

THE VOICE

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted."

--David Bly



A Bug In Your Ear... READER FEEDBACK NEEDED! IS THERE A WRITER IN YOU?

Our writers work hard to bring you information, news, opinions, social information and to share their experiences with you each week. This is a difficult job, particularly for those who strive to contribute to The Voice every week. They struggle through mental blocks, research, and spend many hours to try and provide you with worthwhile reading material.

Now, we'd like to have some feedback from our readers. Is there anything we can do, or add to The Voice for your enjoyment, or the paper's improvement? Is there anything or any topic you'd like us to explore? Let us know – What would YOU like to see in your University paper?

I would also like to remind everyone that we are still looking for new voices to add to our writing team. Please make an effort to share your ideas, thoughts and opinions with your peers- we need to build a forum where AU students can discuss topics and news that are relevant to all of us. We need more writers to have the paper continue, grow and flourish, as we know it can. If you have an interest in writing for The Voice, be it once, once a month, on a weekly basis, or even just whenever you get the chance, we'd love to hear from you. Get involved and use your VOICE!

Tammy Moore

You can write to me at tmoore@ausu.org



From My Perspective: Writing for student newspapers

By Debbie Jabbour

Much has [been written](#) over the past week about Peter Gzowski, "CBC Institution and Canadian Icon" who passed away at age 67 on January 25, 2002 of emphysema. Although I never listened to his CBC radio show, Morningside, I have read many of his articles, and respected his talent as both a writer and broadcaster. In reading the many accolades written subsequent to his passing, one in particular caught my notice. It was an article in the Edmonton Journal, entitled "He was our Oprah", which commented how when Gzowski spoke well about a book on Morningside, it would result in "booksellers across the country finding their phones ringing off the hook and people coming into their stores."¹ The part of the article that caught my eye, however, was the list of Gzowski's writing history, which began with the statement, "he wrote for the student paper at the University of Toronto".

As a writer for our student paper, The Voice, I am well aware of the value of this experience. To realize that one of Canada's most beloved and well-respected writers got his start writing for his student newspaper gave me a new-found appreciation for the experience and provided some much-needed incentive.

Writing an article every week for the Voice is no easy task. I spend many hours on each article, refining and perfecting the words, checking my sources. I often find myself wondering whether its really worth the effort - the financial return is minimal, and my schedule is so hectic and overloaded with studies, student government, work and family - do I really need the challenge of finding time to fulfill my commitment to writing a weekly article as well?

Recently I had a conversation with another Voice writer, and discovered that we shared this sentiment. In addition we shared the difficulty of not always knowing what to write about next. I've tried virtually every topic I can think of - news commentary; controversy; interviews; personal reflection; family history. However, the Voice writers have no way of knowing what readers are interested in, what they want to see in their newspaper, because we rarely get any feedback.

Another source of discouragement is how few students are willing to contribute to the Voice by writing articles. It is here that I think everyone loses out, and it is here that Peter Gzowski's example should be an inspiration to us all. I'm willing to bet he is not

¹ Edmonton Journal, January 25, 2002. "He was our Oprah". Canadian Press, Toronto.

alone in having an illustrious career begin with writing for a student newspaper. Student newspapers offer us an important outlet where we can share our ideas and thoughts with our peers, explore topics of interest, discover personal strengths and weaknesses, and where we can refine our skills as wordsmiths. I've watched the quality of the Voice and its writers improve over time, and while Voice writers may still be in the developmental stages, often articles in our humble little newspaper rival those of top journalists. For myself, I've found writing for the Voice an important part of my education, one that I know will serve me well when I go to write my thesis.

A writer can wield great power and influence. [Gzowski](#) turned his student newspaper experience into an impressive career, one that influenced a nation. He was considered a champion of literacy; held honorary doctorates from 12 Canadian universities; was named Companion of the Order of Canada in 1992; was a member of the Canadian News Hall of Fame; awarded the Governor-General's Performing Arts Award for Lifetime Achievements in Broadcasting; won seven ACTRA Awards; and in 1997 won a Peabody Award for his Outstanding Contribution to Broadcasting, the only Canadian ever to be given this honour for work as an individual.⁽³⁾ After retirement from broadcasting, he served as chancellor for Trent University in Peterborough, Ontario until his death.

One of his most influential acts as a writer & journalist may well be yet to come. Although Gzowski quit smoking two years ago, he could not undo the damage of years of heavy smoking (up to 75 cigarettes a day for 50 years). He chronicled his battle with the addiction in the essay "How to Quit Smoking in Fifty Years or Less,"² and recently recorded video footage for the Canadian Lung Association for an anti-smoking campaign. This footage is set to air in March, and its posthumous message will undoubtedly have a significant impact on all Canadians, smokers and non-smokers alike.

Never underestimate the value of writing for your student newspaper. Not only does it improve personal skills and build experience; it gives you a chance to share your thoughts and ideas and perhaps influence others in a positive manner. It can be an important part of your university experience, and who knows what it might lead to in the future?

² Gzowski, Peter, "How to Quit Smoking in Fifty Years or Less". In: Addicted: Notes From The Belly Of The Beast, edited by Lorna Crozier and Patrick Lane. Greystone Books, Vancouver, 2001.



