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UTMSU audit shows significant profit

UTMSU's AGM saw a brief presentation of financials and discussion of upcoming projects

LARISSA HO
NEWS EDITOR
WITH NOTES FROM
LUKE SAWCZAK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Students gathered at the UTM Students' Union's annual general meeting last week for the presentation of audited financial statements that recorded a significant profit last year and to discuss general questions and future projects, including the drop-credit policy, a heated bus shelter, multi-faith space, and a new referendum to expand the Student Centre.

On Thursday, a number of students (the union was unable to supply precise figures before publication) signed in at the doors of the Davis Building's Council Chambers for the meeting's start at 5 p.m. Additionally, a large number of students were not in attendance but had entrusted their votes by proxy to attendees. Quorum for a UTMSU AGM—40 in person or 75 by proxy—was reached. Each member is allowed to hold a maximum of 11 votes including their own.



CHRISTY TAM/THE MEDIUM

UTMSU held their AGM last Thursday in which they presented their financial statements.

The typical physical attendance is about a hundred, with hundreds more by proxy, averaging 84% votes being cast by proxy over the last two years.

After the distribution of a summa-

ry of Robert's Rules of Order and the financial documents to be presented, the chair, last year's president Chris Thompson, called the meeting to order. Ro'a Saafan, the current VP equi-

ty, and Cat Criger, UTM's Aboriginal elder, gave an opening speech highlighting students' duty "to the next seven generations" (an Aboriginal expression as cited by Criger).

President Raymond Noronha delivered an address, praising his team's work on Orientation Week and stating that his executive slate, UTM Connect, is working on the promises on which they campaigned last spring, including a heated bus shelter, more multi-faith prayer space, a 24/7 copy and print centre, and coffee vending machines for cases in which the one in Davis isn't functional, as well as long-term goals like the drop-credit policy, which was unequivocally rejected last year by the vice-dean, undergraduate, Kelly Hannah-Moffat).

Noronha also spoke briefly about the \$400 winter residence fee recently discussed in a meeting between UTMSU and UTM's director of residence and student life, Dale Mullings, calling it "unreasonable and unfair." He also said that the union's Food Task Force, which submits recommendations to the food advisory committee, was lobbying the university to rework its renewed contract with Chartwells when the current one expires.

AGM continued on page 3

UTM receives visit from new president

Meric Gertler praised UTM and discussed the challenges facing U of T

LARISSA HO
NEWS EDITOR

UTM received a visit from the recently installed president of U of T, Prof. Meric Gertler, last Thursday. He spoke with the *Medium* about the growing autonomy of UTM in light of the dissolution of the Erindale College Council, which was replaced by the Campus Council in July.

Gertler arrived at UTM from the Scarborough campus. After a brief interview with the *Medium*, he visited the UTMSU office in the Student Centre, and then went to enjoy a reception at the Faculty Club in the Davis Building.

"We have a very nice balance, a kind of creative tension on the one hand, with the growing autonomy and distinctive identities emerging on each of the campuses, and, at the



CODY GRECO/THE MEDIUM

President of U of T, Meric Gertler, shakes hands with the principal of UTM, Deep Saini.

same time a kind of unifying brand and a common association with this thing called the University of Toronto," said Gertler on the subject of tri-campus unity. "I think it's a healthy tension, and one that's de-

veloped in very positive ways." When asked whether improving U of T's low ranking in student satisfaction rating was a priority for him, Gertler said it was.

"We want to do everything we can

to make our student experience is as good as our research performance and all the other things that distinguish us globally," he said.

Visit continued on page 3



The first TEDxUTM

Ten speakers, including three UTM lecturers, inspired 100 delegates on campus.
Medium News, page 2

Failure to communicate

The *Medium* was allowed to film UTMSU's AGM last year. Why was it prevented this year?
Medium Opinion, page 4

Battle at the summit

Four bands battled it out for a grand prize of \$250 in the first Sound Summit at UTM.
Medium Arts, page 5

Soul music

The *Medium* speaks to Chinese-Canadian immigrant Anna Yin about her poetry after coming to Canada.
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Hockey, no scrapping

Not only is it not in the spirit of the game, it's no safer without it.

Medium Sports, page 11

Students take out books from the Living Library

UTM event attracts approximately 60 students to speak with “human books” in the Instructional Centre

NICOLE DANESI

UTM students swapped traditional textbooks for living, breathing human books at UTM’s second annual Living Library, held last Wednesday.

Approximately 60 students came to the Instructional Centre café, where they were given the opportunity to speak one-on-one with some of 11 different individuals for 25 minutes each. The conversations revolved around the person’s background, influences, career, family, and profession, but topics like politics and religion weren’t off-limits either.

“I hope [students] get to have an interesting chat and meet an interesting person, and maybe get a new perspective about what they could do when they graduate or what options are out there for them,” said Dray Perenic Price, UTM’s student development officer of outreach and engagement.

Students were able to schedule an appointment with the “living books” in advance or drop in and chat with them during the event. To help students choose which books to borrow, each participant chose a “title” to summarize their experiences and invite students to turn the first page.



CODY GRECO/THE MEDIUM

Students speak to human “books” during UTM’s second annual Living Library.

Pacinte Mattar, a UTM alumna and associate producer at the Canadian Broadcast Corporation—who called herself *It’s Complicated, But It’s Fun*—spoke to fifth-year student Sarah Gong about her role working on the CBC Radio show *The Current*.

“She told me about the process [of working] as a producer, what her day-to-day activities are like, the steps that they go through at the CBC,” explained Gong.

Last year’s Living Library drew ap-

proximately 80 students who had a chance to read 15 living books. “[Students] hoped we would do it again, which is why we are here this year,” said Kate McGartland-Kinsella, the student development officer of leadership and learning at UTM’s Office of Student Life.

The other books included former UN official Sven Spengemann, archaeologist Andrew Graham, Aboriginal elder Cat “Mark” Criger, world traveler and businessman Alex Barseghian,

poet Anna Yin, author Demetra Dimokopoulos, former City of Guelph chief of police Lenna Bradburn, and forensic anthropologist Tracy Rogers.

“I think the whole idea of the library is really neat,” said Prof. Ken Derry of the UTM Department of Historical Studies, who participated for the second time this year. “I think it’s amazing for students to be able to talk to a range of people about different things.”

Jazz vocalist and UTM alumna Sophie Milman also spoke to students.

“Unlike a regular book, there’s conversation going,” said Milman. “It’s not just about me but it’s about them, too.”

Milman titled herself *Immigration Unlimited* and spoke to students about her life as a Juno-winning artist and commerce graduate.

“It was nice to talk to two immigrant students because I’m a double immigrant myself,” said Milman. “To see these women, so different, from different places of the world, studying, thriving—it was wonderful.”

Staff from the UTM Department of Student Life, the Career Centre, the Department of Student Housing and Residence Life, the Office of Alumni Relations, the Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre, the Health and Counselling Centre, and the Equity and Diversity Office assembled the books.

“It’s a really cool way of learning,” said fourth-year participant Alice Yu. “I really like talking to people who are already successful, who already have their lives figured out.”

