



# Buying Your Money Travels in Zimbabwe

Course Exam ORGB 364 Revised

Love Me Like That Open letter from the heart Plus: Lost & Found The Good Life Dear Barb Women You Should Know Taking Notes Canadian Fedwatch AUSU This Month

and much more...

Plus: Poetry fiction feature



Feb 16, 2005 - Volume 13, Issue 7

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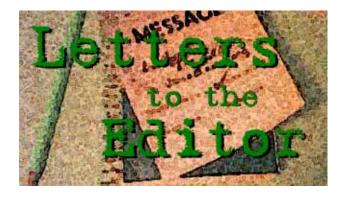
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR CLASSIFIEDS Katie Patrick

Tania Ahlin

Kara Risley Carole Trainor

Janice Behrens Karl Low

Barbara Godin Bill Pollett Hazel Anaka



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

# **THE VOICE**

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# **EDITORIAL PAGES**

# Wearing my Breakfast

Pardon me while I scrape a little egg off my face.

I promised you all that the Voice was being held pending the release of some budgetary information from AU that would let you all know how the tuition increases and new Alberta subsidy would be affecting you in 2005/06. I do have quite a bit of info on this, but had to wait for the final numbers and the official release of this info, which was to have been released today.

However, the information has not yet been released (or I did not receive it) so I am unable to provide the promised story. I know, I know, this happened a few weeks ago when the new President was announced, and I unfortuntely did not get that info on time either ... I should learn. Then again, if there is a good chance of breaking news that seriously affects AU students, I will hold the paper until I can print that news, and on occasion, things might not happen on schedule, especially when information is coming from external agencies.

Rest assured, your questions will be answered and by the next issue, I hope to be able to tell you what your 2005/06 tuition rates will be, what other fees are going up, how Premier Klein's subsidy will affect you, and changes to the tuition and fees of out of province students.

# Wanted: Reference Checker and Copy Editor, Part-time

The Voice is seeking an AU student with a little free time each week to perform online reference and link checks and to pre-format articles. The successful applicant will have their own computer and reliable internet access and be experienced with searching the web for text and links, navigating complex websites, and formatting web links for the shortest possible route to a page. Strong writing and referencing skills are also a must. The applicant must also have a copy of a recent version of Microsoft Word and be very comfortable with formatting text in that program to set line spacing, margins, fonts, etc., and must be familiar with Word's reviewing tool.

Work must be completed on Monday of each week in your own home and is expected to take about five hours per week to start. Inquire with <u>voice@ausu.org</u> for more information.

# **BUYING YOUR MONEY**

My Experience of Zimbabwe

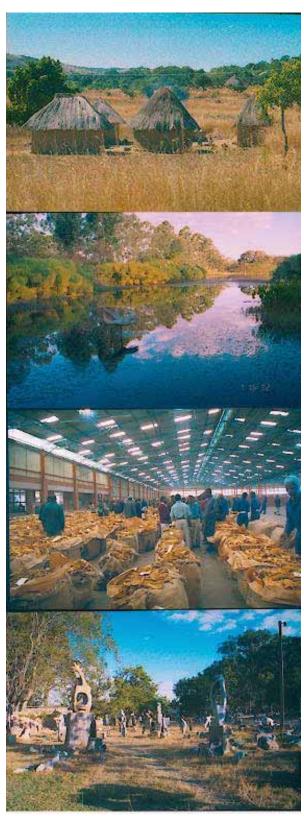
PART 1: Two years ago I found myself on a plane to a country I had not, until then, given much though to. What I knew about Zimbabwe was that it is somewhere in Southern Africa and it used to be quite prosperous, but then something went wrong. What I also knew, after some minor research on the Internet, was that white people there were more often than not nice bait for the guerilla war veterans ("Chimurenga,", the war against White colonialism) (1) in search of justice. For the first time in my life I was less happy to go on holiday than I was supposed to be.

During our month-long stay, there was one day I remember particularly well: the day of our visit to Harare, the country's capital. Leaving us in front of the National gallery, our friends said "It's really easy to get there," pointing in the direction where we should go to meet them a couple of hours later. After visiting the gallery we would find our way through the central jungle to the best hotel in the city. Easy to say, but when you have no idea of the city's dimensions and when you are nervous about walking around with a map in your hands, making it clear to everyone you are a tourist, you do feel a bit ill-at-ease when you consider this little adventure awaiting you. Personally, I wouldn't mind getting lost a little in practically any other city in the world. But as one of the four Europeans in a country where white people are being chased off their land and even killed, I believe I was very entitled to feel slightly uncomfortable.

After we left the safe environment of people-free gallery, our journey begun. First we went through the park where a book fair was taking place. The flower bushes and fountains, both water-deprived, were somehow sadly left behind. No wonder, for the eyes of the park's visitors found a new point of interest: the previously mentioned four confused Europeans (an enigma that for me, remains unsolved--what is it that always makes other people know you're a tourist?). Still looking lost and receiving much more than just occasional glances, we finally crossed the black sea of people at the commercial center and, overwhelmed by the power of crowd and by the rhythm of a capital, we sought refugee in the closest garden of what turned out to be an Anglican church.

When the silence of the patio became too loud, we decided on a final cruise through another park, the only obstacle on our way to the hotel. What we didn't know was that there was a trap waiting for us just at then end--a crafts market. That was where we voluntarily slowed our pace, just to make ourselves more obvious on top of being white, speaking a weird language and asking for prices of small statues and souvenirs. The most

(top) Zimbabwean natives, the Shona people, still live in their huts outside cities; (second & last) Abandoned park-gallery; (second from bottom) Tobacco auction.



intriguing offer, however, was that of money. Zimbabwean dollars were at the time a luxury as they were impossible to obtain due to the economic (and every other possible) crisis the country was facing. But--miracle!--a hustler proposed we could change some of our American dollars for Zimbabwean currency at a surprisingly good rate. Three of us didn't even give him a look as we had been strongly advised not to, unless we wanted to live the ultimate experience of being ripped off. The fourth member, though, fell for it. The image of him, waving in the middle of the street, feeling both furious and insecure because of our moneyless state, and screaming after us "But we need the money!" will never really disappear from my mind. Luckily, he didn't carry any money so he couldn't make a deal without our consent. As we did not want to be robbed, raped or killed, we were just happy to leave him behind and hide in the hotel where hustlers couldn't get us as they were not allowed to even approach the building.

It is true--everybody needs money. But then again, at what price?

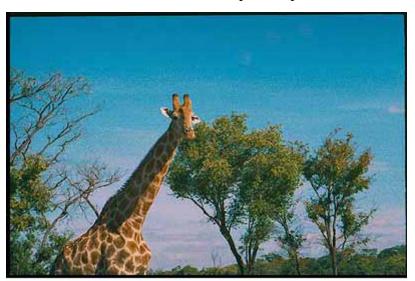


(left) Who is laughing at whom?; (center) Great Zimbabwe – the biggest African medieval city (from 11th century); (right) North of Harare. Is there a way out?

PART 2: The first thing that surprised me when the enormous electric front door opened upon a view of the

garden of our friend's mini-villa, were two more than enormous dogs. The second thing was the servants. The friend we stayed with had his own cook and two gardeners, which is common in Zimbabwe, but very unusual for Slovenians. In our country only the richest people could afford to have home staff, and even though, they may not, so for me it was something out of movies and Hollywood. But, sitting later in the day at a long wooden table in the dinning room, I could easily imagine getting accustomed to having my very own cook.

After some time we noticed that some of our things had disappeared, namely some of our clothes, and the toothpaste tubes were also



With no tourists around, the natural park is a real oasis for the animals.



Freedom of speech - only in the faraway mountains.

strangely slimmer than before we left them carelessly in the bathrooms. Of course we complained to our friend, but his reaction was quite surprising to us. It was obvious that the cook, who was also a maid and, in cases of emergency, a babysitter, took our things, but our friend was neither upset nor angry about this. He said that all the things are probably somewhere in the cook's house in the backyard and that they will eventually come back, if only we asked the cook about them often enough. Beside that he asked us not to be too upset about the cook stealing some of our toothpaste. Noticing our surprise, he explained that after living in Zimbabwe for 23 years he became used to having natives for servants, a custom of

the usually better-off white people in Zimbabwe. When the natives came to live in his house, they brought their habits with them. Unfortunately, these habits included such petty crimes such as stealing dough from the kitchen. Therefore, hiring another servant because the recent one is stealing (which was our first solution to the "problem") would not really change much, besides maybe our diet. Another option would be to go to the police, but our friend was strictly against that, saying that in Zimbabwe, turning in a black person in means he or she would go to prison without any questioning, and being in a Zimbabwean prison basically equals death (prisoners often get beaten up or even raped, which also contributes to the fast spread of AIDS).

After hearing all this we, of course, decided to wait for our things to mysteriously come back by themselves, and we were not complaining if that did not happen; after all, it was much easier for us than a Zimbabwean servant to buy a pair of socks and a chocolate bar.

