

THE VOICE

MAGAZINE

September 2, 2005
Volume 13 Issue 34



Turning The Pages

Foreigner, by Robert J. Sawyer

Course Exam
Ethics, course introduction

Dear Barb
Shopping Addictions

Plus:
Lost & Found
Dear Barb
Women You Should Know
From Where I Sit
The Good Life
AUSU This Month

and much more...

THE VOICE MAGAZINE

September 26, 2005 - Vol 13, Iss 33

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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.

THE VOICE

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Turing the Pages...

Elizabeth Cousar

This week I'm continuing with last time's Canadian author theme, but I'll try to branch out a bit in future!

FOREIGNER, BY ROBERT J. SAWYER

The latest re-release by Robert J. Sawyer, Canada's only full-time, lifelong Canadian science-fiction author, is another thoroughly enjoyable read. *Foreigner* is the third (and final!) book in Sawyer's Quintaglio Ascension trilogy.

The first two books, *Farseer* and *Fossil Hunter*, start us off reading about intelligent dinosaurs who live on the moon of a gas giant (trust me, it gets better. Once you accept the premise, the books take off).

This third novel is about the Catholic Church's approach to abortion and birth control, though I had to read some blubs about the book on the author's web-site (<http://www.sfwriter.com>) to find that out. I thought it was about the Quintaglios' equivalent to Freud, and the invention of (alien) psychoanalysis, as well as European/Aboriginal North American first contact, and how assuming that our culture is the "one true way" is always a mistake. Either way, it's a great story.

Conflict is always the driving force of fiction, of course. Without it, you have life, which is (for most of us) a lot less interesting. Sawyer uses a character's internal conflicts, as well as the imminent destruction of the Quintaglios' home moon, to keep things moving. One character has chronic insomnia; another is hurt that her long-lost daughter doesn't really care about their biological connection (while the mother does care. A lot). Yet another character makes contact with another breed of dinosaur-like beings whose very appearance drives his countrymen into a killing rage! Keeping a war from happening is enough conflict and intrigue for anyone.

Sawyer (whose writing awards are as numerous as they are prestigious) has done it again with *Foreigner*. His characters, while completely alien, are also eminently believable. The culture is alien enough to cause readers to think, yet internally consistent, and seamlessly matched to the alien biology and psychology.

Not only is this book of Sawyer's engaging and thought provoking, but his web-site is also an experience to remember. And best of all, on this site you can read the first chapters of all of his books, whetting your appetite for more Sawyer. The site also includes tips for professional writing in general, and is one of the oldest writer's web-sites on the Internet. It has lasted because Sawyer's work has lasted. His books will be read for years. Some lucky students get to study his writing at university; I only hope AU offers a contemporary Canadian literature course that includes some of Sawyer's books, like *Calculating God* (in my opinion, his best), or *Illegal Alien* (think *To Kill a Mockingbird* meets *Babylon 5*).

Foreigner has international intrigue, imminent planet-wide disaster, discovery of ancient high technology, estranged family, discovery of a new continent, and psychoanalysis of an alien. What more could you ask for in a few hundred pages? Give it a try. I really recommend it.

Got a suggestion for a book that should appear here? We're glad to read 'em!

Featured:

Sawyer, R. (1994, 2005). *Foreigner*. New York: TOR Books.

Mentioned:

--- (1993, 2005). *Fossil Hunter*. New York: TOR Books.

--- (1992, 2004) *Farseer*. New York: TOR Books.

--- (2000). *Calculating God*. New York: TOR Books.



Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament (RELS 380)

Another new AU course is ready to ship--and this time, it all about the history of religion. *Introduction to the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament* (RELS 380) is a three credit humanities course that leads students down the path of knowledge of Biblical translations intertwined with Jewish history. The course is designed to be taken via individualized study, with one prerequisite in any area of humanities.

RELS 380 consists of 10 units. The first two introduce the Old Testament, with a focus on ancient Jewish history that will enable students to approach the study of the Hebrew Bible with competent background knowledge of the relevant historical perspective. With such knowledge, students will be able to more fully appreciate the messages of the ancient Biblical texts and how they correspond to the Jewish political situation of the time.

Unit three introduces students to the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament), including Genesis and the details of creation. Great Biblical men like Abraham, and Isaac are studied, and students will also have the opportunity to recount the details of the freedom struggle between Moses and the Israelites and their Egyptian captors.

