

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

Vol 22 Issue 23 2014-06-06

Summer Brain Gain

Taking a Break with an Active Mind

Test-Tube Burger

No-kill Meat

Maghreb Voices

An Italian Piglet

Plus:

*From Where I Sit
In Conversation
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, and please indicate if we may publish your letter.

EDITORIAL

Karl Low



The Politics of Sex Work

So it seems our articles a few weeks ago on how some students are using sex work to fund their education were a bit prescient, as over the last week, Justice Minister Peter MacKay announced and tabled a new set of legislation to govern sex workers.

This new legislation comes in response to the Supreme Court shooting down the old legislation on the grounds that it violated the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms guarantees to security of the person. The gist was that while selling sex for money was not illegal, living off of the avails of prostitution was, which forced sex workers into the streets and put them in at risk situations.

You might ask why the sale of sex wasn't just made illegal in the first place, but when sex itself is legal, and the exchange of other goods is also legal, that makes it very difficult to define what exactly constitutes a sale. Is it a sale when a gift of flowers, chocolate, or jewellery is exchanged? What makes those different from a "gift" of money? There is also the difficulty that if selling sex is simply outlawed, then those selling it have no ability to go to the police without incriminating themselves, and this, with the recent experience

of the Pickton murders, is part of what made the Supreme Court frown on the previous legislation. The rules against bawdy houses were so broad as to cause the exact same difficulties and risks.

However, the CPC has chosen to ignore these difficulties, and has created a law that, while it still allows the sale of sex, it is no longer legal for a person to purchase sex. Of course again the question comes up as what counts as a purchase? The legislation is silent on that, which provides no help for law enforcement agencies in determining what is or isn't prostitution.

Another thing this new law does is makes it illegal for sex-trade workers to advertise their services in any place that might be populated by people under the age of 18, including the internet. Also, it maintains that anybody knowingly living off the avails of someone who does this is also guilty of an offense.

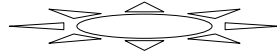
Now, if you're following along, you may be asking, how is this different from what the Supreme Court has already struck down? The answer is, not very much. Of course, Justice Minister Peter Mackay has refused to say that he'll take this legislation before the Supreme Court directly in order to make sure that it is legal, which means we can expect it to be challenged by someone and have our tax dollars spend defending it through years of litigation until it finally does reach the Supreme Court and, in all likelihood, struck down for the exact same reasons as the previous law. Whether the Supreme Court will be kind enough to provide another extension of the bad law as they did previously is unknown.

Some have argued that if we must take a moral stand somewhere, or how can we truly call ourselves civilized, and while there is some merit to that argument, I think the response can simply be summed up as, "The moral stance must first be to ensure we are not endangering people doing something which is legal." When we force sex trade workers into the shadows and to be hidden when negotiating what is, for them, a perfectly legal activity, we are forcing them into danger and that isn't right.

The question left is how much are we, the taxpayers, going to have to pay to sort this out for the CPC?

In other news, you'll note that this is a shortened issue of *The Voice Magazine*. The Writer's Toolbox is on a small hiatus as Christina Frey has simply gotten so busy with her editing company that something had to give, and The Writer's Toolbox was part of that. So while we congratulate her on her business expanding, I have to hope, selfishly, it won't get too successful and that she'll have time to come back to us in the near future. Also missing are our Meeting the Minds and Samantha Stevens' music reviews, but neither are expected to be permanent absences, just a bit of a break for each now that I've managed to go through the initial rush of content.

However, we still have most of our regular columnists, and I've had some nibbles from prospective writers as well, so while this week might be a bit of a lull, I'm hoping it's because we're just gearing up for even more and better.



Primal Numbers Test-Tube Burger

S.D. Livingston



It's almost summer, and that means BBQ grills everywhere will soon be heating up. From lowly hot dogs to succulent steaks, people can't enough of their favourite meats. But as worldwide meat consumption grows so do the harmful effects, and some scientists think they've found the solution: test-tube meat. The big question is, will meat lovers be willing to bite?

