

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

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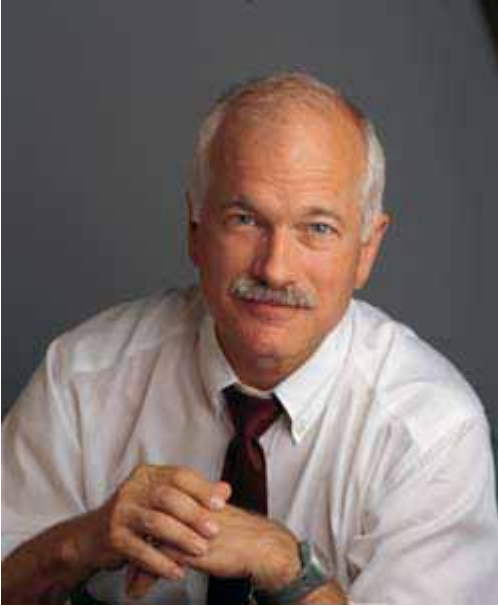
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The evening of April 2nd offered a unique opportunity to anyone willing to partake of it. Jack Layton invited the occupants of a packed Convocation Hall out for drinks. The invitation followed a superb lecture given by Dr. David Suzuki at the University of Toronto. The event was presented by Layton and his New Democratic Party (NDP) to gather support for their environmental Sustainability Plan.

It was a sold-out affair attended by university students, environmentalists and general left-wingers alike. David Suzuki was the main attraction, being one of Canada's most beloved personalities; he was greeted with thunderous applause. Suzuki's speech was well-received, giving the audience a sense of interconnection with each other and the world around them. Not surprisingly, the experience was rather reminiscent of an episode of CBC's *The Nature of Things*.

After Suzuki had finished, Jack Layton took the stage and restated the importance of implementing the Kyoto Protocol in Canada. In the 7 years since this country signed on to Kyoto, the NDP is the only party to have drawn up a formal plan for its execution. Layton then suggested that the entire audience should join him at O'Grady's Pub for a night of "partyng and politics"!

O'Grady's Pub is a regular hang-out for students at the University of Toronto as it is located on College Street just off-campus. Many people jumped at the chance to make a night of it with the local NDPs, creating both a friendly and congested atmosphere in the pub. "Our fearless leader" (as David Suzuki wittily referred to Layton) spent the evening with a smile on his face, a pint in his hand and a swarm of devotees surrounding him. All throughout the night, Jack could be seen debating policies with anyone prepared to confront him and no question was too simple or too complex.

Despite the lack of seating, more and more people managed to cram themselves into the rapidly shrinking space within the bar and take their chance to watch one of our official Opposition leaders at his local haunt. The employees at the pub joined in on the occasion, offering *green* drinks to all the *true left-wingers*.

As both leader of the NDP and Member of Parliament (MP) for Toronto-Danforth, Jack Layton has an enormous responsibility to Canadians at home and across the country. With all the stresses that must come from such a heavy workload, Layton did a great job of remaining socially available and connected to his constituency.

In effect, *Pub Night* created an ambience of capability; it showed that real people make up our government. Jack Layton is your average Canadian by night -- having a drink with friends at a local bar, getting to know people over a game of pool. In the morning, however, he's up early and off to unleash his policies on Parliament. The way he strives to achieve so much for the country and his district is in itself inspiring; the way he remains true to himself while reaching for his goals is even moreso.

Layton himself says, "We have to lead by example," and he is certainly keeping to his word. No one could ever accuse this NDP leader of becoming the archetypal politician. Optimistically speaking, perhaps Layton will serve as an example to the other members of government as well as the citizens of Canada. Regardless, let's hope to see more *Pub Nights* with this upbeat and idealistic character!

FROM MY PERSPECTIVE Heart Scare (part 2)!

Debbie Jabbour



Continued from last week...

In the days following my terrifying visit to emergency, I booked an appointment with my doctor and tried to figure out what might have caused my apparent heart attack. My primary suspicion was the condition of my blood and hemoglobin. I've been severely anemic for some time now. When this was first discovered a few years ago, my doctor told me my hemoglobin level was so low that, had I been in hospital, a transfusion of red blood cells would have been considered imperative (the normal level is between 12-16 Hg, mine was 6 Hg). Amazingly, my body had somehow learned to function at the low level, but being so severely anemic, I was

constantly tired, forced to nap several times a day, feeling run down, as well as having trouble focusing and functioning normally.

Since that time, I've been trying to monitor the anemia and keep my iron levels up, but it's a constant battle, particularly since stress prevents your body from replenishing itself and interferes with the immune system. In discussions with my doctor and based on everything I could research, it seems fairly clear that the main culprit was a combination of anemia and stress. Anemia has been implicated in many serious diseases, although researchers are only beginning to understand the role of anemia in heart failure (Anemia Lifeline). With severe anemia, a low level of hemoglobin (i.e., the substance in red blood cells that transports oxygen) causes the heart to work harder to get oxygen to all parts of the body. Under stress, the heart's need for oxygen increases. When the heart is unable to pump oxygenated blood strongly throughout the body, the body responds with symptoms like those I experienced, including chest pain and shortness of breath. Many studies have found anemia to be common in anywhere from 17% to 48% of people with heart failure. Another study showed a connection between anemia and heart attacks with 43% of people admitted to the hospital after suffering a heart attack also suffered from anemia. Another study found that people with anemia were 41% more likely to have a heart attack or die of heart disease within 6 years (cited in National Anemia Action Council).

This is a matter of serious concern, not just for myself, but for everyone. Women in particular should be concerned, since heart disease and stroke are now among the leading causes of death for Canadian women (Canada Public Health). Recent research has indicated that women show heart attack symptoms differently than men. Men usually describe a heart attack as a crushing, squeezing chest pain, whereas women will describe a vague discomfort in the chest that doesn't disappear with rest. Women may simply experience fatigue or extreme shortness of breath. Symptoms of heart disease in women are often overlooked, making early detection and awareness particularly important. Women tend to be older when diagnosed and also tend to have other health complications. Doctors also tend to misdiagnose heart disease in women, since 50 percent have no visible risk factors and don't display classic symptoms. Younger women, in particular, are often thought to be *too young* for heart trouble, which is a fallacy (Heart & Stroke Foundation).

