web Site: <http://www.naaf.ca>

GLORIA LANDIS MEMORIAL BURSARY

Value: \$1000

Application Deadline: June 15

Description: Residents of Ontario At least 25 years of age with a learning disability .

Must have been accepted into a postsecondary or accredited vocational institute program as a mature student. Must not have attended school full-time for three or more years, and must consent to having their picture and a brief biography appear in LDAO publications

Contact Information:

Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario

website: <http://www.ldao.on.ca/landis.html>

XEROX ABORIGINAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Value: \$3000

Application Deadline: June 30

Description: Canadian citizens and permanent residents, or status or non status indians, metis or inuits. Must be full-time postsecondary students at an approved Canadian institution

Contact Information:

Xerox Canada Ltd. / Xerox Canada Ltée

Web Site: <http://www.xerox.ca/>



IPSI 2004

July 28-Aug 2

The International IPSI-2004 PESCARA Conference in Italy (IPSI = Internet, Processing, Systems for e-education/e-business, and Interdisciplinary), will be held in the hotel Castello Chiola from July 28 till August 2, 2004. Detailed program and all relevant information are given at the web: www.internetconferences.net.

Castello Chiola is a century IX castle on the top of a hill, with a sea view; best Italian beaches around Pescara are only about 10km away. This is our former L'Aquila conference relocated to a place which is much more attractive and convenient. Opening keynote: Professor Michael Flynn, from Stanford University.

The main goal of this conference is to bring together the elite VIP scientists from all over the world, and to provide a forum for exchange of ideas in a number of related fields that interact.

INTERFACE 2004

Jun 16-18

Conference Theme: e-Learning Magic

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, Calgary, AB, <http://centreforlearning.sait.ca/interface2004/>

Conference Contact: Ingrid Stammer; Phone: 403-319-7245; Email: ingrid_stammer@cpr.ca

Who should go? Teachers & Trainers - Technology Coordinators/ Specialists - Staff developers - Curriculum specialists

The Interface 2004 conference theme, e-Learning Magic, will bring educators, administrators, and corporate trainers together through presentations, workshops, and networking in the following areas: - New ideas in analysis, design, development, implementation, and evaluation of e-learning; - Innovative methods for the delivery of student services for e-learners; - Novel approaches to faculty professional development for e-learning.

ETOM HIGGINS LAKE RETREAT FOR DISTANCE EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS 2004

June 1-2

DNR Conference Center, Roscommon, Michigan, United States, <http://www.etom.org/events/index.htm>

Contact: Colette Perugia, ETOM Business Manager, Ph: 734-462-4570, Fax: 734-462-4589, Email: cperugia@schoolcraft.cc.mi.us

Who should go? Teachers & Trainers - Administrators - Technology Coordinators/Technology Specialists - Library/Media Specialists - Curriculum specialists . This two-day retreat for distance educational professionals is a long standing tradition in Michigan.

JOINT CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL LIBRARIES (JCDL 2004)

Jun 7-11

Conference Theme: Global Reach and Diverse Impact

The Hilton El Conquistador Golf and Tennis Resort, Tuscon, Arizona, US, <http://www.jcdl2004.org/>

Conference Contact: Catherine Larson, Email: cal@eller.arizona.edu

Who should go? Teachers & Trainers - Technology Coordinators/Technology Specialists - Library/Media Specialists - Curriculum specialists - Researcher

The Joint Conference on Digital Libraries is a major international forum focusing on digital libraries and associated technical, practical, and social issues. JCDL encompasses the many meanings of the term "digital libraries," including (but not limited to) new forms of information institutions; operational information systems with all manner of digital content; new means of selecting, collecting, organizing, and distributing digital content; digital preservation and archiving; and theoretical models of information media, including document genres and electronic publishing. The intended community for this conference includes those interested in aspects of digital libraries such as infrastructure; institutions; metadata; content; services; digital preservation; system design; implementation; interface design; human-computer interaction; performance evaluation; usability evaluation; collection development; intellectual property; privacy; electronic publishing; document genres; multimedia; social, institutional, and policy issues; user communities; and associated theoretical topics.