In July 2003 I read in a local PART 3: newspaper in Harare that about 100,000 people were expected to begin to starve in Zimbabwe. In December I saw in the national Slovenian newspaper a picture of the Zimbabwean financial minister with a medium sized suitcase, the content of the which was the Zimbabwean national budget for 2004. Two months later I saw a picture in the same newspaper. This one showed the Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe, preparing a birthday party for his wife. The caption said several hundred people were invited to the party. I imagine they were not the same people as in the first article I mention.



Entrances to the houses in Harare are all guarded by high fences, alarms, dogs and sometimes even guards.

Zimbabwe is a country where not only fuel, but food, too, is a luxury.

(1) Read more about Zimbabwean Liberation War: http://struggle.ws/africa/safrica/unrest/zimbabwe1.html.

Course Exam

## Katie Patrick

### Organizational Behaviour (ORGB 364)

The world of organizational behaviour is expanding once again at AU - this time with the newly revised foundation course, Organizational Behaviour (ORGB 364) which incorporates several exciting changes, including online delivery, and material that was rewritten to include new evaluation methods.

Why was the revision needed? Course author Claude Dupuis, Academic Coordinator for AU's Organizational Behaviour and Industrial Relations department, explains that "it was time. This is a mandatory course for most of our business students. As such, it represents the only organizational behaviour course they may take so it has to be current, focused, relevant, and interesting." And ORGB 364 has fulfilled this mission, as confirmed by positive comments from students who have completed the revised course.

ORGB 364 is a foundation course that introduces students to the concept of organizational behaviour. It is comprised of nine lessons that extensively involve 14 chapters of the course text - a change from the original version which focused on 18 chapters. After an introduction to the general course concepts, lessons turn to individual behaviour and how this affects our learning experience. Topics like how perception influences behaviour and response and the theories of learning are discussed. Students also delve into the study of emotions and attitudes, as well as motivation and performance. Lessons five through seven look at concepts like teamwork and its influence on behaviour and performance, as well as decision-making capacities, conflict management, and similar issues. In addition, students explore leadership and negotiations, and how examples of this apply in the business world. The course concludes with an overview of organizational culture, focusing on culture in organizations and workplaces across North America. Although the subject material may sound light, Professor Dupuis warns students not to "take the subject material for granted. Many students think learning about organizational behaviour is easy, and consequently don't put in the effort they should compared to finance or accounting courses... [but] there are many concepts, theories and models students need to learn in ORGB 364."

One of the exciting "bonuses" of the new version of ORGB 364 is the completely online format. A tailored course website enables students to access online components - including the assignment manual and course manual, which has self-test tools, like quick quizzes, to help students assess their retention of the course material. Students also submit all assignments online, ensuring quick feedback within less than a week.

The evaluation includes two assignments, each worth 10%, consisting of case analyses and a series of questions. Students are given a "certain amount of latitude to determine the focus of their own learning" by being able to pick from several interesting case studies. Professor Dupuis feels that this is a necessary part of the assignment, since "if students want to choose a case dealing with a subject matter they are interested in, then we should allow them to do that. I think that enhances the learning experience and makes it less of a chore." (On a personal note, I agree—it makes assignments significantly more fun to have choices!) There are also two exams - a midterm and a final, worth 20% and 50%, respectively. The midterm is new, as Professor Dupuis feels that it gives students a "...midpoint in the course where they can receive a kind of academic 'heads up.' In other words, it gives students a chance to determine for themselves how they are progressing, and provides them with an opportunity to shift their learning strategies if they need to." Professor Dupuis notes that the exam is multiple-choice, with questions that "were carefully scrutinized by me to strike the ideal balance between low, medium, and high order cognitive thinking."

Claude Dupuis received his Bachelor of Commerce from the University of Calgary, and his Master of Industrial Relations from Queen's University in Ontario. As a course professor in Organizational Behaviour at AU, he has written several courses, including ORGB 364 and ORGB 300. Additionally, due to his research in the field, he has been quoted extensively and is considered an authority by many publications dealing with the subject of organizational behaviour.

For more information, view the syllabus at: <u>http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/orgb/orgb364.htm</u>

# Voice Writing Contest, 2004 Winners

The 2004 Voice Writing Contest drew more than twice the number of entries than last year's contest, making it a smashing success. Once again, the number of high quality entries was inspiring and made the job of the judges very difficult. Judging deadlines had to be pushed back twice to allow for ample review of each item, and to ensure a decision that best reflected the diverse opinions of the panel. Once again the fiction category received far more entries than the fiction, and the quality of these entries prompted the judges to select three for honourable mention. The final decision was not made easily. Now that all winners have been notified, we are pleased to present the official winner's list:

#### **Fiction Category**

First Place - Courtney William Pollett of Vancouver BC - Fables from the Pleasure Dome Honourable Mention - Wanda St. Louis of Bear River, NS - Into the Cool Honourable Mention - Rebecca Brewer of Edmonton, AB - To Connect Honourable Mention - Wanda Bakker of Westlock, AB - The Motorcycle

#### **Non-Fiction Category**

First Place - George Hawthorne of Dorchester, NB - Books for Crooks Honourable Mention - Julie Boyles of Stillwater Lake, NS - My Adventures in Nursing

The winners of both categories received a \$400 scholarship, while the honourable mentions received Voice logo fleece jackets. The Voice would like to thank the following AU students and staff who contributed to the Voice scholarship fund by donating all or a portion of their Voice earnings. These generous contributions allowed us to increase the amount of the scholarship for this year's contest!

Teresa Neuman, AU Student, AUSU VP External (2004-Feb 05) Stephen Murgatroyd, AU Executive Director, External Relations Jana Thurova, AU Student Stacey Steele, AU Student

Thank you so much for your generosity toward fellow AU students!

And last, but certainly not least, thank you to our judges, the three AU faculty who spent an extraordinary amount of time reading and commenting on all of the entries in both categories. This contest would not be possible without your time and support.

Holly Dougall, AU Tutor, Communications David Brundage, Assistant Professor, English Richard S. Huntrods, AU Tutor & Coordinator, Computer Science

Look for the winning entries in next week's Voice.

\* all entries were stripped of information identifying the writer and were sent to the judges with a code number by the Voice editor. The Voice editor was not a judge in this contest, but facilitated the judging process. The decision of the judges is final.

# I AM NOTHING

I am nothing but a merry King, who sits high upon the mushroom thing, and laughs as people suffer still, and prays that I will never fill, and weeps for my own sanity, and sings for all eternity.

I am nothing but a silly mouse, who sits down below the monkey house, and laughs at all the passers by, and prays that I will one day fly, and weeps for my own sanity, and sings for all eternity.

I am nothing but a preacher's son, who sits between what's right and wrong, and laughs at those who still believe, and prays that I God will receive, and weeps for my own sanity, and sings for all eternity.

I am nothing but a slimy frog, who sits way down here in the bog, and laughs as people sink below, and prays that I will never go, and weeps for my own sanity, and sings for all eternity.

I am nothing but a little child, who sits alone out in the wild, and laughs as monkeys fool around and prays that I will soon be found and weeps for my own sanity, and sings for all eternity.

Kara Risley

# LOVE ME LIKE THAT



Don't stand and wonder about the motivation of me (Why try to make this puzzle fit?). Sigmund Freud has tried (has he not?). And now look at all the trouble this one solitary man has wrought upon the earth! Ten billion of his disciples keep themselves up at nights (did you know this?). They are busy breaking the world into tiny pieces so they might learn how to better medicate you (yes, you!). The artists are hiding beneath the floor boards in these times. They are not nearly as precious as the dead and dusty art that is hiding out in the dead men's attics. If the truth be told out loud, they all a bunch of bores (psychoanalysts, I mean). Their occupation is with the banal. Don't love me like that. For Christ's sake.

Don't hide your passions or your swear words under your breath. Don't keep your discoloured pajamas hidden in the bottom drawer on this day, or the fact that you don't give a damn about your cholestorol, hidden from my view. Don't feign perfection for me, my love. I won't believe it anyway, and what's worse is, (your mother must have told you!) your face will turn to stone.

The world is not an elephant's foot. And even if it were, there is great honour in being a worm or a mouse or an ant caught in the act of

doing the obscene (even if you die under the weight of it). You would know this already if you had taken the time to think - think, my love - instead of reading all those god awful texts that teach you how to do everyhing but.

Would it help you to know that I have never lied to you? You smell sweeter than the dung of an elephant. You are sharper than the sharpest nail that has been hammered into the shingles of this roof. (how can you not know this?)

I shall say it to you only once, my love: You do not equal the weight of your penny jar (does this bear repeating?). I am sorry to have to tell you that Freud was obsessive, and that the psychoanalysts continue to misguide and mislead. This is the reason that they themselves, are now, misguided and misled (who's to love their little hearts?). I think, now, that they probably mean well.

Stuffed shirts/skirts and shiny cars do not equal your mental health, or theirs, my love. Damn them. Damn the good will and straight intentions of every analyst. They are difficult to hate. But look! Please don't turn away: The artists are being held up for auction at garage sales. There is nobody doing the bidding. Many of them will die with nothing but cheap noodles in their hollowed guts. Fancy theories, instigated by Sigmund Freud himself, will try to explain away their poverty. Their dead minds will be assessed; their sanity doubted for what their bodies could not endure. Don't love me like that! Don't take the Beauty from my voice (thinking my gifts for free). Don't steal the beauty from my song and ask me to prove my worth by the weight of my penny jar. Don't love me like that!

