

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

June 16, 2004
Volume 12 Issue 24



Convocation 2004 *Profiles of this year's grads*

PSYC 406

*A challenging new course of special interest to
those planning to enter graduate studies*

Celebrating Father's Day

Get Dad something a little different this year

Plus:
Lost and Found
From My Perspective
PC Help
From Where I Sit
Taking Notes
Canadian Fedwatch
Flicks & Folios
AUSU This Month

and much more...

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THE VOICE

Jun 16, 2004

Volume 12, Issue 24

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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.

AU, AUSU and AU students help fight ALS

A few weeks ago, AU advisor Bonnie Nahornik held a fundraiser for the Alberta ALS society. To raise funds for this devastating disease, Bonnie shaved off all of her hair and donated it to Wigs for Kids.

AUSU and The Voice supported the cause by advertising the event and providing door prizes. We're happy to announce that Bonnie raised \$2536 at her event.

Thanks to everyone who contributed. We hope that the AUSU vests and Voice jacket are enjoyed by those who won them!

The Voice

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/compserv/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.

THE VOICE

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Special thanks to Athabasca University's *The Insider* for its frequent contributions

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Convocation 2004

Photos and interviews
by Carla Benavides

AU's newest grads flocked to Athabasca this past weekend to collect their parchments and visit their alma mater.

For many, it was the first time they had laid eyes on AU's main campus, which is visited by only a small number of students each year, primarily science students attending summer labs.

This year's graduates were treated to a catered meal, courtesy of AUSU, and each grad was gifted with an engraved nickel desk clock, also courtesy AUSU, to remind them of their accomplishment for years to come.

Voice reporter Carla Benavides caught up with the several grads for photos and a brief bio. Read on and get to know just a few of the many students who have earned an AU undergraduate degree this year.

Andre Derias came from British Columbia for his Bachelor of Arts degree.

Andre and his family live in a rural community, which is why he chose AU, to keep up his family life without having to relocate. He had an amazing two and a half years with AU and was very happy

to attend convocation. Throughout his studies he found the tutors to be helpful and available when he needed to contact them, and he is grateful for the kind staff that he interacted with.

His favourite course was Native Studies, and the most valuable aspect of his distance education experience is that if he wanted to, he "could do it again"; essentially, life-long learning is open ended. His advice to students is to keep on top of homework and assignments, and to talk to your tutors. Andre recommends AU as an option for post secondary learning and says that future students should experience AU convocation in person. Congratulations Andre!



Tina Schwenning is from Calgary, Alberta, and graduated this year with a Bachelor of Professional Arts degree with a major in Criminal Justice.

While her three years of distance education were a good experience, the highlight for her was finishing her last exam.

Tina has learned that you can not procrastinate while studying through distance education, and that when your life outside of University is busy, you must take full advantage of any free time.

Her advice to AU students is "don't cram!".

Tina also appreciated how well organized the convocation was and was clearly happy on this very important day.

Awesome job Tina, and most success in the future!



Shannon Hoffman is also from Calgary and is happy to have graduated with a Bachelor of Nursing.

Like so many of AU students, Shannon chose the university for the flexible time schedule it offered, and had an excellent two and a half years. She particularly enjoyed her time spent on the Calgary campus.

As well, she found her tutors to be personable and supportive. She would advise, though, that students always contact their tutors before sending in assignments. If she could do it over, she would prefer to not work full time.

Shannon actively volunteers for several organizations in her community, as well as working full time while raising three children.

Even so, Shannon earned her degree and in a very small amount of time, although it cost her sleepless days sometimes weeks while finishing assignments.

Through her dedicated study and volunteer work she has found that anyone has the opportunity to continue life-long learning and still have a life. She also learned that through perseverance and a little time you can make your dreams come true.

Shannon loves *The Voice* and receives updates by email. She'd like to see more pictures on the website, of AUSU council and staff. She would also enjoy reading more student success stories.

You are admirable Shannon, congratulations!

Terryl Wamstecker is another resident of Calgary and has graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce degree.

Terryl loved the AU experience but her best memory was finishing her last course.

Perseverance paid off for this new grad. She enrolled two weeks before her daughter was born and continued with AU so that she was able to stay at home. Thirteen years later, she has earned her degree and shares the moment with her beaming teenage daughter and proud husband.

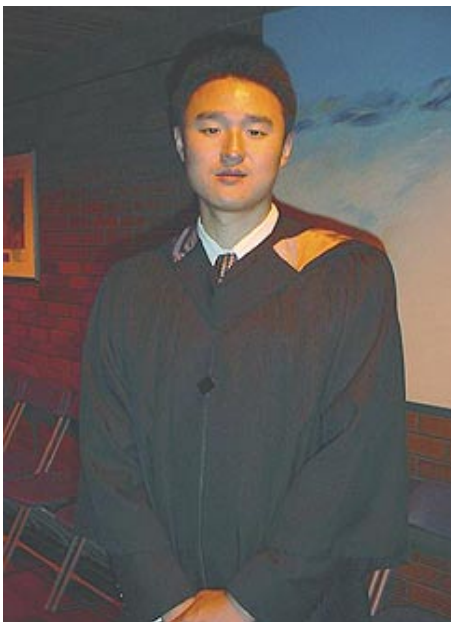
She wouldn't do anything differently except finish the degree in six years, if she could do it all over.

The most valuable lesson she's learned is to have discipline in your studies. She advises against leaving any assignments to the last minute as "procrastination is the root of all evil".

Terryl has highly recommended AU to friends and has convinced many of them to enrol. She was touched by the bios that were read as each graduating student was called up to accept their parchment, and felt that it was a nice addition to a beautiful convocation.

Three cheers Terryl, and success in all your future endeavours!





Yuan Hu flew in from Vancouver, BC, to receive his Bachelor of Administration, which he finished in three years.

Distance learning was a new experience for Yuan and he found it difficult not to be face to face with students and tutors.

He would like to see more opportunities for classroom settings and/or for students and tutors to connect. His studies combined online AU courses with courses transferred from another University. His best experience was earning his degree. He also enjoyed the flexibility that comes with distance education and feels time management was his most valuable tool gained.

