

# THE VOICE MAGAZINE

*April 13, 2005*  
*Volume 13 Issue 15*



## *Love & Marriage & Divorce* *Is there any meaning to it all?*

*Chronicles of Cruiscin Lan*  
*New, Voice original comic strip*

*Excerpt From an Address Entitled*  
*"Wake Up and Smell the Vodka,*  
*Soviet Canuckistan"*

*Plus:*  
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*The Good Life*  
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We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org), and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

## THE VOICE

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# FROM MY PERSPECTIVE Love & Marriage & Divorce

Debbie Jabbour



As I struggle through the complex paperwork to finalize my second divorce, a difficult and unpleasant task at the best of times, I find myself becoming increasingly ambivalent and negative toward the notion of love and marriage. Why would anyone embark upon a legal arrangement that ends in failure almost 50% of the time? The controversial fight for gay marriage leaves me wondering the same thing. Is marriage really necessary? What is the point?

I've read the many research studies that claim married men live longer, that married people are happier and more successful in life, that marriage provides a stable environment to raise children. The latter, in particular, is an argument I accept - children need two parents.

However, given the breakdown of the institution of marriage in virtually every community and culture, it seems we are in dire need of a re-write of the rules.

A recent article suggested that respect is the key to long marriages. The secret, apparently, is not *choosing* the right mate, but *being* the right mate (Schwartz, 2005). Two people commit to each other, for better or worse, choosing to love and honour each other through tough times, willing to accept each other's shortcomings. While I agree with all of this, it seems to me that this can be done by two individuals regardless of a piece of paper to legalize the process. What is most important is being willing to stick together even when love and satisfaction are at their lowest point.

Love and satisfaction are not constants in a relationship, they "ebb and flow, depending on how people treat each other" (Schwartz, 2005). One researcher has found that satisfaction in a marriage drops when the first baby comes along, and is at its lowest when children are between 11 and 16 (no surprise to those of us who have lived through those turbulent years). The good news is, once children have left the nest, satisfaction rises, making the final stage of marriage the real honeymoon period (Smart Marriages, 2005). Again, I concur with this latter statement - I see my own parents, for example, thoroughly enjoying this late-in-life honeymoon, travelling together, and sharing a level of contentment that seems much higher than at any other point in their relationship.

The research that I find most interesting is that which indicates that staying together and avoiding separation or divorce has a positive end result - with people who get through the difficult times ultimately finding deep happiness and contentment. I have always believed that getting a divorce is far too simple, providing an easy out solution, a lack of incentive to try to weather the storm. There are exceptions, of course, abuse and repeated infidelity being the main ones. But for the most part, people who have managed to work through issues, even serious ones, to stay married, seem to be far happier and more successful in life than those who opted for divorce.

The cynical part of me does not believe in love as an essential marriage component. I've seen many marriages based on other factors - friendship, financial security, companionship. In most cases an emotional attachment develops over time that proves far more powerful than the passionate love so many base their initial marital decisions on. In the right circumstances, I believe you can grow to love your partner - and if not, you can still have a healthy relationship without love. A quasi-business relationship can flourish, providing a healthy environment for all parties, including children, without love ever entering into it. In some ways, such a relationship is even more resistant to breakup, since passion is replaced by logic and mutual need. One author pointed out that one thing people learn well in marriage is "how to hurt the other," and she suggests that marriages that last involve the ability to "hold back from saying the very thing the other most dreads hearing" during a crisis, those moments of "sheer hatred" (Klagsbrun, 1985).

With my sceptical eye, I watched the news about Charles and Camilla's marriage this past week. Many describe it a "love story" to finally see the plus-55 year old pair wed. As the much-maligned "other woman," Camilla bears the burden of blame for the break up of Charles's first marriage. As is typical in affairs of this sort, the man escapes the brunt of censure, although it is obvious that Camilla was not operating alone. But in spite of the ugliness of the affair, the divorce, and the sad aftermath of Diana's death, the relationship between Charles and Camilla has endured. Many are happy for them, enchanted by this love story that has endured such adversity. I can't help but wonder, however, what would have happened had Charles and Diana managed to work through things rather than divorce. An affair does not have to be the end - look at the success Bill and Hillary Clinton have managed to achieve. Although remaining together was no doubt difficult and challenging, they appear to now have a good relationship, one that has been highly beneficial for both of them. I don't think Hillary's presidential aspirations, or Bill's continued public respect and goodwill, would have been possible had the marriage ended in divorce. And I'm sure Chelsea is much happier with her parents together, as would William and Harry have been. In fact, it's likely that Charles's mother (Queen Elizabeth) has worked through similar rough spots and infidelity in her marriage.

Can a marriage be saved after an affair? I believe so, although I certainly would not advise anyone to put up with repeated infidelity, particularly given the risks of sexually transmitted disease. I saw a news program recently that cited extremely high rates of infidelity within a marriage, by both genders, so it's an issue that many married people will eventually confront.

A few news commentators have pointed out that after everything that has occurred, Charles really had no choice but make good on his commitment to Camilla and marry her. Perhaps it really is a love story and perhaps they really do deserve to be together after so many years and so much trouble. As much as I believe everyone has a right to happiness, however, I don't think it should be at the expense of another. This is particularly true within a relationship. Although the divorce decision may be mutual in a few situations, in most cases, one party is the "dumper" and one is the "dumpee", providing the potential for an incredible amount of pain and unhappiness. If it is truly the case that couples who make it through the difficult years achieve a true honeymoon period later in life, there should be a strong incentive to keep marriages together. Being able to "grow old together" and have companionship as you age is something I'm beginning to really appreciate the importance of. At the religious ceremony following the civil marriage, Charles and Camilla, before the eyes of both those in the chapel and a worldwide television audience, asked forgiveness for their sins and promised that they had 'resolved to be faithful' to each other in this marriage. Hopefully, they will manage to do so.

As for me, I'm far too pessimistic about the whole process to be completely objective. My solution is to resolve never to get married again and to encourage my children to be cautious - take your time before deciding to get married, and take your time before deciding to end a relationship. If, prior to getting married, everyone was required to go through the same kind of difficulty and heartache that accompanies a divorce, no doubt the institution of marriage would be considered far more valuable.

Klagsbrun, F. (1985). *Married people: Staying together in the age of divorce*. New York: Bantam Books.

Schwartz, S. (2005). Respect key to long marriages: Partners must commit to being the right mate. *Edmonton Journal*, April 8, 2005, C6.

Smart Marriages (2005). The Coalition for Marriage, Family and Couples Education. <http://www.smartmarriages.com/>

Smith, Diane (2005) Undressing Infidelity, Excerpts: <http://msnbc.msn.com/id/6914982/>



Excerpt From an Address Entitled "Wake Up and Smell the Vodka, Soviet Canuckistan"  
Presented to the Canadian Independent Chamber of Industry and Commerce by Lionel T.  
Undershaft, III



Before we start criticizing so-called *oppressive* regimes in other parts of the world, I think we in *democratic* Canada should take a good hard look at some of the outdated and tyrannical laws with which we put the fascist boots to our own citizenry. I'm thinking specifically of those medieval and dogmatic statutes that stifle and suppress the creativity of the entrepreneurial spirit.