Telemarketing: Making it Zen.

By Tamra Ross Low

We've all been there. We're tired, busy, or eating dinner and the phone rings and we rush to get it. Only about half of the time is the person on the other end someone we want to talk to. We know this before we get the phone, but rarely does this stop us. We might have family in frail health, and fear missing a call alerting us that they have taken a turn for the worse. Or maybe we're waiting for a

call-back from that great person we had lunch with last week. Sometimes, we're just curious to know if someone from our past has looked us up out of the blue and many calls from businesses are important. We all have to keep in touch with banks, credit companies, doctors, lawyers, or other professionals. If we have children, it is vital that we be reachable at all times.

Our inevitable response to the ringing phone is what telemarketers count on. They design their pitches to catch our attention quickly. Companies like the Calgary Herald never begin with a sales pitch. Instead, they ask if you received your morning paper. Our need to answer makes us a part of the pitch, rather than a passive listener. I assume this tactic works, but it makes me angry and determined to not subscribe. I'm like that. If a carpet cleaner calls and offers me a good deal, and my rugs could use a shampoo, I hang up and contact another company that has never called me. If I reward those who harass me at home, I'm encouraging them to continue.

Maybe harass is too strong a word, but it does feel like harassment. Telemarketers claim that their job is a form of advertising similar to television and radio ads, but I disagree. I choose whether I listen to radio ads. I can do other things while television commercials are on. The telephone demands a response - we must stop what we are doing and go to the phone or look at the caller ID. Telemarketers come into our homes and affect what we are doing. If the phone wakes us up it can rob us of hours of sleep afterward.

The response of telemarketing companies has been to suggest we take our phones off the hook while we are sleeping or eating dinner. I am offended by this suggestion on a number of levels. First, if I take my phone off the hook, I am forfeiting my ability to communicate with those I want to hear from. I pay for that privilege, even when my phone is off the hook. To suggest that we must shut off our phones when we do not want to be disturbed is to suggest that anyone who has a phone has no right to say who can or cannot contact them. Telus offers a call screen package that allows you to block 12 numbers, but it costs \$3.95 a month and I have to anticipate who will call. They have another system that blocks calls from numbers that block caller ID, but the system is faulty. I had it for 3 months and it blocked a call from my father the day my mother was diagnosed with cancer. It was not worth the few calls that it blocked.

I am also offended by the suggestions of telemarketers because they presume that the only important things we do in our homes are eating or sleeping. I would argue that most of what I'm doing when I'm home is too important to be interrupted by someone I don't want to talk to. People can be busy with all kinds of things: homework, movies, changing diapers, cooking, laundry, sex, showering, painting their nails, getting dressed, home repair, painting, playing with the children, meditating, exercising, or even just reading a good book. These may not all be vital functions, but it is important to have time to do as we wish without unnecessary interruption. Should we have to interrupt these things to be asked if we need furnace cleaning? Most people have too little time for these things already.

It's not that telemarketers simply ask us to interrupt things, but that they demand it. Email is looked at when it is convenient for us. TV shows can be taped and watched later. But the telephone must be answered now. Even if we don't answer it, it is sure to break our concentration. Fortunately, there are things we can do to minimize this interruption.

Telemarketers must operate within rules established by the [CRTC](#) in Canada. [Regulations](#) specify that "as a minimum, telemarketers must maintain 'Do not call/fax lists' and provide customers with a fax or telephone number where a responsible person can be reached." Many (but not all) telemarketers are members of the Canadian Direct Marketing Association. You can fill out the Do Not Mail/Do Not Call registration form [online](#). The CDMA forwards this information to members four times a year. This should greatly reduce the number of nuisance calls you receive. The government also publishes a [pamphlet](#) called What You Should Know About Telemarketing that gives advice on how to avoid fraud and other deceptive telemarketing practices.

Even if a telemarketer is not a member of the CDMA, they still must keep a Do Not Call list, and add you to this at your request. Failure to do so entitles you to make a complaint with the CRTC. Their website also includes step-by-step instructions on how to get removed from lists. I am in the process of a complaint against the Calgary Cerebral Palsy Association, who has refused to stop calling me after I have made over a dozen formal requests that they do so. This is rare, however. I usually have success with asking companies to remove me from their list. You can go a step further, and call a company and let them know that you think less of them because they have been making unsolicited calls (do not bother talking to the telemarketer). Another option, of course, is to get an unlisted number, but this will also make it harder for old friends/family to get in touch with you. This might be a good thing - it's up to you.

You will never be completely free of nuisance calls, wrong numbers, and other such distractions, but you can use them work to your advantage. The Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, in his book, *Peace is Every Step* (1991, Bantam: New York), discusses our love/hate relationship with the telephone and how we can transform it from a source of stress to a means for relaxation. "The telephone," Hanh explains, "is very convenient, but we can be tyrannized by it. We may find its ring disturbing or feel interrupted by too many calls. When we talk on the phone, we may forget that we are talking ... wasting

precious time. The telephone bell creates in us ... some anxiety,... yet some force in us pulls us to the phone, we cannot resist. We are victims of our own telephone." Hanh has some advice on how to turn this around. "The next time you hear the phone ring, just stay where you are, breathe in and out consciously, smile to yourself, and recite this verse: 'Listen, listen. This wonderful sound brings me back to my true self.' When the bell rings for the second time, you can repeat the verse, and your smile will be even more solid... You can afford to practice breathing and smiling like this, because if the person calling has something important to say, she will certainly wait for at least three rings." By following Hanh's suggesting, you can remind yourself to practice relaxation every day, and apply the same principles before you call someone else.



