

# THE VOICE MAGAZINE

May 4, 2005  
Volume 13 Issue 18



## *Holding to her Artistry* *A tribute to Mom*

Nature Notes  
*Litter - the better way*

Course Introduction  
*Nursing 435*

Plus:  
Lost & Found  
The Good Life  
Dear Barb  
Women You Should Know  
Canadian Fedwatch  
From Where I Sit  
Taking Notes  
AUSU This Month

*and much more...*

*Mother's Day, May 8th!*

## Welcome To the Voice PDF

*The Voice* interactive Table of Contents allows you to click a story title to jump to an article. Clicking the bottom-right corner of any page returns you here. Some ads and graphics are also links.



## articles

**HOLDING TO HER ARTISTRY**

**NATURE NOTES:** Birds en route

**DOWNFALL (Der Untergang): FILM REVIEW**

**COURSE INTRODUCTION: NURS 435**

**I'LL TAKE WHAT I CAN GET**

**THE LOST DREAMS OF CHILDHOOD**

Carole E. Trainor

Zoe Dalton

John Buhler

Katie Patrick

Rebecca Brewer

Busby Leclair



## columns

**CHRONICLES OF CRUISCIN LAN**

**THE GOOD LIFE -** A Relationship of Mutual Respect

**LOST AND FOUND -** Afternoon Sky Over the Caprice

**CANADIAN FEDWATCH**

**AUSU THIS MONTH**

**DEAR BARB -** Learning to Communicate

**FROM WHERE I SIT -** Happy Mother's Day

Wanda Waterman St. Louis

Janice Behrens

Bill Pollett

Karl Low

Barbara Godin

Hazel Anaka



## news and events

**TAKING NOTES:** Golden retirement handshake

**VOICE EVENTS LISTINGS**

**SEARCHING FOR INTERNSHIPS**

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS**

**CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS**



## from the readers

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**CLASSIFIEDS**



**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.**

**RE: Pub night with Jack Layton (v13 i17)**

I would like to thank Mandy Gardner for her timely tribute (in light of the probable early federal election) to one of the few bright lights of Canadian politics at the moment. Jack Layton is exactly the sort of person - bright, articulate, and above-all upbeat and optimistic- who may be able to gain some much needed popular support for progressive views. Too many of our recent populist politicians have been narrow-minded, greedheaded corporate puppets, and too many of our forward thinking political parties have pinned their hopes on ineffectual, detached leaders. Having somebody of Mr. Layton's calibre on the side of the angels gives even us political cynics a glimmer of hope.

**Bill Pollett**

---

## THE VOICE

---

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street,  
Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4  
800.788.9041 ext. 2905

**Publisher** Athabasca University  
Students' Union

**Editor In Chief** Tamra Ross Low

**Reference/copy editor** Jo-An  
Christiansen

**News Contributor** Lonita Fraser

**Regular Columnists:**

Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Katie  
Patrick, Hazel Anaka, Bill Pollett,  
Janice Behrens, Barbara Godin,  
Wanda Waterman St. Louis

**Contributors to listings columns:**

Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Lonita Fraser

---

**THE VOICE ONLINE:  
[WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE](http://WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE)**

---

*The Voice* is published every  
Wednesday in html and pdf format

Contact *The Voice* at:  
**[VOICE@AUSU.ORG](mailto:VOICE@AUSU.ORG)**

To subscribe for weekly email  
reminders as each issue is posted,  
see the 'subscribe' link on *The Voice*  
front page  
**[www.ausu.org/voice](http://www.ausu.org/voice)**

*The Voice* does not share its  
subscriber list with anyone

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

© 2005 by The Voice

## HOLDING TO HER ARTISTRY

by Carole E Trainor



This is an unapologetic love song to my mother - artist of all artists - whose blood, sweat, and artistry gave birth to the existence that is me. This is an unapologetic love song to the artist, the woman - the thinking, feeling human being, whose extraordinary courage and vision brought nine children into the human fold (did she learn too late, the meaning the market place would attach to her work, and to her art?)

This is an unapologetic love song to that which is still not considered to be important enough, or newsworthy enough. This is an unapologetic love song written of that which is still not considered to be lucrative enough or profitable enough.

This is an unapologetic tribute to my mother's hands - to the years of excessive work that left them raw and chaffed.

This is an unapologetic tribute to all that is rightfully hers - to all that we continue to insist cannot, and should not, be claimed on a serious professional or academic resume.

This is an unapologetic love song to the artist who is, and was, my mother - to the strength and design by which she held to her life; to the courage and conviction that was at the root of her brilliant artistry. This is an unapologetic tribute to all that was belittled, ignored, and patronized in her by my father, my church, and by the educational curriculum that dictated the nature and content of my schooling.

This is an unapologetic love song to my mother - masterful teacher - one who was never educated or trained in the area of Family Studies, Child and Youth Studies or Women's Studies (- who is still not considered to be an expert in any of these fields).

This is an unapologetic love song to her who knew no financial bottom line - to her who received not a nickel - not a dime - of financial compensation for the years of artful mothering; for the years of back breaking labour, love and devotion.

This is an unapologetic tribute to my mother who knew that a "self" given over in sacrificial love, bears a hearty kind of fruit. This is a tribute to that kind of beauty.

This is an unapologetic tribute to one forced to live without mention, without accreditation, without authorization - without ever being the subject of passionate, intelligent-enough academic analysis.

