

# ***THE VOICE***

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## ***QUOTE OF THE WEEK***

***"No yesterdays are ever wasted for those who give themselves to today."***

***--Brendan Francis***



## **A Bug In Your Ear...**

### **LETTER TO THE EDITOR:**

Karl Low provided a factual representation of C-36, but unfortunately drew conclusions from it that are not supported by the facts. This bill does not make stone-throwing protesters "terrorists." They are not terrorists because no reasonable person would believe that an individual throwing stones at the RCMP is going to be sufficient to compel an organization to do something.

It should also be noted that even if such protestors' intents are judged to make them "terrorists," they are already "criminals." This bill does not give any power of arrest of protesters to the RCMP that they did not already have.

A more significant criticism might focus on the Liberal government's closure of debate on the bill in order to pass it before Christmas.

Regards,

Jason Morris, AUSU Councillor

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

(RE: From the Insider--30 November, 2001)

(AUAC will discuss) "Receipt of a discussion document, in connection with the President's Report, on AU's organizational structure. The document considers splitting the position of Vice-President Academic into two, with a new Vice President Academic (School of Business) appointed to assume responsibility for the undergraduate school of business and CIM."

Under the current system, we have an AU President and 3 VPs, along with the Director of CCAS and the Director of CIM. Even if administration chooses to abolish the positions of the Director of CCAS and the Director of CIM, and create a new VPA(SofB) position, do you really believe that they would not then appoint a "Manager of CCAS" and a "Manager of CIM", (because it seems that they appoint managers for every other purpose under the sun)? Under such a scheme, they would likely save about \$ 160-180K on the directorships, but put out an additional \$ 120-140 and in the neighbourhood of \$ 60-80 for both of the "Managers". (This information has been extrapolated from the 2000 AU budget.) When combining all of these figures, it appears that AU administration wants to throw away \$ 20-40 thousand on paper pushers, versus holding the line on tuition fee increases or providing these funds to academic endeavours. Given that this issue relating to administrative costs coming at the expense of academic needs will likely not be very well publicised by AU Central, will AUSU raise any of these matters with our "friends" in AU administration? Remember, fellow students, it's your university, and you have a right to know these things.

Darren L. Kereluk



## CANADIANS FLOCK TO NY RALLY, BUT WHAT OF THOSE AT HOME?

By Tamra Ross Low

Thousands of Canadians flooded New York City on Saturday for the Canada Loves New York rally held in honour of those killed in the September 11<sup>th</sup> bombings. New York mayor Rudy Giuliani called the show of support "a truly overwhelming response by the people of Canada" (see [story](#)). Canadian visitors, arriving by "plane, train, car and bus," did their best to relieve the ailing economy of New York by spending all they could spare in the shops of local NY business owners. Catherine Main, a Hamiltonian who left home on a bus that left at 9:00 am on Friday and attended the rally without sleep, said that she "did it because Americans are our neighbours and it felt like Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> affected us almost as much as them." One local shop-owner said of Canadians: "They're the nicest bunch of people I've ever seen."

When I read things like this I am proud of my fellow Canucks. Canadians are loved around the world for our compassion and generosity. This image is prevalent far beyond the North

American shores. Many Canadians who have visited Europe and Asia have told me that Canadians are greeted with open arms, while Americans are often mistrusted, and even shunned in some places. America may be the 'big brother' in our uneasy sibling relationship, but I have no doubt that our ability to show such compassion for battered Americans results, in part, from our sense of superiority in global relations. We may be the scrawnier, less accomplished sibling, but we are the one everybody likes. Whether we want to admit it or not, Canadians take great pleasure in pointing this out every chance they get. Canadian military friends of mine who have been stationed overseas love to tell stories of how some American travellers will sew Canadian flags on their backpacks in hopes of receiving more hospitality.

I am not suggesting that we are wrong in our pride. We have earned our favourable reputation honestly, if not sometimes foolishly, by generally being meek, mild, and agreeable in the arena of world politics. The result is that we often get the short end of the stick, especially in trade negotiations with the US -but everyone loves us! I'm being a bit sarcastic here, but lately I think it's not such a bad way to be. No one is bombing us, after all. A sense of security is surely worth as much as financial gain.

I'm proud that Canadians have acquired such a good reputation around the planet, but when I read of events like this rally in New York, I wonder why we can't show the same initiative in tackling problems in our own country. In 1997, during the APEC conference, RCMP officers hit dozens of Canadian students with pepper spray. Things like that are not supposed to happen in Canada. Our right to free speech and public assembly are protected by our constitution, and the millions of freedom loving citizens of our country, right? Why, then, did hardly anyone speak out on this issue, save for the very students who were caught in the attack? The majority of Canadians sat back and did nothing. There seemed to be a feeling that if the government took such action, it must be justified. We value our freedoms, but do little to protect them.

I can give numerous examples of times that Canadian officials have stepped beyond their bounds and citizens have responded with alarming apathy. Brian Mulroney's controversial decision to stack the senate with conservatives sympathetic to his cause is one such incident.

On a humanitarian level, we have also failed to do at home what we are willing to do for strangers. Three years ago, the City of Montreal and a number of small Quebec towns were devastated by an ice storm that left residents without electricity or heat for weeks in some cases. I don't recall there being a mass pilgrimage of Canadians to view the affected area, or a push to pump money into the hands of Quebec shopkeepers, many of whom were devastated by the loss of business during and after the storm.

Quebec was ravaged again in 1996 by the [floods](#) along the Saguenay River. Damage was estimated at \$600 million, and the town of Chicoutimi was all but wiped out. Canadians donated to the Red Cross and sent clothing and supplies, but mostly assisted from a distance. Again I do not recall masses of people traversing the country to view the devastation first-hand or people rushing to spend their dollars in local shops when they reopened. For America, it seems, we want to go the extra mile. The victims of the flood, however, may have been greatly buoyed (no pun intended) by a Canada Loves Saguenay rally.

Canadians are sympathetic when tragedy befalls their own, but it seems that we are often much more concerned with the fate of our southern neighbours. Perhaps this is because our culture and

sense of self is so linked to the influx of American influences. Without America, we would be largely devoid of cultural identity. Even those aspects of ourselves that we see as distinctly Canadian are often phrased in terms of how they differ from American qualities. Because our thoughts are so keenly focused on American events we often feel, like Catherine Main, that they affect "us almost as much as them." The September 11<sup>th</sup> attacks are certainly the most significant attack on any western nation in memory, and perhaps in history, but if we do not start to look more critically at our own government and more compassionately at the plight of our own people, the very strengths of which we are so proud may slip away from us without our notice.



## **FROM MY PERSPECTIVE**

### **The other side**

**By Debbie Jabbour**

I've always subscribed to the philosophy that no matter how hard we try, or how empathetic we may be, we cannot truly understand another person's perspective unless we've actually shared their experience. As a psychology student, I work very hard to overcome this limitation, since my chosen field depends on being able to "see inside" the heads of other people. I had an experience this past weekend that made me realize that, in spite of my increased education and knowledge of the world, I still remain quite naïve in many respects and do not always see things clearly from the other side.

