

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

August 25, 2004
Volume 12 Issue 33



The Olympics *Finding meaning in the games*

Private Loans Rejected by UBC *Students seek more funding options*

AUSU on Klein *SU urges students to ask questions*

Plus:
Lost & Found
Dear Barb
Taking Notes
Canadian Fedwatch
Primetime Update
AUSU This Month
Flicks & Folios

and much more...

Plus: Poetry fiction feature

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Welcome To the Voice PDF

The Voice has an interactive table of contents. Click on a story title or author name to jump to an article. Click the bottom-right corner of any page to return to the contents. Some ads and graphics are also links.

ARTICLES

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE: THE OLYMPICS

Debbie Jabbour

PRIVATE LOANS REJECTED BY UBC

Sarah Bourdon

FICTION FEATURE: POETRY BY...

Barbara Godin

COLUMNS

CANADIAN FEDWATCH!

Karl Low

DEAR BARB - Choosing a program

LOST AND FOUND - Notes from a night owl

Bill Pollett

FLICKS & FOLIOS: The Party

Laura Seymour

AUSU THIS MONTH

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAKING NOTES: IQ LESS IMPORTANT THAN "EQ"

Debbie Jabbour

SEARCHING FOR INTERNSHIPS

Contributed by Shannon Maguire

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-e-Huma Lodhi

VOICE EVENTS LISTINGS

Contributed by Lonita Fraser

CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS

Contributed by Lonita Fraser and The Insider

FROM THE READERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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: Justice for AU - August 11, 2004 - v12 | 31

I was glad to see Ron Tebo's article and the response by Patricia Brisebois concerning Ralph Klein's essay. It was reassuring to see that people besides myself are still puzzled by this affair. Like Mr. Klein, I'm a student in the Communications Studies BPA program. And I'm getting tired of people making cracks about AU's standards when I tell them where and what I'm studying.

I am still waiting for someone from AU to explain how any student can receive a B-plus in a 400-level course for a paper like Mr. Klein's. Is it too late to get some answers to the questions raised by Mr. Tebo?

**Tom Barre
Coquitlam, B.C**

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FROM MY PERSPECTIVE The Olympics

Debbie Jabbour



I'm not much into sports, nor do I normally watch major sporting events. I'm aware of the Olympics, but they do not normally draw me. For some reason this year, I've found myself watching a lot of the events in Greece. Perhaps it was the opening ceremonies that drew me in. They were an impressive show, and I found the montage of wall frescoes come to life absolutely stunning. My daughters have participated in opening ceremonies, and I know the incredible amount of work that goes into presenting such a visual spectacle. The precision moves, the colours, the presentation, and the movements of each actor and dancer on the floats combined to create an incredible living picture that I found myself wanting to watch again and again.

The opening ceremonies had me hooked, but there was more. Perhaps it is the psychology of the games that is drawing me this year. The Master of Counselling program may be offering sport psychology as a discipline in upcoming years, and during my summer school I got to know a fellow classmate who works as a sports psychologist. She made me stop and think about the tremendous psychological pressure that the athletes undergo, and how important it is to have the right kind of mental and emotional support.

Such performance pressure is not new to me, of course. My daughters have performed in countless dance competitions, and I became very familiar with the world of judging, performance anxiety, pressure, stage mothers, coaches, and so on. I know the camaraderie that can grow between performers, and the nastiness that can erupt among competitors. I understand how it feels to have unfair or inconsistent judging result in a deserving performer losing out on an earned accolade. I saw the elation of winning and the disappointment of not giving one's best performance. I was familiar with the hours of rehearsal, sacrifice and dedication that go into those few minutes of a never-to-be-repeated flawless performance.

While similar, there are many ways in which sport competitions are very different from dance. There is a stronger team element with sports, and a powerful link to one's national identity. Sports appeal to a much wider group of people, encompassing the attention of a huge segment of the world's population. Sports also carry a much greater risk of injury. And of course there is a scope of competition that goes national, international, and to the Olympics.

The Olympics are not just special because they only come around once every four years, or because of the historical significance. The Olympics combine sports and nationalism into a ceremonial performance that is almost religious in nature, creating a powerful experience that draws the whole world together.

Athletes train and work for the Olympic moment. In some countries this begins very early, and athletes are hand-picked and trained from childhood to grow into an Olympic champion. In other countries, such as Canada, there is less of a focus on life-long athleticism. In fact, many Canadian athletes receive minimal government support, and there were countless stories of athletes who were working as waiters, or mortgaging their property, in order to be able to finance their attendance in Greece.

I was saddened and outraged by the Canadian Olympic official's decision to raise the bar for these Olympics, effectively eliminating participation from any athletes who had not achieved the highest preliminary marks. It reminded me of the sometimes unjust and exclusionary tactics used by universities to keep post secondary education accessible to only the elite, top academic performers. I read of individual athletes who had worked so hard for the past four years, only to be disappointed by this official decision.

It seemed bizarre to me that Canada sent more coaches and officials to this year's Olympics than athletes. I could not help but wonder how much of the sense of sport and camaraderie was lost among Canadian athletes. Certainly every country wants to bring home medals, but to restrict participation to only those who are thought to be the best medal chances cheapens and demeans the whole process, turning the Olympics into an elite contest rather than a celebration of human athletic achievement by Canadians.

The controversy over this decision no doubt had repercussions on the psychological state of those athletes who were chosen to represent Canada. The pressure of the expectation that you are the best out of a select group, the disappointment of fellow athletes left back home, and the focus on getting a medal seems to have taken its toll. So far Canada has not done well at all when it comes to winning.

The same type of psychological turnaround seems to have occurred with the U.S.'s basketball "dream team" - another select group of athletes hand-picked for their ability to win the gold. Instead of performing as expected, they have instead been roundly defeated by teams they may have scorned as underdogs. Other athletes have come seemingly out of nowhere to take a gold.

We all wait for that moment when a Canadian wins the gold. To hear our national anthem played, to see our flag slowly raised as the winning athlete stands on the podium, holding back tears. I look into their faces at that moment, wondering what it must feel like to have won this incredible accolade on behalf of your country, to have millions of people watching you, to feel their pride, to know what a wonderful accomplishment you have just achieved.

