

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

March 31, 2006
Volume 14 Issue 12



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

Bushwoman Bonnie grows her hair and donates to Wigs for Kids for the third time! A three-peat endeavour! Funds this year go to the Canadian Diabetes Association !

Bonnie (aka "Bushwoman" Nahornick is hosting the Canadian Diabetes Association Fundraiser) on April 1, 2006. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the Canadian Diabetes Association and her hair will be donated to Wigs for Kids. Bonnie works in the Calgary Learning Center of Athabasca University as a student advisor.

Date: April 1, 2006
Location: c/o AUPE Calgary,
#600, One Executive Place,
1816 Crowchild Trail NW
Time: 2:00 to 4:00 pm

The Master Cutting will be performed by Robert Lawrence and then he'll shave Bonnie's head after the locks have been cut. The hair will be donated to Wigs for Kids, a not-for-profit organization providing hair replacement for children affected by hair loss due to chemotherapy, alopecia, burns and other medical conditions.

If you wish to sponsor Bonnie (funds are being collected for the **Canadian Diabetes Association**), note that cheques, made out to the CDA, can be post-dated for April 1, 2006. It is possible to donate by cheque, cash and/or charge card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express). Income tax receipts will be issued on donations over \$15. For more information, please contact Bonnie (aka "Bushwoman") at 860-6569 or email baldster2006@yahoo.ca

The 2006 Hair Event Canadian Diabetes Fund Raiser - April 1, 2006
For further information, please contact Bonnie Nahornick @ 860-6569

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The Plagiarism Plight

by Betty Schrader



Plagiarism is a word that incites feelings of indignation, shame, and dishonor. The thought that a student would steal another's ideas or work is reprehensible. It is unethical and deserves punishment. In all fairness to students who have worked for their grades, those students who have claimed another's work as their own should not be rewarded. But what is a just method of determining whether a student is guilty of plagiarism? And what is a suitable punishment?

How can a university maintain high standards of academic honesty? Some would argue that to maintain credibility as a degree-granting institution, a

university is obliged to submit student papers to an electronic plagiarism detector, such as [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com). While this sounds like a good idea, I suggest there are some problems with this solution.

Firstly, the assumption of dishonesty makes all students feel like criminals. It is akin to having a relationship with a person who assumes you are a liar. This does not form the basis for a trusting relationship. Don McCabe, president of the Center for Academic Integrity, Duke University, Durham, NC states, "The cornerstone of an effective honor code is that you trust students to be honest" (McCarroll, 2001). I tend to agree. It is difficult to relax and learn in an environment of mistrust. To have each student submit to an electronic plagiarism detector is like subjecting each driver to a breathalyzer test, even though there is no reason to suspect the driver has been drinking.

Secondly, there may be cases where an honest student claims his or her thoughts were original, even though a very similar work has been published elsewhere. To understand how this could happen, consider the rationale for copywriting work or patenting inventions. It wouldn't be the first time that a scientist who invented something learns that someone else has already patented that same invention. Unless the inventor can prove his or her ideas were stolen, it would be fair to assume that both inventors came up with the same idea and that neither inventor is guilty of theft.

As human beings, we share many similar experiences and feelings. From childhood, many of us have been exposed to a similar body of educational materials and have been influenced by the same great thinkers. Perhaps it is not so far-fetched to believe that two people could come up with the same ideas without one having stolen from the other.

Finally, there may be cases where an honest student could use others' ideas stored in his or her subconscious, without realizing they were not original thoughts. Consider for a moment all the books and articles you have read; all the lectures, speeches and songs you have heard; and all the ideas and philosophies you have been exposed to in your lifetime. There is a staggering amount of information stored subconsciously in your mind. In a court case, singer Michael Bolton was accused of stealing lyrics from the Isley Brother's 1966 hit, "Love is a Wonderful Thing." The court found Bolton and Goldmark guilty of plagiarism. The court decision stated that, "It is entirely plausible that two Connecticut teenagers obsessed with rhythm and blues music could remember an Isley Brothers song that was played on the radio and television for a few weeks and subconsciously copy it 20 years later" (Rosen, 2000). This case raises an interesting point. If we can be found guilty of something we cannot consciously remember, we are all at risk of being found guilty of plagiarism.

There is something particularly unsettling about appointing a computer program to assess the work of human beings. A computer's memory is nearly limitless and perfect. In contrast, the human memory is very limited and imperfect. It is possible that a student could use ideas stored in his or her subconscious, without realizing they were not his or her own thoughts. A computer program could mistakenly accuse this

student of plagiarism. I remain somewhat cautious about putting complete trust in technology. Speedometers are generally (but not always) accurate and computer programs have been known to have bugs and glitches.

So, what is to be done about plagiarism? If the university should assume students are generally truthful, how is a plagiarist to be caught and punished? I would suggest that only those papers that seem uncharacteristic of the student's writing style and ability be run through an electronic plagiarism detector. If a student is found to be guilty of blatant plagiarism (i.e., large portions of material copied word-for-word), he or she should be given a failing mark and expelled from the course. Otherwise, the assumption should be that the student is honest and is submitting his or her own work.