Did you not hear what I said to you a zillion times over? I care nothing that you should retire in 28 months and sixteen days. These kinds of details are enough to bore it blind! (the eye of the hurricane, I mean). Only those without knowledge of the moon's eternal sustenance should worry about tomorrow as you do. "Are you a man or are you not?... Are you a woman or are you not?... Have you not a good paying job? (God will bless you for having the right job in these times, you know. You will be redeemed in God's boring heaven for all of eternity, and you will go on and on and on. Not one artist will be there to lull you into the heart of life itself. You will

only wish your pennies could buy your way out of this one!). That these kinds of questions should precede the highly poignant question I put to you in this very moment is absolutely proposterous: Now, will you or will you not, have a root beer with me?

With all of my heart I am asking you to hurry up and claim the heart you've won, my love. It's free! It's free of charge! You've already been informed of this. Don't sit awhile and wonder. You know I was nothing before you wooed me and won me. Now woo me and win me.

Oh my beloved you, sit me down again and drink me into the blueest eyes of you. Sit me down and sing me an upside down queerest of all love songs. Kiss the lips of me with those lips that are pink and full - glorious as the vulva of another woman! Kiss me with the pink rose of those glorious obscene lips. Weaken me with the obscenity of you. Don't bore me with stories of women who go to church and love men but who have no love for other women - women who are sanitized and never swear. Who, in their right mind, could claim to love a man who never swears?!

Tell me now. Tell me what it is I already know, my love: that you are queer. Queer as the first bump on the bum of a crocodile. Queer as the the mother of God who might still be working at the Walmart if Joseph hadn't come along. Tell me, again, what it is I all ready know: that you are there hiding away - soft, soft, soft as the skin of a tulip inside the foreskin of you.

Tell me you love shredded wheat without sugar, my love, and I shall forgive you your awful choice. Turn yourself into a catholic, for Christ's sake, and I shall forgive you even this! Do as you please, my love! Be as you please! Make mudpies on my door step and I shall eat them for supper!

...Make the rain fall so hard upon the earth on this day, that all the trees bend over with the weight of your request, and I shall beg god on my hands and knees to forgive you. Stand on your tip toes and rip the most glorious leaves from the tops of gods most glorious of trees and I shall make a case for you on this highest, most holiest of ground, my love. I shall stand my ground!

Refuse to save your good leather shoes for another day, my love. Undo the awful knot of that precious silk tie and burn it with the dry leaves of autumn. Don't come to my door smelling of cologne and holding twelve red, dead roses in your hands. Don't come to me with the apology of an open wallet! Don't love me like that, my love (for Christ's sake). Come naked. Come as I know you, my love. Come as I know you!

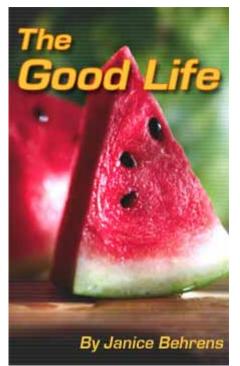
# 2004 Tuition and Education Amounts Certificate

Update from Athabasca University Financial Services...

Athabasca University Financial Services is pleased to announce that the official 2004 Tuition and Education Tax Credit Certificate (T2202A) forms will be available on-line by the end of February to all eligible students. The forms will not be mailed out and instead are on-line in printable format for all students to access. Please visit AU's web site at www.athabascau.ca

# www.athabascau.ca

for further details on obtaining your tuition and education tax credit information for your 2004 tax return.



# The Joy of Sports

The gender of their three children had very little effect on my parents' approach to raising us. As far as they were concerned, we were three different and diverse personalities, each with an individual temperament and approach to the world. My older sister, for instance, was the family dreamer and artist. Her greatest joy in life was, and still is, spending solitary time in the outdoors. She has travelled extensively, hiking through far flung mountain ranges and paddling distant waterways. She now lives in amongst the giant redwoods of Northern California and teaches environmental education programs. My younger sister, on the other hand, was the social butterfly of the family, always happiest when laughing and chatting with her friends. Amongst the three of us, she was the only one with any real interest in dolls, clothes and make-up. She still lives in the same small town we all grew up in, and is at the centre of an amazing support network of family and friends - one of the most fulfilled and grounded people that I know. As for myself, I was the tomboy of the family. I had

perpetually skinned knees and torn clothes. My idea of the best way to spend any spare time was to play basketball or ball hockey in the driveway with my brothers, or throw a football on the school playing field. I collected hockey trading cards and watched every Grey Cup and U.S. bowl game.

Luckily for me, my father also grew up with a love of sports. Throughout his life, he has coached football, basketball and softball. Both he and my mother encouraged my love of sports every step of the way, cheering me on from countless sidelines in every type of weather. What he taught me, about sports and about life, is that hard work and joy, and a desire to work with others as part of a team, are far more important elements of success than ego and talent. Years later, I read somewhere that there is nothing in the world more common than a talented and unsuccessful person.

In fact, I was never the most gifted of athletes, lacking the size, strength and natural athletic fluidity of some of my teammates and opponents. But I always had the determination to pitch in and put my heart and soul into whatever game I was playing. I never allowed myself to be undermined by my own ego, or forget that my individual accomplishments were secondary to the success of the team. I will never forget the look of pride on my parents' faces when I was named female athlete of the year for my small town, and when I was made captain of my college basketball team. Modest accomplishments in the scheme of things, perhaps, but these successes of my youth have given me the confidence to get through some of the tougher challenges that we all inevitably face in the course of our lives.

To this day, physical activity is a huge part of what keeps me centred in my life. Golf, swimming, tennis, bowling and skating are my fountain of youth and serenity. They are also all interests that I hope to pass on to my own daughter. So far, she seems to take as much joy in them as I did. Time will tell whether they are long term interests. I hope, like my parents, I have the wisdom to let her find her own style, her own way of living a fulfilled life.

# CANADIAN FED WATCH!

#### **NEWS ACROSS THE NATION...**

#### By Karl Low



### **More Spaces for Alberta Students**

The Alberta Government, along with its tuition subsidy program for Albertans, has also announced that it will be <u>increasing the number of spaces</u> <u>available</u> for post-secondary education by 60,000, or almost half the total amount available now. 15,000 of those spaces are expected to be added in the next three years, which is over 10% of the 140,000 full-time equivalents currently enrolled in post-secondary across the province.

In fact, it's such a large chunk I'm hopeful that distance education is a large factor in these plans, as simply building the infrastructure for that kind of student increase in three years would be an extremely daunting task. Then again, it's a task similar to the one BC has taken on, devoting millions of

dollars to creating more buildings, while at the same time changing grants to loans and providing new funding for actual education that's only a fraction of the amount being put into buildings.

# **CASA Misses the Trees for the Forest**

The Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA) has put out a <u>press release</u> praising Alberta Premier Ralph Klein for his tuition freeze, and viewing it as a wake-up call for the Federal Government.

While they're wrong on the details (tuition is not frozen) they're right on the big picture. Some provinces across Canada are beginning to realize how important a post-secondary education is to a prosperous future for everybody. While BC lets tuition soar, they are spending a lot of money on trying to improve access to their institutions. Ontario has instituted a true tuition freeze, with money to support the institutions behind it, and now Alberta, the province where the Premier tells working people to go out and get a job if they can't find a home, is finally taking steps to at least make the tuition crush easier on its own citizens.

This should serve as a notice to the federal government that post-secondary education is becoming a priority across the country, and that some thought should be given to making it a national issue. Until now, our federal government has been mostly involved with funding research. Except for the Millennium Scholarship (which has a number of problems of its own) little has been done to address the tuition problem faced by undergraduate students. Tuition has almost trebled across the country over the past decade yet the student loan lifetime limits remain nearly the same. Since AU is Canada's Open University, not Alberta's Open University, I can't think of a better place to lead the charge.

# **British Columbia Gives Boost to Millennium Bursaries**

The Province of British Columbia is <u>announcing</u> that they are providing support to the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation to provide 26 million dollars in bursaries to students in British Columbia. While this may not seem like news, considering that the foundation already awards around 285 million across Canada through their Millennium Scholarship, this bursary is interesting because it will be specifically targeted at the students whose families have the lowest income. A research project will be run along side to "improve policymakers' knowledge of the challenges facing low-income students and the effectiveness of different forms of student financial assistance."

Hey, it can't hurt.

# **AUSU THIS MONTH**



# **Special General Meeting of AUSU**

All AUSU members are invited to attend a Special General Meeting of AUSU on February 28, 2005 at 7:00 PM MST. AUSU members include all currently registered AU undergrads, plus undergrads who have been registered in a course ending in the last six months (extended end dates count). The purpose of the SGM is to vote on a single issue -- the appointment of a new auditor for the AUSU financial records. All members may vote on this issue, and may ask questions of council in a brief question period, covering any topic of interest to members, at the close of the

meeting. The motion to be voted on for the meeting is as follows: Be it resolved that AUSU hire the firm of Cass & Fraser as the accountants to perform annual audits and provide advice on proper accounting procedures for the organization. For information on attending the meeting via free teleconference, contact <u>ausu@ausu.org</u>.