The event is modelled on similar “human book” events gaining popularity around the world, such as those held by the Human Library Organization in Europe.

UTM holds first-ever TEDx talk



JASMEEN VIRK/THE MEDIUM

Professor Monika Havelka speaks to the crowd about overcoming fear of failure.

LARISSA HO
NEWS EDITOR

The first TEDx talk at UTM saw speakers deliver presentations on the themes of “Are We, as a Human Race, Happy?,” “To Boldly Go,” and “Learning from Our Teachers” last Saturday.

Attendees were required to complete an application process in advance in order to hear the 10 speakers, including three UTM lecturers.

Some 100 attendees had coffee, took photos, and mingled in the decorated atrium of IB until they were ushered in at 11 a.m. for an opening address by the co-chairs, UTM students Sarah Israr and Sarah Adnan, and by Prof. Hugh Gunz, the inaugural director of the new Institute for Management and Innovation. The conference was sponsored by IMI, CCIT, the Office of the Dean, and the Office of Student Life.

Cawthra Park Secondary School’s dance ensemble opened with a performance to a Beatles medley. The evening also included a performance by guitarist Jesse Alarcon and a dance by the Erindale College African Students’ Association.

The speakers on the first theme discussed positive thinking, altruistic “third-gear” thinking, and the dangers of widespread “entitlementality.”

The “To Boldly Go” theme included a husband and wife who described stepping outside of one’s comfort zone, an entrepreneur who spoke about having passion for one’s goals, and an entertainment company president who said that it’s essential to “manufacture an obsession for your passion.”

After a break, Prof. Monika Havelka led the “Learning from Our Teachers” segment with a presentation on overcoming fear by building trusting relationships and embracing failure. Prof. Marc Dryer of UTM’s biomedical communications program spoke about bringing arts and science together, and Prof. Rhonda McEwen shared childhood stories and the life lessons she’s learned from her own teachers.

“The greatest thing about being a human is the never-ending capacity to learn,” said McEwen.

“The speakers were all remarkable storytellers,” said Dominik Nowak, a UTM alumnus and first-year medical student at McMaster, after the show.

The show was streamed live on the TEDxUTM website, and gift baskets were given to the attendee who tweeted the most and the one whose tweet was the most inspiring.

Adnan described how TEDx came to UTM in an email interview. Israr, the vice-president of the Student

Management Association, proposed the event. “When we went on to apply for the license of TEDx, they declined, saying that the only way we could be granted the licence is if we collaborated with a large institution such as the university as opposed to a student-run academic society,” said Adnan.

They connected with Mark Overton, the dean of student affairs, who referred them to the Office of Student Life, which then became the official UTM liaison with Kate McGartland-Kinsella, UTM’s student development officer for leadership and learning, aiding the two students in their efforts.

Adnan and Israr were given a 150-page manual for the event. “Since TED is a powerful, globally recognized brand, we had to make sure that we followed every single rule that came with the licence,” said Adnan.

“We’ve been talking about doing this for so long, so it’s great to see it come to fruition,” said McGartland-Kinsella. “The amount of work that has gone into this has been phenomenal.”

She said UTM is very likely to host a TEDx event again in the future.

TED is a non-profit organization founded in 1987. Its TEDx division licenses organizations around the world to organize TED-style events in their own communities.

Remembering the fallen

UTM observes Remembrance Day together

BAILEY GREEN

Students and faculty gathered in the rain on the steps of the Davis Building for the campus’s Remembrance Day ceremony last Monday.

The ceremony began with the sound of bagpipes. The bagpiper, Prof. Scott Munro of the Department of Geography, led a solemn procession of college officers and other attendees.

The manager of police services, Special Constable Len Paris, gave the opening address and introduced the vice-president and principal, Prof. Deep Saini.

“We are gathered to reflect, remember, and honour those who made the ultimate sacrifice,” said Saini. He went on to describe the respect due to our veterans and said that the campus is “humbled by their bravery.”

During Saini’s speech, a group of children from the Early Learning Centre joined the ceremony. Construction paper poppies flapped on their jackets as their teachers held their mittened hands.

Saini encouraged those present to consider the future of Canadian veterans, including those now returning home with post-traumatic stress disorder and other health challenges. “Our record is less than perfect. Let us strive to make it perfect,” Saini concluded.

Ro’a Saafan, UTMSU’s vice-president equity, read the iconic poem “In Flanders Fields,” written almost a century ago by Canadian physician Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae.

Throughout the ceremony, students passing by joined the edges of the swelling crowd. Munro played a bagpipe lament, while Saini and UTMSU president Raymond Noronha set down two wreaths, one yellow

and one made of red and white roses.

At 11 a.m., Paris called for two minutes of silence while the Canadian flag stood at half-mast. A recording of “Reveille” played over the speakers and ended the silence. Paris concluded the ceremony with Robert Laurence Binyon’s poem “For the Fallen.”

Various students and staff expressed their thoughts on the ceremony.

“As Canadians, I think it is important not only to remember the fallen [...] but also those who have made other sacrifices and the families who support them and feel their pain,” said UTM’s vice-principal academic and dean, Amy Mullin, in an email interview.

“Wear the poppy. Take time to read what’s going on in the world.”
—Cameron Grant

Professional writing professor Susan Walker, whose parents are veterans of World War II, echoed Saini’s sentiments.

“Canadian veterans of more recent wars and peacekeeping operations are suffering because the Harper government has reduced support for veterans, and their lives will never be the same,” she said.

Cameron Grant, a second-year theatre and drama studies student, said that Remembrance Day became more significant to him when his brother joined the service.

“Wear the poppy. Take time to read what’s going on in the world. We’re very lucky to be free and we should really appreciate that,” said Grant.

Feedback solicited on new referendum

Visit continued from Cover

The president ended his speech by opening the floor to questions. He solicited feedback on whether the union should or should not hold a new Student Centre expansion referendum, which would also involve a new proposal since rising construction costs mean not everything originally agreed on under the \$4-million proposal last year could be included for the same price this year. The initially successful Student Centre expansion referendum was thrown out last spring after failing to be ratified by UTMSU's board of directors due to a mishandling of the voter list.

Many students took to the floor to recommend that the referendum be rerun and to praise the points Noronha had raised. Lines quickly congregated at two microphones, of which one was functional, and Thompson explained that the line order would be altered in order to alternate between genders.

"Especially in regards to office space, I think [the referendum] was a really good initiative on the part of UTMSU," said Taneer Mukherjee, the president of the UTM Debating Club. "For certain reasons, it did fall through [...] but I support the Student Centre expansion."

Andjela Ocicek, the president of the UTM Athletic Council, requested clarification on how the expansion would be funded, to which Noronha responded that "unfortunately, students would have to bear some of the financial burden," but said that the university had offered to match students dollar-for-dollar for the first time last year. (In an answer at the principal's town hall last month, Mark Overton, the dean of student affairs, said that such an offer has existed since 2008.)

