

# THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

Vol 20 Iss 12 2012-03-23

## Job Search

Handing over the keys

## Why We Are

ANTH 336

## Psych Conflict

Freud vs. Jung

*Plus:  
In Conversation With  
From Where I Sit  
and much more!*



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***The Voice  
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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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





## Password Protected

It's no longer news that everything that you post online stays there—and that it could affect your job prospects one day. So you've adjusted your privacy settings. You think before you upload photos or Tweet your random thoughts. You're pretty sure you'd easily survive an employment vetting process.

Enter a new and alarming trend: prospective employers who ask interviewees to provide their Facebook account passwords—or log in themselves so that the interviewer can take a peek at the candidate's personal life.

As CBS News reports, this outrageous request is becoming more and more common as “some companies and government agencies are going beyond merely glancing at a person's social networking profiles and instead asking to log in as the user to have a look around.”

First, there's the audacity of asking an individual to provide her personal password. Facebook itself clearly spells out the basics of account security: “**Never give out your username or password.** Never share your login credentials (ex: email address and password) for any reason.” [Emphasis theirs.]

And yet employers expect prospective employees to hand it over—job-seekers who, according to CBS News, possibly “cannot afford to say no.”

But suppose you can do the logging in and out yourself, so security's less of a problem. What if you *don't* have anything to hide? What if Facebook is just a mild chronicle of your life with family and friends? What if there are no incriminating wild-weekend photos involving beer, bongos, and random hookups?

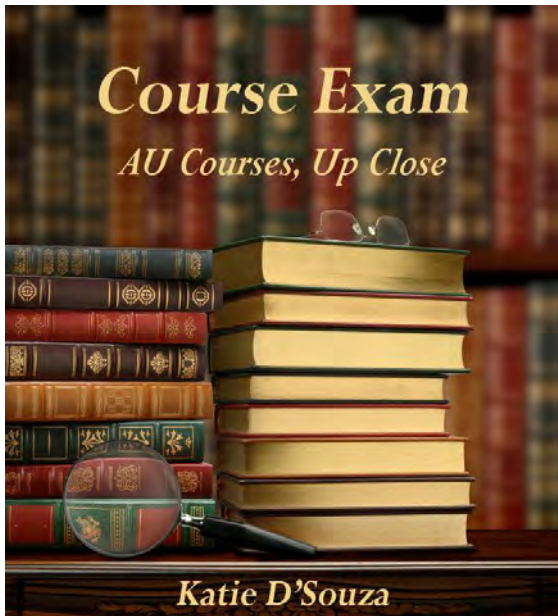
It's still too personal.

Is an employer allowed to ask your marital status? Your religion? Your political views? Your ethnic background? Whether you have kids? Whether you plan to have kids? Depending on where you live, those questions may even be illegal. *But the interviewer can get all that information by logging onto your page.* She can find out everything from your favourite film genres to the kind of things your friends are discussing to where you went on your last vacation. That's none of her business.

*“The same standards of privacy that we expect offline in the real world should apply online in our digital lives as well.”*

*ACLU statement*

It's time for a reality check. If an employer wouldn't ask for a tour of your house or the contents of your purse, he shouldn't be requesting a tour of your password-protected personal interactions. The ACLU put it best: “The same standards of privacy that we expect offline in the real world should apply online in our digital lives as well.”



## ANTH 336: Evolutionary Anthropology

Evolutionary Anthropology (ANTH 336) is hot off the AU press! A three-credit undergraduate course in the social sciences, ANTH 336 just opened this past January and is now available for individualized study online.

Evolutionary Anthropology explores human evolution, but from a sociological perspective: the course highlights the interpretation of our “morphological, cultural, and behavioural adaptations” in the light of our evolutionary past. According to course author and professor Dr. Hugh Notman, ANTH 336 “focuses on a handful of domains specific to the human evolutionary experience, and how some aspects of our physiology, cognition, and behaviour may, in fact, be biological

adaptations to social and ecological challenges our ancestors faced in the past.” This includes discussion of issues like the “nature vs. nurture” dilemma: whether, as Dr. Notman says, “some human traits are biological, as opposed to cultural in origin.”

ANTH 336 consists of 11 units, each of which explores a different aspect of human adaptation. Unit 1 lays out the background, giving a comprehensive review of evolutionary theory (including discussion on natural selection and kin theory). The second unit is also review in part, covering the fossil record and our earliest known human roots seven million years ago.

Unit 3 “looks at how the study of non-human primates, such as monkeys, apes, and pro-simians can be informative for testing models and predictions about the evolutionary origins of human traits,” says Dr. Notman. It also discusses the pros and cons to using such research models, including questions of ethics.

The fourth unit is a foundational one: it discusses evolutionary psychology and how it acts as an “explanatory paradigm for some universal human behaviours, and particularly the underlying cognitive mechanisms responsible for those behaviours,” Dr. Notman says. Students use what they learn in Unit 4 as an interpretive aid for the rest of the course.

