

The Answer's Clear

A Time To Remember

Stirring the Pot

Re-evaluating Remembrance

Council Connection

What AU Will Do To You

Plus: Mindful Bard The Writer's Toolbox and much more!



CONTENTS

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

Columns

Editorial: Stirring the Pot	3
Writer's Toolbox: Now I Lay Me Down and Weep	4
From Where I Sit: The Answer's Clear	6
Primal Numbers: The Brain That Wouldn't Die	8
Gregor's Bed: Monday Night at the Mensa Disco	10
The Mindful Bard: Money & Life	
AUSU Update	16
Comics	
Dysfunctional Love Languages: The Languages of Rationalization	15
News and Events	
Did You Know?	9
Click of the Wrist	
International News Desk	
Council Connection	14
From Our Readers	

Letters to the Editor......2

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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

EDITORIAL Karl Low



Stirring The Pot

Veterans Day. Armistice Day. Remembrance Day. No matter what you call it, the sentiment is the same, a day to celebrate and respect the men and women who died in various wars to preserve our freedom.

I have to admit, I don't tend to think of Remembrance Day in those terms. I don't know anybody who served in either World War. Neither of my parents were born until after. If my grandparents were ever involved, it's never been spoken of. Am I simply

supposed to be remembering the concept of these people, the men and women who bravely went to fight for our freedoms? Except the chances are that they didn't go of their own volition. Conscription and propaganda were the order of the day for both of the World Wars, and for all sides. Were they fighting to preserve our freedoms, or were they fighting because they didn't have the freedom not to?

World War I started with the assassination of the Archduke Ferdinand of the double-monarchy of Austria-Hungary and the subsequent ultimatum delivered to Kingdom of Serbia. Old alliances were called on from each side to aid in their defence, those nations in turn called on their allies, and so for four years the world sent men and children to die in trenches because of their national obligations, not national freedoms.

In World War II each side claimed to act in the name of freedom. For the Axis, it was freedom from the economic oppression that the Allies had imposed following the First World War. For the Allies, it was the freedom to maintain the status quo and not be forced to become German protectorates. The soldiers on both sides thought that they were dying for freedom, and in some ways, they were.

I understand the concept behind Remembrance Day, I really do. It's to celebrate that people were willing to die to protect their way of life and defend their neighbours and countrymen. That's an amazing sacrifice and should certainly be remembered. But there is a danger when we simplify or idealize these things too much. For many, any questioning of Remembrance Day is an affront. But when we fail to question, to think critically, are we not committing the very same acts that brought the world to war not once, but twice before?

This week, Hazel Anaka takes a different view from me in From Where I Sit. And maybe she's right. I'm sure there are many more who agree with her than me on this issue. What we can all agree on, however, is that Christina M. Frey is not lying with her article on how two words can lay down a lot of grief when you're trying to get them right. And S.D. Livingston explains how growing a brain can lead to some tricky dilemmas in this week's Primal Numbers. We also have some brain food from the Mindful Bard, Gregor's Bed, and a Council Connection about what AU is planning in the near future, ready for your consumption.

Bon appétit!

Writer's Toolbox Christina M. Frey



Now I Lay Me Down and Weep

Lie versus lay. Laid versus lay versus lain. It's a question that confuses both new and experienced writers--and when it crops up in our own writing, we just want to lie down and die. Or is it lay?

Surprisingly, it's not as difficult to figure out as it looks--and you don't need any grammar background to do it. Follow this simple two-step process and make yourself a chart you can reference easily, and you may be able to lay (not lie) all your fears to rest.

Step 1: Find the correct verb.

There are two possible verbs here: to lie and to lay. They're not exactly interchangeable, even though the meaning is similar.

To lie means to recline. To lay means to set or put or place something. Do you see the difference?

A helpful way to look at the question of lie versus lay is in terms of the result. By the end of the sentence, who or what is lying down (or was, or wants to be, or will be)?