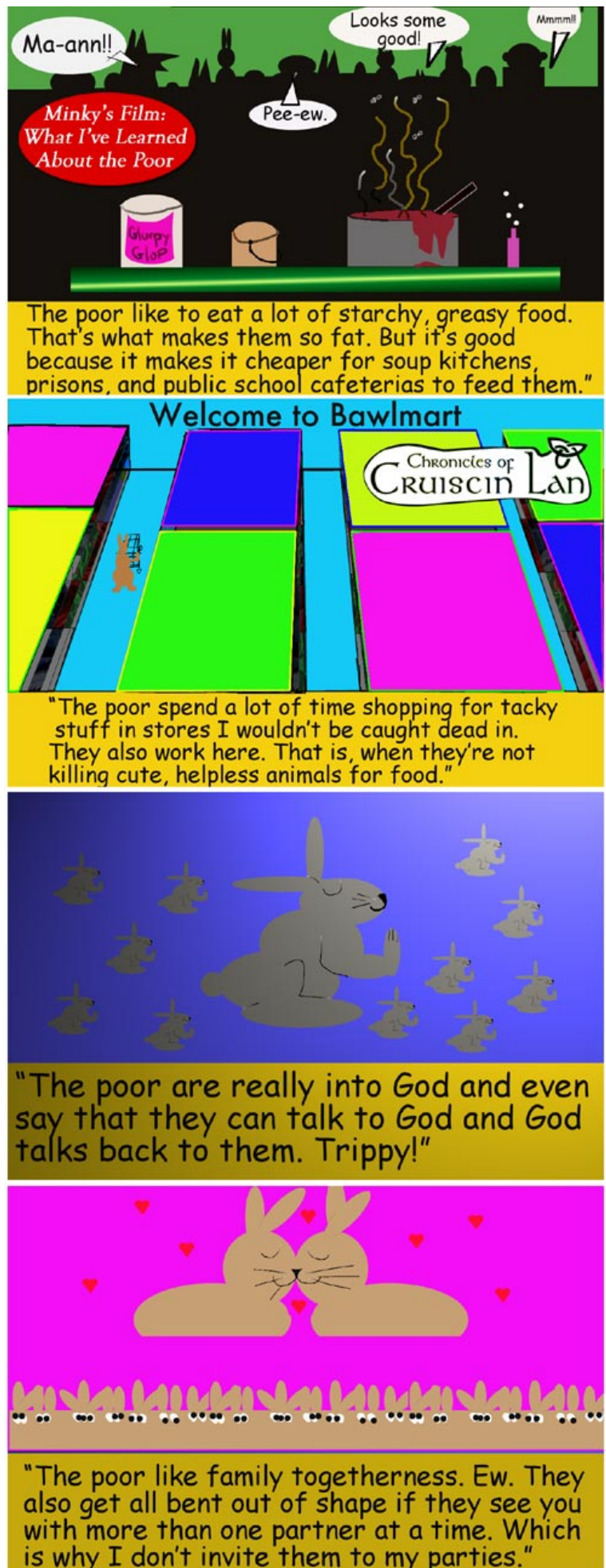
What about the plagiarist who doesn't get caught? Perhaps the plagiarist is his or her own worst enemy. How can a person who has not struggled through the learning process succeed at their place of employment? How much guilt and shame will that person carry? How much satisfaction will that degree give the person who has attained it dishonestly? Perhaps this punishment is sufficient.

While it is dishonest to claim another's ideas as our own, the line between our ideas and others' ideas can sometimes blur. If we are required to have a computer-like memory for recalling the source of every snippet of information we have ever learned, every phrase that is indelibly etched on our minds, and every thought that did not originate from ourselves, ultimately we may all be found guilty of plagiarism.

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Seaweed Ethnobotany

While hiking the rocky shorelines of coastal British Columbia this February, I was struck with an acute sense of curiosity about a world of organisms about which I, and many inland dwellers, know so little. I am referring to the seaweeds. Rarely mentioned in general botanical literature, this group of marine algae is in fact of great historical, cultural and economic importance. Used as food and in medicine and technology for centuries, by peoples from Japan to Britain to North America's Pacific Northwest coast, the little-discussed seaweed stands out as an under-appreciated member of the world's flora.

Belonging to the Kingdom Protista (as opposed to Plantae), seaweeds are not actually plants *per se*. However, given that biological investigation has been roughly divided into the study of animals (zoology) and the study of non-animals, seaweed science, or phycology, fall to us the botanists.

Macroscopic seaweeds, those of greatest significance from an ethnobotanical perspective, fall into two main phylogenetic divisions, the red algae (Rhodophyta) and the brown algae (Phaeophyta). Both of these divisions are primarily marine in origin, and each is immensely diverse. There are approximately 4,000 species of red algae and 1,500 species of brown algae. The Rhodophyta predominate in warmer, tropical waters while the Phaeophyta comprise most of the algae found in cooler regions of the world.

A red algae familiar to many of us is that known to the Japanese as *nori*. A night out at a Japanese restaurant wouldn't be complete without a serving of sushi (rice and miscellaneous other goodies surrounded by a delicate wrapping of this tasty seaweed). As for a representative of the brown algae, even the most casual of seaside visitors would be hard pressed to miss the conspicuous bull kelp, a ubiquitous seaweed found along both of our continent's coasts. With its ball-like float and long hollow stipe, this unmistakable algae provides a gratifying identification experience for the newly-emerging seaweed aficionado.

Seaweed ethnobotany is made particularly interesting by the fact that these organisms are as important to human cultures worldwide now as they ever have been. An important source of food historically, seaweeds remain particularly significant in Asian fare. In fact, even today, 10 per cent of the Japanese diet is comprised of seaweeds in one form or another. And technologically speaking, seaweeds remain invaluable. Used historically in a variety of applications, including fishing and food storage (e.g., the coastal First Nations of British Columbia used the long stipe of bull kelp in deep sea fishing, and they used the bulb as a water-tight storage container for important fats, such as seal oil). Seaweeds are used today for a multitude of purposes.

Seaweed derivatives are used in everything from cosmetics to paint to ice cream and as a substrate for biochemical experimentation (remember the high school Petri dish). The basis for a multi-billion dollar industry worldwide, seaweeds constitute an important part of the global economy. The jelly-like substance that can be extracted from a variety of these algae provides an excellent stabilizer

and emulsifier for a variety of food and industrial purposes. Browse the ingredients in the dairy section of the grocery store and you're likely to see the words carrageenan and agar. Both of these ingredients are seaweed derivatives that act to thicken and firm up our yogurts, ice creams and a diversity of other products.

Seaweed's historical importance is evidenced by the fact that algae such as *Porphyra* (a red algae and of the genus to which *nori* belongs) have been cultivated in Asia for centuries. This specialized form of marine aquaculture was already a significant affair in Japan in the 1600s, when seaweed 'farmers' would root bamboo stakes in the sea floor to act as a substrate for *nori* growth.

But seaweeds have been an important part of people's diets far beyond Asia. Throughout the British Isles, *Porphyra* species (also known as laver) were an important food. Pounded, mixed with oats, and often fried as a cake, laver bread was, and still is in some cases, widely eaten. A good source of many nutrients, these cakes have been referred to as a complete survival food.

The annual harvest of *Porphyra* species by First Nations peoples of the Pacific Northwest was a significant cultural event. Along the British Columbia coast, early spring was considered prime harvest time. The algae, tender and sweet at this time of year, provided an important green vegetable at a point when terrestrial greens were not yet ready for consumption.