This is an unapologetic love song to my mother, who held fast to her faith on the days the food ran out; who sat us in a circle the day our furniture was being repossessed and sang us songs of gratitude to God. This is a tribute to my mother who taught us how to stay faithful to ourselves; to our word, and to our god.

Two

This is an unapologetic love song written for one who was forced to endure without resources, understanding, affirmation or compassion.

This is an unapologetic tribute to her who, for years, stood to face the harsh elements of the world. With a fistful of wooden pins and a mind intent on reorganizing the world, she stood up to the wind and the rain on the worst of our days -and not for the sake of enslavement or female servitude, but for the sake of that which burned inside her - for the sake of her love - the artistry at the centre of her mothering practice.

This is an unapologetic tribute to one who lived for a different kind of bottom line.





# NATURE NOTES:

from the backyard to the biosphere

By Zoe Dalton

## Litter – the better way

The term *litter* conjures up in one's mind a messy affair, such as the town park strewn with the remnants of schoolchildren's lunchables in the ditch along our favourite scenic drive, its beauty tarnished by unsightly coffee cups, napkins and cigarette butts discarded by irresponsible drivers. Litter! Yuk! Its presence acts as one of those ugly reminders of what our throw-away culture can make the landscape look like.

However, an altogether different type of litter exists, one that is not only beneficial (nay, essential) for nature and all of its inhabitants. To the knowing eye it offers an enchanting beauty all of its own. You should count your blessings, my friend, if you witness this litter in your local park. Should the litter that I refer to here fill all of the ditches of the world, we would be a lucky bunch.

Granted, this better sort of litter is, like cigarette butts and coffee cups, still discarded by living organisms. But, the litter that I am speaking of has one fundamental difference that distinguishes it in every way from litter of human origin -- it is 100% biodegradable. Plant litter (e.g., leaves fallen from autumn branches onto the forest floor and dead grasses slowly withering away into the prairie soil) is a type of refuse without which the world would be a very different place.

Above-ground plant matter (i.e., the green, living stuff we see every day) is chock full of goodness sucked up by below-ground root systems. As they gather moisture from the soil, roots bring to the above-ground plant parts essential nutrients. But, greedily hoarding these nutrients would be counterproductive, both for the ecosystem as a whole and for the plant itself. With a limited supply of plant food available, it is essential that plant matter fall back to the ground to release that which helped the flora grow and mature, thereby contributing to the nutrient cycle that we all learned about back in grade nine.

So when leaves fall or plants die, a type of litter accumulates on the surface of the soil. But, rather than being a scourge on the landscape, plant litter is really like an infusion of nutrients back into the soil in preparation for reuse at a later time. Tiny *microflora* and *microfauna* in the soil (little creatures from both the plant and animal kingdoms) break down that matter and convert the component nutrients back into a chemical form that can once again be used by other organisms, including the tree that just donated its leaves to the cause.

Hmmm, you may say, I know all about what *accumulates* means. Those leaves we have to clean each fall (or spring, if we prefer to leave our gardens and the organisms they harbour a protective blanket for the winter) are proof positive of how like *litter* plant refuse really is -- in a word, *messy*.

Well, *messy* in a sense, I suppose. However, I must defend that tree's presence by your house, as the extent of accumulation is only in part due to the amount of litter produced by any plant's above-ground parts. Equally important in determining how much you will have to rake when the season shifts are factors such as temperature and moisture.

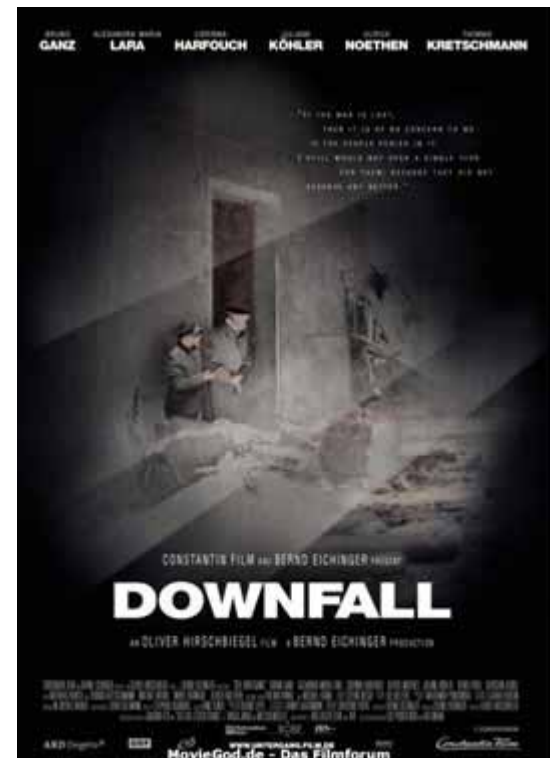
As anyone who has tried and failed to produce a prize-winning garden will attest to, plants need relatively warm, moist conditions in which to grow and be productive. But microorganisms, so essential to nutrient cycling, depend on these factors to an even greater extent. They simply cannot do their work of breaking down plant litter if it is too dry or too cold. Therefore, in areas where it is cold and dry (think Arctic tundra), dead vegetation will accumulate because the conditions are just not right for those wee microorganisms to carry-out their ecological duties. However, in the tropics, where moisture and temperature present no such limitations, plant litter never has the chance to build up because the microorganisms beneath the soil's surface are breaking down the litter more efficiently than it can even be produced.