Unit 5 focuses on human relationships, including attraction (what makes us attracted to some and not others?) and bonding (how and why does bonding occur?). In Unit 6, students explore an interesting physiological question: is menopause specific to humans? Dr. Notman leads the unit with intriguing questions like whether menopause is a human adaptation or a “by-product of longer life expectancies.”

Units 7 and 8 discuss the evolution of human language, “arguably one of the most distinguishing characteristics of our species,” says Dr. Notman. These units explore whether “primates use ‘language’ in the way we do” and whether “language [is] an ‘adaptation’ that is unique to us.” Students also study possible ways that coherent languages developed.

Unit 9 deals with another unique topic: how diet has affected human development and behaviour across the evolutionary cycle. According to Dr. Notman, diet has had a significant impact on human history, even perhaps being “responsible for the enlargement of our brains.” He further explains: “Even in our recent evolutionary past (within 10,000 years), our diets have impacted aspects of our physiology, behaviour, and cultural practices, such as dairy farming and lactose tolerance.”

*Brand-new course ANTH 336 covers unique topics like how diet has affected human evolution, what role religion has played in the human story, and whether various aspects of the human experience are the result of biological or cultural adaptations.*

In Unit 10, the focus is on religion and its origin. Where did religion and religious tendencies come from, and why is there a “universal tendency for cultures to subscribe to and perform some type of religious ritual”? The final unit of ANTH 336 “[speculates] about the direction human evolution may take in the future, given current trends in migration, fertility and technology, and the constraints of natural selection.”

Student evaluation in ANTH 336 is achieved through two assignments and two exams (a mid-term worth 30 per cent of the final grade and a final worth 35 per cent). The exams have a combination format containing a variety of question styles: multiple choice, short answer, and essay.

The two assignments are interconnected. The first assignment requires students to read and discuss “two related articles that discuss the phenomenon of male sexual aggression in humans from [a] biological perspective,” Dr. Notman says. Discussions are completed with tutors. For the second assignment, students critique these articles. As Dr. Notman explains, the primary focus of the assignments is for students to defend their “point of view of another discipline or theoretical perspective (such as feminist theory, cultural anthropology, sociology).”

For more information on Evolutionary Anthropology (ANTH 336), visit the [course website](#).

### AU NEWS WRITER WANTED!

In order to meet the needs of our student readers, we’re ready to expand our coverage of Athabasca University-specific news, events, and resources. We’re seeking a regular writer who will research and cover these and other, similar topics on a freelance basis. Columns will be paid at the regular freelance rate.

Interested applicants can send a writing sample to the Managing Editor, Christina Frey, at [voice@voicemagazine.org](mailto:voice@voicemagazine.org).

To all aspiring writers: remember that *The Voice* is always happy to consider articles on any topic of interest to our readers!



## IN CONVERSATION WITH . . .

Wanda Waterman

**Ensemble Polaris, Part I**

***Ensemble Polaris** is a group of musical masters who have joined together to perform music from the northern latitudes. Some of the musical traditions they embrace include, according to their website, “early, folk, Klezmer, Hot Club of Paris, middle Eastern and southeast Asian, traditional Scandinavian, Celtic, Cape Breton, eastern European, classical, improvisatory, and avant-garde.” They’ve just released their fourth album (see the [Voice review](#) of *Uncharted Waters*).*

*Recently, flautist Alison Melville and clarinetist Colin Savage took the time to answer Wanda Waterman’s questions about repertoire, musical experiences, and how the group was formed.*

**Raison d’Etre . . .**

Whatever possessed a bunch of musicians to come together and make music based on “the idea of North”?

According to Colin Savage, it was both an organic process and an idea whose time had come. This may be why the group found it so easy to stay together and to thrive musically.

Says Colin: “In 1997, the first Northern Encounters Festival took place in Toronto, bringing choirs, musicians, and composers from Scandinavia to collaborate with Canadians in an exploration of circumpolar music. The Toronto Symphony Orchestra conductor at that time was a Finn, Jukka Pekka Saraste. The CBC was involved in presenting and broadcasting concerts of ensembles large and small, and they had a slot for a local chamber group.

“Alison had been interested in Scandinavian folk music for some time, so she assembled a group of simpatico players on an unusual combination of instruments; the musical result was intriguing, both to us and to the audience. The membership of the band has changed very little since then. Colleagues often ask if they can join us because we seem to be having so much fun.”

The group has since expanded its repertoire to include songs from Mediterranean countries and compositions from group members, but Scandinavian repertoire is still a mainstay.

**. . . And a Peculiarly Northern Background**

Alison’s talent for envisioning and organizing artistic projects was no doubt inborn, but might also owe something to a childhood that was both stimulating and supportive of her special musical gifts.