## AUSU's Website Has a New Look

The AUSU website has a new look and navigation. Please stop by to take a look and let us know what you think. It's possible that a few links may not be working as we go through and ensure the new menu system is updated, so please write <u>webmaster@ausu.org</u> if you notice any problems or have a comment.

# New Social Groups Section Created in AUSU's Discussion Forum

There is a new section in the AUSU Discussion Forum called **Social Group Forums**. Stemming from the coffee groups idea, these forums will provide easier communication and access to coffee group members, as well as anyone who might wish to talk with others in their area, but who may not want to, or be able to, meet up in person. Don't forget to visit the Coffee Groups page on the AUSU website. New coffee groups are being started all the time. For more information about this new forum and/or coffee groups please visit the forum at <a href="http://www.ausu.org/phpBB2/index2.php">http://www.ausu.org/phpBB2/index2.php</a> where you will find the new forums listed at the bottom of the page. You can also send an e-mail to the Chair of AUSU's Groups and Clubs Committee, Lonita Fraser, at <a href="http://grave.org/liste3.php">Ifraser@ausu.org</a>.

### Nominate Student Leaders for Alberta Award

The Laurence Decore award for Student Leadership is given annually to a full-time Alberta student who has provided outstanding and dedicated student service or leadership to fellow students at AU or in their community. The nominee must display commitment to one or more of the following areas: student government, student societies, clubs or organizations, or non-profit community service. AU students are encouraged to submit nominations for this award and can do so by sending an email to <u>ausu@ausu.org</u> stating that they are nominating an AU student for this year's Laurence Decore award and providing a few details as to why that person should be recognized for their service. The nominee information will be forwarded to the AU awards department for a final decision, and the award will be distributed by the Alberta Government. March 1, 2005, is the deadline for nominations.

### Dear Prime Minister...

In the December 2004 <u>AUSU News</u>, AUSU asked students to write to the Prime Minister in support of improved funding for education. The need for such letters is still high. The voice of Canadian students, in support of the provinces' requests for more education dollars, could be a factor in deciding how the Feds fulfill these requests. If you would like to write to the government in support of educational funding, you could use our <u>model letter</u> in AUSU News as a starting point. You may also review some written by AUSU members in response to our call. You can find them in our Advocacy section, <u>here</u>.

### AUSU Helps Sponsor the Alberta Services for Students Conference

The Alberta Services for Students Conference will be held this May at Mount Royal College and AUSU councillor Lisa Priebe will be in attendance to meet with students and answer questions. AUSU has donated \$500 to provide students with snacks and coffee during the conference. Students can attend the conference for \$110. For more details on this conference and how to attend please contact the AUSU Office at ausu@ausu.org or toll free at 1-800-788-9041 ext 3413.

### AUSU Needs Volunteer Mentors

AUSU is in need of more volunteer mentors to help our new students adjust to AU and distance education. If you're an experienced AU student and interested in being matched to a new student, please email <u>ausu@ausu.org</u> for an application form. The mentor program is designed to aid new students in their adjustment to distance learning. If you're a new student and would like to be matched to one of our mentors please fill out the application form at this address: <u>http://www.ausu.org/services/mentorsforms.php</u>

### AUSU Attended the 4th National Peer Support Conference

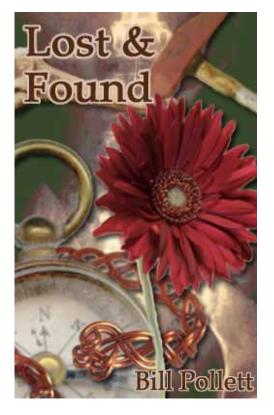
On 14-16 January 2005 AUSU councillors Lisa Priebe and Joy Krys attended the 4th National Peer Support Conference in Ottawa, Ontario. The information gained from this conference, which AUSU councillors also attended last year, helps AUSU to perfect its own peer support programs such as the Mentor Program.

### The AUSU Office is Moving this May

This May the AUSU Office and the AU Edmonton Learning Centre will be moving to the 12th floor of the Peace Hills Trust building located on 10011-109 Street in downtown Edmonton. The new location is only two blocks away from our current location. Our office will be closed for a few days while we carry out this move. Keep watching this column and the AUSU website for more details.

### Next AUSU Council Meeting

The next AUSU council teleconference meeting is scheduled for February 28 at 5:30 PM MST. Any AUSU member may attend this meeting. Please contact the AUSU office at <u>ausu@ausu.org</u> or call toll free at 1-800-788-9041 ext 3413 to obtain the meeting package and the instructions for how to attend.



# **BAD NEWS & BITTER HERBS**

Society, as we have constituted it, will have no place for me, has none to offer; but Nature, whose sweet rains fall on unjust and just alike, will have clefts in the rocks where I may hide, and secret valleys in whose silence I may weep undisturbed. She will hang the night with stars so that I may walk abroad in the darkness without stumbling, and send the wind over my footprints so that none may track me to my hurt: she will cleanse me in great waters, and with bitter herbs make me whole.

These words are from an essay entitled *De Profundis*, written by the great playwright, essayist, novelist, short story writer and poet, Oscar Wilde. This essay was written while he was serving a two year sentence in a jail in Reading, England for the crime of being a homosexual. After his release from this institution, he entered into self-imposed exile in Paris, and died a few years later, in a hotel room, without friends or money. A victim of narrow-minded intolerance born of

inexplicable hate. The year of his death was 1900.

In November of 2001, a gay man by the name of Aaron Webster was beaten to death with pool cues and baseball bats in an area of Vancouver's Stanley Park popular with gays. The men who did this had deliberately loaded up with these weapons, and gone looking for this type of fun. The apparent leader of the group, a man named Ryan Cran, was found guilty of manslaughter earlier this week, and sentenced to six years in jail. Two other assailants, who cannot be named because they were young offenders when the attack took place, were each sentenced to three years. Despite appeals from Vancouver's well-organized and vocal gay community to have this brutal attack treated as a hate crime, with a correspondingly more severe sentence, the Crown decided not to do so.

The fact that this story followed hard on the heels of Stephen Harper's public commitment that the Conservative Party of Canada will fight to uphold the "traditional definition of marriage" made the whole thing doubly disturbing. Like a lot of other progressively-minded people that I know, I found these news items both bewildering and disturbing. The words of the newscaster kept going around in my head the other day: *same-sex marriage a threat to society; sentenced to six years; not a crime of hate.* The fact that two women or two men can love each other and want to live together as a married couple is considered to somehow be a threat to the rest of us. A group of men load up with weapons and head out to a well-known gay area, and subsequently brutally murder a man for no other reason than the fact he is a homosexual, and this *not* a hate crime. What is the message here? What are we saying to the gay community about their place in society "as we have constituted it?" I will have to go for a walk in the woods, away from the voices of those who are filled with fear and hate, to try to sort it all out.



## Dear Barb;

My husband and I went to a New Year's Eve party at a friend's house. There were four other couples at this party and we are all good friends. One of the couples is having marital problems. During the party the husband of this couple kissed me and it was not just a "Happy New Year" kiss. I was upset, but because I had been drinking my reaction was probably not appropriate. Initially I responded to the kiss, but then realized what I was doing and stopped. The gentleman apologized and we tried to continue with the celebration. The next day I told my husband what had happened and he was upset, but understanding. A few days later this fellow called and wanted to meet with me to apologize in person. Should I meet with him, or am I just asking for more problems?

#### Karen in Belle River

Hi Karen and Happy New Year. It sounds like you had an interesting New Year's Eve. Unfortunately the situation you describe happens more often than most of us like to admit.

From your question it is apparent that there were precipitating events to this "New Year's kiss." The couple who are in the midst of marital problems are in a vulnerable state to begin with, so add a little alcohol and a few old friends and you've got an emotionally charged situation.

Your decision to tell your husband what happened was a good move. If he had heard about this through someone other than you he may not have been as understanding. I'm a little concerned that you initially responded to this kiss. This was a violation and a betrayal of your friendship with this man and his wife. A healthier and more fitting reaction on your part may have been anger. However as you say the alcohol may have affected your judgment, as it is known to remove inhibitions, especially in women.

You need to resolve this issue as quickly as possible if you want to continue the friendship with this couple. You don't mention if this fellow's wife knows about this. If she does not know, her husband should tell her. Once this has all been brought out in the open, if there are any further apologizes to be made they should be done openly with all parties present.

Consequently I would advise against meeting with this man by yourself. He may have misinterpreted your initial response and if you agree to meet with him, he may see this as interest on your part. Because this fellow is having marital problems, he may be looking for a new partner to ease his pain. If you are not interested in becoming a part of this, you need to be definite and clear with him about your intentions.