If you're thinking of fake meat *a la* texturized vegetable protein or cardboard veggie burgers, think again. The latest research has brought us actual muscle tissue, just like on a cow or pig, being grown in a lab. As *Live Science* [reports](#),

researchers working with pork have taken "pig myosatellite cells—a type of muscle stem cell—and [grown] them in a serum made from the blood of cow fetuses."

That might not sound too appetizing, but the end result is actual muscle tissue. And while initial testers report the taste as being a bit bland, researchers can boost the fat content for better flavour. Science could also benefit consumers by tailoring the nutritional content of the cultured meat. As this article in *The Atlantic* [notes](#), healthier fats such as omega-3 fatty acids could replace the saturated fatty acids normally found in your typical pork chops and burgers.

But are the health concerns of eating meat really enough to justify funding this kind of research? That might depend on how much you worry about your diet, but the growing toll of meat production and consumption go far beyond concern over high cholesterol and elevated cancer risks.

When we think of cattle (or pig or sheep) farms, we probably picture the fields, barns, and grazing animals that are a common sight outside many cities. The problem is, that idyllic scene doesn't come close to capturing the incredible scale of meat production on this planet. So let's put it in perspective.

As the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) showed in 2012, the numbers are staggering. Over a half century, from 1961 to 2009, global meat production per year grew from 70 million tonnes to 278 million tonnes. That's a whopping increase of "300 per cent in 50 years."

And our growing appetite for meat can't all be pinned on population growth. We're also eating more meat per person, and the increased demand has the UN's Food and Agricultural Organization predicting another rise of 65 per cent in the next few decades—reaching 460 million tonnes by 2050. That's a lot of meat.

To be fair, meat isn't the only food we're demanding more of. The growing number of humans on the planet also means a greater demand for plant foods like wheat, rice, and beans. So whether you crave a double bacon burger or a plate of veggies and hummus, you're still using up resources like land, water, fertilizer, and the fuel to haul those groceries to the store.

Raising meat, though, comes at a much higher cost—to resources, the environment, and the animals themselves—than farming plants. UNEP, the United Nations Environment Programme, notes that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are one of the more destructive aspects of putting all those billions of steaks and chops on the table.

For starters, there's the methane and nitrous oxide from the animals themselves. Cows, for example, "are by far the largest contributors to global enteric [methane] emissions."

And unlike the traditional image of Bessie grazing in a field, most of your meat today comes from animals that are densely packed into what's known as CAFOs—Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations. Since there's nothing to graze on, we have to add the environmental cost of chemical nitrogenous fertilizers that are needed to grow the feed for the animals. True, the wheat and rice that humans eat contribute to fertilizer use as well. But the GHG emissions from livestock account for "nearly 80 per cent of all agricultural emissions."

That's because it's no small feat to grow enough crops to feed all those cows, pigs, and sheep. Indeed, as the *National Post* reports, "raising animals destined for the dinner table takes up about 70 per cent of all agricultural land."

What goes in must come out, of course, which means we also have to think about all the GHG emissions from the resulting manure. Those piles of poop, as UNEP tells us, add up to some 500 million tonnes each year in the United States alone—"three times the amount of human sanitary waste" produced by the people there.

All in all, modern meat production doesn't bear a whole lot of resemblance to farming of old, neither in the methods used nor the massive differences in scale. That's not to say the entire world should become vegetarian. To eat meat or not eat meat is a personal choice.

But it does mean that, if you want to keep enjoying all those steaks and pork chops, we've got to look for better ways to supply it. Ways that don't use staggering amounts of resources to produce relatively small returns. Like the 20 pounds of grain required to produce just 1 pound of edible beef.

Maybe, then, the question isn't whether or not consumers will embrace the idea. Instead, maybe researchers should be asking whether they'd like fries with that.

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 [website](#) for information on her writing.