Due to the incredibly rapid growth of some edible seaweeds (certain species can grow an inch per day during the summer), multiple harvests were even possible. Interestingly, people would use cues from the terrestrial plant world to help determine the optimal time for harvest and re-harvest. The flowering or leaf expansion of trees, herbs and berry bushes acted as a sort of calendar, indicating when seaweed collection should take place.

Nutritionally speaking, seaweeds are a mixed bag. Many species are rich in protein and carbohydrates and are, almost universally, excellent sources of essential minerals such as calcium and potassium (a 100 gram portion of kelp provides over 1000 mg of calcium), as well as a variety of other trace elements. However, the protein and carbohydrates present in seaweeds are often nutritionally inaccessible because humans lack the enzymes required to break them down. *Porphyra* is the most notable exception. Humans are actually able to access 75 per cent of the algae's protein content, an exceptionally high proportion of accessible protein for seaweed.

As is the case in the terrestrial environment, concerns exist about the future health of the ecological systems of which these organisms are a part. In both Britain and North America, concerns have been raised about contamination of marine algae. Consumption of seaweed by people in the British Isles, for example, has begun to decline as fears about nuclear contamination of this resource become more serious. And on the Pacific coast of North America, contamination of seaweeds by effluent from pulp and paper mills worries traditional harvesters. Add to this industrial-style resource over-extraction, and those who have relied on these marine algae for centuries have real cause for concern.

However, the humble seaweed has managed to pull off remarkable feats in the past. It is hoped that, with such a rich history, such a significant part in the global economy, and playing such a vital role in cultures worldwide, the unassuming seaweed may be just the ticket the oceans need to bring their ecological plight into the public eye.



Women You Should Know

Compiled by Barbara Godin

The more science learns what life is, the more reluctant scientists are to define it.

- Leila M. Coyne, 1985

March 3, 1678 - heroine, **Marie Madelaine Jarret de Vercheres** was born in Quebec Canada. When only a teenager, she became an unlikely heroine when she and her siblings defended the family fort against attack. Madelaine's story is included in the Dictionary of Canadian Biography.

March 10, 1796 - writer **Julia Catherine Hart** was born in Fredericton, New Brunswick. She wrote her first book "St. Ursula's Convent" or "The Nun of Canada" when she was only 17 years old. Her book was the first published book of fiction written by a native

born Canadian

March 10, 1861 - poet **Emily Pauline Johnson** was born on Six Nations Indian Reserve Canada. She was the first native born, Cultural Ambassador. She worked for unity for all people. Emily Pauline Johnson's biography *Flint and Feather*, published in 2002 and written by Charlotte Gray, won the University of British Columbia medal for biography.

March 5, 1916 - member of the Canadian Hall of Fame, **Phyllis Dewar** was born. She held every single Canadian freestyle swimming record from 100 yards to one mile in both 1934 and 1935. As a result, she was selected as the Canadian Woman Athlete of the Year in 1934. The same year she won a gold medal at the British Empire Games.

March 30, 1932 - pilot, **Amelia Earhart** was the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic. In 1935, she became the first person to fly solo from Hawaii to the Mainland. On June 1, 1937, Amelia began a round the world flight accompanied by Fred Noonan. They missed their expected landing and were never heard from again.

March 6, 1942 - artist **Irene F. Whittome** was born. Sculptures and etchings were her chosen medium and she held many one-woman shows throughout several Canadian galleries and museums. Her work received much acclaim, including the Victor Martyn-Staunton Award in 1991. In 2002, she received a Governor General's Visual and Media Arts Award.

March 27, 1962 - Juno award winning musician **Jann Arden** was born in Calgary, Alberta. Jann battled alcoholism at a young age. She released her first album in 1993 and continues to produce hit records.

March 18, 1964 - Olympic Gold Metal winner, **Bonnie Blair** was born. She was a speed skater who won five Olympic Gold Medals and one bronze during the Winter Olympics in 1984, 1988, 1992, and 1994.

Government should ensure access to education, says Rae

By Bryna Hallam

CUP British Columbia Bureau Chief



VICTORIA (CUP) -- Bob Rae, a potential contender for the Liberal leadership, shared his views on education at a public lecture at the University of Victoria March 28.

Rae, a former NDP premier of Ontario, called for a "national vision" in education.

"Education and the learning agenda has to become a much bigger part of our national life than it has ever been," he said. "We need a national vision to make learning a real priority." Without that, he said, we will fall behind economically, which could affect our standard of living and social programs.

Rae said he is strong believer of the "Billie Holiday school of public policy," explaining that the famous singer said, "I've been rich and I've been poor, and rich is better."

"If you want to distribute wealth, you have to have the wealth to distribute."

For that reason, he said, we have to get away from the false dichotomy between the economy and social justice and recognize that the two areas are connected.

"In a modern economy, it takes educated people, it takes a good infrastructure, it takes liveable communities, it takes a sustainable environment, it takes a whole range of investments that make for a quality of life and in fact create the conditions for prosperity."

Rae also recognized that education has value beyond just the economy, noting that it provides opportunities for Canadians. Seventy per cent of all new jobs require post secondary education; however, only 50 per cent of this generation attends college or university.

According to Rae, cost of education is a concern, but the biggest barrier to access is not tuition, but time out of the workforce—the money you're not making while going to school—and the living cost.

"The federal government should be saying to all Canadians, 'You have a right to an education, and we will make sure that there are no financial barriers to your attending college or university. We will ensure that Aboriginal people can go to college and university. We will ensure that people who are new to the country can go to college and university. And in fact we will provide you with the means to do that.'"

Although education is the jurisdiction of the provinces, he said there is nothing stopping the federal government from ensuring access for students. He did maintain, however, that the federal government cannot—and should not—reduce tuition fees.

In his 2005 review of education in Ontario, Rae recommended the end of the province's tuition freeze and increased student financial aid.

"From my experience in life, you can't ever improve the quality of something unless you're prepared to invest in it, whether you invest in it as an individual or as a government," he said.

"I think there's been a tendency to overestimate the cost of education and underestimate the value."

Concordia administration removes copies of student newspaper from stands

Editors question whether move was politically motivated

By Erika Meere

CUP Québec Bureau Chief

MONTREAL (CUP) -- The Concordia University administration removed copies of the Link from stands yesterday, leaving editors of the independent newspaper questioning whether the move was an attempt to interfere in the student union elections.