FED WATCH!

By Karl Low

Saskatchewan Taking Action

Like most provinces, Saskatchewan is dealing with its own problems in the medical department. One of the major problems is staffing. Alberta's answer is to concentrate on offering better and better incentive plans - in effect, competing harder for the scarce resources. Saskatchewan is taking a different approach, though. Rather than simply try and compete for the scarce supply of health professionals, Saskatchewan is attempting to increase the supply by [offering bursaries](#) worth \$7,000.00 to students taking medical related programs and who will agree to practice in rural Saskatchewan for a year once they graduate. This also applies to nurses, so if you don't mind the thought of small towns and could use the help paying your way through your schooling, it might be worth a look.

Paul Martin has no Explanation

It [appears](#) that our Finance Minister, Paul Martin, really has no answer to why the Canadian dollar is so low. He's looking at his books and as far as he can see, all the conditions are right - taxes dropping, debt dropping, low inflation, and a balanced budget - so why the loonie isn't soaring to great heights seems to be a mistake on the part of the currency traders.

Perhaps he's forgetting that Canada is an export driven market, and what's more, the bulk of our exports are raw materials and to one country. This means that because the United States is suffering, we're eventually going to wind up suffering too. Would you invest in a business where the main customer was having financial troubles? The other problem is

that currency trading has little relation to reality. When a person is trading currency to make their living, there is nothing really present for them to back their money up on. The value of a currency, when it comes down to it, is really only based on how the currency traders feel. Of course when difficult times come, most people want to make sure that they have access to their money. This means they have to pull it out of the other currencies and put it in their own.

So how do we combat this? By developing our internal markets. Stop exporting raw materials and instead sell them to other Canadian companies that export finished products. However, to do that we need the Canadian companies - and the best way to make entrepreneurial Canadians is to educate them as much as we possibly can.

Of course, there is no Minister of Education, just a Minister of Human Resources Development, Jane Stewart - responsible for millions of dollars being literally lost in the system. Even without that loss though, Human Resources Development is more concerned with employment than education. With no federal strategy for education, is it any wonder that students are seeing continual tuition hikes and little in corresponding benefits?

Deregulation Dismissed

It was a narrow thing, but the Ontario Government may have curtailed tuitions rising enormously over the next few years. Ontario's Universities Minister, Dianne Cunningham has [rejected](#) an application from Queen's University for the ability to decide it's own fees. Currently Universities in Ontario are restricted to a two percent cap in tuition fee increases per year. This limit was recently taken off for the graduate studies programs in medicine, law, engineering and business. The result? A fee increase of almost 60% for those programs.

Other Universities in Ontario had also indicated that they would like to be de-regulated as well, but only Queens had applied. Fortunately, this refusal may mean that they (and other Universities across Canada) do not pursue this.



Riverboat -Continued

By Wayne Benedict

The summer following the boat launch escapade on the banks of the Frazer River (see last week's the Voice), I was once again working for the BC Forest Service at NIFAC. From the beginning of May through the end of August I, along with around twenty coworkers, lived in and worked out of a camp located at Bear Lake, 90 kilometers north of Prince George BC. Depending on the frequency of forest fires, life was either hectic, with radios blaring, helicopters flying in and out, and firefighters running every which way or, more often than not, as boring as one can imagine, as we waited for a fire-call that didn't come. In the slow times, during working hours, our boss, Neil Campbell, was always looking for "make-work" to keep us busy and in shape. Believe me, I never want to dig another out-house hole, paint another picnic table, or mop another floor in my life. On our off-duty time, we did our best to keep busy. Everyone had a hobby or six because of our isolated location and the resultant lack of entertainment.

Although I greatly enjoy the outdoors, I have never taken to fishing, but many of my coworkers were avid fish slayers. Having my father's riverboat in the parking lot, I endured an unceasing barrage of pressure from my fisher friends that I take them out onto one of the nearby lakes. One day, having nothing better to do, I agreed so long as they did the fishing and I did the driving. We hooked the boat's trailer to my truck and drove the fifteen minutes to Davie Lake, where there is an oft-used boat launch. Dad's riverboat held the five of us with room to spare and we headed out onto the lake.

We had been trolling for a while when someone suggested that the fishing might be better at a different spot on the lake. They brought in their lines and I opened the throttle, bringing the boat to full speed. Small waves were rolling across the lake and slamming into the bow. Suddenly the front six feet of the boat separated from the back and began flopping up and down. The entire nose was being held to the boat by the single, flexing piece of ply-wood that made up the boat's floor. Everyone moved to the rear of the boat and I kept the throttle open in order to keep the front out of the water and prevent our sinking.