Summer Brain Gain

Barbara Lehtiniemi



What is your brain doing this summer? While many students continue their studies through the summer, others follow the traditional school year and take the summer off. And why not? Summer is an inviting time to get outdoors and away from studies for while. But a summer break need not be an all-or-nothing concept. For students in a full-time course of study, taking only a single course over the summer months can feel like holiday. Dealing with one course instead of five may seem like a picnic and, at summer's end, you're three credits closer to your goal.

Whether you're taking a full or partial summer break from studying, you can still make some progress over the summer months (or at least prevent your brain from turning to mush.)

Desk clean-up. A good task for a rainy summer day. A lull in your studies is a good time to tidy up all those random pieces of paper, file away documents from completed courses, and find a home for last semester's textbooks.

Make a plan. Summer down-time means abundant opportunity to research which courses to take in the fall. Pay special attention to the evaluation section of the course syllabus. With careful advance planning and staggered start dates, you can reduce having major assignments from multiple courses due at the same time.

Apply for transfer credits. Still trying to track down course outlines so you can apply to AU for transfer credits? Summer is often a slower period at registrar offices. This may be a good time to contact your former colleges and universities for the course outlines and transcripts you need to support your transfer credit application.

Reading list. Remember all those books from supplementary materials lists that you vowed you would read? Those supplementary readings create a perfect excuse for lounging outside. Even though those courses are completed, reading the supplementary texts help reinforce what you've learned. This will be especially valuable if you plan to take a follow-up course in the same subject.

Non-stop learning. It's nice to chill out in the summer but your brain will benefit from some exercise during the down months. Sign up for a seminar or workshop. Tour a museum, historic site, or brewery. Attend a speaker night at a photography, astronomy, or social club, or at a local library, museum, or art gallery. Take a class purely for interest.

Try something new. Take your mind in a difference direction. Take a class in watercolour or glass-blowing. Explore the varied online training at Lynda.com, available through AUSU's website (only available if you are registered in an AU undergraduate course; if you're not registered in any courses over the summer, you won't be able to access Lynda.com through AUSU.) Try out Tai Chi, yoga, or juggling. Write an article for The Voice.

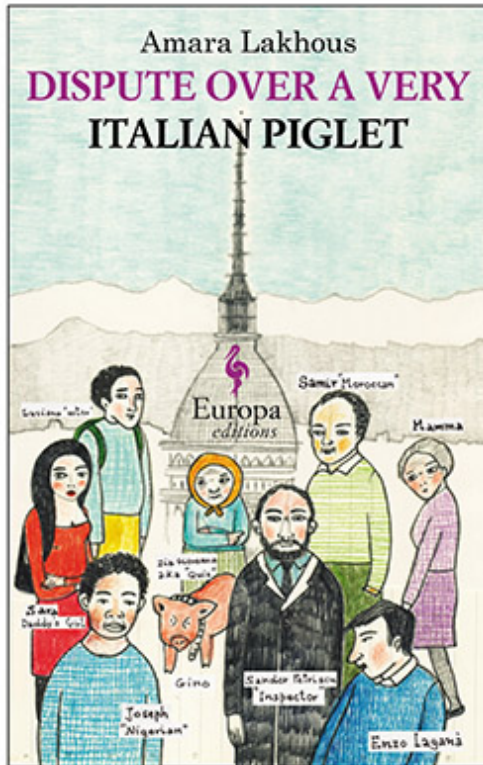
Get out there. Summer's too short to spend all your time indoors. Go for a hike. Paddle a canoe. Have a picnic. Start a veggie garden. Explore your community's green spaces. Watch the birds. Visit a zoo. If you haven't done it in years, jump on a bicycle or a trampoline, or toss a frisbee. Enjoy some time away from your desk and come back refreshed.

Summer often seems to pass by too quickly. A thoughtful mix of leisure and learning won't slow the passage of days but will add a sense of purpose to your time. Give your brain a summer to remember.