Were you aware, for instance, that each and every new medicine must be tested and approved before entering the market? Or that false advertising is actually considered to be an indictable offense under the *Criminal Code of Canada*? Were you aware that our provincial labour laws stipulate a minimum hourly wage that is applicable to all employees? In British Columbia, for instance, the general minimum wage is eight dollars per hour! As I was telling my friends last night over a bucket of Beluga caviar, it makes you wonder whether it's even worth doing business in this country. Hell, by the time I pay for legal defenses, hush money, high class hookers, exorbitant taxes on waterfront property, processing fees on overseas bank accounts, fuel for a yacht and jet, etc., it's a bloody good thing that I don't generate enough income to have to pay personal or corporate income tax [*murmurs of agreement from audience*].

Still, every day I see the Betty Bleedinghearts and Freddy Freeloaders out there calling for more and more of the hard-earned dollars that rightly belong in the pockets of our captains of industry to be squandered on such piffle as health care and education. Well, let me say this to those pinko no-goodniks out there - and I think I speak for my good friends Ralph Klein and Gordon Campbell, as well as all of you in attendance tonight - being sick is a privilege, not a right. It's a privilege you earn by being born into an enormously wealthy family, or by sucking up and cringing within a demoralizing corporate hierarchy to others who were so privileged. And as for education, well newsflash, you can have fourteen PhDs in the field I'm hiring in, but I'm still going to give the job to my idiot son or the woman with the biggest breasts [*general applause*]. Once the new Bush/Blair/Martin global economy takes full hold, the only *book-larnin'* and *cipherin'* most of you galoots will need is the ability to scrawl the words "homeless" and "spare some change" on a crude cardboard sign [*clamorous applause*].

Thank you, thank you for that. Who knew that the book *Everything I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* would be so prophetic, eh? [*raucous laughter*].

But in all seriousness, my friends, don't despair. Never despair. Shut out the annoying voices of the aggressive oppressed. A better, more corporate-friendly world with less taxes and more security is already on its way. Amen.

Reference

Fulghum, R. (1988). *All I really need to know I learned in kindergarten: uncommon thoughts on common things*. 1st ed. New York: Villard Books.



*This monthly column features news and issues affecting gays and lesbians in Canada and around the world. Look for it on the second week of each month, only in The Voice.*

A Cornell University expert says the term "gay adolescent" will soon disappear. According to Ritch Savin-Williams, professor and chair of human development in Cornell's College of Human Ecology, "the new gay teenager is in many respects the non-gay teenager." He asserts that the label of "gay" is inadequate to describe adolescent sexuality. Ritch believes fewer teenagers want or need to identify with the label. He contends that most adolescents do not link sexuality and identity.

- <http://tinyurl.com/3z5ra>
- 

Q Television Network (QT) is making a bid to buy Canada's PrideVision television station. The station was the world's first gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender television station broadcasting 24/7. Frank Olsen, President and CEO of QT, is optimistic the bid will be successful. He foresees economic benefits for QT attributable to the acquisition.

- <http://tinyurl.com/537sk>
- 

An amendment to the US constitution to ban gay marriage has been re-introduced in the House of Representatives. It was put forward only days after a judge in San Francisco ruled that the ban is unconstitutional. If the amendment is enacted, the Constitution would provide for the unequal treatment of a subset of the population.

- <http://tinyurl.com/3o3dk>
- 

Alberta has spent \$110,000 in legal fees to fight same-sex marriage. Most of the Progressive Conservative Members of the Legislative Assembly are opposed to same-sex marriage.

- <http://tinyurl.com/6nze2>
- 

Two gay men were executed in Saudi Arabia recently. The men allegedly beat to death a Pakistani man to stop him from exposing their homosexual relationship. Homosexuality is a criminal offense in Saudi Arabia.

- <http://tinyurl.com/6ecy6>
- 

Judge Richard Kramer has ruled that California's voter-approved Defence of Marriage Act is unconstitutional. He said that there was "no rational purpose" for denying same-sex couples marriage rights. The state's Supreme Court is expected to settle the issue.

- <http://msnbc.msn.com/ID/7182628/>

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New York City is going to recognize certain same-sex marriages. The marriages must have been legally performed in an out of state location where the marriage or civil union is legally recognized. Special Counsel to Mayor Bloomberg made the proactive announcement. Courts in the state of New York are currently examining if same-sex marriages will be performed and legally recognized in the state.

- <http://tinyurl.com/5wdyc>
- 

Without prodding from a court, Connecticut's state Senate approved a bill to legalize same-sex unions. The bill provides for Vermont-style civil unions. The Governor has expressed support previously for civil unions in the state. The bill must now be voted on by the state's House.

- <http://tinyurl.com/4dhgt>
- 

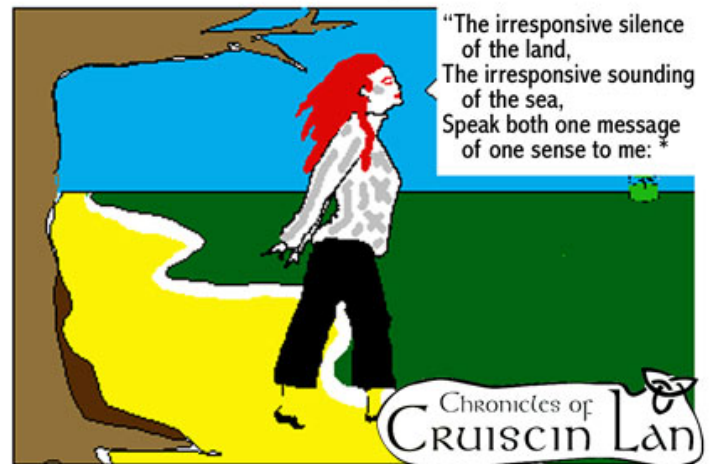
### Quote of the Month

*"From this whirlwind comes a campaign against fellow citizens trying to find in this difficult world a measure of happiness through a singular commitment to another human being. But try to find a compelling state interest in denying two adults the fundamental right to marry because of their sexual orientation. There is none."*

- Steighner, G. (2005, March 19). Saturday essay: Legal reason. *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*. Retrieved on April 10, 2005, from <http://tinyurl.com/3l8v8>

Poet Maeve in:

