

# THE VOICE

## MAGAZINE

Vol 24 Issue 34 2016-09-02

### **Making a Run for It!**

Even More Reasons to Run for Council!

### **A Closer Look at Instagram**

How Writers can use the Photo sharing site.

### **The Creative Spark!**

Common Eye Candy

*Plus:*

*Dear Barb*

*The Doppelganger Cure, III  
and much more!*



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



**We love to hear from you! Send your questions and comments to [voice@voicemagazine.org](mailto:voice@voicemagazine.org), and please indicate if we may publish your letter.**

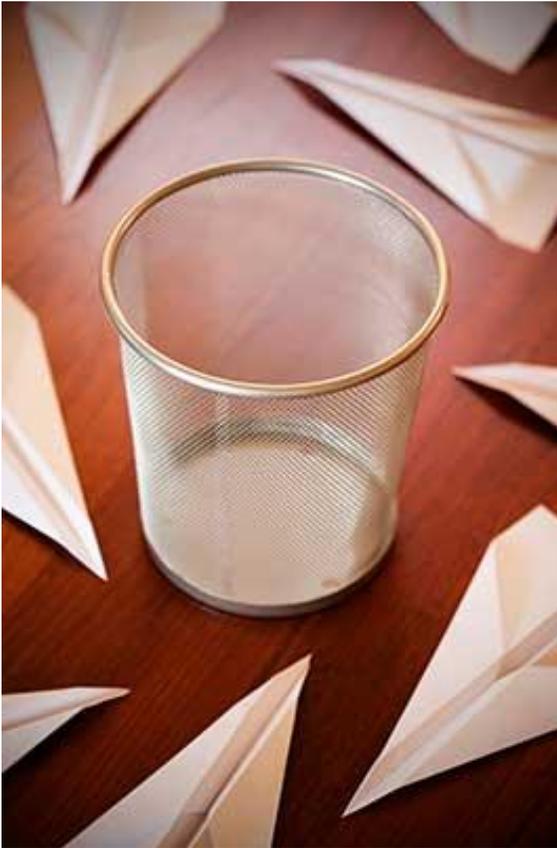
***Hey! Did you know the Voice Magazine has a [Facebook page](#)?***

No kidding! We also do the [twitter](#) thing once in a while if you're into that.

## EDITORIAL

### Unusual Council

Karl Low



As you read this, the call for nominations for the two vacant seats on AUSU Council is open. For many, the idea of being on a student council is a waste of time. After all, you're here to get a degree so that you can put that on your resume, get a better job, and move on. But most of us have memories of what student council was from high school. Or more specifically, we have memories of those who were on student council, because, frankly, I don't remember a thing my student council did at high school.

And if you've been to a traditional university, the biggest memories of student council tend to be those events and activities they get up to: loud protests on the lawn, scandals in the student newspaper, getting harangued during the annual student union elections. So much of it seems like such a waste of time, and completely separate from your goal of getting that degree and an education, doesn't it?

But like many other things, at AU, AUSU Council is different. To start with, it's smaller than most. This means that if you've got ideas, you've got a good chance of them having some effect on the organization.

Another difference is that AUSU has a record of being able to punch above its weight. The reason for this is simple. Our students are different. While students' unions from traditional universities have student councils that are populated with traditional students, AUSU has an older, more experienced student base, which means an older, more experienced student council. So if your idea of what it's going to be like on AUSU is created from the news stories and memories of students' unions on traditional campuses, you're probably wrong. In fact, with no campus, AUSU council doesn't spend a lot of its energies on creating events or spectacle. Instead, that effort goes toward things with long lasting effect, such as changing university or government policy, or developing programs to benefit students year after year. In short, it's a serious body, and if you become part of it, you can add things to your resume that have some heft.

All of which brings me to our feature article this week, "Making a Run For It", where Barb Lehtiniemi outlines a couple of reasons why this by-election would be a great time to get in on AUSU Council, as well as some ideas of what the job may entail. And in the student sizzle, you'll find an informative, albeit tongue-in-cheek, video of how to create a winning campaign advertisement.

Also, Deanna Roney goes a bit more in-depth into social media, looking specifically at how Instagram, the photo sharing site, can be of use for people who aren't traditionally taking pictures. We also take a look of how PowerPoint presentations can be made interesting again, and how that advice can apply to your essays as well.

Not to mention a selection of news, music reviews, interviews, advice, and entertainment, including part three of our graphic novel, *The Doppelgänger Cure*. Enjoy the read!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karl". The signature is stylized and cursive.

## Making a Run For It

Barbara Lehtiniemi



This autumn, AUSU offers its members an off-schedule opportunity to run for a position on AUSU student council.

The next general election isn't scheduled until March 2018, however, due to the recent departure of two councillors, AUSU council is left with two vacancies. A by-election has been called for September 2016 to fill those empty seats.

