

# THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

July 6, 2005  
Volume 13 Issue 26

## Convocation 2005

Coverage Continues



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

## THE VOICE

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## Convocation Report 2005 Part 2

Text and Photos by Debbie Jabbour

*The Voice Magazine's coverage of Convocation 2005 continues with reports from the grounds and more photos. Keep watching next week as our coverage continues...*



Address by graduate, Karen Stauffer, MScIS (also an AU employee), and Governor General gold medal recipient.

*This year's AU convocation experience went something like this:*

*Wednesday, June 8, 7:00 P.M.* - The university grounds are a sea of relative calm. Most of the staff have already left their offices for the day, but workers are bustling around doing last minute set-ups, placing chairs, tacking down the red carpet, hanging dozens of flower arrangements. Weather is breezy and clear, promising sunny skies. As I leave for the evening, I glance around at the empty entranceway, hearing the fountains splashing, knowing that in 12 hours the area will be filled with excited graduands and their friends and family.

*Thursday, June 9, 8:30 A.M.* - I arrive at the university for the first day of convocation. Weather is comfortably cool and slightly cloudy. Parking attendants are already in place, directing a slow but steady stream of vehicles. Walking past the breakfast tent, I can smell the tantalizing aroma of pancakes and sausage. Groups of new arrivals are gradually filling up the long tables, enjoying the breakfast co-sponsored with AUSU.

of the soon-to-be-installed new president, Frits Pannekoek, for our scheduled 9 AM interview. In contrast to the evening before, the university is now humming with quiet activity. Although this day will be hectic and full of official events, Frits is calm and collected as we talk (see interview in next week's *Voice*). By the time we exit the office, the outer room is filled with people and the hum of activity outside has escalated.

*Thursday, June 9, 9:00 A.M.* - I head to the office

*Thursday, June 9, 10:00 A.M.* - Walking back over to the breakfast tent in search of some potential interviewees, I take a quick side excursion through the convocation tent. It feels coolly hollow, empty, yet vibrating with invisible anticipation. I look up at the chairs on the stage, remembering how it felt to be among the graduates up there, and that indescribable moment, crossing the stage as your name reverberates roundly through the tent. I note where I'll be sitting this year, in the front row next to the University photographer.



*Thursday, June 9, 10:30 A.M* - The breakfast tent is shaded and cool, the long tables dotted with groups of students and their families. A long dessert table stretches across the centre of the tent along one side, marked by a tall structure that resembles a wedding cake, but darker. It isn't until much later that I wander over and realize that this structure is actually a chocolate fountain - bubbling with liquid chocolate in which partakers can dip a variety of sliced fruit - strawberries, melons, grapes, and cantaloupe. An eager line-up forms to test out the appetizing treat, but it's messy business, and little trails of chocolate have formed all around the edge of the table (and on a few shirt fronts!).

*Thursday, June 9, 11:00 A.M* - After completing a few interviews, I notice that the tent has become quite empty, as students start to head over to the main building, aware that they must be robed and in place by 11:30. I follow them, taking pictures and looking for a few more students I can talk to. In the long side hallway, graduands are lined up in their black robes, while platform beadies\* and ushers ensure that everyone is in place. One graduand is seated outside in the hallway with her husband and daughter, and agrees to a brief interview. However, before we can get started, the assistant registrar comes along, insists that she must go and line up, and reprimands me mildly - reminding me that everyone is stressed and under time pressure at this point. I can certainly feel the tension, and knowing how tightly choreographed every minute is, head back outside to wait for the procession to begin.

*\*beadie: a minor parish official whose duties include ushering and preserving order at services and sometimes civil functions (Websters)*



*Thursday, June 9, 11:35 A.M* - I'm back at the university entrance, taking more pictures. The academics and governing council are gradually getting into position. Registrar Gilbert Perras is already holding the mace in readiness, and he poses for a picture in front of the welcome sign. I notice the young piper pacing nervously back and forth in front, and stop to talk. Her name is Meghan Grasby, 18 years old, and this is her first official bagpipe performance. Like last year's piper (and so many other young workers at the university), she is second-generation AU; her mom works in the registrar's office. Everyone is reassuring her that she will be great, as she smiles bravely and poses for

our pictures (see last week's issue, interviews feature).

*Thursday, June 9, 11:50 A.M* - I notice that some graduands have not picked up their name tags from the welcome table. Suddenly there is a flurry of activity, and one of the volunteers asks me to run back to the graduand line-up to advise that another student has just arrived and is running to get robed in time. I head back with the message, just as they are going through the grad list a final time. Later I heard that this student had a flat tire on the way up, and I can't imagine what a sense of panic she must have felt, thinking she would miss her convocation!

*Thursday, June 9, 11:55 A.M* - Everyone is in place, and I see Gilbert make his way to the centre point. This is the middle of a "T-intersection" - standing in front of the university. To the right hand side is the library door, behind which the graduands are lined up down a long hallway; behind



is the main university doors, where all the academics, governing council and the platform party are lined up; over to the left is the long, covered red-carpet walkway leading to the tent.

*Thursday, June 9, 12:00 P.M* - When Gilbert is standing at attention at centre, the piper at his right, I hear the first tones of the bagpipes and, "we're off". The piper then leads the graduands down the red-carpet walkway into the tent, up the aisle and onto the stage, where they take their seats. Once all the black-robed graduands have passed by, the blue-robed governing council members follow. Next come the academics in their multi-coloured robes, hats and hoods, each colour representing their various degrees and universities they graduated from. Bringing up the rear is the president, vice-president academic (who will read the bios and introduce the grads), and AUGC chair.

*Thursday, June 9, 12:10 P.M* - We all remain standing while Oh Canada is sung, then take our seats. Convocation begins, with the installation of the new president and greetings from other universities and the government (see last week's Voice).

*Thursday, June 9, 12:30 P.M* - Acting Vice-President Academic, Deitmar Kennepohl, invites the candidates to "please rise." As the sea of black-robed graduates rise, the rumble of their feet hitting the stage sends out a thrilling vibration, and the audience breaks out into applause. Dietmar presents The Petition, "that these graduands, having fulfilled all the requirements of the statutes of Athabasca University" be admitted "to the degrees to which they are entitled." The chair grants the petition. The president then addresses the candidates with The Pledge, asking, among other things, if they "promise to use the knowledge, skills, and wisdom



you have acquired to the enhancement of the reputation of the University, for the advancement of learning, and for the betterment of all?" The candidates answer the Pledge in unison, then the Chair addresses the graduands to admit them into the degree "to which you are entitled." The formality of the words and ceremony touches me, reinforcing in me the great importance and value of this graduation achievement.