Like many people, I find myself drawn by the so-called "Olympic moments," those unusual mini-events that stand out from all the rest. Sometimes it is an exceptional performance, but for me, it's more often the human elements that I find fascinating. The athletes that try and fail, or fall and picks themselves up to bravely keep going on. I found myself watching the women's marathon, for example. I saw one of the British athletes drop out, overcome by exhaustion, heat, or some other combination of stressors. This was followed by a U.S. athlete who, in a sudden surge of last minute energy, caught up with and passed the third place runner, leaving her in the "dust" of the track. That same athlete then entered the stadium and finished the rest of the race with hysterical tears rolling down her face. I could not contain the tears filling my own eyes as I watched her. Canada did not have an entry in the women's marathon because none of them could meet the new minimum standards - this U.S. runner would not have qualified under Canada's new rules, yet she managed to secure a bronze for her country!

Or the unforgettable moment during men's gymnastic high bars when the Russian gymnast gave an exceptional performance, only to have the judges give him a less than exceptional score. The audience screamed and booed for almost ten minutes, finally triggering a re-score. The audience reaction forced the American gymnast to wait at the sidelines, unable to continue. To add to the irony the American himself had been the subject of controversy earlier when another judging decision was questioned. I watched his face as he impatiently waited for the audience to subside. Finally the Russian gymnast had to step forward, bowing and thanking the audience for their support, but pleading with his body language for them to settle down and allow the competition to continue.

The whole incident took its toll psychologically on the other competitors. Although the American started his routine amid the boos, he was able to still give a relatively flawless performance to earn silver (although this irritated the crowd even further). The same was true of the Italian gymnast who won the gold. Two other

gymnasts, obviously still stunned from the judging "error" and the audience reaction, made fatal mistakes in their routines.

There were other moments. Watching the expressions on the faces of the beach volleyball team from Canada as they beat the "unbeatable" Americans. Or the expression of joy on a Canadian diver's face as she executed several excellent dives to finish with a respectable placing she had not expected - even though it was not first place. Athletes from the Ukraine celebrating a gold medal won by a team member - a bittersweet victory as they are mourning the loss of several of their team in a vehicle accident. The staging of the shot put in Olympia, the original home of the games, provided a never-to-be repeated historical moment.

I also found the opening march of the athletes quite incredible for one thing in particular. Every second athlete was carrying a video camera and/or a cell phone. They were holding these up, filming the whole event as they walked the stadium, or talking (presumably) to loved ones on the phone. It was an incredible way to include the world into the event through technology.

I watched the women's gymnastics events, these tiny, sweet-faced young girls who have one chance to become the world's new sweetheart, an Olga Korbut or Nadia Comaneci. They run and leap, flip and somersault, small bodies lighter than air. Four years from now at the next Olympics, many of them will be too old for the sport, or will have gained one pound too many to be able to execute the incredible physical gymnastic feats with the same liveness, power, and energy.

Then there are the runners who are seeking to beat previous records to become the "world's fastest man." I wonder - where will it end? These athletes are able to do things that they alone in the world are capable of accomplishing, breaking records and achieving the unimaginable. Mind-boggling, really.

There are some Olympic puzzles. For example, how some athletes switch countries, performing for one country one year, then changing residence and allegiance the next. Or why athletes continue to think they can get away with using performance-enhancing illegal drugs, causing doping scandals that taint the whole event. Too, product placement continues to permeate every aspect of our lives, and I couldn't help but smile to hear a marathon runner give credit to her "Nike" cooling sport vest for helping her win the race. I also find it almost humorous to listen to the many commentators. Some of them are excellent, knowledgeable and erudite in their description of what is occurring. Others are full of themselves, doing their best to impress viewers with their ability to interpret Olympic events in great detail while providing interesting little tidbits about the athletes themselves.

I can't imagine what it must feel like to actually be there, to be one of those athletes. Although I'm not into sports or particularly interested in the outcome of the Olympics overall, I cannot help but be impressed with the incredible physical accomplishments of the participants and the fever that accompanies the whole event. The Olympics provide a highly educational psychological experience, and it is endlessly fascinating to watch the human show. I cannot help but wonder where I'll be in 2010 when the Olympics are held in Vancouver!

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

Private loans rejected by UBC

Student groups voice concerns over increasing debt

Sarah Bourdon
The Ubyyssey

VANCOUVER (CUP) -- The University of British Columbia's discussions with a fledgling private student loan company based in Ontario have ended after the administration decided more information on student debt was needed. Formed a year ago, FirstStudentLoan was hoping to act as a third-party source of loans for UBC students, a proposition that had some student groups up in arms over the program's potential to cause devastating increases in student debt.

The program would have been detrimental to students at the university due to the accessibility of funds and a less stringent approval process, said Holly Foxcroft, UBC student union vice president. "I know that if it had been implemented, I definitely would have taken action to dissuade students from using it, and tried to inform people about what it was," she said. "Every student that I had spoken with thought it was a bad idea. It didn't seem like it would solve any problems."

FirstStudentLoan would operate by borrowing money from the capital market, much like a bank, said Elian Turner, the company's founder and CEO. The program would be beneficial because it would not require students to have a co-signer on their loans, unlike those from the government or banks, he said. "We believe in students' ability to repay. For some reason, students have been given a bad reputation," said Turner, adding that a given student and the university would each put up a premium to guarantee the loan will be paid back. "This is something [universities] see as another tool in their tool box to help students pay for school." In addition to the premium, students would be charged a higher than prime interest rate, a factor that could lead to future financial burdens for many people, said Foxcroft.

"We worked it out that if you had a \$20,000 government loan, for example, with interest you'd pay about \$28,000 back. With FirstStudentLoan it would work out to be about \$35,000," the student union executive said. "It was a substantial amount of money."

The student union, along with the university's graduate student union, actively opposed a deal between the university and the loan company, a move that influenced the decision to halt discussion with the company, said Foxcroft. Earlier this year, Simon Fraser University abandoned a similar agreement with FirstStudentLoan after members of its student union expressed concern over the student debt that could result. According to UBC officials, a deal with the loan company would have been one way of upholding the university's guarantee not to deny access to any eligible domestic student based solely on financial needs. A private loan company would offer students another avenue of financing their education, said Brian Sullivan, UBC vice president.