I work for Capital Health, and this past Saturday my job required my presence at a trade fair in recognition of World AIDS Day, sponsored by ICARE, an Edmonton interfaith group that ministers primarily to the gay community. Over the years I've had a close connection with many in this community, not only through extensive involvement in the dance environment, but also through interactions as a musician with a wide variety of people and groups.

As someone who has made significant mistakes in my own life, I've tried to never judge others on how they choose to live theirs, never underestimating the influence of life circumstances in dictating our course path. I consider myself highly tolerant of diversity in whatever form; yet, at times I find myself fighting the shadow of the legacy of my fundamentalist religious upbringing. While on one hand I have friends and relatives who are gay, and would never judge them on the basis of who they choose to have intimate relations with; the first time I was hit on by another woman I was quite freaked-out. Obviously I am like so many of us. I can say I'm comfortable with something until it touches me personally. Then my acceptance becomes much less obvious, more difficult and complex.

This past Saturday, World AIDS Day, I found myself being forced to confront some realities. I spent the afternoon with people who regularly deal with the issues of homosexuality and some of the unfortunate consequences that accompany certain lifestyle choices. Although I know better, I've sometimes fallen into the trap of thinking that since I don't live a high-risk lifestyle, AIDS

will never touch me. The media helps us remain insulated from reality. Saturday's Journal reported that Edmonton has had 210 AIDS - related deaths since the mid-1980's, with seven reported AIDS deaths and 16 cases of HIV progressing to AIDS in the first half of 2001. Does not seem like such a big issue here when compared to Africa, where in some areas estimates of HIV-positive victims range above 75%. Does not seem that big an issue when compared to other major North America killers such as heart disease and cancer. It is easy to remain detached.

But here is a reality check: In 2000, 25% of new HIV cases in Alberta were under age 30, and this continued in the first six months of 2001, with 24% of the 74 new HIV cases in Alberta also under 30. Why is this a reason for concern? In PSYC350, Adolescent Psychology, I learned that adolescents are fast becoming one of the largest high-risk groups for STD's. AIDS/HIV currently represent only a small percentage of these STD's; of even greater concern is Hepatitis B (200 times more common than HIV) and Hepatitis C. Youth considers itself invincible, invulnerable, and the combination of inexperience and overconfidence may be a deadly one.

This was brought home to me repeatedly on Saturday. In a conversation with the ICARE pastor, he described how Hepatitis and HIV was affecting his parishioners on a daily basis, and how he hoped through education and outreach to reduce the impact. I asked if he ever had opportunity to go to local high schools with his message. He said that they only did so in a limited way, in conjunction with CALM class. I asked the same question of the rep from the STD Clinic, and she said that most high schools are very hesitant to allow educational sessions that deal with issues of STD's. Why? Robert Wm Smith, director of men's programs at HIV Edmonton, wrote a guest column to the Journal on Saturday, and his comments are worthy of thoughtful consideration. "Parents and school officials have their 'heads-in-the-sand' by falsely believing that if we don't tell our kids about healthy sexuality, sexual health and substance use they won't go out and experiment"\*

A discussion with a rep from the Gay & Lesbian Association of Edmonton regarding bullies in schools was also very revealing. She described phone calls she had received from teenagers unsure of their sexual orientation. Why were they unsure? Because they had been coerced into a homosexual encounter at school. I had never really thought about bullying in those terms, but it is happening.

Even when abuse is not involved, given the atmosphere of peer pressure and acceptance that permeates the high school experience, those young people who are struggling to come to terms with a homosexual orientation face an incredible amount of pressure and discrimination. As Robert Smith further pointed out, this leads to denial, which in turn leads to "clandestine, non-negotiated sexual experiences and indulging in coping mechanisms like alcohol and substance abuse, and worse, intravenous drug use"\*

Within male and female relationships, power dynamics make young girls especially vulnerable, and indeed, 28 percent of Alberta's new HIV cases this year were females. The STD Clinic rep expressed her frustration at programs that always target females, placing the responsibility on them to ensure safe sex. All too often, women also accept the blame for spreading HIV/AIDS or Hepatitis. Relationships between older males and young girls often leave little room for these girls to assert their right to protection.

There is yet another element involved that makes young people susceptible to these diseases, one that should make us very concerned about potential epidemics. Most of us realize that sexual

intercourse and intravenous drug use can expose us to communicable diseases. Increasingly we are becoming aware that unclean tattoo needles and body piercings can also put us at risk. But did you know you could contract Hepatitis B by sharing a nail file with someone? By sharing a razor, or a toothbrush, or earrings? Did you know that oral sex with someone who has just brushed his or her teeth, may expose you to a small amount of blood, sufficient to transmit HIV or Hepatitis C?

Teenagers engage in all these high-risk behaviours. And if we as adults are uninformed, how much more so are they? Add to that the need for peer acceptance, the belief that youth is untouchable, and the future becomes very uncertain.

I came home and had a long, serious discussion with my teenage daughter. It was not the first such conversation, nor will it be the last. But this time it was heavily influenced by my newly enhanced personal awareness of how it feels to be on the other side, to live with the consequences of careless behaviour on a daily basis. I shared some graphic brochures with her, and while it was not a comfortable discussion, it was a necessary one.

Yes, I did spend the afternoon with people who, by and large, have an everyday experience that still occurs within a minority segment of the Canadian population. But if the rest of us do not wake up and start facing reality, this experience could quickly change. Don't make the mistake of thinking that because you are part of a heterosexual majority, the issues of HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis will never touch you. It can and it will. If you are a parent, make sure you communicate with your child. The 'other side' is not that far away.



## **FED WATCH!**

**By Karl Low**

### **Pass on the Salt**

Environment Canada is just entering a consultation process with the public about the issue of road salts. From now until January 29, 2002, people from across Canada have been [invited](#) to make comments to Environment Canada about our opinion on salting the roads. This practice does not take place everywhere, as I know Calgary makes use of sand instead of salt, but in those where it does, there is a significant concern about the salt running off of the road and into the ground water and nearby fields.

It's interesting to note that references salting the ground used to refer to a method making an area completely uninhabitable - and that now we do it to ourselves. It might be a good time to do a

little basic research. Find out what your community uses for ice management on the roads and let Environment Canada know what it means to you.

After all, the more involved we get, the more our system reflects us.

## **Athabasca Left Out**

The Honourable Minister of Industry, Brian Tobin, has recently [announced](#) an investment of 98 million dollars to support 97 research chairs at universities across the country. The money is given to universities that have nominated individual researchers that meet certain criteria of excellence and that match the direction of the universities strategic research plan.