Other research suggests that, for both men and women, a heart attack can include a wide range of vague, non-specific symptoms above and beyond the classic "elephant on the chest" type of experience. One account described a 42-year-old man who complained of extreme tiredness as he went to sleep in his armchair. Hours later, he had a heart attack and died. A doctor recounted a similar heart attack experience, marked by weariness with no pain. Nonspecific symptoms of this nature can include overwhelming fatigue; dizziness; breaking out in a cold, drenching sweat; an attack of nausea and vomiting;

or a sudden onset of breathlessness. Many of these symptoms are related to a sudden decrease in the heart's ability to pump blood, leading to a circulation drop-off that quickly saps energy (Donahue, 2005).

What causes a heart attack? Most people are aware of the primary causes, such as arterial blockage, heart disease, high blood pressure, and extreme stress. Congestive heart failure can be the result of gradual weakening of the heart's ability to pump, leading to symptoms such as shortness of breath, swollen ankles and legs, tiredness or loss of energy (Heart and Stroke Foundation - Congestive).

Although extreme stress is thought to bring on an attack in some situations, the role of cumulative stress is often overlooked, although the Canadian Heart and Stroke Foundation now lists depression as a heart condition that places people at risk. The effects of emotional or physical stress on the heart have been shown to be intensified by poor health. Some recent research indicates that stress can reduce estrogen levels earlier in life, placing younger women at increased risk for heart disease (Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center, 2000, September). There are also indications that low estrogen levels during a woman's menstrual cycle can also place her at higher risk for sudden serious heart disease (American Heart Association, 2000, November (Heart attack statistics).

Traumatic situations can stun the heart, sending it into life-threatening spasms. Researchers from the John Hopkins School of Medicine reported that "a broken heart is not just folklore," stating that "a traumatic breakup, death of a loved one, or even the shock of a surprise party" can flood the body with stress hormones that stun the heart and send it into sudden, life-threatening heart spasms in people who are otherwise healthy" (Edmonton Journal, 2005; Washington Post, 2005). This phenomenon, termed *stress cardiomyopathy*, occurs when emotional stress stimulates the adrenal glands and nerves to produce stress hormones including adrenaline. These hormones shock the heart and reduce its ability to pump, causing chest pain and other symptoms similar to a heart attack. This stunning does not kill the heart muscle like a typical heart attack does, but leaves the heart helpless and temporarily dysfunctional, similar to a heart attack. Women appear to be more vulnerable to this condition, and researchers speculate that it may be related to hormones or the way women respond to stress (Sharkey, et. al., 2005).

Although most people do survive a heart attack, this is dependent on getting emergency help as quickly as possible. On average, most Canadians wait almost five hours before deciding to get help, yet half of all heart attack deaths occur within two hours after the beginning of the attack (Heart & Stroke Foundation, Statistics). Hospital wait-times also factor in, with some statistics showing that women experience even longer emergency department wait-times than men (Tu, 2005).

What are some of the warning signs of a traditional heart attack?

- A sudden discomfort or pain that does not go away with rest, usually in the chest, neck, jaw, shoulder, arms or back;
- Pain may be more vague in women, and it may be more like a heaviness, tightness, pressure, squeezing or burning;
- Shortness of breath;
- Nausea, vomiting, indigestion;
- Cool, clammy skin; and
- Fear, anxiety, and denial.

(Heart and Stroke Foundation)

In my own case, I experienced almost all of the above, including extreme anxiety and denial.

The heart does try to repair itself after an attack, but its ability to do so depends on the level of damage. While it is essential to know the signs of a heart attack and seek medical help quickly, prevention is even more important. The three key factors are diet, exercise, and stress reduction. Diet and exercise are two areas that are relatively easy to improve on. One of my daughters gave me a yoga book and DVD, and I've been trying to build up my ability to perform these low-impact stretch exercises. I'm also walking every day now that the weather is better, and making a conscious effort to watch my diet and include heart-healthy foods. I'm keeping a close eye on iron levels in my blood, and I'm continuing to follow up with other tests.

Stress, however, is not quite so easy to deal with. One researcher acknowledges that it is impossible to completely remove emotional stress, but suggests that we "control inappropriate emotional displays and keep negative feelings in check" (Steptoe, 2005). Good counsel, and I do try to stay cool and put a positive spin on things. I've tried to adjust my viewpoint of work and school. I worry less about being available to others. Rather than making myself guilty if I'm late completing a report or responding to an email, I try to relax and not be overly concerned if I don't get to it until the next day, or even the next week. It will get done eventually! I've tried to stop obsessing over getting top marks. Instead of staying up all night to meet a deadline, I've handed in assignments late and taken my punishment (i.e., loss of marks) with relatively good grace. I've also tried to take time to just relax, meditate, sit and think. I watch the occasional movie and read books. For a long time I hadn't even listened to music, too stressed and rushed to even put a CD into the player. Now I try to make music and creativity a part of my daily life, doing things I enjoy like sewing, playing piano, and writing. When my grandson comes to visit, I put everything else aside and play with him.

It seems likely that what I experienced was some form of stress cardiomyopathy, combined with a panic attack. It was not brought on by sudden stress, but rather by a combination of cumulative stress and severe anemia, exacerbated by generally poor physical condition and a particularly stressful few weeks prior. Fortunately, I've been told I don't have permanent heart damage, but my doctor and I are monitoring things closely. In the weeks following my attack, I had several dizzy spells and other worrisome manifestations, but thus far I've remained generally healthy. The sheer terror of the experience, knowing what it felt like to believe death is imminent, is something I never want to endure again.

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The Gift of Wellness from Me to You

By Busby Moonflower Starchild Leclair



As *me dear old Ma* used to say, after 15 or 16 "wee drams," you can never go wrong by following your dreams. Unless, of course, your dreams involve using Bassett hounds as hand warmers, or disemboweling social workers, in which case, you should probably follow your doctor's medication plan instead of your dreams. But whatever.