Throughout units four and five, you will explore the messages of the ancient Prophets, beginning with Joshua (Moses's successor), continuing through the book of Judges and exploring Israeli history from the birth of Samuel to Jerusalem's downfall in 587 B.C., as recounted in Samuel and the books of Kings. Over units six to nine, further Old Testament books are studied in detail, including the book of Wisdom (and the life of King David), as well as the famous story of Job, who persevered under trial. Students also examine the 150 Psalms in the Psalter, and read through the book of Lamentations, which was written shortly after Jerusalem's destruction and vividly portrays Israel's grief over past sins and desire for repentance while counting on the mercy of their God.

Additionally, the books of great Biblical women, like Queen Esther and Ruth, are studied in context; students are also able to explore the books of Chronicles and Deuteronomy. Lastly, the meaning of the Jewish Apocalyptic vision, recounted through the writings of visionaries like Daniel, is examined.

Students' course evaluation in RELS 380 is through two projects and one final examination. The first assignment is worth 20%; the second assignment is a research essay focusing on a particular course-related topic, and is worth 40%. The final exam is worth 40% as well.

Polish up your knowledge of Old Testament history and register today! For more information, visit: <http://www.athabascau.ca/html/syllabi/rels/rels380.htm>

AUSU THIS MONTH



"A Learning Alberta"

Recently, the Alberta Government announced a comprehensive review of the Alberta post-secondary education system. Many discussion documents were placed online, and all stakeholders were invited to respond and make suggestions on how the post-secondary system can be improved. The students of the four universities of Alberta have responded through a document drafted by CAUS -- the Council of Alberta University Students --, which represents the students' unions of all four institutions.

Additionally, AUSU has drafted its own response, specifically addressing the needs of the diverse AU student body. You can read our response by downloading the PDF file from the link on the front page of the AUSU web site

AUSU Course Evaluations

Would you like to know what your fellow students have thought of an AU course? If so, you are not alone. Many students find the input of their peers invaluable when selecting courses or a program of study. AU students may not have cafeterias and hallways in which to share this knowledge, but AUSU has provided an alternative: AUSU Course and Program Evaluation surveys. Accessible through the "Course Evaluations" link on the right side of the top bar of AUSU.org, these surveys ask a series of questions about AUSU courses and programs. Each student may rate each course or program only once, to ensure the validity of the results, so you must be logged in to access a survey form. Anyone, however, may view the results. If you haven't already, please rate some courses you have taken so that others may benefit from your experience. Note: these surveys are not the same as the ones that AU distributes with their course manuals. No AU staff or faculty member has access to the AUSU website, nor can they determine who has filled out a survey. Your anonymity is assured.

AUSU Discussion Forums and Chat

Looking for a way to interact with fellow students? Check out the AUSU discussion forums and chatroom, accessible through the top menu bar of AUSU.org. The forums contain many sections to address a wide variety of student interests. You'll find the most students in the General Student Chat section, but you may also wish to use one of the province or city-specific forums to speak with AU students in your local area.