This by-election offers students a great opportunity to run for a place on council without

committing to a full two-year term. Successful candidates in this by-election will serve approximately eighteen months until the 2018 general election, roughly three-quarters of a term's usual length.

Joining AUSU council is a great way to get involved, gain experience, and earn some extra money. No experience is necessary and being on council is an excellent way to learn more about AU and AUSU. (For more reasons to run, check out [Your Reasons to Run](#), from the Feb 5, 2016 issue of *The Voice Magazine*.)

Any AUSU member—in general, anybody enrolled in at least one AU undergraduate course—who has already completed at least one AU course may run for a seat on council. Membership must be maintained throughout the council term. Students interested in running for council should be prepared to commit at least three hours per month for the monthly council meeting plus a few hours monthly to read and respond to e-mails; a greater time commitment is required for councillors serving on additional committees. Councillors are paid \$75 per council meeting, and \$50 to \$75 for committee meetings. Check out the full details on duties and remuneration in [Policy 2.14, Councillor Responsibilities and Honoraria](#).

Successful candidates in this by-election will also have a few months to get up to speed before the mid-term election of AUSU council's executive officers takes place early in 2017. According to [Policy 3.02, Election of Executive Officers](#), the positions of President, Vice-President Finance & Administration, and Vice-President External & Student Affairs will once again be up for grabs from among current councillors in March 2017. For complete descriptions of each of these positions, read [Policy 2.03, Officers' Job Descriptions](#). To get an idea of the time commitment and the remuneration involved in the three executive positions, refer to [Policy 2.15, Executive Accountability and Compensation](#). (Money hint: a councillor in an executive role could make enough in a one year term to pay for every course in their 3-year degree program.)

The nomination period opens August 31 and runs to September 14. Interested students should read the [Nomination Package](#) to learn more about the election process and the requirements of running for—and being on—council. A quick rundown of election-related dates is on the AUSU [Elections](#) page. Nominees will also be required to attend one of three scheduled orientation sessions by phone on either September 16, 17, or 18.

Is this the year you'll make a run for AUSU council? You only have a few days to decide, so start thinking about it—and reading up about it—now.

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

## Canadian Science News

Scott Jacobsen



### Strong radio signal detected from nearby star

According to [CBC News](#), scientists detected a radio emission, which has them excited. A space telescope from Russia detected a "strong signal" from a star. The star's, [HD 164595](#), strong signal was detected with a Russian radio telescope called [Ratan-300](#).

Ken Tapping, a scientist at NRC Dominion Radio Astrophysical Observatory, said the signal might be the product of an "advanced radio transmitter." SETI, or the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence, is looking into the possibility. Tapping asked, "If they're pointing it in our direction, why? There's a million directions you can

point the radio telescope." According to Tapping, the signal detected by Ratan-300 from HD 1645959 takes 100 years to travel to Earth.

However, subsequent processing revealed that the signal was most likely from earth, according to a later [CBC report](#).

### Schulich Leader scholarships have awarded to Canadian students

According to [CNW](#), the [Schulich Leader Scholarships](#) winners are going to university now. It is the fifth year of the scholarship program for high school graduates with the intention to pursue science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines.

1,500 Cégeps and high schools participated in the program, which set a new record. A total of 220 students have been awarded the scholarship through its 5 years of existence. 20 universities participate in the program. Each gets 2 awards. The 5 universities that acquire the most applicants earn 2 more awards for a total of 4.

Seymour Schulich, the Founder of the *Schulich Leader Scholarships*, said, "It is very important that we support exceptional students that demonstrate great leadership and embrace STEM fields." There are 25 \$80,000 scholarships for students pursuing engineering and 25 \$60,000 scholarships for students pursuing degrees in science, technology, and math.

### 3,772 applicants for the Canadian space program

According to [CBC News](#), 3,772 "would-be astronauts" applied to the Canadian space program through the Canadian Space Agency. In June, the Canadian Space Agency announced the 4<sup>th</sup> campaign of recruitment for 2 positions.

With the close of the applications process in August, of the total applications, 24% were women and 69% were men. The remaining percent "did not declare their sex." The disclosure of that information was voluntary for the applicants.

That majority were from Canada with only 374 living outside of the country. After the initial selection process, those selected will undergo a more "rigorous selection process." The process will last a year. After the next summer, the final selection will be made on the two new applicants who will begin training with NASA.

## The Creative Spark

Marie Well

### Common Eye-Candy: Essays and PowerPoints



I'm Today, I had hoped to give you some PowerPoint tips. But since PowerPoint doesn't seem applicable to AU folks in general, I'll explain parallel presentations with essay-writing—and I'm going to end with a secret about using visuals.

These days, PowerPoint presentations are getting facelifts, spearheaded by cutting-edge authors such as Nancy Duarte and Garr Reynolds. They've morphed from painful bullet-points into visual stories.