Congratulations Yuan on your perseverance and success!

Harpreet Lall travelled up from Calgary, Alberta to receive her bachelor of General Studies.

She found the format of distance education to be tough at times, but admits it was a good challenge.

What she appreciates about this style of learning is being able to stay at home while studying. She feels that this University is one of diversity, offering many options to students. Harpreet loves the natural setting that is Athabasca country, and would have lived here during the three years of her studies, if she could do it all over.

Harpreet has learned that if you are committed, hard working, and never lose faith, you will always reach your goal.



Hyacinth Leong is another new graduate from Calgary, Alberta.

It took her just four years to receive her Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Psychology.

As a collaborative AU student in a Mount Royal College program, Hyacinth was able to transfer credits to earn her degree with Athabasca University.



She feels that earning a degree this way was, overall, a good experience.

She was very impressed by the convocation ceremonies and felt the whole day was a success.

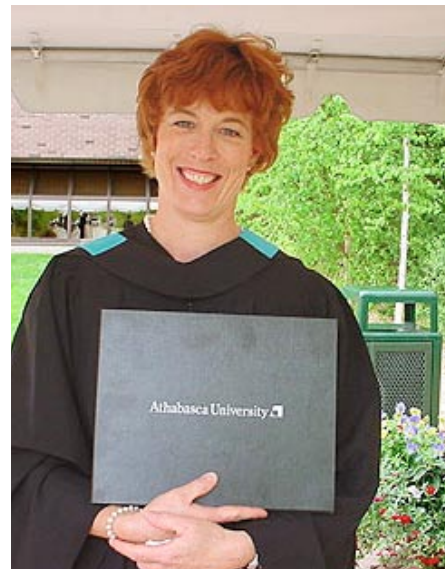
Congratulations Hyacinth!

Eleanor Kubinec travelled to Athabasca from Trochu, Alberta.

Having a young family to care for, Eleanor chose AU for the flexible hours it offered, and through the years was impressed by the excellent staff.

Her most memorable student experience was receiving her first really good marks. Eleanor found motivation in knowing that the day of graduation would arrive. Today she received her Bachelor of Nursing, and after nine years of hard work, Eleanor has realized that you can accomplish anything you set out to.

Congratulations on a job well done!



Mary-Colleen Ross lives in Sherwood Park, Alberta and graduated this year with a Bachelor of Administration.

She was thinking of writing for *The Voice*, however, it was difficult to make the time between studies and living in two different cities during the year.

She loved being an AU student, describing it as an overall wonderful experience, having absolutely no regrets. Earning a degree through Distance learning has taught her not to procrastinate, as well, she advises new students to spend as much time as possible getting to know their tutors.

Mary-Colleen has attended many convocations at other Universities, and believes this was, by far, the best one she has ever attended. Better yet, the most exciting part of her three years as an AU student, and being here today, is graduating.

All the best to you in the future Mary-Colleen!



Karla Thiessen travelled all the way from Altona, Manitoba to received her Bachelor of Nursing degree.

During the course of completing her program, Karla gave birth to and raised two children, while also fitting in time for work and study. She says she wouldn't have been able to continue her education had it not been for the flexibility of study time, open semesters, and the ability to stay at home while working on an AU degree.

Although it was difficult at times, she's learned that determination, discipline, and lots of hard work will get you where you want to be. If only she could have quit working while completing her degree!!

Karla has found many of her AU courses to be very useful to her career, and also feels a greater appreciation for her community through knowledge gained and applied.

After seven years of dedication, Karla is clearly thrilled about her accomplishment and so she should be. Congratulations Karla!

Are you a new AU graduate who would like to tell your story to The Voice? If so, write voice@ausu.org for information on how you can be featured in the Graduate Profiles column. All participants will receive a free Voice mug. (For those featured in this issue, send me your address to get your mug! Thanks to everyone who participated.)

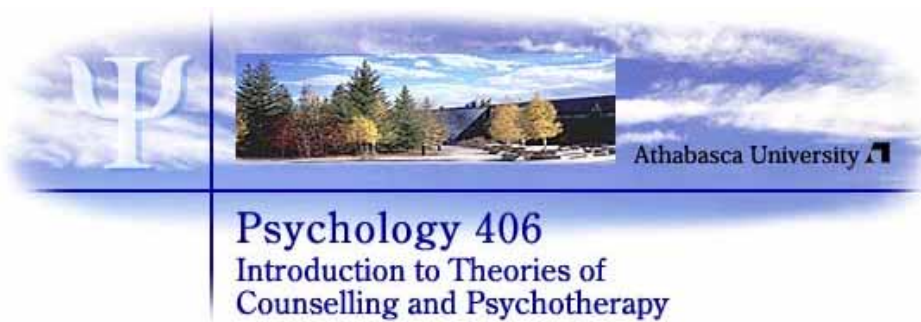
Watch for next week's Voice for more convocation coverage, including photos from the grounds, information on this year's honorary degree recipients, and much more...



According to surprising findings coming out of the University of North Dakota, fathers now represent something like fifty percent of all parents (*note to self: verify facts **before** submitting*). With this in mind, I humbly suggest that this Father's Day, June 20th, should be celebrated by paying tribute to dear old Dad with something more imaginative than another "World's Best BBQ Chef" apron, or pair of tube socks. The following is a list of suggestions for more intriguing ways to salute your husband (or complementary-parental-unit) this Sunday.