"We thought it would be positive to look at it as an option," said Sullivan, adding that the university is specifically looking for solutions to help students who, for many reasons, don't qualify for government or bank loans. "I think there are a lot of people out there like that. But before we can seriously entertain any option, we need more information about our students."

The university's discussions with the loan company were met with a strongly negative response from the student council, which voted unanimously to oppose any agreement between UBC and the company. The student union's reaction was a factor in the decision to end talks, said Sullivan. "I don't think very many universities want to be seen as doing something that students don't want," he said. The university will continue to look at the financial needs of students and review the student debt experience at UBC before considering "tying themselves to a company," according to Sullivan.

While a deal with FirstStudentLoan is no longer being pursued, Foxcroft emphasized that the student union's motion extends to any third-party loan program. However, she remains optimistic about working with the university on a solution. "The university has been responsive," said Foxcroft. "Students said 'No.' That is essentially the reason they couldn't go through with it."

A Loyal Companion

*The pain in my heart
Must remain in my heart
For it if were known
How my eyes fill with tears
At the mention of your name
No one would understand.*

*My days are quieter now
Your voice silenced from the world
As now it only lives within my heart
If others knew
They would laugh
Get over it, they would say
“It was only a dog”
But to me you were so much more.*

Innocence

*Your beautiful face lights my day
For I cannot imagine a sunrise without you.
Your blue eyes, round and full
Fill me with laughter and tears.*

*Your fine brown locks
Surround your face
Your beautiful unlined skin
Tender to the touch
You are my angel on earth.*

*I cradle you close
Never wanting to say goodbye.
But tomorrow you will come again.
Gramma! Gramma!
Words to fill my yearning heart.*

Departure

*When they told me you were gone
I felt silent inside.
It had been years since I saw you
But I remember your voice still.*

*Your unique way of being
Will never be in this life.
Your frail body dissolved
But your infinite soul existing.*

*An invaluable legacy you have left
For all to see, read, enjoy.
Many will yearn for your guidance
But only those close will know your true heart.*

*A fleeting reminder of your extensive spirit
Will live on in the hearts you touched.
Your true essence can never be captured
But will exist for all to strive for.*



Dear Barb:

I am in my first year at AU. I haven't chosen a major yet and I'm not sure what direction to pursue. I enjoy working with people, but my parents want me to go into accounting. Do you have any suggestions on how I can do what I want without hurting my parents? They are funding my education, so I feel an obligation to consider their wishes.

Tim in New Brunswick

Hi Tim, as you know choosing a career is an important decision that requires careful thought. A good part of your life will be spent working in your chosen field, therefore it is very essential that you choose a path that will be not only fulfilling, but will provide you with the type of lifestyle that is important to you.

Your parents probably have their rationale for wanting you to go into accounting. Perhaps it is a family tradition. Was your father an accountant; maybe his father as well? Or do they own a family business and have a position for you when you finish school?

There could be many reasons your parents want you to go into this specific career. However, most parents want their children to be happy. You don't mention if you have discussed your wishes with your parents. Moreover, you may want to investigate further what career you want to pursue. Working with people can include many different careers; social worker, teacher, human resource person, psychologist, the professions are varied.

Fortunately there is an abundance of information available on the Internet to assist you in finding information about various careers. You can take aptitude tests online; as well most career counseling centers offer similar tests. Usually the results of these tests mirror your interests, as we generally like to do what we do best. Additionally AU offers a self-assessment quiz on their web site under "Services to Students." The test only takes a few minutes to complete. Afterwards you can discuss the results with an online academic adviser, either through email or telephone.

Perhaps you could then present the results to your parents. They may be more open to your desires if they see that your skills indicate the direction you should be following. Sharing this information with your parents will further reinforce your position.

When you consider that you will be spending approximately 10,000 days of your life working, you certainly have to do something where your skills, values and interests are all fully utilized. The ultimate pay off will be a sense of accomplishment and fulfillment, thus giving you a more positive attitude in all aspects of your life.

Ultimately Tim, I'm sure your parents want you to lead a happy and fulfilled life, rather than doing something that you don't want to do just to make them happy. Your question was a difficult one that requires a sensitive balance; therefore I hope I was able to help in some way.

E-mail your questions to advice.voice@ausu.org. Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality: your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.



NOTES FROM A NIGHT OWL

For a summer job after grade eleven, I worked the graveyard shift bussing and washing dishes at an all night diner in Vancouver's West End. On Friday and Saturday nights it was packed from midnight to sunrise, and at two or three in the morning it was possible to see every form of nocturnal human life that the big city has to offer. There were hospital workers and off-shift cabbies eating plates of greasy fries and pork ribs floating in day-glo barbecue sauce. There were junkies, purple-haired punk divas, bohemians, ne'er-do-wells, speed freaks, street kids, police officers, mystics, con artists, panhandlers and insomniacs of every stripe wolfing down the \$1.99 "all day" breakfast. Asian drag queens from the gay cabaret next door would cluster like bunches of artificial flowers around the formica table tops, drinking Earl Grey and Harvey Wallbangers. After work I'd eat a bowl of cereal or a fried egg sandwich at one of the booths in the back, then ride my bike back home through the nearly-empty five a.m. streets and fall asleep in front of the television set.

It was about this time of my life that I began to acquire a conscious awareness that the world after midnight in the big city is an altogether different place than the world we know during sunlit hours. To test this theory yourself, ride public transit at three in the morning, and take note of the way that everybody on board seems to have stumbled in from a parallel but slightly-altered version of our dimension. Look at your reflection in the window, and notice how this applies to yourself. Sure, it's partly because there's a whole different and more colourful crowd abroad at this hour. But I also believe that the universe itself has been somehow "tweaked", just slightly reordered. It is the time, it seems to me, when the portals of the mind are slightly more open to the mysterious, irrational elements that are an inherent part of the world that surrounds us.

Because our current level of scientific and technological development is so very primitive, we are not able to adequately describe or quantify this state of fleeting cosmic transformation that takes place in the wee hours. Like so many other cosmic big fish, it remains eternally elusive, swimming in the great trenches of the human consciousness, far out of reach of the driftnets of reason.