*Thursday, June 9, 12:45 P.M* - Graduates are presented to the audience, each one crossing to centre stage to kneel beside the registrar. He arranges the hood over their shoulders, a different colour for each program, then his hand rests gently on their shoulder as the VPA reads a short individual bio. The graduate then rises and receives his or her degree from the president, shaking hands with the president, AUGC chair, and a program representative, then crosses to the other side of the stage to return to their seat.

The bios are part of what makes AU's graduation so unique and special, a chance to hear a little bit about each student, their struggles, their goals, their hopes and plans. As cameras flashed, each kneeling student would savour their moment proudly, sometimes smiling, sometimes blinking back tears, sending out loving looks at family in the audience, or joining in with laughter at some humorous bio comment. Bios contain thank-you's to family, special tutors, fellow students. I'm

struck by the number of times I hear comments about the wonderful friendships made - considering this is a distance university! With graduate studies, of course, in listening to the MDE student bios, the thought occurs to me that many of these students will be part of AU's future, educators in distance learning. Many have plans to go on to a master's or doctoral degree. The comments in the bios are something all AU students can relate to:



*"In 7 years that it took me to complete my degree I got older!"*

*"Thanks to my family for patience, patience, patience"*

*"...never forget the sense of community"*

*"...love sleeping in on Saturday morning, almost as much as I love my degree"*

*"...looking forward to growing up and finding a real job"*

*"thanks to my tutors for extensions!"*

*"no one is too old to learn, or to take a 3-hour exam!"*

*"... the feeling of achieving a life goal, even though it is later than expected"*

*Thursday June 9, 2:00 P.M.* - The degrees have all been presented, and we hear today's Address by Graduate, Doreen Stewart of Calgary Alberta. She talks about the privilege of being able to speak and reminisces about papers, projects, 3-hour final exams. She shares her new motto: "the mills of the gods grind slowly but unusually fine." Doreen suggests that to achieve a distance degree you require "persistence and a penchant for pain." Thanking friends and family, Doreen offers this apology, "sorry about the coffee cups growing mold, the reheated pizza, the dusty pacifiers," and relates her son's comment, when he saw her seated at the table, surrounded by books, "Mom, if you get any mark greater than a pass, you are studying too much!" Doreen adds that when asked why she was doing it, she would respond, "if you don't input data, there is no output." She concludes with words of encouragement, stating, "be the best you can be, you know you can, you just did it!"

*Thursday, June 9, 2:30 P.M.* - There was to be an honorary degree recipient, Romeo Dallaire. However, his schedule did not permit him to attend, and since the degree can only be awarded if the recipient accepts in person, this part of the ceremony is cancelled.

*Thursday, June 9, 2:35 P.M.* -The degrees have been presented, formalities conclude, and the audience rises so the candidates can leave. The academics walk out first, forming an honour guard at the sides of the red carpet, applauding enthusiastically as the beaming graduates make their way back out of the tent, proudly holding that piece of paper they have worked so hard for. Smiling, they embrace family and friends, posing for pictures in front of the flowers, or the fountains, or with one of the academics. The area is alive with chatter and excitement as the graduates wind down.

*Thursday, June 9, 3:00 P.M.* - I make my way again to the food tent, where Alumni Affairs has set up a reception and lunch. I try to get a few more interviews before the graduates rush off, most facing a long journey back home.

# Convocation 2005

*Photos and interviews  
by Debbie Jabbour*

This is the third part of a three-part Voice feature focusing on this year's graduates. Also see this issue for another part of Debbie Jabbour's convocation report, which will conclude in the next issue. Next week will also feature some final words on convocation plus information on the new AUSU President.

Once again, The Voice Magazine extends its warmest congratulations to all of this year's graduates. To all who are still working toward their degrees, let these people provide an example of what can be done with perseverance and a positive attitude. You may not complete your degree as quickly as you had planned, but once you do, the length of time it took will not matter. Next year, you may be featured in the Voice convocation interviews. Best of luck with your studies!

## **John Buhler, Bachelor of General Studies (Applied Studies)**

Edmonton, Alberta

Pictured: John & his wife, Angeles, and Voice reporter Debbie Jabbour

John's stage bio caught my attention, when, after thanking his mother-in-law for keeping him fed, and his wife for helping with research, he stated that he would always remember "the Voice, particularly the insights of editor, Tamra!" I recognized John as a Voice writer, and I was determined to connect with him after convocation for an interview.

John was at convocation with his wife, Angeles, a PhD student at U of A, and other family members. John and Angeles had both just returned from

Germany, where Angeles was studying German history. John said he decided to pursue this degree because he had a desire to learn more about things not related to work, to increase his knowledge and general interest. He is still undecided about whether he will continue his studies, although his family is encouraging him to do so.

Most of his degree was completed at AU, with some transfer credit from Concordia and NAIT. The degree has been in progress since 1992, but he has not studied full time throughout, putting studies on hold several times. Although John enjoyed all his AU courses, there were a few that stood out. One in particular was an English course with tutor Tom Wharton. Wharton had just been nominated for a prestigious author award at that time, so it was very memorable to have him as a tutor -- in fact, John got his highest mark on an assignment with Wharton, something that made him very proud.

John also took time out to become involved in student affairs, lobbying, and writing for the Voice, and he found that these activities really enhanced his university experience.

Congratulations, John, on completing your degree - we look forward to reading more of your articles in the Voice!





**Wendy Delve, Bachelor of Administration**  
Calgary, Alberta

Pictured: Wendy, husband Ron, and friends Bill and Pat Muss

Wendy traveled to Athabasca with husband Ron & friends Bill and Pat. In her stage bio she referred to her husband as “my homework police.” His vigilance paid off, and he even gained a new talent in the process, as he told me “she dumped everything on me, I became a great grocery shopper!” Wendy’s bio also said the best part of graduating was being “able to choose reading material and no exams,” so both are no doubt feeling relieved that no further school is in the immediate future.

Wendy attended Mount Royal College for two years, got transfer credits, then spent another 8 years completing the rest of her degree. Although she would have liked more face-to-face options, Wendy found the courses very straightforward. Her best course was Phil 333, Professional Ethics, but she really didn’t dislike any AU courses, since “there is so much choice you never have to take something you don’t really want to take.” Her most memorable moment was “ending up taking 2 courses that didn’t count!”

For Wendy, her degree represents a personal achievement, proof that you are never too old to learn, and something that looks better for jobs. She runs her own business as a billing clerk for Alberta Health Care, with 200 doctors on her client list. Her company is expanding, so she plans on going right back to work after convocation.

Wendy has some advice for other students, “It’s better to start earlier. Your 30’s is a good time. But it’s never too late, and there is never an excuse to not do it” Well done, Wendy!



**Michele Jovanovic, Bachelor of Nursing**  
Calgary, Alberta.

I met Michele as she and I were standing at the edge of the tent at the alumni post-convocation reception, debating whether we wanted to step out into the rain. Her boyfriend had offered to go bring her a hat, so while she waited, we talked about her AU experience.