1. Give him a few hours of relaxation time all to himself. Assign him some enjoyable "busy work", like scraping the mold off the shower curtain or re-enamelling the bathtub, while you take the kids for a day of golfing or bowling, followed by dinner at your favourite steak house.
2. If it's a rainy day, why not retrieve his old lava lamp, bubble-top turntable, and Culture Club records from the attic. Gather family and friends together, play "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me" backwards, and see who can pick out the most satanic messages.
3. Help him re-live old, long-forgotten dreams by packing him off to a weekend getaway at a CFL training camp, or by presenting him with a voucher for a full massage from Andre at the *Better Latent Than Never* spa in South Beach, FLA.
4. Invite a few of his old "drinking buddies" over for a night of mahjong and pilates.
5. Present him with a gift related to one of his hobbies or interests. If he's a sports fan, for example, how about a framed replica of his highest-ever golf score, or a 8' x 5' poster of the winning goal in game seven of this year's Stanley Cup final? They'll bring back cherished memories for years to come.
6. Really blow him away by re-financing the home and signing him up for \$50,000 worth of rhumba lessons.
7. Present him with a voucher for an Extreme Sports Experience, such as river-rafting, rock climbing, or that thing where they attach cinder blocks to hoops inserted through the nipples.
8. How about a "tried and true" backyard barbecue? To add a twist, though, avoid the tired cliché of hubby cranking out the burgers and ribs. Have him whip up something a little bit more special, like "pheasant under glass" or "pumpkin seed and celery root patties". He'll love the challenge!
9. Organize a Family Movie Night. Make a big bowl of popcorn and settle down for an enjoyable evening of watching an old classic, such as *Love Story*, or *The Fins and the Fury* (Director's Cut), Ingmar Lidstrom's provocative seven and a half hour documentary about fiscal irregularities in the Norwegian herring industry.
10. Pack the kids off to Aunt Eunice's for the night, and share a romantic evening with your partner. Think strobe lights and saran wrap. A variation on this would be to put some of the old passion back into your relationship by reenacting the events of your first "intimate liaison"-- whether that be an evening at a cabin in the woods, a session of "afternoon delight" at a five star hotel, or a quick "knee-trembler" against the backdoor of the Lethbridge Schitzelhaus and Beer Gardens.

However you choose to spend Father's day this year, please just remember to have fun, relax and, above all, make sure he wears protective equipment when engaging in activities seven, eight and ten.



COURSE INTRODUCTION: PSYC 406

Introduction to Theories of Counselling & Psychotherapy

Katie Patrick

Calling all psychology majors! Have you heard about Athabasca University's new course, PSYC 406: Introduction to Theories of Counselling and Psychotherapy? Be prepared to embark on a rewarding learning adventure!

One of the key points of PSYC 406 is that its approach is different than the usual "passive" reading course. PSYC 406 encourages you to actively enrich your personal learning experience by relating the theories presented in the course material to your life, your beliefs, and your personal concerns. In this way, you will leave the course with a firm knowledge of the theories used in counselling and psychotherapy.

Course tutor Judi Malone says that PSYC 406 "has significant focus on student values/beliefs as related to the" theories covered in the course, and that "this personalization allows for personal growth as well as a greater understanding of the theories featured... and, it is fun!"

PSYC 406 is divided into six action-packed sections, each consisting of two to three units. You will be introduced to ten common theories related to counselling and psychotherapy including Psychodynamic Theories in Units 3 to 4 (such as Psychoanalytic and Adlerian), Behavioural and Cognitive-Behavioural Theories in Units 3 to 7 (including Cognitive-Behavioural, Reality, and Control), Humanistic Theories in Units 8 to 10 (such as Existential and Gestalt) and finally, Contextual/Systemic Theories spanning Units 11 to 13 (including Feminism and Multiculturalism). Another distinguishing feature of PSYC 406 is the online component which ensures an enriched learning experience.

Malone says that PSYC 406 is a challenging course, "similar to the course style provided in graduate study... it is great preparation for those preparing or working in the human services or going to grad school."

Course coordinator Bob Brandes, a registered psychologist, has been teaching psychology-related subjects for over 21 years. Having received his BA in psychology from the University of Windsor in Windsor, ON, he completed his M.Ed in applied psychology from the University of Toronto (Toronto, ON). Bob Brandes currently coordinates four Athabasca University courses, including EDPY 479 (Introduction to Computer-Based Instruction), PSYC 210 (Experiential Learning in the Celebration of Diversity), PSYC 290 (General Psychology), and PSYC 406 (Introduction to the Theories of Counselling and Psychotherapy). You can visit Bob Brandes's webpage at: <http://www.athabascau.ca/html/staff/academic/bbrandes.htm>

Your evaluation in Introduction to Theories of Counselling and Psychotherapy (PSYC 406) consists of a mid-term quiz worth 20%, which you can do online, as well as a case study (worth 30%), which involves critically examining one of the theories you learned in the course. Additionally, you'll also have the chance to complete a paper detailing your personal reflections (worth 20%) on a topic introduced in the course and in the learning journal you complete as you work through PSYC 406. The final exam, which is the only exam in the course, totals 30% of your mark.

To view PSYC 406's syllabus, visit: www.athabascau.ca/html/psyc406

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE Graduate Students' Association for AU Students

Debbie Jabbour



Regular Voice readers are aware of my recent disillusionment with my employment. I've received many letters of encouragement, so I wanted to share an exciting new venture that I've become involved in.

As many may know, during my time on AUSU council, I became interested in representation for graduate students. This came about because we often had graduate students coming to us seeking advice, assistance, and advocacy, yet we could do very little on behalf of these students because they did not pay student union fees and were not AUSU members.

In response to this demand, about a year ago AUSU Council formed a Graduate Association Steering Committee, comprised of graduate students from several different programs. Progress was slow, largely because I was far too busy as AUSU President to really devote serious time to development of a GSA.

Now, I'm pleased to report, the situation has changed. I'm now taking charge of the development of a GSA for AU, with a target date of June, 2005 for a completed, elected representative group of graduate students.

There is an additional impetus to this project. Alberta government's Bill 43 has outlined several key areas where a GSA plays a role, and it is now imperative that AU has a GSA. Three of these requirements stand out:

- Item 94(1). If a university offers a program of graduate studies, the Lieutenant Governor in Council may incorporate a graduate students association for the university. The association will consist of the graduate students of the university and is responsible to provide for the administration of graduate student affairs, and promotion of the general welfare of graduate students.
- Item 95(5). The council of a graduate students association is the official channel of communication between the graduate students at a university and the board. (Grad student representatives to any university committees must be nominated by the GSA, including AUGC and AUAC.)
- Item 96(1). The graduate students association of the university has the exclusive authority to negotiate and enter into employment agreements with boards on behalf of graduate students

What do the above items mean? Basically, that any university that has a program of graduate studies must have a graduate student association. That association will be responsible to ensure that graduate students are represented on university committees, and it will also be responsible to negotiate employment contracts for grad students.