Barbara Lehtiniemi is a writer, photographer, and AU student. She lives on a windswept rural road in Eastern Ontario

Maghreb Voices

Wanda Waterman



Book: *Dispute Over a Very Italian Piglet*

Author: Amara Lakhous

"If men define situations as real, they are real in their consequences."
- W.I. Thomas and D.S. Thomas (the "Thomas theorem")

"Working as a journalist, I've come to understand that the reality we confront has neither value nor weight. It's the imaginary that governs our actions, or, rather, reactions."
- Amara Lakhous, *Dispute Over a Very Italian Piglet*

Amara Lakhous was born and very well educated in Algiers, Algeria. He moved to Rome at the age of 25. What makes his contributions to Maghreb literature so valuable is not only his experience of the Berber culture that spawned him but also his insights into European culture and the conflicts that have incubated there for centuries. His writing transcends the absurdity and hypocrisy of the strife that surrounds him, in some strange way making it all bearable.

In *Dispute Over a Very Italian Piglet* the city of Turin is rocked once again by tempests in the immigrant teapot; in addition to a series of murders attributed to a clan war between Albanians and Romanians, the Muslim community is in dispute over how to react to a deep insult; a video has been released of a piglet named Gino wandering around the prayer room at a local mosque.

The only ones who are getting any truth about these stories are you and I who read them; the characters themselves are all being fed a diet of sticky lies. The story is being told to us by a liar, an Italian journalist named Enzo Lagana, who seems at first to have long dispensed with anything resembling a conscience until it appears that one of his hoaxes has put an innocent Romanian in hot water. At this point his guilt gland activates and he seeks a remedy—which of course entails more lies.

To confuse matters further, Enzo keeps getting SMS messages from someone called "Very Deep Throat," who points him in the direction of the truth. Enzo voraciously pursues every tip, but for his own sake, not for his readers. The result is a tremendously entertaining story that draws on a network of ancient animosities.

The lighthearted tone of the novel belies the seriousness of its subject matter. Enzo's Calabrian comic *sangfroid* buffers the harshness of a long-standing European hostility toward immigrants, most notably from those whose ancestors were immigrants themselves.

Rather than putting a damper on all these tensions, the media at large is living in its own illusory world, trying to repeat the grand media events of the past (Watergate and famous Italian Mafia wars are often dredged up in reference to current events), shamelessly exploiting potentially dangerous conflicts in order to boost sales and advertising revenue.

At first Enzo looks like a playboy psychopath, but he and his deceitful helpers seem to be the only ones who see the situation clearly enough, and who have enough savvy, to find the way out of all the dilemmas. They're also the only ones who seem to have any real compassion for the immigrants in their midst.

Meanwhile the piglet Gino attains a cult-like status, representing Italy itself in some nebulous way. He also becomes the animal-rights poster child, even while representing the Abrahamic revulsion toward swine-flesh.

By the end of the story you love the liar, Enzo, in spite of yourself. His refusal to conform to the wishes of others seems to be the only virtue that can overcome the morass of vice that is the postmodern European urban landscape.

*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.*

Click of the Wrist

Idle Hands

We use them every day for nearly everything we do—yet rarely give a second thought to those marvellous instruments of ours. I'm talking about hands, those appendages that can hoist a sledgehammer, dry a tear, or perform the most intricate surgery (well, only if you're a surgeon, but still). These sites offer a look at some of the more unusual ways people employ their hands.

Animani

This person has way too much time on his hands (literally), but the artwork is amazing and the sports poses look incredibly realistic, especially the soccer one.

Guido Daniele

Now *these* are truly amazing. Clearly, the artist is a talented individual, but his paintings make Photoshop manipulations pale in comparison. You can check out the artist at work on this Animal Planet [video](#)

HennaMe

Some beautiful and intricate henna designs for that special occasion.

Hand Puppetry by Raymond Crowe

This just goes to show that sometimes the most wonderful performances need only the simplest ingredients: in this case, a single light and a pair of hands. Watch for the rabbit scampering up a hill, about one minute in.

Amazing Hand Painting

Okay, so this performer isn't painting *on* his hands, but it's what he does *with* them that's so incredible. This video is five minutes and 40 seconds that you'll never get back, but you won't want to: just be sure to wait until the very end when he spins the canvas.