Athabasca University is not among those so graced. The reason? We have no strategic research plan. The only other two universities that have no such plan are the University of Lethbridge and the University College of the Cariboo. I guess we at least know who our peers are.

In fact, if you go to the [listing](#) of the Universities with research plans and click on Athabasca University, you'll get a nice pop-up window that lets us know our research plan is "under revision" and Athabasca University has asked that it not be displayed until further notice. This strikes me as really odd, because as one of the only universities with a specialization in the field of Distance Education, and *the* only such university in Canada, I would have thought Athabasca University would be certain to at least pick up one chair. Instead, our lack of a strategic research plan may well have cost our institution almost a million dollars.

University would cost \$4440, but would include all your books. If you're taking a Science or Social Science program at the U of C, you can expect to add about \$870 for books for the year.

So technically, Athabasca is still the better deal. Of course, there is that little detail mentioned on page 205 of the Athabasca University Calendar, "It is Athabasca University's intention to increase its tuition fees in future years by the maximum amount permitted under the Government of Alberta's Tuition Fee Policy." Last year, that maximum was about 8%.

At this rate, full load tuition at Athabasca University will top \$5100 dollars in just two years, and if things continue in this pattern will cost more than attending a traditional university even if you include their tuition increases and the price of text-books. Needless to say, financial assistance limits are not growing by anything near this amount. So much for the accessible education.

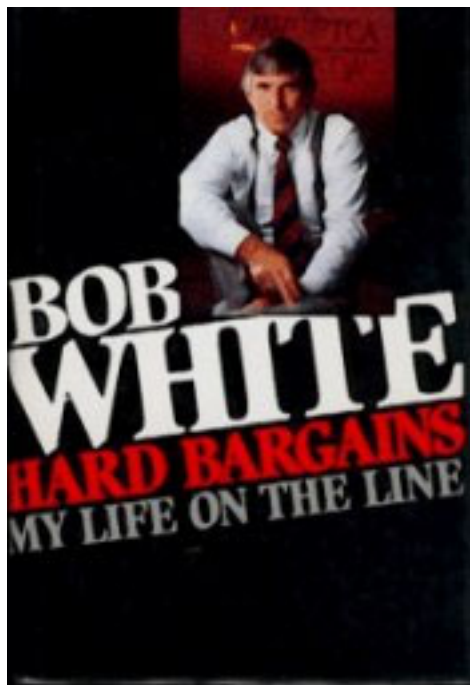
## **Write the Troops**

No matter what you feel about the ongoing war in Afghanistan, the fact remains that we do have troops participating in it. The Department of Defence has [several mailing addresses](#) that you can direct post-cards to, as well as an [online message-board](#) to send them wishes of a safe return and a Merry Christmas.

## Health Canada Needs You

Health Canada is looking for people to be on its "Health Products and Food Branch" Public Advisory Committee. These people need to be able to serve as a reflection of the public and consumer's point of view on such issues as healthy eating and informed use of food, natural health products and therapeutic products - including drugs, biologics and medical devices.

The government will pay for any travel and accommodation expenses you may incur as a result of serving on the Committee, and may offer an honorarium as well. For more information, you can check out the [official site](#).



## Hard Bargains: My Life on the Line By Author Bob White

### Review by Wayne Benedict

Bob White is one of the most recognized labour leaders in Canadian history. In *Hard Bargains*, White relates his own life story from his childhood in Ireland up until 1987, when the Newfoundland fishermen were attempting to leave the international United Food and Commercial Union to join the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW). The book was published in 1987 but its substance is not dated, as much of it pertains to intra-union politics, inter-union politics, labour-government relations, labour-employer relations, etc.; all of which are as pertinent today as when the book was written.

White's book begins in Ireland where the author was born and spent his childhood. In his early teens he immigrated to Canada with his family and attended Woodstock High School. After completing grade 10, he left his studies to work in Hay & Co., a paternalistically run furniture factory, where his brother and father were also employed.

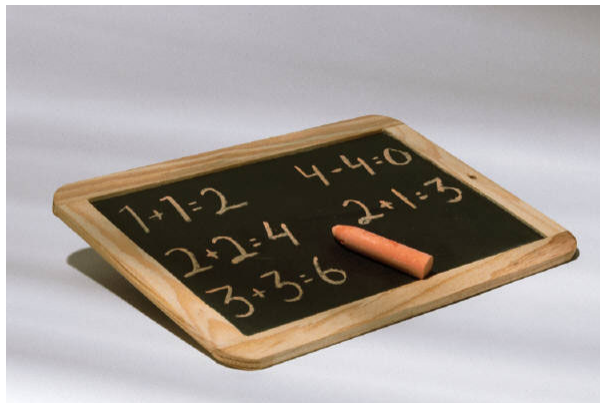
White found that working conditions were less-than-perfect at his new place of employment and he was vocal regarding his dissatisfaction. A local shop steward noticed his attitude and convinced him to attend his first union meeting. Here begins Bob White's lifelong involvement within the Canadian labour movement.

White was a tenacious and dedicated advocate for worker rights and he was soon noticed by the higher leadership of the United Autoworkers (UAW). He rose through the ranks of the union until finally becoming the Canadian Director of the UAW.

When the concessions era began in the late 70s and early 80s, the Canadian section of the UAW had vastly different bargaining goals and strategies than did the American leadership of the

international union. The internecine tensions between the two leaderships became untenable and White led the Canadian section in its breakaway from the mighty international to form a wholly Canadian union—the Canadian Autoworkers (CAW).

White is very candid regarding his thoughts during difficult and hectic negotiations—between his union and employers, governments, and even the American leadership of the UAW. *Hard Bargains* is very political and a must read for anyone interested in, or involved in, Canadian labour/industrial relations. Unfortunately, the book was edited very poorly; it is filled with spelling and grammatical errors. However, the story that White tells in the book is well worth overlooking the publisher's carelessness.



## **Education Revolutionary – Part 2**

### **Are Teachers Like Microsoft ?**

**by Cathy Thompson Tekatch**

***Give a man a fish, he owes you one fish  
Help him learn how to fish, you give up your monopoly on fisheries***

In the newest wing of an established community college in southern Ontario there exists a mathematics faculty creation called “The Math Learning Centre”.

Created in response to the very high student failure rate in mathematics, the centre houses math learning materials which include videotaped lectures by math teachers that can be viewed by students at any time on personal VCR's located in the centre, or at home. The tapes are also lent out through the mail for distance education purposes, and a faculty member is available in the centre, or by telephone to answer questions individually.

It's a great set-up and the method is superior because when students don't understand any of the difficult math concepts while individually viewing the tapes (like calculus), they can simply replay until they understand. One cannot do this in a live classroom. Teachers are not robots.

However, the one thing that makes this centre one of the most disgusting and absolutely immoral non-violent atrocities in the civilized world today is the fact that the only regular full-time students who are directed to use the centre's services are students who have failed through the

regular live classroom lectures. And the reason for this? The teachers are afraid of losing their jobs.