If it's the main character in the sentence, the **person or being doing the action**, who ends up reclined, then the verb to use is *to lie*. But if the main character in the sentence is doing the action--the laying down--to something or someone else, then the correct verb is *to lay*.

Example A: Sarah is tired and wants to lie down.

Here Sarah, the main character in the sentence, is **doing the action to herself**; she's the one who ends up lying down. That's why the verb used is *to lie*.

Example B: Sarah is tired and wants to lay down her heavy backpack.

In this case, Sarah is still the main character in the sentence, but she doesn't end up lying down; she makes this happen to something else (her backpack). This kind of sentence requires the verb *to lay*. For grammar types, the backpack is the direct object, since it's the thing the action's being done to.

What about when the main actor of the sentence is not clear? First, figure out who the hidden main character, the actor, of the sentence is; then proceed with Step 1.

Example C: Lie down and go to sleep!

Here the main character, the person who is acting (or is supposed to be acting), is "you"--or whomever is being addressed. Since the addressee is supposed to be doing the lying down himself or herself, use *to lie*.

The key point? If the person or thing lying down is the main character or actor of the sentence, use to lie. If the person or thing lying down is put in that position BY the main character or actor of the sentence, use to lay.

Step 2: Find the correct verb form.

Once you have the correct verb figured out, you still need to choose the right verb form (or tense). That's where things can feel even more complicated, because the past tense of *to lie* is *lay*. Don't let that throw you. As long as you have the right verb chosen (see Step 1), you can easily figure out the proper verb form to use for the context of your sentence. Copy this chart and use it as a handy reference next time you encounter the lie versus lay question.

	Present (happening now)	Past (already happened)	Past participle (used with certain verbs, like to have)	Present participle (used with certain verbs, like to be)
to lie	lie	lay	lain	lying
(i.e., self)	Sarah lies down.	Sarah lay down.	Sarah has lain in	Sarah is lying in
			bed for an hour.	bed right now,
to lay	lay	laid	laid	laying
(i.e., someone or	Sarah lays down	Sarah laid down	Sarah has laid	Sarah is laying
something else)	her heavy	her heavy	down her heavy	down her
	backpack.	backpack.	backpack three	backpack right
			times today.	now.

Example D: Sarah laid down her backpack and lay on the bed.

Use *laid*, the past tense of *to lay*, because the action's being done to the backpack. Use *lay*, the past tense of *to lie*, because Sarah's doing the action to herself.

That's it. Just two steps. Does it still look wrong? Lie vs. lay is one of those usage problems that is so common that it's hard to recognize the correct version. That's okay. If you've followed Steps 1 and 2, you should be on the right track.

Still feeling overwhelmed? Don't try to memorize it all right now; rather, make yourself a handy reference chart with the steps and tenses above, and use it every time you come up against the lie versus lay problem. You won't be alone; thousands of writing professionals use reference charts and tables to check themselves every time they write.

No lie.

Christina M. Frey is a book editor and a lover of great writing. Chat with her on Twitter about all things literary @turntopage2.

Editor's note: An earlier version of this article had a grammatical error introduced by myself. Christina was kind enough to point out the error and appropriate correction in the most understanding manner possible. *Mea culpa*.



The Answer's Clear

On November 11th many of us will gather at the cenotaph in our community to participate in Remembrance Day ceremonies. Too many more will use this day off to work, play, or shop. Maybe we'd all benefit from a reminder of the history and significance of this day.

World War I ended on November 11, 1918. In 1919, King George V dedicated November 11th to the members of the armed forces killed during the war. Commemorating the end of hostilities, Armistice Day (as it was originally called), was observed throughout Britain and the Commonwealth and came to symbolize the end of the war and provided an opportunity to remember the fallen. After World War II ended in 1945, the name was changed to Remembrance Day to include all those who had fallen in both World Wars and later conflicts.

If we ever stop remembering the sacrifice of over one hundred thousand who lost their lives in these wars, it will become meaningless. They died for us, for traditions they cherished, for a future they believed in. They died for Canada. The meaning of their sacrifice lies within our collective national consciousness.