In Conversation With Don Rosenthal, Part II

Wanda Waterman



"To open the closed heart one first focuses on oneself: releasing feelings of unworthiness, accepting that the heart is closed, putting space around judgments, and seeing oneself clearly and honestly."

- Don Rosenthal in *Learning to Love*

Don and Martha Rosenthal are the authors of a number of books for couples, including *Learning to Love*, a marriage manual informed by their own experiences as a couple as well as their copious knowledge of psychology and spirituality.

Don and Martha counsel couples in private practice and conduct weekend retreats in which they encourage couples to explore the roots of any personal pain that might be creating conflict in their relationships. They teach effective means of self-examination and communication methods to resolve problems that could lead to breakup. They also teach partners how to be mindfully present to each other even when the message is hard to hear.

Recently Don Rosenthal took the time to answer Wanda Waterman's questions about intimate relationships as a spiritual journey.

(You can read the first part of this article [here](#).)

What is Openhearted Listening? *(continued)*

This isn't just some psychological tool I'm fond of. It represents what I feel is an indispensable need in a real intimacy: to be able to hear and understand each other's emotional reality around things we do that may be unconscious or unskillful. Finally, to let in my partner's feedback about my behaviour without justifying myself, denying, or attacking them back gives me a far richer vision of how I am contributing to whatever is happening between us.

My usual defensiveness, by necessity eliminated if this process is done well, no longer has the power to keep me blind to all the ways I fail to see the effect of my behaviour on my partner. An immense relief and a deeper trust occur when we both know that no matter how difficult the issue, we will be heard and understood by the other. Knowing this, the most difficult moments can be transmuted into a deep learning and an especially poignant connection.

On Couples Therapy

Couples therapy is difficult, and frustrating occasionally, for short periods, but never overwhelmingly so. I am aware as I get older that I needn't be attached to results, and this helps me maintain perspective when things seem to be going poorly. I'm also becoming increasingly aware that I don't know what another's path should look like. The memory of this keeps frustration at bay.

Tales of Failed Love in Songs and Films

Truthfully, songs or movies aren't needed for this repeating lesson, because I get to see in the course of moving through my life so many relationships not working out. Not just in my professional work, but among friends and acquaintances as well.

Sometimes I share in the sadness of that, but my understanding of compassion is that it does not entail joining others in their suffering. I am aware of how hard a relationship can be and am inspired by the thought that perhaps one day all our educations will provide the skills needed to maintain intimacy between equals.

Relationship as Spiritual Journey

Martha and I almost split up about seven years into our marriage, having gone through intense difficulties after emerging from Alaska. We saw an opportunity for two people, both wanting to lead a conscious life, to join together to learn how to love more purely by practicing with each other as equals in a lifetime union—a union that serves as a spiritual path.

We realize that our prime task together is to be allies on the path to waking up. We have elicited negativity from each other that we otherwise would never have known—it has been humbling. With two pairs of eyes we've seen so much deeper and learned more efficiently.

In a healthy relationship each of us will display our own areas of strength and weakness, and with our strength we can be uniquely helpful in nourishing each other. Along the way we can surely create a lifestyle together that suits us, as well as find many ways to enjoy the journey. It helps to believe that such a thing as waking up exists, is highly desirable, and is possible for us. Such a shared vision, held consciously, has added depth and meaning to our union.

A Closed Heart Never an Appropriate Response

We each had in our Alaskan days certain experiences the world would call *spiritual*. We saw clearly that love was the only sane response to our partner when they were unable to love us because they were too afraid. In other words, we saw that there was no situation in which a lack of love would be an appropriate response. In such moments of clarity this was highly apparent.

In our usual, less enlightened state, it was sometimes hard to be in touch with this truth and to act on it. The moments of Truth served as a beacon, a reminder to us of the way we wished to be. We saw the spiritual component as finding a different attitude, one that encouraged us to open our closed heart to the best of our ability. We wanted in our union to recognize and confront difficult feelings without escape, to express them without blame, to listen without defensiveness, and most importantly, to work within to transcend them. We remain works in progress.