"My parents moved around a lot when I was a child," she says, "so although I was born in Toronto I lived in Calgary, Winnipeg, Barrow-in-Furness in northwestern England, London, and Toronto again before I turned ten. I began playing recorder as an eight-year-old at school in London. Apparently I jumped at the chance to play the same 'flute' that my Uncle Bill played.

"I loved being able to play music for myself, and had an eclectic bunch of favourite tunes, from English folk songs to an aria from Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*. I started on flute in junior high school when I was back in Canada. As far as help and guidance along the path goes, there were many inestimable gifts of encouragement from my teachers at each step along the way."

### Natural Selection

How does such a large group of maestros select what tunes it's going to play?

"Various members of Polaris," says Colin, "work in genres ranging from historical performance of medieval, renaissance, and baroque music; to experimental electro-acoustic; to Celtic/folk; to contemporary classical 'art music'; to traditional music from the Middle East, Turkey, the Balkans and south Asia; to symphony orchestras.

"With such a wide variety of musical tastes and experiences, we're always on the lookout for new material that would suit our aesthetic. Some members bring folk tunes from traditional sources (aural or written collections), some of us write original music for the band, and others arrange tunes from the diverse sources listed above. Often the arrangements are a collective enterprise, with a lot of experimentation and subtle adjustments over time until we feel we've found the right sound to convey the character of a given piece."

### How to Be in a Group

Says Alison: "Playing with a good group is inspiring, challenging, and rewarding because it asks the most of you and can bring out your best. I once had a teacher who regularly said, 'Always strive to be the worst in your group,' which is a slightly odd way of describing the great opportunity you have when playing with colleagues you greatly admire and respect.

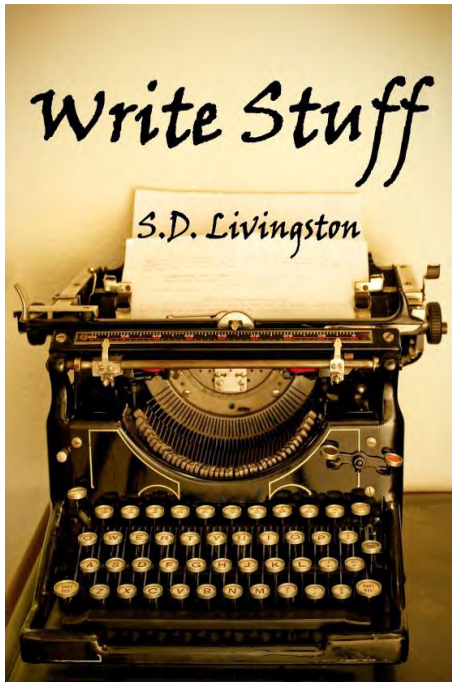
*"I once had a teacher who regularly said, 'Always strive to be the worst in your group,' which is a slightly odd way of describing the great opportunity you have when playing with colleagues you greatly admire and respect."*

*Alison Melville of Ensemble Polaris*



"Playing with Polaris is very much this kind of experience. Scheduling rehearsals and such can sometimes be a challenge because everyone has very busy lives, but we always manage. Playing with a group obviously requires more compromise than going it alone, but the old saying that 'The sum is greater than the parts' also applies."

*To be continued . . .*



## Book Art

When is it okay to destroy a book? Not destroy, perhaps, but alter. To remove its cover, or mark its pages, or even tear some out. For some people, even jotting a note in the margin is literary sacrilege. But others see the stories that go beyond a book's original shape—the magic that awaits when ink-on-paper is sculpted beyond its expected form.

One of the best around is Brian Dettmer, who creates incredibly detailed sculptures using books as well as “other forms of antiquated media.” The fascinating thing is that he doesn't simply alter a book's original shape. Instead, he works around existing words and images, layer after painstaking layer, to form intricate pieces of art that meld words and images. You can explore photos of his work at his [Flickr stream](#).

Another artist who plays with the overlap between shape and content is Rachael Ashe, a visual artist who works in photography, mixed-media collage, and, of course, altered books. But Ashe takes things in a slightly different direction: not only does she carefully carve away sections of books, she also adds found items to them and experiments with moving parts, creating pull tabs and pop-ups.

These [brilliant butterflies](#) are just one of the many examples on display at her Flickr stream. She also sculpts [large items](#), like the “Tree of [Un]Common Knowledge,” adding things like book pages sculpted into flowers.

For a somewhat darker look at the forces that shape literature, artist Barton Lidicé Beneš turned [one book](#) into a concrete symbol of censorship. The piece was displayed as part of a Book Arts in the USA exhibit, and the rusty nails and rope binding convey the message as well as any words can.

Then there's the mystery of these [delicate book sculptures](#), a series of 10 anonymous works that appeared around Edinburgh in 2011. The first was left at the Scottish Poetry Library, with a message addressed to the library's Twitter account.