By remembering their service we recognize the tradition of freedom these men and women fought to preserve. They believed their actions would ensure a future of peace. On Remembrance Day we honour their courage and sacrifice. And we acknowledge our responsibility to work for the peace they fought to achieve.

Remembrance Day is a day of symbolism, observance, and meaning. The poppies we've been wearing for a couple of weeks are the most visible sign that we understand, that we remember, and that we are grateful. They come from the poem, "In Flanders Fields," written by John McCrae, a Canadian doctor serving in the military. They grew wild in the battlefields and in the graveyards. Their colour reminds us of the blood shed for our freedom. Whether worn singly on our lapels or in the wreaths we lay, it is important that we keep supporting veterans through poppy sales.

Another symbol is the war memorial that my town of Andrew, like many communities, has erected in a place of prominence. It commemorates those lost in military action. Ottawa's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is where, in the year 2000, the remains of a Canadian soldier who was never identified were laid. It is the location of Canada's official program of prayer and wreath laying.

Finally, Canada's most prominent tribute overseas is the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in France. The inscription on the memorial reads:

To the valour of their countrymen in the Great War and in memory of their sixty thousand dead this monument is raised by the people of Canada.

So even though we know why and how we should remember the question remains: will we? Will we set aside the hour or so to remind our children and grandchildren of the right thing to do? The answer's clear, from where I sit.

Hazel Anaka's first novel is Lucky Dog. Visit her website or follow her on Twitter @anakawrites.

CLICK OF THE WRIST In Remembrance

Meaningful Medals

CBC gives us a pictorial look at the medals, and stories behind them, of a number of Canadian servicemen. If you want Remembrance Day to be something beyond abstract concepts, this is a good place to see some of the people that we pause for on November 11th.

Poppycraft

If you're the crafty sort, this site gives a step by step guide to making your own realistic looking poppy out of paper. Of course, being realistic means it looks almost nothing like the typical plastic poppy that you wear on your lapel. However it also means that it can be a cheery addition to a table display in the depths of winter.

The Full Poppy

Some interesting facts about poppies can be found here. Find out why you shouldn't have a poppy-seed muffin before a drug test, why you should have them the rest of the time, and just what the link is between poppies, the US Army, and nano-technology.

The Poppy Controversy

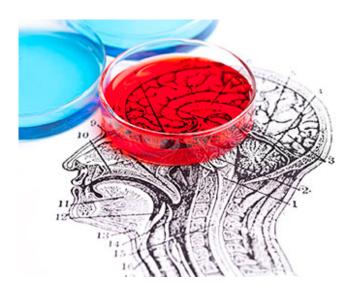
The traditional red poppy is what most people know of Remembrance Day. However there is also a group out there that is trying to get people to wear a white poppy instead, to symbolize the sacrifices for peace rather than the sacrifices of war.

Think you can put together an interesting set of links with a theme like this one? If so, let us see it at voice@voicemagazine.org. We pay \$20 for short submissions like these.



THE VOICE MAGAZINE

PRIMAL NUMBERS S.D. Livingston



The Brain That Wouldn't Die

When you're a little kid, it's probably not the best idea to watch a horror movie called *The Brain That Wouldn't Die.* But back in the '60s that's exactly what I did—and it scared the heck out of me. The <u>film</u> looks more than a little dated now, but the schlocky sci-fi premise was clearly ahead of its time: today's scientists have successfully grown the first miniature human brains in a lab.

As the CBC <u>reports</u>, researchers in Austria took human stem cells, created cultures in the lab, and grew "so-called 'cerebral organoids'—or mini brains—that consisted of several distinct brain regions."

That's a truly amazing accomplishment when you consider that the human brain is one of the most complex and efficient organs on the planet. Sure, computers can do plenty of routine functions faster than the average human brain can, but Discovery's Curiosity site <u>notes</u> that computers "can't easily adapt to changing situations," and "they are not able to function in multiple disciplines." Indeed, it would take the computer power of one laptop to replicate the computing power of just one of the brain's billions of neurons. Pretty impressive for a structure that hasn't changed much over the past 10,000 years.