As usual, because there is no instrument or device more perceptive or sensitive than the human imagination, it is left up to artists to explore this lightless region on our behalf. Think of the paintings of late night cafes by Van Gogh. Of films like the Orson Welles classic *The Third Man* and Martin Scorsese's brilliant *After Hours*, and anything by David Lynch. The writing of Gogol and Kafka, the pen and ink drawings of Edward Gorey, the music of Kurt Weill, Chet Baker, Tom Waits, Bjork. Think of all the artists who have been able to describe for us the strange essence of the after midnight hours, when the portals of human consciousness are left slightly ajar, and angels and monsters move more freely among us. I think it was Ezra Pound who said that the function of poetry is to make the world strange. He must have been a night owl.



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

IQ LESS IMPORTANT THAN "EQ"

Debbie Jabbour

Although university admission is dependent on a student's high school marks, new research shows that high school grade point average (GPA) is a poor predictor of success in university. Researchers at Trent University, Ontario, have discovered that a student's emotional maturity, not grade point average, appears to be the factor that determines whether a student makes it through the first year of university.

James Parker, the Canada Research Chair in Emotion and Health at Trent University, tracked the success of almost 1500 first year students at four U.S. universities and did a follow-up study with 372 Trent U students. Although all students entered university with similar high school GPA, the successful ones scored higher on emotional intelligence (EQ). This "EQ" included interpersonal skills, ability to interact with other people, ability to cope with environmental demands and to work under pressure.

The researchers commented on the irony - high school GPA is the main university admissions variable, and most universities are raising the bar, excluding any high school graduates that do not achieve marks within the upper score - yet a high GPA does not mean success. A further irony is that programs such as medicine have an even higher minimum GPA admissions standard - yet some might argue that these are professions that would benefit from students who demonstrate a higher degree of emotional intelligence and people skills.

Of concern, too, are the increasingly dismal retention rates, with an average of one out of every ten students dropping out after the first year. This increases in subsequent years, with some universities experiencing graduation rates of only 50% in certain programs. In Ontario, more than one quarter fail to graduate within seven years.

There are, of course, many factors that affect retention, including financial. But if success in high school is not one of them, it is time for universities to sit up and take notice. As demands for post-secondary education increase, universities are coping with limited resources by raising admission standards. This has resulted in many well-qualified students being excluded from a university education simply on the basis of a less than stellar high school performance. If high school academics are not the best indicator of success at university, universities need to make some adjustments to their admission process. There are many factors involved in achieving success at university, including emotional maturity. Athabasca University's Open Admission policy serves as an excellent model of a university that accepts students on the basis of other criteria, allowing students who may not have done particularly well in high school to have a chance to prove themselves in university. AU students provide ample proof that such an admission policy works.

Schmidt, Sarah, CanWest News Service, August 16, 2004. EQ, not IQ, holds key to university success: High school grades a weak predictor of who does well at next level.

CANADIAN FED WATCH!

NEWS ACROSS THE NATION...

By Karl Low



Provinces Funding Less than Half

Statistics Canada released its annual report on university finances last week, and it's not a pretty picture. Notable is that nationally, students contribute over 20% of the total revenues of universities across the nation. While that doesn't seem like much, this number is skewed because in Quebec, where tuition remains locked, students are contributing less than half of that amount, only about 10% of their respective universities' revenue totals.

What is also interesting, however, is that the Provinces are providing less than half of the funding universities receive, and of that money, more and more of it is being directed toward creating more buildings and purchasing land. This, of course, is no surprise to regular readers of my ramblings, but Statistics Canada can now prove it.

Over one year, the amount devoted to increasing lands and buildings rose by 39%, which is the largest rise among all university expenditures and one that has tripled in the last five years. Am I the only one that doesn't see how buildings magically enable people to afford a post-secondary education?

The federal government contributes about 12% of the total revenue for universities nationally, nearly all of it directed into research rather than supporting people getting an education. Just in case you were wondering, Statistics Canada also points out that the only province that federal funding actually fell in was Alberta, by 6%. According to CASA, Premier Martin has promised 7 or 8 billion dollars to be put into direct transfer payments to the universities, however, if this follows current trends from the federal government, these payments will once again be earmarked for sponsored research rather than actually making education more accessible.

There is one bright side to all of this though. The money going to universities is actually increasing again, as opposed to decreasing as it was through most of the 1990s. Too bad it's students that are having to shoulder the largest share of the increase.

BC Gives with Right, Takes with Left

The Advanced Education Minister, Shirley Bond, has another left hook for post-secondary students in BC, but is trying to at least make it look nice before it hits them. Under the title of "New Loan Reduction Program to Assist Students in Need" she's managed to provide BC students with something fairly common across the country, the concept of remission.

Basically, the provincial student finance system will now pay back a part of your loan after you successfully complete the year. It's a nice gesture, but while we're watching the right hand, she sneaks in the left hook. As stated in the press release, "effective in August 2004, all students who were eligible for loans and grants under a previous program will automatically receive the same funding but strictly in loans." That's right folks, your loans will be reduced at the end of the year, but now your funding is all in loans, no grants. What's more, since the reduction is tied to successful completion, if you happen not to complete a year successfully for any reason you're on the hook for all of it.

Long story short? Taking funding for a post-secondary education is now riskier in BC than it was before this happy announcement, especially for those students who are disabled or have high-needs -- the very students that Ms. Bond admits this change is targeting. As these students are often those that have more difficulty successfully completing a year (working two jobs to make ends meet can have an effect on your grades, after all) the elimination of their grants means that if they have some personal tragedy or circumstance that prevents them from finishing, not only do they have the bad record, they also have the full cost to pay. At this point, either Ms. Bond doesn't like her job, or she's simply completely secure in the apathy of post-secondary students to politics. That's the only explanation I can think of.



