

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

January 12, 2005
Volume 13 Issue 2



The Psychology of Criminal Behaviour *AU's Newest Criminal Justice Course*

What are you willing to give?
More than blood is needed

Alberta Freeze
tuition, that is (maybe)

Plus:
Lost & Found
The Good Life
Dear Barb
Taking Notes
Canadian Fedwatch
Primetime Update
AUSU This Month
Flicks & Folios

and much more...

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from the readers

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

Response to Editorial, December 22, 2004 (v12 | 49)

<http://www.ausu.org/voice/articles/featuredisplay.php?ART=3436>

Hello, Tamra: I found your [editorial on students' struggles to balance school and family] to be quite interesting. I am a potential student that is looking towards starting an Athabasca degree either this year or next year (Psychology/English).

What I found most interesting, in your article, is the section where students are allowing their courses to elapse or for those students that are purchasing extensions.

The problem could be that the students do not hear enough from their tutors or from AU. I have taken distance courses before, which is why I have chosen Athabasca, but the problem that I had with my distance courses is that I never heard from my tutor/teacher until I submitted my course material or had a question. Students were given three years to complete a diploma program and I ended up submitting my last assignment within two months of the completion date (2 yrs & 10 mths).

If I had heard from the tutor or if the organization made me feel as if I was still in "school", which is very important to distance students, I may have had more zeal to finish the courses quicker or have put more emphasis on completing the courses without having to rush through some of them.

It would make distance students feel more like they are part of the university if they hear from their tutors occasionally. I am currently going to night school and what I like is the fact that I have interaction with the students and the teacher. I am not going to be able to continue going to night school when I do my degree because of my circumstances but it would be great if I could get some occasional pep talk from my instructor or tutor.

As it is, I hope I can find a group that I could get together with and study with.

Thank you for hearing me out, Tamra. I hope we can get more communication going with distance students and teachers in the near future.

Jennifer Andrew

Thanks for the reply Jennifer. I agree that it's very hard to remember that you are a student when you are studying at a distance. It seems clear that anything that would foster a sense of student identity would strongly influence student retention rates. Hearing from a tutor once in a while can go a long way toward keeping students on track.

THE VOICE

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street,
Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4
800.788.9041 ext. 2905

Publisher Athabasca University
Students' Union

Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low
News Contributor Lonita Fraser

Regular Columnists:

Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Laura
Seymour, Hazel Anaka, Bill Pollett,
Janice Behrens, Barbara Godin,
Wanda Waterman St. Louis

Contributors to listings columns:

Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Lonita Fraser

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VOICE@AUSU.ORG

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EDITORIAL PAGES

On This New Year I Resolve...

Yeah, right. Like there is any point to making resolutions. Let's face it, if you were motivated enough to do it, you would have done it by now. Swearing out a hasty resolution at five minutes to midnight, on the last day of the year, whacked out of your brain on the tryptophan of a week's worth of leftover turkey, not to mention a few too many good cheer cocktails while watching Ashlee Simpson feign a vocal salute to the new year, is not a likely to be conducive to drastic and lasting life changes.

Still, the end-of-the-year tradition of resolution making is beneficial in that, much like the annual birthday tradition of bemoaning how little we've accomplished in the last year, is one of the few ways in which we remind ourselves to stop looking wistfully toward the future and regretfully toward the past and focus for a moment on our lives in the here and now. Put it that way, and the annual New Year's booze and nosh fest is damn near a Zen ritual!

Okay, maybe not. But we all know resolutions are doomed to fail. In fact, I bet that no decision is less likely to be successfully carried out than those made on New Year's eve. Even the terminology is against us: resolution. What does that mean anyway? "To resolve" suggests many meanings relevant to the New Year's tradition. It means, of course, *to decide*, but also *to transform* or *to bring to a conclusion*. So just as aloha means both hello and goodbye, to resolve means both to decide to bring about change, and to conclude that change, all at the same time. Hmm... Maybe it's all over so fast, we simply miss it.

I prefer to think of the new year holiday as a good time to make some changes, to clean house (literally and figuratively), and to try something new. It really has nothing to do with the year end, so much as that I have some time off from work and can get ahead on some work. Wait, that doesn't make sense either... Okay, yes, I spent much of my vacation doing work that I never have time for when I'm actually at work (incidentally, look for the updated look for the AUSU website, online shortly).

I did, however, manage to clear off my desk enough that I can now open a course book upon it, which is really the first step to getting caught up on my studies and finishing a course with more than two hours left before my contract date. And, you may notice some changes to *The Voice* over the next few weeks, beginning with some changes to the pdf layout (mainly the table of contents), and I hope to have a new website front page shortly as well.

Also, keep an eye out for the winner's list for our 2nd Annual Voice Writing Contest. As soon as I've heard back from all of the winners, I will release the list and begin running the winning entries. I think you will be pleasantly surprised by the quality of the work, and intrigued by some of the topics.

In the coming year you'll be hearing a lot about another project that is underway - the separation of *The Voice* from the AU Students' Union. The relationship between AUSU and *The Voice* has been wonderful, but there comes a time for most university publications when greater independence is needed, and for AU students, the need for a fully autonomous student publication is clear. It's not like you can talk to each other in the halls and hold rallies to air your concerns. This paper truly is your Voice, and the more student input we can include, the better. The separation plans will be a lengthy project, and you'll be updated as we progress. The first step will be a new domain name for The Voice - a small step that will make little difference to readers, but which is symbolic of the growing independence of the paper. It will also make it easier to track web traffic to *The Voice* website, and allow for better demographic reports.

Demographics will also be assessed through another Voice Annual Reader Survey, due to be online in the next several weeks. As always, your input will be invaluable and will determine the direction of the publication in the coming year. Take note of what you do and don't like over the coming weeks, and include your comments on the survey form when it is posted (right now, however, you can rate the current AUSU website through their Web Satisfaction survey, here: <http://www.ausu.org/websurvey2004/>)

2005 marks the 13th year of *Voice* publication, and I want it to be our best yet! Keep writing letters, submitting articles, and reading each and every issue. *The Voice*, ideally, should be a mirror image of the AU student body, and as your input increases, that image becomes easier to discern. Keep reading, keep writing, and keep letting us know what you would like to read.

As for resolutions, well... maybe we should all adopt the second meaning. Rather than deciding to do something, just do it! Welcome to 2005.

Tamra Ross Low
Editor in Chief

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Lonita Fraser

We have names for everything, labels that help us identify each other, each thing, and each place. But there's more to names than just a simple word.

The Alias Collective - <http://worldzone.net/art/alternika/alias/aliascollection.html>

Mainly designed for use by roleplayers, authors, and period re-creationists, this site hopes to focus on the individual and unusual, on names not normally found in other name database websites. This site contains names sorted into pagan and mythological sections, name generators, and more.

NameNerds - <http://www.namenerds.com/>

A site for all those who love names, who are looking for names, or just for anyone who's got a name. A resource for those looking for names for babies, boats, cats, dogs, or anything else that needs a name.

Forms of Address - <http://www.infoplease.com/ipa/A0001618.html>

The titles we use, and how to use them; everything from the simple Sir to the complex Cardinal.

Who Named It - <http://www.whonamedit.com/>

And then, of course, there are all those things that have names that we wonder about the origins of, who named it, and why.

What's In A Name - <http://www.rogerdarlington.co.uk/useofnames.html>

A very informative piece on the varying use of first and family names in different countries and cultures.

Country Name Etymologies - http://www.fact-index.com/li/list_of_country_name_etymologies.html

Ever wonder where your country, or that of another, got its name? This site can help you figure out the origins.

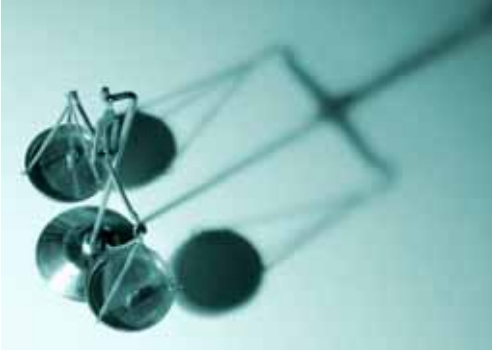
Minerals By Name - <http://mineral.galleries.com/minerals/byname.htm>

Rocks and minerals and their names, in alphabetical order, each linked to a nice little page of information about each mineral. Very handy and interesting little page.

The Psychology of Criminal Behaviour (CRJS 360)

Course Introduction

Katie Patrick



Criminal Behaviour: the media continually portrays it, and many of us have been directly affected by some form of it. Now, as an AU student, you have the opportunity to personally investigate criminal behaviour by taking AU's newest course, The Psychology of Criminal Behaviour (CRJS 360). Like me, you may have thought that the study of crime-based issues was relegated to forensic scientists and criminologists. Indeed, according to AU's Dr Vincent Roper of the Criminal Justice faculty, "until about 1980, the study of criminal behaviour in North America was almost the exclusive domain of criminology... [and] a branch of Sociology," but this has now changed.

CRJS 360 explores deviant behaviour through the lens of psychology, examining the influences of three major factors on such behaviour, and applying this knowledge to criminal behaviour as portrayed in the media. This approach to studying crime is different than the typical social perspective. Dr. Roper, the course author, feels that a strictly social view of crime "emphasizes the role of systems (social, cultural, political) in understanding criminal behaviour but... under-emphasizes the role of individual factors (psychological and biological) in criminal conduct." Dr. Roper "acknowledges the valuable contributions Sociology has made to understanding crime", but authored this new course to "introduce to students of crime, a large body of scientific knowledge which collectively points to cognitive, developmental, and biological factors in the origin of crime... and empirically validated methods of assessing and treating criminal behaviour."