But for now, my challenge is to show you the relationships between this presentation's hype and your next essay.

Let's peer at some of Chris Anderson's ideas for presentations and parallel them with essays. (Anderson wrote *Ted Talks: The Official Ted Guide to Public Speaking*.)

**Start with A Key Thread:** Give your presentation or essay a key thread(thesis). This theme, like a tree's trunk, should run through all your ideas. Capture this theme in less than fifteen words. Attach branches to this tree. Move from trunk to tip.

**Put a Surprise in the Theme:** Most themes and theses bore the Botox off of any prof. Try to twist your themes or theses. For instance, you could say "worry makes us happier." Or "suicides happen mostly to those with the highest incomes." Make your thesis unexpected and original.

**Write for Someone You Adore:** Take your most beloved friend and make that person well-read, curious, and formal but playful. Also make that person an outsider to your field. Author Elizabeth Gilbert (as cited in Anderson) says to frame that person as your intended audience. (If you write with love, the reader feels it.)

**Make It a Story:** Give the presentation or essay a three-act structure. Make the inciting incident the research problem or question you need to solve.

**And wherever possible, find a hero.** An essay on a historical figure has a ready-made hero. In a presentation and some essays, the audience can become the hero. Or some central author you cite can become the hero. Authors of opposing views could be framed as the villain.

Add obstacles or tension that the reader or hero needs to resolve. In other words, let your arguments resolve the central problem.

In sum, that's a first-look at my budding theory on how presentations connect with essays.

**The Secret to Visuals:** Before I go, I promised you a tip on choosing visuals. With this trick, you can impress your professor with a snazzy cover-page or a telling PowerPoint. You can even make a better model for a theory based on the following idea.

First I want to cite the inspiration for the idea: Joe Toplyn, who I featured in last week's article based on his book *Comedy Writing for Late-Night TV*.

As background, when making jokes, Joe said to take a topic statement, which could even be your thesis statement, and pick out two key parts. He then said to list those two parts as headings and come up with any words or phrases you can associate with each part. Then link an association from each list into a punch-line. (You would do well to find a word in common between the two lists to connect them together.)

I plan on making a video on why corporate presenters need professional comedy skills. That's my topic. So, I chose two key parts of the topic: one, professional comedy skills; the other, corporate presenters.

Then I made a list of all kinds of words or phrases that associate with "professional comedy skills." I made another list of associations for the words "corporate presenters."

On the "professional comedy skills" list, I came up with the word "clown." On the "corporate presenters" list I came up with the word "two-piece suit." So, I searched iStock photo for the words "clown in a suit." To my delight, the perfect image popped-up.

But, don't just draft one idea. Link your two lists of associations into lots of possibilities. That way, you have plenty of fallbacks.

Of course, if your possibilities suggest using a picture of a confused snowman to depict your audience, get another visual.



## In Conversation.. With Bonnie Whitmore

## Wanda Waterman



Bonnie Whitmore and Her Band are an Austin-based rock group with blues and country influences and a strong feminist sensibility. Their new album, *F\*ck with Sad Girls*, is due for release on October 28th (check out this divine sneak pre-listen, "She's a Hurricane, " [here](#)). The album addresses the widespread stigma against "imperfect" women in a world that pressures women to be superheroes and goddesses. The group broke new funding ground by creating a complimentary concept album, *Coyotes: Life and After Life*, available only to their supporters in the successful PledgeMusic campaign.

Ms. Whitmore recently took to time to talk to us about the new album and the joys of the musical life.

**Describe your musical background. What role did music play in your childhood?**

I grew up in a family band. Music is what essentially brought my mom and dad together. They both worked summer jobs at Six Flags Over Texas in the '60's, my dad as an accompanist and my mom as a singer and performer. I was five when I started on the violin, but when I was about eight years old my dad gave me a bass guitar and told me I was now part of the family band.

Music wasn't so much something I found but rather was part of the family. I would go see my mother perform with orchestras and in operas or classical recitals. My dad had me playing in his band with my sister in bars and coffee shops since I was eight.

**What or who in your musical training had the most— and best— influence on you, as a musician, a composer, and a human being?**

My parents. Their influences have made me the musician, writer, and human that I am. A lot of music I was introduced to was by way of my parents' interpretation of the songs. I essentially learned who Townes Van Zandt, Willie Nelson, The Beatles, Chuck Berry, and many others were, but by way of my dad's version. I remember learning one day that "When I'm 64," which I'd sung all my life, was a Beatles song, and I lost my mind. The music that I was exposed to as a kid was eclectic and wide-ranging, and for that alone I feel blessed.

**What was the most mesmerizing musical experience of your life?**

That's a terribly hard question to answer. Was it the live ACL taping with Hayes Carll or playing with a living legend like Jimmy Dale Gilmore? Or that time I met Willie Nelson? Or when I heard my song played on the radio for the first time? Or writing a song that James McMurtry deemed "good?" Or bantering with Jon Dee Graham during my first JDG and Friends Sunday night in the Continental Gallery? I'm mesmerized by many things daily, and that's just the world I want to live in.