The Professional Engineers of Ontario calls this practice of putting job security ahead of student learning a violation of their code of ethics. Regulation 77 requires the practitioner's duty to the public as paramount. Therefore, any of these math teachers who happen to be registered professional engineers in Ontario (not many) would be guilty of malpractice, and could be held personally liable if a student was savvy enough to understand what was going on and then file a complaint.

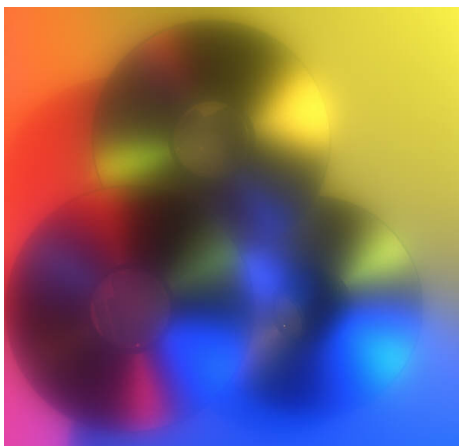
But it's not just Ontario where these unethical activities are taking place. Education systems throughout the civilized world practice them (except the open university system).

Perhaps the faculty and administration at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have realized this about their industry, and are now working together to put their learning materials on the Internet, free to the world, to help make amends for past behaviours.

MIT is known for its work on the licensing agreements for the Open-Source computer software movement. Open-Source software codes are open to the user, to be changed and improved upon as the user sees fit, and can be passed onto other users without fear of copyright infringements. The Open-Source Linux movement is a challenge to both Microsoft's control of source codes, and its practice of releasing products that many power users consider to be over-priced and inferior. Microsoft has been found guilty by the American justice system of violating anti-trust laws, and is awaiting punishment by the courts.

With all of the above information, can it be concluded that both Microsoft and teachers alike subscribe to the greedy fish story? Will they ever come out into the "open" and get back to the spirit of the original proverb:

*Give a man a fish he has food for a day  
Help him learn how to fish, and he has food for a lifetime.*



## **Dare To Be Different**

### **By Orville Lloyd Douglas**

Although the media in North America have been receptive of the so-called "black music," have blacks really reaped the successes that the press claim? Often in the music business there is racism in the radio and on the television screens. Why is it that black artists are consistently placed in two categories: soul R&B singer, or rap artist. There is no in between. At the Grammy awards last, year many thought that Philadelphia singer Jill Scott was snubbed for

the coveted best new artist Grammy by a veteran white Alabama singer Shelby Lynne. How is it that Lynne won the Grammy for best new artist when she has been releasing albums since 1992?

Last year, Kina, an African American singer formerly of the R&B group Brownstone, emerged as a solo rock artist. Kina was the opening act for Savage Garden on their last tour. Kina, however, wasn't taken seriously as a rock artist. She received little radio play and hardly any video rotation. The image of the rock singer is still not of the black female. Even emerging singer Res, who has a rock influence, isn't considered anything remotely similar to rock and roll. There is often a challenge for blacks that move beyond the stereotypical rap and R&B sound, as they are stigmatized and criticized by the black music establishment. Although, for example, Tracy Chapman is an amazing example of a black woman that sings songs about black issues and freedom for all people, she is rarely discussed as an innovative and emotive black female artist. Chapman rose to fame in the late 1980s daring to sing songs about racism and freedom. Chapman's 1989 song "Freedom Now" was dedicated to the now former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela. Chapman's song was subsequently banned in South Africa. Chapman is rarely featured in black magazines nor is she discussed as a credible artist by the black press. The current black music press seems to be hung up on artists that have more gloss than substance -such as Mary J Blige and Destiny Child.

What is the difference between Usher, Craig David, and Tyrese? Not much -all are marketed to young women because of their appearance, similar sound / producers and limited talent. Although these artists have sold millions of records, what lasting inspirational music have these groups left for the future? Where are the black artists that challenged society? Where are the artists that dare to be different? Now in black music the trend seems to be cookie cutter R&B music. Listening to the radio is a difficult task, due to the lack of originality in the music. Artists hire the same top producers (such as Rodney Jerkins, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Rockwilder) to recreate the same sounds; it doesn't influence, and it is bland and derivative.

When a black artist such as Lenny Kravitz or Ben Harper does move beyond the soul singer/ rap music genre, they are shunned as selling out seeking a white audience when in fact they are just creating their own musical expression. How many black youth know about Ben Harper? The black media also has ignored black artists that dare to be different, such as Meshell N'degocello. N'Degoecello emerged in the early 1990s with her wit, talent, and courage evident in her music. N'Degoecello also came out as a bisexual, and she has paid a price for being honest about herself and her music. N'degocello is rarely profiled in black magazines, nor is her music rotated on BET, even though her brilliant 1999 release "Bitter" received critical acclaim from the international press and media within the United States. N'degocello's following is largely now of the gay and lesbian audience; it has changed from the black audience from the early 1990s.

The black media is also responsible for the loss of respect, public support, and interest of black artists that dare to be different. There is this perception in the black community that an artist that is black must be either a soul singer/ rapper or is somehow less black and selling out? Black people are also responsible for fostering this ludicrous image. Many of the black artists that branch out are very prolific about racism and racial prejudice. Lenny Kravitz on his new album "Lenny" profiles the racism he faced in Miami last year while jogging he was arrested due to mistaken identity. Where is the press for 'up and coming' talented black artists that refuse to be categorized in the soul singer/ rap box? How many black youth know of the incredibly talented British folk singer/song writer Joan Armatrading? Armatrading first rose to fame in England during the 1970s with her passionate voice and beautiful guitar playing.

The music business, including BET, is now geared towards artists that have limited shelf lives. Black artists also fall into this category. The object of the game now is to sell as many albums as quickly as possible before the flame is extinguished the artist popularity runs out. Now is the time and it is the responsibility of the black press, media, and radio to expand its limited horizons and introduce their audience to black artists that dare to be different.

## ***Here's your chance to get involved!*** **AUSU Student Council Elections 2002'**

Dear AU Student:

Hey! Have you ever wondered how you can get involved with your Students' Union? Here's your chance! It's Election time again and AUSU (Athabasca University Students' Union) is anxious to meet the new Council. So, what are you waiting for? Get to your post-office today and send in your nomination for new Council!

As in the By-Laws, Article 11\_Elections, Section 2 under Nominations: it states "Any Active Member in good standing may submit to the Council a self-nomination together with the individuals written consent to act, if elected".

"Member in Good Standing" means an individual who is a member of the Association in any of the categories of Membership prescribed in the By-Laws, has paid all fees and has not been subject to disciplinary action from the University or the Association.