Michele chose AU’s nursing program because it offered a faster rate of degree completion with transfer credits. She took both online and classroom courses to complete the four year degree, and found the online ones (mostly 400-level) by far the more challenging. She enjoyed most of her classes, in particular those on nutrition and trends & issues in nursing. The management course, however, was very tough to complete at a distance, and she would have preferred to have done it in a classroom environment at MRC, since the course structure was very group-oriented, with a lot of information to weed through.

Michele graduated in absentia last December, and came to Convocation with her mom, dad, grandma and boyfriend. She is already working at the Foothills hospital in acute medicine, a job she enjoys because it gives opportunities to learn a lot. She is planning on pursuing a nurse practitioner degree in a couple of years, and will attend University of Calgary for the combined master’s and PhD degree.

What would Michele say to other students? “Continue life-long learning and professional development. It is never too late to go back to school.” Good job, Michele, and best of luck in future studies!



**Shirley Mack, Bachelor of Nursing**  
Maccan, Nova Scotia

It was Shirley's second visit to Athabasca, and she was accompanied by her husband; while we were talking, he proudly presented her a beautiful bouquet of roses. He was very supportive of her studies, but now says, "good, you are finished, you can go back to doing the laundry, cooking and cleaning"—so Shirley has decided to continue with school!!

An RN for 18 years, Shirley chose AU because she couldn't go to a university anywhere else. During the three years it took to complete the degree, she managed three jobs: hospital emergency department, clinical research nurse, and family practice nurse. One of her best memories was an interview she was required to do for her favourite course, Women and Work in Canada (SOC1345). She met and interviewed a 92-year old patient, and in the process, found that this woman became "very important to me." The relationship taught Shirley a lot about how difficult it was for women in early Canada, and really opened her eyes. Shirley was with the woman when she died, and tears filled her eyes as she related the story to me, demonstrating how deeply affected she had been.

Shirley commented in her bio that she will always remember the AUSU "study buddy" program, and says she also enjoyed her tutors, particularly one in women's studies, who was "very inspirational, pushing me when I didn't want to go on." In her final course, however, she and her tutor were not on the same wavelength, and this mis-matched mindset, combined with Shirley's eagerness to be done, detracted from enjoyment of the course. This has not deterred her, however, as she has plans for a masters' degree next.

Shirley's advice: "Go for it. Skip all the reasons why you can't do it. You don't have to be an "A" scholar, what matters is the degree - and you can do it!" You've shown us how, Shirley - Congratulations!



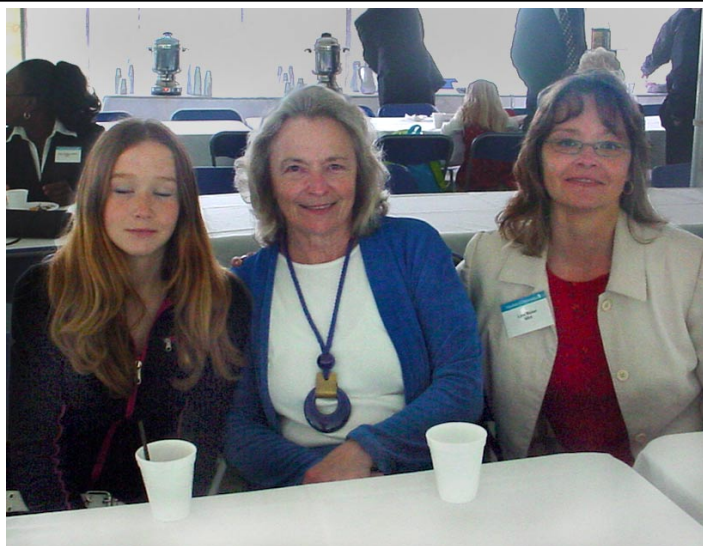
**Lynn Walker, Executive MBA**  
Sherwood Park, AB

Pictured: Lynn, with daughter Erin and mom Vickie.

Lynn completed her MBA in 2 years - finishing her last course while on the plane to Mexico! The trip was an awesome experience, and provided a powerful incentive to get her degree done in time to graduate in absentia last December. Lynn recommends the program for anyone who can't commit to class. She praised the coaches and administrators, calling AU's customer service "excellent," and said she has found that AU is very respected in the workplace.

Although she enjoyed the program and liked the flexibility, there were some drawbacks to the experience - she felt some of the materials "needed help" and the coaches could have been more interactive with the students. Lynn particularly liked her first course on strategic management. Her coach, Gord Sorli, taught them a lot, gave them lots of feedback, and introduced acronyms she will never forget. He was "the best I had."

Lynn has been at her current job as a Finance and Administration manager for one year, and has already advanced at work because she was completing her degree. For Lynn, the degree means more money. She probably won't get a doctorate, since it would just be for ego, but is glad to have the option. In her bio, Lynn thanked her two daughters, Lauren and Erin, and she says she hopes her 14-year-old will follow her example and complete a master's degree one day too. It is never too late for higher education! To other students, Lynn says: "you need discipline (a lot) to be successful; be motivated, never stop, keep going." Congratulations, Lynn!





**Brenda Hay, Master of Nursing & Jennifer McGrath,  
Bachelor of Nursing**

Goose Bay, Labrador

Pictured: Jennifer & Brenda

Brenda and Jennifer became friends through their studies at AU, even though they were in different levels of their degree. It was their first visit to Athabasca, and they both commented on the beautiful campus.

Brenda had completed her undergrad work at the University of New Brunswick, but chose AU for her master's because of the ability to study at home. She enjoyed the experience, although she would have preferred to be in class for the clinical component of her studies. In Brenda's bio she said she plans to teach and pursue doctoral studies. Jennifer also enjoyed her studies, so much that she has already enrolled in the Master of Nursing at AU. She remarked that she wouldn't even consider another university and didn't care about the cost - what mattered was how much she liked her experience as an undergrad and how happy she was at this university!

Brenda commented that she really liked one feature of the anonymity online--that you can't just show up at class and do nothing, you have to participate. She loved meeting people from across Canada, and it was great finally meeting them in person at convocation. They both agreed that this form of study gives a holistic view of nursing that prevents tunnel vision. It made them realize that nurses across Canada all have the same issues, that the problems they experience in Labrador are not unique or isolated.

Jennifer and Brenda had to catch a bus back to Edmonton, but as we ended the interview and took a picture, I heard one of them make a comment about "sisters." I was surprised and asked if they were related. They said they weren't, but that this shared university experience had made them "friends for life!" Congratulations Jennifer and Brenda - and best of luck in your future studies.