Other sculptures followed, and their creator was clearly someone in love with books and libraries. One whimsical piece, left at the Scottish Storytelling Centre, was accompanied by this cryptic message: “A gift in support of libraries, books, works, ideas..... Once upon a time there was a book and in the book was a nest and in the nest was an egg and in the egg was a dragon and in the dragon was a story.....” Other sculptures included a tiny teabag filled with cut-out letters, and a Tyrannosaurus Rex bursting from the pages of *The Lost World*.

Though there's a tendency these days to fear that e-books and tablets will carry us far from a love of literature, the opposite seems to be true. The conversation around books, including the question of what

a book even is, has renewed our interest in their traditional form—making us think about this age-old object in new ways, like the other roles it can take on.

For instance, the intriguing shapes of book sculptor Nicholas Jones, or the slightly eerie book caverns created by Guy Laramée.

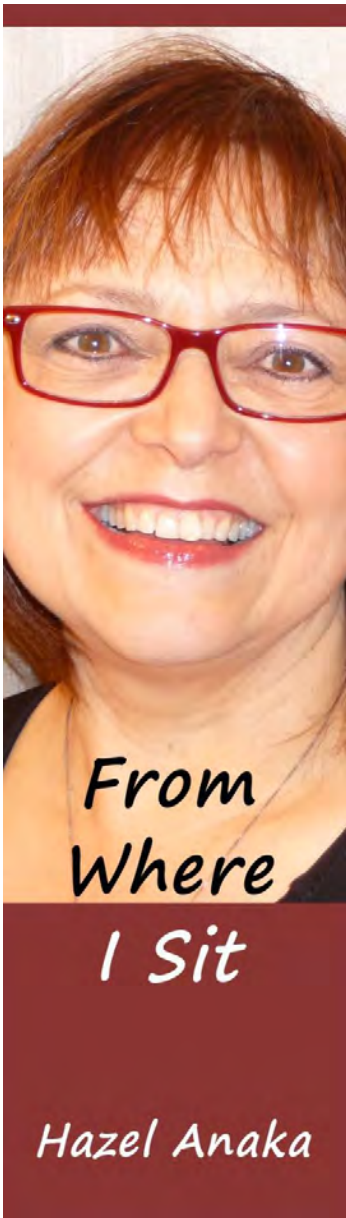
Indeed, the work of all these sculptors reminds us of the possibilities the traditional book still possesses: ink, paper, and imagination combined to create a story well told.

*S.D. Livingston is the author of several books, including the new suspense novel *Kings of Providence*. Visit her [website](#) for information on her writing (and for more musings on the literary world!).*

## CHRONICLES OF CRUISCIN LAN

Wanda Waterman





## A PAWsitive Impact

On the weekend I had the chance to attend the 31st Annual Spring Tune Up Rural Women's Conference sponsored by our county's adult learning council. The day was a gift of insight, learning, and laughter that nearly 200 women chose to give themselves. I was glad to be among them.

Organizers always try to find the right mix of exceptional speakers, good food, a fashion show, time for networking, and humour. And they succeeded.

The first speaker was Charmaine Hammond, author of *On Toby's Terms*. Through anecdotes and a PowerPoint presentation she told us the story of Toby, a five-year-old Chesapeake Bay retriever that they had adopted. The mayhem he created as he ravaged their home was shocking. He could open and empty closets, turn on water taps, pull things from bookcases, and sit for hours on end in sinks. He routinely destroyed all the porcelain toilet tank covers.

And yet they kept him.

After a particularly destructive rampage (following which all the hardwood floors swelled up from the running water), Charmaine and husband Chris sought help for Toby from a canine behaviourist. Through her work with him, the expert determined that Toby needed a purpose. He needed to care for and protect someone. That led to his work at Alberta Hospital as a volunteer pet-assisted therapy dog.

Hammond spoke about the need for all of us, not just Toby, to lead purposeful, passionate lives. There was no mistaking Toby's excitement every Wednesday as they headed to the hospital. Do each of us have something that

stirs us that deeply, that gets our tail wagging and the slobber dripping? Do we give as much—commitment, joy, and unconditional love—as Toby did?

Frederick Buechner put it well: our purpose is “the place where deep gladness meets the world's need.” Are we willing to let go of perfectionism so that stress can go down and happiness go up? Are we open to learning from others, even the four-legged variety? Do we understand that our contribution and gift to the world can outlast our time on earth?

Toby went from an overweight dog on Prozac and a canine antidepressant to a life-changer. His story has touched thousands. Charmaine's book captures that story and the effect he's had in her life. Her children's book, *Toby, the Pet Therapy Dog, and His Hospital Friends* explains his volunteer work in terms kids can understand. The books have led to speaking engagements and book signing tours. In total she's spoken to 10,000 children and inspired them to make a “PAWsitive” difference by “PAWing forward” a million acts of kindness.