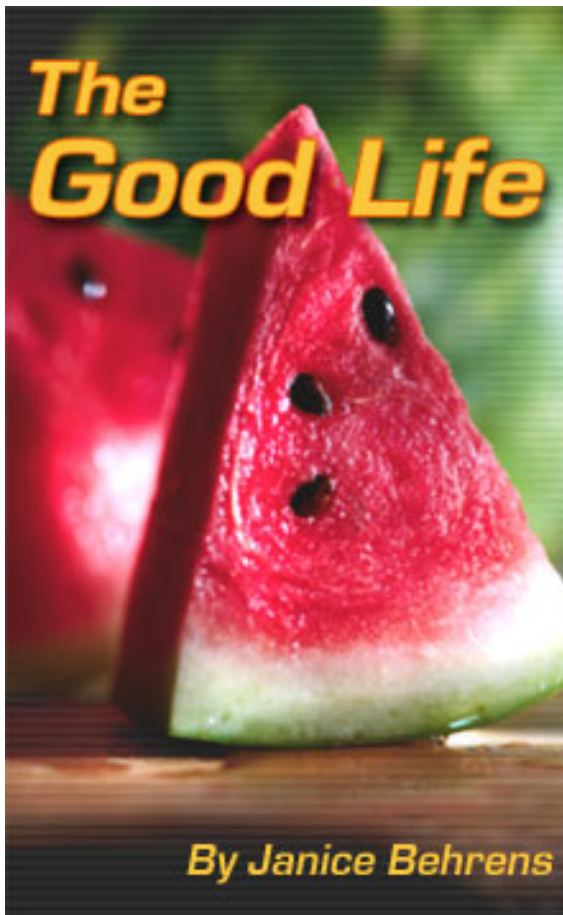
AUSU Needs Volunteer Mentors

AUSU needs volunteer mentors to help new students adjust to AU and distance education. If you're an experienced AU student interested in being matched to a new student, please email ausu@ausu.org for an application form. The mentor program is designed to help new students succeed with distance learning. If you're a new student and would like to be matched to one of our mentors please fill out the application form at this address: <http://www.ausu.org/services/mentorsforms.php>

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Looking Forward to Fall

As I was going for a brisk walk along the banks of the Fraser River early yesterday morning, I felt a refreshing light rain falling against my arms, and a crisp northerly wind was blowing into my face and dislodging the cobwebs from my brain. Most importantly, the unmistakable smell of approaching autumn was in the air. I could feel the sensation of my personal energy cells slowly but surely gearing themselves up for the season ahead.

Later that afternoon, my sister-in-law telephoned me from Vancouver Island to remind me that she is coming over for our traditional Labour Day Weekend canning session. As if I needed to be reminded. This almost-twenty-year-old tradition has become one of the significant milestones of my year. Every year she arrives with the back of her Volvo station wagon loaded with boxes of dill cukes, herbs and seasonings, heads of garlic, tomatoes, onions, peppers, a bottle of her fabulous home-spiced Vodka, and secret recipes that are as jealously guarded as the Philosopher's Stone. By the end of the weekend, we will have filled several score of mason jars with enough salsa and crunchy dill pickles to

last both our families for a full year of feasting.

For me, fall has always been the most energizing of seasons. Winter is a time of slowly simmering pots of stew, and reading long books by the cozy light of the fireplace. Warm early spring days are a perfect excuse for skipping out of work. Summer, of course, is best experienced sitting on a picnic blanket covered with delicacies, or from a lazily swaying hammock, with a glass of lemonade or chilled white wine in hand. Unfortunately *work* has to go on during all of these seasons, but it doesn't really belong. Projects and intense mental activity feel like unwanted distractions from the real business of living.

Autumn, though, is different. Autumn is a time when it actually feels good to bite off more than you can chew, to launch yourself into ambitious undertakings. It's a time when the batteries of the body, mind and soul feel recharged, and hum with potential energy.

So, it's with a sense of anticipation that I look forward to beginning some interesting new classes, and taking on an expanded and challenging new role at work. I may curse my ambition in a few months, but right now it feels like I can accomplish anything I set my mind and energies to.



Dear Barb: I think I might have a problem. I've always enjoyed shopping, but recently I've been spending more money than I can afford. My shopping seems to be getting out of hand. I used to be able to pay off my credit card balances every month. Now I am leaving big balances on my credit cards and sometimes I have to transfer balances from one credit card to another. I am a single woman who lives on her own, but I have a feeling my parents are becoming aware of my problem, as I've had to borrow money from them. I'm scared of where I will end up if I keep going like this. I know I need help, but I'm not sure where to turn. Can you help point me in the right direction?

Elisa in Chatham

Thank you for you writing Elisa. I understand your fear and I will do what I can to help. The behaviour you describe is called shopaholism. It is an addiction, much like alcoholism and, like alcoholism, if done to excess it can spiral out of control and ruin marriages or other relationships and ultimately destroy lives. Therefore you must get this behaviour under control or you may not be able to avoid the devastation it will cause you and your family.

There are certain characteristics that have been identified among people with this addiction. Ask yourself if the following questions are indicative of your feelings and behaviours.