True to its mission, CRJS 360 is divided into four sections, three of which discuss the psychological and biological factors affecting criminal behaviours. The first, consisting of two units, introduces the basics of criminology and related psychological concepts. Once you have gained a foothold, CRJS 360 plunges into the biological basis of criminal behaviour. These four action-packed units explore several factors potentially involved in the expression of deviant behaviours--including the influence of genetics, constitution, and temperament. A special course feature, an online audio lecture, will stimulate your learning experience by exploring Darwinian thought and the differences between humans and animals. The third section deals with the learning factors consisting of four detailed units covering the impact of social life on future criminal behaviour--for instance, which types of social situations cause poor social functioning--and the interactions between drugs and crime. Another online audio lecture complements this last section, discussing the formation and maintenance of street gangs, and the tattoos and body markings used by many who exhibit criminal behaviours. CRJS 360's last section deals with psychological disorders that predispose a person toward deviant behaviours. Over five units, you will learn about the theories behind offenses by the mentally ill, as well as those with unbalanced aggression or violence, including sex offenders.

In addition to its online audio lectures, CRJS 360 also comes with access to an online reading file that complements the material studied in the course. Additionally, you have the opportunity to check your retention and understanding of the course material by completing mini self-tests for each unit.

Vincent Roper, PhD., is part of AU's Criminal Justice faculty. A psychologist, specializing in forensic science, Dr. Roper has worked extensively with correctional services over the past few decades, and has also worked with mental health professionals, training them for work with those predisposed to criminal behaviour. In addition to CRJS 360, Dr Roper also teaches several other AU courses in criminal justice and victimology.

Your evaluation in CRJS 360 is based on two interesting assignments and an exam. The first assignment, worth 20%, involves your assessment of an offender. The second, worth 30%, requires you to investigate and detail a crime scene. The final cumulative exam for the course is worth 50% of your course mark.

Check out the CRJS 360 Home Page at <http://www.athabascau.ca/courses/crjs/360>. It's not too late to enroll for a February start date! You can also visit the course syllabus at: www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/crjs/crjs360.htm



Ancient DNA Internship Program

May 24 - June 11, 2005

An intensive training program in molecular techniques applied to degraded forensic and archaeological material. The program will cover topics including extraction chemistry, PCR, mtDNA, STR's, sequencing and analysis software. The course is comprised of laboratory training sessions and lectures by eminent researchers from the fields of archaeology, genetics and forensics.

For More Information
And/or Application Forms Contact:
URL: www.ancientdna.com
Email: info@ancientdna.com
Phone: 1-866-DNA-LABS
Fax: 1-807-343-8619

PALEO-DNA LABORATORY, LAKEHEAD UNIVERSITY
1294 BALMORAL STREET, THUNDER BAY, ON CANADA, P7B 5Z5



DEGREES BELOW ZERO

El-ahrairah Jones



Once upon a time the dissenters and the subversives would be put in stocks in the town square. They were put there as examples, as warnings to the rest. There, but for the grace of authority, sit you. They would be pelted with stones and clods of dirt and rotten vegetables by all the lucky souls who had temporarily escaped notice. You don't need a dog to watch the sheep. Not when the sheep watch each other.

Today, the square pegs push shopping carts across crowded streets. They step out in front of our shining silver cars and harass us outside of The Gap. They ignore our helpful suggestions about getting gainful employment and staying away from our storefronts.

Afraid of pushing shopping carts, the rest of us push paper across desks, push each other around, push hope into the recesses of our minds. We sit in cubicles under fluorescent lights and gather around water coolers to talk about our unrealistic plans of making a great escape. We mutter prayers into our cell phones. *Give us, this day, our daily bread: low-carb olive loaf from Urban Fare. Give us our designer grunge-wear and our chilled mochas, our Tom Cruise. Give us lots of shit in shiny wrappers. Let us work 24/7, and lead us not into temptation. Preserve for us the status quo; preserve us for the status quo; we have no change to spare.*

At night we lie awake in our beds, worrying about the past, worrying about the future. *Why do I feel so empty inside? Maybe I should spend more time with the kids. Can't afford the time right now, though, things are so competitive. I know that Larry in Customer Service has his eye on my job. One false move, one enemy in the wrong place is all it takes. How many months before I'm out on the street. Can't afford to take any chances, not in this economic climate. Jesus, don't know why I'm so gloomy. Better think of something else. Future Shop is having a sale next week. Wonder if the third season of Friends is on DVD?*

We put so many things out of our minds to get what we want. Would we sell our souls for a better life here on earth? It's a ridiculous question. What kind of business man do think the devil is, to purchase something he already owns?

Out on the streets, the snow is falling. There are so many round pegs curled up in square doorways. There are so many degrees below zero. They wander around, souls in purgatory. They smoke crack in back alleys and hang around our underground parking lots. They think about murdering us in our sleep, stealing our children, or our laptops. They burn with despair, fiery warnings to the rest of us. There, but for the grace of the global economic system, go I.

WHAT ARE YOU WILLING TO GIVE?

Jody Waddle



I'm a bit of a softie and I like to help out where I can. I cry at the old Hallmark commercials, I stay far away from the local pound or I'd take every single one of those animals home with me, I bring a box of Kleenexes to any wedding I attend, and I also donate blood.

While most people wouldn't think that donating a portion of my body is part of being a softie, I beg to differ. Every time I pass another accident on the highway and shed a tear, every time I hear of another child with a threatening form of cancer battling to the near end of his or

her life, I feel better knowing that I can make that small difference in another person's life by donating a small part of me.

I have been donating blood a total of seven years. It started with my first year of college in Medicine Hat when a blood donor clinic arrived at the school in the midst of finals and I had a moment to spare. I walked into a giant line-up of people patiently waiting their turn to give a piece of themselves so another may live. A short while later a small pinprick was the only lasting physical effect from my hour of well spent time. The mental effect will last me a lifetime. I also came out knowing that my very rare blood type was very much in need, as the Canadian Blood Services still calls me every eight weeks to ask if I will be at the next donation clinic.

That first donation sparked an interest to help out more and more. Even though throughout the years my donation totals have reached a mere ten, I still feel better knowing that my small discomfort of a needle and an hour of time given is well received by that mother that may not lose her child in its battle with a deadly disease.

Still, I wanted to help out more and that is what drove me to the Canadian Blood Services website. I wanted to find out about other ways to help, (i.e. plasma donation, platelet donation, etc) when I stumbled upon something I never knew before. There was a small link on the left hand side of the Blood Services main page called "Bone Marrow Registry". It sparked my interest, so I clicked the link to see what else I could do.

That small link looped me in with 215,000 other Bone Marrow Registrants willing to be part of a group who at any moment could be contacted to donate Bone Marrow.

I've heard all the normal questions, even from my own husband; "Doesn't that hurt really bad?" No, in fact the donation process is so smooth that the most you'll feel is a bruising as if you've fallen. "Why would you donate Bone Marrow, isn't that what relatives are for?" Normally yes, relatives are the first choice in Bone Marrow donation to someone in need. But there is a huge chance that there is no match to be found, so this registry provides other options for those who have none. I may never be chosen in my lifetime, but knowing that I could be is enough for me to sign up immediately.

It took all of 20 minutes to fill out the very important questionnaire. This is so important because it informs you not only of the procedures, but also the impact of the donation. It also gives you the

chance to turn back if you aren't comfortable at that point with going forward. I filled it out completely and mailed the form to the Bone Marrow Registry office in Calgary.

About a week later I received a call to schedule a blood sample (of course they needed it to find out all the logistics of my blood) at my local Health clinic and within a couple of days the initial procedure was done. Now my name is finally part of 215,000 other people waiting to see if they are chosen.

I was so excited to have found another venue to assist others that I wanted to share my experience with others. This is the era of the internet so I used it to my advantage. It was the most terrifying and 'faux pas' thing I have ever done. I didn't want to guilt anyone into donating, that wasn't my purpose at all. But the majority of people don't even know about the registry, so my goal was to inform.

I composed a small email to inform my friends and family members of this great need. Yes, there are 215,000 registrants today, but out of those numbers only 800 were able to donate since the registry began in 1989. If I could just have another person even consider becoming part of the registry or to start donating blood, that'd be enough for me.

On this road of giving blood and being part of the registry, I believe it has changed me for the better. I am a better person, a more giving person, and more willing to be open to the unknown, all for the gift of life. My next appointment to donate blood is on January 11th in Okotoks, when's yours? Blood, it's in you to give.


For more information on donating blood in your area's clinic or on the Unrelated Bone Marrow Registry, please check out the Canadian Blood Services website at <http://www.bloodservices.ca/>

Donor Experience.

http://www.bloodservices.ca/CentreApps/Internet/UW_V502_MainEngine.nsf/web/42AA5BE250375B1185256AC400689176?OpenDocument

Registry Background.

http://www.bloodservices.ca/CentreApps/Internet/UW_V502_MainEngine.nsf/web/66C07EAB7AC53C5285256AC40073F7EC?OpenDocument

A banner for the AUSU 2005 Website Usage and Satisfaction Survey. The top half is green with white text. The bottom half is purple with white text. The background of the bottom half shows a computer monitor.

It's your student union
help us serve you better

AUSU 2005
Website Usage and
Satisfaction Survey

Visit AUSU.org to fill out the questionnaire and help plan site upgrades for 2005

CAMPUS FOOD BANKS FEED GROWING NEED *More students using services, food bank co-ordinators say*

Caroline Theriault
The Silhouette (McMaster U)

HAMILTON (CUP) -- Rising tuition and housing costs are making it difficult for some students to make ends meet, and food banks are responding to the growing need. Erin White has been running the University of Guelph student union's food bank since it opened in October.

"This service is absolutely necessary on any campus because rising education and living costs mean more and more students and university workers are living in poverty, even if it's a hidden problem," White said. The Carleton University food bank is having a difficult time keeping up with the rising demand for food.