**Interview: Sharon Moore, Associate Professor  
Centre for Nursing Health Studies, Calgary**

I had been admiring Sharon's beautiful robe and academic colours when I saw her in the procession earlier, so when I noticed her by the alumni tent, I had to stop and talk. I commented on the unusual salmon colour of the robes, and asked if it was her university colour. She said, "no, apricot is the colour of nursing," and turned around to display the back of the robe, a two-tone hood from her university, the University of Texas. As we talked, she told me she had been featured in a recent edition of The Insider (the AU university staff newsletter), as she is planning on climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Of course, I was fascinated and asked her to share her story and a picture with Voice readers.

Sharon is a professor with the Master of Nursing program at AU (Mount Royal College collaborative program) and has been a distance educator since 1984. She told me that one of her goals is build a sense of community among students online. Her interest and research into the role of hope in human life, and her dedication to Alzheimer's research, is what motivated her to try to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro. People with Alzheimer's disease "face a mountain every day of their lives" (Insider, May 27, 2005). Along with all the other members of the climbing team, Sharon has committed to raise \$10,000 for Alzheimer's research with her climb. Sharon says she has never climbed a mountain before, but plans to get into top shape before fall so that she can be successful.





Sharon's enthusiasm and warmth are contagious. She appears to really love academia and the university environment, and spoke in particularly warm terms about her nursing students at AU. It seemed symbolic, somehow. For the students whose stories were part of the convocation ceremony, earning a degree was like conquering a high mountain peak. No doubt they felt the same elation at the graduation summit that Sharon will feel at the top of Kilimanjaro. Good luck, Sharon - we will be cheering you on. AU truly has some very special and inspirational professors!

Moore on the Mountain: <http://www.athabascau.ca/media/index.php?id=60>

You gotta have hope: Insider, May 27, 2005: [http://intra.athabascau.ca/insider/2005/may27\\_05.htm](http://intra.athabascau.ca/insider/2005/may27_05.htm)

Are you a new AU graduate who'd like to tell your story to The Voice? If so, write [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org) to be featured in the Graduate Profiles column. All participants will receive a free Voice mug. (For those featured in this issue, send me your address to get your mug! Thanks to everyone who participated.)

See next week's issue for the final convocation report.



Clockwise from top left: AUSU President Lisa Priebe; inside the alumni reception tent; a view of the fountains; outside, after convocation; a few minutes before the procession starts, front entrance; outside the alumni reception tent; graduate procession. Center: Bruce Spencer and Honorary Doctorate, Gwendolyn Hooks.





# NATURE NOTES:

from the backyard to the biosphere

By Zoe Dalton

## Babes of a Different Colour

Babies -- nothing can compare. Little baby opossums with their messy hairdos and wiggly snouts. Wee turtles with an unexpected look of reptilian innocence as miniatures of their parents. Young swans as fuzzy as can be and with a hint of silliness that defies their parents' graceful airs. Even a fish babe, with its slightly disproportionate head to body ratio, can bring a smile to the face of many a skeptic.

Each of these diverse groups of animals -- mammals, reptiles, birds and fish -- brings young of its kind into this world and, as living creatures have been doing for millennia, passes on its genetic characteristics to a new generation. A generation that is full of hope and promise.

From an evolutionary standpoint, many of the fundamentals are the same whether the beast is mammal, reptile, bird or fish. Mom meets dad, one way or another the two pair up and do their thing, and lo and behold, in a relatively short time, a wee one with traits from both parents emerges as an independent being.

But even among just these four types of animals, the diversity of reproductive strategies is amazing. In general, we think of mammals as gestating their young within the maternal body and uniquely giving birth to live young. In the case of birds, we figure that standard practice is as simple as laying of an egg. For snakes and their reptilian kin, the production of internally fertilized eggs is the chosen path. For fish, the mother lays unfertilized eggs that will then be fertilized by the father in the external environment.

Well, it's not always so simple. Even those animals nearest to us genetically -- the other mammals of the world -- can surprise the keenest of *Trivial Pursuit* players. Ever hear of a monotreme? These funky mammals are *oviparous*, meaning egg-laying. Forget that tried-and-true mammalian method of providing for the growing young in a safe uterine home, and nourishing the little one through to a live birth via a placental connection to the mother. The duck-billed platypus and two other members of the mammalian order *Monotremata* decided to try out a different tactic -- laying some eggs. Who ever said consistency was a good thing, anyway?

Reptilian species are bound together by the fact that eggs are always fertilized internally. But don't let that fool you -- these creatures are as fickle in their choice of how to produce *wee ones* as are the mammals. In fact, as I have witnessed personally, some snakes have diverged from the main egg-producing path and actually give birth to live young. I must say I was completely taken aback when biking home one day I saw on the road an unfortunate snake that had been hit by a car. Out of and around this poor creature's body were many tiny snakes identical to the mother. These *wee ones* were live and had very obviously been developing within her body. Who would have guessed it?

And what about fish? We have all seen the nature shows depicting spawning creatures lining the rivers. The female egg-layers and the male egg-fertilizers all gathered together in a giant drama of reproduction followed by glorious death. In general, fish do follow the reproductive path of external fertilization and development of their eggs. But not all species have chosen to adhere to such rigid rules. In an interesting evolutionary divergence, some fish are *ovoviviparous* (live egg-producing) and some sharks are *viviparous* (meaning that they, like mammals, give birth to live young nourished until birth by a placenta).

We can thank birds for preventing confusion by sticking in general to one way of doing things. These animals lay eggs that are fertilized internally before the shell and its associated membranes are developed. The eggs then require parental incubation in order to hatch. However, to spice things up a bit in the avian world, diversity lies in how the eggs are fertilized to begin with. Almost all mating in birds occurs through contact of the male and female *cloacas*, through which sperm is passed into the female's reproductive system. An interesting footnote for those fact-collectors out there is that the male members of some bird species actually work their reproductive magic with a penis. Thank goodness for this divergence from the norm otherwise birds could have been accused of bordering on boring in the baby-making sphere.

There is no question, as we continue to learn more about biodiversity, that difference is a good thing. Niches -- in terms of when, what or how to go about eating, for example -- are essential in allowing so many creatures to live side-by-side in relative harmony. As shown, reproduction is no exception to the rule that diversity is key to success on this beautiful, albeit challenging, planet. Just scratching the surface of the variations present in the production of animal babies is enough to remind us of how little we actually know and how astounding variety of life can really be.

## The Birth of a New Cultural Event

*Busby LeClair*

Every once in awhile amidst the daily jumble of boring and depressing news stories, there is an article that restores your faith in humanity, a feel good piece that leaves you with a smile on your face and a bounce in your step. Latest case in point, I learned through the radio news this morning that some intrepid businessman in Prince George, British Columbia, is organizing an event called Battle of the Hockey Enforcers. The concept of this cultural extravaganza is to put a dozen pro or semi-pro hockey tough guys on the ice, two at a time and in full uniform but without sticks, and have them duke it out for sixty seconds in front a panel of judges (CBC, June 16, 2005). Is that brilliant, or what? The meat and potatoes of the game! What every hockey fan really goes to the games to see without the irritating intrusion of all that skating and passing stuff. Just when you thought Western society was dumbing down!