So don't despair! Your tree is not trying to drive you mad by littering all over your yard. It is just trying to do its best to give back and to share the nutrients that allowed it to grow to such towering heights with the rest of its kith and kin. If you must blame something for the eternal back-breaking labour of yard cleaning, blame the weather, as we Canadians love to do anyway. Those leaves that just will not stop falling, year after year, could have been happily tucked away into the soil long ago by productive little microorganisms if it had just been a little warmer, if only it hadn't been such a long winter, if the summer hadn't been so scorchingly dry, if fall hadn't come so early, if only....

## Downfall (Der Untergang) Film review by John Buhler

It is always fascinating to see how a German movie confronts that nation's Nazi past. The main focus of *Downfall* (Eichinger and Hirschbiegel, 2005) is a twelve-day period in April and May of 1945 leading up to Hitler's suicide and the collapse of the Third Reich. The movie's North American showing is especially timely as the film coincides with the 60th anniversary of these events. The film shows Hitler in the bunker under Berlin, throwing tantrums and giving orders that are impossible to carry-out. When he realizes that it is no longer possible to win the war, he blames the German people for having been too weak to achieve final victory, and he resists efforts to save German civilians in the battle for Berlin. Meanwhile, on the streets above the bunker, Nazi lynch mobs patrol the city for old men who have failed to join the futile battle against the Red Army. By the end of the film, Hitler and his Nazi movement have become enemies of Germany.

It is also interesting that *Downfall* uses a foreigner to portray the foreign-born Fuhrer. Swiss actor Bruno Ganz is perhaps best known in North America for his role in *Wings of Desire* (Wenders and Dauman, 1987), in which he plays an angel watching over a divided Berlin. He surrenders his angelic status when he falls in love, becoming in effect a fallen angel. Of note, *City of Angels* (Siberling, 1998), with Nicholas Cage and Meg Ryan, was a poor American adaptation of this theme.



In *Downfall*, Ganz once again portrays a *fallen being* as the Nazi leader who has tumbled from the height of his power, and is forced to take refuge in a bunker underneath Berlin. Much of the film is based on the recollections of Hitler's secretary, Traudl Junge (actress Alexandra Maria Lara). In the film, she is shown as being an admirer of Hitler, and she remains blindly obedient to him even after his suicide.

The relative security of life inside Hitler's bunker is in sharp contrast to the battle raging above. Josef Goebbels' children sing for Hitler, while children in the city above are pressed into service against Soviet tanks. These contrasts make the film all the more powerful in its effect.

*Downfall* is controversial, in part, because Hitler is sometimes shown to be human. He loves his dog Blondi, is charmed by the young women who work for him, while they apparently find him charming as well. He is also fond of small children. It is difficult to make sense of these scenes, if we can only view him as a monster. The film does not offer an explanation and the viewer is challenged by the contrasts in Hitler's character.

It is not necessary for the film to encompass the whole war for it to have a chilling effect on the viewer. When Hitler barks orders for armies that can no longer function, we know that this madman happens to be responsible for the horrors taking place outside of the bunker. It is also disturbing to watch as Magda Goebbels systematically poisons her own children, rather than allow them to be raised in a world without National Socialism. And when Hitler boasts of his mass murder of Europe's Jews, we know of the horror that his statement implies.

One critic felt that *Downfall* failed to give us any insights into Adolf Hitler's personality ("Unsolved mysteries," 2005). Yet, if historians have spent decades examining the issue of Hitler's personality, it seems unreasonable to expect that a 148-minute movie will provide any stunning revelations.

No doubt, some factors that contributed to Hitler's character included physical and psychological abuse in his childhood, and the pervasiveness of anti-Semitism in the Austrian society in which he was raised. But this would be different film altogether.

There have been other criticisms as well. In an article by Randy Boswell (2005) of the CanWest News Service, the film is criticized because Wilhelm Mohnke, shown as a hero trying to protect German civilians, has been accused of murdering captured Allied soldiers. As *Downfall* concentrates on twelve days inside the bunker, Mohnke's earlier actions are not disputed, but are simply outside of the film's timeframe.

Make no mistake, however, the film is not an apologia for the Nazis and the Germans who supported them. At the end of the film, an interview with the real Traudl Junge in 2002, reveals that it took her many years, but eventually she came to realize that she shared responsibility for the destruction that Hitler had unleashed upon the world.

## References

- Boswell, R. (2005, April 11). Film about Hitler's last days condemned: Nazi killer of Canadian PoWs cast as hero. *Edmonton Journal*.
- Eichinger, B. (Producer) and Hirschbiegel, O. (Director) (2005). *Downfall* [Motion picture]. Screen play by Bernd Eichinger. Odeon Films.
- Siberling, B. (Director) (1998). *City of Angels* [Motion picture]. Screen play by Dana Stevens. Warner Bros. Pictures.
- Unsolved mysteries: Nothing to learn from *Downfall*'s Hitler (2005, April 14-20). *SEE Magazine: Edmonton's Weekly Source for News, Arts and Entertainment*. Available online at <http://www.seemagazine.com/Issues/2005/0414/screen2.htm>
- Wenders, W. (Director and Producer) and Dauman, A. (Producer) (1987). *Wings of Desire* [Motion picture]. Screen play by Wim Wenders and Peter Handke. Road Movies, Filmproduktion, Argos Films.