**How did you decide to become a singer and bass player?**

I can honestly say I didn't decide either of those things, but I choose them everyday.

**If you had to give your music a genre, what would you call it?**

The Good One.

**If your musical life were a movie, what kinds of scenes would make you laugh? Or cry?**

My musical life is kind of a movie already. There's a lot of Mel Brooks meets David Lynch. My home life is that of Golden Girls but with more alcohol and pool time, whereas my road life is a cross between Saving Private Ryan and Hogan's Heros, with a little Buddhist wisdom thrown in. I try to laugh more than cry, but crying is good too. Most importantly I love living it.

**What's the story behind the song "She's a Hurricane?"**

"She's a Hurricane" is about the two most important things, life and love. You can't control them, and trying to is futile. The point is to be in the moment of that love and in your life. To get back up after your heart is broken, to scream out, "I EXIST," and to hold your arms wide and say, "I am open." No matter how much suffering you may have been through or seen, there's always life and love in this world. That is what the song means to me.

**What do you love best about *F\*ck With Sad Girls*, so far?**

I genuinely love this record. Creating it, all the people that participated and gave their talents, and having people react to it in such a positive way has been a wonderful thing to witness. I believe in this project and it feels good to see that I'm not alone in thinking that.

**Tell us a little about your funding program. Why did you decide to give a complimentary album to pledge supporters?**

The funding was necessary to put this record out in the right way. It takes a village to make and put out a record, and pre-selling is a good way to do it. The "complimentary album" was a way to gauge the waters of uncharted territory. The people willing to support me by pledging got to have a new side of Bonnie Whitmore they'd never heard before, and, because they were already fans, they appreciated it even if they didn't "get it."

**Tell us about your current and upcoming projects.**

My current project is called *F\*ck With Sad Girls*. This is not just a compilation of 10 songs, but a desire to start a conversation about feminism, depression, body shaming, self awareness, honesty, and love. I think the goal for any project should be to put out the best and most honest music that you can and to never look back with regret. For this record especially I'm putting myself in a position to be more vulnerable and exposed, because in order to really start a conversation we have to willing to be open.

**Do you have anything else to add?**

Vote.

*Wanda also writes the blog [The Mindful Bard: The Care and Feeding of the Creative Self](#).*



## Instagram for Writers

**Deanna Roney**



Last week I briefly touched on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, and how each of these can be useful for networking and building your contacts. I find rather frequently that Instagram gets ignored from those whose work consists of words or from professions that are not image-based. Instagram and Twitter can be seen as primarily "the same." I have even heard of Instagram being referred to as the illiterate-twitter. Those who are in the visual arts find value in sharing bits and pieces of their work in order to network and build a following or garner interest in their projects. Artists will also show a behind the scene image of their

work station or a sped-up video of them painting.

But a social media application that is defined as photo/video-sharing can easily be brushed aside by writers or others whose work is non-image based. However, Instagram has many benefits that are often overlooked and I would suggest that others, creative writers specifically, look more closely at this app. From the practical side, I have found that many writing groups, authors, agents, readers, and publishers will use Instagram and its unlimited character count to promote their conferences, blogs, wish-lists, publication opportunities, or contests. This is a simple way to connect with professionals and see what they are doing, where they are speaking, what they are seeking, or what is big in the market at the moment. Agents often post images of freshly released book covers and post images from around the work-place. Being able to see behind the scenes of an agent's daily life

is exceptionally useful. Beyond being able to better understand what they are looking for and how they work Instagram also gives a glimpse into their lives and shows the aspiring author that they are in-fact real people and not some evil gate-keeper.

As a writer, I use Instagram to post pictures of writing, a snap-shot of my work-space, or a page littered with red ink as I edit and revise. I post images of my daily life as well (mostly my dogs) and scenery of where I live. I use this space to create an image for myself so if an agent were to "look me up" they would be able to see "at a glance" who I am, in a general sense. By using and searching specific hashtags I have been able to connect with others writers, critique partners, beta readers, and pages that are purely entertaining and post quotes about writing which makes me feel less alone while I am in the query trenches.

I use Instagram to keep in touch with family and friends, I use it to follow agents, writers, and various publications. I follow some pages simply because they post pretty pictures (it isn't all business). As with any social media you are able to personalize your homepage through the accounts you follow. Instagram allows you to create a private page and filter who follows you, because, as with any social app, there are always spam accounts—but these are easily blocked, reported, and never heard from again. I also follow publications such as the New York Times. Sure, I could get a subscription, but I probably won't. So this allows me a peek at what they are doing and insight to some of the world events.