To be clear, we're not talking about growing a complete, full-sized human brain. Science isn't there quite yet. What researchers have done, though, is grow cerebral organoids that "organised themselves into primitive structures that could be recognised as developing brain regions such as retina, choroid plexus and cerebral cortex," complete with firing neurons.

The mini brains themselves might not look like much to the casual observer. The largest one only reached a size of four millimetres. But don't let their looks fool you. These tiny organs represent an enormous step forward in understanding how our full-size grey matter works, and in understanding and possibly preventing common brain disorders like autism and depression.

But as with every new discovery, there are ethical issues to think about. For instance, if doctors can one day scan an embryo's developing human brain, should they intervene if the signs of a potential brain disorder are spotted? And how definite should the signs be before parents should have the option of microsurgery to tinker with their unborn baby's mind? For instance, if science can show us

that our fetus has a 50% chance of developing major depression during his life, do we have the right to alter certain brain functions before that child's independent personality has even had a chance to bloom?

For most of us, the natural instinct is probably to recoil from the thought. We're not used to the idea of changing a person's behaviour by physically altering their brains—especially if that person is a child or infant.

Yet it's widely accepted that we can change behaviour by using chemicals to alter our brains. From antidepressants to Ritalin, we medicate millions of adults and children alike. That's not a commentary on whether it's right or wrong. Indeed, such medications make a measurable, positive difference in countless people's lives.

The truth is, there might come a day when science can give us a choice to alter (or perhaps even replace) parts of our brains that cause many common disorders. Given that choice, how many of us would opt for surgery over a lifetime of prescriptions? It's all speculation right now, but those are questions that we may need to ponder in the future, whether we're starting a family or caring for someone with Alzheimer's disease.

In the meantime, I think I'll entertain my own grey matter with a little channel surfing. But you can bet it won't be a rerun of *The Brain That Wouldn't Die*.

S.D. Livingston is the author and creator of the Madeline M. Mystery Series for kids, as well as several books for older readers. Visit her <u>website</u> for information on her writing.

DID YOU KNOW?

Aeroplan Enables Higher Ed



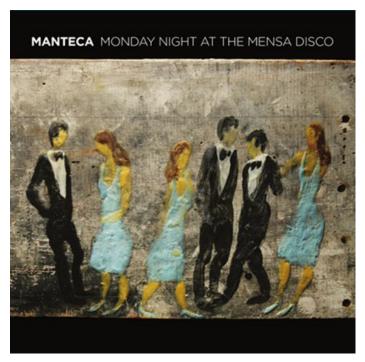
A firm called <u>Higher Ed Points Inc</u>. has recently launched that lets Canadian students fund their education through the use of Aeroplan miles.

Aeroplan members can redeem miles in \$250 denominations which then can be transferred to Higher Ed Points partner institutions. While this is currently limited to the University of New Brunswick, and Centennial College in Toronto, Ontario, Higher Ed Points hopes to expand this network rapidly.

The founder, Suzanne Tyson, explains, "We're a nation of dedicated loyalty program participants, so even if students themselves haven't

collected a lot of loyalty points, they still have a very good chance of knowing someone who would be only too happy to make a "donation" toward their higher education."

GREGOR'S BED Wanda Waterman



Recent Discoveries from the Realm of the Experimental and the Avant Garde

Album: Manteca, Monday Night at the Mensa Disco

Jubilant Musical Bouillabaisse Swimming in Fresh Creative Juices

"We are driven by an intense desire to see the thrill in our audience's eyes. With nine players on stage when we play an ensemble figure together there is a power and this kind of joyous impact surrounded by the silence between the notes that exhilarates us and in turn the audience."