Unfortunately, events such as this can destroy marriages and friendships. On the other hand it is possible to work through this and have your friendship survive, but only if everything is out in the open and upfront. Good luck Karen. Hopefully you and your friends will still be able to celebrate New Year's Eve together next year.

E-mail your questions to <u>advice.voice@ausu.org</u>. 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.

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 <u>djabbour@ausu.org</u>



#### **TEACHING SPACE AT A PREMIUM** *Debbie Jabbour*

In spite of the fact that university enrolment in Canada has grown from 130,000 to 784,000 students over the past three years, a recent survey has shown that research laboratories are being built faster than classrooms at most universities in Canada. In some universities the ratio between research space and teaching space is 8 square meters to 1. Government funding is not keeping pace with inflation and enrollment growth. At the same time, governments do funnel large sums of money into targeted research infrastructure projects through

organizations such as the Canada Foundation for Innovation, which represent some 3.65 million dollars of research building.

Another fallout from limited government funding and the focus on research is deferred maintenance. On some university campuses, older buildings are falling apart as repairs and maintenance are put off year after year. Even libraries are feeling the pinch. Universities are also looking for the prestige brought about by research, at the expense of the undergraduates who have become the "heavy-lifting of the university world" (Schmidt, 2005). Space for teaching continues to be at a premium, with admissions requirements becoming increasingly stringent.

Athabasca University is also facing serious funding shortfalls and infrastructure problems. It is possible, however, that more high school graduates will start to see AU as viable option for full time studies when they are unable to find learning space at one of the on-campus universities.

Schmidt, S. (2005). Research trumps teaching: All those building cranes you see on campus? Chances are they're not for building classrooms (Ottawa). Instructional space will be at a premium (Edmonton). Insight, the *Edmonton Journal*, January 15, 2005.

# Women you should know

Compiled by Barbara Godin

#### Anna Wagner Keichline 1889-1943

Anna Wagner Keichline was born in Bellefonte Pennsylvania and in 1920 became Pennsylvania's first registered woman architect. Keichline's architectural talent surfaced at a young age, when she won first prize at the County Fair for an oak table she designed while in high school. She encountered much difficulty as she went on to pursue her degree in architecture, since at that time it was a mostly male-oriented profession. Anna's many inventions include an apartment bed that folded into the wall, as well as a unique space saving kitchen design. However her most renowned invention was the K Brick, which was patented in 1927. The K Brick was a fireproof clay brick that could be filled with insulation or soundproofing material and was the forerunner to the concrete block. Other interesting facts about Anna Keichline are that she became a Secret Agent, owned, drove and repaired her own automobile, and was able to make a substantial personal income at a time when these accomplishments were unheard of for women.

Read more about her at: <u>http://www.awidweb.com/pages/anna/anna\_1.html</u>



From Where I Sit

Hazel Anaka

# Stop Worrying and Start Living!

Spend any time at all with almost anyone and you'll quickly discover that most of us worry. There are the biggies like cancer and job loss. There are the not-so-biggies like hail damage and sewer backups. There are the down-right itty-bitty ones like "will he call me" and "does my purse match my shoes?" To our dismay, some have elevated worry into an art form. No matter is too unlikely or trivial to escape their attention. I'm not really addressing those people because I suspect that worry is a comfortable companion they're unlikely to forsake.

For the rest of us getting control of the worry habit makes good sense. Psychiatrists talk about the dangers of toxic worry. We all recognize the physiological changes that occur in our bodies when we're caught up in the spiral of playing "what if." The loss of appetite (or compulsive overeating), insomnia, headache, mood swings, unsettled gut. Worry robs us of joy, time, energy, well-being, hope. And most of it is so damn unproductive.

About 25 years ago, as a young, bright-eyed woman who saw life as black or white, I found myself at the centre of a public debate about something I'd written in a local newspaper. People were coming down on either one side or the other of this issue. At that point in my life I didn't have the life experience, courage, good sense or wherewithal to deal with public criticism. It felt personal and threatening. I didn't think I deserved that treatment. But I hadn't yet toughened up to the point where I could say "everyone has an opinion, we don't agree on this one, drop dead."

I was scheduled to be away for a few days and then, like now, I turned to books for help. Dale Carnegie's *How to Stop Worrying and Start Living* and the physical distance I had from the situation got me through. I was amazed that a book written in 1944 could offer such timeless and

timely advice to me. I haven't picked up the book in decades yet the other day I found myself repeating the famous 3 steps to a bunch of co-workers. That's the sort of lasting impact all authors pray for. In short form, here are those steps:

First analyze the situation fearlessly and honestly to determine what is the worst thing that could happen. If it doesn't include the prospect of death, chances are it'll be okay.

Second, reconcile yourself to the possibility that you may have to live with the outcome you most dread.

Third, calmly devote time and energy to improving upon the worst-case scenario that you've already mentally confronted. Having a plan of attack frees the mind from worry and burns up that nervous energy that accompanies it. Then just let it go.

Recognizing that 90% of the things we worry about never materialize is a great comfort too. Following Carnegie's advice makes sense from where I sit.

\*Reprinted with permission



Lonita Fraser

#### Zink - Magazine INTERN - Job Location: New York, NY, United States

Job Description: Zink magazine is looking for interns in many facets of the industry. Fashion, advertising, editorial, and event interns to assist the with phones, appointments, and other magazine related tasks. Zink is a very busy place and we need people who are self starters, good on the phone, have some knowledge about how the industry works. If you are interested in the fashion position we need someone who has worked and who at least knows the procedure for calling in items for shoots, wants to write and has some knowledge about fashion designers and magazines. Please send all resumes to intern@zinkmag.com, ok to mention ED, not ok to call. Please state in email which area of the business you are interested in. This is an UNPAID Internship but a great way to get your foot in the door in such a competitive industry.

Job Requirements: excellent self starter; great on the phones and with people; knowledge of magazine industry a plus; expertise in fashion a plus; flexible schedule

How To Apply: Please send all inquiries and resumes to intern@zinkmag.com. PLEASE NO PHONE CALLS. Also, state which area of the publishing industry you are interested in the email.

Contact Information: Denise Dandeneau, Zink, 304 Park Ave So., 12th Floor, USA, NY, United States 10010 Phone: 646 792 2333 Email: <u>intern@zinkmag.com</u> WWW: <u>http://www.zinkmag.com</u>

#### Placements Impact Canada Ltd.- International Trade and Export Consultants. - Location: Toronto, ON

Job Description: We are presently looking for many motivated candidates for our North-American Corporate clients in Export area (Entry-Level and Paid Internships Positions available in 2004-2005): International Business and Export Consultants. Attractive salaries and packages (including life insurance, paid vacation, etc.). We will provide the work placement/work permit (Visa) with our Corporate clients.

Job Requirements: You will be joining a dynamic team of seasoned sales professionals working with top multinational corporations. You will be calling on North American prospects who need to know about international markets. You may, however, have some opportunities to travel to meet face-to-face with your prospects and clients in the course of your work. Multilingual and strong multi-cultural management style are important. Strong process orientation to sales and sales management is critical. Export customer service and/or shipping experience helpful. Commercial courses and courses in export shipping and documentation helpful. Interacting as required with International Sales management team to insure their needs are met. Exposure to international credit and collections. Ability to manage multiple priorities and consistently deliver results Must have good Word and Excel skills.

How To Apply: If you are interested by a position in International Trade or Export area, please, send us a resume thru email, mail or fax.

Contact Information: Mr Peter hamond, MBA, Associate and HR Manager, Placements Impact Canada Ltd., 1250 University Street (B.1073), Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3B3K5 Phone: (514) 4092017 FAX: (450) 6567116 Email: <u>Placement\_ca@look.ca</u>

# SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

#### UNIVERSITY WRITING SCHOLARSHIP (UWS) Amount: n/s Deadline: January 31, 2005

#### Administrator: Elder & Leemaur Publishers

Notes: The UWS Program will provide Canadian university students with the opportunity to have their literature works published, while at the same time entering them into scholarships that will help mitigate their university costs. There are a number of scholarships available for university students. Half of the available awards will go towards entrance scholarships, while the remainder will be given to current undergraduate students. Field of study will have no bearing on scholarship allocation. Recipients of the scholarships will be determined based on quality of work submitted. Students must submit an essay no longer than 500 words on ONE of the following topics to be eligible for the scholarships:

WINTER SEMESTER (January-April): Award Amount: up to \$10,000 available Deadline: February 15, 2005

Topic #1: Do you think today's athletes are overpaid? Topic #2: Do you think NAFTA has had a negative or positive impact on our country?

SUMMER SEMESTER (May-August): Award Amount: up to \$10,000 available Deadline: June 15, 2005

Topic #1: Do you think the privatization of the Health Care System is or will have a negative impact on the service you receive?

Topic #2: Do you think the media has an influence on the decisions you make? http://www.elpublishers.com/content/uwsotherscholarships.php.