In keeping with my Ma's advice I have decided to pay heed to a dream that I have had for several days now. My dream is to open up my own academy of spiritual healing and enlightenment. The idea came to me in a sudden flash of inspiration as I was chatting with some of my creditors last week. There I was preparing to make a dash for the fire exit when a very shivery and mystical feeling came over me. I began to hear a great and sonorous voice inside my head, sounding something like that singer from *The Crash Test Dummies*. "Busby," it said, "too long have you lived in the world of materialism

and too long have you pursued the shallow pleasures of the flesh. From now on, you must dedicate yourself to raising the level of your fellow man's consciousness" ...yada, yada... you get the picture.

Well, let me tell you, there's something just a little bit unnerving about being a visionary, one who has tapped into the mystical realm that lies in the great void beyond our own thinly veiled and tawdry perception of reality. Let's face it, the world doesn't exactly respond very well to oracles and visionaries. As I know only too well, we tend to ignore them, murder them, or attempt to prosecute them on some ludicrously trumped-up set of fraud charges.

Still, one does not change the world without great personal courage. I felt this after receiving a summons from the *Beyond* that I must do everything I can to steer the poor schmucks out there (who have enough available credit) toward enlightenment. That is why next Friday will see the opening of the *Busby Leclair Wellness Spa and Academy of Spiritual Enlightenment*, with a motto: *Your consciousness and convenience are our only concerns*.

By the end of my twelve-day seminar (with early bird specials every four days starting as low as \$800) my students (or *Grasshoppers* as I like to call them) will be adept at a variety of valuable spiritual techniques. They will, for instance, be able to meditate with a depth and intensity that would send a Zen monk into a rage of pissed-off envy. They will be able to adjust their chakras in public without any embarrassment, and be able to pick up hotties just by locating their souls and then leering into them. For a small additional fee, I will personally be conducting all manner of séances and channeling sessions -- things like that. To top it all off, at the end of the course there will be a communal feast of sweet n' sour meatballs and Tater Tots, followed by *complimentary* limbo dancing lessons.

Due to some bureaucratic licensing red tape, I am unfortunately not able to provide you prospective students with a specific location and phone number just yet. However, all interested spiritual seekers should gather up their available cash and credit cards, and be at the phone booth at 16th and Main in Vancouver at seven o'clock next Friday evening. One of our dedicated administrative assistants will be in touch.



I am a woman, not a shorter, less-hairy man. My body does not respond to illness the same way as a man's body would. It does not function the same, it does not react to medication the same, nor is my chemical make-up the same. My diseases will be different, as will my recovery. While only being twenty-nine and living in the age of information, my biggest concern as a woman is that women are still being under-used and misunderstood in the medical research field, which can profoundly affect women everywhere.

Women have many issues facing them because they are women. Cervical issues, uterine issues, ovarian and fallopian issues, breast issues, and the list could go on (making any man in the room cringe at the word vagina). Issues such as these arise simply because we are the only sex to have these organs. It is a sad state of affairs that medical research has historically ignored women with simplified responses to illness, such as heart disease, on the assumption that we are shorter, less-hairy men with breasts. Our uniqueness has not been taken into account in many research studies, including one medical trial in which it was determined that aspirin could prevent a second heart attack in an all-male participant group, however these results are not transferable to women (Mitchell, 2000).

A combination of diseases are more common to women in general because of female attributes, such as having a cervix and certain hormones that contribute to other diseases. The rates of breast cancer are far higher for women than for men. Men account for less than 1% of diagnosed breast cancer (Public Health Agency of Canada, 1999). Women's rates of developing osteoporosis are higher than men, with 1 in 4 women as compared to 1 in 8 men (Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Centre, 2002). What I find quite alarming is our higher rate of death attributable to cardiovascular disease, with 39% of female deaths attributed to cardiovascular disease as compared to 36% for men (Canada. Public Health Agency of Canada, 1997). While 3% does not *seem* like a significant amount, it actually *is* when considering the other diseases I mentioned. There is no discernible reason as to why females are more likely to die from cardiovascular disease than their male counterparts. While heart disease is the second leading cause of death for all Canadians (Statistics Canada, 1997), only passed marginally by the total of all cancers, more women than men die from their first heart attack (Donatelle, 2002, 418). Is it because there is a lack of information out there? Or is it because the information available is based mainly on the research derived from the male portion of the population?

There are related issues associated with the lack of women in clinical studies that require women. I believe everyone has heard of the devastating results of Thalidomide™, a drug that was marketed by a German company to pregnant women to curb their morning sickness. The drug was available from the 1950s until 1962 when Canada finally pulled it from the pharmacies' shelves. A full ten years of use produced the most severe deformities in the children of the women who took the drug (Thalidomide Victims Association of Canada, 1998). While the benefits of this drug have now been researched, there is no indication whatsoever that this drug was ever researched on anyone, let alone women, before giving it to pregnant women.

There is another medication given to women from the years 1938 and 1971 that didn't seem to be researched, and if it was, the research was conducted by the manufacturer. Diethylstilbestrol™ (DES) was a drug given to pregnant women, which was claimed to reduce the chance of miscarriage. The repercussions of this drug are three-fold. Firstly, the women that ingested it have a higher risk of breast cancer. Secondly, the daughters born to those who have taken it have an increased risk of suffering from a rare form of cervical or vaginal cancer, infertility, abnormal reproductive structural changes, and pregnancy problems. Pregnancy problems include ectopic pregnancy, miscarriage, and preterm labour. Finally, the sons of women who have taken DES may be affected with problems of epididymal cysts, testicular varicoceles other testicular problems, hypospadias, meatal stenosis, and microphallus (an abnormally small penis) (DES, n.d.). DES is not believed to have an effect on men's fertility (Ibid.).