Tracey Lindeman-Jarvis, Editor in Chief of the Link, was informed on Wednesday at around noon that people were removing copies of the Link from stands in the lobby of the Hall Building, the main building on Concordia's downtown campus.

The most recent issue, which came out on Tuesday, contained several articles that were highly critical of the Concordia Student Union (CSU) for their treatment of the Quebec branch of the Canadian Federation of Students, a worker's union, and the People's Potato, a student-run kitchen. In addition, the issue included an editorial and many letters exposing the weaknesses of Experience, the slate favoured by the current CSU executive.

After going to the lobby and finding half of the newspapers missing, Lindeman-Jarvis and business manager Rachel Boucher went to Distribution Services, the university department responsible for receiving the newspaper before copies are taken to the stands. There, they saw 500 copies of the newspaper locked in a room, which they immediately had returned to stands in the lobby.

According to Lindeman-Jarvis, when Boucher and news editor Maria Abi-Habib later spoke to Facilities Operations director Rick Young about the missing copies, they were given mixed reasons for their removal. Young initially told them that he received a complaint that newspapers posed a fire hazard, and later that the lobby needed to be cleaned up for the student union elections.

"It just seems really suspicious," said Lindeman-Jarvis. "It's so obvious that the administration has a lot to gain or lose [in the student election]. It's all about the university's reputation."

Lindeman-Jarvis further described the current Concordia Student Union executive as an extension of the university administration. She said that the university, which is offering thousands of dollars in prizes as an incentive for students to vote.

Young did not return a request for comment. However, Media Relations director Chris Mota said Lindeman-Jarvis' suggestion was unwarranted, and that the removal of Link issues was an honest mistake for which Young apologized profusely, and immediately rectified.

Once Lindeman-Jarvis and other editors had retrieved the issues, they replaced them on the stands.

"The university has no intention of interfering in student elections. It never has and has no plans of doing so in the future," said Mota.

The CSU operates with a slate system, meaning that students vote for the student union executive as a single unit, and not as individuals. The current executive, known as Evolution, is seeking to be replaced by Experience, a slate with a very similar platform.

Time for King Ralph's reign to end

Klein's support dwindling because of his antics—even among his supporters

By Adam Gaumont

The Gateway (University of Alberta)

EDMONTON (CUP) -- If you're like me—that is, someone who has their grade ten—you probably aren't a big fan of Ralph Klein. But, since you're an Albertan, you probably voted for him anyway. This political paradox is a disturbingly common one in our province, but given poor old Ralph's deteriorating mental state, such party-based voting is becoming increasingly inadvisable.

I'm not so naïve as to question whether there's anyone who supports Klein's Progressive Conservative Party or its agenda. That said, it is truly baffling why anyone, even the staunchest PC supporter, would want him at the helm. Sure, his right-wing followers might like the fact that he stifles opposition and criticism, rules his party with an iron fist and stubbornly defends (or embarrasses, depending on how you look at it) our province from the evil others. There are doubtlessly many who even share his views on homelessness and unemployment, and, when driving by homeless shelters, would have their drivers pull over so that they, too, could yell at residents to get a job and throw pocket change at their feet.

But Klein is also an under-educated, visionless, temperamental recovering alcoholic who throws books at teenage girls—and nobody likes to see that in a leader, not even other PC members.

As we have seen recently, support within the party is at an all-time low, and Klein's irrational and self-indulgent decision to announce a final, two-year farewell parade has done nothing to help this cause. The level of confidence that Klein's own Tories have in him will be revealed this weekend, as the party's Annual General Meeting will be held. A minority of support would trigger a leadership election, and while this is highly unlikely, many experts are calling for a significant departure from his usual 100 per cent status.

Another high-profile conservative politician whose approval rating has plummeted recently is George Bush. Bush, unlike Klein, has not been getting the results people want, and finds himself in more political hot water than Klein, despite his best efforts, ever could. Yet despite Bush's obvious failings, at least he possesses certain characteristics that many find appealing: for one thing, he's a strong, motivated leader, and his particular brand of down-home simplicity appeals greatly to Southern Republican voters, the bedrock of his support. Of course, strong leadership, though perhaps a sufficient condition to run a country, is not the necessary one; after all, dictators and totalitarians have traditionally been "strong leaders" as well.

Back here in Alberta, our fearless leader fortunately isn't savvy enough to establish a despotic regime. Somewhere along the line, however, Klein managed to rise to the top of the political heap, becoming leader of the PC party—and thus Premier by default in our province. Establishing himself early on, he managed to slash and burn Alberta's way out of debt at the expense of just about everything else; later on, after finding himself awash in a bounty of high-priced, high-demand natural resources, he suddenly became leader of the hottest economy in the country.

Given this prosperous state of affairs, PC supporters have typically offered up such defenses as, "Well, I don't particularly like Klein himself, but I support the party," or, "My life is comfortable, so I'm not one to complain." These are lame excuses, however, and only serve to deflect attention away from Klein himself. For the sad truth of the matter is that our province and our lifestyles could be even better if we had a different leader.

Klein's recent downfall has been a tragedy of King Lear-like proportions, only our King Ralph has few, if any, redeeming qualities, and hopes of repentance and character reform aren't looking so good. Instead, either the PC party must see the light and elect a new leader, or we'll be doomed to another two years of mediocrity and madness.

AUSU THIS MONTH



Health Plan for AUSU Members - Announced

Finally, AUSU members can save on health and dental benefits in Canada!

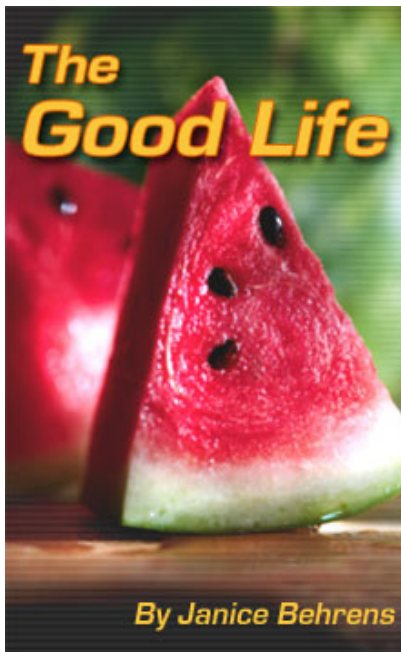
Your council has struck a deal with Student Benefits Administrators, an affiliate of Ingle International and Imagine Financial Ltd., to provide great rates to AUSU members on their commercial insurance products. The program offers a range of a-la-carte insurance services that include coverage for prescriptions, dental work, eye care and more. This program differs from those offered by other universities and students' associations in these key areas:

- the plan is available not only to AUSU members, but to all members of their families;
- the coverage can supplement other health and/or dental coverage you have in place with different providers. For example, if you have 50% dental coverage through another plan, you could "top up" your total coverage to 100% of your dental expenses;
- the coverage is flexible, to meet the needs of mature students and students in different locales;
- the plan will not be administered by your students' council, rather coverage will be set up directly through Ingle International and Imagine Financial Ltd. and Group Medical Services, who will also provide access to 1-800 support and customer service;
- this is an opt-in plan. No one is required to purchase coverage.