- 1) Do you often shop when you are feeling down, lonely, depressed or unhappy about someone or something in your life?
- 2) While shopping do you feel elated almost to the point of feeling as though you are on a high?
- 3) Do you often go on shopping binges?
- 4) Do you frequently purchase items online or on shopping channels, even though you really don't want to?
- 5) When you have cash in your purse, do you feel like you have to spend it right away?
- 6) After a shopping binge, do you feel let down and guilty because of the amount of money you spent?
- 7) Do you buy items you don't really need or want?
- 8) Are your closets cluttered with bags of brand new items that you will never wear or use?
- 9) Have you tried to stop shopping, but found you were unable to stop yourself?
- 10) When your credit cards are to their limit, do you apply for more credit, rather than working on paying them down?
- 11) Do you avoid the phone or opening your mail, because you don't want to see how much you have spent?
- 12) Are you hiding your purchases from family and friends?

If you answered yes to many of these questions, you have a problem for which you need professional help. You have an addiction, which is just as serious as a drug or alcohol addiction. Therefore, you cannot just choose to stop. Some treatment options include individual or group counselling, as well as drug therapy. You and your therapist can determine what is the best form of therapy for you.

In the meantime, Elisa, the following are some steps you can do on our own to start the process of recovery.

- 1) Cut up all your credit cards except one. As well, make sure you call to cancel the credit card, because it would be just too easy to call and request a replacement card.
- 2) When you go shopping make a list of what you need and buy only what is on the list.
- 3) Pay for all your purchases by cash or debit.
- 4) Don't look through catalogues or watch shopping channels on television. At this point, the temptation is too great.
- 5) When you feel an overwhelming urge to shop go for a walk instead.

Good luck Elisa, I hope to hear an update on your progress.

E-mail your questions to dearbarb.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.



Some Applause for the Aristocrats

Last night I went to see what may very well be the filthiest, most obscene film ever made. Remarkably, there isn't a single scene of violence or nudity. It is just people talking, very frankly, hilariously and, yes, intelligently about the most taboo subjects in our society. It was one of the most thought-provoking and entertaining evenings I've spent at the flicks in a long time.

The Aristocrats is a documentary by filmmakers/comedians Penn Jillette (the speaking half of the Penn and Teller comedy/magic act) and Paul Provenza. The film features over a hundred different comedians--a veritable "who's who" of comedy, including Robin Williams, Steven Wright, Bill Maher, Phyllis Diller, and Carrot Top--all telling, or commenting on, one extremely sick comedy routine. The routine, called *The Aristocrats*, is a legend amongst comedians, who reputedly have told it to each other since the earliest days of Vaudeville. I won't touch on much of what the joke is about, but let's just say it's almost unimaginably raunchy and offensive, including references to incest, bestiality, eating feces, anal sex, fisting, etc., etc.

Initially, it may not sound like a whole lot of fun sitting in a darkened movie theatre and hearing the same offensive joke told over and over again. But the thing is, each of the comedians offers her or his own unique take on the routine. The effect is similar to listening to a variety of jazz musicians play the same chestnut, but offering completely unique and creative variations on it. Think of *Stardust* being performed by Louis Armstrong, Frank Sinatra, Annie Lennox, Miles Davis, Diana Krall, etc.

More to the point, from my view, is that this film is not afraid to shock its audience, or to make it think. When was the last time that an American film did both of those things for you? In this dark age of political correctness, right-wing censorship lobbies, and sanitized entertainment, this film is going to come in for considerable flack, unless it disappears like a stone. It seems it is no longer acceptable to challenge the values of middle class white fundamentalists. What is acceptable, though, according to the popular media, is to sell everything from toothpaste to heavy equipment by means of subtle and unacknowledged sexual exploitation. It is acceptable to show mangled, mutilated human bodies on the news every night, and then sell consumer electronics during the commercial breaks. It is acceptable to take your children to see grotesquely violent Hollywood blockbusters, as long as the bloodshed is cartoonish and sanitized.

What this film tells us, in its own crude little way, is that it is the right, possibly even the responsibility, of free thinking people amongst us to yell "Fuck" in a crowded movie theatre. As far as I'm concerned, any film that helps us to remember that is well worth my entertainment dollars.



From
Where
I Sit

Hazel Anaka

Staying in Touch

Seniors and/or their families may choose assisted living units or other housing because of assurances that daily checks on residents are done.

Business people join breakfast groups to network and promote themselves and their services to other professionals.

Some people join groups of like-minded people for support, fellowship, learning, and common interests.

People in the workforce have colleagues. People with health challenges may have medical and/or support group connections. Everyone has bills to pay and mail that comes.