These are just a few examples of how manufacturers, not research facilities, have shaped women's health to be what it is today -- a mess. Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) is another issue that has received attention from women recently. Up until 2002, HRT was believed to prevent diseases in aging menopausal women, such as cardiovascular disease (or more specifically, heart disease), osteoporosis, and endometrial cancer (Your Medical Source, 2003a). These are good intentions, but there are risks to be noted as well. These risks were often negligible according to many older studies and include: blood clots, breast cancer, asthma, gallstones and fibroids (Your Medical Source, 2003b). But, as reported in an issue of the *Women's Health Journal*, a U.S. study of HRT conducted in July of 2002 was halted because its findings were astonishing. "Rather than preventing diseases in aging women, as many had claimed, the study found ... actually increases a woman's risk of heart disease and breast cancer.... there is no role for HT in disease prevention" (Research Bulletin). This is another example of how effective medical testing on women who would take these drugs could have been used to fully understand the ramifications of this drug, instead of relying on manufacturers' claims.

Medical research for women is vital to understand how different our bodies are from our male counterparts. Over the ages, delving into the information regarding women's health has barely scratched the surface. In the 1960s, women had to face a panel of men who would decide their fate about whether or not their uterus could be removed. In the 1970s, articles in medical journals began to surface as to how to deal with "the new breed of women who asked questions and demanded to know why they were getting a particular treatment" (Kennelly, 2002). However, it wasn't until 1981 that a committee was formed to head-up The Canadian Women's Health Network.

At that time, the committee was one of few sources for this valuable information. Women formed these groups to attempt to fill the knowledge gaps not filled by the Canadian National Health and Wellness organization. Without the support of Canada's health system, this committee easily lost momentum until 1983 when a theatre company developed a play called "Side Effects" which was based on women's stories of their struggles. A full three years later, in 1987, funding was finally approved for the Canadian Women's Health project. Over the next 6 years, the proposal was presented, rejected, revised, reformed and firmed-up. In May of 1993, the Canadian Women's Health Network was officially unveiled (Canadian Women's Health Network, 2005). The network's vision statement is: "The Canadian Women's Health Network is a Network of individuals, groups, organizations and institutions concerned with women's health. The CWHN recognizes the importance of information sharing, education and advocacy for women's health and equality. We work to build and strengthen the women's health movement in Canada and throughout the world" (Canadian Women's Health Network, 2005).

A network such as the CWHN can provide vital information to women and their health service providers. The network can help to induce the necessary changes in our medical research system to include women in their clinical trials. I personally do not want to suffer, nor have my daughters suffer, needlessly because researchers did not want to deal with the fluctuations in a woman's hormone cycle.

What is needed moreso than the plethora of information available through the CWHN is an advocate that lobbies the government to ensure women of this country are included in any medical trials. Connecting research funding to the inclusion of women in the trials will provide a level of assurance. For far too long, the health of Canadian women has been compromised in the name of the *economic good*. I suggest changes to the research sector must be made to include the following:

1. Research companies must be separate from the manufacturers so as to avoid potential bias and unethical marketing strategies.
2. Research companies must be required to include women. If the drug being researched has a chance of affecting a woman's future ability to bear children, women must be provided a choice as to whether they wish to proceed. Informed consent should be confirmed by the signing of a waiver.

What I hope for in a program such as this is a change in the public's expectations for quality medical research that doesn't exclude individuals from one gender. As well, a change is needed in *who* is performing the research. Preferably, manufacturers of marketed items should not be conducting the research trials. When the research process changes, Canadian women can feel assured that their health is finally in *good*

hands. Good hands means individuals who respect women and who do not merely consider us as shorter, less-hairy men with breasts.

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Curmudgeon P. Schnappenturtle, Belliveau Moose, and Old Gimpy in: ~ Enlightened Self-Interest ~



Complaints filed against University of Alberta

Mother takes student with disability's case to human rights commission

Cosanna Preston

CUP Alberta and Northern Bureau Chief

EDMONTON (CUP) -- The mother of a student with a disability has filed two more human rights complaints against the University of Alberta, bringing the total number of complaints to six. Susan Russell said the complaints, filed with the provincial human rights commission, criticize the university's "inability to provide appropriate accommodations" to allow her son, Matthew Russell, to continue his studies.

Matthew, a science student, has ankylosing spondylitis, a severely debilitating disease of the spine, similar to arthritis. In extreme cases, the disease can cause the complete fusion of the spine. Matthew receives treatments that aim to prevent this. The disease, according to his mother, confronts him on a daily basis. It often stops him from attending classes and completing work, as well as prevents him from advancing his case. "He doesn't do any of this stuff. I deal with the government. I deal with the university," she said. "I deal with all of it, because it's the only way we lessen the impact. The stress makes him severely ill."

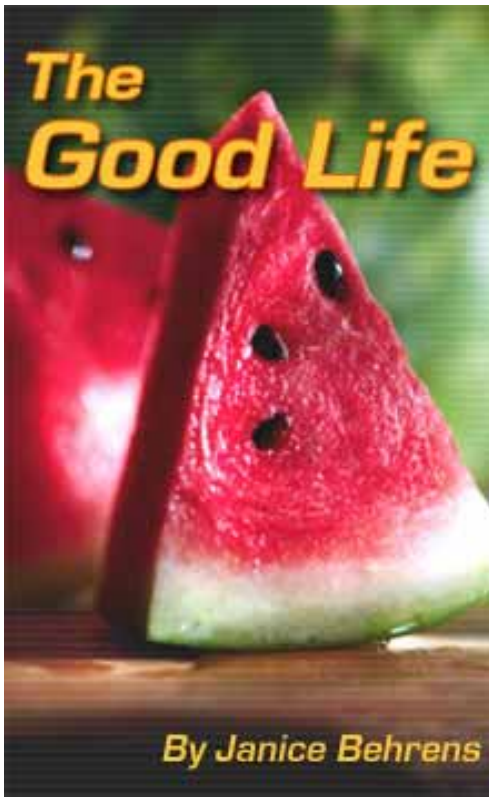
Russell said the disease has affected her son's academics to the extent the university placed him on academic probation after the 2003-2004 academic year -- permitting him to retain his student status so long as he adhered to set guidelines, including class attendance. The Russells appealed the decision, arguing discrimination based on disability, and fought it through all levels of the university. But, in the end, the general faculties council, the final deciding body, upheld Matthew's probation. The council dismissed medical testimony supporting Matthew as insufficient, his mother said.