The bottom line is that Instagram (like Twitter) is a resource for creating connections. It is a tool which can be used to run a "background check" and to see if you will "jive" with another professional. Instagram allows a look into the life of someone you may be considering working with (and vice versa). It gives you easy access to professionals who offer advice on getting into your specific field of interest. With any line of work having inside advice is essential, it used to be that you had to have a personal connection to be granted access to this information, but now it is readily available on these sites. It can seem daunting to create profiles for yourself and manage all these pages but it is absolutely worth the trouble of setting up and finding pages of interest.

*Deanna Roney is an AU graduate who loves adventure in life and literature.*

## Student Sizzle AU's Hot Social Media Topics

### Following what's hot around AU's social media sites.

#### AthaU Facebook Group

Hailey begins her first semester with AU this week and seeks pointers for staying on track. Susanne seeks info on signing up for a clinical placement. Ermin offers to assist students taking statistics. Rachel wants to know where to sell used textbooks.

Other posts include PLAR, re-booking an exam, and courses HIST 225, MATH 215, TAXX 301, and WGST 401.

#### Twitter

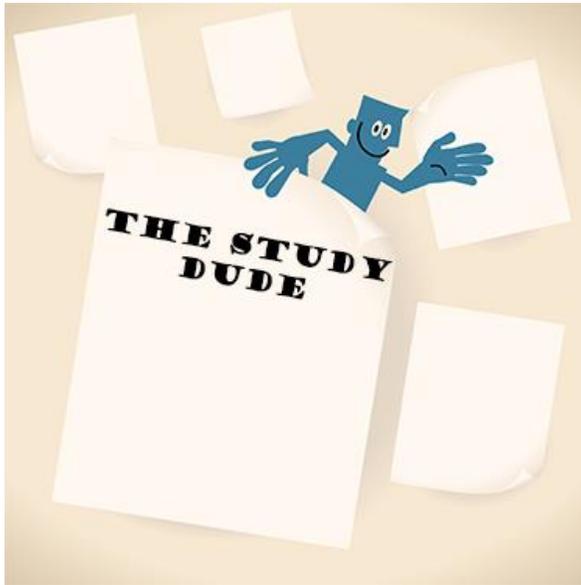
@AthabascaU tweets: "RSVP now for #AthaU's writer-in-residence Esi Edugyan's upcoming lecture. <http://goo.gl/EZeWKd> #CanadaReads."

@AthabascaUSU (AUSU) tweets: "Want to run for council? The call for nominations for AUSU's 2016 By-Election are now open! <http://bit.ly/2bR22zn>."

#### Youtube

Watch Pop the Cherry Comedy's humorous take of How to make a Student Union Campaign Video.





## Study Tips from a Semi-Anonymous Friend

### Learn Your Books

*There is nothing more that The Study Dude wants for you than to observe AU student-to-student dynamics. You could start with this research problem: Does AU offer any forums that help students develop friendships?*

*Well, in these articles, as The Study Dude, I'll try to give you the study tips you need to help make your learning easier. I'll also give you straight and honest opinions and personal anecdotes—even the embarrassing ones that you wouldn't ever dare read about from any other study tip guru.*

This week's Study Dude sneaks a peek at the book *Ethnography: Step-by-Step* by David M. Fetterman. Fetterman's long list of credentials shouldn't scare you off; he looks at how to do practical ethnography: in other words, how to observe.

Some people make a living observing office cultures. Why not you?

### The Low-Down on Ethnography

Ethnographers observe group dynamics.

In graduate studies, I set out to do an observation of a charity for people with disabilities. In spite of having a similar disability myself, when I arrived at the charity, hardly anyone recognized me. Incognito.

But what I observed shocked me. Most of the people with disabilities had their heads lowered, completely disenfranchised. Rarely did a staff member interact with them.

Instead, the focus rested on the staff members and one disabled employee. This disabled employee led a presentation. The staff laughed and cajoled with him, exchanging quips and comments. But the audience of people with disabilities sat silently, their heads hanging low, robbed of power. And I noticed that the people with disabilities got acknowledged only once by the staff: namely, when a request was made for cash donations.

My heart sank. At least ethnography has the ability to aid the downtrodden.

Fetterman provides an overview of what it means to do ethnography:

- When you do ethnography, you give a voice for the group you study. So, use lots of verbatim quotes. Strive to make your story fit with the actual experiences of the people you observe.
- Start your observations with a theory or a model.
- State your biases upfront and control for them so they don't skew how you might report the observed group's behaviors.
- Ethnography involves multiple interpretations. The best interpretations, however, consist of the ones that agree with the native group's own perspectives.

- What does ethnography involve? Lots of notes. Lots of photos. Lots of audio and video recordings. Even online surveys.

### **Ethnography: The Theories**

Ethnography gets fun when you link it to theories.

As you may recall from a prior Study Dude, I once pitched a film project to the National Film Board. The film would have been based on the ethnographic research of a favorite professors.