## Course Introduction: Professional Practice in Mental Health Promotion (NURS 435)

**Attention, Post LPN BN Nursing Students.** A new nursing course is currently rolling off the AU press: Professional Practice in Mental Health Promotion (NURS 435)! For those studying in the Post LPN BN program, NURS 435 is "one of the first required paced clinical courses... they will attend," indicates course author and AU assistant professor Dr. Sherri Melrose. NURS 435 focuses not only on "textbook" mental health, but includes exciting course features like clinical practicum experiences and more.

Everything about NURS 435 is intriguing, including the course texts. "In addition to the required psychiatric mental health nursing textbook, students work with a second text authored by an individual struggling with depression and a third text on street drugs authored by a Calgary Police Detective," notes Melrose.

The course content of NURS 435 is divided into five main sections, each of which details a specific mental health topic. The course opens with a comprehensive introduction to mental health, focusing on management approaches to mentally ill patients, as well the behaviours, moods, and thought processes exhibited by these patients. Students will be able to "recognize acute symptoms of mental illness" using course information, says Melrose. Once this has been mastered, students proceed to explore screening and referral instruments in the psychiatric mental health field. This involves "construct[ing] assessment, screening and referral documentation relevant to a variety of disciplines and health care contacts," notes Melrose. In the third section, students discuss the "stigma and barriers associated within the field of mental health," gaining insight into potentially damaging "labels" used on mental health patients. The second to last section in the course consists of two units that focus on various types of addictions at the individual and community-based levels. Dr. Melrose indicates that students also "analyze the implications of addictions for individuals, the family, and the community." The fifth and final section of NURS 435 reflects the course title: the many and varied aspects of mental health promotion.

Carefully scheduled throughout the course is an exciting course feature: students can complete the course over a traditional 14 week semester by attending "classes in their home communities both virtually through WebCT course delivery and in-person through clinical placements," says Melrose. Clinical groups in the course are kept relatively small -- between 8-10 students -- to enhance each student's learning experience.

NURS 435 also includes a clinical practicum, which totals 140 hours of practice achieved over both a two-week full-time period at an Alberta "provincial mental institution," and "additional individual mentored practicum in [each student's] home community." Before beginning the clinical practicum placement in Alberta, students have an online orientation to help introduce them to what the practical session will be like, and why it is necessary. Dr. Melrose writes that the orientation presentation includes "interviews with staff members working at the hospital, students who have completed the practicum and a slide show tour of the facilities." During the interviews, hospital staff members discuss "their motivation for entering psychiatric nursing and their passion for the field;" interviewed students explore topics of relevance to current students, including student concerns, perceived challenges of the practicum and "strategies for coping" with these. The slide show, which is narrated by Dr. Melrose, focuses on practical tips in addition to having great visuals created by Rick Roder, instructional media analyst at the Centre for Nursing and Health Studies.

Student evaluation in NURS 435 is achieved through completing a quiz, a portfolio, and a scholarly paper.

- The quiz, worth 20% of the final grade, focuses on the course content and is completed in the fourth week.
- The portfolio is worth 60% of the final grade and consists of several parts. The first is a report on a mental health problem prevalent in the student's community. The second is an essay with the intriguing topic, "Lunch with the Theorists" in which, Melrose explains, "students present conversations that might occur if they sat down at a table with nursing and psychological theorists and joined them for lunch." In



addition, the completed portfolio will contain "an analysis of a referral instrument relative to the learners' current or future practice" and two in-depth case studies compiled "in collaboration with the mental health team," notes Melrose. Because the portfolio assignments can be completed with help from other students and the instructor and staff at the clinical sites, they invite collaboration and reflection, a form of educational measurement that is believed to be a more authentic means to assess student abilities than those that rely solely on instructors observations of students in clinical areas.

- The final 20% includes writing a scholarly paper to "demonstrate a critical analysis of a mental health issue of particular relevance to the learner's current or future practice," says Dr. Melrose. The paper must have a minimum of six credible references in addition to being five pages in length.

For more information, visit the course syllabus at: [www.athabasca.ca/html/syllabi/nurs/nurs435.htm](http://www.athabasca.ca/html/syllabi/nurs/nurs435.htm)

## I'LL TAKE WHAT I CAN GET...

Rebecca Brewer



I love spring cleaning. I love it so much that I do it all year long. You can feel free to stop reading now, but I promise I am not a total nerd. Spring cleaning is enormously rewarding. It's the one time when I can take clutter and distractions, and eliminate them once and for all. I can find the perfect place for Tupperware and winter coats, and then I can sit back in my kitchen chair and admire my shining artwork (no outside editing, grade or approval required.) I can organize my photos chronologically, and store old negatives in each album so that they are amazingly easy to find should duty call.

It is during cleaning that I can categorize books, clothes, tools and dishes. I can put them in their place and count on them to be there when I need them. Often, in mere moments, what was once unsightly or inefficient, is now fantastically organized.