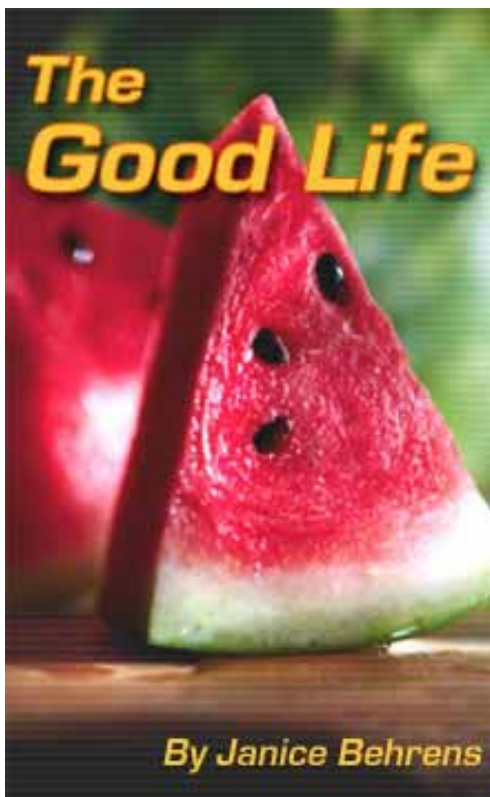
~~ Christina Rossetti is Alive and Well and a Long Way from Herabouts ~~



\*From the poem 'Aloof' by Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894)







## Recipe and Retraction

Firstly, part of my gradual maturing process as an individual is learning how to admit when I'm wrong, so here it goes...

In a column a couple of weeks ago, I took a pretty sniffy attitude towards those people who have a keen appreciation for high quality wines. Quoting the cheeky and sardonic American writer Nick Tosches, I dismissed these people as "pseudo-connoisseurs." I then brazenly went on to more or less claim that there is little real difference between a bottle of cheap, homemade wine and the stuff that regularly gets *oooohed* and *aaaahed* over at wine tastings and fine restaurants.

Well, as a reader quite rightly pointed out, it is a bit illogical to assert that high quality ingredients make all the difference in other areas of food enjoyment, but to deny their validity in the making of wine. Obviously, creating a fine bottle of wine is an act of craftsmanship requiring vast technical experience and artistic intuition. That a ten dollar bottle of *Yellowtail* tastes every bit as good to me as *Chateau Neuf du Pape* is a just reflection of my lack of knowledge in this area. My husband's enjoyment for the most headache-inducing modern jazz I've ever heard is completely lost on me, but I'm sure he hears far more in the music than I do.

The swipe I rather clumsily took in my previous column was not meant to be directed at those people with the ability to genuinely appreciate a good bottle of *Syrah* or *Pinot Noir*, but rather at all of the self-important hoopla that is connected to the enjoyment of high calibre plonk. It's an argument equally applicable in the areas of gourmet cuisine, art, literature, fashion, and any number of other areas. To me, a good book is one that's fun to read; a good song is something you can dance to, cry to, or sing along with; and good food and drink is just whatever goes down well. I suppose you can take the girl out of rural Alberta, but you can't take rural Alberta out of the girl. So, I offer an apology in admitting that some of my best friends are wine connoisseurs.

Secondly, I have had a serious thing for olives ever since my first experience with a Greek salad many years ago in Medicine Hat, Alberta. That's why my eyes and taste buds lit up when one of my co-workers recently brought in a Mason jar filled with marinated olives for a pot-luck lunch. The following recipe renders four or five cups of the heady and delicious mixture:

- 2 cups brine cured Kalamata olives
- 2 cups brine cured green olives
- 1 cup of extra-virgin olive oil
- The juice of two or three large lemons
- One thinly-sliced fennel bulb
- 1/4 cup finely-chopped red onion
- One can of anchovy fillets
- Generous quantities of fresh tarragon, basil and thyme
- 1/4 cup Balsamic vinegar
- Lots of freshly ground black pepper

Chop up the anchovies and mix everything together in a large bowl, then refrigerate for two or three days (or at least overnight). Serve at room temperature with Roma tomatoes, a crispy baguette, and a plate of freshly grated Parmesan drizzled with more Balsamic vinegar, and whatever wine you truly enjoy.

Oh and for an incredibly delicious French tapenade that takes about two minutes to prepare, try blending a can of black olives with a half dozen garlic cloves, three tablespoons of capers, half a cup of extra-virgin olive oil, and freshly ground pepper to taste. Not the most attractive looking dish, perhaps, but absolutely delicious whether you use it as a spread or as a topping for pasta. Yum!

## AUSU THIS MONTH



### The AUSU Office is Moving this May

The Edmonton Learning Center, which not only houses a number of AU services such as invigilation rooms and student advisors, but also the corporate offices of AUSU and The Voice, will be moving to a new location in downtown Edmonton in early May, 2005. The current location will close its doors at 4:30 pm on Thursday May 5, and the new location will open at 8:30 am on Tuesday, May 10. The phone numbers and email addresses at the ELC will remain the same, but phone service may be interrupted during the move. To contact AU during this time, please call the main campus at 1-800-788-9041, and to contact AUSU, use our main email address, [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org). Our new mailing address will be:

Peace Hills Trust Tower  
1200, 10011 109 St.  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3S8

### 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 [webmaster@ausu.org](mailto:webmaster@ausu.org) if you notice any problems or have a comment.

### 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](mailto: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 [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org) 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: <http://www.ausu.org/services/mentorsforms.php>



## Desert Island Masterpieces

Back when I was growing up in England, I was one of those sickly, pimply, anemic looking children who seem to catch every form of contagion going around. Bronchitis, walking pneumonia, measles, mumps, whooping cough, scurvy, ptomaine, toe jam, beri beri, yellow fever - you name it, and it's a pretty good bet that I was bedridden with it at some point during my infancy and preadolescence. So, while my classmates were out playing tag, practising to be soccer hooligans, setting fire to municipal buildings and generally figuring out new and ever more inventive ways to torment 68 pound asthmatic weaklings like myself, I was spending days or weeks at a time wrapped up in blankets in the living room, drinking weak tea with a splash of *me Da's* whiskey and eating kippers and custard.

In between fever dreams, I would read *Tin Tin* comics, and everything that Robert Louis Stevenson ever wrote. I would also spend hours listening to the "wireless," while my merchant marine father passed by the door muttering to himself and shaking his head in chagrin at the fickle fortunes

that had caused him to spawn what appeared to be the love child of Beatrix Potter and Edgar Allen Poe. My favourite radio program was the old BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) Sunday morning chestnut *Desert Island Discs*, in which various celebrities would offer up the ten recordings they would choose to be stranded with, should they be lucky enough to know in advance which remote island with a power supply they would be conveniently shipwrecked near.

Okay, so there was something missing in the logic department. But I still found the idea fascinating back then, and it's stuck with me for all these years. To this day, when I find myself trapped on a long bus trip or in a waiting room, I engage in the time-wasting pursuit of doodling down lists of things that I would choose to be stranded with, preferably along with a crate of Lagavulin and a bail of British Columbia's finest. Not just recordings, but favourite books and movies, as well. I think what appeals to me so much about this is the selection criterion that I would have to use. Ten pieces of music, ten works of literature, and ten films amongst all of the hundreds of each that I've enjoyed over my lifetime. How could I narrow down the candidates?