One early question about the necessity of a heated bus shelter was met with a reply by Noronha citing the now-infamous Middle Entrance sign and the costs associated with it. Throughout the event, several students reiterated that a heated bus shelter was essential, and that waiting in the Kaneff Centre was not an option because, as Noronha said, if you're running from Kaneff, "there are chances that you could fall and slip, and you don't want to be missing any of your courses, especially when you pay so much for your tuition." Hassan Havili, UTMSU's VP part-time affairs, described at

length the inadequacy of the current shelter and alleged that he and a friend had broken one of its benches by standing on it.

Oliver Clayton, UTMSU's LG-BTQ coordinator, asked that UTM-SU lobby for more gender-neutral, single-user washrooms and more queer space, describing the current office as smaller than the table in the room, including the space already used to house queer literature.

He also expressed doubt about the "gender parity" policy governing the turn-taking, saying that it genders the speaker unnecessarily and simplistically. This concern was subsequently raised by another student who said that it "actually emphasizes that someone's a man, someone's a woman".

Thompson replied that, based on precedent, the gender parity policy was in place to ensure that "different perspectives" were represented.

For the first time last year the Blind Duck did not require a written-off advance from UTMSU in order to end with more revenue than expense. However, it still required a student levy.

When the questions tapered off, VP internal Nausheen Adam took approximately five minutes to present the 15-page financial statements of the union and of the Blind Duck, which UTMSU is required to routinely present.

The report shows a surplus of revenue over expenditures of about \$205,000, compared to last year's \$39,000. Adam said that the figure is "less than it looks" because of expenses involved in long-awaited maintenance to the Student Centre's roof and other parts.

Other significant changes from the previous year included a \$61,300 decrease in InfoBooth revenues to a total of \$277,900, an \$86,100 increase in wage expenses to a total of \$592,000, an \$8,800 increase in photocopier expenses to a total of \$16,100, a \$13,700 increase in clubs expenses to a total of \$93,700, a \$146,200 decrease in InfoBooth expenses to a total of \$165,800, and \$7,100 decrease in meeting expenses to a total of \$26,800 (all figures

rounded to the nearest hundred).

In Schedule B, "Social Activities and Planning", ministry expenses and revenues each fell by some \$60,000, while Orientation, which saw a small deficit of about \$350 the previous year, netted an excess of revenues over expenditures of about \$67,300 last year. In Schedule D, "Academic Societies Affairs Committee", about \$10,000 less was given to societies compared to the previous year while revenues from student levies and the dean's contribution remained stable.

There was no discussion whatsoever of any of these specific figures in Adam's presentation, although she did attribute some of the expense decreases to Noronha having secured cheaper and better rates for supplies.

For the first time last year, said Adam, the Blind Duck did not require a written-off advance from UTMSU (\$28,500 in 2012) in order to end with an excess of revenues over expenditures. However, it still required a student levy, which this year totalled approximately \$81,000, to avoid a deficit that would otherwise have been approximately \$35,500. This point was clarified in the response to the one question that followed the presentation of the financials.

Adam moved to appoint the same auditors for the 2013/14 year. The motion was seconded by Cameron Wathey, UTSU's VP internal, which UTMSU VP campus life Grayce Slobodian contested in a point of order because Wathey is not a UTM student. After some confusion as to which of the UTSU executives present—which included president Munib Sajjad and VP equity Yolen Bollo-Kamara—held the honorary UTMSU vote, it was determined that Wathey did in fact hold it.

When Wathey was asked after the event why the UTSU executives were present, he replied that they were "just observing".

A few more students took the microphone at the end of the event to congratulate the union on a successful AGM and to promote upcoming events, including UTSU's AGM on November 27 as advertised by Sajjad, before the assembly broke for a dinner reception in the Green Room of the Student Centre.

The full audited financial statements of UTMSU and the Blind Duck can be viewed online at utmsu.ca/section/19.

» HAS THE POPPY LOST ITS SIGNIFICANCE?



Nadeen Jazrawi
4th year, English

I don't think so because it's kind of an eternal symbol.



Miryana Yalda
2nd year, CCIT

I think it's still significant, because so many people lost their lives for freedom.



Jialing Li
2nd year, biotechnology

It's for the spirit. Those who wear it try to remember the dead.



Kristos Tsilfidis
3rd year, CTEP

Personally, it hasn't.

UTM sets an example, says president

Visit continued from Cover

Gertler said the desire of students to get involved in research projects with faculty encourages him to create more opportunities for student involvement.

U of T's global connections, he added, are a great benefit to students, and he would like to tailor the experience to students, the majority of whom are commuter students "with multiple lives, various responsibilities" and who can't always participate with the same ease.

He discussed a pilot project in which students would have the opportunity to study abroad for one to two weeks with a faculty member and study a topic of interest related to the course.

"Once students have a taste of international experience like that,

they will find ways to get more," he said, adding that students also crave work opportunities, a desire he said has been accommodated with an increase in experiential learning and placements.

Gertler said that he also wants to scale up residences, of which there is a shortage on U of T campuses.

He finished by saying that the niche that UTM has carved out has much to do with its location.

"I think the UTM campus has been very successful in forging strong connections with the Region of Peel and the City of Mississauga and has really led the way and created an example for us to emulate on the St. George campus," he said. "Given my interest as an urban geographer and planner, I really like what I see at UTM and would love to bottle it somehow and spread it to the rest of U of T."

NEWS BRIEFS »

Experts warn of "superbugs" that could erase medical advances

Drug-resistant "superbugs" represent one of the gravest threats in the history of medicine, leading experts have warned. Bacteria could evolve to resist the drugs we use to combat them. The more the drugs circulate, the more bacteria are able to evolve to resist them. Strategies to combat the rise in resistance include prescribing fewer antibiotics.

Source: *The Independent*

Obama changing immigration rules, allows illegal stays

The Obama administration will allow some relatives of U.S. service members living in the country illegally to stay, according to a policy directive issued Friday. The department has long had the power to stop deportations for relatives of military members and veterans, but Friday's memo officially lays out how and when this exemption can be used.

Source: *The Associated Press*

Russian plane crashes on landing, all 50 aboard feared dead

A passenger airliner crashed and caught fire Sunday night while trying to land at the airport in the Russian city of Kazan, killing all 50 people aboard, officials said. The Boeing 737 belonging to Tatarstan Airlines was trying to make a second landing attempt when it touched the surface of the runway near the control tower, caught fire, and was destroyed.

Source: *The Toronto Star*

Hundreds arrested in international child porn investigation

Toronto police revealed details this morning of an international child sex abuse and pornography investigation that stretched across six continents and has led to hundreds of arrests, including 50 in Ontario and 58 in the rest of Canada. At a news conference Thursday, police said 348 people have been arrested and 386 children rescued.

Source: CBC News

Rob Ford spoofed on Saturday Night Live last weekend

Saturday Night Live opened with cast member Bobby Moynihan portraying Ford in a skit that parodied the mayor's repeated public apologies for such things as smoking crack, buying drugs, driving after drinking, and using vulgar language on live TV. The sketch also mocked the many unflattering photographs of Ford that have graced front pages recently.