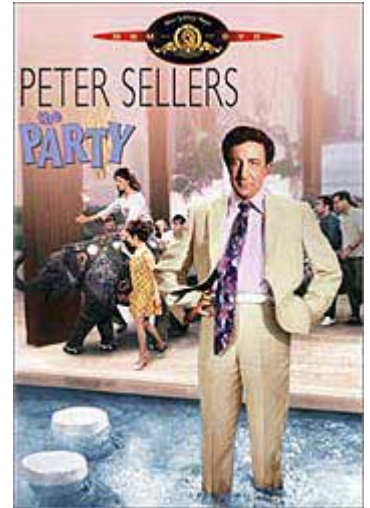
THE PARTY Film Review

By Laura Seymour

August is Comedy For Dummies month

Up on a mountain hundreds of people from India are fighting evil invaders. They are swathed in traditional garb and shooting rifles -- shooting at their enemy. Along comes a foolish member of their troop who blows his bugle and keeps blowing. Won't this fool shut up? No, because the foolish man is Peter Sellers as Hrundi V. Bakshi, an actor brought over from India to play this role and taking it to the extreme. Finally the actors are shooting at *him*, but he won't die. Over and over he is shot, but he still continues to blow the damn bugle.

Eventually the director ends the scene. After the messed up battle scene, they have to shoot a big explosion of the fort. The scene has to be shot right because they really are blowing up a fort, which means it has to go up big time and in one take. At this point, Hrundi comes along and discovers that his laced sandal is undone. He drags it along and then finds a handy spot to put his foot up and tie the laces. It, of course, is the plunger for the explosives. Sliding the ignition down with camera's *not* running, rocks and ancient stones fly! Since this is well before the day and age of computer graphics and special effects (1968) the studio has to deal with the oversized mistake.



Fred Clutterbuck, the studio head, is phoned by the director with the name of the fool who has created this fiasco on the set. His name is written on the first paper Clutterbuck sees on his desk. The problem is that his secretary comes in and wants the list for the guest invitations for the party he is planning. Hrundi then gets a letter of formal request for his attendance at the studio head's house party. No one has a clue who he is, even the flustered director who can't remember where he's seen the guy. The party is a snooty affair with anyone who is anyone in attendance. Hrundi is out of his league and must try to make his way through the mess.

The trouble begins when Hrundi steps in something hideous with his white loafers. He hobbles over to the elaborate running fountain in the house and tries to wash off the goop. Except that when he does successfully get there his shoe escapes in the water and floats off through the house. After a long and elaborate set of attempts to regain his shoe he goes on to other adventures, which include meeting big stars and a pretty lady. He plays with the "cutting edge" wall equipment that runs the house. He all but fries the houseguests when he flips the wrong switch and turns on the large open fireplace and everyone questions his sanity as he discovers the oscilloscope and plays with it as the entire household listens to his ridiculous calls, coughs and sounds.

Claudine Longet, who became an unwilling celebrity when her boyfriend, professional skier Spider Sabich, was murdered in 1976, plays the pretty lady that Peter is attracted to. She becomes an unwilling helper in Hrundi's nonsense.

The party gets way out of hand when Hrundi tries to wash off an elephant that the host's children have brought home bearing symbols and slogans. Never mix washing soap, fountains and sprinklers! The elephant must be pretty tame because it was crawled over by every living person in this film and stayed put while the soaps suds drowned everyone!

I'm dedicated to this film. I have a copy and every so often I just have to put it on and die laughing over the gags. Rent it. Laugh and let go of your stresses.

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).

AUSU THIS MONTH



AUSU On Klein's Paper

AUSU members continue to write to The Voice concerned about AU's response to Premier Klein's essay earlier this year.

Specifically, our members want to know how the media attention directed at the academic quality and marking of Mr. Klein's essay will affect the integrity of their hard-earned degrees.

The students' union had these same concerns. We were concerned that the reputation of an AU degree might be tarnished by this public examination of Mr. Klein's essay.

We immediately wrote to Dr. Judith Hughes, Athabasca University's Vice-President Academic.

Dr. Hughes responded that all students, whether they hold public office or not, are entitled to fair judgment of the facts and to have their case treated in confidence. Dr. Hughes assured AUSU that AU reached its decision about the matter following a thorough investigation of the matter. Further, according to Dr. Hughes, AU has already and will continue to take steps to maintain the integrity of its degrees, including improved media relations and the possible use of plagiarism detection software such as "turnitin.com."

The Students' Union appreciates Dr. Hughes' response and AU's efforts to be fair to all students. However, our members remain genuinely concerned. And rightly so. Studying part-time by distance education takes time and sacrifice, often for several years, fueled by the knowledge that the ultimate reward is a university degree respected by the academic and business community.

The Students' Union believes that this episode was a singular occurrence and is not reflective of the quality of the education that AU students receive. That said, I encourage all AUSU members to contact AU President Dr. Dominique Abrioux (dominiqu@athabascau.ca) or Dr. Judith Hughes (judithh@athabascau.ca), or by mail at 1 University Dr, Athabasca, AB T9S 3A3. Offer your opinion. Ask what steps AU will take to protect the integrity of your degree.

It's up to the university to protect our degrees. It's up to us students to ask questions.

AUSU Wants Your Opinion

The AUSU is in the process of improving our website and we would like to get your opinion on what needs to be done. You can help us out by sending us a list of your pet peeves about our website, your favourite parts of our website, your suggestions for what you would like to see added to or

removed from our website and/or any other comments that you feel will help us to make our website better.

Please send your comments to marketing-committee@ausu.org with the subject line "Website Comments." After we review the comments we may conduct chat room focus groups to discuss the website further with a group of volunteer students. Please let us know if you would be interested in participating in a chat room focus group.

The AUSU thanks you for taking the time to read and reply to this ad.

Marketing and Public Relations Committee Recruiting Members

The Marketing and Public Relations Committee (MPRC) was created by the Athabasca University Students' Union (AUSU). It works to advise the AUSU and its committees on marketing and public relations matters and to develop and implement marketing and public relations programs and services on behalf of AUSU when entrusted to do so.

For more information on this opportunity, see this link: <http://www.ausu.org/committeead/index.php>

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

Our chat room is always open for student chats, but if you have a question for AUSU, or would like to get to know your council, drop by the chat-room during one of our scheduled councillor chat times. The chat is 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

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITY AWARDS PROGRAM

Value: varies

Application Deadline: July-December

Description:

Residents of Soroptimist International of the Americas' member countries and territories; Female heads of household with primary financial responsibility for supporting their families (children, spouse, or parents); Enrolled or accepted to vocational/skills training or undergraduate degree program; Must not have already earned an undergraduate degree; Financial need is required; Soroptimist employees and their family members are ineligible

Instructions: Award distribution begins at the community level. Recipients of community awards become eligible for regional level awards. Applications must be submitted to the appropriate regional post from July 1 to December 1. Personal statement of 750 words and references are required

Web site: http://www.soroptimist.org/womens_opportunity_awards_program.html

MICHAEL LUCHKOVICH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Application deadline: December 1, April 1 and August 1

These awards are given to individuals who have demonstrated outstanding ability in their work and are pursuing short-term, full-time study of less than six months or part-time study. Applicants must have worked in Alberta for a minimum of three years. Awards assist with direct educational costs.