What is the current status at AU? Well, Grad students really do not have a voice. There are no grad student reps on any AU committees (even though the current bylaws allow for this). In recent years grad students did participate in some committees, but they were appointed by individual programs, each program taking turns in appointing a student rep. This was hardly a democratic process, and there was no mechanism whereby the student rep could take student concerns forward to the board or by which they could take the decisions of the board back to the student community at large. This situation is obviously not to the benefit of grad students as a whole.

Another area that is of increasing concern is the issue of employment contracts for grad students. About a year ago, AUSU was approached by a member of AU's Psychology department. He asked for our support in a request to AU that more positions be developed to enhance research opportunities for students, which we provided.

AU is also in the process of developing two doctoral programs, and the need for student teaching and research opportunities is becoming extremely important. Now that the Alberta government has decreed that the GSA will bear exclusive responsibility to negotiate any such employment agreements, well - AU needs a GSA!

It's going to be an exciting venture, developing a GSA for AU. There aren't many role models to follow, so the AU GSA will be breaking new ground. Development of a GSA model that suits the unique needs of this university is the first part of the process. A Graduate Student Development Committee has been struck, and this group will play an important role in providing feedback and guidance throughout.

The goal is to have a GSA ready to go by June, 2005. A GSA website will soon be ready, where students can go to get information and provide feedback on the process. I will be keeping Voice readers apprised of where we are at, and I'm very excited to be heading up this new project. To be part of something that will impact forever this university and its students is incredibly exciting, and I consider myself honoured and fortunate to play this role. I will be keeping Voice readers apprised of progress.

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.

LINKS TO YOUR IMAGINATION

Lonita Fraser

While our everyday lives occupy so much of our attention, we all indulge in a little fantasy now and then. It's part of the capacity of being human, to be able to stretch one's imagination and see things as they might have been, might be, or may never be anywhere but our own dreamscapes; the ways in which we tell stories, the stories we tell, and how we exhibit them to others.

Here are a few web sites that give us a glimpse into our fantasies and imaginations.

Unreal History - <http://www.mts.net/~arphaxad/history.html>

The histories of things that never were, divided into categories such as television, movies, books, games, and comics.

The Invisible Library - <http://www.invisiblelibrary.com/>

A collection of books that only appear in other books.

The Game of the Name - <http://www.snopes.com/radiotv/tv/nonames.asp>

The real character names of everyone from Quincy to Mr. Big.

The Editing Room - <http://ter.air0day.com/>

A site devoted to bringing movie buffs around the world completely inaccurate, short scripts of movies.

The Medieval Bestiary - <http://bestiary.ca/>

"This site is the long-term project of David Badke, an independent scholar in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The goal is to gather all (!) available information about the Medieval Bestiary and its antecedents, as well as related information on the Medieval view of animals in general, both fabulous and real. The end result will (hopefully) be a resource that is of some use to the community of Medieval scholars and anyone else with an interest in the Middle Ages."



THE JOYS OF IDLENESS

Here's what I should be doing: finishing the editing of that insurance broker's human resources manual so I can finally get paid by my client and pay off some of my line of credit. Failing that, I should be organizing the filing cabinet, replacing that washer in the leaking kitchen sink, updating my resume. At the very least I should be picking up milk and bread from the grocery store.

Here's what I am doing: I'm with my daughter, who I've talked into skipping out of school for the day ("It'll give the other children a chance to catch up" - Dick Van Dyke's classic line from Chitty Chitty Bang Bang), watching a full length cartoon film, The Triplets of Belleville, at a local second-run movie theatre. We're eating popcorn and laughing ourselves senseless.

I blame my father, of course, for this display of unbridled idleness. It was he who first introduced me to the joys of pilfering a few hours, a few days a year from the lock box of routine. About three or four times in every school year, he would abandon his little radio repair shop in Clacton-on-Sea, and we would take the commuter

train into London and spend the day walking aimlessly around the city. I remember museums filled with cloud chambers and astrolabes and carved wooden masks. I remember lush botanical gardens and bright sunlit squares filled with picnickers and towering statues caked with bird guano. I remember a curry house with red vinyl booths behind curtains of coloured glass beads. It was as exotic to me as a palace. It was the first time I ever tasted yogurt or smelled incense. I began to suspect that my taciturn and practical father had a secret side to his personality. I don't think anything I ever learned in school was of more lasting value to me.

I should be careful, here, to define my terms. It's not simply the act of setting aside some time to take read a book to a child or cook and eat a leisurely dinner. These are every day events, or should be. I am not talking about scheduled vacations or long weekends at the lake with the family. Nor am I talking about the sort of mindfulness that the Buddhists rightly tell us should inform our every waking moment, our every action from peeling potatoes to building heavy machinery. I am talking about the sort of wretched indolence that can swallow up a whole day or, if your lucky and bold, several days at a time. It is aristocratic and wasteful and subversive and sublime. It thumbs its nose at the Puritan work ethic that lies in the dark, sticky recesses of our North American consciousness like mercury in molars.

To engage in this sort of "shirk ethic" much more frequently than one enjoys, say, single malt scotch or foie gras is, of course, to risk a certain existential queasiness. It is simply too rich for our blood. No matter how much you enjoy lobster, you don't want to eat it breakfast, lunch and dinner. The path of idleness-gluttony is a short cut to lives that are boring, uninspired, unfulfilled and well, unemployed.

Be aware, though, that to systematically ignore the voice of our inner-layabout, to slavishly adhere to a schedule, no matter how much we may love what we do, is to deny ourselves some of the real magic of life.

I think it was Samuel Beckett who said "Routine is the cancer of existence"; let's spend some time looking for the cure.

PARENTING



*From
Where
I Sit*

Hazel Anaka

Jackie Kennedy Onassis is credited with saying "If you've bungled the raising of your children, nothing else you do matters much." Whoa. That's a mouthful.