"Over the years, the number of students using this service has dramatically increased, and we continue to raise enough food to provide for their demands," said Marc Kieley, programming co-ordinator. "However, we are actually starting to experience the growing pains of too much success: as more students become aware of the service, we're noticing that our capacity to provide for their needs is becoming strained." The success of these programs usually depends on how many students are aware of their food bank's presence on campus, as well as dedicated volunteers and sponsors. "We went from helping 250 people the first year we opened to distributing enough food for over 2,200 people last year," said David Feldman, manager of the food bank at the University of Alberta. "Our awareness on campus increases each year, and our fundraisers and food drives are becoming more and more successful."

The food bank at the University of Western Ontario operates under a different model. "We have a food room located within the student council building, and we have 10 lockers within the building where students can anonymously pick up a food bag, which equals about two meals," said Camilla Rogalski, food bank co-ordinator for Western's student council. "In each bag there is about 10 to 12 items of food: for example, one can of chilli, tuna, a box of KD, two cans of vegetables, etc.," said Rogalski. "People write to me, and I give them a locker combination and location. On average, I have about six to seven requests a week."

Student confidentiality is important to all of the universities. "The program is completely confidential, and people do not need to tell me their names. People can come and get their food at any time. I operate the food bank on a trust basis," said Rogalski.

Simon Fraser University's food bank has been around for over 20 years. "In March 2004, we served 28 different households, and we set no limit on the number of times a student may visit," said co-ordinator Negar Behmardi.

Kieley stressed the importance of providing other services to help students. "Like many food banks, we've always run a number of anti-stigma and education campaigns. These campaigns help discourage judgment of students or any individuals who must resort to food banks through an examination of the big issues of hunger and poverty," the Carleton co-ordinator said. The University of Alberta also ensures additional resources beyond what the food bank can offer are available to students. "We do our best to have resources for eating on a budget, and most importantly we have a referral system," said Feldman. "We try to find out what has caused the client's current financial strain and then refer them to a service that is there to help them recover and get back on their feet. So far, this has been very effective."

Food banks at these universities are open anywhere from two to 40 hours per week. Most rely on donations, but funding for the programs varies significantly. A student fee funds the food bank at Guelph. "Students have taken it upon themselves to meet the needs of our community," said White. While the University of Alberta food bank receives much of its funding from student unions, it is independent of any other campus body, Feldman said.

Although no food bank exists at McMaster University yet, the school does offer some options for students in need. Students may donate their Air Miles to a program that exchanges them for food vouchers.



This new monthly column features news and issues affecting gays and lesbians in Canada and around the world. Look for it on the second week of each month, only in The Voice.

Aaron McKinney, one of the people convicted of killing Matthew Shepard, may be in violation of his plea bargain. McKinney bargained to avoid the death penalty, however, he spoke with ABC's *20/20* about his involvement. Part of his plea bargain involved not talking to the media, although it was never formally put in the court order. Many groups are upset with *20/20* over what they call unfair and inaccurate reporting. The report concluded that Matthew Shepard's killing was not a hate-motivated crime.

- <http://www.365gay.com/newscon04/11/112704mckinney.htm>
-

8 months into it, and Gay Marriage in Massachusetts is succeeding. The world as they know it hasn't changed, and all is well in civil wedded bliss. New events are coming about recently due to the marriages. First, companies that previously offered benefits to unmarried partners of employees are now saying if you want to keep those benefits, get married. It is reported that IBM, Raytheon, Northeastern University and Boston Medical Center are among the companies dropping the domestic partner benefits.

- <http://www.detnews.com/2004/editorial/0411/29/A11-17830.htm>
 - <http://www.365gay.com/newscon04/12/120804massBens.htm>
-

The Church of Christ, one of several US gay-positive Churches, bought a television ad that basically says everyone is welcome in their church. They show bouncers keeping a gay male couple out of a church, among other 'undesirables'. This is followed by the message: "Jesus didn't turn anyone away. Neither do we." People of all sorts are shown being welcomed into a UCC church, including a lesbian couple.

NBC, CBS and ABC are refusing to play the ad for various reasons. NBC's reason is that it is too adversarial. The Church has now filed a complaint with the FCC. Several local affiliates of the networks in Oregon have agreed to show the ad.

- <http://www.365gay.com/newscon04/11/113004ucc.htm>
-

Following the United Kingdom, New Zealand has passed a civil unions bill to allow same-sex couples to enter into civil relationships. The Green party criticised the ruling Labour Party for not allowing same-sex marriages simply because New Zealanders weren't ready for it.

- <http://www.nzherald.co.nz/print.cfm?objectid=9002456>
-

The most significant event of Canada's history has happened. The Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that Same-sex marriages are constitutional. Former Prime Minister Jean Chretien sent a reference bill to the Supremes asking three questions:

1 . Is the annexed Proposal for an Act respecting certain aspects of legal capacity for marriage for civil purposes within the exclusive legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada? If not, in what particular or particulars, and to what extent?

2. If the answer to question 1 is yes, is section 1 of the proposal, which extends capacity to marry to persons of the same sex, consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms? If not, in what particular or particulars, and to what extent?

3. Does the freedom of religion guaranteed by paragraph 2(a) of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms protect religious officials from being compelled to perform a marriage between two persons of the same sex that is contrary to their religious beliefs?

After Paul Martin became Prime Minister, he added a fourth question, thus delaying the reference by six months:

4. Is the opposite-sex requirement for marriage for civil purposes, as established by the common law and set out for Quebec in s. 5 of the Federal Law-Civil Law Harmonization Act, No. 1, consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms? If not, in what particular or particulars and to what extent?

The court answered yes to the first three questions, but declined to answer the fourth, saying that the government had already decided it was unconstitutional, and that any answer they give could put in doubt the 3,000 marriages already performed. The ruling was signed "The Court" thus saying it was unanimous, and giving the full strength of the court to the message behind it.

Prime Minister Paul Martin has said he will introduce the legislation following the Christmas break. Several groups such as REAL Women are calling for a national referendum on the bill. It is expected the bill will easily pass the commons.

- http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Same-sex_marriage_in_Canada
- <http://tinyurl.com/6dujq>

The Government of Alberta was rebuked by the Supreme Court's non-binding reference. The court said that the definition of marriage is exclusive to the federal government, thus making any threat by Premier Ralph Klein to use the notwithstanding clause, moot. The Alberta Government may opt to refuse to issue licenses to same-sex couples, but it is expected that it would provoke a long and costly court battle that the Government cannot win.

- <http://tinyurl.com/58kr2>

Spain has pre-approved same-sex marriages. According to the Associated Press, the bill has been approved by the Spanish Cabinet, and is expected to pass Parliament in February. Sweden and Denmark have a form of "civil union" but it falls short of the same granted rights.

- <http://tinyurl.com/4x5t5>

Quote of the Month

"Several centuries ago, it would have been understood that marriage be available only to opposite-sex couples. The recognition of same-sex marriage in several Canadian jurisdictions as well as two European countries belies the assertion that the same is true today."

- Supreme Court of Canada.



Become a Master of Criminal Arts

Well, it sounds good, doesn't it? In reality, it's a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice, the first applied studies Master's level degree that British Columbia is offering. British Columbia is pleased to also now be offering degrees in hospitality management and business administration.

Maybe it's just me, but I'd always thought that degrees are different from diplomas in that they teach you more general ways of thinking about your particular subject, as opposed to simply more involved ways of applying them. This seems to me like a case of a cash-strapped educational system seeing a demand for technical skills and coming up with a degree label in order to cash in. After all, what does a person do with a hospitality

management degree that they can't do with a hospitality management diploma? Other than teach hospitality management, that is? Is there really a lot of deep thought and debate going on about the theories of lobby decoration or waiter scheduling? And even if there is, is it really that different from the debate going on next door in the general business administration degree program?

I'm all for higher education, but sometimes it strikes me as overkill. Of course, the sad thing is that the BC government will now be devoting post-secondary educational dollars to getting these programs up and running, instead of focussing on more traditional and proven programs.

BSE Back Again

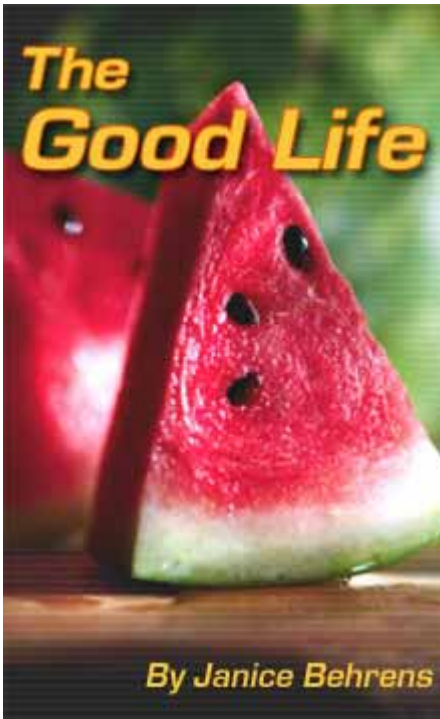
Hot on the heels of the United States announcing that they'd soon be re-opening their borders to Canadian beef, Canadian authorities start reporting more cases of BSE. Fortunately, so far they all seem to trace back to the same batch of feed that was fed to the cattle when they were calves. So it could still be an isolated incident. Meanwhile, the U.S., while wary, is still planning to open the borders as Canada's new inspection regime still puts us at a low-risk for exporting any BSE infected cattle.

Fortunately, a report by the World Health Organization outlines that so long as you're eating the meat and not getting near the brain, nervous, or spinal tissue, the chances of transmission are very low. However, according to the report, it might be a good time to avoid the all-beef wieners or any meats that have been mechanically separated or processed, because there may be a danger of the mechanical process mixing a bit of the riskier tissues with other meats. This is a disease you don't want to get, as it literally eats holes in your brain.