Contact Information:

Alberta Heritage Scholarship Fund (AHSF)
9th Floor
9940 106 Street
Box 28000 Station Main
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4
Phone-(780) 427-8640 (In Alberta, but outside Edmonton dial 310-0000)

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Value: Masters Level - up to \$9,300 and Doctoral Level - up to \$10,500

Application Deadline: none

Sponsored by: Alberta Scholarship Programs.

Notes: To reward the high level of achievement of students pursuing graduate studies in Alberta. Applicants must be Canadian Citizens or Landed Immigrants and enrolled full-time in a faculty of graduate studies in Alberta. Applicants are selected by their Alberta institution. Contact the faculty of graduate studies at your institution for more information about the nomination process.

Website: <http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/scholarships/info.asp?EK=39>

EACH YEAR SOFTBALL ALBERTA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO QUALIFYING STUDENT-ATHLETES TO ASSIST THEM WITH THEIR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

For more information about the individual scholarships, go to the link below or contact your District Organizer or the Softball Alberta office at: (780) 461-7735.

The deadline for all scholarship applications is September 1st.

Web site: <http://www.softball.ab.ca/scholar/2004.pdf>

Searching for Internships

Shannon Maguire

Deloitte Internships

Website: http://careers.deloitte.com/students_internships.aspx

Deloitte is an international firm offering the following services: audit, consulting, emerging markets, enterprise risk services, financial advisory services, firm internal, legal and tax. They accept interns in numerous countries including Canada and each internship is different. To view available internships and information on internships in each country visit the website listed above and select the country you are interested in. You can apply for internships online at their website.

Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE)

Website: <http://www.ciee.org/>

At the CIEE website you can find information about working abroad, studying abroad and interning in the United States. Their website lists available work and study opportunities as well as information on how to get them. If you qualify for a CIEE internship they will help you get the necessary work permits, provide you with information about the country you are going to work in and provide you with support throughout your internship.

Siemens Internships

Siemens Website: http://www.siemens.com/index.jsp?sdc_p=t4cs6uo1136974pn1136976flm&

Siemens Canada Website: http://www.siemens.com/index.jsp?sdc_p=t15c31s3uo1030975pnflm&sdc

Siemens is an international company operating in the following industries: airports, building and construction, cement, chemical, construction, consumer goods, electrical equipment, education, energy and power, financial/insurance, food and beverage, health care, hotel, travel and tourism, industry and automation, information and communication, information technology, machinery, manufacturing, metal and mining, mobile communications, oil and gas, pharmaceutical, public sector, authorities, government, pulp and paper, retail, wholesale, telecommunications, transportation, transportation operations, utilities and water. Siemens offers internships in numerous countries. The information that follows refers to Siemens Canada internships and is accessible through the Siemens Canada Website link above. If you wish to find info on Siemens internships in other countries, visit the Siemens Website listed above.

Position description: Internships available in the areas listed above.

Pay: Not mentioned.

Eligibility requirements: You must currently be enrolled at a college or university and have completed your first year. Your GPA must be 3.0 or better and you must have a desire to work for Siemens after you graduate. They also require their interns to be computer literate and familiar with the standard software programs.

Time and length: Not mentioned.

How to apply: You should apply at least 3-8 months prior to when you would like to begin. To apply click on the "Siemens Canada Career Opportunities" link on the right hand side of the page and submit your profile.

Show Biz Jobs

Website: http://www.showbizjobs.com/dsp_jobsearch.cfm

Are you looking to break into Hollywood or just Show biz in general? If you are, visit showbizjobs.com where you can look for careers and internships in the following industries: advertising, animation, consumer products, film, T.V., video production, game development, graphics, printing, legal, music/recording, sales/marketing, talent agency, theater, theme park, trade show, travel/cruise, T.V./radio broadcasting, visual/special effects and web/new media. Using their search engine you can search for internships/careers by region (Canada, U.S.A. and International), industry, job category, keyword, date or company. You can search for internships by selecting internship from the job category menu on the left hand side of the page. They currently have 12 internships in the U.S.A. listed in their database. These positions include a production intern for Lions Gate Entertainment, a finance and accounting intern for New Regency Productions, Inc., an intern to work with the Star Trek Website team at Paramount Pictures Digital Entertainment and more.

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

SYL PLAYS LIVE, CALGARY, EDMONTON & BRANDON



Check out this great, up and coming Canadian band.

Find out more and download sample songs on the band website at: <http://www.thesyl.ca/>

Date: Thursday, Aug 19, 2004
City: Edmonton, Alberta
Venue: Crow Bar

Date: Saturday, Aug 21, 2004
City: Calgary, Alberta
Venue: Black Swan

Date: Thursday, Aug 26, 2004
City: Brandon, Manitoba
Venue: Houston's

british columbia

Victoria Summer Music Festival Victoria, British Columbia Aug 07, 2004 to Aug 28, 2004

In 1996, the Victoria Summer Music Festival is a non-profit organization formed by a group of local musicians and volunteer organizers to provide a summer season of chamber music concerts and to encourage further interest in and appreciation of classical music in Victoria. There are four concerts each year during August, featuring distinguished artists of international reputation.

For event & ticket information:
Telephone: (250) 595-8243
E-mail: vsmf@islandnet.com
Fax: (250) 598-9788
Website: www.vsmf.org/vsmf

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*.

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

ontario

Steam-Era <http://www.steam-era.com/> Labour Day Weekend Milton, Ontario, Milton Fairgrounds

Steam-Era is the annual show produced by the "Ontario Steam & Antique Preservers Association" held at the Milton fairgrounds in Milton Ontario every Labour Day weekend. Our members are devoted to the preservation and restoration of heritage equipment and bring their painstakingly restored machinery to display and operate at Steam-Era. Steam engines from the turn of the century silently puff their way around the grounds. Hundreds of tractors and stationary engines along with antique cars, models and agricultural displays recreate life in the rural country a 100 years ago.