Deadline for self-nominations/nominations is December 22/01. Students must submit their nominations and the individual's written consent to act, if elected. Their nomination must also include student's name, I.D. number, address and/or e-mail address.

All self-nominations/nominations will be acknowledged after the closing date. Nominees will be given an opportunity to withdraw their name from the slate of nominees, provided that withdrawal is received by the end of January.

Any student submitting nominations must be a registered student of AU at time of nomination and as well as the close of the Election. A Council member must be a Student throughout his/her term on Council. Students, as defined by the Athabasca University handbook, or those who are currently enrolled in an AU course, or who have completed a course within the past six months.

Thanks,

AUSU (Athabasca University Students' Union)

**As The Voice would like to encourage the active involvement and participation of all students of AU regarding student government, please feel free to submit campaign material to the Voice to be shared with your AU peers. (Campaign articles will not be subject for payment).**

## Campaign Platform of Tamra Ross Low

Some of these letters are very long, but my reasons for wanting to be on council are very simple. I will be brief.

I will make few promises because I need to learn more about the AU student body and its needs before I can. Too few AU students are aware of the union and its programs, and I believe that the union is likewise only aware of the needs of those few students who have addressed the union in the past. Therefore, my first, and most important task as a union member will be to explore new ways of increasing the union profile and researching student needs. Once this is accomplished, I will work to launch new union programs to address these needs.

Why I will be a good councillor:

- I am a full time AU student enrolled in a degree program. I have a lot invested in this school and I have a strong interest in helping the union better serve the student body. My commitment to AU is strong: I plan to continue with this school through a post-graduate degree.
- Like many AU students, I returned to school after a long absence, and have had to overcome many hurdles to get my education on track. I understand the unique challenges facing distance education and adult students.
- In addition to my home-studies, I work on a freelance basis, leaving me ample time to perform union duties.
- Through my work as a Voice columnist and a member of the Academic Committee I have worked to improve communication between students and will continue to do so.

My priorities:

- I believe that awareness of the student newspaper should be increased, both to reach a larger readership and to encourage new writers to become involved. The Voice is our best tool for improving student communication.
- I believe that the union's highest priority should be to learn more about AU students and how the union can best serve them.
- Students put a lot of money in to the union, and as much as possible should be given back. The computer bursary program is an excellent program for students in need, but more can be done.

My commitment to AU:

- I am in my third year at Athabasca. Previously I took high-school upgrading through distance education. I understand the challenges and benefits of distance education, and I have learned many strategies for success in this area.
- Earlier this year I wrote an article for the Voice in which I discussed my feelings about the isolation of distance education students. Through the process of writing this piece, I learned the value of the paper in addressing these feelings. I committed myself then to be a weekly columnist – a position which I have held since June, 2001.
- Through my Voice column I have investigated critical issues affecting AU students such as the threat that AU may lose its funding status with the Student's Finance Board (July 4, 2001), and the negative press distance education has received from some educators (November 7, 2001).

- I am a member of the Academic Committee of the AUSU, which is working toward implementing informal discussion pages and student evaluations for all courses on the AUSU server.

I look forward to serving you,

Tamra Ross Low  
tamra@gmx.net (feel free to write me with any questions).

## **Campaign Platform for JASON MORRIS**

My name is Jason Morris. I am running for Council in the upcoming 2002 AUSU elections. I'd like to start by thanking the editor of the Voice for giving candidates in the upcoming election this important opportunity to talk to AUSU's members directly. I know that all of you need and want to make informed decisions, so I've taken some time to prepare this document. It gives some background information on me, and outlines the specific things that I will endeavour to do as an elected councillor.

### **Who Am I?**

I started my BSc Computing and Information Services degree program in January of 2001. My beautiful wife Maja is a BSc Nursing student at the University of Alberta in her final year. I have lived in and around Edmonton since birth. I was a BSc Engineering student at the University of Alberta for a short while in 1995. My previous experience with "bricks-and-mortar" post-secondary institutions has reinforced my belief in the quality of the service that Athabasca University and institutions like it provide.

I was a students' union council member for all three years of high school. In the first year I was a delegate to the Alberta Student Leadership Conference, in the second an organizing committee member and master of ceremonies for that same conference, and in the third year a delegate to the National Student Leadership Conference. I also redrafted the constitution of that union. At the University of Alberta, I was an active member of the first-year engineering students' association.

After leaving the University of Alberta, I was trained as a network administrator, and worked for a number of Edmonton computing firms before accepting a job as Informatics Technician with the Government of Canada, working in a minimum-security jail in Hobbema, Alberta. A year later I took a job working at the Cross Cancer Institute as a Support Analyst, and later accepted a different job in the Alberta Cancer Board as Systems Analyst.

Immediately after starting my first course at AU in January of 2001, I decided to continue my involvement with student organizations. In March of 2001, shortly after volunteering with AUSU, I was appointed to Students' Council. I have chaired committees of the Council ever since.

## **What will I do?**

I have four major goals for my two-year term in Council. First, I will drastically improve [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org), turning our web site in the international standard for distance education students' unions. Second, I will save you money by eliminating the waste from the handbook/planner. Thirdly, I will get AU and distance education students on the political radar in this province, in the country, and in the world. Lastly, I will get the AUSU administration on its feet, and ensure that you can see what we're doing, and tell us when we're not meeting your expectations.

## **Improve AUSU.ORG**

**I was instrumental in the improvements to [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org) in the last year. As councillor, I will continue to improve our website, providing advanced services in collaboration with Athabasca University CIS, including making ours the first totally interactive online student union newspaper.**

Collaborating with AU's CIS department, I will work to implement seamless services that connect you to students with similar interests, enable you to keep track of your classes, your marks, and your friends through the web, and keep you up to date on the services that AU and AUSU provide.

I will also work toward reducing the duplication of web design and hosting services by moving the Voice, our student newspaper, to the front page of [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org), allowing you to interactively write new articles for the paper, and comment on the articles that your fellow students write.

## **Eliminate Handbook/Planner Waste**

Vice President of Student Services Norm Greenfield wasted over \$30,000 of your student fees this past term in the printing of the Student Handbook/Planner. As councillor, I will see to it that these books will be printed in a way that does not cost our members money, or not print them at all. Due to a single complaint from a single student about a single quotation in the original printing, all of the quotations were removed in the reprinted version except for one on the very last page, which read, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. – Albert Einstein." Well, I'm questioning whether or not this book should even exist.

Even if mistakes hadn't been made, Council fully expected the printing of the book to lose money. Their efforts to recover some of the costs through advertising were ill founded, and poorly executed. Among the incredibly few that were printed were advertisements for industrial trucking services, and a company that sells transistors.

The Council should have known that these books would not be used. AU students don't have the sorts of strict schedules that other university students have. In addition, many of us are students at other universities that already provide these books. We are now hard pressed to find a place to store these books that by the end of 2002 will be useless for anything but kindling.