Well, obviously I would have to choose those items that I not only enjoy, but that will have a continuing significance for me. Some of them, I think, would have to be works that are perpetually able to offer up some small surprise, creations of an imagination rich enough to have me continually going to the mine and still being able to find some thin glimmering vein that I hadn't noticed before. This continued resonance for me would result from the fact that they capture at least some of the often harrowing, frequently wondrous, and always richly strange beauty of human existence. It is for these reasons that I would choose the works of Charles Dickens, Louis Armstrong, Ornette Coleman, Robert Altman, the Coen Brothers, P.T. Anderson, Glenn Gould, and others to be my companions in solitude. Nothing else would be worth the time.



Readers, this is the second of two issues featuring updates to previous columns.

*Dear Barb: My fiancé and I are planning our wedding. The problem is that my parents are divorced and both have remarried. I know tradition says my father should walk me down the aisle, but I don't want to leave out my stepparents or my mother. Do you have any suggestions on how I could include my parents as well as my stepparents in the ceremony?*

*Nicole in Chicago*

*The Voice 2004-08-18 (v12 i32*

*<http://www.ausu.org/voice/search/searchdisplay.php?ART=3094>)*

Dear Barb: My husband and I want to thank you for your great suggestions for our wedding. When I spoke to my parents and stepparents we were able to come to a mutual agreement. Everyone was agreeable, except my stepmother. We decided that my mother and stepfather would walk me halfway down the aisle and then my father and stepmother would take me the rest of the way. My stepmother did not feel this was her place, so it was agreed that my mother and stepfather would bring me halfway and my father would then take me the rest of the way down the aisle. I think my stepmother had some regrets about her decision, but overall the wedding was a success. My husband and I had a wonderful honeymoon and are enjoying married life. Thanks again for your suggestion.

Nicole

*Dear Barb: I grew up in a very strict, structured home environment. My parents made all my decisions for me. Consequently, now as an adult I have a great deal of difficulty making decisions. In fact when faced with a decision I become almost paralyzed with fear. Can you possibly help me?*

*Anxious AI in Tucson*

*The Voice 2004-08-01 (v12 i34 <http://www.ausu.org/voice/search/searchdisplay.php?ART=3125>)*

Dear Barb: I am writing to thank you for your excellent advice on making decisions. As you suggested, I have been trying to take a structured approach to my decision-making, considering all the pros and cons. I have been successful most of the time, but I have to admit to making some bad decisions here and there. However, I continue trying and feel very good about my new found skills. Thank you so much for your help.

Not so Anxious AI

**I'm looking forward to receiving more updates, so don't hesitate to let me know how you made out, good or bad.**

*E-mail your questions to [dearbarb.voice@ausu.org](mailto:dearbarb.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.*





### A Tale of Two Provinces

British Columbia and Saskatchewan both have the same problem. As our population grows older, there's an increasing demand for health care professionals. Both provinces want to have more health care professionals available. Both provinces would also like to have them educated in their province rather than paying sufficiently high salaries to entice health care professionals from other regions.

The two solutions that the provinces have decided to take, however, are radically different and serve to highlight the differing political philosophies of the two provincial governments.

In British Columbia, the provincial government is giving three million dollars to health care organizations and universities to create health care work placements, as well as update labs and curriculums to enable more people to graduate with a better understanding of their chosen profession (British Columbia, April 8, 2005). This comes in addition to earlier expenditures almost doubling the number of seats for medical education and creating 2,100 new seats for students to study nursing. Clearly B.C. feels that they have no problem with the root supply of prospective health care professionals. The government's approach is to address the bottlenecks in becoming a health care professional.

A different political philosophy is evident in Saskatchewan which is once again providing bursaries in exchange for agreements to work within the province. Spending five million dollars on this program in 2005, the Saskatchewan government will be directly funding 500 continuing and new bursaries (Saskatchewan, April 6, 2005). For the Saskatchewan government, it seems that they perceive the problem not as one of a lack of room for students in the system, but rather a lack of interest by students due to the costs involved in obtaining the education.

When we look at the differing political philosophies, we see that British Columbia likes to support organizations, and hopes that they will support the people. In contrast, Saskatchewan prefers to support the people directly, and hopes the organizations will have the ability to take advantage of it.

It will be interesting to see in the coming years which province had the better idea. Personally, I'm rooting for Saskatchewan.

### References

British Columbia. Ministry of Advanced Education and Ministry of Health Services (2005, April 8). News release: Fund to improve access for health-care students. Retrieved on April 12, 2005, from [http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/nrm\\_news\\_releases/2005HSER0036-000437.htm#](http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/nrm_news_releases/2005HSER0036-000437.htm#)

Saskatchewan. Ministry of Health (2005, April 6). News release: Bursaries for students studying health disciplines. Retrieved on April 12, 2005, from <http://www.gov.sk.ca/newsrel/releases/2005/04/06-281.html>

## Ford Focuses on Fuel Cells

In British Columbia, five Ford Focus Fuel Cell Vehicles (FCVs) will be on the streets as part of a three-year demonstration project (Canada, March 31, 2005). The difference between these cars and the standard Ford Focus is that these vehicles will be powered by hydrogen-burning fuel cells. This means that the only emissions they will generate are water vapor particles.

Four and a half million dollars were given by the federal government in support of this project, which hopes to prove that hydrogen powered personal vehicles are a viable means of transportation in Canada. This aligns with British Columbia's desire to have a *Hydrogen Highway* developed in time for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It's also a step toward Canada being able to meet its requirements for the Kyoto Agreement. However, once again it's a step that is primarily driven by the province, and not by the federal government.

We have yet to see any federal plan emerge for meeting Kyoto's requirements. Hopefully, initiatives like these taken in British Columbia can provide some inspiration for the federal government.

At the very least they'll make it impossible to claim that nobody could have done better.

### Reference

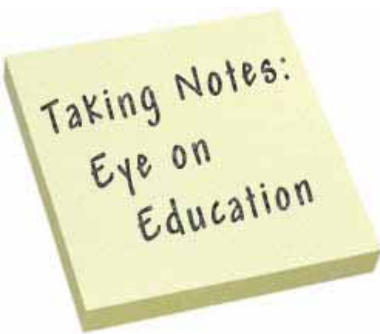
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**WRITE FOR THE VOICE!**

Contact The Voice editor at [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) for details on writing for The Voice. Provide a sample selection of writing and preferred genre.

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](mailto:djabbour@ausu.org)



## QUEBEC STUDENTS SUCCEED IN HAVING GRANTS RESTORED

**Debbie Jabbour**

After five weeks of a strike by 180,000 university and college students, the Quebec government has announced that cuts to the \$103 million student grant program will not occur. Instead, an amount of \$482 million will be reinvested in the grant program over the next five years, funds that will be taken from the Federal Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation.

Quebec Education Minister Jean-Marc Fournier says he is happy for the students, and that this agreement is "proof it can work when we have a collaborative effort with Ottawa - it can work for all Quebecers" (Canadian Press, April 2, 2005).