General Admission Rates per day

Friday ADMISSION
Adults\$6.00
Children under 12 with adult.....free
Unattended Children.....\$2.00

SAT.SUN,& MONDAY

Adult\$ 7.00
Children under 12 with AdultFREE
Unattended children..... \$2.00

Weekend passes may be purchased any time up to Saturday night.

Adult weekend pass - \$15.00 per person
Childs weekend pass (must be purchased with adult)
\$1.00 per child

Parking in grounds \$ 2.00 (per car)
Admission includes Grandstand Performances
Admission after 6pm is the same and is for the Grandstand

For general inquiries, please contact Dave Stirk (pres)
dse@look.ca or Tressure Joe Tielemans
jtielemans@idirect.com

For Membership inquiries, please contact Lorreta Tielemans kalandkids@yahoo.com

BuskerFest
Toronto, Ontario
Aug 26, 2004 to Aug 29, 2004

Every year world-class buskers and street performers juggle, flip, dazzle and amaze crowds on Toronto's front street in support of Epilepsy Toronto. The event runs over a four-day period at the end of August. Admission is only a small donation to Epilepsy Toronto and a buck-or-two to performers to show your appreciation. Location: On Front St., between Jarvis and Church St. Toronto ON Many activities and entertainment for children and adults. Come and be amazed at the spectacular and high energy performers at BuskerFest.

For event & ticket information:
Telephone: (416) 964-9095
E-mail: volunteers@epilepsytoronto.org
Fax: (416) 964-2492
Website: www.torontobuskerfest.com

CANADIAN NATIONAL EXHIBITION
<http://mmi.theex.com/>
August 20 - September 6, 2004
Toronto, Ontario

The Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) is an eighteen-day fair that takes place in late August each year. If you would like to find information or schedules of events taking place at Exhibition Place throughout the rest of the year, please visit our What's On? or call (416) 263-3001.

General Admission = \$10
Seniors (60 & better) = \$7
Children (13 & under) \$7
Babes in Arms = Free

Monday, August 23rd and Monday, August 30th are Kids' Loonie Days. (Kids 13 and under get in for \$1 when accompanied by a paying adult.)

For \$15, parents may purchase 10 rides in the Kiddie Midway for children 13 and under and 48" or shorter.

Once on the grounds, visitors may purchase ride tickets at any Conklin ticket booth at the following rates: 1 for \$1; 14 for \$10, 28 for \$20; 80 for \$50; or 20 rides for \$23. Conklin midway rides require anywhere from 3 to 6 tickets.

CNE admission includes grounds admission only to Ontario Place but does not include the cost of their rides or attractions. Please contact Ontario Place for details at (416) 314-9900 or www.ontarioplace.com.

Amphitheatre (Ontario Place) concert tickets include grounds admission only to the CNE and Ontario Place.

Discounted rates are available for corporate or social groups of twenty or more. Please visit the group sales page of our website or call 416-263-3813 for more information. Please note that arrangements for group rates must be made at least one week in advance of the outing date

Ontario Renaissance Festival
<http://www.rennfest.com/orf/index.html>
Toronto, Ontario

The Ontario Renaissance Festival announces another fine year of fun and excitement, celebrating the best that the Renaissance period had to offer. Nestled in a wooded grove just a short drive west of Toronto, our village is overflowing with performers, craft shops, food purveyors and games, all set in Sixteenth century Tudor England. Performers from across North America continuously entertain on the Festival's five stages while the streets and woods are filled with characters to amuse and delight. Gasp at authentic full-armour combat jousting, listen to balladeers and music ensembles, and marvel at amazing jugglers, magicians, and comely wenches. More than one hundred performers and characters fill the village with nonstop entertainment. Within this charming realm, one will find an array of handmade crafts by artisans from around North America including glass blowing, leatherwork, clothing, woodworking, stained glass, pottery and metalwork. Be dazzled by demonstrations while visiting the quaint shops. Enjoy the shops and shows while sampling the feast of foods the Festival has to offer. Savoury selections with portions fit for a king include succulent Steak on a Stake, massive Smoked Turkey legs, sweet desserts, and Knave Sandwiches. Quench your thirst with ales, mead, soft drinks, lemonade, iced tea, and assorted wines. Games of chance and skill are at every turn of the Festival. Free pony rides and a free children's activities area offer fun for all ages. 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

July 24, 25, 31

August 1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29
September 4, 5

Visit the website for directions to the faire's location, and ticket purchase information. Ticket prices range from \$4 to \$60, and there are many ticket specials available.

new brunswick

New Brunswick Summer Music Festival

<http://www.unb.ca/FineArts/Music/festival/MUSIC/Home/Home.htm>

August 16 - 28, 2004

Fredericton, New Brunswick

The 2004 season of the New Brunswick Summer Music Festival, now in its second decade, promises to be an exciting one. We are celebrating the European settlement in 1604 on the island of St. Croix, just an hour drive from the festival. To commemorate this event, Peter Allen, composer and festival pianist, is commissioned to write a new work for the New Brunswick Summer Music Festival. Our featured composers this year are the eclectic Serge Prokofiev of Russia and the lesser-known George Auric of France. Come to as many events as you can. They range from the Noon hour "Four Centuries" series to the free "Concert in the Park", culminating in the four "Main Series" concerts. There is something for everyone. See you there!

The festival features events surrounding the music of Schubert, Mozart, pre-concert talks, and much more.

Please view the website for ticket information, as prices range differently for each scheduled event.

Contacts for more information:

Phone and Fax: 453-4697

E-Mail: nbsmf@unb.ca

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 to December 23 - 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>

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.

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



WLICSMB'2004 - HANGZHOU CHINA

Oct 30 - Nov 1

The Sixth West Lake International Conference on Small & Medium Business

The WLICSMB is an important international conference on small businesses. Its basic objectives are to promote mutual relationships and provide business opportunities by developing communication linkages and networks among participating representatives from governments, academic communities, business & trade organizations, financial institutions and small businesses. The first WLICSMB took place in Hangzhou in October 1999. More than one hundred delegates from 16 countries participated in the conference. Since then, the conference has grown significantly.

