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# THE MEDIUM

THE VOICE OF  
THE UNIVERSITY  
OF TORONTO  
MISSISSAUGA

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## Fire by the Argos field

LORI-LEE EMSHEY  
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The cause of the fire that destroyed the Argonauts training facility on the UTM campus on December 24 remains undetermined, according to the Mississauga fire inspector.

The training facility was located on the South Field, behind the Health Sciences Complex. The fire destroyed eight portable units used by the Argonauts to house meeting rooms and coaches' offices. UTM cleared away the remaining debris the next day, as none of the facilities could be salvaged.

On January 4, fire inspector David Monkhouse said the cause of the fire could not be determined because the damage was too severe. The portable units, comprised of plastics and aluminum, were completely destroyed by the fire and the remains were removed by heavy machinery on December 25.

*Fire continued on page 2*

## U of T governance in review

Faculty and staff discuss campus representation



AYMAN KHAN/THE MEDIUM

Bill Gough, vice-dean and professor, explained UTM's new role at the Governing Council.

STEFANIE MAROTTA  
NEWS EDITOR

U of T's governing structure is undergoing changes to allow for more autonomous decision-making at UTM and UTSC. In search of feedback from the UTM community, a town hall focussed on faculty, staff, and administration was held on Friday in the Council Chambers.

Bill Gough, the vice-dean of graduate education and program development, sits on the "Task Force on Governance". He pro-

vided background information on the committee's recommendations and the implementation of the new structure.

With the creation of Towards 2030 in 2007, the document that outlines the changes the university will undergo over the next 20 years to achieve higher standards of excellence, the TFOG was stricken to oversee the restructuring of the university's decision-making processes.

In particular, the TFOG recommended that the responsibilities of

the various boards under the Governing Council, the highest decision-making body at the university, be reassigned.

In addition to the Business Board, the Academic Board, and the University Affairs Board, UTM and UTSC will have their own Campus Councils with separate committees to review academic and campus affairs. This will allow for planning that is better tailored to the local community.

*Review continued on page 2*

## New building wins award

AHMAD AL-HENDI

The Instructional Centre at UTM received the Award of Excellence at the 30th annual Mississauga Urban Design Awards competition. The award ceremony was held on November 22 at Mississauga City Hall.

The judging criteria for the Award of Excellence includes community and citywide significance, sustainability, innovation, context, and execution. Jury members said that the eclectic choice of building materials was well executed. The materials included wood, granite, and aged copper, which cohesively complemented the natural setting at UTM, they said.

The 150,000-square-foot facility stands three storeys tall and includes classrooms that range from 30 to 500 seats. The facility also includes multiple study spaces for both individual and collaborative projects.

*Award continued on page 3*

## Students recommend program changes

Various department town halls get feedback from students for academic planning

JEROME JOHNSON  
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty members from various academic departments gathered together throughout last week for a series of "town hall"-style meetings designed to address ways to improve the learning experiences offered at UTM.

Internships, class presentations, peer evaluations, and the offering of solely half-year courses at the 400-level were just a sampling of ideas and proposals students brought forward to the Academic Planning Committees.

Professor Graham White, the interim chair of the Department of Political Science, hosted his department's town hall meeting held on Wednesday, January 4 in the Council Chambers.

Attendees raised issues of teaching and delivery of programs, and



EDWARD CAI/THE MEDIUM

Professor and chair Graham White discussed possible changes to the political science program.

asked the committee panel whether the department had looked at varying the methods of evaluating class instruction and structure.

Fourth-year student Robert Seredynski, among other attendees, expressed concern that there weren't enough interdisciplinary

components to the political science courses offered at the 400 level, whereas the history department covers a wide range of topics.

"A couple of years ago you had a course on Africa and I wanted to take it, but now it's not offered

anymore," Seredynski said. "I really want to see more of an effort [from the department] to cover the politics of other geopolitical regions—Africa, Latin America, China, and South Asia..."

*Program continued on page 3*



### Tension at ECC

UTMSU was unhappy with the proceedings at the Erindale College Council Meeting.  
*Medium News, page 2*

### Failure to communicate

As Editor-in-Chief, you get to step back and see it all a bit more clearly.  
*Medium Opinion, page 4*

### Cabaret at Hart House

*The Medium* interviews lead actor Keenan Viau.  
*Medium A&E, page 5*

### Too much cleanliness?

Are you *too* clean? Excessive hand sanitizing is becoming a problem.  
*Medium Features, page 7*

### Junior Disappointment

Canadian junior hockey team gets knocked out; nation weeps  
*Medium Sports, page 11*

# Responsibilities reassigned in governance

Review continued from Cover

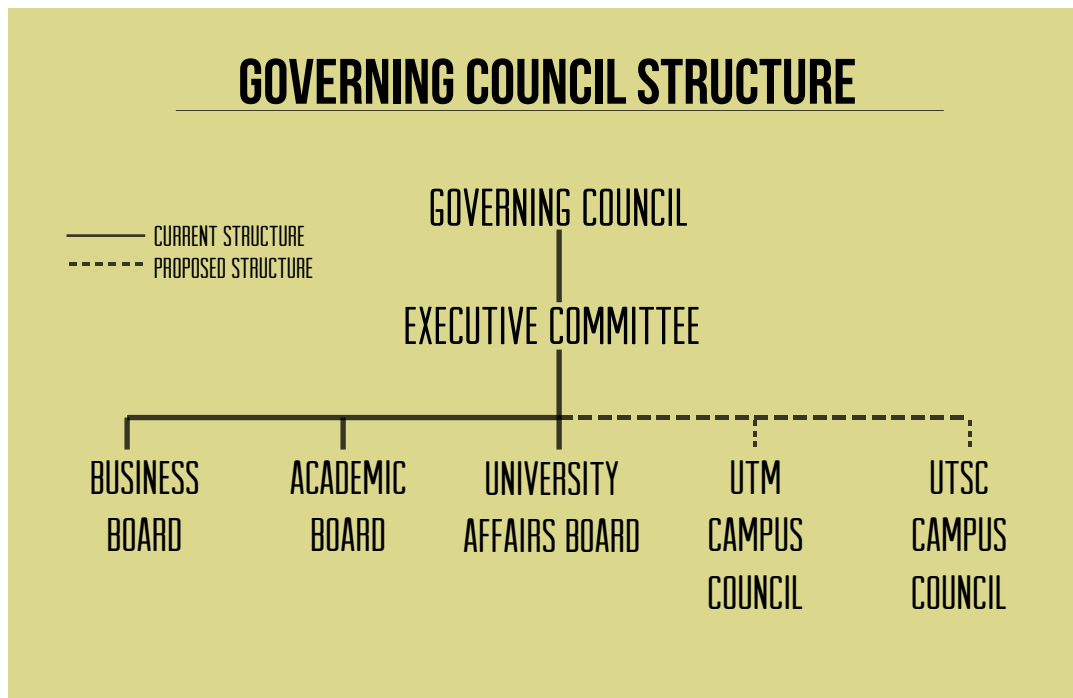
There are financial thresholds involved in the autonomy of the satellite campuses. Expensive projects and new academic programs will be routed away from the Campus Council to the respective board under the Governing Council.

The changes are meant to allow UTM and UTSC to develop as individual campuses while maintaining a consistent U of T identity and standard.

“[UTM and UTSC] started with a college model, similar to that of St. George, and they’ve really turned into campuses—campuses that have infrastructure, residences, childcare, their own police system, and a student body that identifies themselves in a very different way,” Gough said.

“We are a campus, and we have concerns that go beyond the academic nature of our operation which we share with all the other faculties, but we also have a site. The development of the site is important. We need the infrastructure to best serve our students.”

Currently, the Erindale College Council at UTM can make recom-



mendations on matters concerning academics and planning, but lacks an authoritative decision-making body. The Campus Councils will provide a forum for UTM and UTSC under the Governing Council to decide local matters.

Peter Macdonald, a professor and the chair of the Department of Chemical and Physical Sciences, steered the discussion toward the

concept of divisional representation on the Governing Council. Even though UTM and UTSC will have their own councils, all decisions will ultimately need to be approved by the Governing Council.

Of the 12 faculty positions, only two are allotted to UTM and UTSC. Of the four student positions, there is no requirement that any member be from the satellite campuses.

There are four other student positions divided between graduate and part-time.

After a vigorous campaign last year, fourth-year UTM student Aly-Khan Madhavi was elected to the Governing Council. In past years, student positions have been dominated by St. George students, leaving UTM and UTSC undergraduates without representation.

Gough explained that although the issue has been acknowledged, there are no plans to redistribute representation among the three campuses. With seven colleges at St. George, it would be difficult to allot even half of the student representation to the satellite campuses.

“If we don’t warrant a full position within the four now, we should with future growth. It’s something that hasn’t been addressed at all. Getting a student representative on [the] Governing Council from UTM is important,” said Lee Bailey, a professor and the chair of the Resource Planning and Priorities Committee.