Students have been aggressive in their protests against the student grant program cuts, and the strike finally seems to have tipped the scale in their favour. The Canadian Federation of Students Quebec (CFSQ) has suggested provincial money should be used to solve this problem, rather than federal money (Weatherall, April 4, 2005). With the money for Quebec students coming from the federal government, one has to wonder whether similar action by students across Canada would prompt the federal government to increase grants to all provinces. This action by students could perhaps result in bringing tuition in the rest of Canada closer to that of Quebec students who have long enjoyed the lowest tuition in Canada.

Canadian Press (2005, April 2). Quebec, striking students reach accord: Announce agreement in principle over cuts to grants. *Edmonton Journal*. Retrieved April 7, 2005, from <http://www.canada.com/national/nationalpost/news/story.html?id=d670079e-d69f-4fad-9b1e-05e091745653>

Weatherall, D. (2005, April 4). Double the bursary: students. Don't tap into federal cash, CFSQ says. Quebec should use its own tax dollars to reverse cuts, chairperson insists. *The Gazette*. Retrieved April 7, 2005, from <http://www.canada.com/montreal/montrealgazette/soundoff/story.html?id=c32b7585-1e9d-4aa9-adb5-8fb3a4c5f951>

Charron, G. (2005, April 1). Quebec student strike widens. World Socialist Web Site. Retrieved April 7, 2005, from [http://www.wsws.org/articles/2005/apr2005/queb-a01\\_prn.shtml](http://www.wsws.org/articles/2005/apr2005/queb-a01_prn.shtml)

## Women you should know

*Compiled by Barbara Godin*

### **Pitseolak Ashoona (1904-1983)**

Pitseolak Ashoona was born in Nottingham Island in the Northwest Territories. She was raised on Baffin Island and became a renowned Inuit Canadian artist. Pitseolak grew up living a traditional Inuit lifestyle that is reflected in her extensive artwork. She and her husband raised 12 children, some of whom followed her artistic path. Pitseolak's art collection is comprised of over 7,000 images, with many focusing on the day-to-day life of the Inuit people. She received many honours during her life, including becoming an elected member of the Royal Canadian Academy of the Arts in 1974. In 1975 she was awarded the Canada Council Senior Arts Grant. Her most prestigious award is the Order of Canada that she received in 1977 and is the highest award a civilian can receive. In 1977 she was also recognized by having her picture-displayed on a Canadian stamp in celebration of International Women's Day. Pitseolak Ashoona died on May 26, 1983.

Source for additional information:

Internet Public Library (n.d.). *Native American Authors Project: Pitseolak Ashoona, 1904-1983*. Retrieved April 4, 2005, from <http://www.ipl.org/div/natam/bin/browse.pl/A254>.

## Back on Track



From  
Where  
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

In June 2003 it occurred to me that our baby girl Hilary would be leaving home to attend university. By this time Roy had been trucking into the United States for about a year and a half. At that point I had already been home and "semi-retired" for nearly two years.

It dawned on me that I would soon be alone for large chunks of time. Not that that particularly scared me. I've never understood those people who can't seem to stand their own company and always need the stimulation of others. But I also knew I didn't want to turn into one of those women who watches soap operas all day and has forty cats in the house.

However I did recognize that all of my current projects/passions are solitary pursuits--painting, writing, university course work, gardening, interior design--and that human contact is a good thing. A conversation with my aunt led to a part-time (two days a week) job as an accounts payable/accounts receivable clerk at a Vegreville business.

Have you ever had things take on a life of their own? Before too long it was three days a week. Because of extensive store renovations we moved to a temporary location and back again all in the space of about four months. Two months after that we converted to a totally new point-of-sale, inventory and accounting computer system. Somewhere along the way the job became full-time and even that wasn't enough time to get everything done.

It became increasingly obvious that my plan for how my life was supposed to be going had somehow slipped out of my grasp. I don't want to come across as the victim because I very consciously agreed to all that was asked of me--that's how I'm wired. If there's a job or a challenge and I feel I can make a difference then count me in. But

when you literally can't do your own banking in person and your grip on basic household chores like cooking, vacuuming and laundry is getting away on you, it's time to reassess. At fifty, I have neither the stamina nor the desire to burn the candle at both ends.

On February 15th I worked my last shift. I had I intended to be gone by January 31st but worked another seven days to help get my replacement a little more comfortable and smooth the year end transition. The farewell potluck, gifts and cards had been done earlier. The longer I hung around the more it felt like one of Cher's farewell tours. Will she ever be gone?

As much as I knew leaving would be best for me, it was bittersweet as I made my rounds through the store giving everyone a final hug. My farewell letter with a personalized message for each employee had touched hearts. Knowing I had made an impact on many people made leaving at once both easier and harder. Getting my life back on track is the reward, from where I sit.

*\*Reprinted with permission*





# Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

To list events in your area, e-mail [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) with the word "events" in the subject line.

## british columbia

### VANCOUVER SUN RUN

17 April 2005 - Opening Hours 9am

The Vancouver Sun Run is the second-largest 10 kilometre run in North America, with this year's race expected to attract around 50,000 contestants.

The scenic route starts in downtown Vancouver and finishes at BC Place Stadium in Yaletown, taking in some of the city's beautiful parks, beaches and bridges along the way. There is also a 2.5 kilometre mini run for kids.

Cost  
C\$17-C\$40

Contact Details  
604 689 9441  
[sunrun@direct.ca](mailto:sunrun@direct.ca)

### VANCOUVER INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL Vancouver, BC - 16-23 May 2005

The Vancouver International Children's Festival provides an exciting treat for all the family and features the finest in children's entertainment from across Canada and around the world. Vanier Park springs to life during this popular annual extravaganza.

Children are educated, entertained and inspired through a varied programme of theatre, dance, storytelling, puppetry and music. Jugglers, clowns, acrobats and trapeze artists blur the boundaries between reality and fantasy while singalong concerts, puppet shows and comedy performers entertain the crowds.

Venue: Vanier Park, 1100, Chestnut St, Vancouver

## ontario

### DU MAURIER WORLD STAGE FESTIVAL

Toronto, ON - On now until April 27th, 2005

North America's largest international theatre festival, the Du Maurier World Stage Festival takes place at Toronto's Harbourfront Centre.

For 18 days, stages across Toronto bring the city alive. Many performances are free, and there are hundreds of additional events to be enjoyed. These include exhibitions of stage sets and designs, late-night cabarets, one-person shows, directors' workshops led by some of the world's finest theatre directors, playwrights' readings, discussion panels, on-stage interviews and tribute performances. There's something for all ages here in this vibrant theatrical experience. Don't miss out.