AUSU members who sign up for this program within 30 days of enrolment, or by May 31, 2006, are guaranteed coverage. If you opt out now but later decide you want the plan, you and your dependents (if applicable) will be asked medical questions and also have restrictions placed on your coverage should you qualify. Because this is not the limited, mandatory plan offered by many universities our rates may not be quite as low as some school plans, but our coverage options are considerably more extensive. While standard university plans are designed to provide coverage for single people in their late teens or early twenties all living in the same locale and beginning and ending studies at the same time, this plan can accommodate families and persons of all ages who study year round and live across Canada. Actual rates will vary depending on your age and location. Please visit our Health Plan web page at <http://www.ausu.org/services/healthinsurance.php> for more information and for all relevant contact information.

If you do not find your age group or location listed on the online rate sheets, or if you want additional coverage not listed with any of the plans, please call the insurer's toll-free line (the number is on the page listed above) and ask for more information about services not listed.

**AUSU has arranged for special rates for members. Tuition for AU undergrad courses includes an AUSU membership fee to cover the duration of the course plus six months. AUSU assumes no responsibility for the sale or administration of insurance services.*



What Makes it Work

I think one of the best things about being in a long-term committed relationship, growing old together as a couple, is the variety of small routines that you fall into along the way, and the multitude of small ways in which you come to rely on each other. For example, I know that on most evenings, after a long day of slaying dragons in the corporate workplace, my partner (who works as a freelancer at home) will have created a welcoming and comforting environment for me to come home to. On chilly winter evenings, there will often be a fire glowing in the living room hearth and a tasty meal waiting for us to enjoy as a family. In the summertime, there will perhaps be a picnic basket ready to take to the beach or a bottle of white plonk cooling in the fridge.

For his part, my partner knows that he can rely on me to do most of the social organizing in our lives, since (being a right-brain creative type) he has little interest in or aptitude for logistics.

Throughout our sixteen years together, my husband and I have gradually found and developed the roles that suit us best. And in our relationship, the roles that we've taken on over the years have little or nothing to do with traditional gender-based stereotyping. He does most of the cooking, and I pay the bills. He takes out the

compost and recycling, as well as does the grocery shopping, while I change the oil in the lawn mower. Together, we work in the garden and the laundry room side-by-side. We take turns with the heavy lifting of parenting an eight-year-old child.

When I was younger, I heroically believed that there should never be anything but unending romance in a relationship. I looked at the way my own parents conducted their relationship, and thought how boring it must be to live like that. Of course, there must be a healthy dose of romance and adventure in every relationship in order to make it work. Besides the pots and pans waiting to be scrubbed, there must be the occasional night of wild abandon, when you feel again all of the electricity that brought you together in the first place. On the whole, though, what makes mature, loving relationships rewarding is the comfort of knowing that you have someone who cares about the minor troubles and pleasures encountered in your life. Someone who knows how to properly massage your feet, who can always get you to laugh at yourself, and who knows that you like a sprinkle of Demerara sugar on your grapefruit.

AU STUDENTS RUN TO HELP ABUSED WOMEN

We are five normal, everyday ladies, all mums and two grandmothers, in training for this year's *Canadian Death Race*, a gruelling endurance race of 125km spanning over 24 hours and covering three mountains in Grande Cache, Alberta.

Why would we put ourselves through this? To raise money for Eagle Women's Emergency Shelter in the Foothills of Alberta, raise awareness, and help stamp out domestic violence. We have never tried anything like this but feel very strongly that domestic violence is out of control and needs to be addressed. Now.

It's a frightening fact that almost everyone knows someone who has been a victim of either physical or mental domestic abuse. We believe that increased exposure can help make victims aware that there are numbers they can call for help, and there is no need to suffer any longer. We also feel that domestic abuse and violence is a taboo subject that no one likes to acknowledge and this needs to change. Victims feel

humiliated and ashamed and we need to let them know it is ok to talk to someone and to get help.

We are now in full training for the race, and although before this all any of us had ever run was a bath and a temperature, we are determined to do as much as we can to help stop domestic violence. This is a very hard and gruelling race, but with the help and support from each other we hope to complete it and to raise as much money as possible for the shelter. If our hard work only helps one person get out of a frightening situation and gives them the strength to rebuild their life, then it will all have been worth it. Our team name is SLAP - Stop Letting Abuse Prevail. We have a team website with photos and information on each runner and about the shelter: www.runforsafety.bravehost.com

We hope you will support us in our quest to stop domestic violence. The race takes place on the August long weekend, beginning Saturday the 5th at 8am and ending Sunday the 6th at 8am. Only 19 weeks to go!!! AU student, mother and death-racer, Kim Anderson.



From
Where
I Sit
Hazel Anaka

Miracles Happen

My baby girl Hilary works as a Special Events Coordinator with the Stollery Children's Hospital Foundation in Edmonton. Over the course of the year, she takes the lead role in orchestrating several major fundraising events, the most recent being the Radiothon.

Four radio stations from the Corus Entertainment group (i.e., CISN 103.9, COOL 880, 630 CHED and JOE FM) spent three days at the Stollery doing live broadcasts from the morning show right through to 7:00 p.m. each day.

I spent five hours manning one of the 40 phones on Friday afternoon. I'd never been part of anything like this and it's really quite extraordinary to watch an event of this magnitude unfold. 17 members of the Foundation's staff, 589 volunteers, countless families, umpteen radio and technical people -- it's a wee bit mind-blowing.