DANIEL B. GOLDBERG SCHOLARSHIP Amount: \$10,000 Deadline: n/s

1) The Daniel B. Goldberg Scholarship of \$10,000 is available for award to a graduate student who is enrolled in fulltime master's study preparing for a career in state and local government finance. This scholarship is funded by the Girard Miller Foundation. The winner of the scholarship is invited, as out guest, to attend the Government Finance Officers Association's annual conference, where the award is presented. Completed applications and other correspondence about the scholarship programs can be sent to:

Scholarship Committee, Government Finance Officers Association 203 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2700, Chicago, IL 60601-1210, (312/977-9700)

Eligibility:

Currently a full-time student in a graduate program that prepares students for careers in state and local government finance and expecting to be enrolled in the spring semester of the year for which the scholarship is awarded (including graudates of that spring semester).

Baccalaureate degree or its equivalent.

Citizen or permanent resident of the United States or Canada.

Recommendation from student's academic advisor or dean of the graduate program.

Student has not been a past winner of a scholarship administered by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada are not eligible to apply.

Web site: http://www.gfoa.org/services/scholarships.shtml



#### ROMANCE SLAM JAM 2005 Dallas, Texas USA

Contact: Cindi Louis - 972.623.2537; Emma Rodgers - 800.272.5027 - P.O. box 530326, Grand Prarie, TX, 75053 romanceslamjam2005@yahoo.com - http://www.romanceslamjam.com/

The four-day conference unites readers and writers of Black romance for an exciting fun-filled extended weekend of literary activities, entertainment, and awards presentations. Over 300 authors, readers, and industry professionals are expected to attend. Theme: Rolling Out the Red Carpet for the Readers Key activities include:

- Literary activities writer's workshops, editor and agent presentations, book signings, and aspiring writer's contest
- Keynote luncheon featuring best-selling author Jacquelin Thomas
- EMMA awards banquet acknowledging the top books in ten tempting categories.
- Readers participation and tributes in all major functions
- Fun activities like shopping and sightseeing in Dallas, a trip to Black Images Book Bazaar, tastes of Dallas, welcome reception, Sunday morning worship, skits, games, and prizes.

The per person registration fee is: Until Jan 15, 2005 - \$ 165.00 per person; Jan 15 - Mar 13, 2005 - \$200.00 per person. Bookclubs or writing groups submitting five or more registrations at one time will receive \$15 off the per person registration fee. (Price - \$150.00 per person) All five registrations and payment must be sent together.

#### THE EYES ABOVE: SPACE & NEAR-SPACE TELESCOPE SCIENCE & ENGINEERING Feb 17 2005 Toronto, Ontario

http://cadcwww.hia.nrc.ca/cadcbin/get\_meetings?meeting\_no=1605 - Mubdi Rahman - mubdi.rahman@utoronto.ca

#### DREAMCATCHING 2005

#### Professional Development Math and Science Workshops for Teachers of Aboriginal Students Montreal, Quebec

<u>http://www.dream-catching.com</u> - Contact: Dawn Wiseman - <u>dawn@encs.concordia.ca</u> DreamCatching is a series of hands-on, professional development math and science workshops, that focus on the integration of western and indigenous perspectives on the teaching and learning of these subjects. Organized by Native Access to Engineering Programme, Concordia University

Lavender Languages: Linguistics Conference 11 February 2005 Washington, DC, United States http://www.american.edu/lavenderlanguages - Contact: Bill Leap - E-mail: wlm@american.edu

### Tenth Annual Arizona Colloquium in Ancient Philosophy

Tucson, Arizona, United States

http://phil.web.arizona.edu/events/ancientphilo.htm - Contact: Professor Mark McPherran - mcpheran@maine.edu

#### APSA Conference on Teaching and Learning in Political Science Washington, DC, United States

<u>http://www.apsanet.org/tlc</u> - E-mail: <u>mwoodruff@apsanet.org</u>

#### The John Donne Society Conference

Baton Rouge, LA, United States

http://www.chss.montclair.edu/donne/ - Contact name: Prof. Eugene R. Cunnar - E-mail: <u>ecunnar@nmsu.edu</u> Thirty-third Annual Twentieth Century Literature and Culture Conference 24 February 2005 Louisville, Kentucky, United States

http://www.louisville.edu/a-s/cml/xxconf/ - Contact name: Danielle Day - E-mail: dlday@louisville.edu

# Feb 23 - 26 Feb 2005

March 10 - 13 2005

#### 18 February 2005

### 19 February 2005

23 to 27 February 2005

72nd Meeting of the Society of Military History	24 February 2005
Charleston, South Carolina, United States http://citadel.edu/history_dept/News%20and%20Announcements/News%20home.htm - E-mail: sinisik@citadel.edu	
Southern Conference on Language Teaching (SCOLT) 24 February 2005 Charlotte, North Carolina, United States http://www.valdosta.edu/scolt - Contact name: Lynne McClendon - E-mail: <u>lynnemcc@minc</u>	<u>dspring.com</u>
14th Annual British Commonwealth & Postcolonical Studies Conference & the 3rd Annual USACLALS Conference Savannah, Georgia, United States <u>http://ceps.georgiasouthern.edu/conted/britishsubmitonline.html</u> - E-mail: <u>schilled</u> <u>dchampion@georgiasouthern.edu</u>	25 February 2005 @georgiasouthern.edu or
Healing Through History: A Multi-diciplinary Conference Celebrating Oral Tradition Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States <u>http://www.healingstory.org/events/overview.html</u> - Contact name: Diane Rooks - E-mail: <u>c</u>	25 February 2005 diane@storyjourney.com
FaciliCon 200528 Feb - 3 Mar 2005New Orleans, LA, United States <a href="http://www.wbresearch.com/facilicon/index.html">http://www.wbresearch.com/facilicon/index.html</a> - Contact: Customer Service - E-mail: <a href="http://wbresearch.com/facilicon/index.html">bchung@wbresearch.com</a> FaciliCon 2005 is the premier industry event for facilities management in higher education, connecting executives in facilities and capital construction from colleges and universities across North America - public and private, big and small. Organized by: Worldwide Business Research	
46th Annual Interntaional Studies Association Convention Honolulu, Hawaii, United States http://www.isanet.org/hawaii/ - E-mail: isaprog@cgu.edu	1 March 2005
Social and Political Philosophy: Christians and Communities Seattle, Washington, United States <u>http://david.snu.edu/~brint.fs/wpsjnl/news.htm</u> - Contact name: Brint Montgomery - Organized by: Wesleyan Philosophical Society	<b>3 March 2005</b> E-mail: <u>brint@snu.edu</u> -
Women's Stories, Women's Lives: Making Sense of Experience Bronxville, New York, United States http://www.slc.edu/womens_history/ - E-mail: tjames@slc.edu	4 March 2005
(RE)Examining Race & Gender Conference Seattle, Washington, United States <u>http://www.seattleu.edu/wismer</u> - Contact name: Julie Stein - E-mail: jstein@seattleu.ed University	<b>4 - 5 March 2005</b> <u>du</u> - Organized by: Seattle
Sun Conference El Paso, Texas, United States <u>http://cetal.utep.edu/sun/2005/</u> - Contact name: Jenny A. Fraire-Varela - <u>jfraire@utep.e</u> applied strategies, tools, and techniques. All university faculty, instructional staff, instruction to share their innovative teaching practices. Sponsored by: University of Texas at El Paso	

# The Art of Gender in Everyday Life II: A Multidisciplinary Conference4 to 5 March 2005Pocatello, Idaho, United States4

<u>http://www.isu.edu/andersoncenter</u> - Contact name: Rebecca Morrow - <u>gndrctr@isu.edu</u> - Explore the various ways in which gender is crafted, celebrated, endured, deciphered, expressed or, in short, the art of how it is lived on a daily basis. Organized by: Anderson Gender Resource Center and Women's Studies Program at Idaho State University

### PerEL Workshop on Pervasive eLearning Kauai Island, Hawaii, United States

<u>http://wwwra.informatik.uni-rostock.de/perel2005</u> - PerEL Organization Team - <u>perel05@informatik.uni-rostock.de</u> Held in conjunction with the IEEE Int. Conference on Pervasive Computing and Communications (PerCom 05). It wants to bring together researchers and developers from different technical and educational disciplines.

#### 4th Annual Race and Place Conference: Borderlands and Boundaries Tuscaloosa, Alabama, United States

http://www.ua.edu/academic/colleges/raceandplace/ - E-mail: gdorr@bama.ua.edu

#### Second International Conference on Positive Behavior Support Tampa, FL, United States

<u>http://www.apbs.org</u> - Contact name: Tim Knoster - E-mail: <u>tknoster@bloomu.edu</u> - Positive Behavior Support involves the assessment and engineering of environments so that people with problem behaviors can increase social, personal and professional quality in their lives.