We were circling out in the lake while I tried to think of a way that we could save ourselves as well as the boat. Turing to look at my passengers, I saw four pairs of eyes as big as saucers staring back into my own, which I'm sure were just as wide. Glancing back toward the boat launch, I spied our salvation. For once in my life, my lazy streak had paid off because I'd left the truck parked with the trailer still in the water where I had launched dad's riverboat. Telling everyone to hold on tight, I aimed the boat at the trailer. The landing wasn't nearly as hard as I'd expected it to be; we were all safe and dad's boat escaped the gloomy depths for a second time.

Needless to say, none of my coworkers ever asked me to take them fishing again. I realized afterwards that in pulling the water-filled boat out of the Frazer River with my winch, Rick and I had seriously weakened the joints that held the nose onto the main portion of the boat. The choppy waters on Davie Lake had finished the job that could have been the end of us. I didn't tell dad about the rest of the story, but he found out anyway, as my fiber-glass repair skills leave much to be desired.



EDUCATION REVOLUTIONARY:

Is the Publishing of Education Accountability Results Helpful?

By Cathy Thompson

Ratings, rankings, and test results are all part of the education accountability frenzy that is sweeping Canada and the United States. Governments, NGO's, and the media all try to excite voters, sell copy, and enrich the economy by assessing quality in education. But does the publishing of these rankings, ratings and test results really accomplish anything positive, or has it simply created entertainment, dishonesty, and new industries of measurement?

The Canadian Psychological Association (CPA) and the Canadian School Psychologists Association (CSPA) [aren't pleased](#) that provincially mandated school test results are being ranked by the press with poorly reported results being blamed solely on the school rather than also on student deficiencies. They believe that this reporting puts too much unhealthy pressure on teachers, administrators and students in the low performing schools. Others, including the Frazer Institute believe that competition between the schools is healthy and will result in higher test scores. They believe that putting the public spotlight on schools' performances will embarrass them into improvement, and will allow parents to make informed decisions on where to send their kids to school. The Frazer Institute has published its own rankings of schools.

The position paper from the CPA and the CSPA also gives examples of how the press has reported improvements in a schools performance from year to year, and given credit to improvements in teaching methods when the reasons for improvements could have also been other factors such as smaller class sizes, fewer ESL students, and changing scoring procedures for the tests. Their paper also tells of how Michigan real estate agents use

school rankings as selling features for homes, and how American school teachers and administrators have positively fudged the results of the tests to gain good publicity and deflect punishment by governments. (Perhaps this positive cheating doesn't happen here in Ontario because the *Toronto Star* and the teachers' unions are titillated by low test results. They state that low scores are proof that the conservative government's new curriculum has failed students).

Moving into accountability in postsecondary education, many of the provinces have copied from the Americans a nifty little number crunching model called "Key Performance Indicators" that goes hand in hand with "Performance Funding." Institutions and governments devise the performance indicators that institutions will be assessed on, and then the institutions receive funding bonuses based on how well they score. In Ontario there are five performance indicators for colleges, and two performance indicators for universities. The colleges are assessed on graduate employment, graduate satisfaction, student satisfaction, student attrition, and employer satisfaction. The universities are assessed on graduate employment and student attrition. The reason there are more indicators for colleges is that the colleges are Ontario crown corporations, therefore the government has more power to make demands on them whereas the universities are more autonomous and more able to resist government intervention.

Some of the problems with this model are that the colleges have selectively used the results in their massive advertising campaigns, reporting only the results that make them look good and leaving out the results that make them look bad such as student attrition rates. Also, both the colleges' and universities' "graduate employment rates" include those graduates who are working in "McJobs." Students have also reported instances of fudging of the graduate employment numbers by college departments, and universities are reporting student attrition rates that don't start until second year.

Maclean's magazine does a yearly ranking of Canadian universities that intelligent readers label as "goofy journalism." Perhaps people buy this issue for entertainment purposes – to catch up on the controversies that are going on in postsecondary education – or to see if someone is saying something bad about their choice of university.

Are governments' education accountability efforts going the same way as *Maclean's*?

Worth a second look...



By Teresa Neuman

The Complete Canadian Living Cookbook: 350 Inspired Recipes from Elizabeth Baird and the Kitchen Canadians Trust Most
Elizabeth Baird and the Canadian Living Test Kitchen
Random House Canada
\$49.95

Pork chops are a staple food in our house. We eat a lot of pork chops and I was getting desperate for an interesting way to cook them. I was really delighted when I was given a copy of *The Complete Canadian Living Cookbook: 350 Inspired Recipes from Elizabeth Baird and the Kitchen Canadians Trust Most*. Produced by the Canadian Living Test Kitchen, the book “includes all the basics and incorporates fresh takes on modern classics.” I was hooked. At last, some ideas to spice up otherwise boring pork chop dinners!

The book is easy to read, and the recipes have lots of useful tips, variations and substitutions. Included throughout the book are colour photos of the finished dishes. The wide varieties of recipes, “tested until perfect” in the Canadian Living Test kitchen, are guaranteed by the authors to work in any home kitchen. The modern updates of the recipes necessitated several trips to the grocery store, so I recommend reading the recipe thoroughly before starting to cook. I was able to whip up some *Corn Chowder* (page 45), even though I hadn’t read the recipe ahead of time. Luckily, I had most of the ingredients on hand except some fresh-chopped coriander, basil, thyme or parsley.