I know I am not alone in this pursuit of perfection. I have a friend who is a single mom. Nothing in her house is as organized as her closet. It's complete with colour-coding and matching hangers. She once told me that if I ever came over and saw it looking otherwise to proceed with extreme caution. Another friend irons when she's angry. She stores the wrinkled laundry in a heap in the spare room until she's good and angry. And then, something about the stacks of neatly folded, freshly pressed garments soothes her. One friend actually categorizes his CDs monthly. When they are out of order, life is that much more complicated.

I'll admit that a part of me would be so satisfied if I could meet people and be able to file them away as "fun friend" or "mean gossip." I'd love to be able to tell my friends that that guy is best used in spring and summer -- don't count on him for everyday wear. I'd love for someone to be able to tell me, the way a designer can look at a room and determine wall colours and window treatments, that "this" is what I am and "this" is what would work best with me.

The simplicity seduces me, but like stacks of perfectly folded sheets, I know it's impossible. It's the potential of perfection, the messy stuff, that's really fulfilling -- the pursuit as opposed to the perfection. It's the decision to get an education, change jobs, buy a house; it's an engagement on hold (will they or won't they marry? Oh the drama!), the pregnant woman waiting to see what she's having, the road trip to a place you've never been. I get it, really.

I should have done some research for this article, come up with some statistics about the psychology of spring cleaning or something like that. But life can't be dismissed that easily. We aren't so simple that one can just rattle off a few statistics and sum us all up or change people's minds. Much to my dismay, we won't be categorized. And so, I'll return to colour-coding my closet.

# The Lost Dreams of Childhood

By Busby Leclair



In the halcyon days of my youth, like so many starry-eyed youngsters before me, I had wild dreams of a career in the pest control business. My father, unfortunately, had other plans. I'll never forget the look of seething rage on his face when he caught me flipping through an old tattered, dog-eared catalogue of fumigation supplies. "Ach, ye wee so and so, ye'll no be fritterin away ye' time maunderin' on such airy-fairy stuff n' nonsense. No bairn of mine'll be growin' up to be some rodent huntin' sissy boy, ye ken?" A tirade which would maybe have made more sense if he had been Scottish.

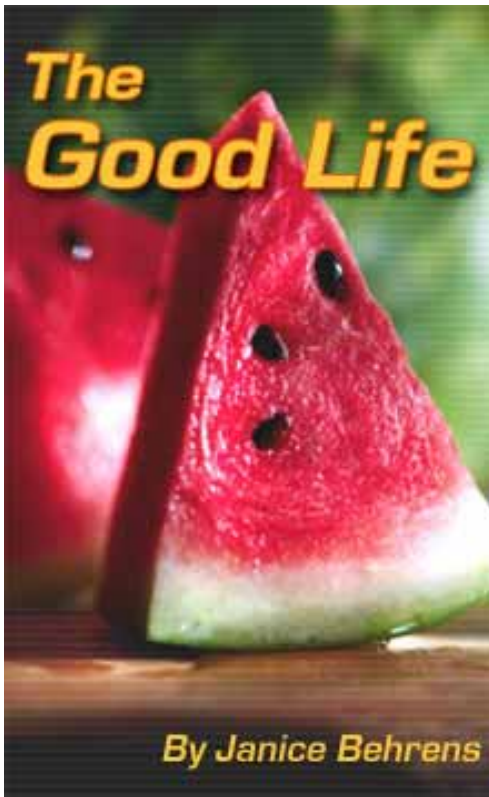
Nothing, though, could quell my romantic longing for a life of poisoning termites. My earliest memory is of running around the rose gardens in the back of one of our summer houses, my arms outstretched, pretending to be a crop dusting airplane. Night after night I would lie in bed making a hissing sound as I pretended to discharge cans of Raid™ into the air. I dreamed incessantly of running

away and renting a romantic little garrett on the rat-infested *Rive Gauche* or setting up shop in New York's fabled *Varmint District*. In the summer, I would often skip out of the sailing lessons and hang-gliding classes that my *Da* (as he insisted on calling himself) had signed me up for. Instead, I would dress up in the enviro-suit that I had sewed together from the maid's discarded rubber dishwashing gloves. I would ride my bike behind the Acme Pest Control van as it drove through the depressingly cheery, sun-filled streets of my Venice Beach, California neighbourhood.

Daily, I cursed the cruel designs of malevolent fate that had caused me to be born into a family of well-to-do filmmakers. Life for me back then was an unending treadmill of golf, tennis, scuba diving, pool parties and tropical vacations. I'll never forget those interminable nights in Bali, during which the only comfort I took was crushing foot-long centipedes with the heel of my shoe. Oh, how I longed for the sultry tang of Rat-B-Gon™ to hang in the night air, instead of the cloying scent of magnolia blossoms!

Alas, it was never to be. On the night of my nineteenth birthday, on an excruciating wine-tasting tour through the Napa Valley, I broke out in a skin rash while walking through one of the vineyards. A tension-filled trip to a private Swiss medical clinic soon confirmed my worst fears. It was an allergic reaction to chemical pesticides. All the dreams of my childhood were now lying on their backs, their legs pathetically twitching, with their feelers forever silenced.

All these years later, as I'm watching television from inside my hermetically sealed bio-support bubble, I think back to what might have been and I shed a silent, private, and uncontaminated tear.