WLICSMB'2004 - WLICSMB'2004 will last from Oct.30 to Nov.1, 2004 in Hangzhou, one of the seven ancient capitals of China which once praised as "The most beautiful and magnificent city in the world" by Marco Polo. Hangzhou sponsored its first West Lake Exposition in 1929, which had the same image as those of the Chicago Exposition in 1893, the Paris Exposition in 1900 and the Philadelphia Exposition in 1927. In 2000, Hangzhou successfully resumed the West Lake Exposition and since then the exposition has attracted people's attentions from all society. West Lake Exposition 2004 will be holding from Oct.16 to Nov.6, 2004.

MAIN CONFERENCE TOPIC - SMB and Knowledge Management

WLICSMB'2004 and ICKMR&DO'2004 SECRETARIAT

General Secretary: Mr. Renyong Chi

Secretariat: Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Small and Mid-sized Business

Address: Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Small and Mid-sized Business,
Zhejiang University of Technology,

Chaohui Xinchun, Hangzhou, P. R. China, 310032

Phone: +86-571-88320618 , +86-571-85967115 -- Fax: +86-571-88320618 -- E-mail: zjsmbi@mail.hz.zj.cn

BETTER PATHWAYS TO VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION **New online forum to discuss education and training issues**

Ongoing

The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) believes that Canadian secondary schools are so focussed on preparing people for the academic stream that they are not providing preparation for a vocational pathway. The topic "Pathways to Vocational and Technical Education" addressing the questions above will be the first issue tackled on a new Online Forum launched by members of the Canadian Alliance of Education and Training Organizations (CAETO). Further topics will be announced every four to six weeks.

The Online Forum (<http://www.caeto.ca/forum>) is intended to be an exchange of ideas on national issues in education and training. Members intend it will act as a focal point to highlight exemplary practices and propose innovative approaches to a range of long-standing and emerging concerns. An external moderator will review contributions and summarize the discussion. Those summaries will be posted on the CAETO website. CAETO will undertake to bring the results of the discussions to the attention of relevant public or private sector organizations/agencies to move issues forward.

This project is funded by the Government of Canada's Human Resources Partnerships Directorate.

For further information, contact: Gail Larose, Secretary-General, CAETO, Telephone (613) 235-8570, Fax (613) 235-7420, E-mail admin@caeto.ca

4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PEER SUPPORT CONFERENCE

Jan 14th-16th/2005

Details to follow...

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.

Each night there will be live entertainment. For further information or contributions to enhance the intellectual and economic success of the conference, visit <http://www.uccb.ca/index1.htm> or email celtic.world@uccb.ca

Provided by Lonita Fraser

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **N.A. Web 2004 - Oct. 16-19 - Fredericton, NB.**
The Tenth Annual International Web-Based Teaching and Learning Conference. For details: <http://naweb.unb.ca/>.
- **The Provincial Literacy Conference - Nov. 4-6 - Calgary.**
For anyone with an interest in promoting a culture celebrating literacy. Humourist Susan Sneath and A-Channel's Dave Kelly will be the keynote speakers. At the Coast Plaza Hotel. Literacy problems cost Canadian employers an estimated \$4 billion every year and the country \$10 billion annually. (403) 410-6990, www.literacy-alberta.ca/events.htm.
- **Educating for Human Rights & Global Citizenship Conference - Nov. 11-13 - Edmonton**
Join local, national and international academics, researchers, pre-service and in-service teachers and community educators to explore issues and possibilities for human rights education and global citizenship. Topics include women's rights, the rights of indigenous peoples, human rights advocacy and education. Conference organizers are currently calling for proposals for paper sessions, working groups and multi-media and poster sessions. Organized by the Departments of Educational Policy Studies and Secondary Education. For information www.ualberta.ca/~hre04 or email hre04@ualberta.ca.
- **iCORE (Informatics Circle of Research Excellence) Summit - Aug. 2005 -Banff.**
The second annual iCORE Banff Informatics Summit will bring together leading information and communications technology (ICT) researchers for three days. The field of informatics encompasses computer science, electrical and computer engineering, physics and mathematics. (403) 210-5335. <http://www.icore.ca/>.
- **Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership Symposium - Oct. or Nov. 2005, Calgary.**
The Chumir Foundation promotes an active, involved citizenry and principled leadership. (403) 244-6666. <http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/>.
- **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, Specialized Courses, Vocational Training & Career Prospects, Distance Learning Systems, International Universities and Programs, E-Learning Tools and Educational Kits, Computer Education, Government Schemes and Programs etc. Details: <http://www.friendzexhibitions.com/infraeduca2004/index.htm>.
- **PISTA '04 - July 21-25 - Orlando, Florida -** Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are transforming our societies, therefore papers about research results, solutions and problems of the applications of ICT in Politics and Society are highly encouraged. Details: <http://www.confinf.org/Pista04/website/default.asp>
- **EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 - July 28 - 30 - Dhaka, Bangladesh.** EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 is the platform for you to promote your Institutions and services and to recruit students in Bangladesh. Details: <http://www.expam.com/bangladesh/>
- **Learning Services Conference - Oct. 1-2 - Edmonton, AB.**
AU's annual Learning Services Conference returns to the Crown Plaza Chateau Lacombe in downtown Edmonton October 1 and 2, 2004. Please mark your calendar. We anticipate a great conference this year, and welcome your participation. TO REGISTER: please use the online form at http://www.athabascau.ca/collab/lconf_reg_form.html Just fill in the blanks and click "Submit." If the 2003 form appears, click on your refresh/reload button and it will revert to the 2004 form. TO RESERVE A ROOM at the hotel: please call 1-800-661-8801 and mention "AU conference" to qualify for the negotiated conference rate.
- **N.A.Web 2004 - Oct. 16-19 - Fredericton, NB -** 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.

AU BUSINESS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (AUBSA) NOW ONLINE! The AU Business Students' Association website is now online at <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/aubsa/index.php>. If you are an AU business student, or a student with an interest in business, this club is for you! Contact aubsa@ausu.org for more information. It's free to join!

THE VOICE

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