As someone who believes she's succeeded on that count, I'm tempted to agree heartily with her. But is it that straight forward, that black and white? What if early indications of how a kid is doing don't materialize -- he suddenly goes 'bad' despite a brilliant start; she turns it around after years of going wrong. Just exactly when does someone decide if we've succeeded or failed? At 17 or 51 or somewhere in between? And who decides anyway? And do we agree on the definition of success?

Does sincere effort and best intentions factor into the mix? Does anyone truly believe Mr. and Mrs. Pickton deliberating and consciously set out to raise what is alleged to be Canada's worst serial killer? I haven't read a word about these people, nor do I even know their names. No doubt psychologists and social scientists will be analyzing all the motivating factors in this tragedy. Will his parents be found blameless in how Willy turned out? Did they see warning signs and ignore them? Did they give him the best they had to give?

Yes, that's an extreme and extraordinary example. I believe that, as parents, we can only give as much as we've got. If our own history is a troubled or deprived one, it'll take insight, awareness, will, incredible effort, and probably the grace of God to overcome that unfortunate start. It can be done and when it is, it's often newsworthy.

More often, though, the problems are passed on to the next generation in a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy. Addictions; physical, emotional or sexual abuse; dependency on welfare or just plain underachieving are unfortunately the legacy too many people receive.

In the ego-centric days of the 1980s it was popular, even encouraged, to look for parental scapegoats, and to lay the blame for any and all of our shortcomings, problems, or neuroses squarely at the feet of our parents. It was the day of the dysfunctional family. And who among us couldn't claim to

have come from one? As Oprah is fond of reminding us, her mentor Maya Angelou is the one who said "When I knew better I did better."

Isn't that it, in a nutshell? As parents, we've all made mistakes, some bigger than others. As we gain awareness and understanding, as we dispassionately look at our own upbringing, we make course corrections. We become aware of the impact our words and actions have on our children. We deliberately choose healthier ways to nurture them along. We learn that we lead by example. We learn when to back off and let the world do the teaching. We learn tough love is the truest love of all.

We also cut ourselves some slack. Sometimes, despite our best intentions and effort, a kid goes bad. We never give up trying and when we know better, we do better. That's good parenting, from where I sit.

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PC SELF UPGRADE AND REPAIRS

Larry Seymour

Part 2

This week, my series on home computer upgrades continues. Last column I talked about computer memory types, and this week I continue with practical information on maintaining your hard disk. Often, people choose to upgrade a computer because they have run out of storage space. New hard drives are more economical than ever, and with some basic knowledge they can be easily installed by a home user. However, buying a new hard drive should not be your first step when a drive gets slow and storage space becomes limited. Some simple drive maintenance may solve your problem, and help you to understand why hard disks slow down over time.

HARD DRIVES

Many things can slow down your hard drive. For example, a fragmented drive and a drive over eighty percent full will be slower. Practicing regular drive maintenance can ensure that your drive does not become excessively fragmented and keep it running well. Understanding why this is so is easier if you understand how hard drives store your data.

CLUSTERS

Every hard drive is divided into sections called clusters. These clusters can vary in size from drive to drive based on drive size and drive format. There are three file storage formats for a drive: FAT16, FAT32 and NTFS. FAT16 drives are used by DOS, Windows 3.x, 95, 98, and ME. FAT32 drives are used by Windows 95 SR2, 98 and ME, and NTFS drives are formatted through Windows NT, 2K and XP. These charts show how cluster sizes differ between drives.

DOS Cluster sizes

Drive Size	Cluster Size
127mb	2kb
255mb	4kb
512mb	8kb
1gb	16kb
2gb	32kb
4gb	64kb

FAT32 Cluster Sizes

Drive Size	Cluster Size
< 512	not supported
8gb	4kb
16gb	8kb
32gb	16kb
2000gb	32kb

NTFS Cluster Sizes

Drive Size	Cluster Size
512mb	.5kb
1gb	1kb
2gb	2kb
2gb+	4gb

One thing to keep in mind -- the drive size doesn't mean the physical size of it. It refers to the partition size. One hard drive can be divided into 2 or more drives. My wife's first laptop had one actual drive, but it was divided into 2, drives C and D. Drive C had the operating system and personal space drive D had a bunch of manufacturer items. The making of two or more drives from one hard drive is called a partitioning. So the cluster size depends on the size of the partition.

Why is cluster size important? Because when your computer stores a file on the drive it will always start writing the data on the next free cluster, even if some clusters are not entirely full.

Let's look at an 8kb file saved on a 4GB drive using the three file formats. In FAT16 a 8kb file would occupy 64kb of space (one full cluster); in FAT32, 8kb of space; and in NTFS, also 8kb of space. So FAT16 would waste 56kb of hard drive space. Over time that can really add up. On FAT32 and NTFS little or no space is wasted for a file of this size.

Comparing FAT32 and NTFS cluster sizes using a 15kb file and 50gb hard drive results in 17 wasted kb on FAT32 and only 3 wasted kb on NTFS.

DRIVE WRITING 101

When one stores data or installs a program on a drive, the computer finds the first available cluster and starts writing to the disk. A visual example of how files are stored can be shown with a string of letters, where each letter represents a new file: hhhddrrkkkkkkkkkkqqsssssss

Now, if you delete file d and q then store file z which is larger than d and q the new file will occupy the clusters that were made free when the smaller files were removed first. You'll get something like this: hhhzzrkkkkkkkkkkzzsssssssszzzzz

You can see that file z is split up and stored in different locations on the drive. Hence, file z is fragmented. A fragmented file takes longer to find than a non-fragmented file. Your computer won't have much trouble with a little fragmentation, which is inevitable, but over time your computer can really slow down.

So how do we fix this problem? There are programs that will help defragment our files. Windows has a tool (called Disk Defragmenter. Under Windows XP it's in your System 32 folder and it can be scheduled through the Control Panel to run on a regular schedule automatically), and companies like Symantec and Diskeeper have created utilities as well. These programs find the files that are fragmented and gather all the pieces. It moves them to a space that can fit the entire file and then fill its old space(s) with other files. Eg; hhhrrkkkkkkkkkksssssssszzzzzzzzzz. You must have some space free on your drive so that the files can be moved around and if you have not defragged in a long time, it can take quite a while. Running Defragmenter regularly will make the task quicker.