## A Relationship of Mutual Respect

I do not adapt easily to gender stereotypes. During my years of living the single life, I was not one of *those* women, who for instance, follow a dating strategy of preparing elaborate romantic meals to impress potential partners. No, I was not one of *those* women, despite the fact that I love good food. My idea of the perfect *get-to-know-you* date was throwing a football at Spanish Banks or tossing a game of darts and sharing a pitcher of beer at the neighbourhood pub. Not particularly interested in nurturing anyone's over-inflated ego, I took great pride in demonstrating my throwing arm, driving skills and mechanical abilities. I never pretended that my boyfriend had *already loosened* the cap of the ketchup bottle.

Perhaps it is for this reason that my series of partners, up to and including my husband and partner-for-life, has almost exclusively consisted of men who are not threatened by a woman's independence of mind and spirit. Any man that felt threatened simply never tolerated me beyond the first date and vice versa.

This sense of independence and mutual respect in a relationship is a two-way street. I am not willing to play the role of the helpless female, and by the same token I do not expect my spouse to be the

strong and silent type, always coming up with the answers and the solutions to every problem, always shielding me from the harsh realities of life. A truly effective spousal partnership, as I see it, is a relationship between equals, both of whom are expected to be committed and loyal, both working towards agreed upon goals. Both individuals allowed to simply be human, with all of the strengths and frailties that that implies.

Being together in such a partnership means being able to openly share the whole spectrum of fear, desire, joy, frustration, anger, and beauty that makes up human life. It means being able to laugh together and cry together, and to share in each other's triumphs and defeats. I don't see how this is possible within the context of a relationship that is defined and constricted by traditional ideas of acceptable gender characteristics. In my own relationship, I have usually, although not always, been the major breadwinner, while my husband has typically taken on the bulk of the domestic duties. He cooks during the week and I cook on weekends. He does the dishes and I take care of the garden. If a washer needs to be replaced, chances are that I'll be the one to do it. When one of us is feeling down, the other one is there for honesty and support -- always.

"Start out as you mean to continue," my mother once told me, "and you can't go wrong." I think that truer words have never been spoken.

## 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](mailto: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](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>





*Dear Barb,*

*I seem to have a lot of difficulty maintaining relationships. As long as I can remember, I have had problems with my parents and my siblings. Then, when I began dating, my relationships all seemed to end after a few months. I never saw this as a problem within myself, but now I'm beginning to see a pattern. I have just met a man and I don't want this relationship to end like the previous ones. People have told me that I'm very defensive and difficult to communicate with. Can you help me to become a better communicator?*

*Debbie in Ottawa.*

Hi Debbie. Effective communication is vital for the success of any relationship and you have taken an important step by accepting that you may be partially responsible for the friction in your relationships.

There are several barriers to successful communication. One is defensiveness, as you mentioned. If you are on the defensive, you will perceive others as trying to attack you. Therefore, you will feel the need to defend yourself and always be on guard, even though this most likely was not the other person's intention. As well, our reactions are influenced by our past experiences. For example, if you grew up in a home where dishonesty and lying were ongoing issues, you may see dishonesty where it does not exist in your present relationships. This can result in a loss of trust, and if there is no trust, a relationship cannot survive.

Nonetheless Debbie, all is not lost, there are steps you can take to improve your interactions with others. Successful communication begins with listening to what the other person is saying. Many people don't really listen to what others are saying because they are too busy planning what they are going to say in response. Take the time to hear and digest the words rather than jumping to conclusions. Carefully consider what you want to say in response. Try to choose words that are going to convey the exact message you intend.

Also, consider what the consequences may be to what you are saying. Are your words going to cause the other person to react negatively or become angry? If this is a possibility, are you sure this is the desired outcome? In addition, watch for nonverbal cues. If you notice the person you are talking to backing away, crossing their arms in front of them, or averting eye contact, think about what you are saying. You are most likely offending the person in some way, as they no longer want to hear what you are saying. If this is not the response you were looking for, perhaps at this point you could try to explain what you meant to say.

Finally Debbie, the best advice I can give you is to take your time, pick your words carefully and make sure they relay your intended message. At first, you will have to select your words carefully, but eventually this will become second nature and ultimately you will find your relationships improving.

*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.*



#### Health Symposium Available

Those in one of the various health-related programs at AU might want to take a look at the Alberta sponsored [Health Symposium](#) site. The Health Symposium is going on from May 3rd to May 5th, 2005, with the speakers present being streamed online live through that site. If, however, you can't make it during the live web-casts, the Alberta government has promised that the web-casts will be available as archives within two days of the symposium.

With researchers from as far away as Australia and New Zealand, this symposium is an opportunity to hear some of the brightest minds around on the subject of health. It's certainly something that wouldn't hurt any health-related research projects that you might be involved in.

For those of us not in a health program, the symposium might still be worth checking out, if only to get a glimpse at what may eventually work its way into Alberta's Health Care system.

#### Post-Secondary More Important For Men

Statistics Canada has recently released [a report](#) that shows the increase in wages over the past several years for both men and women. Interestingly, the report shows that women have seen their wages increase both with and without a post-secondary education. But for men things are different. Men with a post-secondary education have seen their wages remain, on average, flat with previous years, while those with only a high school education have actually received a cut of about 20% in what they earn on average.

The report concludes that part of the reason for this may simply be that as more women are accepted into the labor force, the growing supply of labor allows employers to lower the price, but since fewer women were employed before, this lowering does not affect them as much. Perhaps in our male dominated politics, a report like this might spur politicians on to create more opportunities for everybody to attain a post-secondary education. I can always hope.