The Mississauga location was originally created as Erindale College, a branch of the downtown campus. In 2003, UTM became a standalone faculty and a distinct undergraduate division, separate from the Faculty of Arts and Science of the downtown campus. Since then, UTM’s undergraduate enrolment has doubled to over 11,000 students.

A second town hall for students will be held this Wednesday at 11 a.m. in the Council Chambers (DV 3130).

## Argos portables destroyed by fire



EDWARD CAI/THE MEDIUM

The fire completely destroyed the Argos training facilities.

Fire continued from Cover

The fire started on December 24 at 1:33 a.m. and was first reported by a MiWay bus driver. Mississauga Fire and Emergency Services arrived on campus to put out the blaze. The fire took 40 firefighters an entire day to extinguish and

caused an estimated \$500,000 in damage, according to initial reports. No injuries or fatalities were reported.

The Argonauts, who were waiting for the final reports to be released before making training plans for 2012, have yet to announce their new venue.

## Tension runs high at the Erindale College Council

Parking fees dominated discussion at ECC

STEFANIE MAROTTA  
NEWS EDITOR

On November 24, the UTM Students Union emailed the chair and secretary of the Erindale College Council to inform them that the constitution had been violated by three hours.

The meeting was scheduled for Thursday, December 1 at 10 a.m. and the agenda was made available on Thursday, November 24 at around 1 p.m.—three hours less than a week. UTMSU inquired whether the meeting would be rescheduled. They thought that the discussion regarding parking fees should be moved to January to allow for greater student attendance.

UTMSU president Gilbert Cassar said that since the budgets were considered in late January last year, it is unreasonable that they be discussed in early December this year. However, the Executive Council determined on November 23 that the budgets needed to be sent to the Service Ancillary Review Group by January 6, which meant ECC needed to consider them in December.

Dan Diczno, UTMSU’s VP University Affairs and Academics, attended the Executive Council meeting but did not comment on or object to the proposed agenda. Cassar was away on other business and could not attend the meeting.

Gordon Anderson, the chair of ECC, spoke with Cassar to clarify the matter. Section 8 of the ECC constitution states that the agenda must be circulated to members at least seven days before the meeting; the time of

day is not specified. Thus, despite the scheduled hour of the meeting, the agenda was sent out seven days in advance, so there was no violation.

“I’ve been here 25 years, and it has been the case for as long as I can remember that the Executive Committee meets on the Wednesday,” Anderson said. “On Thursday the secretary gets all of the notes and minutes together to attach to the agenda for Thursday afternoon. For 25 years, this has always been considered reasonable. Why now?”

“For 25 years, this has always been considered reasonable. Why now?”  
—Gordon Anderson

Despite the discussion with Anderson, UTMSU maintained their interpretation of the bylaw and announced the violation to members of council at the ECC meeting.

“Some will be of the opinion that three hours is immaterial, but we would argue that the minimum requirement notice of seven days is itself insufficient, making it a very sensitive rule—also given the sensitivity of the examination period and the complexity of the documents being proposed for careful examination and approval,” said Cassar.

They presented their lobby document against increased parking fees and the discussion continued for over an hour. Rather than rotating between different sides of the argu-

ment, students dominated the question period.

Finally, a member who was speaking out of order called the motion to question, and the council voted to either continue the discussion or finalize the vote on parking fees. The vote was in favour of ending the discussion and the following vote on parking fees passed the increase proposal. However, the vote occurred after the time the council was supposed to adjourn, calling into question whether the results of the vote are valid.

Since the agenda was extensive, the chair and secretary proposed a second meeting a week later to ensure that each item was afforded appropriate discussion time. UTMSU and other faculty members opposed the second meeting. They argued that students would not be able to attend due to exams. Remaining matters of the ancillary budget, such as residence, were postponed until January 31.

According to UTMSU, the conduct at the meeting was disappointing because the opinions of students were disregarded and the rules of order were not followed. Cassar said that Anderson addressed the students in a condescending and mocking tone.

Anderson said that he should have kept a speakers list to ensure that rules of order were followed, but that the meeting had already been running late and there were other important matters on the agenda that needed to be addressed.

Discussion will continue at the upcoming meeting on January 31.

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# T-shirt time at the Blind Duck



EDWARD CAI/THE MEDIUM

**Fist-pump to fundraise for the Italian play.**

**SHERI VEIBL**  
STAFF WRITER

The UTM Blink Duck Pub was full of Italian pride, animal prints, loud music, and guidos and guidettes as they fist pumped the night away at the first ever *Jersey Shore*-themed pub last Thursday. The highly anticipated season premiere aired at 10 p.m., just as the party started.

The proceeds of this pub went toward the student-funded play *Io non mi marito per procura* ("You can't force me to get married"). Starting February 23, the Italian play will

celebrate its 25th anniversary of being performed at UTM. The *Jersey Shore* Pub is one of many events that will help fund the Italian play.

In *Io non mi marito per procura*, the marriage between the two main characters is a comedic approach to love, drama, and linguistics.

The *Jersey Shore* Pub is the first fundraising event for the play. The tickets were sold at the price of \$5 for UTM students in advance, and \$10 at the door. With the purchase of a ticket, the recipient was entered into a raffle draw. The best-dressed guido and guidette also received a

prize for their Italian spirit.

"Because the production of the play is completely student-funded, we are looking to raise as much money as possible without spending too much," said Krista Anania, the event coordinator.

The DJ was also the event coordinator, and offered his services for free in support of the play.

"There was one great song after the next. I didn't want to stop dancing!" said Maria Jawaid, a first-year student.

The event raised \$500 in support of *Io non mi marito per procura*.

## Academic departments seek student feedback

**Program continued from Cover**

Professor Lee Ann Fujii, also a member of the planning committee, explained that professors are pressured to teach multiple courses a year, dividing their time between all the related duties.

Graham White explained that course selection is often out of the department's control and depends rather on the capacity of the teaching staff.

White noted that internships are an addition the department is interested in facilitating, but that such programs are very intensive in resources and time.

He added that political sci-

ence is a sensitive subject area, in which employees have to deal with confidential and private information daily. White and Fujii suggested that instead of jumping into an internship program, students should use existing course framework, such as interviewing professionals in the field.

Attendees discussed the lack of communication between teaching assistants on one hand and students and professors on the other.

"Assigning TAs is a competitive process, hiring on the basis of their experience[...] Sometimes they're great, sometimes they're not so great. And we try to hang

on to the good ones and try not to rehire the bad ones," White said.

The students remarked that many 300- and 400-level courses have TAs the students never meet. This phenomenon was particularly alarming for some of the students, because they felt that their TAs were not aware of the class's lecture content, what materials were being taught, or the professor's teaching method. As a result, the students felt that the TAs were liable to mark their work unfairly.

The recommendations gathered at the various town halls will be considered for future program planning.

## Instructional Centre wins design award

**Award continued from Cover**

"I've had a class in one of the larger auditoriums and two tutorials in the smaller classrooms, which were all great," said Megan Janssen, a third-year theatre and drama student. "But I found the architecture a little too masculine, with the concrete lines and so much grey."

The building cost \$70 million and took just under two years to build, beginning in the fall of 2009. It uses photovoltaic panels, a green roof, and a geothermal heating and cooling system located be-

neath North Field, to be environmentally responsible.

"I think the building is gorgeous," said Becky Arnott, a third-year French concurrent education student. "The atmosphere is perfect for grabbing a coffee from Second Cup and relaxing on the main floor, or getting some work done in the study rooms on the second floor."

The Instructional Centre, intended as a modern take on the design of traditional learning facilities, was designed by Shore Tilbe Perkins + Will and built by Eastern Construction.

### » DID YOU WATCH THE PREMIERE OF JERSEY SHORE?



**Alex Alumni**

"No! I feel like my IQ would drop 10 points. And what the hell is a 'snooky'?"



**Louise**  
Fifth-year, Education

"I wish I'd watched it. It's hilarious."



**Uzo**  
First-year, Psychology

"No, I hate that show. What's the point of it?"



**Hyatt**  
First-year, Political Science

"No. I haven't watched any TV lately... but I still wouldn't have watched the show."

## NEWS BRIEFS »

### Man forgets passport, crosses US border with scanned copy on iPad

A man from Montréal crossed the boarder on his way to Vermont with a scanned image of his passport on his iPad. The man was nearly at the crossing when he realized that he had forgotten his passport. He pulled up the image that he had saved on an online storage service. The image was also accepted on the man's trip home. According to the Canada Border Services Agency, a scanned copy is not an acceptable form of ID.

Source: *Montréal Gazette*

### Intoxicated woman rubs derrière on an expensive painting

A woman from Colorado dropped her pants and rubbed her rear end on Clifford Styll's "1957-J no.2", a painting worth \$30 million. The woman allegedly attempted to urinate on the painting, but missed. Police say she was drunk. Approximately \$10,000 in damages was done to the painting. The woman was charged with felony criminal mischief.