Saskatchewan Cheapens Education

The province of Saskatchewan recently received a one-time equalization grant from the federal government. The provincial government decided that 30% of that grant, or \$110 million dollars, should go to educational property tax relief over the next two years. What this means is that about 8% of the amount people pay on their property taxes for education will be credited back to them. Unfortunately, this means the majority of post-secondary students, who only rent their homes, won't benefit from this educational relief.

While it's always nice to get a tax credit, I think that such a windfall might be better put into developing something that will last long term, such as their own version of the Alberta SuperNet to link up all the rural areas of Saskatchewan.



Magic in the Streets

For the first time since I was five years old, I went Christmas caroling this year. A friend of mine has a birthday on December 18th, and this was the way she wanted to celebrate it. To be honest, I was a bit daunted by the prospect. It's not that I wasn't in the Christmas spirit, or that I'm a bad singer, but most of the twenty or so others who would be joining us are really terrific singers. You see, my friend sings in a very well-respected sixty-piece gospel choir, and I've seen her and her fellow choir members come close to raising the roof off of more than one venue. To up the ante a bit, the route we would be taking was along West Fourth Avenue, one of the busiest shopping areas in Vancouver. And to boot, we would be doing "guerrilla" singing visits to local businesses, such as grocery stores and coffee shops. There were visions of customer complaints and potential restraining orders dancing in my head. I still have a clear memory of belting out what I thought was a soulful verse of Good King Wenceslas in the back row of my elementary school choir during rehearsals for a

Christmas concert. The music teacher signalled us to stop, peered over the top of his reading glasses, singled me out, and asked me to stay during recess for some extra coaching. So it was with a few butterflies in my stomach that I bundled up, along with my husband and daughter, in hats, scarves and long underwear, and set out for my latest caroling adventure.

As it turned out, I needn't have worried. Once we had a few glasses of mulled wine inside us and hit the streets with a rousing version of *Blue Christmas*, complete with Elvis Presley impersonations, it felt absolutely wonderful. We carried candles wrapped in tinfoil and were led by a friend playing a recorder. It was a glorious mingling of voices, operatic and gospel-inflected, trained and untrained. There were eight or nine children with us, who belted out the songs with a joyful enthusiasm that made me ashamed of having had any inhibitions myself. We were applauded from balconies and living room windows. My seven year old daughter got rave reviews for her top-of-the-lungs version of her all-time favourite, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, even adding her own personal stamp by substituting the improvised line "I'm surprised that he is born" in place of the more traditional "Jesus Christ is born". *The Little Drummer Boy* and *The Holly and the Ivy* were haunting. *Jingle Bell Rock* and *I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus* (Sigmund Freud's classic song) were belted-out with unparalleled gusto. The highlight, though, as everyone present agreed, was a strangely moving version of *You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch* that, as my husband said, might almost have been arranged by Tom Waits during an acid trip.

For two straight hours we walked through the streets of Vancouver's Kitsilano neighbourhood, singing and laughing, until it was time to head back for birthday cake and more wine. By the time we got home later that night, our throats were raw and our clothes were covered in splatters of candle wax. All-in-all, it was a fabulous night, and it left me with an understanding that the most memorable times are often the ones where we throw ourselves into situations that we may not be quite comfortable with. Sometimes you just have to take a chance and go with the flow. As I'm constantly discovering, that's usually where the magic is.



THIS WEEK IN GLOBAL WOMEN'S NEWS

December 31, 2004

Wanda Waterman St. Louis

UNFPA Warning: Women and Girls Especially Vulnerable in Wake of Tsunami

The United Nations Population Fund is calling on governments, sister UN agencies and other humanitarian partners to ensure that the special needs of women and girls are included in relief planning. Tens of thousands of pregnant and nursing

women, especially susceptible to waterborne diseases are likely in need of supplementary feeding, prenatal care, and delivery assistance. Physical and psychological trauma will exacerbate the problems of pregnant and nursing women.

For more information, please contact David Del Vecchio at +1 (212) 297- 4975, delvecchio@unfpa.org or Omar Gharzeddine at +1 (212) 297-5028, gharzeddine@unfpa.org

- <http://www.unfpa.org>
- <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/medicalnews.php?newsid=18404>

Urgent Request from Women's NGO in Colombo, Sri Lanka

From Nimalka in Colombo, Sri Lanka: "... We need help material and cash to take care of the emergency relief required after the tidal wave devastations in Sri Lanka...I have just come back from few camps operating in and around Colombo to take care of the displaced from Moratuwa and Modera areas. Some supplies like medicines, pillows and mats were provided as IMADR intervened immediately with some help for me.

Cash etc could be sent to:

IMADR, Standard Chartered Bank, a/c 111 421 7801, FORT - COLOMBO, Sri Lanka

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK Sri Lanka Website: <http://www.standardchartered.com/lk/>

Your contributions would be acknowledged and receipts issued and reports sent about our interventions. Should you wish to enquire further about this urgent plea, Lesley Abdela & Tim Symonds may be reached at: Lesley.Abdela@shevolution.com or Tim.Symonds@shevolution.com

Talk Show Covers War's Impact on Women and Children

Lucinda Marshall writes: "Last weekend I published an article on Common Dreams, 'Unacceptable: The Impact of War on Women and Children.' A few days later I heard from someone that had read the article who told me that she had written to Mike Malloy, a talk show host on Air America and told him about the article and suggesting that he cover the topic of militarism and violence against women. He wrote back to her a few minutes later and said he would cover it the following evening.

"And cover it he did, for 3 HOURS! including reading the article, explaining what Feminist Peace Network did, about our Atrocities newsletter and great commentary of his own on violence against women."

- The show can be found at: <http://homepage.mac.com/katyk128/MalloyShow> (22-12-2004)
- Feminist Peace Network - <http://www.feministpeacenetWORK.org>
- moderator@feministpeacenetWORK.org
- <http://www.commondreams.org/views04/1219-26.htm>

One Abortion Clinic Remaining in Mississippi

The Jackson Women's Health Organization is the last remaining abortion clinic in Mississippi, the state with the largest collection of laws and policies designed to restrict abortions. The state recently enacted the nation's most sweeping conscience clause, which permits any health care provider to refuse to provide any abortion-related service, including emergency referrals.

Susan Sontag Dies at 71

On December 28, 2004, Susan Sontag, internationally acclaimed novelist, essayist, and critic died at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York. The cause was complications of acute myelogenous leukemia. Ms. Sontag had been ill with cancer intermittently for 30 years, a struggle which inspired one of her most renowned books, *Illness as Metaphor* (1978).

Two of her most recent works were the essays *Regarding the Pain of Others*, on the imagery of war and disaster, and *Regarding the Torture of Others*, written in response to the torture of Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib prison.

- <http://www.nytimes.com/2004/12/28/books/28cnd-sont.html?hp&ex=04296400&en=y07bd4e6968f2c5&ei=P94&partner==homepage>
- <http://www.chron.com/CDA/umstory.mpl/nation/2967317>

Palestinian Women Win Shining Victory in Elections

In spite of facing pressure from relatives and neighbors not to run as candidates in the Palestinian local elections, women ran and won, more than half of the candidates defeating their male opponents.

- <http://salon.com/news/wire/2004/12/28/women/index.html>

More Scandal for UN's Peacekeepers

An investigation of a United Nations logistics expert in the Democratic Republic of Congo has ignited a sex scandal. The expert was a French man who worked at Goma airport as part of the UN's effort to rebuild the war-torn country. When police raided his home they discovered that he had turned his bedroom into a studio for videotaping and photographing sex sessions with young girls. Other investigations have uncovered 150 allegations of sexual misconduct by peacekeepers and UN staff in spite of the UN's official policy of "zero-tolerance."

- http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,3-1413501_1,00.html

What "Free Trade" Agreements Mean for Women

Almost ten years after the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China and the U.S. government's ratification of the Beijing Platform for Action, analysts have begun to evaluate expected benefits in preparation for the meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in March, 2005.

Major shifts so far determined are negative trends in employment, consumption, and general well-being for women, their families, and their communities.

- [International Trade and Gender Network - http://www.igtn.org/](http://www.igtn.org/)
- <http://www.counterpunch.org/spieldoch12302004.html>

Air Force Academy Was Made Aware of Rape Allegations Before Scandal Broke

According to Pentagon records an anonymous letter to top Air Force officials revealed rape allegations at the Air Force Academy six months before the scandal became public. Part of the letter, addressed to, among others, then-Air Force Secretary James Roche, Chief of Staff John Jumper, reads: "Female cadets are being raped and sexually harassed by male cadets and academy officials refuse to prosecute the male rapists."

Women on the Stage in Toronto

Kamal Al-Solaylee writes: "If there's a recurrent theme to year-end roundups of Toronto theatre, it's the usual carping about the under-representation of women and ethnic communities on the stages of one of the world's most diverse cities. It's undoubtedly a real concern, and addressing the issue takes us perilously close to such dirty words as sexism, racism and quotas. Yet if the proverbial Martians were to descend on Toronto in January, they might well wonder what all the fuss is about. January is women's month on stage and, even better, women of various ethnic backgrounds--women playwrights, women directors and, in one case, an all-black, all-female cast."

- <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/ArticleNews/TPStory/LAC/20041231/KAMAL31/Entertainment/Idx>
- <http://www.denverpost.com/Stories/0,1413,36~53-2624815,00.html>

Research "Indicates" Men Prefer Subordinate Women as Life-Partners

Men would rather marry their female assistants than female professional equals or superiors, according to a recent study by social psychologists, who suggest that men's preferences for less-dominant women may be rooted in evolution. The study indicated that for women a man's status had no influence on his desirability as a partner.