(to be concluded next week)



Good Company

There's nothing like the cable TV available in a hotel room to force one to look beyond one's usual favourites. How else to explain why I was watching the animated movie, *The Lorax*, on a recent trip to Niagara Falls?

Roy was a delegate to a national conference and I tagged along for a well-deserved break. During the evenings and in the time before the convention started we did the touristy thing. We had a spectacular view of the falls from our fourteenth floor room at the Embassy Suites.

We took the Incline Rail to get to the viewing areas at Table Rock. The incredible sight of rushing water, the roar of the falls, and the spray on our skin made this a truly sensory experience. We passed on the Maid of the Mist boat ride or walking behind the falls. I'd done that in the seventies.

We used (and loved) the WeGo transportation system that runs four popular routes around town. I scored a Coach bag and Danier wallet at the outlet mall on Lundy's Lane. On another outing we walked the Clifton Hill district with its souvenir stores, wax museums, ice cream shops, and amusement area. Luckily we're waaay past wanting imprinted t-shirts, shooter glasses, snow globes, and their ilk.

But the most fun we had was on Friday night. Pre-trip research revealed Creedence Clearwater Revisited was performing at the Fallsview Casino Resort. We scoped out the impressive complex with Galleria mall, gaming floor, restaurants, and Avalon theatre. We discovered the show was 'sold out' but if we checked back about half an hour before show time we may be able to buy tickets.

We chose to eat at the Grand Buffet in the casino. We didn't have the pass that high rollers get, yet saved about five dollars each when the cashier saw the fifty dollar bill in my hand. Back in the casino we got a slot machine crash course from an employee.

We 'invested' twenty dollars. At twenty-five cents a pop the money was poof, all gone, in very short order. As we headed out, I decided to spend five more dollars. The nickel slots I chose had a cash-out redemption slip sticking out of it. Twenty dollars and thirty-five cents just like that! I then played the five bucks until it paid forty dollars and thirty cents. Needless to say we grabbed the money and ran.

We were loitering around the theatre box office hoping to buy tickets when a woman approached and offered us her VIP Lounge tickets because she couldn't use them. A private elevator, free food and non-alcoholic drinks, private washroom, and a plush upholstered loveseat with literally the best seats in the house prepped us for an incredible hour and forty-five minute show that took us back forty years to our youth. Our good fortune didn't hold with the Lotto Max draw that night. Nada.

I worked in the room while Roy was in sessions. Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax* provided good company, from where I sit.

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



Dear Barb

Barbara Godin

The Promises of Marriage

Dear Barb:

I just got married to a wonderful guy. Before we got married we had discussed that I would not change my name to his and he was okay with it, but now he's changed his mind. He thinks I should take his name and because I don't want to he feels I am being disrespectful to him. I think his change of mind might be originating as a result of his Italian background. His parents have mentioned to me that I should take his name. What do I do? I love my husband and want things to be okay, but I also don't want to compromise myself. Baffled in BC!

Melissa

Hi Melissa:

If this is something you agreed on before marriage, then it should not be an issue now. Perhaps your in-laws are pressuring your husband because they are concerned that their grandchildren will not be taking the family name. Maybe you could address this issue with his parents. I agree you should not compromise yourself, as you and your husband had agreed on this prior to

marriage.

Dear Barb:

My girlfriend and I have been dating exclusively for three years. We are just finishing our last year of university. Our long-term plan was to finish school, get married, and move out west to begin our careers. It seems like the time just flew by and next week we are flying out to Calgary for job interviews. Kelly is so excited and talking nonstop about our future together. I am not so excited; in fact I think I'm getting cold feet. I'm not sure I want to move out west and I'm not sure Kelly is the girl for me. I haven't told Kelly how I feel, as I was thinking maybe this is just a phase I'm going through and it will pass. What do you think? Help! Josh in Kitchener.