At that time, I faced the task of drafting up the script. So, in a rush, I read the prof's entire self-authored textbook within three days. The book helped me learn about his prior research. But when I asked him what he might expect to find on his next ethnographic field study, he stared at me, clueless.

And he mentioned no guiding theory; instead, he referred me to several books he previously published. He also expressed regret that my proposed thesis topic had nothing to do with ethnography.

In the end, I didn't go ahead with the project, although writing that script may have led to other film-related opportunities. But if I had to go back in time, I would have pressured him to reveal his pet theories. I might have linked his theoretical biases to a potential thesis topic.

Who knows? Maybe I would have fashioned myself into a documentary filmmaker—an untapped dream of mine.

So, what kinds of theories can you use in ethnography? Fetterman fills you in:

- You can use a feminist or a post-structuralist theory for ethnography if you wish. You can use most any theory that helps explain the group's dynamics. Don't use a theory that's grown crusty in the academic circles.
- Ethnography commonly takes up a phenomenological view (which allows for multiple interpretations or, in other words, a multicultural view).
- Phenomenology is typically inductive and may include a grounded theory study. Remember that grounded theory looks at emerging themes in the data. Grounded theorists stop seeking themes once their data starts repeating itself without any new insights (in other words, once the data becomes "saturated").
- The positivist idea that there is a concrete objective reality gets pooh-poohed by ethnographers. So, avoid positivist views.
- You can use an ideational theory (that views change as stemming from thoughts and ideas) or a materialist theory (that views change as stemming from criticisms of money, resources, and industry). Marxism is a materialist theory; cognitive theory (whatever that is) is an ideational theory.
- Some other ideational theories include psychoanalysis, symbolic interactionism, and sociolinguistics.
- You can even use your very own personal theory to describe some sliver of the world. [As a disclaimer, you'll ideally want to use theories that have at least one book published about them.]

So, there's nothing to fear. The Study Dude is determined to make right for you all the wrongs I made in grad school—one A+ at a time.

### *References*

Fetterman, David M. (2010). *Ethnography: Step-by-Step*. Los Angeles: Sage.

## Music Review

### Will Wood & The Tapeworms

Samantha Stevens



**Band:** Will Wood & The Tapeworms

**Album:** *Self-ish*

More highly imaginative and bizarre music is needed in this world, and I am happy to say that Will Wood & The Tapeworms are more than happy to deliver. Fans of Gogol Bordello, David Bowie, and My Chemical Romance will absolutely love the latest release from the outrageous Will Wood & The Tapeworms.

Will Wood & The Tapeworms have already gained a local cult following in New Jersey and considerable media attention since their formation last year.

Created by a group of musicians, artists, and filmmakers from New Jersey, Will Wood & The Tapeworms is known for their bizarre and outlandish costumes, which are an eccentric combination of everything that you can imagine. However, their image is actually a really great reflection of their music, which is also an unusual combination of glam rock, gypsy punk, and vaudeville, just to name a few. Referred to as "a controlled chaos" by MTV, Will Wood & The Tapeworms is a tantalizing taste of the unusual.

Released just two weeks ago to an eager audience, *Self-ish* is a crowd-funded concept album. All of the music and lyrics on the album were written by Will Wood, and the album was arranged by Will Wood & The Tapeworms. The album was produced by Kevin Antreassian (The Deftones, Foxy Shazam, The Dillinger Escape Plan) of New Jersey's Backroom Studios. Kevin also engineered the album with Jonathon Maisto, who plays the bass guitar in the band (<http://willwoodandthetapeworms.bandcamp.com/album/self-ish>). Although the list of instruments used by the band is fairly standard for a rock group, the additions of the Theremin, kazoo, and power drill should give you a hint as to the type of music you can expect on *Self-ish*.

The album opens with "Self-", which is an amazingly tame ballad. The simple piano and vocals are given a live performance feel by the inclusion of background effects that make it sound like the song is being performed at a live club. The piano playing is beautiful and Will's singing is unexpectedly robust and impressive. I didn't expect such powerful and commanding singing when I first looked at the album. Yet, as the track draws to a close, I can't but feel like the music is taking a steep descent into the unknown.

"2012" features that beautiful piano once again, but Will Wood & The Tapeworms lull listeners into a false sense of serenity as the song takes a twist and broadens into a jazzy, big band sound. There is also a rock and blues influence, but it is difficult to pin down the exact influences in this song.

"Cotards' Solution" has a much darker, more serious feel to it, but it isn't melancholic. In fact, there seems to be a sense of madness flowing through this song. And it is in this track that the gypsy punk influence shines through, as the music is grand, featuring many different sounds and instruments with a slight exotic essence. If you listen closely at this point, you begin to understand how the first track set up the rest of the album by subtly alluding to each song.