Source: NBC Los Angeles

### 20-year-old running for national policy chair for the Liberal Party

Zach Paikin, the son of television show host Steve Paikin, has travelled across the country for the last few months in search of votes to become the next national policy chair for the Liberal Party of Canada. Paikin and four rivals will run for the position at the party's conclave in Ottawa next week. Two other candidates are also under the age of 25. The Liberals are in search of new ideas and fresh faces to reinvigorate the party.

Source: *The Globe and Mail*

### Patrol trooper pepper sprays man in Darth Vader mask

A man wearing a Darth Vader mask attacked a Florida Highway Patrol trooper in Orlando last week. At 2:45 a.m., a construction worker informed the trooper that there was an intoxicated man wandering the street. When the trooper told the masked man to get off the road, he cursed and lay down, and then proceeded to kick the FHP. The trooper's Taser failed, so he broke out his pepper spray.

Source: clickorlando.com

### Ontario government launches tuition grant for the new semester

The Government of Ontario announced that it will provide a grant to university and college students to offset the cost of tuition this semester. University students with a family income of less than \$160,000 can apply for the \$800 grant. Next year, the program will cover the full academic year and eligible students will receive \$1,600. The government says that they will cut expenditures to fund the \$420-million program. Visit [www.ontario.ca/30off](http://www.ontario.ca/30off) or call the hotline at 1-888-449-4478.

Source: *The Globe and Mail*

# MEDIUM OPINION »

Editor-in-Chief » Michael Di Leo

## A failure to communicate

In the month since the last ECC meeting I have received a large number of requests, complaints, and clarifications about the issues surrounding the proceedings. Not surprisingly, our student union has been particularly vocal in their quest to implicate ECC in a variety of wrongdoings (as we have previously reported, and in their letter below), and as a result I have heard my fair share of complaints from the union, both directly from executives and through intermediaries.

While students and faculty have not reacted in the same manner,

they too have made their views clear. One of the luxuries of my position is that I am able to hear these arguments—perhaps even more clearly than the intended audience, given that I am fairly removed from the process—and then give my two cents at the end of the day via this column.

And what I've heard brings me to the conclusion that there has been a clear disregard of the communication process in this matter. Regardless of which party is in the wrong, it seems to me that several of the issues are purely artificial. As Ms. Marotta explores in her ar-

ticle, the issue of the week's notice for the agenda seems rather hollow given that, as Mr. Anderson says, it has never been a problem for the 25 years he has been present—possibly because the alleged violation is not supported by the ECC constitution.

Most striking, though, is that Mr. Anderson discussed the issue with Mr. Cassar, the president of UTMSU, and Mr. Khogali, their executive director, before the ECC meeting. Nevertheless, UTMSU went on to press the issue further at the meeting. To me, this suggests an unwillingness to listen.

Most ironically, UTMSU has been particularly forthcoming with “help” and advice for *The Medium's* coverage of ECC. They have been positively genial when discussing ECC with us. This, coming only a few weeks after they changed their constitution and effectively bypass our (and only our) publication in advertising, seems slightly disingenuous. But maybe I'm just cynical.

For an organization that is supposed to work with campus organizations and administration to improve student experience, their actions haven't shown a willing-

ness to accommodate or even understand other parties' perspectives and agendas. Just this week, there was a governance town hall to collect feedback from faculty, administration, and staff. While there is a second town hall for students this week, it would have been constructive for the UTMSU to attend the faculty town hall to better consider how student, faculty, and administrative interests can improve the university as a whole.

YOURS,

MICHAEL DI LEO

## Student voice stifled at ECC

On December 1, 2011, the highest decision-making body at the University of Toronto Mississauga, the Erindale College Council, held a meeting to decide on ancillary fee increases for parking, meal plans, and residence at the UTM campus.

At this meeting, students were in strong unison to question why increases in fees needed to be increased. These ancillary fee increases fundamentally speak to students, faculty, and administration alike as to how accessible education is at our university. At the end of this meeting, parking fees were passed, but I believe that they were passed very unfairly, and rules were not followed throughout the meeting.

There were many problems with this meeting. It was held at a time that would make it difficult for students to attend, as exams are quickly approaching, and we all need time to study and prepare for them. It is not fair to ask students to trade off their studying time to review extensive budgets that are presented at ECC meetings. These kinds of budgets take a lot of time to review, and students cannot afford that much time

when they are studying for exams. This issue was brought up by several students, but disregarded by the chair each time a student brought it up.

Another aspect of this meeting that I found appalling was the manner of the chair. A chair is meant to be neutral and impartial at a meeting. This did not seem to be the case at this meeting. Professor Gordon Anderson is inexperienced in Robert's Rules of Order, and had to keep referring to the secretary of the Council, Cindy Ferencz Hammond, when faced with any issues. This should not be the case; the chair of such a high decision-making body should have extensive experience with Robert's Rules of Order in order to ensure that these meetings are fair and efficient.

Our chair was also extremely rude towards students; he took every opportunity to mock us when we made comments or asked questions, embarrassing many of us, and making a lot of students uncomfortable and unwilling to speak up for fear that they would be made fun of as well. Munib Sajjad, the VP External of UTMSU, spoke up during the meeting and asked that the chair stop

mocking the students at the meeting, to which the chair replied, “Point taken.” This issue was even acknowledged by professors who were attending this meeting.

Of course, the biggest issue that I saw was the breaking of Robert's Rules of Order at the very end of this meeting. At this meeting, we saw the chair allow a speaker to jump the speakers list, who then called to question the vote on the budget for the parking ancillary fee. I consider this to be stifling debate as several speakers still had important contributions to make on the topic at hand. What is more, the vote that was “called to question” was allowed to take place—despite several points of order called—after the meeting had officially ended as per the time communicated in the agenda, and announced during the meeting. For these reasons, I truly believe that both the vote and all business after

the 12:45 p.m. mark should be considered invalid and should not be included in the ECC minutes.

Yet another concern of mine is the fact that the rules of the constitution were not followed. On a strictly policy basis, students took great exception to the notice given for the December 1 meeting. This agenda for the meeting was served with six days and several hours notice, meaning, in my opinion, that it *did* fall short of the seven days' notice required, as stipulated in the ECC constitution. The chair was of the opinion that three hours did not make any difference, but I would argue that the minimum requirement notice of seven days is itself insufficient, making it a very sensitive rule—also given the sensitivity of the examination period. Every hour really does count. If we hand in an essay three hours late, we cannot argue that it is still handed in on the same day. If it is handed three

hours after the due date, it is considered late, and we are given a late penalty. Hours matter, and so I believe that this meeting should not have been held in the first place, because the rules of the constitution were broken.

I am very concerned and disappointed with the conduct that took place at this meeting. Students are the ones paying fees and attending university, and they should be the ones who have the most impact on these kinds of decisions, and that did not happen at this meeting. I sincerely hope that the meeting minutes are reviewed and that this meeting occurs again at a time where students can actually attend and rules are actually followed.

A disappointed student,

Ruba El-Kadri

VP Equity, UTMSU

### CORRECTION NOTICE

A news brief published on November 28, 2011, “ECC violates its constitution; UTMSU reacts”, was inaccurately titled; it has been corrected to “UTMSU reacts, charges ECC with violating constitution”.

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# MEDIUM A&E »

Editor » Nives Hajdin

## Theatre for the 21st century

*The Medium* speaks with ninjutsu master Keenan Viau of Hart House's latest production, *Cabaret*

### DARREN SAVAGE

**Keenan Viau** can kill you.

An experienced student of ninjutsu who knows all about your pressure points, Viau is also at ease with the bo-staff, broadsword, rapier, and katana. Of course, those skills will not help him in any direct way as he prepares to play Clifford Bradshaw in Hart House Theatre's upcoming production of *Cabaret*, a play based on stories by **Christopher Isherwood**. The actor sat down with us to discuss the challenges involved in getting ready for his Hart House debut and to meditate on art, theatre, and the function of the actor.

**The Medium:** What is it about performing that strikes you?

**Keenan Viau:** I just love entertaining people. I have a blast when I'm on stage, but if I know that I've made someone's night, then that really makes me happy, or if I make someone cry—to make them feel something that they might not necessarily feel in their ordinary lives. The actor's job is to sort of feel the emotions for them, and that helps bring it out for them. They get to experience [something] and identify with a character that much more.

**TM:** On your blog, you wrote a piece about the role of the performer that encourages them to break out of their respective moulds and try something a little out of their range, to become artistically daring. In what ways is this role as Clifford Bradshaw a departure from some of the stuff you've done

before?

**KV:** Well, I think the way we are doing the show is a departure from the way it's usually done. *Cabaret* is normally focussed on the MC, and it's this disconnect between his story and what Cliff and Sally's story is. The way we're doing it through the eyes of the Christopher Isherwood character, Cliff, we see the cabaret through his eyes. He gets up on stage and is the only person who isn't a member of the cast, so the MC is commenting on what is happening between Sally and Cliff and the other couple, Schultz and Fraulein Schneider. That is the difference we're making artistically in taking that risk and seeing it in a different light. And that's kind of the way I'm seeing this: rather than Clifford being the usual, you know, "strapping young man", who either completely falls in love too quick or completely doesn't—it's all these different levels and layers. Is he gay? Is he not? We've come to our own conclusion, but now we're leaving it up to the audience to come to that conclusion as well.