As is so often the case in Soviet Canuckistan though, the naysayers and panty-waists nearly caused the event to be cancelled. Apparently some bleeding heart metrosexuals on the Prince George city council thought the event would be detrimental to the city's reputation (CBC, June 21, 2005). Can you imagine? Fortunately, it seems as though more red-blooded heads have prevailed. It looks like the event will proceed.

This got my own entrepreneurial spirit fired up. Already this morning I've been in contact with some business associates of mine. We've begun to draw up plans for some similarly themed and spirited events to be organized across Canada and even internationally in the months and years to come. The events will come under the cultural umbrella of my soon-to-be incorporated Busby Leclair's Xtreme Loogan Sporting Events.

The first of these happenings will be on a fairly small scale, taking place in the back alley behind my home. It'll be called The Binner's Brouhaha and will involve two homeless people bashing each other with bent ski poles. The last person standing will be entitled to return all of the empty Lucky™ beer cans from the event's concession sales. Due to relatively low overhead for this event, I'll be able to keep the ticket prices down, making it affordable for the whole family to attend.

If this is half the success that I envision it to be, the next event on the tour will be the Mudville Massacre. This event will feature ex-Triple A baseball players being sent to the plate in order to be mowed down by pitchers throwing a steady stream of inside fastballs. The real fun will start when the batters charge the mound. Unlike hoity-toity pro ball, the batters will be encouraged to bring their own bats with them.

The grandest vision I have, though, is of the Soccer Hooligans Lollapalooza. Picture thousands of imbecilic football thugs amped up on crystal meth and Boddington's Pale Ale swarming and rioting throughout Europe's most ancient and picturesque cities. They will be unencumbered from the unnecessary inconvenience of an actual soccer game to divert their hooliganism. Lock up the wife and kids -- there's a party coming to town!



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## THE G8 AGENDA IS IT RELEVANT?

*Mandy Gardner*

In anticipation of the G8 (Group of Eight) summit in Edinburgh next month, U.K. (United Kingdom) Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Gordon Brown has revealed his grand plan to eliminate African third world debt. He wants to essentially strike all debts from the record, giving struggling nations a chance to build a strong and stable economy without the strain of carrying this huge obligation. The scheme is a popular one here in Great Britain. Brown is doing well to secure his position as potentially the next Prime Minister following Tony Blair's eventual exit from #10 Downing Street.

A major problem with Brown's vision is the unexpected opposition from -- you guessed it -- United States' President George W. Bush. Bush claims that the 100% debt relief plan does not fit into the *American budget system* (Schifferes, June 7, 2005). Bush's position is really no surprise when you consider how lush his government spending has been. Bush is renown for taking the strongest economy in the world and producing a deficit of \$500 billion (BBC, March 11, 2005).

But aside from the American resistance, G8 leaders are expected to support the British-led plan. Public support has been raised largely due to Bob Geldof, who has organised this year's African benefit concert, *Live-8*. Nearly every day, Geldof is on the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), urging the British public to back his cause, to speak up, and to take a closer look at the African situation.

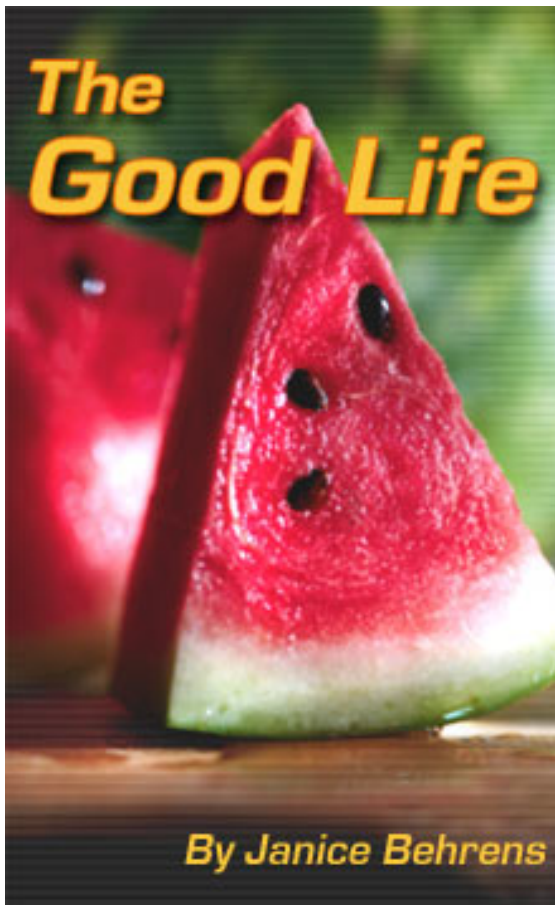
There has been a huge response too as protesters have begun to rally their troops and make travel plans to Edinburgh. Indeed, all the fuss has led Gordon Brown to formulate his debt relief plan. Which is good, right? Well, it may not be as good as it appears. Remember in 1999, when G8 leaders approved the exact same plan? Bob Geldof was making the same statements a few years ago as he is now, which led to the agreement of G8 nations to eliminate third world debt, and then... nothing. Six years later, minimal aid has been received by African countries and certainly no debts have been erased. Protesters, *Live-8* participants, and even Bob Geldof are fighting the same battle they supposedly won already!

So what are all these G8 summits accomplishing anyway? They seem to leave the other hundred and ninety some countries of the world feeling poor and ineffectual, while the political leaders of Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the Russian Federation squabble about various issues and then go home. This year, we can expect rifts over third world debt reduction, the Iraq war, and global warming. It is pretty clear that these *world powers* are not in any real agreement over *anything*. If they can't even agree on their own agenda, how much confidence should we have as they dictate optimal actions to the rest of the world?

Should the G8 really be interfering in world issues just because they have more money?

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Schifferes, S. (2005, June 7). Bush treads his own path on Africa. *BBC News*. Retrieved on June 30, 2005, from <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/4070036.stm>  
US trade gap expands to \$58.4bn ((2005, March 11). *BBC News*. Retrieved on June 30, 2005, from <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/4340217.stm>



## Age & Beauty

When the Spanish explorer Ponce de Leon set sail in the eighteenth century to voyage across South America in search of the fabled fountain of youth, he was continuing one of humanity's most ancient quests. Since prehistoric times, witches and sorcerers employed talismans and minerals and rendered potions from roots, herbs and flowers in the hope of maintaining youth and extending the natural span of human life.