Source: CBC News

MEDIUM OPINION

Editor-in-Chief | Luke Sawczak

Banning video coverage is a hit to communication

The UTM Students' Union removed a right the *Medium* had last year to take footage of their AGM

The *Medium* was barred from filming the UTM Students' Union's annual general meeting last Thursday.

On Wednesday afternoon, Raymond Noronha, the president of UTMSU, emailed me to say that we wouldn't be permitted to take footage or make a recording at the meeting. (Incidentally, we generally need more than one day to plan our weekly video.) I was surprised, and since I was on campus, I decided to ask Mr. Noronha about it in person.

There are a few reasons why I found the move bizarre. The purpose of the AGM is to broadcast the union's projects and audited financials to its members; it's designed to increase visibility and accessibility. Professional photographers are invited. Minutes are taken. Members are even allowed to vote by proxy if they can't attend in person, a policy the union cites as democratic. As Mr. Noronha said at the AGM, "UTMSU is a very transparent organization."

But video coverage is, apparently, beyond the pale. That was the message I got as I talked to Mr. Noronha about it on Wednesday. His argument was that members had approached

him with concerns about being filmed. Such concerns would strike me as more valid if stepping up to a microphone to speak about an organization in a recorded meeting open to all its members were a privacy liability and if we were interested in voyeurism. But of course neither condition has a basis in fact.

Nor was I convinced by Mr. Noronha's point that non-members might watch the video; a quick visit to UTMSU's website yields unrestricted access to board minutes, AGM minutes, audited financials, and more. Not that I think they should be taken down—quite the contrary. I just don't think there's a risk of non-members looking for and abusing that information.

The *Medium* was actually allowed to take footage last year (which was eventually used without sound as a backdrop for interview audio not taken during that AGM), and Mr. Noronha confirmed that no policy had changed since then. He reiterated that he was in a tight spot in having skittish members to accommodate on the one hand and us to accommodate on the other. I want

to point out that our editing staff and intended audience are also his constituents. He had no compromises to propose, which is not surprising, since between taking footage and not taking footage there aren't many. When an email on Thursday repeated the stance that no footage could be taken, I understood it as a choice of whom to accommodate.

Clauses referring to official publications, often requiring that sufficient notice be given of an important meeting, are not generousities but essential checks on representative bodies.

More precisely, though, it's not even an accommodation. It's an obligation to allow independent media coverage of a company's accountability meeting. This is why official publications are often referred to in constitutions and by-laws, including UTMSU's, which mentions the "cam-

pus publication" (i.e. the *Medium*) in connection with certain requirements on the organization to give proper notices to the public. Such clauses are not generousities but essential checks on representative bodies, and they, along with long-standing precedents, have allowed the *Medium* to throw down attempts by the union in recent years to bar even photo coverage of some events. Unfortunately, video coverage is too recent to enjoy that legal protection.

I did insist on our right to record audio, without which a modern journalist can hardly do the job. Video coverage would admittedly be more cosmetic than functional in this case, but—especially considering the various other means by which AGMs are recorded anyway—it's all the more harmless for that.

In the end, I didn't think it was a battle worth fighting, and so we didn't bring a videographer. However, my last email to UTMSU had said that I plan to. I didn't get a reply, but we did find the sign-in room decorated with three or four printed "NO VIDEO SURVEILLANCE" signs and we were not allowed to enter until news editor

Larissa Ho's purse had been searched for hidden cameras.

This was the first AGM of UTMSU's that I've attended, and it was an enlightening experience. Among the praise of past successes and future projects, there were several serious questions and new facts brought up by various attendees, which you can read about in detail in the cover article of our news section this week. In my opinion, it's the most important event the union holds in a year, and the more eyes on it the better.

Hopefully you will find a video on it as well next year. As Mr. Noronha said to me, he's been trying to facilitate communication between the *Medium* and UTMSU. It's true that there have been few hiccups this year, and I sincerely appreciate his efforts to strengthen an important connection (if not a collaboration). Still, I can't help but think that removing access that the campus publication had last year is a step in the opposite direction.

YOURS,

LUKE SAWCZAK



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MEDIUM A&E

Editor | Colleen Munro

A fitting tribute to one of Canada's trailblazers

Ex-*Chatelaine* editor Doris Anderson is the subject of Theatre Erindale's latest production, *Rebel Daughter*

COLLEEN MUNRO
A&E EDITOR

An important figure in Canadian history, **Doris Anderson** proves a fitting subject for Theatre Erindale's current season, titled "Uppity Women!". Their latest production, *Rebel Daughter*, delves into the life of Anderson, a groundbreaking magazine editor and feminist, who passed away at the age of 85 in 2007.

Rebel Daughter was adapted by the third-year class in the UTM/Sheridan joint theatre studies program from Anderson's autobiography. We follow Anderson from the earliest stages of her life well into her 20-year editorship at the Canadian magazine *Chatelaine*, creating a well-rounded look at a fascinating character. Exploring Anderson's life as a boundary-breaking career woman as well as a complicated individual, *Rebel Daughter* hits some of the expected notes and life events that you would expect a play of its kind to hit, and it does so effectively, constantly raising the emotional stakes as it goes along.

However, the way the actors portray her life story is far from expected. Instead of following typical casting conventions and having one actress portray Anderson throughout the play, every female cast member gets her turn to portray a segment of Anderson's life, and each actress offers a slightly different approach to Anderson, bringing out her many facets. Whether she's exerting her ne-



A young Doris Anderson (Madeleine Brown, second from left) gets an eyeful in *Rebel Daughter*. JIM SMAGATA/PHOTO

gotiation skills in hopes of receiving a promotion or exhaustedly bickering with her husband at home, Anderson makes for a compelling subject. The rotating actresses also echo an important theme explored in the play: it's impossible to boil something as complex as womanhood down to one set of traits. In her work at *Chatelaine*, the play shows Anderson fighting to portray a well-rounded "Canadian woman" and pushing the envelope of appropriate discussion in a woman's magazine. The choices made by the actresses in *Rebel Daughter* seem to reflect their own views of Anderson, her work, and her accomplishments.

Throughout the play, the large ensemble all take on a variety of roles,

portraying a large cast of characters who played an important part, overtly or subtly, in Anderson's career and personal relationships. To the credit both of the actors and of director **Heinar Piller**, the play doesn't end up feeling muddled. With so many periphery roles and over a dozen different actresses portraying the same character, things easily could have become confusing, but the narrative is easy to follow.

But while it may not be confusing, the story does feel somewhat briskly paced at times. The play admirably covers a lot of ground in Anderson's life; we see many different moments and anecdotes from different periods of her life. Many scenes are well-

developed and perfectly pitched—for example, one early scene offers a bleak look at Anderson's tough childhood during the Great Depression—but there's so much material to cover that, during other moments in *Rebel Daughter*, it feels like there isn't room to stop to take a breath before we bustle on to the next scene.

The commitment to unique storytelling here can't go unnoticed, though. There are many creative uses of the large cast, who play a classical Greek chorus, a train, and the modern-day *Chatelaine* editorial team tasked with eulogizing Anderson after her death. They're kept busy, to say the least.