Staff said the University of Alberta was unable to comment on the case due to provincial privacy laws and refused to discuss the university's approach to accommodating the needs of students with disabilities. Instead, staff recommended a perusal of university policy pertaining to Matthew's case. For instance, one of the six human rights complaints suggests the university violated Matthew's privacy when it forced him to disclose private medical records to those deciding on exam deferrals and the committees weighing his case. But university policy dictates those seeking accommodation must provide "whatever medical or other information is reasonably necessary to confirm the need for an accommodation and to identify sufficiently that individual's specific needs."

The policy infuriates Russell, who questioned the use of the word "reasonably" and argued an employee would never have to provide such documentation to their employer to receive proper accommodation. "The doctor's say should be enough, and it would be enough for a supervisor in an employment situation," she said, noting in her son's case, a group of academics assessed the validity of a medical opinion. "There is a double standard for the faculty and students. The superior of a faculty member would have no right to know the private medical details, yet Matthew's files are known to a whole committee."

Another complaint discusses the lack of accommodation in a lab setting. Russell recounted her son's fight to have a chair during lab sessions. Standing was too difficult and without a chair, Russell said. Her son was forced to stop attending -- resulting in a failing grade she said was completely avoidable. University policy does state measures should be taken to physically adapt a space to the needs of a person with a disability within the means of the law, but it does caution this is not always possible.

Policy suggests grievances arising due to the inability to provide accommodation should be addressed through the university's office of human rights. Instead, the Russells, wary of the university's involvement, opted to take their complaints to the provincial commission. None of the complaints have been resolved to the Russells' satisfaction at this time.



The Magic of Stories

My husband and I have a system worked out with our daughter, who is in grade two. Each day, one of us either bicycles or walks the six kilometres from our home to her French immersion elementary school.

Six kilometres twice a day, when you're seven years old, that is a pretty fair amount of *hoofing it*. Except for the fact that it's not actually uphill both ways, it begins to sound like the sort of stories that parents tell their kids about how rough they had it in their youth. But, although we've been doing this for about a year and a half now, we haven't heard a single word of complaint from her. Nearly always, she would rather walk than ride. In fact, a couple of weeks ago when we overslept and had to take the bus instead of walking, she felt cheated out of her daily ritual.

Yes, in case you're wondering, she is in fact an earthling child, and no she's not on any mind-altering medications. That she's okay with this particular daily grind can be attributed to the magical power of storytelling. The deal is that whichever of us is taking her to and from school has to tell her three stories while we're walking. Then, she has to tell three stories in return. Sometimes these stories are

made-up adventures, often involving pirates, dragons, lost travellers, trips to outer space, and talking animals. Sometimes they are traditional folktales and fairytales, such as Stone Soup, Baba Yaga, Aladdin, etc.

Most frequent, though, are the stories of real-life incidents and memories. These are the ones that truly hold her fascination. She hangs on our every word as we tell her about being followed by a grizzly bear down a stream bed in Yoho National Park, or watching the northern lights when our car had broken down in Alaska. She belly laughs whenever she hears the story about her father upsetting a banquet display of Cornish game hens at the Four Seasons Hotel in Vancouver, or stepping into a wastepaper basket on his way out of a job interview. She never tires of hearing about my dress falling off during grade seven graduation, or the time cream soda came pouring out of my nose on a date.

One of the unexpected benefits of this anecdotal storytelling is that it rekindles old, barely remembered stories in my own mind. Searching for something interesting to talk about has caused me to recall stories that my own mother and father had told me when I was growing up, such as tales about my father's adventures while he was stationed in Trinidad during the second World War, or my mother's life growing up on a dairy farm in Wisconsin. It is also a pleasure to listen to my daughter improvising a story about treasure-hunting squirrels, or recounting funny and embarrassing moments from the school yard.

I once read something to the effect that we are all made up of stories, and I couldn't agree more. It is the stories of our lives, and the lives of our friends and relatives, that give us some insight into our own selves. They entertain us, educate us, connect us to the past, to all the significant and insignificant events that have shaped us, and give a sense of context to our lives. Six kilometres goes by, just like that.

AUSU THIS MONTH



AU SPORTS CLUB SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE

The AU Sports Club is looking for AU students who are interested in serving on the AUSA executive. All that is required is a few hours a week to respond to emails, add new members to the discussion forum, and locate information to update the website or forum sections. Being on a club executive is a great way to meet other AU students!

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. Our new mailing address will be:

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

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 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>



The Lost Roads

*For his first forty days a child
is given dreams of previous lives.
Journeys, winding paths,
a hundred small lessons
and then the past is erased.*

~From *The Story*, by Michael Ondaatje

Gather them together.

Loners, stoners, freaks and poets - meet me on the edge of town, the place where Neil Young says the roads turn to dust. Gather up your notebooks and your talismans, your ancient and wonderous stones. Brew a pot of strong black coffee, melt down your silver and your gold, and throw your ingots into the ocean. Gather up your workbooks and your masks made of feathers. Gather up your treasures. Live your life only for love and pleasure. Climb up the chimney and step out on the rooftop.

Be a missionary in the *dark continent* all around you, preach the gospel of sex and magic. Throw pointed sticks at the moon. Paint your body with scenes from the *Wild Hunt*. Wear homemade antlers and clown noses. Wear outrageous codpieces and swollen bellies. Eat fish and berries. Sing a bawdy song in the graveyard. Sing a sea shanty and a madrigal. Don't be ironic. Let loose your fancy. Shake and cry when you have to. Laugh when you want to.

Throw away your strategies and your agendas. Walk away from your seminars and your power lunches. Step away from your cells and your cell phones. Walk naked into the sea and into the fields. Feel the cold wind on your face.