INTERNATIONAL CELTIC CONFERENCE

Oct 14-17

From October 14-17th, 2004, the University College of Cape Breton will host the International Celtic Conference, Forging a Future for Celtic Languages and Cultures, under the direction of Robert Morgan, Laurent Lavoie, Hector MacNeil and Pierre Siguret.

Call for papers: We are asking for papers from scholars from everywhere. The organizing committee will invite participants with the best proposals. Different applied methodologies will be presented around the question from psycho-linguistics, social linguistics, theories of language acquisition, community development and cultural promotion. Specialists of Celtic languages will be invited together with scholars on such threatened languages as Maorie and Mi'kmaq.

Entertainment: Each night there will be live entertainment: Celtic music, songs and poetry perpetuating the formidable Gàidhlig heritage still surviving in Cape Breton and in the various Celtic countries of the world. For further information or contributions to enhance the intellectual and economic success of the conference, you may visit our website at <http://www.uccb.ca/index1.htm> or email celtic.world@uccb.ca

ideaCity

Jun 16-18

ideaCity, a "meeting of minds", is an annual conference held in Toronto, Ontario. It brings together some of the most interesting and fascinating personalities of our time, for three days of stimulating conversation, performances, thought-provoking ideas, and other social events.

The conference is not centred around any one discipline or industry, and there are no keynote or panel discussions. In fact, scripted speeches are forbidden; as the website states: "Everyone is in on the common narrative." Rather than the usual Q&A sessions after a speaker has completed their talk or performance, the conference has adopted the practice of long breaks between sessions (and nightly parties) that invite conversation between speakers, performers, and attendees.

This year's presenters include...

Michael Adams - (President and CEO, Environics, Author, Sex in the Snow); **Henry Aubin** - (Investigative Journalist, Author, The Rescue of Jerusalem); **Robert Bateman** - (Artist, Naturalist); **Jane Bunnett** - (Modern Jazz Musician); **Ken Finkleman** - (Writer, Director, Producer; The Newsroom); ... and many more.

"In an age that seems to swing wildly between wide-eyed optimism and dire pessimism, perhaps our greatest challenge is to sustain a capacity for idealism. ideaCity is one small effort to establish a forum for the high ground of ideas and idealism." (ideaCity website). This year's conference takes place from June 16th to the 18th in Toronto, Ontario. For more information regarding the conference, contact jenniferm@citytv.com or call 416 591 7400 x2475, or visit the conference website at <http://www.ideacityonline.com/>

Provided by Lonita Fraser

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **InfraEDUCA 2004** - June 25 - 27 - Pragati Maidan, New Delhi - The exhibition will be synergetic platform showcasing recent developments in Basic & Primary Education, Higher Education, Coaching Institutes, Specialised Courses, Vocational Training & Career Prospects, Distant Learning Systems, International Universities and Programmes, E-Learning Tools and Educational Kits, Computer Education, Government Schemes and Programmes etc. Details: <http://www.friendzexhibitions.com/infraeduca2004/index.htm>.
- **N.A.Web 2004** - Oct. 16-19 - Fredericton, NB, Canada - The Tenth Annual International Web-Based Teaching and Learning Conference - Details: <http://naweb.unb.ca>

Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact voice@ausu.org with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.

classifieds

Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact voice@ausu.org for more information.

CRANIOSACRAL THERAPY AND REIKI. "Tired of sore shoulders, back or neck? History of injury or overwork causing chronic pain? Stop treating the short term... treat long-term with Craniosacral Therapy and Reiki. Laura Seymour--level 4 graduate of Upledger Institute and teaching assistant. Calgary, (403) 262-5589.

AU SPORTS CLUB, NOW ONLINE! The AU Student Sports Club is now online at <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/ausc> . If you are an AU student who is interested in sports, or in getting to know others who are, check out our new site and fill out a membership form if you like that you see. It's free to join!

AU SCIENCE STUDENTS SOCIETY The AUSSS is now online at <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/ausss>. The club is open to all AU students with an interest in any of the sciences, and has a private discussion forum with the AUSU forums system.

RED DEER COFFEE GROUPS Red Deer Athabasca University students meet at the Chapter's Starbucks on the last Thursday of every month. From 8 pm to 9 pm, the goal is to share ideas that will help us all be successful AU students and collectively resolve our specific issues. Contact Ryan, lowrystcol@hotmail.com

THE VOICE

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