"Mr. Capgras Encounters a Secondhand Vanity" is bizarre. Yet it is in this song that Will Wood & The Tapeworms shine, showing audiences exactly what they are capable of. The track is an exciting adventure inspired by insanity, and a rollicking good time. And be sure to check out the video on their [website](#).

The remainder of the album continues along this wildly demented ride and ends loudly with "-ish". In complete contrast to how the album began, the piano playing and vocals on "-ish" sum up the journey just taken, by the narrator coming to a rather sad and unfortunate conclusion that will leave listeners eagerly asking "...going to be what?"

*Self-ish* is a wild ride not for the faint of heart. That being said, those who crave the unconventional and want 30 minutes of immersive musical creativity, *Self-ish* is the album for you. Although I wouldn't recommend the album as background noise while studying, *Self-ish* can be a great way to kickstart innovative thinking as it is an album without equal.

*Samantha Stevens is an aspiring writer who loves combining her love for literature with photography, painting, music, and all creative pursuits.*

### Women Of Interest

**Alice Wilson**, (August 26, 1881-April 15, 1964) was the first female geologist and paleontologist in Canada. She also became the first female Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1937 and was a member of the Order of the British Empire. During her life Alice Wilson struggled against health issues, along with the struggle to receive recognition in a field that was not considered a traditional career path for women. However, her strong determination carried her through. Beginning in 1913 Wilson studied rocks and fossils in the Ottawa area and continued this work until just before her death in 1963. From 1909 until 1963 Wilson was a museum assistant at the Geological Survey of Canada located in Ottawa. Wilson won a scholarship in 1919 from the Canadian Federation of University Women, but it would be seven years before she was granted leave by her employer to pursue her PhD, which she obtained in 1929 at the age of 48. During her retirement Wilson continued her work and eventually wrote a book on geology for children.

*"There were many barriers along the way, but I would like to think that other women are finding it easier now. At least nobody can say that a woman cannot achieve as much as a man!"*

- Alice Wilson.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice\\_Wilson](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice_Wilson)

<http://cstmuseum.techno-science.ca/en/hall-of-fame/hall-of-fame-alice-evelyn-wilson.php>

<https://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/women/030001-1415-e.html>

*compiled by Barb Godin*

## Canadian Education News

Scott Jacobsen



### Immigrant families educated about Canadian education system

According to *The Globe and Mail*, 100s of immigrant families learned about high schools in Canada through the Newcomers Orientation and Welcome to B.C. (NOW B.C) event, which took place on the morning of August 29.

Jerry Wu, Manager of the Settlement Workers Schools program, said over 500 students registered for the orientation. It familiarizes families with how Canadian high schools function. Youth ambassadors and Wu collaborated to have the NOW B.C. event.

Wu said, "For the parents, they feel much more comfortable because they are newcomers and the culture of their schools is very different from ours. Here, the parents are partners of the education with the schools," said Wu.

### Spruce Grove pastor refuses to comply with Alberta education minister on LGBTQ rights issue

According to *CBC News*, a pastor from Spruce Grove who manages 2 private Christian schools refuses to comply with the Alberta Government's policy regarding the issue of LGBTQ rights. Brian Coldwell, the pastor, said, "I have a duty as a pastor to protect the flock of God."

Coldwell is Chair of the Independent Baptist Christian Education Society. He accused the Alberta education minister of using "dictatorial power." David Eggen, Alberta Education Minister, "instructed boards to submit LGBTQ draft policies by the end of March."

Coldwell said, "...there is no way under heaven I'm going to allow gay activists to come in here and basically undermine our ministries and our religious freedoms or confuse or corrupt our children."

### Research Lab and teaching tool through adult music lessons

According to *University Affairs*, a McGill University PhD candidate in her final year, Lisa Lorenzino, is conducting an intergenerational experiment with music lessons. In an undergraduate class, students "create an arrangement or composition and teach it to the music education programs Lab Band."

Usually, Lab Band is made of experienced students rather than inexperienced adults. It is now considered intergenerational with the help of the *New Horizons Montréal* ensemble, an inexperienced bilingual wind and percussion band for adults that seeks to teach beginners

Audrey-Kristel Barbeau, Band General Director, said, "At one point we even had a 17-year-old girl playing and someone who was 74." It is a 50-member group open to anyone. Lorenzino's research makes music lessons double as a tool to teach and a research experiment.

*A native British Columbian, Scott Douglas Jacobsen is an AU undergrad and AUSU Councillor. He researches and runs In-Sight: Independent Interview-Based Journal, and In-Sight Publishing.*



Dear  
Barb

Barbara Godin

## Empty Nesting

**Dear Barb:**

*I am a parent of a daughter entering university this year. Someone told me about your column, so I thought I'd write in. My daughter will be attending university full time and taking Athabasca courses as well. She has been out of school for two years and feels a need to catch up with her friends. I'm just wondering if there is anything I can do as a parent to help her transition into university. She has always been a kid who doesn't adjust well to change, so we are both a little anxious. She is an only child and has never been very social, and won't know anybody there. I want to be there for her, but I don't want to be too protective, which is difficult to do when you only have one child. She hasn't really said much about university, but I am reading her nonverbal clues and I know she is anxious. Do you have any suggestions what would help both of us with this big step? Thanks, Marilyn.*

Hi Marilyn:

This is a big transition for both of you. Attending university requires a lot of hard work and focus, and your daughter has the added stress of distance learning. You are obviously ready to provide the parental support that your daughter and all students need when making this change. Communication is often difficult but enormously necessary.