Venue: Harbourfront Centre, 235, Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON  
416 973 4000 - [info@harbourfront.com](mailto:info@harbourfront.com)

### ESP PSYCHIC EXPO & PSYCHIC, MYSTIC'S AND SEER'S FAIR - Toronto, Ontario

22-24 April 2005

Fri 4pm-11pm ; Sat 11am-10pm ; Sun 11am-7pm

Cost \$10, seniors C\$7, under 12s free with an adult

Toronto's Exhibition Place feeds the soul with the ESP Psychic Expo and Psychic, Mystic's and Seer's Fair. For three days, visitors can consult scores of gurus who believe that they know the answer to all those disquieting questions like "why are we here?" and "where is the soul?" Along with the speakers and lectures there are purveyors of palmistry, numerology, astrological predictions tailored to your individual details and even the paranormal.

Exhibition Place - 416 263 3600  
Contact - 416 461 5306 - [dn@caribphoto.com](mailto:dn@caribphoto.com)

quebec

### **AFRICAN AND CREOLE FILM FESTIVAL**

Montreal, Quebec

14-24 April 2005

This annual film festival in Montreal devotes nine days to African and Creole films, shown in the Cinéma Beaubien and the NFB Cinema. The screenings of fiction and documentary, full-length and short films are followed by discussions with the filmmakers.

Cost - \$7

Venues - Cinéma Beaubien - NFB Cinema

Contact - 514 284 3322 - [info@vuesdafrique.org](mailto:info@vuesdafrique.org)

### **SIVANANDA ASHRAM YOGA CAMP**

Daily - 673, 8th Avenue, Val Morin, QC JOT 2R0

Tel 819 322 3226 - Fax 819 322 5876

[HQ@sivananda.org](mailto:HQ@sivananda.org)

The Sivananda Ashram Yoga camp is set in the beautiful Laurentian mountains near Quebec. Founded in 1962 it is one of the longest running and most successful yoga ashrams in the West. You are basically free to arrive at the ashram anytime and stay as long as you like.

Participants rise at 5.30am, meditate through the dawn, then chant until early morning (sweet) tea-time, followed by two hours of basic hatha yoga, for which you get the reward of a delicious vegetarian meal at 10am. The afternoon continues in a similar fashion - yoga, food, meditation, with sufficient breaks along the way. The Sivananda organisation is Hindu. The chanting is ancient Sanskrit and you are quite likely to be staying during a festival (Hindus festivals are frequent). There's no reason to be alienated if you're not a believer: Sivananda preach credence in a universal, non-denominational God, of which Shiva, Krishna, Rama et al are mere ramifications. Ashram rules apply: women should cover their shoulders, men and women sleep in separate quarters, there is no smoking or consumption of meat or alcohol. It's worth phoning

before you arrive at the ashram to make sure that there's room for you. Accommodation options are shared rooms, dorm beds or camping.

International

### **WORLD GRITS FESTIVAL**

St. George, South Carolina, USA, 15-17 April 2005

More than 45,000 people descend on the small town of St George, South Carolina for the annual World Grits Festival. Whilst everything fine in life is worth celebrating, who would have thought that so many would be so enticed by the homely Southern delicacy of good old grits?

Aside from the admirable grits eating contest, other attractions come in the shape of corn tossing and corn shelling competitions and the crowning of Miss Grits. Bands and local DJs play throughout the evening on two outdoor stages in the town. Surely the highlight of the festival though is the Rolling in the Grits competition. Ardent competitors queue up to dive into a pool filled with cold grits and whoever gets the most stuck to their body wins...

Contact - 843 563 7943 - [nellb@berkeleyelectric.net](mailto:nellb@berkeleyelectric.net)

### **FRENCH QUARTER FESTIVAL**

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

16-18 April 2005

A number of stages showcase local musicians, fireworks are set off in a spectacular display over the Mississippi river and the festival boasts the world's largest jazz brunch. New Orleans is the capital of trad jazz and this annual event is no exception to the city's musical rule - Louisiana's finest bands and musicians entertain the crowds.

This is also very much a family event and there are plenty of children's activities laid on.

To list events in your area, e-mail [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) with "events" in the subject line.



## Searching for Internships

**Lonita Fraser**

### EXPORT AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONSULTANTS.

Placements Impact Canada Ltd, 1250 University Street (B.1073)  
Montreal, Quebec H3B 3K5 fax: (450) 6567116

**Internship types:** Accounting, Admin (Hospitality, Sports), Communications, Counselling, Economics, Engineering (Mechanical), Finance, International Relations, Labor & Industrial Relations, Liberal Arts, Marketing, Ad, PR, Political Science/Politics, Public Admin, Public Pol, Govt, Social Sciences, Social Work, Sociology, Urban & Regional Planning, Hotel/Restaurant/Hospitality, Tourism and Development

Qualifications / skills needed:

- 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.
- Candidates must be ready to travel overseas if required.
- Candidates must have some English skills (other languages a must).
- A College or University degree could be required by employers.
- Ability to work independently and in team situation.

**Description:** As an International Recruiting Firm based in Montreal (Business Partners in Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, Chicago and New-York city), we are presently looking for motivated candidates in Export and International Business area (Permanent and Contract Positions available in 2004-2005): International Business Consultants and Export Consultants. 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. Attractive salaries and packages (including life insurance, paid vacation,..). We will provide the work placement/work permit (Visa if necessary) with our Corporate clients in Canada and in USA.

**Highlights:** If you are interested by a high-level career/trainee position in Export/International trade, please, send us a resume thru email, mail or fax (ref. 024GA).

**Company Address:** Placements Impact Canada Ltd, 1250 University Street, (B.1073), H3B 3K5, Montreal, QC  
Attn.: Mr Peter Hamond, MBA, Associate and HR Manager; Fax: (450) 6567116

Language required: English.

This internship is a paid position.

Application process involves: Resume, Written Application.

Post services include: Job and Internship Network.

Dates: Immediately and year January 2005.

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

*Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi*

### ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY AND STUDENTAWARDS.COM \$500 BURSARY

Value: \$500

Application Deadline: May 30, 2005

**Description:** Athabasca University has an international reputation for excellence and innovation in online and distance education. It is a publicly funded university located in the province of Alberta, and is a full member of the Association of Universities and Colleges Canada. To be eligible for the chance to win a \$500 bursary from Athabasca University and Studentawards, students must be a member of Studentawards.com and have registered for at least one online or distance education course at Athabasca University.

web site: [http://www.studentawards.com/campaign/Athabasca/docroot/b\\_rules.asp?](http://www.studentawards.com/campaign/Athabasca/docroot/b_rules.asp?)

### PARKLAND ESSAY CONTEST

Deadline: May 31, 2005

The Parkland Institute and Alberta Views magazine have launched their annual essay writing contest for 2005. The contest is open to students registered in any high school, undergrad, and graduate program within Alberta. The essay should be approximately 1000 words in length and written about the following topic:

"Now that the Provincial government has declared Alberta 'debt free,' and with windfall resource revenues making anything possible, what does the Alberta you want to live in look like?"

The student with the best essay in each of the three categories will win \$500 and one of the winning essays will be published in the Alberta Views magazine.

Include your name, address, phone number, school, and category (high school, undergraduate, and graduate) on the first page of your essay.