"Males who preferred to mate with relatively subordinate partners--as opposed to higher dominance partners--may have been better able to limit the chance--or amount--of paternal uncertainty, either by preventing their partner from having sex outside of the partnership or by being able to closely monitor their partner's sexual behavior for possible infidelity," write Stephanie L. Brown (University of Michigan in Ann Arbor) and Brian P. Lewis (University of California in Los Angeles).

- <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=Z3HBBJDYKUNUUCRBAEKSFFA?type=healthNews&storyID=7210173>

Daughters Sold to Cover Debts in Afghanistan

In order to combat the illegal drug trade the Afghanistan government has been plowing under poppy fields on whose crops small farmers depend to repay debts, compelling some farmers to offer their daughters for marriage in payment of debts to opium dealers.

- http://www.iwpr.net/index.pl?archive/arr/arr_200412_155_3_eng.txt

Incidentally...

Check out this interesting commentary on the story of Adam and Eve by Jay Willaims, Director of the Department of Asian Studies, Hamilton College, New York.

- <http://southerncrossreview.org/38/williams.htm>

AUSU THIS MONTH



Are you in Need of Financial Assistance? AUSU Can Help You

AUSU has many financial assistance, emergency and computer bursaries available to help students in need. Every year AUSU will give away 10 financial assistance bursaries, \$6000 in emergency bursaries and \$4800 in computer bursaries.

Visit our website at <http://www.ausu.org/services/scholarships.php> to find out if you qualify for a bursary and to fill out the online application form.

The next deadline for submitting applications for these bursaries is December 1, 2004.

AUSU's Student Association Status is now Formalized Under the Law

AUSU has operated officially since its creation as the students' union for Athabasca University under the *Societies Act of Alberta*. Under the new *Post-secondary Learning Act* each University in Alberta must have a students' association established by an order in council. On September 13, 2004 the Lieutenant Governor approved an order in council which states:

The Lieutenant Governor in council establishes and incorporates a students' association to be known as "The Students' Association of Athabasca University" to provide for the administration of students' affairs and the promotion of the general welfare of students consistent with the purposes of Athabasca University.

Student Mentors Available to Help New Students

If you are a new student looking for someone to help you adjust to life as an Athabasca University student, contact the AUSU Mentor Program. The Mentor Program pairs together new students with experienced students who will help them find their way around AU and AUSU. By participating in this program you will be able to meet someone new and learn from them.

You can find more information about this program on our website at <http://www.ausu.org/services/mentors.php>.

*Does the pressure of having to
study alone keep you up at night?*

AUSU STUDY BUDDY



Dear Barb;

I just returned to school after spending Christmas with my family. I hate to admit it, but I couldn't wait to leave and go back to school. My problem is my family's drinking. Throughout the whole two weeks I was home there was drinking everyday. I know people usually drink more on special holidays, but this wasn't one or two drinks -- my parents were both highly intoxicated every day. My parents have been drinkers throughout my life, but maybe because I have been away from it I am noticing it more. Is there anything I can do to help my parents realize what they are doing to themselves? I am worried about what years of drinking may have done to their health. I will be watching your column for your response.

Emma in Quebec

Thanks for writing, Emma. I'm sorry to hear your Christmas was so disheartening.

Unfortunately the holidays often bring out the worse in people, as it is a very stressful time. Christmas reminds us of days gone by, perhaps of happier times and perhaps of not so happy times.

Growing up in an alcoholic home often blinds us to the dysfunction we are living in until, like you, we spend time away. When we return we frequently have a different perspective. This seems to be what happened to you.

Alcoholism is a disease that affects not only the person who is drinking, but also the people around them. Therefore it is not only the drinker who needs help; it is the family members as well. Fortunately, there are organizations that have recognized the far-reaching affects this disease can have on those exposed to it.

Alcoholics Anonymous has provided a valuable source of support for alcoholics and their families for over 50 years. Al-Anon and Alateen are offshoots of AA that offer support to family members of alcoholics

Emma, you may have felt ashamed by your parents drinking and that you could not talk to anyone about it. However, talking to others who are experiencing what you are is truly a healing experience. Through Al-Anon meetings you will be able to connect with others and share experiences that you felt no one else would understand. Al-Anon meetings are available everywhere. You can find dates and times listed on the Internet, in the telephone directory, as well as in your local newspaper.

Through these meetings you will learn healthy ways to deal with your parents' drinking and how to work on healing the scars left by this type of family life. However I do not think there is a lot you can do for your parents. They will have to realize that they need help and take the necessary steps. Nonetheless, you may be opening some doors for them, through your recognition of this problem.

Good luck Emma. You have taken a very important first step toward healing yourself and your family.

E-mail your questions to advice.voice@ausu.org. Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality: your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.



The Accident

The defining moment of the holiday season came on Christmas Eve this year. We had invited a group over for turkey dinner, and one of our guests showed up about an hour late, just as we were carving up the bird, explaining that she'd been held up by a couple of minor accidents. Apparently she'd been doing some last minute Christmas shopping, had become distracted while searching for a parking spot on Broadway, and had rolled into the back of a brand new Lexus. Fortunately, the jolt had seemed worse than it was--there was no damage done to either vehicle, and the owner of the Lexus had been very understanding. After doing a quick inspection of the back of his car, he had wished her a Happy Christmas and gone on his way.

Four blocks later, still searching for a parking spot, her attention was grabbed by a woman who, for some inexplicable reason, was shinnying her way up a street light pole with a fur coat on. *Slam*. She had run into the *same car*. This time the Lexus owner was, understandably, not so understanding. In fact, he was *pissed off*. He asked our friend if she, perhaps, had some personal vendetta against him. Or did she just randomly go about slamming onto other people's cars as some sort of unusual Christmas greeting? She apologized profusely, and they exchanged insurance information

before getting back into their vehicles. He wisely put his hand out the car window, and waved her to go on ahead.

My friend said that she was so down in the dumps over this incident, that she had considered phoning us to cancel and just stay at home. She drove down to Jericho beach and sat in the car looking at the waves crashing up onto the shore. Sitting there, at the ocean's edge, she had felt herself immersed in a great sea of self-pity - a good, old-fashioned Christmas tradition for most of us. As happens to all of us, when we feel hopelessly foolish for some reason, the accidents had seemed to her like a part of some larger pattern of absolute personal incompetence, like links in a larger chain of spilled glasses of orange juice, burnt pot roasts, social blunders and lost car keys that winds through all our lives.

By the time she got to our place, however, she was telling the story with a twinkle in her eye. Perhaps it was the red wine, but it seemed to those of us who heard it that it was a truly hilarious story. As everyone knows, the Christmas season can be depressing and stressful, even when you try your hardest to keep things in perspective. Having someone around who knows how to tell a good story and to laugh at herself goes along way toward soothing ragged nerves.

The fur-coated woman half way up the lamp post. The look on the man's face as he peered into the rearview mirror the second time to see who had hit him. His hand jutting out of the driver's window, waving her past. You just can't make stuff like that up. I suspect that long after the material presents that we were given have been broken or lost, the images from that story will still be fresh in my mind.

I suspect, too, that there's a larger message in this. All of us may want our lives to be filled with a higher purpose. We want to feel the presence of God, make a difference in the world, receive the Nobel Peace Prize, paint our masterpiece. Hopefully we have some moments of great exultation. For the most part, though, the things that truly define our lives are when we're flying down a toboggan hill with the fresh snow hitting our face, holding hands and falling in love in a half-empty movie theatre watching *Porky's II*, or accidentally farting at a funeral. All the ludicrous and sublime moments that make up our lives and remind us of our humanity, each one of us connected to the whole.

Primetime Update

WHAT'S NEW ON PRIMETIME?

We have no updates on your favourite shows this week because Amanda has immersed herself in work and will no longer have time to report on the best in prime time reality TV. If there is a strong interest in seeing this coverage continue, we'll seek another person to report on the shows. Let us know! Look for individual articles from Amanda in future issues as her schedule allows.

This column focuses on a wide range of issues affecting post-secondary students. Students are encouraged to submit suggestions and educational topics they are concerned about, or personal experiences with courses or university situations they feel other students should know about. If suggest a topic or a course alert for taking notes, contact djabbour@ausu.org



ALBERTA STUDENTS MAY SEE TUITION FREEZE

Debbie Jabbour

Alberta students may be looking forward to some tuition relief, in the form of a freeze. With Premier Ralph Klein entering his final election term, he has promised that he will be leaving a legacy of improvements to post secondary education. The government has announced that the next sitting of the legislature will feature "Bill 1," focused on expansion of post secondary education and controlling student costs.

The newly-appointed Advanced Education Minister, David Hancock, is working on a comprehensive plan that will "find a way to expand the capacity of existing universities and colleges while controlling costs to students." Klein refers to this initiative as an "investment in human infrastructure," equally as important as spending on roads or hospitals.

The official Liberal opposition, under leader Kevin Taft, has noted that this plan appears very similar to that touted by the Liberals in their recent election platform, with promises to press for improvements to educational quality, cost reduction to students, and increased access. Taft, however, is willing to support the Premier's plan, stating that "we're (all) in this business to make Alberta a better place."

Consultations with Alberta's university and college presidents are underway, and reports are very positive and promising thus far. One of the options being actively considered will give Calgary a second university by converting Mount Royal College into a full-fledged undergraduate university. A tuition freeze would be a welcome move, one that would finally place Alberta in line with many other Canadian promises.

Province considers tuition freeze: Klein promises post-secondary fix. James Baxter & Tom Barrett, Edmonton Journal, December 17, 2004.

Say No to Resolutions

<originally published January 2004>



From
Where
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

All of us put 2003 to bed in uniquely personal ways. Some, no doubt, polka-ed the night away. Others spent the evening at the movies with a tub of popcorn and Jack and Diane in "Something's Gotta Give." For those few souls who haven't eaten their body weight in carbs in the past few weeks, some fine dining was likely in order. Others spent the night under a toasty duvet watching the latest DVDs. We spent the evening playing a board game with friends. For Big Money. Hell, Roy and I were ahead \$2.25 at the end of the night.