Despite Toby's death in November 2011, his work and his legacy continue. Check out her [website](#) for more information. And if you feel badly that you missed Charmaine's presentation, don't: a movie deal about Toby's life is in the works.

In the meantime I have a book, autographed by a woman and a dog, that is calling to me. I expect it to have a PAWsitive impact on my life, from where I sit.

Hazel Anaka's first novel is *Lucky Dog*. Visit her [website](#) for more information or follow her on Twitter @anakawrites.

## CLICK OF THE WRIST

## Sounds Like Spring

It's official: spring has sprung, and even if the weather's not cooperating, we're already on the lookout for signs of new life. Plants are pushing up through the ground. There's a hint of warmth on the breeze. And are those summery clouds in the sky? Some of the best harbingers of spring, though, are the springtime sounds. Click through these links to listen to the sounds of the season!

### Calling

Few sounds are so closely associated with the warmer months as are the calls of amphibians. These mp3s of the mating calls of common Canadian frogs will put you in a springtime mood—and help you identify who's lurking in your own backyard.

### Listen Up

Sure, you hear the sounds of spring. But are you really *listening* to what they're saying to you? This blog piece is a nice reflection—and a reminder that sights, sounds, and smells may trigger deeper thoughts within.

### Voices of Spring

The Johann Strauss, Jr. waltz *Voices of Spring* is a lilting, uplifting classical piece that's a must-listen each year. Here, the Singapore Symphony Orchestra performs it.

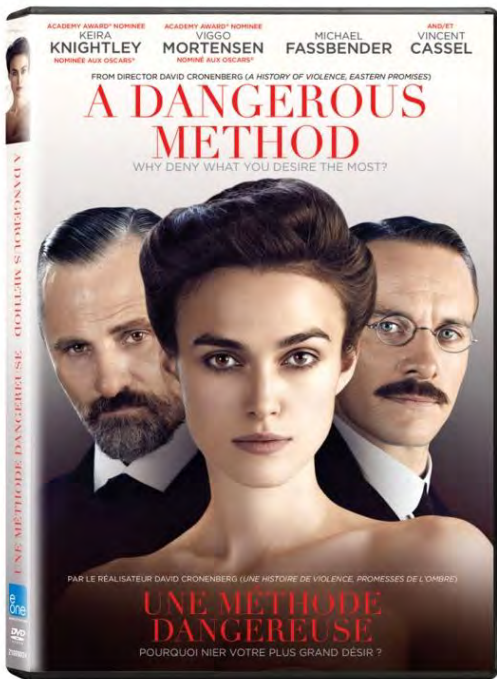


## NOTICE: VOICE HOLIDAY

Here at *The Voice* we're celebrating spring by taking a brief break next week. *The Voice Magazine* will be on hiatus from Monday, March 26 to Sunday, April 1. There will be no issue published on March 30, but we'll be back with more of your favourite columns and topics with the April 6 issue!

## THE MINDFUL BARD

Wanda Waterman



Courtesy of eOne Films.

## Books, Music, and Film to Wake Up Your Muse and Help You Change the World

**Film:** *A Dangerous Method* (2011)

**Director:** David Cronenberg

**Screenwriter:** Christopher Hampton

**Cast:** Keira Knightley, Viggo Mortensen, Michael Fassbender, Vincent Cassel, Sarah Gadon

### A Pair of Docs, a Paradox, and Lots of Talks

Psychoanalyst Dr. Otto Gross is Jung's patient du jour. He's offering Jung a very compelling argument as to why one must never thwart one's own longings. Jung is noticeably surprised and even swayed by this brazen departure from the strict Protestant morality with which he was raised. Freud had taught him that neuroses sprang from repression, but this looks like the first time he's encountered a shamelessly

libertine solution. In the film the encounter appears to have some influence on Jung's later decision to have an affair with his psychiatric patient, Sabina Spielrein.

Influenced by Nietzsche and by his own anarchist inclinations, Gross ascribes an appendage to Freud's theory, one which Freud himself had never voiced but which our modern culture seems to have assumed: if civilization's troubles are based on repression, then the solution is simply to remove repression and do exactly as we please.

As Simone Weil was later to remark, "Repression is in reality an excellent thing. What is bad is repression coupled with inward lying."

Sabina Spielrein, played by Keira Knightley, brings this point home when she demands that Jung tell Freud the truth about their affair. When he does, Freud responds with approval and profound respect for Sabina, but nary a comment to Jung.

In turn-of-the-century Europe, Sigmund Freud became young Carl Jung's mentor when Jung became interested in Freud's theories. The two worked together on the development and application of the psychoanalytic theory, which for all its detractors and its apparent lack of documented benefits has proven to be one of the most significant milestones of Western culture in the last two centuries.