This traditional obsession was echoed by the travelling purveyors of snake oil and other nostrums and medicines, who travelled the length and breadth of Western civilization in search of suckers. Today, it seems this obsession with youth, this fear of aging and death, is stronger than ever. Practically every lifestyle, health and fashion magazine claims to have the secret to perpetual youth and vigour.

Ponce de Leon's magical waters have been replaced by its modern day equivalents - power yoga classes, pilates, diet, vitamin supplements, make-up, cosmetic surgery, and a host of pharmaceutical products.

There is nothing wrong, of course, with wanting to remain healthy and active throughout life. It is hard not to have the sense, though, that this cultural and all-pervasive obsession with longevity and youth is somehow a denial of the natural arc of human life. Why is it that we seem to have such a difficult time accepting that lines and wrinkles are something to be proud of? They are, after all, badges of honour - evidence of our age and experience and (hopefully) the wisdom that comes from it.

When I look back on the life that I have lived to this point, I am constantly humbled by the awareness that there is so much that I don't know, and by the immensity of all that there is to learn. At the same time, though, I would not want to turn the clock back to the days of my youth. I have had had so many truly wonderful experiences. I have also lived through times of great pain. I have suffered embarrassments and humiliations, and basked in glorious triumphs.

Above all, I have shared many magical and transcendent moments with friends and with people I love. Each one of these experiences has left a mark on my brain and my soul that I would not willingly erase for the sake of some illusion of youth. The same goes for the marks, sags and wrinkles that a well-lived life has left upon my face and body. All of our physical and emotional imperfections are part of who we are, part of the story of our lives. They are our identity. An identity that only becomes richer, more complex, more interesting, and more beautiful with each passing year.



*Dear Barb: I look forward to reading your columns. Lately I've been hearing a lot about a group called the "Red Hat Society." I've seen pictures in the local newspaper of women who are all wearing red hats. These women appear to be having a lot of fun. I think it is some sort of women's group. Can you tell me a little more about this group and how one goes about joining? What exactly do these women do when they get together?*

*Carol in Leamington*

Hi Carol. Coincidentally I have a friend who belongs to the Red Hat Society and she just loves it. Before she joined I had no knowledge of this organization. Your question prompted me to do some further research.

The Red Hat Society was started in 1998 by Sue Ellen Cooper of Fullerton, California. The inspiration for the Red Hat Society was a poem "Warning" by Jenny Joseph. The first lines of the poem are:

When I am an old woman, I shall wear purple  
With a red hat which doesn't go, and doesn't suit me.

The sole aim of this group is social. The social group decided to take on middle age with zest and humour. There are no rules, no initiation rituals, and it does not involve fund-raising activities. The group offers social interactions for women aged 50 and up. However, you can join if you are under 50, but you have to wear a pink hat at meetings until you reach your 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

This popular group boasts one million members worldwide. Explore the web site located at <http://www.redhatsociety.com/> for more information on the society, joining a chapter in your area, or even starting your own chapter.

There are no societal rules, but there is a protocol to follow. For example, the founder of each chapter is referred to as the *Queen Mom*, full members are called *Red Hatters* and members who are under 50 are referred to as *Pink Hatters*.

The *Red Hatters* generally meet once a month to attend a special outing, which could be anything from dinner, to movies, to shopping trips, but their favorite activity is hosting a tea party. The activities vary and are unique to each chapter. The goal of the Red Hat Society is to have fun. As you may have noticed, most members decorate their hats with various eye-catching ornaments and often dress in purple.

The Red Hat Society publishes a bi-monthly magazine entitled, *Red Hat Society LifeStyle*. The society has published two books *Red Hat Society's Laugh Lines: Stories of Inspiration and Hattitude* (Cooper, 2005) and *Red Hat Society: Fun and Friendship After Fifty* (Cooper, 2004).

Hope this helps Carol. It sounds like the *Red Hatters* are a lot of fun.

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Joseph, J. *Warning*. Retrieved June 27, 2005, from <http://www.poemhunter.com/p/m/poem.asp?poet=6807&poem=31671>

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.



# AUSU THIS MONTH



## AUSU Course Evaluations

Would you like to know what your fellow students have thought of an AU course? If so, you are not alone. Many students find the input of their peers invaluable when selecting courses or a program of study. AU students may not have cafeterias and hallways in which to share this knowledge, but AUSU has provided an alternative: AUSU Course and Program Evaluation surveys.

Accessible through the "Course Evaluations" link on the right side of the top bar of AUSU.org, these surveys ask a series of questions about AUSU courses and programs. Each student may rate each course or program only once, to ensure the validity of the results, so you must be logged in to access a survey form. Anyone, however, may view the results. If you haven't already, please rate some courses you have taken so that others may benefit from your experience. Note: these surveys are not the same as the ones that AU distributes with their course manuals. No AU staff or faculty member has access to the AUSU website, nor can they determine who has filled out a survey. Your anonymity is assured.

## AUSU Discussion Forums and Chat

Looking for a way to interact with fellow students? Check out the AUSU discussion forums and chatroom, accessible through the top menu bar of AUSU.org. The forums contain many sections to address a wide variety of student interests. You'll find the most students in the General Student Chat section, but you may also wish to use one of the province or city-specific forums to speak with AU students in your local area.

## The AUSU Office has Moved

The Edmonton Learning Centre, 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, has moved to a new location in downtown Edmonton. The phone numbers and email addresses at the ELC remain the same. Watch AUSU.org for some photos of our new office once we get everything unpacked! Our new mailing address is: Athabasca University Students' Union, Peace Hills Trust Tower, 1200, 10011 109 St., Edmonton, AB T5J 3S8

## AUSU Needs Volunteer Mentors

AUSU needs volunteer mentors to help new students adjust to AU and distance education. If you're an experienced AU student 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 help new students succeed with 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>