Because I'm 'Hilary's mom' I was able to meet several of the DJs and people behind the scenes. Let me just say that CISN's program director Chris Scheetz is every bit as charming, funny, compassionate and down-to-earth in person as he sounds like on the radio. Whew! It's never good when the real-life persona of a celebrity is a disappointment. Equally funny and capable is Boyd Leader, program director of COOL 880 and JOE FM. I now have faces to put to the names of Hilary's colleagues. What a joy as a mother to have everyone from media people to Hilary's boss tell me what a wonderful person she is. I always knew it but it's gratifying when others recognize it as well.

The real story, of course, is the miracles being performed daily at the Stollery, the premiere children's hospital in Canada. I saw families being interviewed. I saw full-grown radiomen crying. From what I can tell, whether families have lost a child or are blessed to have had a child saved, they all gratefully articulate their story of care and compassion and the extraordinary skill of the staff.

I discovered a family from my own county who have a 10-year-old son born with spina bifida. Hilary got Chris to interview Austin one day after emergency surgery for a broken shunt (a device to keep fluid from building up on his brain). I met Sam's parents. Friday was his due date, but he had arrived two months early and underwent heart surgery at age ten days old.

Precious.

I had callers tell me they cried in their cars listening to the stories and felt compelled to call. I know that feeling. I also know I came with a one-time donation and ended up ripping up my cheque and going for the monthly gift instead. Thank God my two children were born healthy and aside from some minor health issues have never needed to spend even a day in a children's hospital. I gave because maybe someday, God forbid, I'll have a grandchild who'll need a miracle. It's the least I could do, from where I sit.



Dear Barb: I really enjoy reading your column. My partner and I have been together for many years. Our relationship is good. We get along great and have a lot of fun together. However, lately it seems that our lives have become fairly routine. Our sexual relationship also seems to be lacking the spark. It is still good, but it's just not as passionate as it used to be. Is there anything you could suggest that might help breathe new life into our intimate relationship?

Jamie in Fredericton

Hi Jamie, it sounds like you and your partner have gotten into a rut, which can easily happen when you are involved in a long-term relationship. You don't mention whether you have a family, but assuming you do, then it is very easy to get so busy that you forget about each other.

There are many things you can do in your daily lives that will improve your intimate relationship. It is important to make time for each other. Do romantic things, like make a date night. Plan a special evening either at home or at your favourite restaurant. If you have children, arrange for them to go to grandma's house for a sleepover.

Communicate with each other. Plan fifteen minutes a day to discuss and share each other's day. Say those all-important three little words "I love you" often. Sometimes just hearing your partner say those words can help to focus your priorities. Laugh together. Enjoy each other's company. Instead of sitting in front of the TV, you should pull out the scrabble board or a deck of cards. These activities will allow you to see each other as more than simply the person you share a home with. You will see each other as a friend.

The physical act of touching another person is an important aspect of an intimate relationship and goes beyond the bedroom. People often become so comfortable with each other that they don't take the time to touch. Try holding your partner's hand while walking through the mall. It may feel awkward at first, but give it time. This action will bring you closer and help you to feel a connection.

Be spontaneous. Plan a surprise getaway or arrange a vacation without telling your partner until the last minute.

You may be thinking, what do all these things have to do with our sexual lives? These are the activities that bring people together and make each other feel important and valued partners to each other.

I have given you a place to begin Jamie, where this all ends up is completely up to you and your partner. You may also want to check-out my column published a few weeks ago ([Voice, March 17, 2006](#)). I responded to a question from Vicki in B.C. and provided a list of relationship tips.

E-mail your questions to advice.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.



Shapes of the Boogey-Man

Here is the boogey-man when you're six. He hides in the shadows of your bedroom. He awakens at the sound of your parents yelling at each other downstairs. He has wild hair, matted with blood, and several rows of sharp, gleaming teeth. He has open sores, and a taste for fresh blood and flesh. The only way you can keep him at bay is to stay awake as long as you can. If you're awake, he can't murder you in your sleep.

Here is the boogey-man when you're sixteen. He lives in the shadows inside your head. He has a voice like the droning and scraping of a thousand insects, and it's reciting the words of all the people who have been angry at you or disappointed in you. You hear all the people who haven't believed in you, including yourself. He can smell the fear in you, the weakness in you, just as weasels can smell the blood of freshly hatched chickens. At your weakest hour, he whispers those poisonous words into your thoughts. The only way you can keep him at bay is to pretend as hard as you can that you do not have any weaknesses. You have to become diamond hard, titanium hard, from the inside out. If you are cruel enough, cold enough, hard enough, he may be silent for a little while, and no one will know about the invisible, twisted thing you carry about on your shoulders.

Here is the boogey-man when your thirty-six. He hides in the shadows of your life situation, and in the opinions of those around you. He speaks with the gravitas of past failures. He tells you that you're crazy to think about changing your life. Try something stupid, and you'll be living on the street. It's far too late for change now. No, you're stuck in that cubicle, that factory, that rooming house. That's all there is to life. You'd better enjoy that three-martini lunch, that needle in your vein. He keeps you awake, long into the night, with the rattling of his chains. The only way you can keep him at bay is to surrender and put away your dreams of a better place.

Here is the boogey-man in 2006. He hides in the pages of the daily newspaper, and in the lines of resolution on your plasma television screen. He screams at you in a rasping voice that is a cross between an Old Testament prophet of disaster and an infomercial announcer. He warns you about all of the other boogey-men who are so much worse than he is. His message changes from time to time. Lately, he warns you about the boogey-men who wear turbans and plant bombs. The only way to keep them at bay, he screams at you, is to surrender your freedom and your humanity. He will watch over you while you sleep. There is no way to keep him at bay. Except, perhaps, to open your eyes in the middle of the night, and stare straight into his face.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST

Value: 1st prize \$200; 2nd prize \$100

Number of Awards: 2

Application Deadline: April 18

Description: Must be enrolled in undergraduate studies at a Canadian university or college, and submit 10-15 page essay on a topic related to religious studies. Essays may be assignments from a religious studies course. Letter from religious studies department required. For further information, please visit the website posted below.

Canadian Society for the Study of Religion (CSSR) / Société canadienne pour l'étude de la religion (SCÉR)

Web Site: <http://www.ccsr.ca/CSSR/index.htm>

RETAIL AS A CAREER 2006 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The 2006 Retail as a Career Scholarship Program is in full swing. Developed in conjunction with leading Canadian retailers, the Retail as a Career Scholarship Program is open to post-secondary students interested in a career in the retail industry. RCC will award twenty \$1,000 scholarships to provide financial assistance to committed and deserving students who are pursuing an education in retail or business related post-secondary program.