Submit essays to:

Parkland Institute, 11045 Saskatchewan Drive, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2E1

Phone: (780) 492-8558. Fax: (780) 492-8738

e-mail: [parkland@ualberta.ca](mailto:parkland@ualberta.ca)

### CANADIAN SANITATION SUPPLY ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

Value: \$2,000

Number of Awards: 8

Application Deadline: June 1

**Description:** For Canadian students attending college or university in Canada. High school applicants must be in their graduating year. Applicants must demonstrate academic and social achievements. Must submit 500 word essay on: Why Go Green?

**Instructions:** Employment history, activity and leadership record, evaluation form, photograph, and transcripts are required. For more information, please visit the website posted below

**Contact Information:** Canadian Sanitation Supply Association (CSSA) / L'Association canadienne des fournisseurs de produits sanitaires (L'ACFPS)

Web Site: <http://www.cssa.com>





#### 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE - PERSON. COLOR. NATURE. MUSIC

May 18, 2005 - May 21, 2005 - Daugavpils Latvia

- Psychology for Sustainable Education: challenge or illusion?
- Sustainable Education for All.
- Innovation in Teachers Professional Development - Changes in Education.
- Problems of Art and Art Education.
- Generative Art.
- Tendencies of Development of Music Pedagogy.
- Multi Media Technology and Computer Design.

#### ASSOCIATION, GOVERNMENT, AND NONPROFIT CONFERENCE

May 24, 2005 - Oakland, California, USA - <http://nposector.us>

The Association, Government, and NonProfit Symposium will be held on May 24, 2005, at the Jack London Inn, Oakland. Join professionals and colleagues for dynamic presentations in this collaborative environment:

- Fundraising for Non-Profits
- Starting Your Own Non-Profit
- Quickbooks for Associations and Non-Profits
- Legal Issues for Associations and Non-Profits
- Protect Your Employees with Medical Benefits
- Networking and Increasing Your Sphere of Influence
- Capacity Assessment for Non-Profit Organizations
- Marketing Techniques for Associations and Non-Profits
- Peer Consulting Roundtable

#### THE ART OF LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE - LEADERSHIP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

May 25, 2005 - May 26, 2005 - London, UK - <http://www.caol.info/conference05.htm>

Reservations Hotline - 0845 331 3402

Previous models for leadership training are no longer appropriate for the 21st Century. The Centre for Arts & Organisational Leadership recognises that we are all more business literate and aware than at any time in the past and, even at local level, are faced with ever increasing competition. We have instant access to more information than previous generations could have dreamed of, that wealth of data can create confusion. It is time for a new paradigm, for new models and new approaches to leadership and leadership practices, to ensure that you remain at the cutting edge of your sector.

The Conference will showcase expert international speakers who are all leaders in their fields of expertise. However, you will not just listen to a sage on a stage. You will be offered demonstrations, workshops and showcases. You will be challenged to adjust your vision to the way that the arts are perceived ... no longer as entertainment or relaxation but, as dynamic tools for change, for education and for success. You will discover how to convert that new vision into a set of powerful, practical strategies to create qualified and quantified improvements within your organisation. Delegates will come from the broadest spectrum of enterprise, including Government Agencies, Local Authorities, The National Health Service, Global Corporations and Entrepreneurial Manufacturing and Service Businesses and academic institutions. You will have ample opportunities to network with them all - from CEOs and Chairmen to innovators, academics and individuals in private practice.

You can meet and speak with our celebrity speakers, some of whom normally command large sums for their 'one-on-one' consultancy and coaching. In addition, you are offered the confidential services of an executive coach (either during or after the conference) to embed your new experience, sustain your learning and then introduce this knowledge into your own organisation. The exclusive Executive Coaching component of the Conference offers you a unique opportunity to test the effectiveness of coaching for yourself and will show how you can introduce coaching within all levels of your enterprise.

There is also opportunity to meet the speakers, celebrities and workshop facilitators in a relaxed atmosphere so join us for an early Champagne Breakfast on Day One or and Early Bird Breakfast on Day Two, rub shoulders with the speakers

and facilitators, book these separately but don't delay as we are only able to accept limited numbers for these special events. The Centre is dedicated to exploring research and cutting edge innovations in leadership and effective management. It offers dynamic interactive methodologies and practices that go way beyond the theoretical, to deliver practical and effective tools and support. Hosting this brand new event is just one of many proactive ventures that are undertaken during the year.

#### **ELECTROCOR 2005**

**May 2 - May 4, 2005 - Cadiz, Spain - <http://www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2005/ecor05/index.html>**

ELECTROCOR 2005 aims to present and discuss the state of the art on the computer simulation of electrochemical processes and the electric fields associated with these processes. Comparison of simulation with experimental measurements is actively encouraged as well as the presentation of case studies.

Modern Industry applies a wide range of electrochemical processes to protect against corrosion, provide surface treatments and to manufacture products. This conference is focused on the computer modelling of these industrial processes and techniques. Engineering uses electrochemical processes to protect structures and systems against corrosion. Cathodic protection is widely used in the Maritime, Defence, Oil & Gas and Utility industries to control corrosion. The electrical and magnetic fields associated with the electrochemical processes is also of significant interest to engineers responsible for the performance of maritime systems, the operators of rail systems and owners of electrical transmission systems. For instance, system interactions between rail and commuter electric light-rail, are of concern to operators. Electrochemical systems are widely used to deposit coatings on the surface of products and structures. The accurate prediction of the performance of the coating and the optimisation of the process is of major importance to manufacturing engineers. Electrochemical techniques are also used to form or fabricate a wide variety of different products. The common theme of this conference is the development of computational models and their application.

#### **LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR SUPERVISORS - HOUSTON**

**May 2, 2005 - May 3, 2005 - Houston, Texas, USA**

**<http://www.peice.com/eventdetails.aspx?event=101545&ref=Allconferences&rfi=16734>**

Fee: \$ 1095 USD - This two-day course presents practical principles to assist supervisors and managers in their efforts to motivate and mobilize team members toward the fulfillment of objectives. Course discussions and case studies will focus on topics which participants have identified as challenges in their current job assignments. The session, designed to help participants bring out the best in their subordinates, is designed for those currently in, or aspiring to, supervisory positions. A complete set of course materials and lunch are included. Due to the highly interactive nature of this course, the session is limited to a maximum of 20 participants.

#### **Course Outline:**

- Introduction - Leadership
- The Uniqueness of Individuals - Basic Human Needs
- Understanding Personality Types and Motivational Differences
- The Requirement for Trust - The Leadership Entry Point
- "Good versus Best" - Prioritizing Activities and Resources
- Achieving Results Through Others - Strategic Delegation
- Significant Achievement Through Teams
- Cultivating Good Decision Making Habits
- Preventing and Resolving Inevitable Conflict
- Effective Negotiation - Building Mutually Beneficial Relationships

Please note that this course, or portions of this course, are also currently available as one or more live, interactive, instructor-led online seminars (typically 1-3 hour sessions) for groups of 6 or more participants from your organization.