**TM:** Generally speaking, Canada is a relatively accepting country. However, the LGBTQ community is one that still experiences a great deal of persecution. What challenges are faced in portraying a character whose sexual orientation is unclear?

**KV:** For Cliff specifically, we talked in the beginning about him being "try-sexual"; he will try anything. But as the rehearsal process has gone on, it's become more clear. Cliff has spent his entire 25 years of living being a gay man living in a conservative society where he is not allowed to

be. Coming to the cabaret where it's allowed, it's okay. That's one thing that I really like about what we do in this show: the bisexuality and the homosexuality is just part of it. It's not weird. It's just there and it's accepted and no one seems to care.

**TM:** Even by today's looser standards, many of the topics touched upon in this musical are contentious issues, such as abortion and homosexuality. What do you think are the merits for that type of boldness in theatre?

**KV:** Oh, you should always do it anyways! I think it seems like there is a disconnect between the older musical theatre crowd, which is more classical—they'd see shows like *Hair*, *Ragtime*, things like that—and then you've got the younger, contemporary crowd, which is all about things like *Wicked*, *Mamma Mia*, and *American Idiot*. It's about finding topics which are relevant to both.

**TM:** We've got an active theatre program at UTM. You've got a clear and obvious passion for this and you've been around, done a number of productions —

**KV:** You make me sound like a loose woman! "I've been around"...

**TM:** [Laughs] What I mean is, you're experienced at this point with a number of productions. What advice do you have for someone right now who looks to get involved with theatre—acting, specifically?

**KV:** I would say, find out your process. Everyone has a different way of doing it. Some people will absolutely need a teacher to be there, someone with that outside eye to tell



HART HOUSE THEATRE/PHOTO

them what they are doing and what they should be doing. My process became more refined over the last few months, being outside of school. But get a good teacher, get a good vocal coach, and keep taking dance classes. This is a community with a lot of support. And never hesitate to ask questions.

**TM:** This is your debut at the Hart House, a theatre with a long history of outstanding performances and

performers. What are your thoughts on it? Do you feel some sort of pressure?

**KV:** It's pretty scary... but, obviously, I'm not going to let it impact the performance at all. I'm still going to do as good a job as I can and put out my best.

*Cabaret opens Friday, January 13 and runs until January 28. Visit <http://www.harthouse.ca/hart-house-theatre/cabaret> for more information.*

## Tinkers, tailors, soldiers—oh my!

### RAJ-KABIR BIRK

It is rare for a film to reach its true potential. The director must have a steady hand and vision, the writers must have insight and style, and the actors must have poise and subtlety. *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* is one such film, encapsulating these traits and presenting them at the height of their capability.

Based on **John le Carre's** seminal spy novel, *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* follows George Smiley (**Gary Oldman**) as he is called out of retirement to find an alleged mole within the British Secret Service. The film opens with agent Jim Prideaux (**Mark Strong**) being sent to gain information from the Hungarians. However, the mission is compromised, and Prideaux is shot in the back. This results in the forced

retirement of the head of British Intelligence Control (**John Hurt**) and his right-hand man, Smiley. When Smiley is brought back to find the mole, he enlists the help of Prideaux, who has been investigating the same mole privately. He narrows down the suspects to four, which he codenames "tinker", "tailor", "soldier", and "spy". As the film progresses, it becomes clear that this is no simple cat-and-mouse thriller but a subtle, quiet, and complex espionage film.

The plot is supported by an all-star British cast that includes **Colin Firth**, **Toby Jones**, **Ciaran Hinds**, and the up-and-coming **Tom Hardy**, but at the centre of the narrative is yet another Oscar-worthy performance by Gary Oldman. Swapping the swat jacket of Commissioner Gordon for the fine 1970s suit of

George Smiley, Oldman expertly provides the narrative with a point of focus—a pair of glasses, so to speak, through which the viewer may observe the mystery and secrecy of the characters. The paranoia of Smiley eventually translates to the audience as the story unravels.

At the helm is Swedish director **Tom Alfredson**, best known for what is seen as one of the best films of the last decade, the vampire drama *Let the Right One In*. In his first film in English, Alfredson balances the dense script with polished visuals that allows the characters to further the hefty plot convincingly. It may be too hefty for some, but the effort put into watching will be well rewarded. Writers Peter Straughn and the late Bridget O'Connor were careful to closely follow the novel (which was also adapted into a sev-



WORDPRESS.COM/PHOTO

**Oldman. Starting to look more and more like an old man.**

en-hour series by the BBC starring **Alec Guinness**) without overburdening the audience.

In the end, *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* is a tense, complex, but worthwhile film that boasts one of the finest casts of recent times and a direc-

tor who has exceeded expectations.

It will get a wide release later this month, but the keen moviegoer can catch it at Cineplex Queensway and various downtown theatres, including Varsity Theatre on Bloor Street and AMC Dundas Square.

# Awards with Andrea • GOLDEN GLOBES



## ANDREA AMBROGI

Between keeping up with award show schedules and making sure to watch every film that's been dubbed a contender, everyone's inner cinephile is switching into overdrive for awards season. The Golden Globes, the official season opener, is less than a week away on January 15 and the buzz is palpable. **Ricky Gervais**, the show's host for a third consecutive and final time, is promising to deliver a solid show. After his past two years behind the podium, we can expect only the best, and most people are more excited to see who he has in his crosshairs instead of who will take home some hardware. In his blog, he writes, "I would say that there's nothing too offensive in there, but I honestly thought that last year. So I'm not sure of the rules anymore." Ricky, please do us all a favour and come with guns ablazin'. But who are we kidding? Of course he will.

The Golden Globes have long been considered to be a good predictor of the results at the Academy Awards, but the show has lost serious credibility, especially in recent years. Many critics have dismissed the Globes as some sort of Hollywood popularity contest that nominates solely on the basis of raking in big names for big ratings. This year's nominations were a bit of a mess and caused quite a stir among fans. Here are *The Medium's* predictions for who will win, who should win, and who got snubbed in the process.

## TELEVISION

### BEST ACTOR IN A DRAMA

Who will win: **Steve Buscemi** (*Boardwalk Empire*)

Who should win: **Bryan Cranston** (*Breaking Bad*)

Snub: **Michael C. Hall** (*Dexter*)

### BEST ACTRESS IN A DRAMA

Who will win: **Claire Danes** (*Homeland*)

Who should win: **Claire Danes** (*Homeland*)

### BEST DRAMA SERIES

What will win: *Boardwalk Empire*

What should win: *Boardwalk Empire*

Snub: *Dexter*

### BEST ACTOR IN A COMEDY

Who will win: **Alec Baldwin** (*30 Rock*)

Who should win: **Alec Baldwin** (*30 Rock*)

Snub: **Steve Carell** (*The Office*)

### BEST ACTRESS IN A COMEDY

Who will win: **Tina Fey** (*30 Rock*)

Who should win: **Amy Poehler** (*Parks and Recreation*)

### BEST COMEDY SERIES

What will win: *Modern Family*

What should win: *Modern Family*

Snub: *Mike and Molly*

## FILM

### BEST SCREENPLAY

What will win: *Midnight in Paris*

What should win: *The Descendants*

Snub: *Young Adult*

### BEST ORIGINAL SCORE

What will win: *The Artist*

What should win: *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*

### BEST ANIMATED FILM

What will win: *The Adventures of Tintin*

What should win: *Rango*

### BEST ACTOR,

### MUSICAL OR COMEDY

Who will win: **Jean Dujardin** (*The Artist*)

Who should win: **Jean Dujardin** (*The Artist*)

### BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Who will win: **Albert Brooks** (*Drive*)

Who should win: **Christopher Plummer** (*Beginners*)

Snub: **Armie Hammer** (*J. Edgar*)

### BEST ACTRESS,

### MUSICAL OR COMEDY

Who will win: **Michelle Williams** (*My Week With Marilyn*)

Who should win: **Charlize Theron** (*Young Adult*)

### BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Who will win: **Octavia Spencer** (*The Help*)

Who should win: **Shailene Woodley** (*The Descendants*)

Snub(s): **Charlotte Gainsbourg** (*Melancholia*) and **Jessica Chastain** (*The Tree of Life*)

### BEST MOTION PICTURE,

### MUSICAL OR COMEDY

What will win: *The Artist*

What should win: *The Artist* or *Bridesmaids*

### BEST MOTION PICTURE,

### DRAMA

What will win: *The Descendants*

What should win: *The Ides of March*

Snub: *J. Edgar*

### BEST DIRECTOR

Who will win: **Alexander Payne** (*The Descendants*)

Who should win: **Alexander Payne** (*The Descendants*)

Snub: **David Fincher** (*The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo*)

## Echoes of Silence—The Weeknd

ARISTOTLE ELIOPOULOS  
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR



PICCSY.COM/PHOTO

The Weeknd's **Abel Tesfaye** is good at surprising his listeners. With the release of his first official mixtape earlier last year—the tour de force and unexpected hit that was *House of Balloons*—the unknown R&B singer was lauded by almost every independent blog on the Web and even received a sparkling endorsement from Toronto's very own rap powerhouse **Drake**. The surprise only continued when Tesfaye released his second mixtape a few months later, titled *Thursday*—a record that seemed cryptic and unexpected given the initial commercial sound that *Balloons* had.