There are also many humorous mo-

ments that feel a bit unexpected given the subject but are certainly not unwelcome. While *Rebel Daughter* isn't exactly a comedy, it expertly navigates difficult transitions between intensely emotional moments and laugh-out-loud humour, effectively portraying the complicated mixture of tragedy and humour that can be at odds in a person's life.

Keeping the staging, costumes, and props simple, Piller ensures that the focus remains on Anderson's compelling life story. It proves that you don't need a lot to make something important, complementing Anderson's own ability to transcend her humble beginnings. The use of a screen to show pictures and convey biographical information doesn't feel heavy-handed, instead serving as an effective storytelling device that recreates the effect of flipping through a scrapbook or photo album to learn more about someone's life.

Adding an extra little bit of emotional resonance, Anderson's son, **Stephen Anderson**, was actually in the crowd to take in the production on opening night. This only added to the intensely personal feel of the play. And though my perspective may be that of an outsider, *Rebel Daughter* feels to me like a loving and fitting tribute to a groundbreaking Canadian figure whose influence lives on.

Rebel Daughter runs until November 24 at the Erindale Studio Theatre. Visit theatreerindale.com for more information.

The sweet sound of a little friendly competition

Four bands battle it out in the pub at Sound Summit for prizes in the first event of its kind at UTM

ANGIE LIU

Dimmed lights and excited students inside the Blind Duck marked the beginning of Sound Summit, a "battle of the bands" event that was a joint effort between the CFRE radio station, the UTM Music Club, and the ICCIT Council last Thursday.

The doors opened at 9 p.m. and the room was bustling with students an hour later. The night's lineup included four bands—**Real Bear**, **New Design**, **Trove**, and **J'Nai**—all competing for the grand prize of \$250 and the two runner-up prizes of \$50 gift cards to Long & McQuade.

The first band, Real Bear, took to the stage at 10:30 p.m. Although the attendees were scattered between the front of the stage and the bar, Real Bear received an enthusiastic welcome and had the crowd joining in by their second song, "Pieces of a Different Puzzle", an upbeat rock song. Though their style was not as heavy as those of the other bands that night, it got people nodding their heads and even dancing. Band members **Elton Fernandes**,



Students had the opportunity to take in four diverse bands at Sound Summit last Thursday. MARIA NG/THE MEDIUM

Brandon Bianco, **Mike Papaloni**, and **Carmen Haines** have been playing together since 2011; all agreed that this was their favourite venue to date.

The night's second act was New Design, whose EP was one of the raffle prizes given out that night. As the night progressed, the energy in the room picked up and the crowd gathered in front of the stage.

Attendees started a mosh pit during Trove's set. **Ray Khan**, a member of ICCIT Council who helped book the bands for the night, said, "The mosh pit was the greatest thing ever." Trove, clearly pleased with the enthusiasm of the audience, celebrated the end of their set by tackling each other to the ground—pretty hardcore for a student band. Trove member **Matt "Chewy"**

Chaitram, who claims that mosh pits are normal at most of their shows, describes their style as hard rock, though they prefer to refer to it as "dirt rock".

Corey Belford, CFRE's marketing director, confirmed that 160 tickets had been sold for the event, a better turnout than expected. "Outside the UMC and CFRE there isn't much of a culture [for alternative music on cam-

pus]. We had to find the audience," said Belford. Weekly meetings between the three clubs were necessary for planning the event, and promoting the event, said Belford, "ultimately [came] down to word of mouth, much like how music is shared these days."

The last band of the night, and a favourite of many students at Sound Summit, was J'Nai. Although some students had begun to leave by the time J'Nai took the stage, those who stayed jumped, danced, and joined yet another mosh pit. The four members of J'Nai took to the stage and made themselves at home. Lead singer **Jeanette**'s performance involved a lot of head-banging and hip-shaking. As for her vocal ability, she says she's been compared to **Paramore's Haley Williams** and that her childhood inspirations included **Michelle Branch** and **Courtney Love**. This was evident during their set, which ended at 1 a.m.

The night ended with Trove claiming first place and Real Bear and New Design being named the runners-up. With any luck, Sound Summit will return next year.

Music with impact

War Requiem explores many facets of battle



THEGUARDIAN.COM/PHOTO

Benjamin Britten would have turned 100 this week.

KATE CATTELL-DANIELS
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

The new recording of **Benjamin Britten's** *War Requiem*, conducted by **Antonio Pappano**, is a little terrifying, especially released so close to Remembrance Day. To begin with, Britten makes bold choices in his use of language: he writes opera in English, for one, instead of the more traditional Italian or German. Britten is obviously a different kind of storyteller in that the soundscape, instead of the lyrics, constructs a narrative.

This music is not the kind of thing a person listens to on their morning commute; indeed, this is the first time in a while that I've purposely sat down and listened to such a long piece. For me, music is usually a backdrop to another activity, like making a grocery list or folding the laundry, but with *War Requiem*, this is essentially impossible. The disjointed rhythms and powerful vocals command attention and refuse to be ignored.

War Requiem is stealthy. At times, it's nearly non-existent or deceptively cheerful or gentle, only to come crashing in a moment later with vocals powerful enough to shatter any sense of security. I became somewhat wary of the music, kept in a constant state of fight-or-flight jumpiness. This, I think, is what Britten was after: a brutal piece that provides no sense of soothing or relaxation, but rather a sense-jarring experience that doesn't exactly imitate, but at least acknowledges, the fear and violence of war.

Not a particular connoisseur of classical music myself, listening to Britten's *War Requiem* was nonetheless an experience that pushed the boundaries of my personal musical comfort zone. Released just in time for Britten's 100th birthday on November 22, this album seems an appropriate way to commemorate the composer and those still keeping his music alive.

War Requiem will be released on November 19.

Student art takes Davis

DVSSS Fall Art Sale lets student artists show off their craft



JASMEEN VIRK/THE MEDIUM

A variety of media and subjects were on display at the DVSSS Fall Art Sale.

CHRISTINE SHARMA

The UTM Department of Visual Studies Student Society held their four-day Fall Art Sale last Monday to Thursday in the Davis Building, where students were able to admire and purchase artwork from UTM's student artists.

The artists were given the option of forwarding all the proceeds from their art sales to future DVSSS events, or of splitting them with DVSSS.

A variety of artwork was available for sale, presented near an eye-catching DVSSS banner and two DVSSS executives serving as art vendors. Smaller prints and photographs were

spread across the table, while larger, more expensive paintings stood on a farther table. Artists used different media to project their visions onto canvases and paper. One piece of art incorporated ink and photography in black and white to create images inspired by the human body. Another artist painted an abstract living room on a medium-sized canvas. Several others created watercolour headshot portraits on canvas.

Understanding that UTM students might not have the funds or the space for the large canvas works, DVSSS also had many smaller prints of ink drawings, etchings, photography, or a combination of media. Prices ranged

from \$2 for the small etchings to over \$100 for large canvas paintings, giving students a plethora of choices.