~Matt Zimbel, Manteca

Manteca is a nine-piece Toronto-based jazz ensemble that's as grounded in all of late jazz as it is open to

innovation, eclecticism, and exploration. The album title is priceless in itself, but it also sums up the bearing of this great album; it's smart, uninhibited, and so danceable even the nerds will climb down off the walls.

Though the band has been a dominant fixture in Canadian jazz, and on the world scene, for more than two decades, this all sounds refreshingly new. These days I've been noting the frequency of composers being inspired by sixties film scores, and *Monday Night at the Mensa Disco* is a brilliant example of how such inspiration can generate lush new sounds.

"Mind Monday" is the bee's knees. It's guaranteed to lift you from the worst sloughs of despond, packed with thrilling solos and driving percussions, and reminiscent of those movie scenes wherein the hero has just reached an epiphany and is now embarking on a new journey into a world whose doors are wide open. (It's clear the band-members are into it; listen for the wolf whistles, war whoops, and enthusiastic handclapping.)

<u>"Levitate"</u> starts off sounding like those dance scenes in *Bye Bye Birdie* where the kids are swinging their arms and snapping their fingers while crouching across the stage. The bass clarinet and polyrhythmic drums are a great set up for a divinely original melody played on an alto flute. There's a crescendo to evoke pools of triumph, film noir, and dissonance. At the end, the muted trumpet sings of repressed longings and a devilish inventiveness.

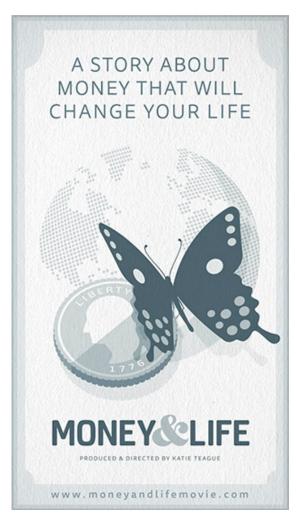
"Radio Noir" (how's that for another great title?) is a rich tune ripe with glamorous associations from the late fifties and early sixties, the era when most radio music was instrumental.

To its credit, this album was fan-funded according to newly developing funding models (of which Gregor's Bed heartily approves). Via <u>Indiegogo</u>, fans actually helped Manteca exceed its financial goal. And a bit of help from the Ontario Arts Council Popular Music Program didn't hurt. Thank goodness that gifted groups like this don't have to depend on record companies and bottom lines anymore.

You'll find elements of Latin, funk, experimental, folk, and fusion, all with a salient absence of caution and self-consciousness. How did they manage it? Perhaps the fact that the album was recorded in three days lends the music a brash exuberance—even though the writing took three years. Every track is an original composition by Doug Wilde and Matt Zimbel, but once they had the scores down they ran with them. Apparently, writing slow and recording fast is a good formula.

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

THE MINDFUL BARD Wanda Waterman



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

Film: <u>Money & Life</u>
Director: Katie Teague
Genre: Documentary

The Shift from "You or Me" to "You and Me"

"Planet Finance is now getting bigger than Planet Earth." Rebecca Adamson,

Indigenous Economics Advocate, quoted in Money & Life

"I tell the story of a more beautiful world. To me that's a story of the money but more broadly a story of the people. What's happening is that humanity is moving toward adulthood."

Charles Eisenstein, author of Sacred Economics, quoted in Money & Life

According to *Money & Life*, the world's financial sector (the system providing loans, credit, and other purely financial services) now values itself at more than twice the value of all goods and services now being produced.

What does this mean for you and me? It means that everything of true value in our lives is in danger of being sucked dry by something that essentially has no value but, rather, is a phantom representative of real goods and resources. Within this paradigm money can't help but have a damaging effect on our lives, at least, if we grant it that power.

If you've been paying attention to our economy, you'll probably agree that our financial situation is bloody awful right now, and this film certainly reminds us of that. Nonetheless, I so want to call it a "feelgood flick." And I don't mean this in a sarcastic way. Even after all the scary news the movie lays out you come away from *Money & Life* feeling warm and hopeful.