Given Tesfaye's ability to shift so easily between a more commercial R&B sound and a darker, more reflective production style, no one could really guess what stunts the final mixtape of Tesfaye's trilogy, *Echoes of Silence*, would pull. Surprisingly, Tesfaye doesn't move too far away from the R&B niche he's built for himself. With *Echoes*, Tesfaye takes the sexy confidence of *House of Balloons* and the best of the dark and slinky production of *Thursday* in order to craft an album that showcases and adds to his already complex sound palette.

The opening track, "D.D." (a cover of **Michael Jackson's** "Dirty Diana"), at first feels like a risky choice given the song's original commercial success during its release. Tesfaye doesn't stray far from the King of Pop's original recording, keeping a similar tempo for his rendition, while replacing the original stadium rock production with a minimal and gritty drum loop. The cover works to Tesfaye's advantage; it drips with the same fiery vigour and passion as the original. The track borders on trying too hard to emulate the King of Pop, but Tesfaye's cover still comes across as impressive, a compliment to his talent rather than a reminder of what it lacks in comparison. The cover comes across as appropriate and timely, welcomed yet unexpected, and it works

to establish high expectations for the rest of *Echoes*.

Although nothing is as immediately accessible as "D.D.," each song starts to shine with repeated rotation. With its breathy vocals and a looping French verse that hums underneath the soundscape, the second track, "Montreal," stands out: it not only plays the blame game on Tesfaye's female muse, it also references **Carly Simon's** lyrics and Tesfaye's own past work.

In fact, given the title of the mixtape, *Echoes of Silence* has no shame in repeating itself and being self-referential. From the girl who loses her opportunity to be his "lonely star" on the track "Montreal" to the standout song "XO/The Host," which borrows lyrics directly from the song "Initiation" that follows it, *Echoes* is meant to be seen as the connecting piece, the glue of the trilogy. With its choice to combine the styles of its predecessors, it feels logical and conclusive—but not necessarily original, nor as engaging as *House of Balloons* or *Thursday*.

While the songs are strong individually and collectively, *Echoes's* familiarity feels a bit daunting. It's a work that ironically surprises the listener by being completely new material yet still feeling as if Tesfaye has already created it. Despite its strength and cohesiveness, *Echoes of Silence* hits too close on the collective memory of The Weeknd fans by being a bit too self-aware. It's a product that leans too closely to The Weeknd's R&B formula, a formula that no doubt works, but always feels a bit better when it's being challenged, pushed, and slightly reinvented.

MMM ½

## The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo soundtrack—Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross

### COREY BELFORD

After having previously lent their musical prowess to *The Social Network*, **Trent Reznor** and **Atticus Ross** continue in this vein for *The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo*, carving out their niche as masters of the suspense thriller genre with a collection of 39 (yes, 39) songs.

Clocking in at nearly three hours long, this is an album that requires a full sitting (preferably on a cloudy afternoon or a stormy late night) to truly appreciate. Beginning with an industrialized version of "Immigrant Song" by **Led Zeppelin** that features **Karen O** of **Yeah Yeah Yeahs**, the album establishes the same tone set by the film's intro credits right from the get-go: tortured, frantic, and foreboding. Continuing in a series of chilling, ethereal compositions, this album evokes the darker elements of the human psyche.

Its combination of intricate instrumentation, riveting synthesizer effects, and haunting vocals

recreates the tension and threatening atmosphere of the film, with much left to the imagination of the listener. This is not an album you would want to play at a dinner party—or any party, for that matter. This is an album for being alone at your darkest, deadliest hour.

The only other lyrical performance here comes from Reznor and Ross's recent collaboration as **How to Destroy Angels**. "Is Your Love Strong Enough," a cover of **Brian Ferry**, plays over the end credits of the film and occupies the final place on this album. Featuring Reznor's wife **Mariqueen Maandig** and accompanying vocals by Reznor himself, the song soars above the previous tracks as the longing plea of a woman for her lover to be there for her in her time of need, reflecting the relationship between the film's protagonists as the screen goes dark. Though it makes more sense in the context of the film, the track sends this album out on a hopeful note, redeeming it for its



NIN.COM/PHOTO

past two hours and 49 minutes of chilling the dark corridors of the mind.

For anyone who has never had the stomach or patience to get through a **Nine Inch Nails** album, this collection may be potent enough to expand your musical palette into Reznor's world. Fans of his *Ghosts* collection, *The Social Network*, and other film and video game projects will undoubtedly consume this wholeheartedly, and will likely find themselves anticipating future *How to Destroy Angels* releases, not to mention Fincher's next two adaptations of the *Millennium* series. MMMM

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# MEDIUM FEATURES »

Editor » Larissa Ho

## Obsessing over cleanliness

Why a lack of exposure to bacteria could cause more health problems

**EMILY ACHESON**  
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

It's difficult to walk along any hall in UTM and not find a hand sanitizer dispenser. Traditional hand soaps in washrooms have been replaced with motion-sensor antibacterial foam machines. Hand dryers blast your hands with air for 15 seconds or so without you having to press a button. Many of the new bathrooms, including those in the IB building, have curved entrances instead of doors so you don't have to grab any dirty handles.

Our world is becoming sterilized, sanitized, and "germ-free".

Unfortunately, eliminating germs could be one of the worst things for our health.

Humans have always been around bacteria. In fact, the human body contains 10 times more bacterial cells than original human cells. Bacteria live inside us, on us, and all around us. Bacteria play a crucial role in getting us sick and forming zits, but also in getting us better, digesting our food, and providing us with nutrients.

Our immune systems are used to monitoring our bodies, learning how to distinguish friendly bacteria from threatening bacteria, and initiating



UPSTREAMDOWNSTREAM.ORG/PHOTO

**Try not to wash your hands *too* too often. Your immune system will thank you.**

immune responses to fight off infections. The constant battling of the immune system with evolving bacteria keeps our immune systems in shape and forces it to evolve new ways to combat disease.

So what's the problem with getting rid of the harmful bacteria in our environment? Wouldn't that just help our

immune systems out?

Well, our immune systems tend to atrophy (weaken from disuse) when they are not adequately exposed to bacterial threats. It is believed that North Americans have some of the weakest immune systems because of our excellent water treatment facilities. Unlike in most third-world coun-

tries, the Canadian (and especially the Ontarian) water treatment eliminates most, if not all, bacterial threats. The problem is that when we finally do encounter pathogenic bacteria, we can have an extreme reaction.

The United Kingdom and North America are noting spikes in allergy sufferers. Over a third of the UK

population and a fifth of the North American population reports allergies. Many doctors, including Dr. Oz, attribute allergy prevalence to increasing antibacterial products. Medical studies suggest that children and teens overexposed to antibacterial soaps develop weaker immune systems that lead to increased risk of hay fever and other allergies.

When a baby is born, it is essential that the baby be exposed to pathogens in its environment in order to develop a robust immune system. In your body, "T cells", the cells that are responsible for initiating immune responses, must be produced in the proper proportions based on their different functions. Throwing off the normal development of these cells can overemphasize an immune system's reactions to dietary threats, leading to food allergies.

Obviously, it would be a bad idea to go back to, say, the state of the water in undeveloped African villages where relief efforts are desperately trying to get clean drinking water that doesn't make the people sick, but you can also err on the side of too sanitized. So if you forget to wash your hands now and again, don't panic; you may have done yourself a favour.

## Tips for keeping New Year's resolutions

**LARISSA HO**  
FEATURES EDITOR

It's that time of year again—that time of new beginnings, inevitable change, and, yes, New Year's resolutions. It's what we did at the beginning of 2011, and it's what we're doing now that 2012 has begun.

Of course, although everyone makes New Year's resolutions, not everyone keeps them. We make them every year and strive to keep them, yet keeping these promises to ourselves never gets any easier.

So what's the big secret? What must be done to keep up the momentum you feel when you made the resolutions at the end of December before embarking on the journey of 2012?

Here are some tips to keep your eye on the ball and finally make the changes in your life you may have wanted, and tried, to make for years:

1) Choose specific and realistic goals. Don't make a vague goal, like "I will lose weight and get in shape", because it's not specific enough. You need to make a concrete goal, such as "I will lose 10 pounds by June".

2) Outline a plan that will help you stick to accomplishing your goals. Include consequences for not keeping

to the goal.