"Our goal is to get ourselves known and to get the artists known," said **Cherie Novocosky**, the DVSSS art and art history liaison.

The society will hold a second art sale in February. Their other events include an art exhibition, a portfolio critique, a film festival, and the "Pen Pal Project", in which students, alumni, and faculty sent anonymous artwork to other participants.

DVSSS was formed in 2011 to serve students in art and art history, cinema studies, and visual culture and communications programs.

Middle Eastern culture in the spotlight



COLLEEN MUNRO/THE MEDIUM

"A Night in the Middle East" offered performances that celebrated Middle Eastern culture.

COLLEEN MUNRO
A&E EDITOR

Culture and community took centre stage at the Middle Eastern Students' Association's latest event, "A Night in the Middle East", last Friday in the CCT Building. Coming on the heels of last year's Arab Culture Day, this cultural event from MESA highlighted the art, history, and traditions of the Middle East with high spirits and a dazzling array of colours.

The night began with an opening reception in the CCT atrium, filled with an eager crowd of attendees who were offered refreshments and a chance to chat before the show. Tables were lined with artwork, textiles, and other cultural artifacts from various regions of the Middle East. There was even a station for traditional henna

tattooing. The MESA executives and event volunteers wore traditional outfits and created a warm and welcoming atmosphere for those interested in buying tickets to the event, learning about the culture of the Middle East, or enjoying snacks.

About an hour later, the doors of CCT 1080 were opened and the performance portion of the night began. One thing that set this event apart from some of UTM's other cultural offerings was the focus on community. This wasn't just a night for UTM students; friends, family, and community members of all ages came out to the show, and the buzz of conversation and laughter in the room certainly showed the enthusiasm for the event.

This community focus was evident in the first performance of the night,

which featured dancers from Jabal Al-Zaytoon. Entertaining the crowd with a lively traditional dance, the act included young people of all ages and evoked a warm response from the audience who cheered on the performers as they exited the stage.

The night's line-up also included poetry by **Frishta Bastan**, a cultural fashion show, dance performances by members of the Persian and Afghan Students' Association, and a variety of other acts and speakers.

As printed in the program for "A Night in the Middle East", MESA aims to "[blur] the culture and ethnic boundaries to enrich the UTM student body and to create an open environment". The event was a good opportunity for students to celebrate, learn about, and feel welcomed into cultural traditions.

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Bringing a sci-fi classic to the screen

Orson Scott Card's *Ender's Game* receives a passable Hollywood treatment

MARIA RUIZ

When a movie adaptation of a book hits theatres, my reaction is always mixed; I know that I'll inevitably compare the film to the book. *Ender's Game*, a science fiction flick that opened on November 1, appealed to me precisely for this reason. It's based on **Orson Scott Card's** novel of the same name, a book I enjoyed for its complexity and originality.

The plot unfolds sometime in Earth's future—a future in which insect-like aliens have launched two failed attempts at conquering Earth. The second time, the humans were nearly defeated and were only victorious thanks to the brilliance of the military commander Mazer Rackham (**Ben Kingsley**). To ensure Earth will be better prepared should the Formics return for a third assault, Earth resorts to recruiting the most intelligent children around the world and training them in military strategy from an uncomfortably young age in the hopes of creating another Mazer Rackham.

The story begins when Andrew "Ender" Wiggins (**Asa Butterfield**), the young protagonist singled out as especially promising for this role, is finally cleared to attend Battle School, a special training facility designed to breed brilliant military strategists. The film chronicles Ender's journey to this special school where he must overcome the



Ender (Asa Butterfield) consults Colonel Graff (Harrison Ford) in *Ender's Game*.

COLLIDER.COM/PHOTO

grueling challenges he faces continually at the hands of Colonel Graff (**Harrison Ford**) and Major Anderson (**Viola Davis**), both tasked with moulding him into the greatest military commander in history.

Director and screenwriter **Gavin Hood** made a smart choice in simplifying the book's complicated

multiple storylines and bringing out the core message of the story: the negative psychological effects of warfare. The action unfolds primarily through Ender's perspective, and his inner thoughts and subtle details about his new environment are conveyed to the audience through the letters he sends to his sister, Val-

entine (**Abigail Breslin**), back on Earth. The film also incorporates discussions between Graff and Anderson about Ender and his progress in order to show the audience how high the stakes are. The two different perspectives come together to effectively emphasize the sheer desperation of the human race, as

well as the complex ethical dilemma in grooming children to master the art of war at such a tender age. Card summed it up nicely himself: "As we watch the adults struggle to get control of Ender, we pity him because of what's happening to him, but we want the adults to succeed." The motifs of games and strategy are also used to great effect to portray the dangers of presenting war as just another game to be won.

Despite the film's excellent handling of the philosophical and ethical concerns it raises, it fell short of the mark on a few details. As is usually the case with film adaptations of books, the film was very quick-paced and hardly paused to establish or develop important relationships between the characters. The believability of some events was also sacrificed in favour of speeding up the movie, and while it's undeniable that Ender is a prodigy among prodigies, he triumphs too easily and without the nuances depicted in the book.

Overall, the film managed to achieve the classic balance required of adaptations and remain faithful to the original work while meeting the demands of a different medium. Its biggest success is that it's not a fast-paced action flick disguised as sci-fi—amid the spaceships, gadgets, aliens, and stunning visual effects, this movie will definitely make you think. **MMM**

Jane Austen for the 21st century

Emma Approved adapts a classic novel to the web series format



THEVIDEOINK.COM/PHOTO

Emma Woodhouse (Joanna Sotumara) and Alex Knightly (Brent Bailey) in *Emma Approved*.

LAURA MCCALLUM

Emma Approved, the newest webseries by writer **Bernie Su**, is bringing attention back to classic literature. A modern adaption of **Jane Austen's** *Emma*, the series follows Emma Woodhouse (**Joanna Sotumara**), who works as an entrepreneurial matchmaker and life coach. Her lifelong friend and business partner, Alex Knightley (**Brent Bailey**), acts as a buffer for her ridiculous schemes and antics as she pursues her romantic matchups.

The series will closely follow the plot of the novel, with a few deviations to better fit its modern setting. It's expected to run for about a year, with a wide range of characters and changing settings to do the text justice. Only a few episodes in, people are already praising the series for its two-camera video format and the casting of an Asian-American actress in the lead role.

Riding on the success of his previous series, the Emmy-award winning *Lizzie Bennet Diaries* (based on Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*) and the miniseries *Welcome to Sanditon* (based on Austen's last, unfinished novel before her death), Su once again teams up with executive producer **Hank Green** of *Vlogbrothers* fame to create another new and exciting classical adaption.

Pemberly Digital, which hosts the series, allows fans to connect with characters through social media and witness real-time interactions between characters on Twitter and Facebook that further enhance the plot. The show uses a fictional video program called Domino, similar to FaceTime, which allows characters to video chat with each other to reduce the show's production budget and to create fast-paced episodes that feature several actors without requiring a large set.