For anyone affected by the heartbreak of BSE or skyrocketing insurance premiums, utilities, or untold private challenges with health or relationships or money worries, good riddance to '03. By and large we are a resilient, hopeful people who believe that this year has got to be kinder and gentler to all.

Just as the closure to last year was shaped by personal preference, so too was the initiation to the new year. With no hangover to nurse, I spent part of the day doing the GST rebate forms for the last quarter. Hardly a favorite task but part of my new strategy of tackling some of these types of jobs head-on. Better that the rebate get back into our hands than languish in government coffers interest free.

I've incorporated some practical tips from my part-time job as an accounts payable/accounts receivable clerk that will translate nicely into our situation. Perhaps more importantly, I've got a new mind set as well. Handle each piece of paper only once. Be aware of deadlines and due dates. Create a special folder to track those matters requiring follow-up. Track and maximize every single opportunity to save money. Double check charges--mistakes do happen. Give your business only to those firms and people who serve you well. But I digress.

I'm so past the point of making resolutions. It seems to me to be a contrived, artificial concept with failure virtually guaranteed. It wasn't always so. When I was young and foolish and oh, so intense, I faithfully made a long list of "intentions" most of which fell quickly by the wayside bringing with them a feeling of failure and guilt. I've since come to learn, that at least for me, successfully incorporating change into my life works better by other means. The reason for change must be strong enough. The timing needs to make sense internally, not be dictated by the calendar. I've learned to cut myself some slack, to accept that there is more than one way to live a life, to make course corrections as required not to some arbitrary schedule.

What I wish for you, dear reader, is a new year filled with blessings and insight. And if some behaviour or thought patterns no longer serve you, change them--on your terms and with your timing. It can only improve the odds for success, from where I sit.

[Editor's note: Don't forget to obtain your educational tax certificates from AU in February (information to follow in the next Voice issue) and use them to save a bundle on your taxes this year. If you don't need the credits, make sure to register them Revenue Canada to roll forward for another year, or give them to a family member who can use them!]

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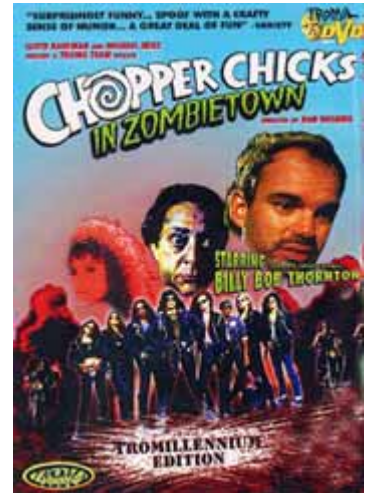


Chopper Chicks in Zombietown Film Review

By Laura Seymour

This film begins a new year (Happy New Year!) and starts the month of horrible films, which I picked because January weather can be so awful. At least, that sounds like a good excuse! I'm sure we've all seen them and that begins a squabble with some of you. I won't argue with you. I'm sure many of you have votes that are justified for films that should be reviewed as true stinkers.

Chopper Chicks has a problem from the beginning. The budget is obviously rock bottom. There isn't a name actor in there (well, none that were names at the time). Jamie Rose as Dede or "Face" is the star and has done a few good films. She is at least a pretty and capable actress. I like her look. She is a pretty redhead who manages to skirt around being a ditz or flake all the while being very attractive. Catherine Carlen as Rox is so tough as the lesbian gang leader that she is frightening. Her performance goes over the top, but then whose doesn't in this film? Rox does a ridiculously sultry song in a bar that all but has her climaxing to the tune. There are no lyrics on the jukebox she's singing to--when was the last time a karaoke bar leased a jukebox? I suppose I should be glad she's not singing against the singer but it annoyed me in so many ways.



A virtually unrecognizable Billy Bob Thornton is Dede's husband, apparently missing his pretty wife. He has a few lines here and there but unless he opens his mouth and says something (as opposed to kissing) you won't figure out who he is right away. His performance works but it's far from brilliant. Don Calfa as Ralph Willum is best remembered as the hit man who couldn't seem to kill his target in *Weekend at Bernie's*. In this film he gets a butt shot and turns into a mad scientist kind of guy as he installs a "battery" in the brains of the people he murders. This turns the people into leg dragging zombies.


I found myself wondering if the music was the worst thing about this movie, but no, there are some really crappy script points that beat out the score for that honour! I found myself moaning over the blind orphans trapped in a broken down bus being attacked by the zombies. Who couldn't see that coming?! **[Ed: Presumably, the blind orphans... Heh. Couldn't resist!]** Add to this the delightfully trite moniker of the girl's bike gang: *Cycle Sluts*. Of course they are all crazy to have sex with anything that walks--although that may be overstating things as they don't seem willing to settle for the zombies. Adding to the cheese factor, a blind orphan comments on the "midget" hit man, only to have the little person remind him that the proper term is "dwarf."

One good point is that the script does have the requisite character development even if it is served up in occasional heaps rather than smaller, more believable doses.

To make the killer Cycle Sluts into better characters the script then ends with the girls driving off with a pile of money from the townspeople for saving their town. That's just fine, but flinging the money over their shoulders onto the highway as they drive off doesn't strike me as a fitting action for the character of Rox.

This film tries too hard, suffers from an unbelievable story, handled in a trite manner and lost me with its clichés. I wanted to see a low budget film that impressed me but I got let down. If you see this movie and have a different opinion (like The Voice editor does!) **[ed. I laughed my ass off!]** please let me know. 89 minutes of your time is needed.

Laura Seymour first published herself, at age 8. She has since gone on to publish a cookbook for the medical condition Candida. She is working toward her B.A. (Psync).



Searching for Internships

Lonita Fraser

AAAS - Science Policy Internship - Job Location: Washington, DC, United States

Job Description: Interns will work closely with AAAS staff on a variety of projects, helping to prepare proposals, organize meetings, contribute to publications, manage computer databases, obtain resource materials, and participate in ongoing research. They will also have the opportunity to attend relevant conferences and meetings in the Washington, D.C. area. The internships are unpaid, but the Program will assist students desiring course credit from their institutions.

Job Requirements: Undergraduates, grad students and recent grads may apply. Prospective interns should have a background in science, law, ethics or a related field and have an interest in science policy.

How To Apply: Email, Fax or mail cover letter and resume. Indicate time period/semester for which you're applying.

Contact Information: Kristina Schaefer, AAAS, 1200 New York Avenue, NW, Room 822, Washington, DC, USA 20005
Phone: 202-326-6217 - FAX: 202-289-4950 - Email: kschaefer@aaas.org

Boston Review - Editorial Intern - Job Location: Northeast - Cambridge, MA, United States

Job Description: The program includes copy editing, fact-checking, proofreading, and desktop publishing, for which training is provided. Other responsibilities include screening submissions for publication, summarizing and proposing books for review, corresponding with authors, updating our Web site, and maintaining our database of writers and contacts. Boston Review's office is small and gives interns a unique opportunity to be involved in nearly every aspect of magazine publishing. Boston Review welcomes interns from a wide range of backgrounds. Some enter the program while graduate or undergraduate students. Many use the internship as an introduction to publishing after completing studies or having pursued a different career. Previous Boston Review interns have gone on to work and write for Foreign Affairs, The Atlantic Monthly, The Times of London, The Chronicle of Higher Education, and other publications.

Job Requirements: Interns work year-round on a variety of editorial and promotional projects and are essential to the magazine's operation. Prior work experience in publishing is less important than the applicant's knowledge of Boston Review, and the level of commitment and creativity that he or she can bring to the magazine. We offer twelve internship positions each year, four per term. Two of the four positions are full-time, and two require a minimum commitment of fifteen hours a week. All internships are unpaid. Candidates are strongly encouraged to familiarize themselves with the Boston Review archives.

How To Apply: To submit an application, please send a hard copy of the following materials to the address below. Please note that we cannot accept applications sent via e-mail.

Your application should include: 1. A cover letter explaining why you would like to participate in the Boston Review internship program. Provide some sense of the ideas, issues, and debates that are important to you. Describe your proficiency in any languages other than English, your organizational and research background, and any specific areas of intellectual or academic concentration. Describe your computer proficiency. Macintosh experience with HTML, MS Word, Filemaker, Adobe InDesign, and Quark is particularly helpful. Finally, let us know whether you are applying for a full- or part-time position. Bear in mind that there is greater competition for part-time positions. 2. Your résumé or c.v. 3. The names and phone numbers or e-mail addresses of two references. Please specify their relationships to you. 4. A proposal for a Boston Review New Democracy Forum. Please include a specific topic for the lead article, and the names of at least five prospective respondents. 5. A list of five of your favorite books, and a brief statement explaining why you like two of them. 6. A list of five publications you read regularly.

The deadlines are as follows: Spring (Jan-May): Nov 15; Summer (Jun-Aug): Feb 15; Fall (Sept-Dec): Jun 15
Please understand that we cannot consider incomplete or late applications. If you questions, email review@mit.edu.

Contact Information: Joshua J. Friedman, Managing Editor, Boston Review, E53-407 MIT, 30 Wadsworth St., Cambridge, MA, US 02139. Phone: (617) 258-0805 - FAX: (617) 252-1549 - WWW: <http://www.bostonreview.net>



CALL FOR PAPERS - Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows

February 10-12, 2005

**Splendid Isolation: Urban and Rural Flows and Counterflows in Electronic Music and Related Media
Berlin, Germany**

Held in conjunction with club transmediale.05

"The relationship between communication technologies and the city has been a long and complicated one, where the density of communicative activity has often been taken as defining characteristic of urban life. By contrast, rural areas have been idealized and marked by the relative absence of these technologies, a perception which tends to obscure the social and spatial consequences of communication technologies in rural areas. Out of this dichotomous set of associations has emerged a constellation of forces, ideas, images and experiences which have defined both the city and rural zones in unique and singular ways.