*"We are never so defenseless against suffering as when we love."*

**Sigmund Freud**

*"As far as we can discern, the sole purpose of human existence is to kindle a light in the darkness of mere being."*

**Carl Jung**

The famous conflict between Freud and Jung can be seen from a number of different angles. Jung wanted to use euphemisms when speaking of all things sexual, while Freud firmly believed in calling a spade a spade (interestingly, Jung had extramarital affairs but Freud, from what we know, did not). Jung was intuitive, seeking answers in cultural symbols and parapsychological phenomena, while Freud strove to

*"You get a clear picture from the film of the social morality prevalent in Europe at the time, a morality that enforced an unnatural distance . . . that led to many negative repercussions for individuals and societies."*

keep psychoanalysis as scientific as possible. In fact, the modern debate on whether psychology is a discipline of the liberal arts or a science can be traced back to their relationship. Freud believed that the problems of civilization stemmed from the repression of natural sexual urges, whereas Jung believed that collective and individual problems were rooted in a spiritual barrenness.

You get a clear picture from the film of the social morality prevalent in Europe at the time, a morality that enforced an unnatural distance between husbands and wives, between parents and children, and even between classes and races, a distance that led to many negative repercussions for individuals and societies. There is also the suggestion of the patriarchal roots which even today render psychoanalysis of doubtful benefit to women unless administered by women themselves (or by extremely enlightened men).

This film is in part a tribute to the valuable insights of Sabina Spielrein. Ideas she presented in her dissertation on the dual nature of sexual desire predate Jung's and Freud's later writings on this subject, suggesting that it was she who influenced them. Her realization that the sexual urge is simultaneously the ego's urge for extinction was a necessary logical adjunct to Freud's theory.

*A Dangerous Method* is surprisingly accurate; most of the departures from the historical record are not so much a fudging of the truth as they are fictitious elaborations of how this or that documented event might have panned out. For the most part, the fiction seems probable, based on what we know about Freud and Jung.

There are a couple of notable exceptions. First, Spielrein comes across in the film as being far more spectacularly ill than history indicates. Additionally, there's a bit of an oversimplification and minimalization of the psychoanalytic process that lead to Spielrein's cure, but no doubt both of these emerged as a result of the exigencies of the film art. As well, in the film Jung espouses a professional ethic much more in keeping with our time than with his; it was in fact feminists within the profession whose insistence on the avoidance of exploitation that created the standards by which psychoanalysts are now required to practice.



Michael Fassbender and Viggo Mortensen in *A DANGEROUS METHOD*. Courtesy of eOne Films.

Largely, Cronenberg skirts the temptation to make this a ghastly Hollywood extravaganza designed to cater to the whims of the shallow (except for those horrendous and quite pointless spanking scenes). For example, the film doesn't attempt to paint Jung as a deprived husband compelled to have affairs because of an unhappy or unfulfilling marriage; he has a beautiful, kind, loving, and intelligent wife who is wealthy enough to devote her time to him. His problem lies elsewhere.



Keira Knightley and Michael Fassbender star in **A DANGEROUS METHOD**. Courtesy of eOne Films.

*A Dangerous Method* fulfills six of the Mindful Bard's criteria for films well worth seeing: 1) it poses and admirably responds to questions that have a direct bearing on my view of existence; 2) it stimulates my mind; 3) it is about attainment of the true self; 4) it displays an engagement with and compassionate response to suffering; 5) it gives me artistic tools; and 6) it makes me appreciate that life is a complex and rare phenomenon, making living a unique opportunity.

Wanda also penned the poems for the artist book *They Tell My Tale to Children Now to Help Them to be Good*, a collection of meditations on fairy tales, illustrated by artist Susan Malmstrom.

## DID YOU KNOW?

## DegreeWorks



It takes a lot of planning to map out an academic career. But when you're working with information in several different media, the process can be time-consuming and frustrating. However, the future is promising: AU will soon be launching DegreeWorks, "a comprehensive academic advising and degree audit solution" that will communicate directly with AU's internal student information system and streamline program planning.

DegreeWorks helps students plan their educational futures by "automatically [retrieving] a student's academic record . . . and [organizing] it into an educational plan on the web, identifying program requirements, courses completed and courses still needed to complete a degree."

Students will also be able to "explore 'What if' scenarios to measure the effects of changing programs or adding majors or minors" and check GPAs based on projected future course grades.

It will be user friendly, and AU plans to make advisors available for students who need help navigating the system. DegreeWorks will be launched later this year.

For more information on the DegreeWorks project, visit the [information site](#).

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS DESK



### At Home: The French Connection

The benefits of a second language are well-documented, with studies showing positive effects ranging from a better understanding of one's first language to the delaying of Alzheimer's-related symptoms. For thousands of Chinese citizens, there's another benefit: Canadian residence.

As the CBC [reports](#), "Chinese desperate to emigrate have discovered a backdoor into Canada that involves applying for entry into the country's francophone province of Quebec."