## Simply By Getting Out of Bed On This Ordinary Morning You Could...

- Be hit and killed by the Number 17 bus.
- Find a beehive beneath your floorboards.
- Be abducted by aliens and forced to attend intergalactic cocktail parties where peculiar customs prevail.
- Crush beneath your boot a beetle whose brain and nervous system are more complex than the most powerful computer ever invented.
- Watch poltergeists lift and spin your kitchen table.
- Unknowingly set into motion a series of bizarre events that will ultimately lead to your:
  - a) imprisonment in a Turkish prison;
  - b) conversion to Scientology; and
  - c) engagement in oral sex with a three-thumbed ornithologist.
- Learn to tango.
- Offend a vengeful deity and find yourself transformed into a ferret or a rubber boot.
- Be trapped in a ruby mine.
- Find a lump on your testicle or breast.
- Compose a madrigal.
- Buy a coffee from Tim Hortons™ and receive a Roman coin in amongst your change.
- Get drunk on vodka and find yourself enlisted in the French Foreign Legion.
- Be diagnosed with a vision disease that will eventually result in only being able to see the colour purple.
- Come across a recipe for roasted tulips.
- Find a severed head in your herb garden.
- Draw a magic circle and sell your soul to the Devil.
- Fall in love with a cowboy who loves barbeques and Dostoevsky.
- Examine yourself and find fireflies trapped in your armpit hair.
- Witness a Buddhist monk stealing a cherry pie that was cooling on a window ledge.
- Find a voodoo doll formed in your likeness hidden beneath the cushions of your love seat.
- Discover the profile of Sigmund Freud on a slice of burnt toast.
- Develop a twitch.
- Receive a love letter from a mysterious admirer written in blood on a scrap of cloth from a scarecrow's trousers.
- Watch your infant child take her very first steps.
- Contact Amelia Earhardt on an Ouija Board.
- Break a mirror causing seven years bad luck.
- Stumble across an ancient burial ground or a new law of physics.
- Be clawed to death by a roving pack of rabid feral cats.
- Wander into an antique shop and on impulse buy a nineteenth century engraving of an elephant bearing a palanquin.
- Look up into the afternoon sky and see a jet-black tornado cloud bearing down on you.
- See a trumpeter swan sitting in the branches of your plum tree.
- Develop a taste for brussels sprouts.
- Win the lottery.
- Witness the apocalypse.
- Step through a crack in the garden wall and find yourself transported to a parallel dimension.
- Order the perfect Crepes Suzette.
- Choke on a chicken bone.
- Discover who let the dogs out.
- Realize, at last, that everything you know might just be wrong.

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 [voice@ausu.org](mailto:voice@ausu.org), attn: Debbie Jabbour



### SCIENTIFIC RESOURCE LOST

*Debbie Jabbour*

University researchers and scholars are mourning the loss of a valuable scientific resource. After extensive negotiation, The Canadian Museum of Civilization has agreed to allow a Quebec native group to rebury the bones of 90 ancient aboriginals, artifacts that had comprised a treasured research collection. Some of the bones are at least 5000 years old, from Morrison Island, one of North America's most important Stone Age sites. The site is one of the best-preserved and oldest aboriginal settlements from prehistoric Canada, and the bones are considered by scientists to be an invaluable clue to the migration of ancient people to the new world.

Susan Pfeiffer, dean of graduate studies at the University of Toronto, was a young anthropologist when she earned her PhD researching these remains 30 years ago. She is saddened by the decision, stating that scientists still have much to learn from studying the collection, particularly as research methods continue to advance. Assuming the remains would be held by the museum in perpetuity, she admits that she hadn't even x-rayed them, and DNA evidence has not been collected.

The Kitigan Zibi First Nation has been pressuring the museum to return the bones to the Algonquin community for reburial since 2002. Although the museum argued that artifacts more than 1000 years old cannot be reliably affiliated with any modern day native group, the Algonquin group insisted that "their spirit will not lay to rest until they have been returned in a proper way from where they came." Recognizing that future archaeological research depends on maintaining a good relationship with aboriginal communities in the area, museum officials reluctantly acceded to the request. They acknowledge, however, that the reburial represents a loss of scientific knowledge. Smithsonian anthropologist Dennis Stanford and University of California molecular biologist Douglas Wallace, who recently fought a similar legal battle over the Kennewick Man skeleton in Washington State, begged the university not to give up the remains, arguing for the significance of the Morrison Island collection, stating that scientists "need to stick to their guns and the people of Canada need to rally behind the scientists" (Boswell, 2005).

Boswell, R. (2005, June 21). Reburial of aboriginal bones a grave loss of science: Skeletons from Stone Age sites could hold clues to New World migration. The Edmonton Journal. Canada.com news:

<http://www.canada.com/edmonton/edmontonjournal/news/story.html?id=3c67879c-cb16-44de-a632-d6ad9897462b>

More on Kennewick Man:

[http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/kman/kman\\_home.htm](http://www.washington.edu/burkemuseum/kman/kman_home.htm) - <http://www.cr.nps.gov/aad/kennewick/>

## ***Women You Should Know***

*Compiled by Barbara Godin*

### **Dorothea Lynde Dix (1802-1887)**

Dorothea Lynde Dix was born April 4, 1802 in Hampden, Maine. Dorothea was a social reformer, teacher and author of children's books. At the age of fifteen, she began a school for girls, as they were not permitted to attend public schools. While working as a substitute teacher at the Massachusetts jail in 1841, Miss Dix discovered that mental patients were housed along-side prisoners. The insane were chained in dungeon cells and living in dreadful conditions. After traveling at length, she discovered that this situation was countrywide. Appalled by these conditions, Dix became an advocate for the rights of mental patients. She lobbied government officials to improve the treatment of the mentally ill. She spent years campaigning for change. As a result of her efforts, the number of mental hospitals grew tenfold over a period of 20 years. Therefore, it was no longer necessary for mental patients to be jailed like common criminals. Within each mental hospital that Dix created, an apartment was set aside for her exclusive use. During the last five years of Dorothea Dix's life, she became very ill and stayed in an apartment in the New Jersey State Hospital, where she died on July 17, 1887. She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1979.

#### **Sources for additional information**

*Dorothea Dix* - <http://www.webster.edu/~woolf1m/dorotheadix.html>

North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services (2005). *Biography of Dorothea Lynde Dix*. <http://www.dhhs.state.nc.us/mhddsas/DIX/dorothea.html>





## From Where I Sit

Hazel Anaka

### Head Case

Checking dictionaries and medical books for the meaning of the word *skull* yields all sorts of interesting facts. My dictionary defines it as "a bone framework enclosing the brain of a vertebrate" (Soanes & Stevenson, 2004). From my medical books, I learned that the cranium is the domed back, top and sides of the skull comprised of eight bones. The facial section consists of fourteen smaller bones that protect the eyes, ears and nose. The entire skull rests on the uppermost vertebra known as the *atlas* and allows for the nodding motion. The *atlas* in combination with the second vertebra (or *axis*) permits side-to-side movement. My *Concise Gray's Anatomy* (Leonard & Gray, 1997) even offers dissection hints for heads and necks. That's a little more information than I needed!

Further research reveals information about possible head injuries as a result of falls, blows to the head, or motor vehicle collisions. Open or closed fractures, concussions, bleeding, temporary or permanent damage are all possible consequences. Brain injury groups work hard to raise awareness of this invisible condition and its consequences. A colleague in the art group to which I belong to lives with a brain injury as a result of a beating by a previous boyfriend. Though lucky to survive the incident, she lives with its results every day. Gillian must deal with various challenges including a lack of memory capacity, shortness of attention span, and difficulty with reading comprehension, particularly in regards to reading numbers.