In this adaption, the production team has chosen for the videos to exist "out-world", meaning the characters are aware that they are being filmed (for the sake of documenting Emma's greatness and achievements), yet are unaware that the videos are being uploaded to YouTube. In the previous series, characters supposedly watched the episodes to glean information and respond with their own videos. This series will run similarly to a television series like *The Office*, in which characters address the camera yet never view the episodes.

Fans of Austen or those who've studied her contemporaries at UTM will likely love this modern adaption and the ingenuity in adapting the story with less emphasis on romantic ideals, making it accessible to a wider audience. If you haven't read the source material, just sit back, relax, and enjoy the ride.

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MEDIUM FEATURES

Editor | Maria Cruz

Poetry as a means of finding one's soul

Chinese-Canadian poet Anna Yin talked with students at UTM's Living Library last week

MARIA CRUZ
FEATURES EDITOR

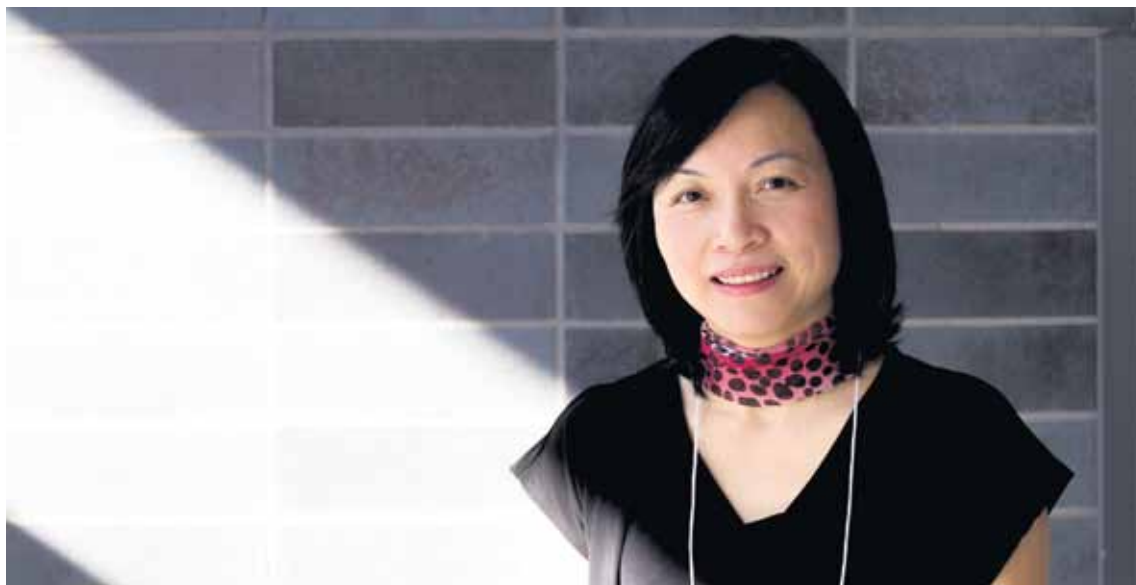
UTM's Living Library was hosted in the Instructional Building café last week, providing students with the opportunity to speak with and learn more about several important figures in their fields of interest.

Among those who attended was Anna Yin, a Chinese poet who immigrated to Canada in 1999 and who has been writing for the past 10 years. Yin has published hundreds of poems internationally and was a finalist for Canada's Top 25 Canadian Immigrants Award in both 2011 and 2012.

Yin visited the Living Library for the first time this year and sat down with me to discuss the role poetry plays in her life, why she called her living book, *Poetry Alive*, and the advice she has for aspiring poets.

The Medium: Are you excited for your first year here?

Anna Yin: Yes, I have always enjoyed talking with students. I



CODY GRECO/THE MEDIUM

Anna Yin was one of many "human books" on display at the Living Library.

want to share stories about myself because I found it very difficult to balance my life with my writing. So I always encourage them to have a good balance—otherwise, you're miserable. Even if you have really good talent, you need to have the patience. I also really enjoy it

because students have really open minds.

TM: What made you decide to come here?

AY: Alan [Lovette], the librarian, asked me because he knows I have a long story. He knows why I started writing and he thought it was

good inspiration for students. Also, I came here because I think I can share the balance. I don't want people to lack the balance [between life and writing]. If I'm invited again, I would like to come back here.

TM: How do you find that balance?

AY: If you love writing very much, you wouldn't give up. So, you just need some patience, and you focus on making your life right now, and it will come back to you. For me, poetry found me because at that time I focused on my life, studying, working, and being a wife and mother. I lost myself, I was so busy with my life. Then I read a story to my son and wanted to express myself again—I found my writing again.

TM: Can you share a bit more about your collections?

AY: My first collection, *Wings Toward Sunlight*, was published in 2011. Actually, it came out as a final project because I took creative writing and these were my final 14 pages of poems. For that project, I also wanted to make it a book, which is why I made it into a manuscript. My professor said my voice is unique and fresh and I published my second collection, *Inhaling the Silence*, in 2013.

Anna continued on page 10

A helpline for Ontario postsecondary students

Since its official launch last month, Ontario's Good2Talk has received 800 calls and counting

MARIA CRUZ
FEATURES EDITOR

Last week, the UTM Health and Counselling Centre informed students about a new helpline, Good2Talk, through an update on their website. UTM hosts several offices that offer similar services (for example, handling stress or coping with eating disorders). One advantage of Good2Talk is its accessibility—it's available for free 24/7.

Good2Talk's lines have been active and accepting calls since mid-June of this year but were formally launched on October 4.

"This line is designed around the stresses, cultures, various demographics of postsecondary students. What we want out of this is [to be] willing and ready and best suited to help them and also be a resource for them," said Justin Hanna, marketing and communications manager at Good2Talk, in an interview with the *Medium*. "We want students to know we're here for them and we want students to know that we will do everything we can to make sure that our service remains relevant for them."

Hanna said one of the goals of the helpline is to provide information about health centres on campus, and also to give students someone to vent to when needed.

The service, funded by the provin-



PITCHINSIDE.COM/PHOTO

Ontario's Ministry of Health pledged \$257 million to their Mental Health and Addictions Strategy.

cial government through the Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities, is available only to Ontario postsecondary students.

The Ministry of Training, Colleges, and Universities and the Ministry of Health noticed a huge spike in students' demand for services, according to Hanna, and created a mental health innovation fund in response. "Part of the money from this fund was used to create Good2Talk as an additional resource for students to be able to access professional counselling and information," said Hanna.

Since Good2Talk is in its early days, Hanna and the team of specialists are still seeking feedback. For the next year and a half, the line will remain a telephone-only service, but after the first round of evaluation comes back to the team, changes will be made according to students' requests.

Hanna is aware that students may be reluctant to speak about their problems with a stranger, especially over the phone.

"Our service is 100% confidential and anonymous. We don't ask what

someone's name is or where they live or what school they go to," said Hanna. "I think for many students who are facing their stresses, big or small, they want to know and like to know that this conversation [they're] about to undertake is 100% anonymous. And that's a calming thing for them."