Most people have a built-in safety net of family or close friends who know, love and care for them. Despite the difficulties entailed in maintaining relationships, most of us manage to do it. For some, it's by telephone. For others, email is the quick and easy answer for keeping in touch with those across town or thousands of miles away. Family reunions, lunches with friends, and Christmas cards are other methods of staying in touch.

I understand that none of us are irreplaceable, but I refuse to believe that a person exists who will not be missed by someone.

That's why the story of a Winnipeg man found in his condo two years after his death is so unbelievably sad. What forces converged in such a tragic end? It's assumed banking technology deposited a pension cheque into his account that covered automatic payment of his condo fees and other bills.

Because his body was mummified, an exact cause of death couldn't be determined, though foul play was ruled out. Multiple sclerosis was suspected as a contributing cause of death. Experts with the Multiple Sclerosis Society say MS in of itself is not fatal, though complications from the condition could be.

Canada Post was investigating if corporate policy was followed each time his overflowing mailbox was emptied by a mail carrier. Neighbours assumed Mr. Sulkers was on an extended vacation and never detected an odd odour. A cousin said the family disintegrated after the death of his mother some ten years earlier. It appears the fifty-something man had a least two siblings and a father.

A *National Post* story dated August 27, 2004 quotes one woman who vowed to phone her neighbour every other day if she doesn't see her because "a lot of us are alone." It would be interesting to note, a year after this story broke, if anything has changed for those closest to the situation.

How can this tragedy, long since off the public radar, change how you and I live our lives? I know I can certainly do a better job of staying in touch. I'm really not a phone person but it is a logical tool for some relationships. I'm trying to learn to love email for its low cost and immediacy. I still send cards and hand written notes on occasion. Maybe I'll worry less about giving my kids their space and call them more. I'll keep up the lunches with friends and renew my art club and writers group memberships. I'll continue popping in on my mom and stepfather and visit my sisters more often. Mr. Sulkers death will not be in vain, from where I sit.

This column focuses on issues affecting post-secondary students. Readers are encouraged to submit suggestions for topics they are concerned about, or personal experiences with courses or university situations other students should know about. Contact voice@ausu.org, attn: Debbie Jabbour



PARENTS, RESPs, AND THE RISING COST OF TUITION

Debbie Jabbour

In spite of the fact that nearly 90 percent of Canadian parents would like their children to get a post-secondary education, the rising cost of tuition is quickly outstripping their ability to contribute towards Registered Education Savings Plans (RESPs) and other educational savings plans, according to the Investors Group of Canada. The Group notes that tuition has increased at four times the rate of inflation since 1990, leaving students with the "weight of a large debt at graduation"

(Beauchesne, 2005).

One-fourth of Canadian parents surveyed are unable to save anything for their children's education, saying they simply do not make enough money. Of the parents who do save, 45 percent have only managed to put away at most enough to cover a single year's tuition. These parents also believe their children will take much longer before they will become self-sufficient.

In spite of the fact that RESPs provide tax advantages and can generate up to a total of \$7,200 in federal grants per student (based on the maximum contribution of \$2,000 a year contributed into an RESP which generates an annual federal grant of \$400), many parents are not accessing RESPs. The Investors Group report suggests that misconceptions and misunderstandings about how RESPs work may be partly to blame. However, it remains clear that RESPs continue to be a government education grant useful only for those families who can already afford to save with rising tuition costs hindering post-secondary participation even in this group of savers.

References

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- Investors Group Inc. (2005, August 16). Saving for education lagging real cost of schooling, survey says.. Retrieved from http://www.investorsgroup.com/english/about_us/news_releases/2005/050816_FamilyFinances.htm
- Investors Group Inc. (2005). Educational financial planning. Retrieved from http://www.investorsgroup.com/english/financial_planning/articles_resources/education/default.htm

Women You Should Know

Compiled by Barbara Godin

Maud "Tugboat Annie" Griffin (1880-1971) was born Maud Canniff in Minnesota, USA. At 50 years old she passed the ship captain's exam and became the first licensed female boat pilot in the state of Texas. Before gaining employment as captain of the "New Brunswick," Maud was the cook on her husband's boat, which operated on the waterways of Houston, Texas. She was such an effective captain that she became a local celebrity. Her status as celebrity extended beyond Texas following the release of a movie based on her life entitled "Tugboat Annie." She ultimately gained the admiration and respect for being the first female ship captain of the early 1900s. Maud Griffin retired in 1932 and died in 1971 at the age of 91.