Know that you are an emperor travelling incognito. Know that you are the junkie in the tenement, the old woman shivering beneath the bridge on a night when the end seems near. Know that you are the frightened child listening to the demons in the closet, the footsteps in the hall.

Know that you do not have any idea who you are, and so you should not judge. You are playing make believe, nothing more.

Unplug the television. Lose your trust in medicine. Devote yourself to laziness and ambition. Throw away that worthless bundle. Take back the lost years. Take all of them back. Walk in perilous beauty until the end.

Gather together the children. Gather together the sick and the hunted. Attend to the wounded. Find a new republic. Gather together the cooks and the teachers. Send smoke signals on foggy days to invite all of the politicians and lawyers. Cut short the speeches. Listen to the sound of foghorns and the hissing of rain. Listen to the sound of comets passing by.

Meet me on the edge of town. Bring accordions and candles.



Dear Barb:

For the last few months I have been dating this terrific guy, well almost terrific. He is good looking, intelligent and has a great job. Although at times he makes me feel uncomfortable, because he's very physical and always seems to be touching me. He also wants to be with me all the time. When we're not together, he wants to know whom I'm with and what we're doing. My friends all tell me how great he is and I almost feel guilty for feeling the way I do. I can't even be in the same room with him, without him being all over me. Even when we visit my parents, he wants to be with me and always has his arm around me. I find this a bit embarrassing. I just don't know how to tell him to "back off" without hurting his feelings. Do you have any suggestions?

Smothered in New Brunswick

Everyone has a different opinion about what constitutes a good relationship. Some couples like to spend most of their time together, while others value their time apart. Likewise with affection, some people like to openly display their feelings, while others are more reserved. It sounds like you and your boyfriend are at opposite ends of the spectrum in this regard.

For someone like yourself, who is more private with her feelings, open displays of affection may cause you to feel uneasy. You didn't mention if you have discussed this with your boyfriend. While it is not wise to try to change another person, it is possible to reach a compromise. For example, maybe he could agree not to be *all over you* while at your family home. At other times, you could attempt to be more accepting of his need to be close to you.

Nevertheless, I have some concerns about his need to know where you are at all times. This type of behaviour is indicative of a controlling, possessive nature. No one has a right to demand this of you. There is a difference between sharing your whereabouts with your partner because you *choose* to and having it *demanded* of you. However, you need to show your partner the same consideration that you expect from him in regard to his whereabouts.

In spite of your boyfriend's many positive qualities, some of his behaviours could be a result of insecurities or low self-esteem. If this is the source of his behaviour, you could end up with additional problems in the future. Therefore, my advice to you is to proceed cautiously with this relationship.

Good luck and I hope I have been able to offer you some helpful advice.

E-mail your questions to 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 Partial Victory for NDP

According to an NDP recent press release received by *The Voice* on April 22, 2005, Alexa McDonough, Advanced Education Critic for the NDP, said in the house of commons: "Mr. Speaker, during the 2004 election the Prime Minister promised to reinvest \$8 billion, which he in fact had cut, back into post-secondary education core funding. In a spectacular betrayal, the 2005-06 budget did not contain a red cent toward keeping that promise. Another promise made, another promise broken, with disastrous consequences."

I expect she's feeling a little better now that Prime Minister Martin has agreed to scrap the corporate tax cut and instead devote that money to social programs. True, the 1.5 billion that will be going toward tuition reduction in the provinces is not that close to 8 billion, but it's a lot better than the nothing that was originally planned for in this budget.

What's sad is that it takes the threat of the Liberal government toppling for them to even partially live up to their campaign promises.

Internationally Working

Non-Canadian students visiting our universities will now have a slightly easier time of it thanks to a change in Federal legislation. Unlike the recent agreement for tuition reduction, this change happened outside of the deal with the NDP.

The legislation change basically allows international students to work off campus while in Canada. Previously, an international student visa did not grant that freedom. International students were expected to only work on campus, if at all. Given that international students already pay a huge premium for the privilege of attending our post-secondary institutions, giving them more opportunity to work while they're here certainly can't hurt. Who knows, it may encourage more students from abroad, which only serves to help a university's bottom line through the tuition differential.

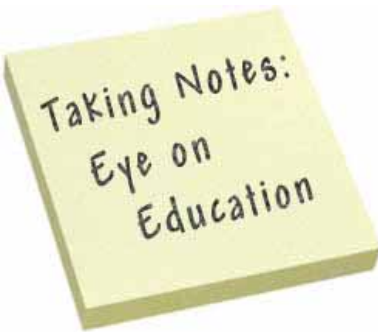
New Brunswick Tax Break

For students in New Brunswick, the province has come up with a new program that hopes to encourage them to stick around after completing their education. 50% of every dollar a New Brunswick student spends on tuition can now be used as a provincial tax credit, up to a total credit of \$10,000.00. This credit can be rolled over for up to 20 years from the time the student first starts to use it. This is in addition to the standard tax credits that students already receive on their federal and provincial post-secondary education expenses.

The catch, of course, is that it only applies to the provincial tax. Leave the province and that credit is worthless.

Of course, if students leave the province because there's nobody there to hire them, I guess a tax credit doesn't make much difference. Fortunately, if New Brunswick succeeds in attracting the jobs, they'll have already established a fairly cheap method to ensure those employers have access to a skilled pool of graduates.

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



GRADUATE STUDENTS MAY BE LOSING CREDIT FOR WORK

Debbie Jabbour

The American Educational Research Association conference was recently witness to a disturbing assessment of Canadian universities. In a paper entitled, *More Than Meets the Eye: The Underside of the corporate Culture in Higher Education*, Magda Lewis, professor of education at Queen's University, suggests that the pressure to publish is leading professors to "grab and take unto themselves items they have not produced" (Canwest news, 2005) by taking too much credit for work that is primarily produced by graduate students, many of whom have significant research skills and are ready to publish their own work. This may be hidden under the guise of "co-authorship" or "collaboration", but in reality it is the graduate students who have done the bulk of the work. One example cited in the paper tells of a student who had collected data, written the paper, and was seeking publication - however, her senior faculty supervisor assumed first author rights on the study.