Hi Josh:

If you are not sure this is the girl for you, don't marry her or move anywhere with her, as it is not fair to either of you. Before you make a serious commitment such as getting married or moving to another province with someone, you have to both be on board and 100% committed to the relationship. I doubt that you are even 50% committed. You owe it to tell Kelly about your hesitations immediately. Don't let her go on believing something that isn't true. Once you disclose your true feelings I suspect Kelly won't be so anxious to leave her family and friends and relocate to a new area. Initially she may be quite upset with you because you didn't come clean right away and tell her of your feelings. On the other hand, you may both want to continue with your relationship and find work at home for now. Kelly may still be the girl for you, but the timing may not be right. Best of luck Josh.

Email your questions to voice@voicemagazine.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.

Comic

Wanda Waterman

CHAZZ BRAVADO IN: HOW TO BE FREE



I think a truly liberated woman knows when to keep her mouth shut.
Don't you?



Look, Chazz, you're entitled to your opinion, but we really don't need men telling us how to be free. We can decide that for ourselves.

Baby, you are SO RIGHT! And just to show you how feminism-savvy the Chazzman really is— I'm gonna LET you tell me what YOU think it takes to make you feel free. Happy now, Sugar pie?



WRITTEN BY WANDA WATERMAN



Changes to AU Course Materials

In the fall of 2013 AU began the process of replacing hard-copy textbooks for all undergraduate courses with e-text versions. Implementation has been staged in phases with about two dozen courses being transitioned each month. AUSU is supportive of the provision of electronic materials for students who want them, but has consistently lobbied AU to provide students with a choice of materials format to accommodate the diverse needs of our membership.

Over the last six months many AUSU members have been vocal in their opposition to e-texts as the only, mandatory option for all courses. AU has listened, and is considering several options to provide students with the choices they want. One option might include removing textbooks as a mandatory purchase with course enrolment, and allowing students to purchase their own books.

AUSU needed to know more about student perspectives on the options that have been proposed and held a survey to find out more. The results will be shared with members in an upcoming newsletter.

A New Era at AU - A New AU president

After two terms in the Office of President, Dr. Frits Pannekoek is retiring. Last week, in recognition of his contributions to distance education, the University of South Africa (Unisa) granted him an honorary Doctor of Literature and Philosophy award. AUSU congratulates Dr. Pannekoek on this great honour, and the recognition it brings to AU as a world leader in distance and open learning. We wish him all the best over his final weeks in the role of president, and in all his future endeavours!

We had hoped by now to be able to announce the selection of the presidential search committee for a new, full-term president; however, as a suitable candidate has not yet been found, AU has instead appointed an interim president: Dr. Peter MacKinnon, formerly of the University of Saskatchewan. Dr. MacKinnon has also served as chair of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and on the Science, Technology and Innovation Council of Canada. We look forward to working with him over the coming year!



Convocation travel information

AUSU wants to make sure this year's graduating class has a fantastic convocation. To make this happen, we're providing free transportation via bus or limo service to take people from Edmonton to the Athabasca Multiplex each day of convocation 2014. This applies to those graduating from AU undergraduate programs, and their guests (some limits may apply).

We've also arranged hotel discounts in Edmonton.

Plus, if you stay at the Edmonton hotel where our discounts apply, the shuttle will pick you up right out front, and drop you off at your hotel after the ceremonies.

This service is provided exclusively by AUSU, but grads in some faculties may already be eligible for free transportation. Check your program website or the dean's office to find out.

For more information, contact ausu@ausu.org as soon as possible. We'll also send you a tip sheet with more information about travelling to Edmonton, getting to and from the airport, etc.

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.

Come One, Come All...

To DECSA's 8th Annual Community Pancake Breakfast

Wednesday, July 9th, 2014 from 7:30am to 10:30am

11515-71 Street, Edmonton AB

Everyone is Welcome!

Enjoy **FREE** Pancakes, Eggs, Sausages, Juice and Coffee

Games and activities for the children

RAIN OR SHINE

THE VOICE

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