Source for additional information

Raine, N. R. (1977). *Tugboat Annie*. Amereon Limited.



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

FRINGE A-GO-GO

Edmonton, Alberta - 18-28 August 2005

For information: 780 448 9000

fta@fringetheatreadventures.ca

<http://www.fringetheatreadventures.ca/index.php/fta>

ONE VISION - MANY VOICES: A CROSS-CULTURAL / ANTI-RACISM EDUCATION CONFERENCE

University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB, Nov. 17-19, 2005

<http://www.uofaweb.ualberta.ca/edpolicystudies/>

INTRODUCING: ECOTREK - A RACE FOR A GREENER FUTURE!

September 10-11, 2005 - www.albertaecotrek.com

Alberta Ecotrek will be hosted at the YMCA's Rocky Mountain YMCA/Camp Chief Hector and will utilize the existing trail system in Bow Valley Provincial Park. The participants will pass through the Sibbald Creek region, Barrier Lake, and around the base of Mt. Yamnuska in picturesque Kananaskis Country.

SYNAPSE: THE SPARK THAT CONNECTS!

Edmonton, Alberta, August 27th 2005

Remedy Café 8631, 109 Street, 9:00 p.m.

Admission is free, but donations to iHuman Society are welcome. SYNAPSE will have readings by Edmonton's Poet Laureate Alice Major, a number of talented iHuman youth and Writers Guild poet, Dawn Carter. It will feature, Kirsten Sikora, who will be reading from her new book "Sundry: a book of poems." For more information, please contact: Kendra Lane Sherick - Phone: (780) 420-0505 - e-mail: admin@cambridgestrategies.com

quebec

INTERNATIONAL BALLOON FESTIVAL OF SAINT-JEAN-SUR-RICHELIEU

Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Quebec - Aug 13-21

For information: 450 347 9555

festival@ballooncanada.com

<http://www.montgolfieres.com/>

maritimes

ATLANTIC THEATRE FESTIVAL

Wolfville, Nova Scotia - 27 June - 1 Sept 2005

For information: 902 542 4242

<http://www.atf.ns.ca/>

international

THE SUSTAINABLE MUSEUM

Sept 25, 2005 - Sept 30, 2005 - Oxford, England

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/seminars-arts-0567.htm>

CHALLENGING ORTHODOXY: THE PUBLIC FUNCTION OF SOCIOLOGY?

Sept 8, 2005 - Sept 9, 2005 - Liverpool, England

<http://www.liv.ac.uk/sspsw/conference/Conference%20front%20page.htm>

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



Searching for Internships

Lonita Fraser

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Volunteer and Spanish Study - Quetzaltenango, Guatemala

<http://www.celasmaya.edu.gt/>

Duration of Program: 9-12 weeks - Dates: Throughout the year Volunteer and Spanish Study
We provide Volunteer Work Projects for students to complement their language study. We work with a network of organizations in Quetzaltenango and throughout the region dedicated to activities that improve the lives of Guatemalans. Most organizations require a minimum commitment of three months. Compensation varies according to the organization, although housing is usually provided. While it is easier to offer a space for volunteer work to people with a defined specialty (agriculture, computers, research, English as a second/foreign language, audiovisuals), it is by no means a requirement.

Objectives

- Provide visitors with high-quality Spanish and Quiché language instruction, as well as the opportunity and means to learn more about Latin American history, society, politics and culture.
- Promote education among rural highlands Maya through a scholarship program.
- Make computer technology and other educational resources accessible to Mayan students.
- Promote and house a research center for Guatemalans and visitors to explore fields of human knowledge.
- Promote participatory education that is respectful of different cultures and ways of thinking.