A great feature of the cookbook is that the authors have created five versions of some recipes, providing simple variations on every day meals. I was able to make really great *Turkey Mushroom Barley Soup* (*Five Turkey Soups*, page 62) using left over holiday turkey, although I still had to go to the store for fresh mushrooms. Spurred on by that success, I flipped through the cookbook looking for a way to cook pork chops that didn’t involve using a can of mushroom soup. *Lemon Olive Pork Chops*, found on page 157, caught my eye. Luckily, I remembered to read the recipe first. This dish promised to be perfect in three steps. However, I would have to go to the store for two items – a jar of capers and a lemon so that I could grate the rind. *Five Speedy Pork Chop Suppers* (page 158) looked promising, but for each recipe I was missing some ingredients like zucchini, orange juice, toasted almonds, and water chestnuts. As I couldn’t face another meal of pork chops cooked in mushroom soup, I put the chops back in to the fridge and went to the store. Some time later, as my family enjoyed a great meal of *Asian Chops* (*Five Speedy Pork Chop Suppers*, page 158) with red pepper, snow peas and water chestnuts, I

was pleased that I had gone to the trouble. The recipe was easy and turned out great, was economical and quick to prepare.

Priced at \$49.95, the book is expensive, but worth the investment. As a student with a full-time job, time to cook is limited and our meals were verging on being dull. This book should provide some interesting alternates and will reduce my family's dependence on mushroom soup.

More Canadian Living recipes can be found on the Internet at <http://www.foodtv.ca/> or <http://www.canadianliving.com/>.



THE MOVIE REVIEW!

By Mark Gueffroy

Title: How the Grinch Stole Christmas (VHS)

Performers: Jim Carrey, Jeffrey Tambor, Christine Baranski, Bill Irwin

This movie is a disappointment to the entertainment industry and to viewers worldwide. Previews and advertisements depict the movie as an interesting remake of the original Dr. Seuss story, and something that the whole family can enjoy. Instead the movie is boring, and production is so sad that you almost want to cry.

Jim Carrey's performance is uncharacteristically poor, and absolutely out of character. This movie could be considered a good children's film, but adults looking for a good time would be more suited to reading a book about ancient castles of England! After watching the movie I phoned the cable company and demanded my money back!

Title: Legally Blonde (VHS)

Performers: Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson, Selma Blair, Victor Garber, Holland Taylor

Legally Blonde is the next Blockbuster special. A captivating movie about a young lady, torn by love by the young man that dumps her with the excuse that she “just isn’t the right material for a senator’s wife!” Elle, the heroine of the story, packs her bags and heads to Harvard Law School to prove that she IS the right material for a senator’s wife. As Elle struggles to fit in with the snobs and intellectuals, she discovers that she just might have what it takes to be a good lawyer. Saving the day, Elle realizes that her ex-boyfriend doesn’t have the right material to be HER boyfriend, and finds herself the type of man she really desires.

Legally Blonde demonstrates the theory that a person with enough determination can do anything that they want to, and that each person has something that they can offer.

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NEWS OF OTHER STUDENTS’ UNIONS:

U of A student union seeks more power over student groups

By Andra Olson, Gateway

EDMONTON (CUP) -- A proposed bylaw that would give the University of Alberta’s student union greater control over the finances of some independent campus student organizations is drawing fire.

The student union is proposing the establishment of four committees that would oversee student groups that collect more than half their operating budgets through direct student levies.

Under the bylaw, if a student group failed to meet standards set by the board, its funding could be frozen.

The bylaw was prompted by a recommendation to shield the student union from possible legal consequences. A legal opinion prepared by Edmonton lawyer William Shores advises the student union to outline a clear framework for its control over groups that operate independently of the union, such as the Student Legal Service Fund and the newly formed Alberta Public Interest Research Group (APIRG).

In addition, the opinion suggests that referenda brought to the union's council are not binding and can ultimately be altered at council's discretion. The opinion also suggests that referenda cannot directly levy fees on students.

Currently, the student union collects fees from students and distributes these funds to the independent groups. However, the report says the union's collection of these dedicated fees holds them legally responsible for any misuse of student dollars. It also says the current system violates the union's founding principles, outlined in the province's Universities' Act.

"Dedicated fee groups that were operating up until this point completely outside of the SU are the direct responsibility of the SU," said student union president Chris Samuel, adding that these groups must be scrutinized in the same way as groups with direct student union affiliation.

Samuel countered suggestions that the bylaw may be heavy-handed by saying that boards are not intended to interfere with the daily business of affected groups. "We are not saying that we don't trust these groups to operate independently, these groups cannot act independently according to our ability to collect fees under the Universities Act," said Samuel.

Some members of the student union's council have condemned the proposed bylaw as overbearing and unnecessary. The bylaw has since been tabled.

Brian Loewen, a student councillor for the faculty of law, said the proposed measures give the student union too much control.

"[It is] a terrible bylaw, flawed in so many ways," said Loewen. "Each dedicated fee group was created with a specific duty of purpose. The SU should work in partnership with these groups."