### International Dark-Sky Association 16th Annual Meeting

Tucson, Arizona, United States

Website: http://www.darksky.org/index.html - Contact name: Bob Gent - E-mail: RLGent1@aol.com

### **Children's Literature**

#### Rochester, New York, United States

Contact name: Laurie Ousley - E-mail: <u>lousley@monroecc.edu</u> - We welcome abstracts on any aspect of children's literature, contemporary, classic, obscure or popular. Papers might focus on illustration, drama, poetry, the picture book, the historical novel, fantasy, science fiction, realism, fairy tale. Organized by: Monroe Community College

#### **Conference on Southern Literature**

Chattanooga, Tennessee, United States

<u>http://www.artsedcouncil.org/csl/cslit.html</u> - Contact: Susan Robinson - <u>info@artsedcouncil.org</u> - Nearly 40 writers convene for panel discussions, readings, lectures, book signings, and more. 2005 theme is The South: A Community of Outsiders. Keynote by Reynolds Price. Registration starts in January. Organized by: Arts & Education Council

#### American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Thirty-sixth Annual Meeting 31 March 2005 Las Vegas, Nevada, United States

http://asecs.press.jhu.edu/2005annualmtg.htm - E-mail: asecs@wfu.edu

#### Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL) New York, New York, United States

http://www.dickinson.edu/nectfl - E-mail: nectfl@dickinson.edu

# EDUCATION WITHOUT BORDERS

Philosophy of "e-ducation 2005"

http://www.e-ducation2005.com/index.asp

As more and more countries become information-based societies, the terms 'globalization' and 'information and communication technology' are no longer buzzwords, but instead, daily realities changing the way people live, work, and learn. However, in a world where technological divide and imbalance in resource distribution are still apparent, many countries have a long way to go before transforming into knowledge-based economies. What is the role of education in general—and e-learning in particular—in helping countries to maximize their potential? Recognizing the challenges this disparity presents, the theme of the This challenge is the theme of the "e-ducation Without Borders" conference, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, February 2005: e-learning through the Eyes of the World: Responsible Development and Desired Role

# 10 March 2005

19 March 2005

# 31 Mar - 2 April 2005

Feb 19 - Feb 22 2005

31 March 2005

10 to 12 March 2005

10 March 2005

8 to 12 March 2005

#### CALL FOR PAPERS - Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows February 10-12, 2005 Splendid Isolation: Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows in Electronic Music and Related Media Berlin, Germany

Held in conjunction with club transmediale.05 "The relationship between communication technologies and the city has been a long and complicated one, where the density of communicative activity has often been taken as defining characteristic of urban life. By contrast, rural areas have been idealized and marked by the relative absence of these technologies, a perception which tends to obscure the social and spatial consequences of communication technologies in rural areas. Out of this dichotomous set of associations has emerged a constellation of forces, ideas, images and experiences which have defined both the city and rural zones in unique and singular ways. The history of art and music bears many traces of this productive tension, in which being immersed in city life and rural hermitage act as polar opposites. Popular music has been identified with contrapuntal movements that fluctuate between the celebration and derogation of both the rural and the urban. Within this interplay, various technologies, in particular electronic communication, have provided the principle forms of mediation between urban and rural areas, bridging and binding people and places in multiple ways and creating new hybrid territories situated within a shared mediasphere. In this context, the challenges of cultural production in and between rural and urban regions continue to be inflected by the specific demands of electronic/digital production, distribution and consumption.

This conference intends to address topics relating to the many debates and discourses produced by the intersection of cultural production, electronic arts/media, and social relations in urban and rural settings.

#### **MEPHISTOS**

#### March 5-6, 2005

#### Providence, Rhode Island USA

<u>http://www.brown.edu/Students/Mephistos/</u> - Mephistos is an international graduate student conference in the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine. The purpose of the conference is to stimulate open discussion among graduate students. The graduate community at Brown University, in association with the Committee on Science & Technology Studies, is proud to host the twenty-third annual edition of the event.

# Contributed By AU's The Insider

- 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. <u>http://www.icore.ca/</u>.
- 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. <u>http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/</u>.
- 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: <u>http://www.friendzexhibitions.com/infraeduca2004/index.htm</u>.
- 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: <u>http://www.confinf.org/Pista04/website/default.asp</u>
- 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: <a href="http://www.expam.com/bangladesh/">http://www.expam.com/bangladesh/</a>

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



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

### alberta

#### INDIE SONGSTRESS EMBER SWIFT TOUR DATES IN SUPPORT OF HER RELEASE, DISARMING



"Swift's opinions go down easily, thanks to her sensuous voice and intuitive jazz phrasing; some may find her disarming, some refreshing, but either way, this music has power."

Barnes&Noble.com

"Swift is a musician and activist who is true to both herself and others. She uses her 'hyphenated-style' of music to motivate people not only physically, but also mentally-hopefully allowing them to see the world in a new light." *Gazette*, Halifax, NS, Canada

Thurs Feb 3 @ Grassroots Cafe inPeterborough, ON 395 Aylmer StreetN / 8pm / \$10 For more info: 705-876-6530 ~*DUO show*~

Fri Feb 4 @ The Mod Club in Toronto, ON 722 College St. Wat Crawford /9pm/\$10 adv. \$12 at door Double Bill Performance w/Madviolet For more info oradvance tix: (416) 588-4MOD w/ TORONTO'S Madviolet

Sat.,February 5th @ Co-operators Hall @ RiverRun Centre in Guelph, ON 35 WoolwichStreet /8pm / \$10 <u>http://www.riverrun.guelph.on.ca</u> w/ Kate Schutt

Thurs Feb 10 to Feb 13 @ Frostbite MusicFestival In Whitehorse, YK Two main stage performances, plus workshops

Festival information: <u>http://www.frostbitefest.ca</u>

Fri.,February 18th @ Nectar's in Burlington, VT 188 Main St /7pm/ \$5 For more info: 802-865-4563 ~*DUO show*~

Sat Feb 19 @ Rathskellear in Ewing, NJ Brower StudentCenter, College of New Jersey 9:00pm / Free for students ~*DUOshow*~

Thurs Feb 24 - 27 @ Folk Alliance Conference in Montreal, QC 1255,rueJeanne-Mance Multiple Showcases still being organized! Currently:

Fri:10:30pm-12:00am - FlemingShowcase (15 min) Fri: 12:00am-12:30am - MPRESSRECORDSShowcase Sat: 10:40pm-11:00pm - OUTMUSICShowcase Sat: 11:30pm-12:00am - SOS Annex (Ronda BartonRoom) Sat: 1:00am-1:30am - Peppermint/Green Note Showcase ~*DUOshows*~

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For more information, interview requests, and photos please contact Kelly Coffey or Emily Lichter at public emily, 413.527.4900 or <u>kelly@publicemily.com</u> or <u>emily@publicemily.com</u>

#### CALGARY WINTERFEST 11-21 FEBRUARY 2005 CALGARY, ALBERTA

All day - Cost: Free

Calgary Winter Festival Foundation Number +1 403 543 5480 Fax +1 403 543 5490 <u>info@calgarywinterfest.com</u> #100, 634 6th Ave SW Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0S4

The highlight of the annual Calgary Winterfest must be the Human Curling Championships, where Calgary's finest line up to jump onto giant rubber tubes and slide, slide, slide away...

The first weekend sees music, magic and mayhem in the carnival at the Devonian Gardens and the Winterfest wackiness keeps the kids entertained during the week with ice sculpting, strongman competitions and the Wacky Wing Eating Competition.

Live music and street performers fill the streets for the duration of the festival as around 200,000 people celebrate the midwinter and the imminent arrival of spring.

#### manitoba

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR 11-20 FEBRUARY 2005 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA All day - Cost: Free

Contact - 1 204 237 7692 <u>info@festivalvoyageur.mb.ca</u> 768 Tache Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2C4

The Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg is Western Canada's largest winter festival. Reflecting the country's unique French-Canadian heritage, the ten-day celebration recalls the fur trade era of the 18th-century Red River colony.

Various venues across the town play host to a variety of concerts and performances. There are three heated tents in addition to the main stage in Voyageur Park, the main focus of the celebrations.

Snow and ice sculptures are de rigeur for winter festivals and this one features an International Snow Sculpting Symposium. Dog sledding also features highly and competitive races with between three and ten dogs are quite a sight.

#### ontario

#### ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW 5-6 FEBRUARY 2005 - TORONTO, ONTARIO 10.30AM-5PM

Cost \$10 - under 13s free Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre 6, Garamond Ct, Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z5 +1 416 441 2345 Contact - +1 905 625 3475 - <u>show@soos.ca</u>

The Southern Ontario Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show in Toronto's Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre is an exotic gardener's paradise. Displays feature thousands of flowering orchid plants arranged in beautiful natural exhibits.

Apart from wandering the Garden Centre to browse the rare flowers on show, visitors can also buy orchids, attend talks on how to care for and cultivate these wonderful flowers and play the judge along with the Orchid Society, who award prizes for the most well-cultured plant.

#### WINTERCITY FESTIVA 28 JANUARY - 10 FEBRUARY 2005 TORONTO, ONTARIO

Cost: Free Contact - Access Toronto - +1 416 338 0338

Toronto's WinterCity Festival provides two weeks of fun throughout the city - from puppeteers and storytellers to dance performances and spectacular ice skating shows.

The annual event is a celebration of Toronto's unique diversity of spirit, offering a flurry of top free

entertainment and a showcase of the city's vibrant arts scene. Winterlicious features delicious culinary experiences including special dinners and tastings. Forget the weather and join the party in the world's coolest winter city!