I support providing online scheduling services over the [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org) website. However, as not all of our members have constant Internet access, I can see how this handbook fills a need.

Therefore, as councillor, I will see to it that if these books are printed, it will be in a way that does not penalize members that don't benefit from them.

### **Get AU onto Government Radar**

It is rumoured that at a meeting with the Alberta Learning Minister he was heard to utter, "...our three universities." I don't want to know which of the four Alberta universities (Alberta, Calgary, Athabasca, and Lethbridge) the Minister had forgotten. As councillor, I will ensure that the desires of Athabasca University students are on the political radar of all levels of government.

AUSU is anticipated to become, within the next few years, the largest students' body in Alberta. Nevertheless, the increase in distance education students has made little if any perceptible impact on learning policy in this province.

As councillor, I will ensure that AUSU plays the role it deserves in promoting the unique concerns of distance education institutions to all levels of government. I will also ensure that AUSU works with the Council of Alberta University Students to persuade the Government of Alberta to amend the Universities Act and the Athabasca University Regulation to ensure that all students' unions in Alberta receive equal, fair, and guaranteed representation in their respective universities.

### **Make AUSU Government Transparent/Consistent**

AUSU's bylaws were written nine years ago and, despite numerous efforts, have not been revised since 1996. Even the bylaws we do have are not being followed. As councillor, I will ensure that the operations of AUSU are open, transparent, and in accordance with our bylaws. Our bylaws require that the Vice-President undertake a review of the bylaws annually. For five years now, this review has failed to result in any changes. The bylaws need to be rewritten from scratch, and as councillor, I will make sure that it happens, and that it happens in such a way as to ensure they will be effective for a very long time.

I will also ensure that the current bylaws, policies, and proceedings of AUSU will be documented and maintained on [www.ausu.org](http://www.ausu.org), and made easily available to all students. It is your right to know what your representatives are doing, and the rules under which they operate. AUSU Members have been kept in the dark for far too long.

### **Summing Up**

I take a great deal of pride in the opportunity to be so deeply involved with AUSU. I think it has the opportunity to provide valuable services to the students of AU, and to really enhance the learning experience. I also think that we, as a university, are on the forefront of what life-long learning will mean to our children and to our grandchildren, and that as such, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to make sure that we get it right. I say let's improve AUSU today, and improve education forever.

## **Election Platform for Sandra Moore**

### **Accessible & Accountable to You!**

My name is Sandra Moore and I am running for a position in the upcoming Student Council Elections. I am a happily married mother of two, and I have sat on various school councils and committees as well as non-profit organization committees. I started at Athabasca University in June of this year working towards a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Humanities. I will not rattle off a list of false promises to entice you to vote for me, the only promise I will make is to act on your behalf and be easily accessible and accountable to you if elected. An elected member should be easily approachable without making you feel intimidated or nervous; as well they should also be assertive enough to stand up for your rights and beliefs.

I feel the students of Athabasca University should demand more of an involvement in the running of Student Council. Plebiscite votes on major issues should be a consideration of Council instead of causing mass internal conflict among themselves. I also firmly believe the minutes from the Student Council Meetings should be published in the Voice- or even better, e-mailed to every student. We elect the Student Council to act on our behalf, keeping our ideals, beliefs and attitudes in mind, yet a vast majority of Athabasca students have no idea what they do or even where they meet. Possibly some student may not care, but I believe if the Student Council minutes were distributed to the students either through the Voice or through mass e-mail or snail mail, more students would be actively involved in speaking up because the information is more easily accessible. As an elected member of Student Council, you are an advocate for all the students of Athabasca University, and if elected that is exactly what I intend to be for you.

## **Election Platform of Darren L. Kereluk**

### **Introduction**

Before I go into what I propose to do if I was elected to Council, I want to offer you a bit of a warning. If you are seeking somebody that is pleasant, knowledgeable, levelheaded and likely to tell you everything that you want to hear 100% of the time, then I am most certainly not your type of candidate. I would respectfully encourage you to move on and consider one of the other fine candidates running in this election. I am not a professional politician, nor am I much of a “people person”. I make mistakes—plenty of them, as I am sure that one of my detractors will surely point out to you. One of the things that I can say that I am proud of is my almost compulsive need to work for both ideas and people that I believe in, such as distance education and my fellow students at AU. DON'T GET ME WRONG, I am far from being perfect or successful at this, much like my ACCT 253 final, my “average” in this is roughly 43%, but my heart, such as it is, is in the right place. If you've read this far, I would like to thank you and encourage you to keep on reading. If what I have written bores you, or makes you so frustrated that you can't read any more of it, I'd like to apologize for taking up your time. Frankly, I don't like to listen to politicians, amateur (like me) or otherwise, so I wouldn't blame you if you ran away screaming!

## **Core Concept**

“Let he who is without sin throw the first stone” goes a phrase in the Bible. I must admit that I’ve thrown quite a number of stones in the past, a couple of which should have been thrown, but many of which should not have even been taken off of the ground. I’ve learned that being in this perpetual state of attack is not only unhealthy for me, but also for those with whom I have to work with, and for those who I am trying to help. Nothing is ever accomplished by being in a permanent state of war, nor by being incessantly insulting to people. My “core concept” for operating my campaign for election is that I will not engage in mudslinging of any kind no matter how many times I am accused of having pulled a “hissy fit”, as one former colleague used to term it, called inept, bumbling, or even some names that I cannot write down here (use your imagination and pick one!) because of the wholesome family nature of *The Voice*.

## **Me, and Why I am Running**

My name is Darren Kereluk. I live in Kamsack, Saskatchewan, a community of some 2100 souls that is located approximately 300 kilometres north east of Regina, or 440 kilometres north west of Winnipeg. I’ve been an AU student since September 1998 taking a Bachelor of Administration in Health Administration. In terms of my experience in student government, I was on AUSU Council and Executive from March 2000-March 2001 as Vice President-Student Academics and Services. While I am happy with having raised the profile of the Students’ Union within AU Central, I am going to be brutally honest by saying that I was totally clueless about political intrigue and people skills, both of which had an adverse affect on the performance of my duties at the time. I have been on the Student Academic Appeals Committee since January 2000. I enjoy this work quite a lot because I get to have a direct and positive effect on people’s academic careers.

Why am I running? I’d be lying to you if I said that power and honoraria hadn’t crossed my mind. Well, they have, but I am not so delusional or corrupt as to view your Union dues as my own personal bank account. After all, it is the Athabasca University Students’ Union, not the Darren Kereluk Students’ Union. My duty, if elected, would be to see that YOUR interests are represented before the powers that be, not the other way around. I mean, if the Administration at AU wants to raise your tuition to the maximum allowable by law, I think that it is my responsibility, as well as that of my potential future colleagues, to try and see why such a measure is being considered, with a few to mitigating any ill effects of such an action. If doing such a thing means voting against a pet project of AU administration, or voting against a “proposed” budget, then so be it. My raison d’etre in mentioning all of this is that my reason for running far exceeds any consideration of money and power.