Another problem is that on occasion the computer loses track of what clusters are available. It thinks more clusters are in use. The user might not notice a problem arising from this, but it makes the improperly tagged cluster unusable. These lost clusters are created when the writing process is interrupted, like shutting off your computer before it is finished writing its closing data. Like disk defragging windows also provides a utility to fix these lost clusters. Windows calls it Scan Disk while Symantec calls theirs Disk Doctor.

The last bit of drive maintenance concerns bad disks. For anyone who's used floppy disks regularly, they have probably lost files on the disk because the computer can no longer read the disk. Disks and disk drives are very picky items because a fingerprint or the tiniest scratch can ruin a portion of the disk. When running scandisk, or whatever your tool is, you should have an option to do a surface test or its equivalent. A surface test checks the surface for abnormalities and marks them "bad" if it can't read a spot. If I find a bad spot on a floppy disk, I throw it out. I find one bad spot leads to another. They can multiply like rabbits. I have never personally found one on my hard drive. One tip, doing large drives can take a loooooooooong time to do a surface test. At home I have two 100GB drives. It takes 9 hours 45 minutes to surface test EACH drive. Doing the math, it's about 1 hour per 10GB.

Keeping your drive under 80% full by deleting unwanted or unneeded files and regular disk checking can keep drives healthy, clean and fast.

LIST OF TERMS

FAT – File Allocation Table - a file the computer uses to keep track of where all of your files are stored.

NTFS – NT File System

WINDOWS TIP OF THE WEEK

When you right-click on a file on your computer, you see a menu including a list of "SEND TO" options that allow you to send your file to a number of locations or programs. Do you ever wish that you could create your own SEND TO options? Well you can.

Run Windows Explorer.

Select your Windows directory (C:\Windows for example).

If you're running Windows 95, 98, or ME, select "Send To" folder.

If you're running Windows NT/XP, select "Profiles\Default User\Send To" folder.

Now, simply create shortcuts inside the Send To folder as usual to the devices and programs you want to have access to from the "Send To" menu.

For example, to add your WORK folder on your zip drive (D:\Work) to the Send To menu:

Right click inside the Send To folder and select "New | Shortcut"

Type "D:\Work" (without quotes) and click on "Next"

Type a name for the newly created Send To item ("My Work Folder" for example) and click on "Finish"

Now when you right-click on files, you'll see "My Work Folder" appear as an option in the Send To menu.

COOL SITE OF THE WEEK

To download a real time view of the earth from any view point and see the latest earthquake information on your desktop as a background go to: <http://www.hewgill.com/xearth/>

The Voice accepts no responsibility for loss of data or any other computer related problem you might encounter as a result of following computer advice in this or any other column. The tip of the week is intended to help you personalize your computer system. Novice users should ensure they understand the directions, and make backups of any files changed.

NOTE-ABLE

Lonita Fraser

Students spend a lot of time trying to do something very basic, take notes, especially when it comes to keeping notes and comments on what we find in your texts.

One solution I've found is this: Rather than writing in the margins (which sometimes aren't large enough for good notes anyhow), use Post-It notes (or some variant thereof; the recycled paper version are excellent). You can keep great little notes and stick them into your text right at the spot you're taking the notes about. This means that a) your books don't need to be marked up (unless you like them that way), so you can sell or give them away later, and b) you don't have to keep a separate notebook just for comments on your texts. The smaller, thinner Post-It's are also excellent bookmarks, and the big plus there: They Don't Fall Out.

"So," you say to me, "you've told me what to write on, but what do I write with?"

The world was a drab place when all we had were blue ink pens! Now we're showered with black, red, green, purple, and hosts of other colours that can make a student's life whizbangingly simple. I know you take notes when you're studying; you jot down things you read in your texts and study guides or that you saw in your course videos, and while you're doing this you have Thoughts of Your Own.

So, when you're writing notes that come directly from course materials in the colour ink of your choice, why not have a pen of a different colour handy so that you can write down Thoughts of Your Own right next to the material you're having those thoughts about. This makes it very simple to separate notes from personal observations that could later turn into those fabulous things we call Essay Outlines.

Also, if you, like me, are a devotee of the highlighter pen, you already know the many benefits of their use. I'm a big fan of the yellow, because it's the easiest colour to read through. However, if you have another colour, say orange or green or even that fabulous purple one, you could use it to highlight things like names, references to other books, chapter and verse numbers for religious texts, etc., just to separate them out from the other information you're marking. I've found this tremendously useful in religious studies, English literature, and philosophy courses, and it would be excellent for marking out equations in a mathematics or physics.

"Ok," you say, "you've told me what to write on and what to write with, but I'm not sure how to take the notes."

Everyone's got their own way to keep notes, but I've found the pointed and indented list method the easiest, for many reasons. A pointed list allows you to keep better visual cues for finding information later on. You can have a heading with key points underneath, for example, It's much tidier and quicker than writing lengthy paragraphs, or clots of information with little or no separation between the items.

I've found that notetaking, even when my memory is good, still helps to cement the information more permanently.



Summer Fun!

The Province of Alberta has put together a list of things you can do with your free time in the summer. One of the joys of distanced education is that we can actually take advantage of a lot of these things by simply putting off our study time until later in the day.

Then again, if you're like me, you wind up putting it off until later in the week, and then later in the month, and before you know it, it's extension time.

Still, if you've just had too much of the study grind lately and are looking for a break or for some tips to make your break more enjoyable or safe, then you should check out that link, as you may find some information that

will surprise you.

Probably the best thing there is the events listings for June and July -- 11 pages just full of things going on around the province of Alberta. You're sure to find something that tickles your fancy.

And hey, since Alberta tax dollars are paying for all of these to some extent, Albertans may as well get some enjoyment out of it.

Ontario Undertaking Post-Secondary Review

The provincial government of Ontario is going to undertake a thorough review of their post-secondary system. The review will present recommendations to the government in January 2005.