Calling for council to appreciate the value of freedom of political process, Loewen warned against not adhering to decisions reached through referenda. As well, he warned that approving the bylaw would give "power to boards that are ill-defined. Who knows what boards and councilors would do in years to come."

Executive members of the union say the proposed bylaw isn't a move to exert control over the groups.

"This is not a creation of new powers," said Amy Salyzyn, a student union vice-president. "The legal opinion is to assert the position of the SU. The virtue of us [collecting] fees is that we have power to take the funding away. This bylaw is an appropriate accountability mechanism. If we could all use our common sense, we could appreciate that."

The bylaw proposes the creation of four new boards. Each board would include a student union vice-president, three student council members and three students-at-large selected by a student union nominating committee.

According to the bylaw, the oversight committees would each "develop and [oversee] the administration of the process by which the funds of the dedicated fee unit are allocated," and also develop a bylaw "outlining the administrative practices" of each group. If outlined provisions "are not met to the full satisfaction" of the board, it would have authority to recommend to council that all funds to the group be frozen."

The bylaw's opponents refute the student union's claims that the Universities Act forbids permanently binding referenda, arguing that since the act allows the student union to decide how the union's council is formed, including as a direct democracy, it must logically also allow for binding decisions through referenda.

Dan Lazin, former editor-in-chief of the university's student newspaper the Gateway, notes that the legal opinion is only one interpretation and called on the union to seek a second opinion.

Councillor Shawn Harriman said that without a more thorough legal opinion, councillors could not judge their real powers or the bylaw's implications.

Samuel is reluctant to accept the idea of going to another lawyer.

"We already have a lawyer. The only final legal opinion will come from a judge. Perhaps we will have to present this to a judge and seek a final legal decision."

Bequie Lake, the representative for APIRG, told council that she appreciates the intent of the bylaw, but thinks it goes too far in assuming responsibility. She believes the student groups would benefit from a more independent relationship.

"I have to say that the bylaw takes powers away from the boards of each dedicated fee group and places them in the hands of the proposed oversight boards, which may not have any specific expertise on the issues that the groups would be concerned with.

"Taking control the way the bylaw proposes would make the SU more accountable than it needs to be for decisions made by groups."



ENLIGHTENING INFORMATION

National Council on Ethics in Human Research (NCEHR) Visit - Feb. 6

ALL interested Athabasca University staff and students are invited to attend the NCEHR site visit team's noon hour presentation on Minimal Risk and Expedited Review Processes.

Please respond to Jill Calliou at jillc@athabascau.ca by Feb 1st, as to whether you will be attending the presentation and luncheon (12:15 - 1:15 pm) at Athabasca Central on Wednesday, February 6.

The noon presentation will be videoconferenced to Edmonton and Calgary Learning Centres, for the convenience of those who are unable to attend in Athabasca. (The luncheon, however, will only be available in Athabasca.)

For further information about the team's activities on Feb 6th, please refer to the schedule posted on the Research Ethics Board web page located at <http://www.athabascau.ca/ethics/>

Indigenous Education Event

Thursday January 31, 2002 - 6:00 p.m.

@ the Provincial Museum of Alberta

Infoline: 428-2064 / E-mail: janism@athabascau.ca

Athabasca University is launching its new Indigenous Education initiative with the Canadian premiere screening of Yolngu Boy, an Australian film about Indigenous youth, at the Provincial Museum in Edmonton the evening of Thursday, January 31.

The event begins at 6:00 p.m. in the foyer of the Museum with food and beverages, entertainment by Asani – an Edmonton-based a capella quartet – followed at 7:30 by a brief ceremony to officially launch the initiative.

We then move into the theatre by way of a grand entry processional, with Harold Cardinal introducing the event and Derek Starlight serving as the Master of Ceremonies. The White Buffalo Drummers and Dancers, will accompany the procession and perform. The short ceremony will be followed by an introduction to the film by Maria Campbell, followed by the film itself.

Yolngu Boy has attracted considerable international interest, and film festival awards, since its release. It is the story of three Yolngu teenagers who embark on an epic journey through the wilderness of Northern Australia. Colliding between the worlds of rap, football, and street credibility and the oldest living culture on Earth – the youths draw on ancient bush knowledge, street instinct, and the bonds of friendship to chase their childhood dreams.

Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students, and are available in advance by contacting Janice Makokis (428-2064 or janism@athabascau.ca), or at the door. All proceeds will go to AU's Indigenous Education Scholarship Fund.

Courtesy of:

The Community Networks Group (c)
6819 - 119 Avenue, Edmonton (Canada) T5B 4L9
Tel/Fax: (780) 474-6058 / Pager: (780) 419-7654

University of Alberta's

INTERNATIONAL WEEK January 28 - February 1, 2002

INFO: www.international.ualberta.ca / Phone: (780) 492-2692

"Living as if the Planet Matters"

The 17th annual International Week includes over 50 events examining the many facets of social and ecological sustainability and sustainable development in both local and international contexts. The Week features keynote speakers each evening and wraps up with a lively drumming concert, "Rhythms of the Planet."

A one day forum on Monday, January 28, "Global Water Crises: We Are All Downstream," will explore the dimensions of the water crises we are facing.