3) Write your goals down. Writing them down makes them more concrete.

4) Take small steps. Don't take on too much at a time—that will most likely spread you thin and bring you farther away from accomplishing your goals.

5) Get support from family and friends. Talk to them about your goals and let them motivate you! A great support system can mean the difference between success and failure.

6) Be persistent. Don't let small stumbles along the way get you down. These stumbles are normal! Don't beat yourself up over them or wallow in self-blame. Instead, view them as temporary setbacks.

7) Work on one resolution at a time; take it step by step, not all at once. Rome wasn't built in a day.

8) Keep your focus!

9) Want to make the change. People who genuinely desire to make a change in their lives are those who feel the need to change from deep within, and that drives them to keep their goals.

10) Try, try, try! Setbacks will come and come again, so remember to keep trying and don't give up!

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# Society Profile: the Historical Studies Society

LARISSA HO  
FEATURES EDITOR

The Historical Studies Society at UTM is by no means among the newest academic societies that UTMSU adds to its roster each year, but it could be mistaken for one. With a new constitution, coat of arms, and panel of executives, the HSS is virtually unrecognizable as the low-key society it was in previous years. This past summer, the HSS underwent a complete restructuring, with a new mandate: to involve faculty and students at all levels in both educational seminars and social events.

“Our goal is to provide a forum for junior and senior undergraduates to discuss, share, and learn about academic initiatives offered by the Department of Historical Studies, as well as host social events on and off campus,” said Ashley Yoannou, the new president of the HSS. “Being named a recipient of a Dean’s Academic Society Initiative Prize was the highlight of our first term together.”

The new elected executive team is made up of Ashley Yoannou, president; Kathleen White, events coordinator; Casandra Kubik, secretary; Kristina Terpoy, marketing director; Jenn Hunter, advertising director; Anna Kostetska, external affairs liaison; and Josh Aebig, treasurer.



PUNEET KOHLI/PHOTO

**Front row: Professor Shafique Virani, Chair of the Historical Studies Department. Second row: Ashley Yoannou, Kathleen White. Third row: Professor Mairi Cowan, Casandra Kubik, Kristina Terpoy, Professor Ken Derry. Back row: Jenn Hunter, Anna Kostetska, Josh Aebig.**

“I am very excited for the way in which we have completely rebranded the society,” said Hunter. “We literally started the HSS with a clean slate this year. Our goal was to create a much more recognizable and involved society for all history students at UTM. I am truly excited to see that our new coat of arms, our rewritten constitution, and a completely new panel of execs have

been recognized on campus so rapidly. We have also been getting a profound amount of encouragement and support from both the history department faculty and the students at UTM.”

“I am very excited by the work that the HSS has done this year,” said professor Ken Derry, who serves as one of two faculty liaisons to the HSS. “They’re organized and committed, and in their many events have done a great job addressing varying aspects of student life at UTM—academic (student-faculty networking), extra-curricular (Summer Abroad), and social (toga party!). I look forward to seeing what they come up with next term, and what seeds they plant for 2012–2013.”

Professor Mairi Cowan, the second faculty liaison, had similar sentiments.

“I attended the meet and greet this fall, and really enjoyed meeting historical studies students in a social venue that was more relaxed than the lecture hall or seminar room. Our students are such inter-

esting people, and it’s a lot of fun to get to know them as the people behind the papers,” she said.

So far, the newly reorganized HSS has hosted UTM’s first-ever Toga Party Pub at the Blind Duck, the Student-Faculty Networking Luncheon, the semi-annual General Meeting, and Activism and Awareness Day, which included a keynote address from Holocaust survivor Judy Cohen, a screening of the PBS documentary *Worse than War*, and a lecture called “Activism in the Shadow of Trauma,” given by professor Joan Simalchik, followed by discussion.

The society has also taken part in many campus events, such as the fall Clubs Week, the “Get Experience Fair” (hosted by the UTM Career Centre), Fall Campus Day, and the Prandium seminars.

The HSS has also cosponsored many academic events, such as JHI’s Adventures in Research for Undergraduates in the Humanities Presentation and the U of T Study Abroad Fair & Student Experience Panel, which was held

at UTM.

For the coming winter term, the HSS executives plan to hold sessions to assist historical studies students with questions about program requirements, including a panel discussion with current students and faculty from the department.

The HSS is also hosting their inaugural Historical Studies Week from January 23 to 26. This four-day event will feature faculty presenting their research, a diaspora and transnational studies mixer, and sessions that provide students with the opportunity to ask their professors questions about the graduate school application process.

To conclude HS Week, the executive has planned a guided tour of the Royal Ontario Museum exhibition “Maya: Secrets of their Ancient World.”

“There is always something new to learn about at the museum, and I think that the excitement that I personally have for the museum is shared by many fellow historical studies students—which will likely make this trip a very popular event for the winter semester,” said White.

“I can probably speak for the rest of the HSS executives when I say that we are very happy with our accomplishments thus far,” Hunter concluded. “Our main goal was to rebrand ourselves and create an approachable, relatable, and recognizable society for all history students at UTM. For the remainder of the year, we want to get more history students involved both in our academic and social events. We aim to make the HSS a society which will continue to preserve the recognition we have achieved thus far in our 2011–2012 year.”

The HSS recruits members for their outreach committee throughout the year; if you’re interested in volunteering, contact them at [hss.utm@utoronto.ca](mailto:hss.utm@utoronto.ca) or join them on their Facebook page, “Historical Studies Society at UTM.”

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## How too much noise can harm your health

It turns out that noise can really hurt your heart and brain

CARINE ABOUSEIF  
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

You awake with a start. A siren screeches past your window. Maybe you pause momentarily to wonder where the siren might be headed, who the ambulance races to save. Maybe you fall back in the pillows and slip back into sleep. But depending on where you grew up, and what part of the city you live in now, you might not have even heard the siren. You might have slept right through it.

It turns out, though, that noise, whether you’re asleep or awake, can really hurt your heart and your

brain. According to recent research, a constant dose of noise can even take years off your life. Last year, the World Health Organization studied traffic-related noises and monitored populations in European cities. They found that in these cities street noises deducted a total of more than one million healthy years of life per year, and also led to a greater incidence of heart attacks and learning disabilities.

“Wait—are you saying that if I keep living on a main road, I might get a heart attack?” Well, probably not right now, but maybe sometime in the future. Noise, traffic-related or not, initiates your “fight-or-

flight” response. Let’s review. The fight-or-flight response is your reaction to threat. Your adrenaline surges. Your pupils dilate. Your blood vessels constrict. And your heart pumps faster.

Over the years, continual activation of fight-or-flight stresses your cardiovascular system, making it more susceptible to problems.

It’s not just sudden noises, though. It’s also annoying noises. As early as 1978, Dr. Neil Weinstein suspected that noise on university and college residences could hinder academic ability.

*Noise continued on page 9*



# Constant noise can shorten your life

Noise continued from page 8

Weinstein surveyed 155 first-year students living in their campus residences. He interviewed them once at the beginning of the year and once at the end. Not surprisingly, he found that students fell into two groups: noise-sensitive and non-noise-sensitive. Members of the noise-sensitive group tended to perform lower on tests. They also tended to want more privacy and felt less comfortable in social situations. They needed more time to be alone and more quiet study time.

“Hmmm... so should I move off my noisy street (or residence)?” If you live in a noisy environment, you might already have guessed that the solution need not be that drastic.

A.J. Jacobs, an American



While it may be obvious that loud noise hurts your ears, it may not be so obvious that it hurts your brain and your heart, and may even take years off your life. Better give your ears a rest.

author and journalist, spent a whole year following every

health tip he could find. He walked, played with a pet, wore

a helmet on the street, and applied sunscreen by the shot

glass. At the end of his health experiment Jacobs explained that he had to be selective in what advice he wanted to continue to apply simply, because, well, there just wasn't enough time to do it all.

What Jacobs took away from his experiment was an understanding of the stress that noise exposure can cause—not just street noise, but all noise. Jacobs chose to stick with two main behaviours; one of them was wearing headphones or earplugs.

Regulars of the UTM library's silent zone could probably have told you that earplugs block out distracting whispers. But Jacobs says wearing earplugs has greatly improved his quality of life in general. It turns out silence decreases stress—stress on the cardiovascular system, stress on the brain, and stress in general.

## LUKE'S LANGUAGES: #7: CANADIAN ENGLISH: OUR VERY OWN DIALECT, EH?

/luks 'læŋgwə, dʒɪz/

LUKE SAWCZAK  
COPY-EDITOR

Welcome back and happy new year! Didja get anything good this Christmas? Ah okay, I see, I see. Oh no, yeah no definitely, me too, yup, yeah, oh for sure. Okay, now that we've got all the small talk out of the way, let's get right down to business!

Since we closed last semester's run of the series with a piece on defining your own style of language, let's start this one with something both unique and universal among us: Canadian English. Specifically, West-Central Canadian English, which, if you're reading this, you either speak or hear spoken every day.