Leading the review will be the former Premier Bob Rae who declared, "Our review will look at not only what we have done in Ontario but more broadly at the world to consider what other jurisdictions with great public institutions of higher learning have done, are doing, and plan to do."

So perhaps there's hope that, in looking outside Ontario, or maybe even looking at the growing number of Athabasca University students within, the importance and value of distance education can be made apparent to them.

If that happens, then there's a chance that Athabasca University can use that to wean themselves from Alberta's meagre support and join up with a province that has already made a commitment to freeze post-secondary tuitions.

While, as an Albertan, I like the slightly preferential treatment Alberta students get from AU in having a free exam centre and no out of province fees, I'd happily give those benefits up if it meant that tuition wouldn't increase by another four or five percent next year.

With Ontario being AU's fastest growing market for students, I'm pretty sure AU wouldn't mind having more direct support from the Ontario government either.

Now I hope that AU will see this as an opportunity not just to explore new and innovative options such as moving, but also as a way to put pressure on the Alberta government to include AU's vital infrastructure of communication costs when calculating the grants that they decide to give to the universities.

Your Vote Counts

With recent polls putting the conservatives and the liberals in a neck and neck race this year, your vote has become more important than ever.

After all, the last thing we want is a Florida style debacle over which party is actually made the government of Canada. For one thing, we wouldn't be able to continue laughing at how our neighbours to the south handled that election. (Although I'll admit the joke seems to have gone a bit sour on all of us).

However, even without that, your vote is still more important than before because every vote you cast helps to determine how much public funding (that'd be your tax dollars) goes to financing that party's activities over the next four years.

If a party gets 2% of the total votes or 5% of the votes in the districts in which they run, then for the next four years, the Government of Canada pays the party just under 44 cents per vote cast for them. So even if you really like a party that you know isn't going to win, simply voting for them can give them the boost they need to win next election.

That's nothing to sneeze at.

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.



WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact The Voice editor at voice@ausu.org for details on writing for The Voice. Provide a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.



THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH *Film Review*

By Laura Seymour

June is Romance Month

Few performers have been loved and admired as much as the late, great, Marilyn Monroe. Her real name was Norma Jean, but her stage name made a lasting impression along with her incredible face and body. Something about her slinky appearance made her desired but still seen as pure and good.

Film was good to Marilyn. The camera adored her and this film was among the most famous. A huge poster for the film was unfurled in New York City, showing Marilyn in the now-famous white dress, playfully trying to push it down as the wind from the New York subway blew it up. It is among the most famous images in history, but let's focus on the plot.

Seven Year Itch opens on a hot summer day in New York City. Tom Ewell plays Richard Sherman, a married man living in a hot apartment. His wife and son are being sent off for the summer to escape the cloying city heat. Richard reads books in a publishing company for a living. As a result he has a rather over-active imagination.

At first Richard resolves not to behave like his building janitor, Mr. Kruhulik (played with lecherous zest by Robert Strauss), who happily announces he's going to play all summer while his family is away. Richard is disgusted at first. He won't be pretending to be single. No sir!

That is until Marilyn is the new single gal moving in upstairs. She is of course, incredibly innocent about life and how it works. She is repeatedly invited down for a drink, to cool off in front of Tom's air conditioner and just to be sociable. In our days we would probably slam the door in the guy's face, but Marilyn keeps coming down to see him even when she finds out he's married.

That's where the title premise comes in. It happens that Richard has been married for seven years and is now fantasizing madly about the gal upstairs. Considering the girl upstairs is Marilyn, I can't entirely blame him.

Blame is something carefully avoided. It would turn this film into drama. Since we are so busy laughing by this fun romp it becomes a question of tact on the subject of taboo relationships.

Taboo was something Marilyn was known for forever playing in her films. She was the gal who just didn't realize her hold on men and thus she got away with doing what was considered "wrong". This film is no different. She innocently plays chopsticks on the piano with him and then he falls into a ridiculous scenario he has just played out in his mind about charming her into a delicious kiss. She freaks and they fall onto the floor. Even then she is supposedly still unable to figure out what happened!

Figuring out this film is easy. The romance comes in the form of comedy and is slathered on thick. The movie engages us into understanding that men will always be men whether they are married or not, and that women will always be wanted when they are beauties.



Beautiful Marilyn is fun, flirty and ready to enjoy life. She can't resist telling Tom about putting her panties in the refrigerator to cool herself down. She also says she sits in front of the open fridge in the nude! Images, images!

How many movies can we find where romance and humor are so neatly balanced and an image is forever burned into our brain? There are few, and fewer still that are this well done. Keep a copy and fire up all 105 minutes in romantic June.

Director Billy Wilder made this a classic and made Marilyn more famous than ever!

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

HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT TO MAKE?

Debbie Jabbour

Ever wonder what your chances of employment are once you've achieved your degree? Which jobs pay the best? Where should you direct your energies when it comes to learning? In Alberta, at least, there is help at:

<http://www.alis.gov.ab.c/wageinfo>.

The website lists average annual salaries for selected professions in Alberta, high and low wages, and percentages of available jobs. The database allows you to submit your dream salary and see what professions might suit you. For example, I entered a yearly wage of \$100,000 and came up with only two possibilities: financial/business manager or dentist. Dropping my wage expectations by just a little, to \$80,000 a year, I now have several other options, including lawyer, real estate agent, chemical engineer, and computer and information systems manager. Of course, these are average wages based on 2003 statistics for Albertans, and don't necessarily reflect what you will earn with any particular degree, profession or trade.

The site also provides useful information regarding demand, how many jobs are expected to be required in the near future, and descriptions of education and training required for different occupations.

There are similar sites for other provinces, but the Alberta one is by far the most useful and informative. Here are a few others:

Ontario employment: <http://www.on.workinfonet.ca/english/index.cfm?cat=4&sub=54>

Canuck Careers: <http://www.canuckcareers.com/content/resources/index.cfm?id=57>

Salary.com http://www.salary.com/salary/layoutscripts/sall_display.asp

BC employment: <http://workinfonet.bc.ca/>

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



THE AU BUSINESS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION IS HERE!