#### **TRANSLOCALITY. DISCUSSING CULTURE AND CHANGE IN THE 21ST CENTURY**

**MAY 3-8, 2005 - Merida, Mexico - <http://www.cas-sca.ca/meetings.htm>**

Our increasingly complex world cannot be understood today as a collection of self-contained localities. Anthropology has been quick to respond to the challenges posed by the new forms of hybridity and intensified exchange between localities, nations and world regions. One of the implications of the new approaches is that our perspective itself has changed the way we perceive culture, borders, power and change. The relationships between localities and supralocal or global institutions continue to change according to fluctuations in larger socioeconomic cultural and political processes. It is possible to argue that localities may open or close themselves to the world, according to changes in their larger, socioeconomic and cultural environment. In the meantime, the new movements for aboriginal rights and

other social movements are staking their claims on strong notions of place and locality, which are often conflated with identity and cultural belonging. Furthermore, the idiom of the nation is gaining new strength as it is redefined outside its prior identification with the boundaries of States.

The Canadian Anthropological Society / Societe Canadienne d'Anthropologie (CASCA), the Society for the Anthropology of North America (SANA), and the Facultad de Ciencias Antropológicas de la Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán (UADY) have joined to hold together their 2005 Conference in the city of Merida, Yucatan, in Mexico. This tri-national and tri-lingual anthropology conference will take place May 3-8, 2005 at the central campus of the Autonomous University of Yucatan. We invite you to explore with us the issues of locality, translocality, nationality and transnationality in what promises to be an exciting transnational gathering, bringing together anthropologists from around the world.

#### **INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON CONFIDENTIALITY, PRIVACY AND DISCLOSURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY** **May 3, 2005 - Manchester, UK - <http://www.ccsr.ac.uk/capri/symposium/>**

The issues of Confidentiality and Privacy took numerous twists and turns during the second half of the 20th Century, as the media globalisation, computing, the Internet, surveillance technology all emerged and then became more sophisticated, faster, and more efficient. As we have entered the 21st century the notion of the Grid has appeared with its promise of fast distributed analyses over multiple, very large sets of data. The potential for linking data of different types, and from different sources has become more feasible.

In the light of these changes the notion of confidentiality has itself been required to change taking into account the new technology, but also using that technology through sophisticated systems of disclosure control and more recently through such ideas as intruder detection and data sentries. This symposium will bring together international experts in confidentiality and privacy research from the fields of law, data protection, statistics, social science and computer science to debate the implications of recent technological advances.

Key questions to be addressed are:

- How is new technology going to affect the way we view privacy, confidentiality and disclosure?
- How can technology be used to enable confidentiality rather than threatening it?
- How is disclosure risk assessed? How is that likely to change over time?

Papers will be given by experts in confidentiality and privacy: describing their research, discussing the relationship between research and policy, together with future gazing - outlining the possibilities, potential threats and opportunities. The day will be structured around eight speakers with plenty of discussion time.

Contributors: The keynote address will be given by Professor George Duncan from Carnegie Mellon University, USA. Other invited speakers include: Professor John Forster (University of Southampton); Professor JJ Salaza (University of Tenerife); Dr Michael Carlson (University of Stockholm); Julian Stander (University of Plymouth); Dr. Dean Judson (US Census Bureau); Prof. Charles Raab (University of Edinburgh) and Dr. Francis Aldhouse (UK, Information Commission).

#### **THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF INFANCY AND CHILDHOOD** **May 6, 2005 - May 8, 2005 - Canterbury, UK**

The Archaeology of Infancy and Childhood Conference 2005 is designed to provide a relaxed forum for postgraduate students and other researchers to explore new ideas concerning the place and worth of young children within the archaeological record. Despite previous attempts by past researchers, children remain largely invisible within modern archaeological reporting and theory formation. The aim of the conference is twofold. It seeks to highlight the social, cultural and symbolic worth of infants and children within period-specific societies, while also emphasising the ability of such individuals to inform archaeology on wider cultural issues.

#### **GLOBALIZATION AND HORIZONS OF FUTURE EDUCATION** **May 10-11, 2005 - Ma'an, Jordan - <http://www.ahu.edu.jo>**

Conference Objectives - The conference aims at presenting scientific papers which contribute to:

- promote learning/teaching processes to comprehend globalization concepts.
- benefit from globalization outputs in higher education institutions with the aims of benefiting from other nations' experience and promoting education.
- introduce concepts of cognitive economy and control quality curricula.
- introduce e-learning into higher education in situations.

Conference Themes

First Theme - Globalization Impact on Teaching and Learning

Second Theme - The Conflict between Localization and Globalization  
Third Theme - Globalization Impact on Higher Education Institutions  
Fourth Theme - Globalization Reality and Aspirations  
Fifth Theme - E-education and Globalization  
Sixth Theme - Cognitive Economy and Quality Control in the light of Globalization

Please address correspondence to the attention of:

Dr. Hani Obeidat, Chair, Dept. of Instruction and Curricula

College of Educational Sciences, Al-Hussein Bin Talal University, P.O. Box 20, Ma'an, Jordan

Fax: 00962-3/2179050 Telephone: 00962-3/2179000 [hussein\\_conf@ahu.edu.jo](mailto:hussein_conf@ahu.edu.jo)

#### **EARLY LITERACY IN A CHANGING WORLD**

May 7, 2005 - Portland, ME, USA - <http://www.mainehumanities.org/programs/btr-conference.html>

A conference for exploring the many paths to early literacy, sponsored by Born to Read, a program of the Harriet P. Henry Center for the Book at the Maine Humanities Council. This conference is designed for child care providers, preschool teachers, and others who work with children 0-5. Eight workshops offered in morning and afternoon sessions will promote the many paths to early literacy development-from storytelling to music to book selection and use. Lunch will be included to give conferees an opportunity to meet and discuss their work. The conference will feature keynote presentations from nationally acclaimed children's book writers and illustrators:

Rosemary Wells is the author and illustrator of over 60 picture books and is the creator of such memorable characters as Max and Ruby, Yoko and Emily. Well's picture books are entirely populated by animals. They address universal childhood themes of love, laughter, hope, and heroism in spirited tales, enabling children to confront their fears with confidence and optimism. At the conference, Wells will discuss the many issues relating to early literacy for children in today's changing social environment. Conferees will learn about her Read to Your Bunny initiative and her philosophy and ideas for tackling issues for young children.

Ashley Bryan is an artist, storyteller, poet, folklorist and performer who has traveled all over the world performing and talking about his books that highlight West African tales and the African-American experience. At the conference, Bryan will present a performance on Friday evening that is open to the public; on Saturday, he will present workshops on storytelling and folktales, open to early childhood professionals. This conference will be presented concurrently with "Blueberries and Moose: A Festival of Maine Children's Literature," being held at the Portland Public Market on May 7th. Conferees will have an opportunity to visit the displays and booths of many Maine authors and illustrators of children's books.

#### **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. <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/>

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



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## THE VOICE

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