The history of Canadian English is short and sweet: various peoples of France and the British Isles came to the colonies, there was a lot of fighting, Loyalists fled to southern Ontario during the American Revolution, and now we draw from both the British and the Americans, with some minor help from Aboriginal languages and from French. Simple.

So what's the result? What makes us special? First, throw out most of your stereotypes. We're actually so close to northern American English that speakers of both have a hard time telling which is which. If they were paying attention, they'd see that...

First, we sound a bit funny. The main thing we're laughed at for is Canadian Raising, which changes "aye" to more like "uh-y", and "ow" to more like "uh-oo", before a voiceless consonant at the end of a syllable. For example, compare the vowel sounds in "rise", "rider", and "strive" to those in "rice", "writer", and "strife"; also,

compare those in "house" (verb) and "cloud" to those in "house" (noun) and "clout". This difference is so sharp to American ears that they parody us as saying "oot and aboot" (but of course, we hear them as saying "owd and abowd"! ). We also say "forest" as "four-ist" and "borrow" as "boar-oh", rather than America's "far-ist" and "bar-oh", which just sound silly. And apparently Americans have a difference between "cot" and "caught" that we can't distinguish. Oh well; for them a "writer" is the same thing as a "rider". Sucks to be them, amirite?

For specific words, we generally use the British pronunciation if two are available ("Mummy", not "Mommy"; "shone" rhymes with "Sean", not "shown"), use the French slightly more accurately than most ("clique" is "cleek", not "click"; "niche" is "neesh", not "nish"), and sometimes even our own inventions ("asphalt" is "ash-phalt"... what?). There are tons of other small changes, but it would take too much space to go into them. (Why not find some out for yourself instead?)

The other major part is the vocabulary. We go to "grades one through twelve", not "first through twelfth grades", and then some of us go on to "university", not "college", although others of us go to "college" (in America, "college" can refer to all post-secondary education), where we "write" exams. Stephen Harper is not a "president", he's a "prime minister". We use "washrooms" or "bathrooms", not "restrooms" (nor "lavatories" nor "toilets", as in the UK!). We wash our hands at the "tap", not the "faucet", before eating with "cutlery" and "serviettes". Sometimes we drink

"pop" at the table, but we would never dream of drinking "soda". (Filthy stuff, soda. It'll rot your gut. Better stick with pop.)

More fun are the words unique to Canada, although these are so over-hashed that at best a list might resemble some cheap t-shirt your mum got you from Northern Getaway in the '90s, back when Northern Getaway was cool. For example: We wear toques. We love our double-doubles, our two-fours, and our poutine. Oh, and we pay attention to something called a Humidex, whatever the heck that is. Most famously, we say "eh". But as you'll have noticed if you're lived here more than a week, we don't say it as frequently or randomly as they'd have you believe. We just say it to make sure the other person's listening and get a small response. Pretty cool, eh? (Mm-hm.)

As well, there are some minor sentence-level changes. (For example, it seems only Canadians start a sentence with "As well", meaning "In addition".) They're hardly worth mentioning.

That concludes our brief overview, which hopefully got a heap of nods and smiles of recognition, or maybe some amused gasps. Or maybe some of you are disappointed that I didn't examine the Canadian that sounds strange even to Canadians (I mean out east, b'ye), which is so different that you can't really talk about the two in one article. Maybe some other time?

Anyway, I hope you've enjoyed this tour of your dialect. Did I miss anything? Write in and tell me (copy@mediumutm.ca)! Oh, and be sure to tune in next week when we zoom out to the bigger picture again, eh.

THEBUZZSTOPSHEAR.COM/PHOTOS

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

#### Nominations Open:

Friday, January 6, 2012 at noon

#### Nominations Close:

Friday, January 20, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

#### Positions Available:

##### 8 Student Seats

1-year term from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013:

- 4 full-time undergraduate students
- 2 part-time undergraduate students
- 2 graduate students

##### 1 Administrative Staff Seat

##### 6 Teaching Staff Seats

##### 2 Alumni Seats

#### Work of the Governing Council:

The Governing Council is composed of 50 members: 25 members from the internal University community, including administrative staff, teaching staff, and students, and 25 members external to the University, including alumni and government appointees.

The Governing Council is responsible for overseeing the University's **strategic direction**, finances, human resources, capital expenditures and infrastructure, academic quality and the student experience.

Governors, who serve as volunteers, are collectively and individually stewards of the University and are asked to **contribute to decisions** that affect the University's current and future achievements. Student governors have an opportunity to find out a great deal about the university issues and processes.

#### Volunteer Opportunity:

If you have previously served in a **leadership role** in a recognized campus group or a student society and wish to develop your skills further consider serving as a member of the Governing Council. This might be the **next step for you** in out of the classroom experience as a student. However, previous experience of this kind is not a requirement.

Nomination Forms will be available beginning noon, Friday, January 6, 2012 at:

•[www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections.htm](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections.htm)

•Office of the Governing Council  
Room 106, Simcoe Hall,  
27 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON

#### Questions?

Please contact:  
Chief Returning Officer at:  
anwar.kazimi@utoronto.ca  
or 416-978-8427

Deputy Returning Officer at:  
maeyu.tan@utoronto.ca  
or 416-978-8794

#### Further information:

Please consult the elections website for more information and review the *Election Guidelines 2012* at:

[www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections.htm](http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/elections.htm)



UNIVERSITY OF  
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# MEDIUM SPORTS »

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## Gender equity in varsity sports

U of T's Centre for Sports Policy Studies reports on trends in university sports programs

**MICHELLE K. DUKLAS**  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

At U of T, where 44% of full-time undergraduate students are male and 56% are female, you would expect to see this ratio reflected in the number of varsity sports roster spots offered. But that is not the case. Instead, 56% of the roster spots are allotted to male students and 44% to female students. Now, whereas 1.1% of U of T undergraduate females are involved in varsity sports, 1.8% of males are involved. This gender difference becomes much more pronounced at the coaching level, where 80% of U of T's head coaches are male and only 20% are female.

U of T's Centre for Sports Policy Studies is trying to make the public aware of this. In October 2011, director Peter Donnelly, professor Bruce Kidd, and PhD candidate Mark Norman released a report analyzing gender equity in varsity sports in Canada. This is the first report of its kind; the Centre plans to release a new report every two years.

Donnelly, Kidd, and Norman focussed on two areas in their report: participation opportunities and leadership. The authors excluded football from their results because the large number of roster spots in this male-only sport makes determining equity difficult.

The report's results show

that across Canada, males and females each have half of the participation opportunities at university; however, because males represent only 44% of undergraduate students, they have an unfair advantage. Approximately 3% of undergraduate men make a varsity team, whereas just under 2% of undergraduate women make a varsity team. On a national level, few women are involved in leadership roles. Female head coaches make up 19% of all Canadian head coaches, and only 17% of athletic directors are female.

For example, at Concordia University in Québec, even though enrolment is split 50/50 between males and females, male undergraduate

students are given almost twice as many roster spots as female undergraduate students. Meanwhile, Cape Breton University employs only male coaches.

The authors found that male students, who already enjoy more opportunities to participate in interuniversity sport compared to female students, also receive more athletic financial awards than female athletes. At the national level, in 2009–2010, 58% of all AFAs went to males. In Québec, the funds are even more disproportionate. While 58% of athletes in Québec are male, 69% of AFAs go to males.

The authors stress that it is important to work towards

proportionally representing females on varsity teams because student fees represent a major contribution to funding varsity sports. It's not fair for one gender to disproportionately fund the athletic opportunities of the other.

There are a few universities working against this trend. At the University of PEI, the varsity teams are balanced to reflect their enrolment. Females make up 62% of all full-time undergraduate students and have 61% of all roster spots. At Royal Military College, roster spots are skewed in favour of females. Female students make up just 22% of the student population, but they have 31% of the roster spots.

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## Behind the scenes

Cameron Walker, assistant program coordinator of the UTM Department of Physical Education, keeps the ball rolling

**ISAAC OWUSU**  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Sitting behind his lowered computer desk inside the offices of the RAWC, assistant program coordinator Cameron Walker laughs and explains that he's in the process of finishing some alterations to the table, which was supposed to be raised. Within the first five minutes of the meeting, it's easy to see why he modestly describes himself as "a jack of all trades, master of none".

Walker's work as the newly established assistant program coordinator keeps him busy. Along with program coordinator Louise Vanderwee, he organizes and coordinates the UTM Sports Camp. In addition to that, Walker keeps himself busy helping the aquatic coordinator, Rachel Tennant.

A former Sports Camp participant, Walker's initiative got him the position of camp counsellor at 17. With the opening of the RAWC, he and Tennant were hired as pool supervisors. He split his time between working at the RAWC and completing his

kinesiology degree at York. That experience more or less served as an internship, including filling in for Vanderwee when she was on leave. On her return, the associate program coordinator position was created specifically for Walker, allowing him to take advantage of the "top-down" knowledge he built overseeing the RAWC as the interim program coordinator, while combining his "bottom-up" progression through the workings of the RAWC behind the scenes.