Money & Life raises the bad news we all know, but it adds some interesting clarifications for us boneheads who get that something's not right with banks—but can't quite grasp the mechanics of how the dysfunction operates.

We know, for example, that our monetary system is founded on debt, but what hasn't been clear to all of us is that the economy requires the creation of more debt just to survive. To pay for past debts, more loans must be given and all current debts must be paid, because even one defaulted loan creates a domino effect. And need we point out how hard it is not to default on a loan?

As many veterans of the nineties stock boom attest in the film, too much money can be worse than not having enough: creating addictions, extravagant and mindless spending, and overwhelming desires for useless things.

The freedom to buy what we can't afford, coupled with the pressure to pay off debt, can be socially and personally devastating. Joy Hosey of Oregon knows the endless dread and sleepless nights one passes while personal finances spin out of control. But she describes her experience of bankruptcy as being much simpler—and more freeing—than she'd feared.

SOCK

My debt pays for your loan, and your debt pays for someone else's loan, and there must always be another borrower out there to keep us all in loans.

8003

"And there are so many of us these days," she says sadly. The man who let her into the courtroom told her that bankruptcy cases used to be held once every six months, but now they were being held twice a week.

Others in the film talk about the devastating effect of debt on marriages, families, and communities, but the thing we really should be anxious about is that the need to pay off these debts means we're producing and using more goods and services than the planet can sustainably provide. Economists use the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a thermometer of well-being. But, it seems increasing the GDP requires us to pillage and dispose of environmental resources as quickly as possible. Converting resources creates "growth," even if said growth adds nothing to the quality of life but misery, heartache, and pollution.

This is the connection between interest rates and climate change. My debt pays for your loan, and your debt pays for someone else's loan, and there must always be another borrower out there to keep us all in loans. The fact that we all owe money means we're struggling very hard to create more. The same

system that's gulping down all our resources is simultaneously generating the greed that drives consumers to continue funding the growing crisis.

Money & Life skirts the more travelled path of recommending Marxism as a sure-fire antidote. It upholds the usefulness of capitalism but shows up the fault-lines in the existing system. Even those spokespersons in the movie claiming to favour capitalism point out that what we have today is a predatory version, a mutant strain of capitalism that acts like a free radical threatening to destroy its host.

The good news is that there are workable solutions to the current crisis, and when you hear them you'll realize you've been seeing them in practice for years. Here in *The Voice* we've seen a number of articles on the subject of new payment models for musicians, new forms of currency, new ways of cooperating to ensure a good standard of life for everyone, and changes of attitude that consciously move away from status-seeking and wealth-building and toward the pearls that are beyond price: things like family, friendship, tranquility, knowledge, and adventure.

If formerly you dismissed the Occupy movement for lack of direction, be prepared to change your tune. For all the bad press, the movement is an inevitable reaction to an astonishing level of injustice—a reaction coupled with some very cogent proposals for a new financial order.

If you're curious and want to check out areas related to this film, such as the mechanics of the current financial situation, positive psychology, and new economic models, look at these pieces from the Voice archives:

• Book: <u>Deep Economy</u>, by Bill McKibben

• Film: *Happy*

- Interview with Paul Leighton
- Interview with **Tina Piper** of Creative Commons Canada

Money & Life manifests nine of the Mindful Bard's criteria for films well worth seeing.

- 1. It's authentic, original, and delightful;
- 2. It poses and admirably responds to questions that have a direct bearing on my view of existence;
- 3. It stimulates my mind;
- 4. It is about attainment of the true self;
- 5. It inspires an awareness of the sanctity of creation;
- 6. It displays an engagement with and compassionate response to suffering;
- 7. It gives me tools of kindness, enabling me to respond with compassion and efficacy to the suffering around me;
- 8. It renews my enthusiasm for positive social action; and
- 9. It makes me appreciate that life is a complex and rare phenomena, making living a unique opportunity.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS DESK



At Home: Veterans Affairs Offices Closing

In Corner Brook, NL, a rally was held on Thursday to protest the closing of a Veterans Affairs office. This is one of nine Veteran Affairs offices that are scheduled to close by February, 2014.