Why this sudden interest in skulls and brains you may ask? In the course of a totally preventable accident, I suffered a blow to the head. I was outside painting the first of two large wooden cupboards. While sitting on a stool to reach the lowest compartment, a gust of wind blew the second one over striking me on the upper-left back part of my head. Shocked and scared, the first thing I did was to retrieve my glasses and start crying. It seemed like an appropriate response.

From my days as an EMT (emergency medical technician), I knew a concussion was a real possibility. I had the presence of mind to check my pupils for reactivity, knew I didn't have a discharge from my ears, knew I hadn't lost consciousness, I wasn't dizzy or confused, I didn't have blurry vision, I wasn't


nauseated or sleepy, and I had no bump or bleeding. I also worried about the impact to my neck and shoulders. I was fortunate. I wondered just how thick a skull and other body parts have to be to sustain a blow like that and not suffer from a lasting impact. I couldn't believe my luck. Especially when I remembered that people as myopic as I am are at risk for retinal detachment because of a fall or blow to the head.

Just as a precaution I called *Health Link* (a local health resource providing access to nursing advice and health information), visited an emergency room, and ten days later saw an optometrist. An alignment by a chiropractor is still to be done.

I am struck by the thought of how my life could have ended or changed forever in an instant. I'm grateful that I have a thick skull to protect my brain. I'm reminded of the precious gift of my body's construction. I will try to take better care of it, from where I sit.

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Soanes, C. & Stevenson, A., eds. (2004). *Concise Oxford English Dictionary*. Oxford University Press. June 30/05, <http://0-www.oxfordreference.com.aupac.lib.athabascau.ca:80/views/ENTRY.html?subview=Main&entry=t23.e52611>



# Searching for Internships

**Lonita Fraser**

## The Hansard Scholars Programme London, England

[http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/programmes/study\\_programme](http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/programmes/study_programme)

Autumn: Sep - Dec

Internships in the British political system with placements with an MP in the House of Commons, a Peer in the House of Lords, a parliamentary clerk, or other political organisations that could involve work with think tanks, human rights groups, campaign groups, lobbyists, law firms, research organisations, or policy makers. Three days a week are spent in the internship placement, and take two lecture courses designed to provide background knowledge for the internship experience. You will also work on a research project of your choice. The programme includes guest lecturers concentrating on topics of importance to UK politics.

Fees include registration and tuition at the London School of Economics, entitling you to membership at the British Library of Political Science, an LSE email account, use of the LSE IT facilities, Student Union membership, and access to all student facilities, as well as other facilities offered by other colleges of the University of London.

Each semester also includes a number of cultural events and excursions including theatre trips and political study visits to Oxford and Edinburgh. The four-day Edinburgh visit includes a tour of the Scottish Parliament and lectures on Scottish law and politics from a number of high profile speakers. Scholars will have the opportunity to debate current issues surrounding Europe and international politics.

A total of 15 credits are awarded on successful completion of the Programme.

### Qualifications

- The Hansard Scholars Programme is open to both undergraduates and graduates. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required.
- Previous experience in British politics is not necessary.
- Candidates should display genuine interest in politics, enthusiasm, and the necessary integrity to work at all levels of Government and Parliament, as well as other British political organisations.

Cost in US\$ - \$10,000 - \$12,000

### Cost Includes

The Programme fees are 6,350 (British pounds sterling) and include: all tuition at the LSE and registration, accommodation, a London travelcard (for unlimited travel in central London), political study visits to Edinburgh and Oxford and cultural trips.

### Application Process:

- Letters of Reference
- Resume
- Transcript
- Written Application

### Post Services Include:

- Alumni Network

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

*Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi*

### Canadian Marketing Association (CMA) Student RSVP Awards

Value: \$500, CMA membership, Strategy Magazine profile and subscription

Application Deadline: Varies

Applicant must be attending any Canadian college or university in business, marketing, commerce, advertising or design.

Applicant must not be currently employed in a marketing-related position. Must submit marketing or creative campaign based on selected case study.

Applicant must be coached by professor / instructor.

Deadlines are June 9, June 30 and July 21

Entrance fees vary depending on time submission

For further information please visit the website posted below

Contact: Canadian Marketing Association (CMA)

Web Site: [www.the-cma.org/awards/welcome.html](http://www.the-cma.org/awards/welcome.html)

### Michael Luchkovich Scholarships for Career Development

Administrator: Alberta Scholarship Programs

Award Amount: \$2,000.00

Must have been working full-time in Alberta for a minimum of three years. Program of study may be up to six months of full-time study or up to one year of part-time study.

Deadlines are December 1st, April 1st and August 1st.

Contact: Alberta Scholarship Program

9940 - 106 Street, 9th Floor, P.O. Box 28000, Station Main, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4R4

Phone: (780) 427-8640

Fax: (780) 422-4516

Web Site: <http://www.alberta-learning.ab.ca/scholarships>

E-mail: [heritage@gov.ab.ca](mailto:heritage@gov.ab.ca)

Application Address: <http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/scholarships/forms.asp>





**The 2005 Society for Arts In Healthcare  
Conference - No Borders: pARTners in HEALTHcare**

June 22, 2005 - June 25, 2005  
Edmonton, Alberta  
<http://www.thesah.org/annual>

**Universal Village: Livable Communities in the 21st  
Century**

June 15, 2005 - Washington, DC, USA  
<http://www.aarp.org/livable>

**2005 Hawaii International Conference on Sciences**

June 18, 2005 - June 20, 2005 - Honolulu  
<http://www.hicsciences.org>

**Cultures of eBay**

August 24, 2005 - August 25, 2005 - Colchester,  
England  
[http://www.essex.ac.uk/chimera/culturesofebay.ht  
ml](http://www.essex.ac.uk/chimera/culturesofebay.html)

**Canadian Science Writers' Assoc. 34th Annual  
Conference**

18 to 21 June 2005 - Jasper, Alberta, Canada  
<http://www.sciencewriters.ca/>

**Murder In The Grove**

10 to 11 June 2005 - Boise, Idaho, United States  
<http://www.murderinthegrove.com>

**5th Annual Country Schoolhouse Conference**

20 to 22 June 2005 - Barbourville, Kentucky, United  
States  
<http://public.unionky.edu/countryschoolconference>

**Sexual Rights and Moral Panics**

21 to 24 June 2005 - San Francisco, California, United  
States  
<http://iasscs.sfsu.edu>

**Society for Historians of American Foreign  
Relations Conference**

22 June 2005 - College Park, Maryland, United States  
<http://www.shafr.org/cfp.htm>

**10th International D.H. Lawrence Conference**

26 June 2005 - Santa Fe, New Mexico, United States  
<http://www.wsu.edu/~hydev/dhl/dhlsna.htm>

**2005 Government & Health Technologies Forum**

August 30-31, 2005 - Ottawa, ON  
<http://gov.wowgao.com>

**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/>.

**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

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

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