#### Nova Scotia Budget Announced

The Province of Nova Scotia [has released](#) its annual budget in which they guarantee that post-secondary tuition in the province will not rise by more than 3.9%. At the same time, they've also put to rest any notion that they'll be imposing a tuition freeze in the near future, pointing to the disastrous results that followed the tuition freeze in British Columbia when tuitions doubled shortly after the freeze was taken off.

Of course, they neglect to mention that part of the reason for that was that the BC universities weren't receiving the funding increases necessary to handle the cost pressures that they came under during the freeze. Still, a cap at 3.9% is better than Alberta's current system which has no cap at all until Alberta students are directly paying for almost a full third of the operating costs of a university.

#### Federal Money for Distance Education

The Federal government is giving over [half a million dollars](#) toward the development of distance education programs – but not to Athabasca University. Instead, the money will be going to the New Brunswick Community College to develop four new courses for teaching students French.

Athabasca University, of course, already has an established French program, so it seems to me that the government could have gotten away with giving much less money to Athabasca University and be able to expect the same or better results in a quicker time frame. The question then becomes, why didn't they?

Is it simply stupidity on part of the federal government? Is it because this is really just a cleverly disguised hand-out shortly before a by-election in Atlantic Canada? Is it because Athabasca University is simply not very effective at making itself known in Ottawa, despite billing itself as "Canada's Open University?" Most likely it's some combination of all of these.

This is where it becomes important to write letters to your Federal representatives, and also to the administration of Athabasca University. Let them know how you feel about their bypassing a well-functioning program for distance education to create a duplicate program elsewhere.



## Afternoon Sky Over the Caprice

When I was six years old, my mother started going for chemotherapy treatments. My father would take me out for Saturday outings to the pictures. *The Caprice* was one of those grand old movie theatres that would no longer be economically feasible. It had marble-tiled floors in the foyer, red crushed velvet drapes covering the giant silver screen, and decorative faces from Greek mythology peering down from the balcony. There was enough room for three or four hundred souls to gather together in the dark.

One Saturday afternoon, we saw H.G. Wells' *War of the Worlds*. I remember trembling in the dark with my ice cream bar melting in my hands. I remember covering my eyes and being overwhelmed by a sense of panic. Walking home, I kept looking up into the late afternoon sky. Walking through the door, I ran into my mother's arms and she lifted me high up off of the ground.

In grade eight Social Studies class, they show us this grainy footage of the atomic bomb exploding over Nagasaki. Our teacher explained that for several days afterwards black rain fell from the sky. We talked about radiation poisoning and about the fact that we are the first generation in history to live with the anxiety of knowing that the world might come to an end at any point of time.

It was a time of dreams and plans. I had been pulling weeds in the neighbourhood and mowing lawns in an effort to save enough money to buy a Marshall™ tube amplifier for my electric guitar. I knew that Jenny and I were going to be married some day. I knew that I was going to be famous and that we were going to live in London and ride our motorcycles through Picadilly Square.

In grade ten English, I wrote a science fiction story based on a dream that I had about how the world will end. In the middle of the afternoon, the sky is black as a sheet of carbon paper. Meteors, radioactive blocks of ice the size of refrigerators, are pounding the surface of the planet. There are a few of us gathered in an old boarded-up movie theatre. There's a hole in the roof and through it I can see this beautiful woman in a hot-air balloon rising up in the sky, always just missing the killing stones. She's holding a baby in her arms. She smiles down at all of us. She tosses the baby into the air and catches it, over and over again. The baby is laughing and laughing, squealing with delight.

Mr. Ronson, my teacher, says I should probably stick to writing things that are more realistic.

## Reference

Haskin, B. (Director) (1953). *War of the Worlds* [motion picture]. Paramount Pictures.

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)



## GOLDEN RETIREMENT HANDSHAKE NOT ONLY FOR POLITICIANS

**Debbie Jabbour**

Outgoing University of Alberta President Rod Fraser will be enjoying a hefty golden handshake once he leaves the university on June 30, 2005. Over the next two years, Dr. Fraser will receive between \$310,000 and \$370,000 each year as part of his administrative leave policy. Apparently, this sum is not unusual and well within the realm of what is acceptable for a university president upon retirement. Both the U of A Students' Union President and the Negotiator for Academic Faculty Salary expressed no concern with the package, stating that it was "the name of the game," though the institution is under financial pressure from decreased government funding.

Fraser has been president for 10 years without a break between terms and is entitled to one year's leave on full salary for every five years of service. This totals some \$620,000 to \$740,000, plus benefits worth 18 percent of each year's salary. University of B.C.'s Martha Piper has a similar deal worth \$700,000, receiving full presidential salary for two years, even though she is leaving prior to her 10-year anniversary.

Administrative leaves were originally conceived as a way to help academics return to teaching and research after working as an administrator. Some believe, however, that these sabbaticals are becoming a "no strings attached" leave for highly-paid presidents heading into retirement or using the opportunity to land other job." Critics question the appropriateness of such generous retirement packages when universities are strapped for cash and cutting corners in other essential areas. Others defend the golden handshakes as appropriate to the new university as a corporation marketplace, noting that presidents and those in upper administration are subject to a great deal of wear and tear as they are expected to run the university like a corporation, remaining competitive and receiving bonuses for successful fundraising.