CBC News <u>reports</u> that about 40 people attended the rally from the small city, mostly veterans and union members, who gathered outside the J.R. Smallwood Building at lunchtime on Thursday, November 7th.

The closure will mostly affect the older people who use the office says a veteran who served for 34 years, Winston Childs.

Around the World: Posh Poppies with a Problem.

Far from the cheap plastic and felt on a pin, in Britain, poppies have gone upper class. The Telegraph reports on how these expensive pieces, including crystal poppy brooches, poppy bracelets and even poppy cufflinks have become popular. While the makers of these pieces all donate a portion of the sales to the Royal British Legion in support of veterans, it has been found that this percentage is very small on a number of the most popular poppies.

COUNCIL CONNECTION

At the most recent Council Meeting, AUSU adjusted a number of policies to streamline investment planning. Part of this streamlining involves allowing Council to spend a small amount over-budget on specific line items, so long as the total amount spent remains within the budget.

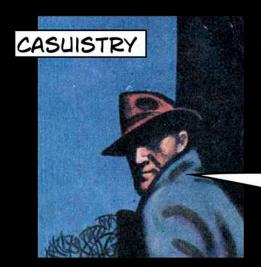
More interesting, however, was information that Council has gained from meetings with the VPA Alex Kondra, and AU's Director of Financial Services, Rocky Brown.

Tuition is increasing, as we all expected. What was not expected was that this increase will be only \$4.00 per course. Challenge for credit fees, which are tied directly to course fees, will also be increasing by \$3.00 per course. Aside from those, however, AU has promised no other fees will be increasing at all.

Additionally, it was confirmed that the Call Centre (aka Support Centre) model will be rolled out across all AU courses. AUSU has many concerns about this, but as Dr. Kondra has said it will definitely happen, will be refocusing its energy on ensuring the new system will address student concerns as much as possible.

~ More Dysfunctional Love Languages~

THE LANGUAGES OF RATIONALIZATION



IS IT OK TO CHEAT ON YOUR INCOME TAX?

SURE, AS LONG AS YOU DON'T DO IT EVERY DAY.

TWENTY BUCKS JUST DISAPPEARED, AND YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE ALONE WITH MY WALLET.

YOU KNOW, YOU COULD REALLY USE A BREATH MINT.



A SURIMINE WILLIAM A

MINIMISING BY EXAGGERATED COMPARISON



SUZY, MY BEST FRIEND SAYS YOU HIT ON HIM!

OH, COME ON, HONEY- IT'S NOT LIKE I GRABBED HIS BUTT!

WRITTEN BY WANDA WATERMAN

AUSU UPDATE



Dear Members,

You may have recently seen information on the internet speculating about the future of Athabasca University. These reports suggest that the Alberta government may broker a merger between AU and University of Alberta, and that this may result in drastic changes to the services and programs offered to students AU students.

We want you to know that AUSU is aware of these rumours and is actively investigating the source – we will keep you informed as we know more.

We can tell you that AU is governed via a bicameral structure with two main governing bodies: the General

Faculties Council (formerly Academic Council) and the Board of Governors (formerly Governing Council). AUSU has representatives on both of these governing bodies and we can confirm that there has been no formal discussion of a university merger among these groups. The AU president, Frits Pannekoek, has also assured the press that there is no truth to the rumour. On behalf of our members, we are seeking more information from the Board of Governors, the minister, and AU executives.

At this time we simply have no evidence that a merger is being seriously considered by AU, the U of A, or the Alberta government, and we note that among the many committees and working groups of AU, planning and development for the future continues as usual.

We know that our members are worried and want more information. We will update you as soon as we know more. At this time we do not feel there is any reason for students to worry or make changes to their study plans.

Do not hesitate to contact our office if you wish to talk about this or any other issue affecting AU students.

AUSU.

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.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

THE VOICE

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