Lewis blames the push to commodify knowledge, which she feels has "transformed higher education from a place where knowledge is created and shared, to where it is hoarded and sold for a price" (CanWest news, 2005). In this "scholarship-as-product" marketplace, professors are judged and compensated according to how much research-based work they produce.

Given that future prospects, professional prestige and research grants are dependent on publications, graduate students should be very concerned by this trend toward others appropriating work that the student should be receiving proper credit for.

- CanWest News (2005). Professors too willing to grab students' work: Scholarship-as-product trend noted. Edmonton Journal, April 11, 2005, A7. <http://www.canada.com/edmonton/edmontonjournal/news/story.html?id=809ba7ef-27ea-46cf-8335-2aee48b5fb4e>
- Lewis, Magda (2004). More than meets the eye: The underside of the Corporate culture in higher education and possibilities for a new feminist criticism: http://www.csse.ca/CASWE/Institute/2004/Magda_Lewis_CASWE_plenary_2004.pdf
- American Educational Research Association: <http://www.aera.net/>

Women you should know

Compiled by Barbara Godin

Florence Griffith Joyner, (1959-1998)

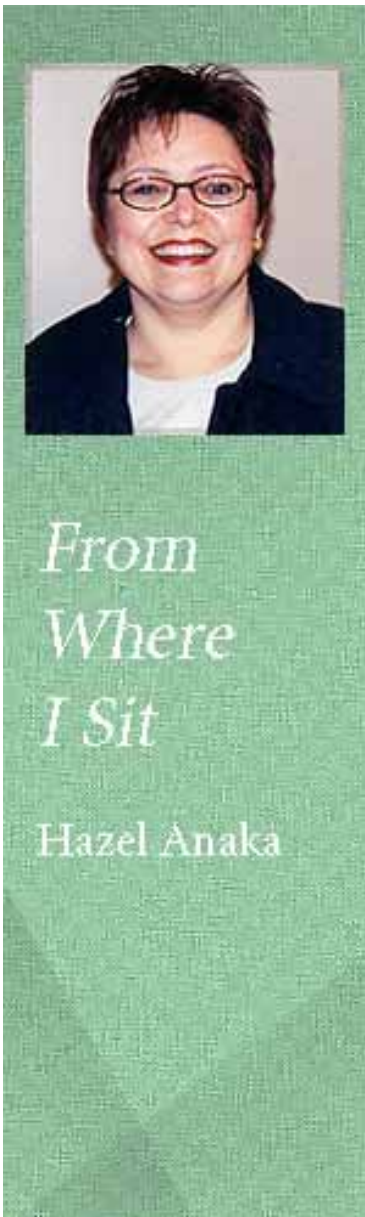
Florence Griffith Joyner, "Flo Jo," as she was affectionately nicknamed, was born on December 21, 1959 in Los Angeles, California. Florence Joyner, track and field star, was a medalist during the 1988 Olympic Games held in Seoul, Korea. She captured three gold (100 meter, 200 meter and 400 meter relay) and one silver medal (1600 meter relay). She gained the nickname "Flo Jo" because of her eye-catching appearance, which included six-inch long fingernails and slinky running outfits. Florence set records in the 100 and 200-meter events, which remain unbroken today. Thus, she became known as the *world's fastest woman*. Unfortunately, Florence Joyner died of a heart attack at the young age of only 38, leaving behind a husband and daughter.

Sources for additional information:

Florence Griffith Joyner Homepage: <http://www.florencegriffithjoyner.com>

People of the Century: Florence Griffith Joyner:

http://www.sacbee.com/static/archive/news/projects/people_of_century/sports/griffith.html



Pride Amid the Tears

Like most Canadians, I exercise my right to bitch and complain about those things that make me crazy. *Those things* may be the latest federal, provincial or municipal boondoggle. Or the dithering on important legislation for a total smoking ban. Or the immature, self-serving political posturing that occurs daily in government circles. Sometimes, I'm embarrassed to be Canadian. Some days, I take Canada for granted.

But when I see our flag flying at half-staff on public buildings and private property, I feel an odd mix of sorrow and pride. When I see classrooms of children writing letters and drawing pictures to pay their respects to the slain constables, I cry. When I see those innocents singing *O Canada* in front of the detachment office, I dissolve into tears. When I hear the bugle or bagpipes or watch the sea of uniformed men and women marching and mourning, I cry some more. The flag, the anthem, and the red serge are thoroughly Canadian sources of pride and a part of our national tapestry.

Letters to the editor, makeshift memorials, the books of condolences, the hockey fundraiser, the funerals and the national tribute -- all allow average Canadians to express their pride, sorrow, and gratitude. I'm proud that as a people, as a community, we instinctively do the right thing even when nothing in our experience could have prepared us for this.

The Mounties I've known and worked with as a fee Justice of the Peace since 1978 make me proud to be Canadian. All ordinary, mortal men and women who answered an extraordinary calling. Individuals willing to lay down their lives for each of us.

As I read the countless news items and watch the extended TV coverage that reports the unspeakable story, I'm shocked and saddened. The profiling of the four young men who died makes me mourn their lost potential. The characterization of the shooter makes me question how our society deals with the damaged among us. Critics' second-guessing RCMP procedure and protocol was to be expected. The 20/20 hindsight of all those who *knew it was going to happen* is not surprising either.

The blurring of issues -- legalizing marijuana, gun registry, mental health treatment, judicial system sentencing, shrinking police budgets -- is understandable as a nation seeks to understand the unbelievable. While the timing is not ideal for calm, reasoned debate, maybe the tragedy will serve as a catalyst for change. Lasting change would be a fitting legacy for a loss of life of this magnitude.

The December tsunami united the world in sorrow and generosity. This senseless event has united Canadians in voicing their pride and appreciation for peace officers and the role they play in the very fabric of our lives. That makes me proud to be Canadian.