Take the initiative and talk to your daughter about how she feels about going to university, ask what her biggest fear is and what she is looking forward to. This will open the door to further conversations. Most students entering university have many concerns, such as making new friends, if they will be able to keep up, time management, finances, writing essays, employment issues. As a parent make sure you adjust your expectations to allow your child adequate time for school work, meaning they may not be able to do as many household chores as they did before entering university. Also their schedules may change, and they may not be home at a regular time for dinner, as they may have late classes or decide to spend time at the library studying or doing research. Initially their marks may drop and this might be very troubling for your child, as a parent you can offer encouragement and reassure them that they will do well. If your child is really struggling, suggest they speak to an academic counselor for further help. Persuade your child to connect with friends who may be going through similar issues. On the other hand, your child may withdraw and not want to discuss school or social activities with you. Continue to encourage them to talk to you, but don't pressure them, as that may push them away. Make sure that they know you are there to support them, if and when necessary. Basically encourage your daughter to do her best, while giving her the space she needs to find her own balance. Thanks for your great question Marilyn; I'm sure many parents share similar concerns at this time of year.

Follow Barb on Twitter @BarbGodin

Email your questions to [voice@voicemagazine.org](mailto:voice@voicemagazine.org). Some submissions may be edited for length or to protect confidentiality; your real name and location will never be printed. This column is for entertainment only. The author is not a professional counsellor and this column is not intended to take the place of professional advice.

*In 2082, Helmi Pekkänen, a schoolgirl from rural Finland, developed a simple statistical formula that bridged the weak link in virtual psychotherapy programming.*

*Very soon . . .*



We'll be giving you four two-hour brain scans, Emma, and you'll be giving us your life's story.



We'll then juxtapose your story with your brain images.

*Later that day an image forms.*



We've created this hologram with an appearance we think will inspire your trust.

He looks just like my sophomore English prof— Mr. Portalo.



Make no mistake— he's you. That is, you if you had a PhD in psychology! (Snort!) Nobody will ever "get" you like this guy will!

Will he be married?

A regular Gracey Allen, aintcha?



*Oh, but what you must think of me . . . Let me tell you a little about this thing called Emma . . .*



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## IMPORTANT DATES

- **Sept 6:** [AU Open House Webinar](#)
- **Sept 10:** [Deadline to register in a course starting Oct 1](#)
- **Sept 13:** [AUSU Council Meeting](#) (5:30pm MT)
- **Sept 15:** October degree requirements deadline
- **Sept 30:** October course extension deadline
- **Sept 30 – Oct 3:** AUSU By-Election Ballots Open
- **Oct 5:** [By-Election Results announced](#) (4:30pm MT)

## Call for Nominations Now Open!

Want to get more involved as an AU student and gain some great experience?

Want to get to know fellow AU students and help shape the AU experience for all AU undergraduates?

## Consider running for AUSU council!

AUSU is holding a by-election from Sept 30-Oct 3 to fill two vacant council seats, in accordant with [AUSU policy 3.03](#). The two new councillors will serve for an 18-month term, from October 2016 to March 2018.

Members can sit on council **no matter where they live**. Meetings are held by teleconference and most council business is conducted by email.

Download the nominations package [here](#) if you would like to run for AUSU council.

The deadline to apply is **September 14, 2016**.

Find out more about the 2016 by-election on our website [here](#). All candidates must adhere to [AUSU Election Conduct Policy 3.01](#).

If you have any questions about the by-election, please contact the Chief Returning Officer at [cro@ausu.org](mailto:cro@ausu.org).



## AU Quick Links

AUSU wants to make sure all of our members can easily find all of the resources and services available to them. We know sometimes it can be difficult to navigate the AU website, so we launched an "[AU Quick Links](#)" page, with links to AU services, department, policies, and other commonly accessed pages.

Check out the AU Quick Links [here](#).



## Athabasca University Quick Links

*Courtesy of AUSU*

## AUSU Career Resources

Check out AUSU's Career Resources page [here](#).

It includes links for resume building, interview preparation, career fairs across Canada, as well as national and provincial job search engines for all of Canada and more!



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# CLASSIFIEDS

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Classifieds are free for AU students! Contact [voice@voicemagazine.org](mailto:voice@voicemagazine.org) for more information.

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## THE VOICE

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