Experts and activists from Canada and abroad will focus on issues of health, water quality, water rights and conflict over water.

Monday evening's keynote speakers will discuss "Living as if Water Matters."

Featured are Dr. David Schindler, Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology at the University of Alberta, limnologist and recent winner of the prestigious \$1 million Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering; and Maude Barlow,

Volunteer Chairperson of the Council of Canadians. Tuesday, Allan Wolf Leg will highlight the Siksika, or Blackfoot, worldview on the state of being, the relationship of space and history, and the interrelationship of all elements.

Wednesday evening's program, "Living as if Forests Matter," brings us some of the world's leading forestry activists: Randy Hayes, the Founder and Director of the Rainforest Action Network based in San Francisco, and Colleen McCrory, Executive Director of the Valhalla Wilderness Society and winner of the Goldman Environmental Prize (the environmental equivalent of the Nobel Peace Prize).

"Protecting the Planet: Options for Action" on Thursday evening features Isabel Altamirano, discussing options utilized by Indigenous peoples in Mexico, Dr. Virginia Cawagas, reflecting on People Power Philippine style, and Andrew Nikiforuk, author of "Saboteurs: Wiebo Ludwig's War Against Big Oil." And not to be missed -- music and poetry from the Radical Cheerleaders and the Raging Grannies.

The Week spotlights a range of musicians from opening events in HUB Mall on January 25 to the wrap up concert. Performers include the University of Alberta's West African Music Ensemble and Asani, an Aboriginal women's vocal ensemble.

Friday evening's percussion concert, "Rhythms of the Planet," features the Okoto Dancers (African), Capoeira (Brazilian), Viajante Drumming Ensemble (Latin-American), Buffalo Tail Productions (Aboriginal) and the Drumcan Man who recently set a new speed world drumming record. Tickets for the concert are \$8 for students and \$10 for others available mid-January.

And there is so much more -- a found objects fashion show on January 23, a film from the Global Visions Festival, a story told by Gandalf the Wizard, the International Week Quiz, trash crafting and straw bale construction! Check it out by picking up a program guide at Gateway distribution points, Students' Union info booths and public libraries, on-line at <http://www.international.ualberta.ca> or by phoning (780) 492-2692.

NOTE: All but two events are free of charge. Everyone is welcome.

International Week 2002 is co-ordinated by the International Centre, University of Alberta and sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Environmental Research and Studies Centre, the Students' Union, the Graduate Students' Association (GSA), World University Service of Canada (WUSC), HUB Mall, and VUE Weekly.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Nancy Hannemann, Global Education Program Coordinator
International Centre - University of Alberta Campus, 172 HUB International
E-mail: Nancy.Hannemann@ualberta.ca
Phone: (780) 492-5962 / Fax: (780) 492-1134
WEB SITE: www.international.ualberta.ca

Good Girl magazine is looking for proposals and submissions (art and writing) for our Spring 2002 issue (volume 3). There's no specific theme for volume 3 – instead, we hope to publish whatever is going on for young women right now.

Good Girl is published by and for young women who want to talk, listen and be challenged, and have a great time doing it. We want to carry on a discussion, start talking and listening across our differences, and start being passionately aware that we could be completely wrong. So girls of all experiences, colours, dimensions, persuasions, ages and abilities – get mad, get hilarious, yell, swear and guffaw. And then listen, pay attention, think and reflect. Do you have something to express about the state of the world? The state of the war? The state of the media? The state of your life? Then say it!

Written submissions will be edited using a peer review system, and articles chosen for publication will receive the following humble remuneration, in Canadian dollars:

Articles over 1500 words get \$40

Articles under 1500 words get \$25

Poems get \$20 each

Original art and photography submissions chosen for publication will receive the following:

Each image \$20

Cover image \$40

Written submissions should be sent as Word documents and art submissions should be sent as TIFF files (note that all images will be printed in black and white) to:

goodgirlmagazine@hotmail.com

Women and men are encouraged to contribute! Pseudonyms are encouraged.

Deadline for submissions is February 1, 2002. For more information about good girl magazine, please visit our website at www.goodgirl.ca or contact us at goodgirlmagazine@hotmail.com

+15 Window in the Performing Arts Centre

Part & Parcel

Paul Robert

December 1, 2001 to January 31, 2002

Opening Reception: Thursday, December 13, 2001

Paul Robert is a conceptual-based artist whose works often have a performative or participatory element. For his proposed work, Robert is constructing an object that uses the mechanics of Western perspective that plays on a Kesslerian model of the universe: that the universe is made up of many individual parts that are all interconnected to create a whole depending on the perspective of the viewer.

Paul Robert is presently completing his BFA in Sculpture at the Alberta College of Art & Design in 2001. Paul is an active member of the Calgary art community, who recently worked as a project assistance for Vera Gartley and who also presently sits on the board of directors for The New Gallery.

The artist was in attendance at the opening reception.