While Canada has tightened restrictions on immigration, Quebec is an exception. The province has special rules and "doesn't have any cap or backlog of applicants like Canada's national program does." The catch: immigrants need to "demonstrate their knowledge of French" and intend to remain in Quebec.

In China, special French classes are filling up quickly, and language isn't the only thing taught. Some also give crash courses "on Quebec's history and its geography, including the names of suburbs around its biggest city, Montreal."

As for Quebec, the province welcomes the heightened interest. As Kathleen Weil, Quebec's immigration minister, told reporters, "We're happy about it and we want to keep them here."

### Around the World: Sex, Booze, and Fruit Flies

What do sex and alcohol mean for fruit flies? If the former is missing, the latter may be a frequent substitute—and the same may apply for human beings.

As *The Globe and Mail* [reports](#), a recent study showed that when fruit flies were deprived of sex, they were much more likely to drink from nectar that had been spiked with alcohol. Moreover, they were more likely to drink to excess. But when the same males were "mingled with receptive females . . . [and] had sex, their yen for alcohol declined."

According to the study, it's all in the brain, where a substance called NPF is found. Researchers discovered that "pleasurable activities like having sex boost the activity of brain circuits that use NPF." However, without sex, "the system goes into deficit, driving the fly to seek other rewarding activities such as drinking alcohol."

Researchers feel that this may provide "a biological explanation" for the alcohol consumption patterns of human beings and may someday help in developing a better understanding and treatment of alcoholism.

## AUSU UPDATE: MARCH 2012

Bethany Tynes, President



## ELECTION RESULTS!

AUSU Elections were held March 3-6, 2012, and 17 candidates appeared on the ballot. Thank you to all who ran, and all who voted! The nine candidates who have been elected to form the 2012-2014 AUSU Council are: **Wendy Barnard, Bethany Tynes, James Ramsbottom, Evan Schmidt, Ashley Charlton, Toni Fox, Kim Newsome, Jason Nixon, and Craig French.**

Of the nine candidates elected, four are incumbents (James, Toni, Kim, and Bethany), while five are fresh new faces! We'll look forward to sharing more about our new group as time goes on, but for an introduction, here's what they had to say about themselves while still campaigning:

**Wendy Barnard:** "In 2009 I enrolled in AU's BComm Accounting program, and it was the best decision I ever made. Until that point I had been randomly taking courses at various colleges and universities throughout Toronto, trying to piece together my own BComm. AU made everything simpler. As a part-time student at AU I still have plenty of time to devote to my (almost) husband and challenging teenage boy. I am also able to work full-time in the accounting industry (using what I learn to constantly improve myself) and still have time to do things I enjoy. My main hobbies are knitting and crocheting for charity, reading and reviewing books for my blog, and wrestling with my two German Shepherd "puppies." During my time at Mohawk College in Hamilton I was elected Business Director of their Student Council. It was a great experience and I hope to bring that knowledge to my position with AUSU. My main focus is to create a voice for the student body by interacting with them regularly through social media to learn, and share, their issues and ideas. A fellow student once called me AU proud, and he couldn't be more right!"

**Evan Schmidt:** "Hello fellow members of AUSU! I'm a part-time student and I live in the town of Vaudreuil-Dorion, located in the outskirts of Montreal. I am currently enrolled in the Certificate of Marketing, and later plan on completing my Bachelor's degree after getting a few more certificates. I've been home-schooled since I was 10, live in a francophone community, am vegetarian, have six dogs, and have been involved with AU and AUSU since I was 14 (I am 20 now), so I really appreciate how Athabasca caters to the uniqueness of each student. Often doing things backwards myself (heck, I got my pilot's license two years before my driver's license!), I realize the importance of making sure that everyone is represented. I volunteer three nights a week with the Air Cadet Program (for teens ages 12-18), so I know what hard work and dedication can accomplish (hence the pilot's license!). I always strive for excellence and make sure that everything counts. That is why I think I would be great on the AUSU Student Council. It would be my honour to represent my fellow students, and a responsibility I would not take lightly!"

**Ashley Charlton:** “I have been an AU student since September 2009, working on a BA with an English major. I am a stay-at-home parent to my two preschool-aged daughters. My hobbies include long-distance running, playing the saxophone, and snowboarding; I am especially excited to be running my first-ever full marathon this summer. I also enjoy volunteering within my community. For over five years I was a member of the executive for minor soccer and I am now in my third year of acting as the secretary for the non-profit performance band that I play in. My previous involvement in minor sports gave me ample experience in conflict resolution and problem solving, while my experience with my band involves creative fundraising, finding new ways to recruit members, and keeping organized. I feel that these experiences, as well as my enthusiasm for AU and the flexible education opportunities it offers, make me an ideal candidate for a position on AUSU’s student council. During my time at AU I have found the AUSU community to be exceedingly welcoming and supportive and I would love the opportunity to serve this community by continuing the positive atmosphere and providing useful resources for its members.”