#### WINTERLUDE 4-20 FEBRUARY 2005 OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Fri-Sun all day - Cost: Most events are free +1 613 239 5000

Amongst the myriad activities, the event boasts the world's largest skating rink in the form of the Rideau Canal. At seven kilometres long, it is a central focus of the event. Shows, snow sculpture and skating abound.

All sorts of weird and wonderful events take place under the banner of the festival, including the Hospital Bed Race, the parading of the Ice Hogs (the mascots of the festival) and extreme trampolining. The frozen canal is the venue for many of the shows that are performed both on and off skates.

It is very much a family event, with much of the entertainment being aimed at a younger audience. A trip to Snowflake Kingdom is a must, where mammoth mountains of snow have been transformed into a fairytale fantasy land, including around 30 giant snow slides carved with images depicting well-known fairy tale characters.

For the kid in you though, you can try your hand at such Canadian traditions as sledge hockey, ice climbing, curling and dog-sledding. Public ice block carving is also encouraged, but if sculpting is not your strong point, you can see how the professionals do it in an intriguing look at a continent far removed from this wintry landscape.

#### quebec

#### QUÉBEC WINTER CARNIVAL 28 JANUARY - 13 FEBRUARY 2005 QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC

Contact - Number +1 866 422 7628 (hotline) Second Number +1 418 626 3716

Promoting itself as the largest snow festival in the world, the Québec Winter Carnival makes the most of the harsh climatic conditions in this part of the world. Intended primarily as a way to brighten up the bleak days of midwinter, the event has been a highlight on the local calendar for years.

If you do decide to take part, pack your warmest clothes: temperatures here average minus 10 degrees Celsius.

#### FÊTE DES NEIGES 22 JANUARY - 6 FEBRUARY MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Cost - Free some activities are charged for

Parc Jean-Drapeau 1, Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve Montreal, Quebec, H3C 1A9 apubliques@parcjeandrapeau.com

Contact - 1 514 872 6120 - webmaster@fetedesneiges.com

The famous joie de vivre of Montreal is never expressed better than during Canada's premier Winter Festival, the Fête des Neiges. Held in the Parc Jean-Drapeau, it runs over three consecutive weekends, with selected events during the intervening weeks. If you want to get a feel for Montreal in winter and the warm openness of the local people, there's no better time to visit.

A snow castle dominates the centre of the fairytale realm of Boule de Neige, the kingdom of la Fête. The size of a football pitch, its labyrinthine ways are populated by various medieval characters and are open to exploration. The fun includes a competition for the world record for speed in ice sculpting, dogsledding circuits for children and professionally-certified ice climbers, who teach the public how to scale a 12-metre-high ice tower - a useful skill in these parts.

ARTAPALOOZA 25 JANUARY - 8 FEBRUARY 2005 MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts 5170, Côte Ste Catherine Rd Montreal, Quebec, H3W 1M7 Tel +1 514 739 2301 - Fax +1 514 739 9340 theatre@saidyebronfman.org

Info & Tickets - 1 514 739 7944 - marc@thesaidye.org

Montreal's Saidye Bronfman Centre hosts Artapalooza! - an annual arts festival aimed especially at young people. Theatre, dance, music and mime troupes from around the world perform in English and French.

Varied presentations are aimed at young children and teenagers and most performances are followed by workshop activities. The festival also takes actors into schools to discuss their work.

CANADIAN SKI MARATHON 12-13 FEBRUARY 2005 LACHUTE, QUEBEC Cost - \$22 - \$215, based on age and when you register

Canadian Ski Marathon Number +1 819 770 6556 Second Number +1 877 770 6556 (toll-free) ski@csm-mcs.com CSM Office, 81 Jean-Proulx, Suite 200 Gatineau, QC, J8Z 1W2

The Canadian Ski Marathon at Lachute in Quebec is one of the world's largest cross-country ski events.

The event organisers provide useful backup in the form of snacks, check points, a shuttle bus and ski wax services. Chartered coaches transport skiers from Toronto, Montreal and Gatineau, so it's not even necessary to drive. You can't beat a great cross-country event for testing endurance and skill, or as a personal challenge.

BBCM RED PARTY WEEKEND 13-15 FEBRUARY 2005 MONTREAL, QUEBEC

10pm-8am - Cost: \$55

Parisian Laundry 3550, Saint-Antoine St West (at corner of Bel Air St) Montreal, Quebec

Valentine's Day celebrations are sensibly given the whole weekend on the Montreal gay scene, the highlight being the Red Party, which takes place at the Parisian Laundry.

The weekend features a host of parties and social events. At the Red Party DJ Norm Robert, a big name on the local scene, and the excellent DJ Paulo, a star of the American circuit who regularly has top billing at prestigious events like the Alegria Party at New York's Sound Factory, spin the tunes. Dress code is red, unsurprisingly, with a touch of leather.

#### CARNAVAL-SOUVENIR 10-20 FEBRUARY 2005 CHICOUTIMI, QUEBEC

All day - Cost: Free

+1 418 543 4438 <u>info@carnavalsouvenir.qc.ca</u> 49, rue Lafontaine, C.P. 567 Chicoutimi, G7H 5C8

Over 100,000 people pay homage to the past as the citizens and guests of Chicoutimi dress up in period costumes and eat, drink and dance in the style of 100 years ago. It's a time to remember both your local and national identity, whether you're from Chicoutimi or not.

Visitors receive a real taste of Saguenayan hospitality and entertainment. The focus of the festival is place

Carnaval, where laser shows open the festivities and snow castles and other monuments dot the landscape. The party continues for 11 days with all sorts of events both inside and out, including special theatre shows and an operetta, featuring 60 comedians and over 30 musicians. Outdoor types can wrap up warm and jump on horse or dog-drawn sleds for a tour through the picturesque landscape.

#### international

SMALL WORLD EXPO THURSDAY, FEB 24, 2005 - SATURDAY, FEB 26, 2005 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Las Vegas Convention Center, 3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

"Nanotechnology has the potential to profoundly change our economy and to improve our standard of living, in a manner not unlike the impact made by advances over the past two decades by information technology." - National Nanotechnology Initiative

Small World Expo - The Bridge Between Concept and Commercialization: showcases the leading companies and developers in tiny technology allows companies and attendees to develop partnerships, license technology and evaluate acquisitions

educates the individuals on the practical applications of nanotechnology, microsystems and MEMS.

Why this is a "must attend" event:

As an executive, we help you maximize your time at the show by pre-scheduling appointments with companies you'll want to partner with, license technology from or even acquire. Unlike other events, the show floor will be divided into pavilions so that you can save time finding companies of interest. On the conference side, unlike other events, the content will be delivered in an easily understandable fashion.

How you will benefit by attending personally:

Much confusion still exists about what this technology is truly capable of and how much it will cost to implement into your products and manufacturing. It's time to simplify, demystify, and clarify how these technologies can help your company become more efficient and more profitable. By attending, you'll return with the contacts, knowledge, and confidence you need to make intelligent buying decisions.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LINUX EXPO SATURDAY, FEB 12, 2005 - SUNDAY, FEB 13, 2005 9:00 AM - 9:00 PM Los Angeles Convention Center 1201 South Figueroa Street Los Angeles, California 90015

We are proud to announce the third annual Southern California Linux Expo. SCALE 3X will be two days of talks, tutorials and seminars on Linux and open-source software! We will also have a full exhibit hall running both days. It's set for February 12th and 13th, 2005 at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

For more information on attending, exhibiting, sponsoring or speaking at SCALE 3x please see our website at http://www.socallinuxexpo.org for up to the minute information.

PENIS MUSEUM NOW THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 2005 REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND

Institute of Phallology Laugavegur 24, Reykjavík, Iceland May-Aug: Tue-Sat 2pm-5pm Sep-Apr: Tue & Sat 2pm-5pm Tel +354 561 6663 / 566 8668 Fax +354 552 6466 <u>phallus@ismennet.is</u>

A brave group of scientific entrepreneurs has set up the world's first Penis Museum (officially known as the Institute of Phallology) in Reykjavik - it's not for the squeamish.

The museum, as well as showcasing the rich diversity of nature's endowments, also has a gallery of phallological art and a section of "practical utensils" relating to the theme of the museum, whatever that means.

# MR POTTER'S MUSEUM OF CURIOSITY - DAILY BOLVENTOR, CORNWALL, ENGLAND

Jul-Aug 10am-7pm Nov-Mar 11am-4pm Sep-Oct & Apr-Jun 10am-5pm Cost £2.50 concessions £2 family ticket £6.95 For more information: +44 1566 86838 jamaicainn@eclipse.co.uk

Mr Potter's "Famous" Museum of Curiosities in Cornwall is an experience of unadulterated madness, resembling more the result of a psychotic on the rampage at a car boot sale than a collection of relics of the past.

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



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

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AU SCIENCE STUDENTS' SOCIETY (AUS3) ONLINE! The AU Science Students' Society is online at <u>http://www.ausu.org/clubs/ausss/index.php</u>. If you are an AU science student or a student with an interest in science, this club is for you! Contact <u>aus3@ausu.org</u> for more information. It's free to join!

# THE VOICE

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