The history of art and music bears many traces of this productive tension, in which being immersed in city life and rural hermitage act as polar opposites. Popular music has been identified with contrapuntal movements that fluctuate between the celebration and derogation of both the rural and the urban. Within this interplay, various technologies, in particular electronic communication, have provided the principle forms of mediation between urban and rural areas, bridging and binding people and places in multiple ways and creating new hybrid territories situated within a shared mediasphere. In this context, the challenges of cultural production in and between rural and urban regions continue to be inflected by the specific demands of electronic/digital production, distribution and consumption.

This conference intends to address topics relating to the many debates and discourses produced by the intersection of cultural production, electronic arts/media, and social relations in urban and rural settings. We encourage artists, practitioners, journalists, writers and academics to participate in what promises to be provocative conference. In keeping with the overall themes of transmediale and club transmediale [BASICS], which investigate the aesthetic and ethical foundations of a hyper-potential culture, papers should address, but need not be restricted to, the following frameworks:

- * (Exo/Endo)Polis: electronic music, urban/ruraldynamics, and cultural politics
- * Refashioning Networks: circuits, nodes, communities, scenes and subcultures and extended milieu
- * Mediations: the rural/urban digital nexus, imagining/ representing nature in the city/the city in nature; electronic music and the experience of nature
- * Counterflows: fluctuating movements between urban and rural music subcultures
- * The Best of Both worlds: bridging the urban/rural divide
- * Splendid Isolation: productivity between seclusion, media networking and boredom; sound cultures beyond the major metropolises
- * Perforating the Mainstream: marketing the margin
- * Opposing Urbanity: f(r)actions of rural subcultures in the metropolis
- * The City and Its Other: critiques from the centre and periphery, speaking from and to rural and urban perspectives"

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and are due by November 15, 2004. Panel proposals are also welcome. Please submit them to: conference@transmediale.de

MEPHISTOS

March 5-6, 2005

Providence, Rhode Island USA

<http://www.brown.edu/Students/Mephistos/>

Mephistos is an international graduate student conference in the History, Philosophy, and Sociology of Science, Technology and Medicine. The purpose of the conference is to stimulate open discussion among graduate students. The graduate community at Brown University, in association with the Committee on Science & Technology Studies, is proud to host the twenty-third annual edition of the event.

4TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PEER SUPPORT CONFERENCE

Jan 14 - 16/2005

Details to follow...

Provided by Lonita Fraser

2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities Honolulu, Hawaii USA

Jan 13 - 16/2005

Contact: Attn. Andrew Burge, 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities
PO Box 75036, Honolulu, HI 96836 USA
<http://www.hichumanities.org/> humanities@hichumanities.org

The 3rd Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities will be held from January 13 (Tuesday) to January 16 (Friday), 2005 at the Sheraton Waikiki Hotel in Honolulu, Hawaii. The 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities will be the gathering place for academicians and professionals from the arts and humanities related fields from all over the world.

The main goal of the 2005 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various arts and humanities related fields from all over the world to come together and learn from each other. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests related to arts and humanities to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines.

Topic Areas (All Areas of Arts and Humanities are Invited)

American Studies, Archeology, Architecture, Art, Art History, Dance, English, Ethnic Studies, Film, History, Landscape Architecture, Languages, Literature, Linguistics, Music, Performing Arts, Philosophy, Religion, Second Language Studies, Speech/Communication, Theatre, Visual Arts, Other Areas of Arts and Humanities, Cross-disciplinary areas of the above related to each other or other areas.

Contributed By AU's *The Insider*

- **iCORE (Informatics Circle of Research Excellence) Summit - Aug. 2005 -Banff.**
The second annual iCORE Banff Informatics Summit will bring together leading information and communications technology (ICT) researchers for three days. The field of informatics encompasses computer science, electrical and computer engineering, physics and mathematics. (403) 210-5335. <http://www.icore.ca/>.
- **Sheldon Chumir Foundation for Ethics in Leadership Symposium - Oct. or Nov. 2005, Calgary.**
The Chumir Foundation promotes an active, involved citizenry and principled leadership. (403) 244-6666. <http://www.chumirethicsfoundation.ca/>.
- **InfraEDUCA 2004 - June 25-27 - Pragati Maidan, New Delhi -** The exhibition will be synergetic platform showcasing recent developments in Basic & Primary Education, Higher Education, Coaching Institutes, Specialized Courses, Vocational Training & Career Prospects, Distance Learning Systems, International Universities and Programs, E-Learning Tools and Educational Kits, Computer Education, Government Schemes and Programs etc. Details: <http://www.friendzexhibitions.com/infraeduca2004/index.htm>.
- **PISTA '04 - July 21-25 - Orlando, Florida -** Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are transforming our societies, therefore papers about research results, solutions and problems of the applications of ICT in Politics and Society are highly encouraged. Details: <http://www.confinf.org/Pista04/website/default.asp>
- **EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 - July 28 - 30 - Dhaka, Bangladesh.** EDUTEX Bangladesh 2004 is the platform for you to promote your Institutions and services and to recruit students in Bangladesh. Details: <http://www.expam.com/bangladesh/>

Know of a conference that is not on this list? Contact voice@ausu.org with the details and we'll list it in Conference Connections.



Voice Events Listings

On and off campus events worldwide

To list events in your area, e-mail voice@ausu.org with the word "events" in the subject line.

alberta

CALGARY WINTERFEST 11-21 FEBRUARY 2005 CALGARY, ALBERTA

All day - Cost: Free

Calgary Winter Festival Foundation
Number +1 403 543 5480
Fax +1 403 543 5490
info@calgarywinterfest.com
#100, 634 6th Ave SW
Calgary, Alberta, T2P 0S4

The highlight of the annual Calgary Winterfest must be the Human Curling Championships, where Calgary's finest line up to jump onto giant rubber tubes and slide, slide, slide away...

The first weekend sees music, magic and mayhem in the carnival at the Devonian Gardens and the Winterfest wackiness keeps the kids entertained during the week with ice sculpting, strongman competitions and the Wacky Wing Eating Competition.

Live music and street performers fill the streets for the duration of the festival as around 200,000 people celebrate the midwinter and the imminent arrival of spring.

manitoba

FESTIVAL DU VOYAGEUR 11-20 FEBRUARY 2005 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

All day - Cost: Free

Contact - 1 204 237 7692
info@festivalvoyageur.mb.ca
768 Tache Ave, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R2H 2C4

The Festival du Voyageur in Winnipeg is Western Canada's largest winter festival. Reflecting the country's unique French-Canadian heritage, the ten-day celebration recalls the fur trade era of the 18th-century Red River colony.

Various venues across the town play host to a variety of concerts and performances. There are three heated tents in addition to the main stage in Voyageur Park, the main focus of the celebrations.

Snow and ice sculptures are de rigeur for winter festivals and this one features an International Snow Sculpting Symposium. Dog sledding also features highly and competitive races with between three and ten dogs are quite a sight.

ontario

ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW 5-6 FEBRUARY 2005 - TORONTO, ONTARIO 10.30AM-5PM

Cost \$10 - under 13s free
Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre
6, Garamond Ct, Toronto, Ontario M3C 1Z5
+1 416 441 2345
Contact - +1 905 625 3475 - show@soos.ca

The Southern Ontario Orchid Society's Annual Orchid Show in Toronto's Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre is an exotic gardener's paradise. Displays feature thousands of flowering orchid plants arranged in beautiful natural exhibits.

Apart from wandering the Garden Centre to browse the rare flowers on show, visitors can also buy orchids, attend talks on how to care for and cultivate these wonderful flowers and play the judge along with the Orchid Society, who award prizes for the most well-cultured plant.

WINTERCITY FESTIVA 28 JANUARY - 10 FEBRUARY 2005 TORONTO, ONTARIO

Cost: Free
Contact - Access Toronto - +1 416 338 0338

Toronto's WinterCity Festival provides two weeks of fun throughout the city - from puppeteers and storytellers to dance performances and spectacular ice skating shows.

The annual event is a celebration of Toronto's unique diversity of spirit, offering a flurry of top free entertainment and a showcase of the city's vibrant arts scene. Winterlicious features delicious culinary experiences including special dinners and tastings. Forget the weather and join the party in the world's coolest winter city!

WINTERLUDE
4-20 FEBRUARY 2005
OTTAWA, ONTARIO

Fri-Sun all day - Cost: Most events are free
+1 613 239 5000

Amongst the myriad activities, the event boasts the world's largest skating rink in the form of the Rideau Canal. At seven kilometres long, it is a central focus of the event. Shows, snow sculpture and skating abound.

All sorts of weird and wonderful events take place under the banner of the festival, including the Hospital Bed Race, the parading of the Ice Hogs (the mascots of the festival) and extreme trampolining. The frozen canal is the venue for many of the shows that are performed both on and off skates.

It is very much a family event, with much of the entertainment being aimed at a younger audience. A trip to Snowflake Kingdom is a must, where mammoth mountains of snow have been transformed into a fairytale fantasy land, including around 30 giant snow slides carved with images depicting well-known fairy tale characters.

For the kid in you though, you can try your hand at such Canadian traditions as sledge hockey, ice climbing, curling and dog-sledding. Public ice block carving is also encouraged, but if sculpting is not your strong point, you can see how the professionals do it in an intriguing look at a continent far removed from this wintry landscape.

quebec

QUÉBEC WINTER CARNIVAL
28 JANUARY - 13 FEBRUARY 2005
QUEBEC CITY, QUEBEC

Contact - Number +1 866 422 7628 (hotline)
Second Number +1 418 626 3716

Promoting itself as the largest snow festival in the world, the Québec Winter Carnival makes the most of the harsh climatic conditions in this part of the world. Intended primarily as a way to brighten up the bleak days of midwinter, the event has been a highlight on the local calendar for years.