New AUBSA site, now online -- see the Clubs pages for information

Finally, the long anticipated AU Business Students' Association (AUBSA) has a brand new website on the AUSU server, and the club is officially taking members.

This club is open to all students with an interest in business, and will be adding more business related resources over the next several months.

To learn more about the AUBSA, visit the club homepage at:
<http://www.ausu.org/clubs/aubsa/index.php>

Contact aubsa@ausu.org for more information. Members of the AUBSA also 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

In Honor of National Aboriginal Day, 2004

**The Centre for World Indigenous
Knowledge & Research**

Would like to invite you to join us for the viewing of:

KIKKIK:

The film recounts the relocation of the Inuit to the interior of Kivalliq, the devastating starvation that resulted, the tragic murder of Elisapee Karetak's father and her mother's struggle to keep her starving children alive.

Where you will have the opportunity to meet


**DIRECTOR/DOCUMENTARIAN
Elisapee Karetak**



DATE: June 21, 2004
TIME: 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
PLACE: ROOM 228
ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY
EDMONTON LEARNING CENTER
2ND FLOOR, NORTH TOWER
10030-107 STREET

CONTACT: WENDY TALLOW AT
(780) 428-2064/1-800-637-3725 EXT. 2064
EMAIL: indigenous@athabascau.ca

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!



Searching for Internships

Shannon Maguire

Career Edge – Canada's Internship Organization

Website: <http://www.careeredge.ca>

Career Edge is a non-profit organization offering internships with various organizations such as Canadian Tire, Bank of Montreal, GE Canada, RBC Financial Group, FedEx Express Canada Ltd. and many more. Once you register with Career Edge you can search their database of available internship opportunities and apply online.

Position Description: Various positions. Some examples are Accounting Specialist, Sourcing Specialist, Junior Internet Marketing Strategist, HR Business Analyst and IS Systems Analyst.

Pay: Yes, \$1,667 month (before taxes).

Eligibility Requirements: You must be a high school, college or university graduate with little or no relevant work experience. The internships are only available to those eligible to work in Canada and who have not already completed a Career Edge Internship.

Time and Length of Position: They offer internships that are 6, 9 and 12 months long.

How to Apply: Each internship has application instructions included in its description on the Career Edge Website.

Ability Edge – Internships for Graduates with Disabilities

Website: <http://www.abilityedge.ca>

Ability Edge is a non-profit organization offering internships with various organizations to graduates with disabilities. Once you register with Ability Edge you can search their database of available internship opportunities and apply online.

Position Description: Wide range of positions in finance, marketing, human resources, computer science and more.

Pay: Yes, \$1,667 month (before taxes). You will also receive mentorship from a coach, and receive support for accommodation needs and job counseling.

Eligibility Requirements: You must be a high school, college or university graduate with a disability and little or no relevant work experience. The internships are only available to those eligible to work in Canada and who have not already completed a Career Edge Internship.

Time and Length of Position: They offer internships that are 6, 9 and 12 months long.

How to Apply: Each internship has application instructions included in its description on the Ability Edge Website.

Wet Feet – The Internship Search Engine

Website: <http://www.wetfeet.internshipprograms.com>

The Wet Feet website has a database of internships that you can search. This website also has articles and information on how to get internships, internship salaries, internship profiles and more.

You can also read about other students experiences with internships or ask for advice from experts and other job seekers on their internship discussion board.

Canadian Council of Professional Psychology Programs

Website: <http://www.ccppp.ca/en/internship.html>

This website has a huge list of Canadian Internship programs in the field of psychology. There are links to the websites of organizations all across Canada that have internship programs. Some of the organizations include the British Columbia Children's Hospital, Calgary Consortium Clinical Adult Psychology, and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

United Nations – Headquarters Internship Program

Website: <http://www.un.org/Depts/OHRM/examin/internsh/intern.htm>

Position Description: Various positions in the UN Headquarters in New York.

Pay: Not Paid.

Eligibility Requirements: Must be enrolled in a graduate degree program or higher and be able to obtain the necessary documentation to work in the United States.

Time and Length of Position: The internship is two months long and is offered three times year: mid January to mid March, early June to early August and early September to end October.

How to Apply: In order to apply you must send the following documents to UN Headquarters: an official UN Internship application form (available on the UN Internship Website), a resume, and a 150-250 word essay on why you want the internship.

More detailed instructions and addresses can be found on their website. The deadline for the next internship in January is August 20.





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

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

CIPS NATIONAL AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT

Value: \$1500; \$2500

Application Deadline: N/S

Administrator: Canadian Information Processing Society

Notes: One \$1500 scholarship available to an applicant from a Canadian college or university. One \$2500 scholarship available to an applicant from CIPS-accredited college, university or MIS degree programs. Please see Web site for more information.

Contact Information:

CIPS (Canadian Information Processing Society)

CIPS Awards of Achievement

2800 Skymark Ave., Suite 402

Mississauga, Ontario L4W 5A6

Web Site: <http://www.cips.ca/students/scholarships>

MBNA CANADA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Value: \$2500

Application Deadline: June 30

Notes: MBNA Canada and Studentawards Inc. are pleased to offer a \$2,500 cash prize through the MBNA Canada Scholarship Award. This scholarship contest is in recognition of the need for students to find supplementary sources of funding to complete their education.

This award is open to all Canadian Residents. See [rules and regulations](#) for detailed description of eligibility. The winner will be notified by phone and/or email.

Instructions: To qualify for the MBNA Scholarship Award you must apply and be approved for an MBNA Canada student MasterCard. Once your application has been received you will be automatically entered into the MBNA Canada Scholarship award contest.

To apply for your MBNA Canada student MasterCard:

https://wwwa.applyonlinenow.com/CANapp/Ctl/redirect?CV_sourceCode=a9hs



IPSI 2004

July 28-Aug 2

The International IPSI-2004 PESCARA Conference in Italy (IPSI = Internet, Processing, Systems for e-education/e-business, and Interdisciplinaries), 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.

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

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.

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.

"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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