20 winners will be selected and will receive their awards at STORE 2006 - Canada's retail conference, taking place June 5 & 6, 2006. All travel and accommodation will be provided, as well as full delegate passes to the conference - a fantastic opportunity for you to meet with executives and see how the industry really works!

Web site: <http://www.retaileducation.ca/cms/sitem.cfm/scholarship>

CBIE INTERNATIONAL LEARNING GRANTS

Academic Year 2005/06

Application deadline: April 22, 2005

The CBIE International Learning Grants (ILG) promote international education and international relations careers. ILG allow undergraduate students to finance the costs associated with international learning, e.g. travel and living costs.

Interested candidates must complete and forward to CBIE by April 22, 2005, an online application form along with supporting documents as outlined in the Guidelines of the program. (Please read the Guidelines before submitting your application form.)

Application Form

Website: http://www.cbie.ca/download/grants/ILGguidelines_and_application0506-en.pdf

Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

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

british columbia

CHINA TRADE

On now to April 08, 2006

11:00 AM - 6:00 PM - Vancouver, BC

Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art

Ticket Prices - Free admission

604-683-8326 - centrea@centrea.org

<http://www.centrea.org>

Group exhibition of installation, photography, painting, ceramics, film and video showcasing the latest developments in contemporary art by renowned international artists from China, Taiwan and Vancouver. "China Trade" is intended to encourage a public discussion of the long history and growing importance of Canada's trade with China. It presents an ideal opportunity to engage the business and trade communities in the adventure of contemporary Asian art and to involve the public in trade issues.

SPRING THEATRE CLASSES

Feburary 06 to May 01, 2006 - Kelowna, BC

Kelowna Actors Studio - Ticket Prices very reasonable

Kelowna Actors Studio - 250-862-2867

info@kelownaactorsstudio.com

<http://www.KelownaActorsStudio.com>

SEINENDAN THEATRE COMPANY OF JAPAN

March 10 to August 11 - 8:00 PM - Victoria, BC

Metro Studio - Ticket Prices - All seats \$18

(250) 383-2663 - info@intrepidtheatre.com

<http://www.intrepidtheatre.com>

ontario

CANADIAN PACIFIC SCANDAL

On now to April 15, 2006

Toronto, ON - The Cameron House

Ticket Prices: Previews \$15; Tuesdays \$15; Wednesdays \$20

Thursdays \$25; Fridays & Saturdays \$30; Sundays \$20

VideoCabaret presents Canadian Pacific Scandal, the latest instalment in Michael Hollingsworth's award-winning History Plays. This brilliant satire rakes the muck of Canada's most infamous political scandal, while it raises the curtain on some of Canada's best-kept secrets such as John A. Macdonald's bribe taking, Wilfrid Laurier's love-child, and Louis Riel's asylum escapades.

THEATRE IN THE TREES "LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS"

on now to April 29, 2006

6:30 PM - 10:30 PM

Guelph, ON - The Arboretum Centre

Ticket Prices - \$53.00 / person inclusive for buffet dinner and performance. Cash Bar available.

519-824-4120 ext. 54110 arbor@uoguelph.ca

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/arboretum>

"Last of the Red Hot Lovers" is an American comedy. It runs every Saturday except Easter Weekend.

SCIENCE SATURDAYS WITH MCMASTER UNIVERSITY

January 22 to May 28, 2006 - Hamilton, ON

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Hamilton Children's Museum

Adults - \$1.00 - Children - \$3.00

905-546-4848 - childrensmuseum@hamilton.ca

McMaster University science students provide hands-on science activities for children and families. Venture Physics and Let's Talk Science Team bring along "the phunky physics roller coaster" and other creative science demonstrations and activities. DATES: Saturdays, March 12, 19 & 26; April 16 & 30; May 21 & 28. 6 yrs and up

maritimes

ST. JOHN'S CIRCUS: GROUP PRACTICE

St Johns, NF - Tuesdays - Mun Athletics building - FREE

<http://nick.wirelesszero.net/cgi-bin/juggling/YaBB.cgi>

Everyone's a Star! Juggling, Unicycling, Magic, Clowning, Poi, Diabolo, Fire, and whatever YOUR skill(s) is!

Tues At 7:00 PM - Thurs At 7:00 PM - Sat At 2:00 PM

Sessions usually run about 3 hrs...

123 SENSE

St Johns, NF - Saturdays - 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Eastern Edge Gallery, 72 Harbour Drive

free - 709-739-1882 - <http://www.easternedge.ca>

Jean Klimack (Winnipeg); Dave Yonge (B.C); Tania Lewis (NY/Newfoundland)

These three artists present in different mediums (video, drawing and photography) odd senses of the everyday, urban myths and gentrification.

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



Contributed by Lonita Fraser

CONTINENTAL DEFENCE: POLICIES, THREATS AND ARCHITECTURE

May 4 - 6 2006 - Calgary

njmackie@ucalgary.ca

<http://www.cmss.ucalgary.ca/conferences/continentaldefence>

This conference will follow shortly after the report of the Binational Planning Group on the renegotiation of NORAD, and the emergence of Canada Command as a working organisation. These events foreshadow major changes in Continental Defence and the security relationship between Canada and the United States. They will draw public attention to these topics in a way that has not happened for two generations. This conference will bring together major figures from the Canadian and United States military, alongside leading public and academic commentators. It will address all aspects of Continental Defence, with topics ranging from the future of American-Canadian defence relations to the issue of strategic threat to North America. All Persons planning to attend must register in advance! All fees are quoted in Canadian dollars Includes 3 Lunches (May 4, 5, 6) and one dinner (May 5), all sessions, all coffee breaks, conference package.

Until April 1 - \$294.25 (\$275 + \$19.25 GST)

As of April 1st - \$347.75 (\$325 + \$22.75 GST)

You may register by credit card, cheque or by invoice.

27TH ANNUAL NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON LEGAL ISSUES OF EDUCATING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

April 30 - May 3, 2006

Orlando, FL, USA

Please visit www.lrpconferences.com or call toll-free 1-800-727-1227 for more information.