Main Space at Stride Gallery

L'Hôtel SofiCalle

Vera Greenwood

January 18 - February 16, 2002

Opening Reception: Friday January 18 @ 8PM

Artist Meet and Greet: Saturday, January 19, 2002

In her installation entitled L'Hôtel SofiCalle (2001), Vera Greenwood documents her somewhat failed attempts at surveillance of the French artist Sophie Calle. Through the 'evidence' collected during a three-month residency at the Canada Council Paris Studios, she produces an autobiographical account of her own behaviours, social transgressions, and psychological experiences that surround her 'investigations' of Calle. The exhibition itself follows the principles of an ethnographic display-cases holding objects, photographs and text that are identified and interpreted-yet it carries with it the feeling of the backstage of a theatrical performance. The traces of her activity, such as passport, plane tickets, rubber gloves, disguises, maps and spy camera are all displayed behind glass cabinets alongside excerpts from her detailed written diary. Like all good mysteries, her diary is replete with plot twistes and comedic moments while her exhibition is filled with a trail of descriptive props and various pieces of evidence.

Born in Calgary in 1954, Ottawa-based artist Vera Greenwood lives and works in Hull, Quebec. A graduate of the Alberta College of Art and Concordia University, Greenwood's training in printmaking has expanded to include mixed media installations. Her work has been widely exhibited across Canada and in England, which include The Ottawa Art Gallery, Ottawa, On.; The Southern Alberta Art Gallery, Lethbridge, Ab.; and The Beg Peg Gallery, Birmingham, UK.

The artist will be in attendance at the opening reception. A brochure will accompany the exhibition.

Main Space at Stride Gallery
Reginald Baxter
King Charles Cavalier Spaniel
February 22 - March 23, 2002

Opening Reception: Friday, February 22 @ 8PM
Artist Meet and Greet: Saturday, February 23, 2002

Since 1990 Reginald Baxter has been painting copies of a King Charles Cavalier Spaniel that at a rate of about 4 to 8 each year. The source for this image itself is a bit of a mystery as it was extracted from an "original art" catalogue where the artists' names appeared to have been fabricated. Upon the first examination the 30 or so dog paintings appear to be replicas of one another, but on closer inspection it is quite easy to spot subtle differences that render each work as a unique original. The paintings are a crude counterpart to current technologies (like photography or videography) where there is no such thing as an original, but only mechanically-made duplicates. These collection of paintings that begun as a mechanically reproduced image of a forgery painting have ironically ended up as original pieces revealing the non-mechanical nature of the human touch and our ways of seeing.

Reginald Baxter graduated from the Ontario College of Art with an Honours in Fine Art in 1989. His work has been widely exhibited in Canada and abroad in various galleries including Kenderline Art Gallery, Saskatoon, SK; Mercer Union, Toronto, ON; and 494 Gallery, Brooklyn, NY; and the Venice Biennial, Canadian Pavillion (collaborative bookwork with Tom Dean), Venice, Italy.

The artist will be in attendance at the opening reception. A brochure will accompany the exhibition.

Stride Gallery 1004 MacLeod Trail S.E., Calgary, AB CANADA T2G 2M7

Hours of operation: Tuesdays - Saturdays 11 - 5 p.m.

Storefront. Admission is free and everyone is welcome.

URL: www.stride.ab.ca

eMail: stride2@telusplanet.net

PHONE: 403.262.8507

FAX: 403.269.5220

For further information about Stride Gallery's upcoming program, please contact Lissa Robinson, Director at 403.262.8507. The Stride Gallery is an artist-run gallery that is funded in part by the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Calgary Region Arts Foundation, the Canada Council and the generous support of the Calgary community.

UNTITLED ART SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

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).

Global Village Backpackers Banff

Our hostel opened June 1, 2001 right in downtown Banff. Formerly the Woodland Village Inn, we are a unique hostel as all our rooms have ensuite bathroom facilities. We have a hot tub, sauna, internet access, kitchen facilities, pool table, tour desk, TV room, bike rentals, laundry facilities, lounge and a large outdoor courtyard patio.

A majority of our rooms are spacious 4-8 bed dorms. We also have, what we call, semi-private rooms. Each has a double bed in a loft above a 4 bed dorm. You share the washroom facilities with the dorm.

Room rates

October 1, 2001 - April 14, 2001

Dorm Beds	\$25.00	\$22.00
Semi-private	\$55.00	\$51.00
Weekly rate in a dorm room		\$129.50 (non-refundable)

All prices include taxes and linen. Discounts are available to travelers carrying YHA, ISIC, VIP or GO cards.

2001/2002 Ski packages

3 Nights/2 days - only \$169
3 Nights shared accommodation
2 days ski passes (Lake Louise/Sunshine Village/Mount Norquay)
Transport to/from ski hills
Free pancake breakfast daily.

6 Nights/5 days - only \$369
6 Nights shared accommodation
5 days ski passes (Lake Louise/Sunshine Village/Mount Norquay)
Transport to/from ski hills
Free pancake breakfast daily.

We require credit card details to guarantee reservations.
We welcome group bookings. Please call the hostel directly for details.

Cheers

The Staff at the Global Village Backpackers Banff

449 Banff Avenue BOX 398

Banff AB Canada T1L 1A5

1-403-762-5521 Toll-free in North America 1-888-844-7875 fax 1-403-762-0385

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. Supply a brief description of the art object, a picture if you have it, and its market value.

WRITE FOR THE VOICE!

Contact Tammy Moore at tmoore@ausu.org.