I believe U of A's Fraser must be looking forward to two years of salary after retirement. U of A's leave policy will put up to \$740,000 into the president's pocket.

*Jodie Sinnema, with files from Sarah Schmidt, CanWest NewsService  
The Edmonton Journal; with files from CanWest News Service. April 21, 2005*

## Women you should know

*Compiled by Barbara Godin*

### **Gabrielle Roy (1909-1983)**

**Gabrielle Roy (1909-1983)** was a Canadian writer with many books and awards to her credit. Roy was born in Saint-Boniface, Manitoba on March 22, 1909. Her determination and strength of character would help her overcome many obstacles. Her impoverished upbringing caused Roy to work very hard at school where she received awards for both her French and English work. She was able to use her awards to help fund her first year at the Winnipeg Normal Institute. Upon graduation, she began teaching and was able to provide financial support to her family. A few years later, anxious to expand her horizons, she traveled throughout Europe and began her writing career. She wrote several articles and short stories before publishing her highly acclaimed first novel "The Tin Flute." Roy's first novel was translated into 15 languages and won awards in both Paris and New York. She was awarded the Governor-General's Annual Literary Award Medal for Fiction for the "The Tin Flute." She was also awarded the Governor-General's Annual Literary Award Medal for Fiction in 1957 for "Street of Riches." Her third award was the Governor-General's Annual Literary Award for Fiction in 1978 for "Children of My Heart." Prior to Roy's death, she wrote her autobiography "Enchantment and Sorrow," which was published after her death.

### **Source for additional information**

Canada. Libraries and Archives Canada - Gabrielle Roy - <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/roy/index-e.html>



Christy Minstrel & friends in:

~ The Wreck Of a  
Buddy Named Gerald ~



Sung to the tune Of "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald," with sincere  
apologies to Gordon Lightfoot."



## Happy Mother's Day



From  
Where  
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

Contrary to the media and retail hype, Mother's Day is, I believe, the official day of reflection. Not the *only* day, just the *official* day, that mothers everywhere think about *their* role, *their* shortcomings, *their* successes, and *their* children.

On November 23, 1977, our first child Greg was born. As a 23-year-old first-time mother I was fairly paranoid. Paranoid about germs and who held him and how. Paranoid about feeding habits and development rates. Paranoid about threats to his health and safety.

I knew that raising this kid would be the most important work I'd ever do. Striking the right balance between fostering creativity and maintaining discipline. Walking the fine line between providing and over-indulging. Aiming for balance between providing opportunities and over-scheduling every minute of his day.

As he grew, the challenges grew. An auto-immune condition, while certainly not life threatening, threatened his quality of life. And so began a journey of learning, surrendering, asking for and accepting help, coping, counting blessings and so much more. None of us were left unchanged by this experience.

Like many mothers would have, I projected years ahead and feared for his future. I worried about his need to attend school, make friends, have fun, graduate, fall in love, and choose a career. I worried about the pain he suffered and the psychic scars it may leave.

Like many mothers would have, I felt guilty. What sort of genetic encoding had we given him? Were we making mistakes in our child-rearing? Had we set our expectations too high? Too low? Were we repeating our parents' mistakes? Or making a whole new set?

Like many mothers, I had hopes and expectations for my child. I hoped first for a healthy child. I hoped for a child who would grow up to be a happy, well-adjusted, responsible, and contributing member of society. A guy with a work ethic who would use his skills and talents well. A man who would find that healthy balance between a good day's work and play time. A man who could say "I'm sorry," "I'm grateful," "I made a mistake," "I love you" and not be diminished. A man who would find someone to love and be loved by.

When he finished school and it was time to leave home, I cried. It was the next logical, healthy progression in a young man's life. Yet it seemed like eighteen years couldn't possibly have been enough time to say it all, teach it all, and prepare him for it all.

I've watched with pride and sometimes bated breath as Greg grew to be a handsome, successful, and capable young man. This summer he will marry Carrie, the woman he loves and who loves him. As they build a new home and move down well-laid career paths, I feel confident they have the skills and the smarts to make it all happen.

I feel gratitude for the opportunity to have raised this child. From where I sit, it is indeed a happy Mother's Day.



# 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.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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*

## 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](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.**

# classifieds

Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact [voice@ausu.org](mailto: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

---

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4 -- Ph: 800.788.9041 ext. 2905 - Fax: 780.497.7003 attn: Voice Editor

**Publisher** Athabasca University Students' Union

**Editor In Chief** Tamra Ross Low

**Reference/copy editor** Jo-An Christiansen

**News Contributors** Lonita Fraser

**Regular Columnists:** Janice Behrens, Wanda Waterman St. Louis, Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Katie Patrick, Hazel Anaka, Bill Pollett, Barbara Godin

**Contributors to listings columns:** Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Lonita Fraser

---

## THE VOICE ONLINE: [WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE](http://WWW.AUSU.ORG/VOICE)

---

*The Voice* is published every Wednesday in html and pdf format

Contact *The Voice* at: [VOICE@AUSU.ORG](mailto:VOICE@AUSU.ORG)

To receive a weekly email announcing each issue, see the 'subscribe' link on *The Voice* front page. *The Voice* does not share its subscriber list  
Special thanks to Athabasca University's *The Insider* for its contributions

© 2005 by The Voice