ANCIENT SCIENCE & MODERN SECRETS CONFERENCE

May 5 - 7, 2006 - Kempton, Illinois, USA

<http://www.wexclub.com/pages/events.html>

Guest Speakers

David Hatcher Childress: Atlantis, Mu & the Power System of the Gods

William Henry: The Oracle of the Illuminati

Joseph Farrell: The SS Brotherhood of the Bell & the Reich of the Black Sun

Christopher Dunn: Evidence of Ancient Machining

Kenn Thomas: Parapolitics and Modern Conspiracy

Jerry Smith: The Spear of Destiny in History & Legend

Sesh Heri: Nikola Tesla & the Wonder of the Worlds

and more discussion between speakers and other special guests.

Conference Costs

\$120; \$50 for a.m presentations only (includes lunch); \$65 for p.m. presentations only (includes dinner).

\$25 per any session (excluding any meals); Drinks and tipping are extra; The bar is a cash bar.

Accommodations are not included in the conference fee. Call 1-815-253-9000 to book a room at the B&B's (they fill up early). <http://www.wexclub.com/pages/events.html>. For information on the conference or on accommodations, call WEX at 815-253-9000, or Adventures Unlimited at 815-253-6390 Mon.-Sat., 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

PAEDIATRIC UPDATE 2006

May 1 - 6, 2006 - Toronto

<http://www.cme.utoronto.ca>

This 6 day paediatric conference provides current evidence based clinical information in a variety of learning formats, including a full APLS course, workshops and lectures on neonatal transport, sedation, emergency medicine, dermatology and much more. Intermediate to Advanced level of Continuing Medical Education - MainCert, MainPro and AMA credits.

GASTROINTESTINAL ENDOSCOPY

May 3, 2006 - Blacksburg, VA, USA

<http://www.conted.vt.edu/introge/>

Gastrointestinal Endoscopy - Beginning Level - is scheduled for May 3-5, 2006 on the Virginia Tech Campus. This intensive endoscopy course will consist of 12 hours of classroom instruction and 12 hours of hands-on laboratory instruction. It is intended for Veterinarians that either have no endoscopic experience or limited (20 cases) endoscopic experience. Didactic instruction will be supplemented with case material demonstrating where endoscopy is useful in diagnosing GI cases. The registration fee of \$2,850 includes lodging May 2 through May 4, lectures and clinical laboratory, handouts, reception and dinner on Wednesday and Thursday evening in addition to a CEU Certificate.

DEVELOPING & OPERATING UPSCALE HOSPITAL FACILITIES AND PATIENT SERVICES

May 4 - 5, 2006 - Palo Alto, CA, USA

<http://www.acius.net>

Network with executives in the healthcare industry that are looking to develop a more "luxurious hotel" like setting. Featuring an on-site tour of Stanford University Medical Center. Hear live case studies presented by Celebration Health, Johns Hopkins, NY Presbyterian, UCSF, University of Cleveland and many more.....

PRACTICAL ADVANCES IN DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING

May 21 - 26, 2006 - Yosemite National Park, CA, USA

<http://www.cme.ucsf.edu>

The goal of this five-day course is to provide the practicing diagnostic radiologist with a practical and up-to-date review of recent advances in diagnostic imaging. This will include presentations on the current imaging techniques for the evaluation of diseases of the central nervous system, chest, abdomen, musculoskeletal system as well as current approaches to breast imaging.

CANCER, CULTURE & LITERACY: SOLUTIONS ADDRESSING HEALTH DISPARITIES THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS, 5TH BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

May 18 - 20, 2006 - Clearwater Beach, FL, USA

http://www.moffitt.usf.edu/about_moffitt/calendar/events/200605.asp

Our conference focuses on conceptual and methodological issues in community-based participatory research (CBPR) for creating solutions for impacting health disparities related to cancer, culture and literacy. The overall goal of this conference is to improve the care across the continuum of cancer control by providing and enhancing research strategies and skills of participants to better introduce culture and literacy components into the development of effective cancer communications and research. Participants and presenters will exchange and disseminate information relevant to communications in cancer control, and they will be challenged to rethink, refine and enhance their approaches in research. Participants will experience: presentations by keynote speakers, general discussions, poster presentations, break-out sessions, breakfast roundtable discussions and pre-conference skill-building workshops.

U.S. EPA SCIENCE FORUM 2006

May 16 - 18, 2006 - Washington, D.C. USA

Your Health, Your Environment, Your Future

This year's Forum highlights advances in risk assessment science, investigates the relationship between the environment and public health, and examines the complementary roles of Federal public health agencies.

epa.gov/scienceforum. There is no registration fee to attend the EPA Science Forum. Once you register online, you will receive a confirmation email with additional logistical information within one business day. For More Information please contact:

Alina Martin - (703) 318-4678 - tcs-events@saic.com

DEPLOYABLE MEDICINE CONFERENCE

May 15 - 17, 2006 - Washington D.C USA

<http://www.marcusevans.com>

Key Issues to be Addressed:

- Analyzing current and future developments in deployable medicine
- Effective conduct of forward surgical units and hospital wings
- Leveraging technology to assist in casualty treatment

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH DIVISION OF INTRAMURAL RESEARCH

May 11 - 12, 2006

Bethesda, Maryland, USA

<http://intramural.nimh.nih.gov/ResearchFestival/>

In addition to the scientific agenda, students will be given opportunities to meet with current post-doctoral Fellows and NIMH Scientists to discuss the science being conducted throughout the Division of Intramural Research Programs in an informal environment.

DISEASE MANAGEMENT COLLOQUIUM

May 10 - 12, 2006 - Philadelphia PA USA

<http://www.dmconferences.com>

The Disease Management Colloquium presents case studies of disease management efforts in a variety of settings. The Colloquium explores the role of disease management as it affects Medicare, Medicaid, the commercially insured, and the under- and uninsured; the role of evidence-based medicine; the use of incentives for physician and consumers; new tools and techniques; innovations by health plans and disease management companies; and key legislative and policy issues affecting the future of disease management.

The Colloquium seeks to better educate government agencies, the health care industry (including health plans and providers), employers, and the general public about the important role disease management programs play in improving health care quality and outcomes for persons subject to chronic conditions.

THE 5TH ANNUAL HAWAII INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL SCIENCES

May 31 - June 3, 2006 - Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

<http://www.hicsocial.org>

The main goal of the 2006 Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various social sciences related fields from all over the world to come together and learn from each other. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests related to social sciences to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines.

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

classifieds

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

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