## **Promises, Promises and More Promises**

One of the things that I’ve noticed about politicians in general is the fact that so very few of them operate with any great degree of consistency. People that are served by elected bodies need to know that if they are made certain promises by their representatives that these promises will be carried out in a manner that is consistent as possible. If there is some reason why a promised undertaking cannot be made, then the public (in AUSU’s case, the student membership) should be informed forthwith. My particular promise for this situation is to ensure that my fellow

colleagues and I, as well as any other parties involved in a particular transaction, are all fully aware of the full legal, financial and moral implications of a promise before it is made at all. In other words, everybody has to be operating from the same playbook, with the understanding that if changes are to be made, that the people directly involved know what form a resolution of the problem will take. Additionally, the members of AUSU must be notified of major changes that are likely to affect them—after all, as AUSU students, we all have a right to know. If elected, I want this concept of contingent consistency to be codified in a Policy, so that everybody involved knows what his or her rights are, and so that AUSU members can be kept fully informed of these changes as they happen.

There are some ongoing problems with the Bylaws of the AUSU. While some interesting and constructive changes have been to the version that is currently floating about, no mention has been made about direct election of the Executive, nor why there needs to be three Vice Presidents. Executive members in the current Council, with the exception of the President are “Acting” positions created by Council versus being legislatively sanctioned ones according to the Bylaws of 1996. If the 1996 ones that are to be followed, both for current operations and the 2002 elections, then the only people who legitimately could claim to have any legitimate claim to their positions as Executives are the President, Vice President (currently Vice President Academic) and the Secretary-Treasurer (currently operating as the Vice President of Finance and Administration). I have not come across anybody else that is on the Executive is there under the authority of any of the Bylaws of 1996. Such people are entitled, though, to any honoraria for extra duties that are authorized by a resolution of Council. These good people are not to blame for these problems, because the Bylaws which they (and earlier, I) were left with were a disaster. Bylaw revisions are very hard to do owing to the complexity of issues and number of people that are affected. Because of the rather dispersed nature of AUSU’s membership, more people need to get involved in order to bring about a proper semblance of legality and clarity to the Bylaws. I propose the establishment of a special Bylaw Committee of AUSU whose mandate shall be to solicit public input into Bylaw revisions, and then report to Council with their recommendations. Ideally, Council will have approved the revisions and any modifications to them by the beginning of June, with an Annual General Meeting of the membership to be held in mid July. The AUSU’s legal counsel would then do a final review of the draft 2002 Bylaws and forward them to Alberta Registries for approval before the end of summer. The problem is that the longer AUSU, Council and Executive gets bogged down in procedures, definitions and clarifications, the less time that they all have to get out and meet with as many of you as possible to find out what your concerns are. It’s very well and good to rely on the *Voice* and the AUSU website to provide day-to-day information and elicit your comments on it, but students occasionally need to see their representatives out amongst them in order to feel the pulse of student thoughts. With regard to putting AU and AUSU in the hearts and mind of people within Premier Klein’s cabinet, this is something that has to be undertaken with the greatest dispatch, keeping in mind that this is not the sum total of the equation. The Council of Alberta University Students (CAUS) is a nice touch in terms of basic representation of AU students to Alberta Learning, but should your funds be used to equally fund projects for which you do not receive equal benefit? This is something that I want the next Council to consider. Based on recent figures, less than half (47%) of AU’s undergraduate students currently live in Alberta, so the focus of the new AUSU Council needs to be increasing pressure on the governments in which the other 53% of the student population lives in order to ensure that AU’s funding base is much more broader than the Government of Alberta and student fees. The pressure is on student fees right now, as I am sure that you all will agree. If elected, I would like to see an external affairs committee established with representatives of the student body selected to lobby their governments on a day-to-day

basis to help fund “their” students at AU. My “selling point” for AU would be is that it is much more cost efficient to “buy” the AU model than to build additional facilities and pay the associated overhead costs for them. If other provinces begin to fund their students in a more direct manner, this would free some of the pressure on the already strained budgets of AU students. I would also like to see that all governments, including the one in Ottawa, modify their student aid programmes to reflect the 6-month contracts that are in place at AU in order to give our students a better chance to finish their coursework properly, without worrying about meeting a 4-month deadline. Keep in mind that AU students are rather unique in that they are often juggling careers, families and school responsibilities at the same time. When I explain the idea of computer multitasking to people, I always point to the average AU student as a “real life” example of this concept. This is a topic that I approached the University on in the past, and it is something that I would want to do the same in the future if I was elected.

The last plank of my “basic election platform” is for AUSU to reach beyond Alberta’s borders to the rest of Canada to show our fellow students that their students’ union cares about them and wants to hear what they have to say. It is only logical to make some attempt at reaching out to out of province students, since they compose more than half of the student body. While I am not suggesting in the least that AUSU cease sponsoring social events in Edmonton and Calgary, it must begin to hold these types of events in places where there is a sizable AU student population. This does not mean, of course, that I am suggesting that Council hop on the plane and visit every last community in Canada. It does mean that when Council is holding a retreat, it should consider planning it for a place where there is a significant number of AU students, such as in Vancouver or Toronto. For example, it means that if I was elected, that I would need to get more involved in promoting AUSU within Saskatchewan. I travel a lot through the province as it is, so making time to meet with my fellow Saskatchewan AU students to discuss their University experience and their students’ union at no cost to the AUSU treasury for travelling, since I would have been making the trip regardless.

## **Conclusion**

My dear friends (now I am really starting to sound like a politician!), I’ve done like many other politicians that have come before me, and probably after me, and wrote a lot but told you nothing. I am very imperfect. Like other politicians, I have glossed over most of the major issues that need to be discussed in the name of brevity. I am very imperfect. I will have my full platform available to discuss with you by the time that this article is published. If you have any questions for me, or wish to find out more what I am about, I welcome your emails at [dlk\\_2002\\_ausu@yahoo.ca](mailto:dlk_2002_ausu@yahoo.ca) I am very imperfect. If you aren’t too wild for me as one of your representatives on AUSU Council, but would like to talk with me about my close personal friends Bipolar Disorder II (ultradian rapid cycling type) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (primarily inattentive type) please feel free to drop me a line about these subjects as well. By the way, keep in mind that I am very imperfect.

## **BURSARY PROGRAM ESTABLISHED FOR COMMUNITY REHABILITATION STUDENTS**

Students enrolled in a community rehabilitation or equivalent program at a post secondary institution in Alberta have an opportunity to apply for and receive a bursary established recently in a partnership between the Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PDD) Northwest Alberta Community Board and Northern Alberta Development Council (NADC).

A \$4000 bursary will be awarded to an Alberta student attending a Community Rehabilitation or equivalent diploma or degree program in Alberta. The bursary will be awarded under the NADC Bursary Partnerships Program.