His passion for sports lets him appreciate his position. "The most rewarding part is, I get to work with athletics every day; it's always interesting, it's always fun," he said. He gets the most out of his position by personally participating in campus intramural teams. "I think about the opportunities I have as a UTM staff member. Working for the university, you can play for the Campus Rec leagues. You go work in a business tower, you're not going to take your lunch break playing soccer—so it's an amazing part of it."

Walker admits the job can

have moments he describes as "yo-yoing". He finds himself extremely busy some weeks, while in others activity tends to scale off. "At the pool we have two trainings at term, so four terms in a year, so eight—eight staff trainings, plus hirings, plus additional certifications. I do teach First Aid/CPR as well; I do those on the weekends sometimes, in the evenings sometimes."

His challenges are not limited to his individual duties; continuing to build up attendance is an issue: "We can always use more attendance. If you come, we can make space and a team for you. As soon as you show up and you have fun in our programs here, you're hooked. They're not going to leave once they come—we're there to be seen even in the social media world, Twitter and Facebook."

For students who want to find Cameron Walker and communicate with him in "the social media world", he works with the UTM Athletics Twitter account (@UTM\_Athletics) and their Facebook page, "UTM Department of Physical Education, Athletics & Recreation".

# World Juniors disappointment

Canada's team misses out on the finals for the first time in 11 years

MELISSA PERRI

Over the holidays the IIHF World U20 Championship, more commonly referred to as the World Juniors, was held in Calgary and Edmonton. The tournament featured rising junior stars from countries around the world and a 10-team round-robin format. Hosting alternates between countries, and Canada was the host this year. The games were held at Rexall Place and the Scotiabank Saddledome, the NHL arenas of the respective cities.

Forty-three players were invited to Team Canada's selection camp, including 25 forwards, 14 defencemen, and four goaltenders. The final cuts were made a few weeks prior to the start of the tournament. The team consisted of some familiar names, including Quinten Howden, Mark Visentin, and Jaden Schwartz, selected to return to the roster after previous years. Schwartz took the NCAA route; he plays for the Colorado College Tigers while studying at the college.

Aside from Schwartz and NHL players Devante Smith-Pelly and Brett Connolly, the roster was made up of players from various teams in the three leagues that make up the Canadian Hockey League. Phil Di Giuseppe, invited to selection camp but one of the



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**Canada's loss to Russia knocked them out of contention for the championship. Canada settled for bronze with a win against Finland.**

final cuts, attends the University of Michigan.

The tournament began on Boxing Day in Edmonton, with Canada matching up against Finland. Although Canada finished with a perfect record in the round-robin, some struggles were evident.

Early in the tournament, Team Canada suffered the loss of Anaheim Ducks player Devante Smith-Pelly, a gritty forward with valuable NHL experience. Smith-Pelly broke a bone in his foot after block-

ing a shot in the first game. Rules regarding a set roster at the start of the tournament prevented the team from calling up any players.

Goaltending also appeared to be an issue. Mark Visentin of the Niagara Ice Dogs (OHL) appeared to have some difficulty in the first few games. Scott Wedgewood of the Plymouth Whalers (OHL) was the starter of the semifinal against Russia after an impressive performance against USA in the final game of the round-robin.

Team USA, believed to be a strong rival of Team Canada, finished the tournament out of medal contention with two wins and two losses.

In the semifinal in Calgary, Canada came up short against the Russians, to the disappointment of the fans in attendance and around the country. Canada was losing by a score of 6-1 midway through the third period, and although they came back to score four unanswered goals in four minutes, the final score of 6-5 in favour

of Russia left Canada with an all-too-familiar feeling of defeat—from the same team that stole the gold medal in a spectacular final a year ago.

The loss to Russia resulted in Team Canada competing for the bronze against Finland on Thursday afternoon. Canada won the game 4-0, extending its medal streak to 14 years, dating back to the silver medal won in 1999 in Winnipeg. It is the first time in 11 years that Canada did not make it to the tournament final to compete for the gold medal.

Canadian Mark Stone of the Brandon Wheat Kings (WHL), a 2010 Ottawa Senators 178th overall draft pick, gave an excellent performance at the tournament, tallying seven goals and three assists in six games.

Sweden defeated Russia in the final Thursday evening to win the gold medal for the first time since 1981.

Until recently, Canada was given the hosting responsibility every four years. As part of an agreement between Hockey Canada and the IIHF, Canada will now host the tournament in 2015, 2017, 2019, and 2021.

The World Junior Hockey Championship has a history of being a popular tournament for hockey players and fans alike, fueled by passion and national identity.

## Getting back in the game

Get to know what the RAWC offers. You might be surprised

INGRID MELDRUM

With the second semester underway, the RAWC is booming with students who want to get in shape for the new year. (For those of you who still haven't run into it yet, the RAWC is the Recreation Athletics and Wellness Facility, i.e. the gym). Sadly, after a few weeks this influx of people will die down due to loss of motivation, schoolwork, boredom, etc.

Instead of going to the gym and getting bored of the same routine, why not join a sports team? There are more benefits to being on a UTM team than just staying in shape; it's a great way to meet new people and build relationships with people who share similar interests.

When asked about his experience playing sports at UTM, student Julian Nieva enthused, "First of all, I credit a lot of my success to my involvement with



EDWARD CAI/THE MEDIUM

UTM sports. It brought me closer to people I would have never met. These same people I can classify as long term friends. It also brought a balance to my life. Instead of just studying and partying, being involved with sports showed me a way to spend my time productively in a positive en-

vironment." Currently, Julian plays on the men's Division 1 basketball team and is the sports commissioner for campus recreation basketball and coed volleyball.

There are opportunities for students to sign up for campus recreation sports or try out for U of T intramural teams at

the beginning of each semester. These sports include volleyball, basketball, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, cricket, and field hockey. Campus Rec sports run throughout the day, and the commissioners do their best to schedule the game times to fit around class schedules. These teams do not hold practices and games are played once per week—great for someone who has a tight class schedule. The U of T intramural sports have tryouts at the beginning of each semester and practice in the evening. There are no fees, and transportation to away games is provided.

Don't be intimidated by the term "tryout"; at this point the coaches rarely make any cuts, and usually take anyone who is dedicated. Students are encouraged to try out even if they don't think that their skill level is up to par with the other people trying out. Coaches are ex-

perienced and willing to work with players to instruct and improve their skills.

For students who do not want to play on a team, but still want to be involved, there are many other ways to get involved. The RAWC has open gym times for students to play sports such as badminton, basketball, soccer, cricket, or volleyball. There are also drop-in classes that cater to all skill levels. UTMAC hosts home games throughout the semester where students have the opportunity to cheer on their peers and also win prizes. For those looking to get experience and make money, the athletic department is one of the top employers at UTM; there are a variety of positions, and there is always a demand for timers and scorekeepers.

For more information, please visit the RAWC website at <http://www1.erin.utoronto.ca/~w3physed>.



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UTM EAGLES

UTM EAGLES

**Men's Tryouts**

Basketball	Jan. 12	Gym A/B	6:30pm - 7:30pm
Lacrosse	Jan. 3	Gym C	6:30pm - 7:30pm
	Jan. 11		5:30pm - 6:30pm
Ice Hockey <small>(Non Contact)</small>	Jan. 8, 15	Iceland	9:45pm - 10:45pm
Indoor Soccer	Jan. 4	Gym A/B	9:00pm - 11:00pm
	Jan. 5		7:00pm - 9:00pm
	Jan. 9		9:00pm - 11:00pm
Volleyball	Jan. 4	Gym C	5:00pm - 6:00pm
	Jan. 9	Gym A/B	7:00pm - 8:30pm
	Jan. 10	Gym C	8:30pm - 10:30pm

**\*New Location and Time**

**Women's Tryouts**

Basketball	Jan. 4	Gym A/B Gym C Gym A/B	5:30pm - 6:30pm
	Jan. 5		7:00pm - 8:00pm
	Jan. 10		5:30pm - 6:30pm
Lacrosse	Jan. 4, 9, 11	Gym C	6:30pm - 7:30pm
			7:00pm - 8:00pm
			6:30pm - 7:30pm
Ice Hockey <small>(Non Contact)</small>	Jan. 8, 15	Erin Mills Twin	10:30pm - 11:30pm
Indoor Soccer	Jan. 5	Gym A/B	5:30pm - 6:30pm
	Jan. 10	Gym A/B	7:00pm - 8:00pm
	<b>*Jan. 11</b>	<b>Gym C</b>	<b>8:30pm - 10:00pm</b>
Volleyball	Jan. 9	Gym C	5:30pm - 6:30pm
	Jan. 12		8:00pm - 9:00pm
Field Hockey	Jan. 4	Gym C	7:30pm - 8:30pm
	Jan. 9		8:00pm - 9:00pm
	Jan. 11		7:30pm - 8:30pm