**Jason Nixon:** Jason Nixon lives in Sundre, Alberta and is in AU BComm program (Accounting Major). Jason has a BA Diploma from SAIT which he completed through distance education as well as over 10 years of management experience in both the for-profit industry and lately as an Executive Director of a non-profit agency working with urban underprivileged in a rural setting. Jason is excited about the opportunity to represent his fellow students on the council and if elected will use his experience and skills in management, program development, and distance education to work with council members and the AUSU executive to advance our members’ interests.

**Craig French:** “Eleven years after graduating with a degree in Computer Engineering and Management from McMaster University, I felt the urge to broaden my academic horizons. I enrolled in a night course at McMaster. However, I found that the structure of a traditional university course was challenging to interweave with my additional responsibilities as a husband, a parent of three young children, and my career as a software engineer. In 2008 I discovered AU. With the flexibility it offered, I learned that I could handle my responsibilities and pursue further education simultaneously. Since then I have been enrolled in the Bachelor of Science program as a part-time student. I have the skills and experience necessary to be an effective member of the AUSU Student Council. I have board experience. I’m currently serving as Vice-Chair of a not-for-profit organization that produces subsidized fresh food boxes. I have a reputation for getting things done. I was voted ‘Executive of the Year’ as Vice-President of the Student Alumni Association of McMaster. By virtue of my profession, I bring deep technical knowledge of Internet and telecommunications technologies. Finally, I have recently received awards for my public speaking skills at Toastmasters. Vote Craig French for great results!”

***We look forward to seeing what the new council will be able to accomplish during their term! Congratulations to those elected, and thanks to all who ran!***

*This column is provided by AUSU to facilitate communication with its members. The Voice does not write or edit this section; all content has been exclusively and directly provided by AUSU, and any questions or comments about the material should be directed to [ausu@ausu.org](mailto:ausu@ausu.org).*

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: ALBERTA STUDENT MINISTERIAL INTERNS

### About Us

The Government of Alberta offers diverse and rewarding career opportunities for everyone - from individuals beginning their careers to those with lots of experience. Summer employment provides students with the opportunity to learn about our organization, develop workplace skills, and gain career-related experience. For more information about the Government of Alberta, please visit our website at [www.alberta.ca](http://www.alberta.ca).

### Role

If you are a post-secondary student who wants hands-on experience working in a minister's office in the Alberta Legislature this summer, this challenge is for you. We are looking for highly motivated, enthusiastic individuals interested in learning how the Alberta government functions at the ministerial level. In these three-month summer internship positions, you will work closely with minister's office staff to support the minister with his/her daily activities. You will use your strong interpersonal, research, and verbal and written communication skills, as you attend events; assist with briefings and scheduling; respond to telephone enquires; process action requests and work on special projects. Ideal candidates will also have strong computer and organizational skills, the ability to learn quickly, and work well in a team setting. If you have an interest in working for the Alberta Public Service or other government-related fields, this unique position is for you.

During this internship you will have the opportunity to learn how your provincial government works and gain an understanding of public policy development activities through on-the job training and by interacting with staff from many different areas of government.

### Qualifications

You are a post-secondary student who has completed at least two years of a program or you have graduated from a post-secondary program within the past year. Proficiency with Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel is also required. Preference will be given to candidates who have demonstrated an interest in public service, government or the political processes through related work, co-op or volunteer experience. Equivalencies will be considered.

### Salary

\$21.82 per hour **effective April 1, 2012**

### Closing Date

March 26, 2012

### Job ID: 1010118

### Open Competition

### Notes

We have several positions located in Edmonton and one position located in Calgary. Please indicate which location(s) you are applying for in your application. These are three-month temporary positions from May 22 – August 24, 2012. Final candidates will be asked to undergo a security screening.

### How to Apply

Apply online at [www.jobs.alberta.ca](http://www.jobs.alberta.ca). Along with your resume, applicants are required to submit a 500 word Statement of Interest responding to the following questions:

- Why do you want to participate in the Alberta Student Ministerial Internship Program?
- Why are you a suitable candidate?
- How do you envision participating in this internship will impact your career?

Online applications are preferred. If you apply online, please ensure your Statement of Interest and resume are submitted as one file. If you are unable to apply online, please submit your cover letter and resume, quoting the Job ID, to: Marriam Adujan, Alberta Executive Council, Human Resources, by email to [marriam.apdujan@gov.ab.ca](mailto:marriam.apdujan@gov.ab.ca) or by fax at 780-422-4168. Applicants who apply online will be able to track the status of this competition. We thank all applicants for their interest; however, only those individuals selected for interviews will be contacted.

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact [voice@voicemagazine.org](mailto:voice@voicemagazine.org) for more information.

## THE VOICE

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