As long as this event stays front-of-mind, it'll be impossible for me to take Canada for granted and feel anything but pride -- two good things 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 with the word "events" in the subject line.

alberta

ALBERTA SCENE

Ottawa, Ontario

Apr 28, 2005 to May 10, 2005

We're bringing in over 600 established and emerging Alberta artists to perform at more than 95 events in any one of 19 venues across the National Capital region. And the whole thing lasts for a fantastic 13 days! Canada's National Arts Centre will present the very best sights and sounds of Alberta. From ballet to opera, classical music to folk, jazz, blues, roots, country, rock and hip-hop, theatre to comedy and so much more including visual and culinary arts, literature and film, you'll find it all right here in the National Capital from April 28 to May 10 2005.

For event & ticket information:

Telephone: (613) 947-7000 Ext: 399

E-mail: info@albertascene.ca

Fax: (613) 996-9578

<http://www.albertascene.ca>

CALGARY INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

Calgary, Alberta

24-28 May 2005

The Calgary International Children's Festival introduces young people to a multicultural programme of theatre, puppetry, music, dance, mime and comedy, with Canadian and international performers appearing at the EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts, Olympic Plaza and the downtown Public Library.

The outdoor Olympic Plaza is the place to be for the festival's free activities such as face painting, arts and crafts and The Nylon Zoo, where costumes are provided for the young ones to dress up and parade around. The Plaza also features an outdoor stage and street performers and is home to a huge dinosaur tent, where kids can enjoy storytelling.

Meanwhile, the library and the Arts Centre feature a varied programme of concerts, shows and performances to inspire, educate and entertain all the family.

Venue Details

EPCOR Centre for the Performing Arts

205, 8th Ave SE

Calgary, Alberta

Tel 403 294 7455

Fax 403 294 7457

info@theartscentre.org

british columbia

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

THE MARIJUANA-LOGUES

Toronto, ON 30 April 2005

7pm & 9.30pm

Toronto's Canon Theatre presents The Marijuana-logues by Arj Baker, Doug Benson and Tony Camin, directed by Jim Callin and starring Tommy Chong of Cheech and Chong fame. In an evening of side-splitting humour, Chong lights up the stage with his unique perspective on life. From hazy to highbrow, the show proves that the stories surrounding marijuana are as varied as those who indulge. This production does not glorify drug use. Rather, it illustrates that cannabis culture is a thing of substance, humour and creativity. Far out man. Venue Details - Canon Theatre, 244, Victoria St, Toronto, Ontario, 416 593 0351

INSIDE OUT - TORONTO LESBIAN & GAY FILM FESTIVAL
Toronto, Ontario
19-29 May 2005

The Inside Out Toronto Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival, one of the biggest exponents of queer cinema the world over, is also considered to be one of the best international film festivals. Screenings take place at a variety of venues around Toronto. The festival aims to show the full diversity of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transsexual film and video and gives awards honouring work in ten different categories.

Contact Details - 416 977 6847 - inside@insideout.on.ca

quebec

BLUEBERRY FESTIVAL
Mistassini, Quebec - 4-8 August 2005

Mistassini in Quebec claims to be the blueberry capital of the world, and the well-established annual Blueberry Festival offers blueberry-themed cooking and decorating demonstrations, shows and contests, as the organisers set about their task of promoting this wonderful little fruit. There is also a night parade, while the event wraps up with a taste of a giant blueberry pie for all spectators to enjoy.

Contact - 418 276 1241 - festival.bleuet@destination.ca

GIANT OMELETTE FESTIVAL
Granby, Quebec - 9-13 June 2005

They'll be breaking 5000 eggs to make the Giant Omelette in Granby, Québec this June. This international celebration involves five French-speaking cities - Abbeville, Bessieres and Frejus in France and Dumbea in New Caledonia as well as Granby - who at various times of the year convene to cook enormous omelettes to share with the public. Before the present-day event there is an elaborate parade and a knighting of the omelette chefs takes place. Then all the eggs are lobbed into one very large pan and sizzle away before becoming a delicious omelette.

Contact Details - Number 450 372 7273 - Second Number 1 800 567 7273 (in Canada)

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

international

BALTIMORE KINETIC SCULPTURE RACE
30 April 2005

Every year, kinetic sculptures from the eastern United States convene at the American Visionary Art Museum (AVAM) on Baltimore's Inner Harbor for the East Coast Championship race. A few weeks later, the World Championships are held in Arcata, California.

Contact Details - Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association - 877 225 8466 (toll free) - vc@baltimore.org

SCARECROW FESTIVAL
Moringhem, Nord-Pas de Calais, France
On now until April 30th, 2005

One day in 1989, the inhabitants of Moringhem woke up to see the streets of their village invaded with scarecrows (known as épeutnaerts in the local dialect). Thanks to their mayor, this has now become an annual event and something of a popular attraction. Now during April, the village is flooded with loads of terrifying scarecrows and has become a tourist attraction, with various scarecrow-related activities for locals and visitors.

Contact Details - Moringhem Town Hall
+33 (0) 3 21 93 48 60 - contact@epeutnaerts.net

BIRTH OF ROME CELEBRATIONS
Rome, Italy - 21 April 2005

On 21 April every year, the proud Romans celebrate the birth of their city, founded by Romulus in 753BC, by covering the Aventine Hill with long-burning candles.

There is also an epic firework display over the Tiber for which people turn out in their thousands. So if you want to find some action, head for the Campidoglio and the Giardino degli Aranci.

Celebrations are also staged by local historical societies and there are parades and public speeches galore. All archaeological sites and city-run museums are open and admission is free.

Venue Details - Campidoglio and Giardino degli Aranci
Viale Aventino - Rome, Italy

To list events in your area, e-mail 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

THE UNIVERSITY WRITING SCHOLARSHIP (UWS)

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA: 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.

NOTES: Students must submit an essay no longer than 500 words on ONE of the following topics to be eligible for the scholarships:

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>

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

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

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 with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.

classifieds

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

AU SPORTS CLUB SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE The AU Sports Club is looking for AU students who are interested in serving on the AUSC executive. All that is required is a few hours a week to respond to emails, add new members to the discussion forum, and locate information to update the website or forum sections. Being on a club executive is a great way to meet other AU students!

THE VOICE

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