Students applying for the bursary must be willing to live and work for a period of time in Northwest Alberta. The bursary is unique because it has a return service component, which means a student receiving funding must sign a contract agreeing to live and work in a community in the region for at least sixteen months following the completion of their school program.

Students receiving bursary funding will be required to complete their contracted term employed by either the PDD Northwest Alberta Community Board or one of its many Funded Agencies.

"We are very pleased to announce the launch of this bursary program for students in Alberta. Our organization is mandated to ensure persons with developmental disabilities are provided with a high quality and appropriate level of supports and services so they can continue to become leaders and partners in our communities," says PDD Northwest Alberta Community Board Chair Paul Renfree.

"This bursary is beneficial for both students and agencies working with persons with developmental disabilities. Students can receive money to help reduce the cost of training in the community rehabilitation field. Our board and the service provider agencies we fund have a chance to obtain a qualified staff member dedicated to providing a high quality of supports and services to persons with developmental disabilities. It is our hope bursary recipients landing their first job in our region will seriously consider making our region their permanent home," he adds.

Applications are now being accepted from students interested in receiving the bursary when it is first awarded in January 2002. Information about the bursary program and criteria students must meet in order to apply for the bursary have been provided to post secondary institutions which offer Community Rehabilitation or equivalent programs. The deadline for bursary applications is December 14, 2001 at 4:30 P.M.

Students interested in receiving a bursary application form or with questions about the bursary program are encouraged to contact the PDD Northwest Alberta Community Board at (780) 624-6201 (310-0000 Toll Free).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM AUSU:

### AUSU Job Posting

# Chief Returning Officer

The Athabasca University Students' Union represents AU students and their interests. The Union strives for a fair and accessible election process for members to the Students' Council. To this end, AUSU is seeking a student to fulfil the role of Chief Returning Officer for the year 2002 AUSU General Election.

#### Position Duties and Responsibilities

The CRO's responsibilities, as outlined in AUSU policy, include arranging for a secure post office box, receiving, collecting and maintaining ballots in a secure location, overseeing counting of ballots with two (2) Scrutineers March 16, 2002, notifying candidates of results and conducting the appeal process as required.

The CRO reports to the General Manager of AUSU and AUSU Students' Council.

#### Selection Criteria

- Applicants must be currently registered as an AU student.
- Applicants must be bondable.
- Applicants must have strong organizational and logistical abilities.
- Applicants must be able to analyze and apply policy to ensure a fair election process.
- Candidates in the 2002 AUSU General Election are ineligible for this competition.
- Candidates must be able to operate out of the AUSU head office, located in Edmonton, AB.

**Remuneration**                      \$500 stipend

**Application Deadline**              Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2002

**Apply to** the AUSU office at #306 North Tower, Seventh St. Plaza, 10030-107 St., Edmonton, AB T5J-3E4 ph. (780) 497-3413 or toll free (800) 788-9041 ext. 3413 or e-mail [clynch@ausu.org](mailto:clynch@ausu.org)

For an application form or more information, please contact the Edmonton office of AUSU at (800) 788-9041.



## UNTITLED ART SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Up coming shows in the Main Gallery

### **"Pieces of a Picture"**

By Ryan Hamilton and Tanya Mastrobuono

Untitled Arts Society +15 Window

225 - 8th Ave. SE (West end of Performing Arts Centre  
corridors, 2nd Floor)

On view from December 1st, 2001 to January 31st, 2002

[Opening Reception: Thursday, December 13th @ 8pm](#)

Meet at the Window, retire to the Auburn Saloon, 712  
1st St. SE

This collaborative show presents a whimsical series of collages by Ryan Hamilton and Tanya Mastrobuono, the former a University of Calgary Fine Arts graduate, and the latter, soon to be.

Random, discarded, leftover puzzle pieces are the key constituents of these light-hearted mixed media works. From this starting point these artists looked for surprising and unexpected ways to take the familiar and remake it as something new. Imaginary landscapes and flights of fancy result, as these recombinant puzzles show traces of their process of exploration, and the marks of the artists' hands.

The artists will be in attendance at the opening reception. All are welcome. For more information please contact the artists @ 340-3970 (Tanya) or 289-6743 (Ryan) or Untitled @ 262-7911 (leave a message).

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### **"In the Back of the Front of my Mind"**

By Tim Rechner

Untitled Arts Society Gallery

4th floor - 319 10th Ave. SW

On view from December 2nd - December 22nd, 2001

Gallery hours: Friday and Saturday, 12-5pm

[Opening Reception: Thursday December 6th @ 8 pm](#)

Otherwise, Viewing by Appointment. Please contact the artist at (780) 432-6588, or the Untitled Art Society at 262-7911

This installation by Edmonton artist Tim Rechner, a graduate of the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, creates an immersion experience intended to overwhelm the viewer with visual stimuli.

Interested in exploring the possibilities for disorientation and instability that may result from an intense aesthetic experience, Rechner seeks to create such an environment where this is possible, and then await the results. Through his medium of choice, large abstract works on paper, he flirts with psychedelia, striving to evoke in the viewer an altered state of mind. Whether this is fleeting or lasting remains an open and interesting question.

The artist will be in attendance at the opening reception. All are welcome. Please use the back entrance. For more information please contact the artist @ (780) 432-6588 or Untitled Art Society at 262-7911. (leave a message)

**BIG ALBERTA SKY** Pictures of Home: An Exhibition of Photography by Todd Korol, Bradford Uphill and Mike Drew. Curated by Wendi Jenkins.

January 6 to 26, 2002. Opening: January 10, 2002, 8pm.

Untitled Art Society +15 Window Space in the Performing Arts Centre

**PIECES OF A PICTURE:** Ryan Hamilton and Tanya Mastrobuono

December 1 to January 26. Opening December 13.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Untitled Art Society's Gallery will be open on Fridays from 1pm to 4pm and on Saturdays from 12 noon to 5pm. 4th floor (Box 16), 319 10 Avenue S.W. Calgary, Alberta, Canada

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### **Are you an Artist? AUSU supports the arts!**

AUSU is interested in purchasing original works of art from students for use in promotional purposes. These promotions may include: gifts from AUSU to graduates at convocation, tokens of appreciation for volunteers, special presentations, etc.

The works of art must:

- be created by an AU Student
- be within a value range \$0-\$500.
- be accessible or easily transportable to Alberta

If you are an artist of any kind who creates a product you feel we would be able to use for such a purpose, please contact [djabbour@ausu.org](mailto:djabbour@ausu.org). Supply a brief description of the art object, a picture if you have it, and its market value.

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### **WRITE FOR THE VOICE!**

Fill on our online application at [www.ausu.org/voice/write.html](http://www.ausu.org/voice/write.html) or contact Tammy Moore at [tmoore@ausu.org](mailto:tmoore@ausu.org).