Qualifications: To apply for volunteer work, a minimum of one week of study in the school is required, during which your work plan will be made. Languages: English and Spanish - Cost in US\$ - \$125 / week. This Program Is Open to Families and Couples. Participants Travel to Guatemala Independently or in Groups.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Mexican Marine Conservation - scuba beginners - Oaxaca, Mexico

<http://www.gvi.co.uk/>

Length of Position: Two to Twenty Weeks. Durations of Program: 5-8 weeks, 9-12 weeks and 3-6 months
Dates: Monthly departures Mexican Marine Conservation - scuba beginners

"Learn to Scuba dive, participate in marine conservation and experience the rugged beauty of Mexico's first biosphere reserve. GVI's longest running Marine Conservation expedition in Mexico offers an array of marine research projects combined with local community interaction and breathtaking scenery. The expedition base at Pez Maya is ideal for expedition members with no previous scuba diving experience. As well as receiving dive training, expedition members will learn about marine conservation, participate in a variety of marine conservation initiatives and enjoy the experience of scuba diving on the second largest barrier reef in the world. Activities may include; coral reef and fish monitoring, turtle nesting surveys, crocodile surveys, community education and sustainable development of local tourism. By participating for 10 weeks or more you will qualify for a FREE Placement as part of the GVI Career Opportunities program. Contact GVI for more information.

Qualifications: No previous experience or qualifications necessary as comprehensive training will be given.

Cost in US\$: From US\$3055 for 5 weeks

Cost Includes: The Volunteer contribution includes all your food, accommodation, training materials and project equipment.

This Program Is Open to Couples. Participants Travel to Mexico Independently Or in Groups

Typically Participants Work in Groups of 10-20. Typically The Application Process Time Is 1-2 weeks.

SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

Contributed by Zil-E-Huma Lodhi

W. H. (Howie) McClennan Scholarship

Administrator: International Association of Fire Fighters

Award Amount: \$2,500.00

Award Deadline: Wednesday, February 01, 2006

Notes: Awarded annually to the sons, daughters or legally adopted children of fire fighters who have died in the line of duty to attend a university, accredited college or school of higher learning in the United States or Canada. Based on financial need, aptitude promise and demonstrated academic achievement. See Web site for more information.

Contact Information: David Neun, Director of Education, 1750 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., USA, 20006-5395

Phone: (202) 737-8484 - Fax: (202) 737-8418

Web Site: <http://www.iaff.org>

E-mail: dneun@iaff.org

John Gyles Education Awards

Award Amount: \$3,000.00

Filing dates for mailing applications, November 15th.

Notes: Available each year to students in both Canada and the United States. A minimum GPA of 2.7 is required. Criteria other than strictly academic ability and financial need are considered in the selection process. Contact for more information.

Contact Information: Attention: The Secretary, John Gyles Education Awards, P.O. Box 4808, 712 Riverside Drive, Fredericton, New Brunswick, E3B 5G4

Phone: (506) 459-7460

Web Site: <http://gorams.wssu.edu/soe/scholarship/gyles.htm>

2005 Summer MamasHealth.com Scholarship Award

Administrator: MamasHealth.com

Award Amount: \$500.00

Award Deadline: Wednesday, August 31, 2005

Citizenship: Canadian, American.

Notes: You must submit an essay, maximum of 750 words, which addresses the following question: "Should the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) regulate herbal supplements like kava kava, ginseng and echinacea?" Please see the Web site for more details and application information.

Contact Information: Scholarship Chair, Address: PO Box 67, Lakewood, California, USA, 90714

Application Address: <http://www.mamashealth.com/aboutus/scholarship3.asp>



WIPCE 2005

Nov 27-Dec 1, 2005 - Hamilton, New Zealand
<http://www.wipce2005.com/>

Te Wananga o Aotearoa is dedicated to promoting inspirational ideas and practices from Indigenous communities that can be applied on an international scale. It is pleased to host this world renowned gathering of indigenous educators, researchers and students. The 2005 conference is an opportunity for honouring all previous hui (gatherings.) It also creates an occasion for bringing interesting and innovative ideas that evoke inspiration and pride as indigenous peoples.

2005 Government & Health Technologies Forum

August 30-31, 2005 - Ottawa, ON

<http://gov.wowgao.com>

2005 Government & Health Technologies Forum

August 30 to 31, 2005 - Ottawa, Ont.

<http://gov.wowgao.com/>

National Student Government Summit

September 8 to 11, 2005 - Washington, DC, USA

<http://www.asgaonline.com/conferences/national>

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- **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/>.

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.

classifieds

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

AU SPORTS CLUB SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE The AU Sports Club is looking for AU students who are interested in serving on the AUSC executive. All that is required is a few hours a week to respond to emails, add new members to the discussion forum, and locate information to update the website or forum sections. Being on a club executive is a great way to meet other AU students!

THE VOICE

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