If you do decide to take part, pack your warmest clothes: temperatures here average minus 10 degrees Celsius.

FÊTE DES NEIGES
22 JANUARY - 6 FEBRUARY
MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Cost - Free
some activities are charged for

Parc Jean-Drapeau
1, Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve
Montreal, Quebec, H3C 1A9
apubliques@parcjeandrapeau.com

Contact - 1 514 872 6120 - webmaster@fetedesneiges.com

The famous joie de vivre of Montreal is never expressed better than during Canada's premier Winter Festival, the Fête des Neiges. Held in the Parc Jean-Drapeau, it runs over three consecutive weekends, with selected events during the intervening weeks. If you want to get a feel for Montreal in winter and the warm openness of the local people, there's no better time to visit.

A snow castle dominates the centre of the fairytale realm of Boule de Neige, the kingdom of la Fête. The size of a football pitch, its labyrinthine ways are populated by various medieval characters and are open to exploration. The fun includes a competition for the world record for speed in ice sculpting, dogsledding circuits for children and professionally-certified ice climbers, who teach the public how to scale a 12-metre-high ice tower - a useful skill in these parts.

ARTAPALOOZA
25 JANUARY - 8 FEBRUARY 2005
MONTREAL, QUEBEC

Saidye Bronfman Centre for the Arts
5170, Côte Ste Catherine Rd
Montreal, Quebec, H3W 1M7
Tel +1 514 739 2301 - Fax +1 514 739 9340
theatre@saidyebronfman.org

Info & Tickets - 1 514 739 7944 - marc@thesaidye.org

Montreal's Saidye Bronfman Centre hosts Artapalooza! - an annual arts festival aimed especially at young people. Theatre, dance, music and mime troupes from around the world perform in English and French.

Varied presentations are aimed at young children and teenagers and most performances are followed by workshop activities. The festival also takes actors into schools to discuss their work.

CANADIAN SKI MARATHON
12-13 FEBRUARY 2005
LACHUTE, QUEBEC

Cost - \$22 - \$215, based on age and when you register

Canadian Ski Marathon
Number +1 819 770 6556
Second Number +1 877 770 6556 (toll-free)
ski@csm-mcs.com
CSM Office, 81 Jean-Proulx, Suite 200
Gatineau, QC, J8Z 1W2

The Canadian Ski Marathon at Lachute in Quebec is one of the world's largest cross-country ski events.

The event organisers provide useful backup in the form of snacks, check points, a shuttle bus and ski wax services. Chartered coaches transport skiers from Toronto, Montreal and Gatineau, so it's not even necessary to drive. You can't beat a great cross-country event for testing endurance and skill, or as a personal challenge.

BBCM RED PARTY WEEKEND
13-15 FEBRUARY 2005
MONTREAL, QUEBEC

10pm-8am - Cost: \$55

Parisian Laundry
3550, Saint-Antoine St West (at corner of Bel Air St)
Montreal, Quebec

Valentine's Day celebrations are sensibly given the whole weekend on the Montreal gay scene, the highlight being the Red Party, which takes place at the Parisian Laundry.

The weekend features a host of parties and social events. At the Red Party DJ Norm Robert, a big name on the local scene, and the excellent DJ Paulo, a star of the American circuit who regularly has top billing at prestigious events like the Alegria Party at New York's Sound Factory, spin the tunes. Dress code is red, unsurprisingly, with a touch of leather.

CARNAVAL-SOUVENIR
10-20 FEBRUARY 2005
CHICOUTIMI, QUEBEC

All day - Cost: Free

+1 418 543 4438
info@carnavalsouvenir.qc.ca
49, rue Lafontaine, C.P. 567
Chicoutimi, G7H 5C8

Over 100,000 people pay homage to the past as the citizens and guests of Chicoutimi dress up in period costumes and eat, drink and dance in the style of 100

years ago. It's a time to remember both your local and national identity, whether you're from Chicoutimi or not.

Visitors receive a real taste of Saguenayan hospitality and entertainment. The focus of the festival is place Carnaval, where laser shows open the festivities and snow castles and other monuments dot the landscape. The party continues for 11 days with all sorts of events both inside and out, including special theatre shows and an operetta, featuring 60 comedians and over 30 musicians. Outdoor types can wrap up warm and jump on horse or dog-drawn sleds for a tour through the picturesque landscape.

international

SMALL WORLD EXPO
THURSDAY, FEB 24, 2005 - SATURDAY, FEB 26, 2005
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Las Vegas Convention Center
3150 Paradise Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89109

"Nanotechnology has the potential to profoundly change our economy and to improve our standard of living, in a manner not unlike the impact made by advances over the past two decades by information technology." - National Nanotechnology Initiative

Small World Expo - The Bridge Between Concept and Commercialization:

showcases the leading companies and developers in tiny technology
allows companies and attendees to develop partnerships, license technology and evaluate acquisitions
educates the individuals on the practical applications of nanotechnology, microsystems and MEMS.

Why this is a "must attend" event:

As an executive, we help you maximize your time at the show by pre-scheduling appointments with companies you'll want to partner with, license technology from or even acquire. Unlike other events, the show floor will be divided into pavilions so that you can save time finding companies of interest. On the conference side, unlike other events, the content will be delivered in an easily understandable fashion.

How you will benefit by attending personally:

Much confusion still exists about what this technology is truly capable of and how much it will cost to implement into your products and manufacturing. It's time to simplify, demystify, and clarify how these technologies can help your company become more efficient and more profitable. By attending, you'll return with the contacts, knowledge, and confidence you need to make intelligent buying decisions.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LINUX EXPO
SATURDAY, FEB 12, 2005 - SUNDAY, FEB 13, 2005
9:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Los Angeles Convention Center
1201 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, California 90015

We are proud to announce the third annual Southern California Linux Expo. SCALE 3X will be two days of talks, tutorials and seminars on Linux and open-source software! We will also have a full exhibit hall running both days. It's set for February 12th and 13th, 2005 at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

For more information on attending, exhibiting, sponsoring or speaking at SCALE 3x please see our website at <http://www.socallinuxexpo.org> for up to the minute information.

PENIS MUSEUM
NOW THROUGH APRIL 30TH, 2005
REYKJAVÍK, ICELAND

Institute of Phallology
Laugavegur 24, Reykjavík, Iceland
May-Aug: Tue-Sat 2pm-5pm
Sep-Apr: Tue & Sat 2pm-5pm
Tel +354 561 6663 / 566 8668 Fax +354 552 6466
phallus@ismennet.is

A brave group of scientific entrepreneurs has set up the world's first Penis Museum (officially known as the Institute of Phallology) in Reykjavik - it's not for the squeamish.

The museum, as well as showcasing the rich diversity of nature's endowments, also has a gallery of phallological art and a section of "practical utensils" relating to the theme of the museum, whatever that means.

MR POTTER'S MUSEUM OF CURIOSITY - DAILY
BOLVENTOR, CORNWALL, ENGLAND

Jul-Aug 10am-7pm
Nov-Mar 11am-4pm
Sep-Oct & Apr-Jun 10am-5pm

Cost £2.50 concessions £2 family ticket £6.95
For more information: +44 1566 86838
jamaicainn@eclipse.co.uk

Mr Potter's "Famous" Museum of Curiosities in Cornwall is an experience of unadulterated madness, resembling more the result of a psychotic on the rampage at a car boot sale than a collection of relics of the past.

SHAMBHALA: SPIRIT OF TIBET PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT
SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2005

4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Book Passages
(415) 927-0960 (800) 999-7909 Fax (415) 924-3838
51 Tamal Vista Blvd., Corte Madera
San Francisco Bay Area, California 94925

Exhibition of black & white documentary photographs taken in Tibet, December 2003-January 2004.

Reception: Sunday, November 14, 2004 - 4 to 6pm
Exhibit: November 14 to January 30, 2005

Store Hours:
10:00 am to 9:30 pm, Monday through Saturday
10:30 am to 9:00 pm Sunday.

Tibetans believe that Shambhala is the legendary hidden Kingdom. In their every day life, Tibetans practice the vision of Shambhala believing that it creates a society that enables them to express the dignity of human existence and a way to live meaningful lives. While the world around them has lost sight of the truth and religion, and has degenerated into power struggles, warfare, and materialism.

Photographer Jo Farrell is a black and white documentary photographer, born in London, England, who over the past five years has concentrated her work on Tibet and China. Her photographic projects are social and cultural anthropological studies, capturing traditions and cultures before they are erased from our memory forever. The work featured in this exhibit is from her recent trip to Tibet in 2003/2004 and captures the spirit of Tibetan life today.

<http://www.JoFarrell.com>

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AU BUSINESS STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (AUBSA) NOW ONLINE! The AU Business Students' Association website is now online at <http://www.ausu.org/clubs/aubsa/index.php>. If you are an AU business student, or a student with an interest in business, this club is for you! Contact aubsa@ausu.org for more information. It's free to join!

THE VOICE

2nd Floor, 10030-107th Street, Edmonton, AB T5J 3E4 -- Ph: 800.788.9041 ext. 2905 - Fax: 780.497.7003 attn: Voice Editor

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Editor In Chief Tamra Ross Low

News Contributors Lonita Fraser

Regular Columnists: Janice Behrens, Wanda Waterman St. Louis, Debbie Jabbour, Karl Low, Laura Seymour, Hazel Anaka, Bill Pollett, Barbara Godin

Contributors to listings columns: Zil-E-Huma Lodhi, Lonita Fraser

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