"The other [great] thing about the phone counselling service is that it's 24/7, 365," he added. "Whether a student is calling at 2 p.m. or 2 a.m., they're going to get somebody on the phone who's going to be able and willing and ready."

According to Hanna, the average wait time to speak to a professional on Good2Talk is 46 seconds, a number Good2Talk staff pride themselves on and will keep working to improve.

The helpline is already looking to add to their services as the volume of students using it increases. Since its formal launch, 800 calls have been made to their phones.

"We, from a counselling and staffing point of view, definitely plan and try to forecast as best as we can, and track when the highest call volume is and on which days, and what are the peak times, and we staff accordingly," Hanna said. "What's most important for us and what we put a tremendous of time and energy [into] is being sure that those wait times stay incredibly low."

Good2Talk's goal is to ally with colleges and universities to help as many people as they can, he added, and he hopes other provinces will follow Ontario's lead. "There's no doubt that when the emotional health of students is well taken care of, you're investing in the future of your province and the economic prosperity of your province," said Hanna.

The project is paid for by part of Ontario's \$257-million Mental Health and Addictions Strategy budget announced in 2011.

If you want to reach the helpline, call 1-866-925-5454.

Snappy study snacks for students

These quick, easy recipes will ease rumbling tummies during exam time



FEASTINGATHOME.COM/PHOTO

With snacks like this, it'll be hard to focus on studying.

MADELEINE BROWN
ASSOCIATE FEATURES EDITOR

OK, I'll fess up: my bedtime is pretty early (in the morning); the bags under my eyes are getting darker (and I've given up on concealer); and I've spent more time with my textbooks this past week than my friends. Sounds like it's November.

With sleep deficiency and the high stress levels, it's the most important time of the year to make sure that you're not running on an empty stomach and are fueling your hard work. And, no, that

doesn't mean chugging a couple of energy drinks or popping half a dozen loonies into the nearest vending machine.

The following recipes are simple, flexible, and sure to satisfy your appetite for a long period of time. You can make them in double batches at the beginning of the week, so they're ready to eat at any time and easy to divide into single servings and slip into your backpack before you head to class. Because—let's be honest—with everything that's on your plate at the moment, you don't need one more thing to worry about.

NO-BAKE ENERGY BITES

PREP TIME: 10 MIN
CHILL TIME: 30–60 MIN

What serves up energy better than a bite-sized ball of Nutella covered goodness? Chilled to perfection, these energy bites are sure to give students the boost they desperately need when studying for their exams.

Can't make the Sophie's choice between using peanut butter or Nutella? Use 1/4 cup of each. Make sure you store the bites in the refrigerator.

INGREDIENTS

1–1½ cups large-flake oatmeal (vary the amount depending on your desired consistency)
½ cup peanut butter or Nutella
½ cup honey
1 cup unsweetened desiccated coconut or coconut flakes
½ cup chocolate chips

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Mix the oatmeal, peanut butter or Nutella, honey, coconut, and chocolate chips in a bowl.
2. Chill in the refrigerator for 30 to 60 minutes.
3. Roll into bite-size balls.

HONEY-ROASTED NUTS

PREP TIME: 10 MIN
COOK TIME: 30 MIN

If you're feeling adventurous, add some of your favourite spices, such as cinnamon, ground ginger, or cayenne pepper for an added kick.

INGREDIENTS

2 cups unsalted nuts, any kind
¼ cup honey
¼ cup granulated white sugar
¾ tsp salt

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 300 F and line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper or tin foil.
2. Mix the nuts, sugar, salt, and spices (optional) in a bowl.
3. Heat the honey in a large saucepan on high heat until boiling. Cook for 2 minutes and take off the heat.
4. Quickly pour the honey over the mixture until the nuts are coated.
5. Place the nuts in a single layer on the baking sheet.
6. Place the baking sheet in the oven and bake for 30 minutes, stirring the nuts every 10 minutes.
7. Remove from the oven and cool.

GARLIC PARMESAN POPCORN

PREP TIME: 5 MIN

Buying a bag of popcorn kernels and popping them yourself is cheaper and healthier than the premade version. Below is one option for seasoning it; also, try replacing everything that's not popcorn with a teaspoon of melted butter and either hot sauce, Kraft Dinner cheese, or the seasoning from a kimchi-flavoured ramen package. You can also omit the olive oil/butter.

INGREDIENTS

1/4 cup popcorn kernels
1 tsp olive oil
2 tbsp grated parmesan cheese
1/4 tsp garlic powder
Pinch of ground black pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the popcorn kernels in a microwave-safe container or brown paper bag and microwave for 2 minutes. If not all the kernels pop, keep putting it in again for 30 seconds at a time until they do.
2. Add whichever seasoning mix you prepared to the popcorn and shake until the popcorn is coated and the cheese is melted.



The Medium's Writing Contest

Open to all UTM students | Free entry

Submission: Sunday, November 17 – Sunday, December 22

Publication: Runners-up on January 20, winners on January 27

Categories: Fiction, Non-fiction, Poetry

Limit: 1 entry per category per participant; new work preferred

Prizes: Winner: \$100, Runner-up: \$50

Per category

Submit to Luke Sawczak at editor@mediumutm.ca.

Max. 1,200 words for prose or 40 lines for poetry.

Winners will be published with judges' comments and short biographies. Submissions may be lightly edited for length.

Judges: Larissa Ho, Maria Cruz, Colleen Munro, Jason Coelho, Luke Sawczak, and Olga Tkachenko



An afternoon with the poet Anna Yin

Anna continued from page 10

The Medium: Which poem meant the most to you when it was written?

Anna Yin: “For Irving Layton”. It isn’t my favourite, but it’s my story.

TM: You were able to capture your life story in a single poem?

AY: In 2011, Irving Layton’s son, Max Layton, asked me to help him organize Irving’s 100th birthday anniversary, because I host a lot of events in Mississauga. So I did some research on Irving Layton and he said that poetry shows the dark of our soul. But I disagree because I think poetry saved me. It let me see myself, and it made me feel hopeful, and that’s why I wrote this.

TM: How did poetry save you?

AY: After I came to Canada, I always worked in the IT field. As an immigrant family, we don’t spend a lot of money so I felt like there was no excitement. I read The Emperor’s New Clothes to my son, and at night, I couldn’t sleep because the boy in the story asked who he was and I found that I was lost and so sad. So I began to write. And after my writing, I posted on the Chinese immigrant forum and some people [didn’t] believe I was an immigrant, which made me happy because I thought, “I can write.” Then I just continued.

TM: Do you have anything in the works right now?

AY: I have a manuscript going out next week and I’ve also translated the Governor General Awards winners’

poems and I introduced them to China, so they’re publishing my translations. I also want to have a book of translations out and I want to keep doing workshops.

TM: What appeals to you about workshops?

AY: When inspiration hits me, I only have so much time to write. I’m the kind of person, I don’t want to say too much—I want to leave much to the reader. So poetry is the perfect tool for me. Also, I found I can combine Chinese culture and beauty into a Western style. So I wanted to use the workshops to continue it.

TM: What is the one piece of advice you’d give aspiring poets?

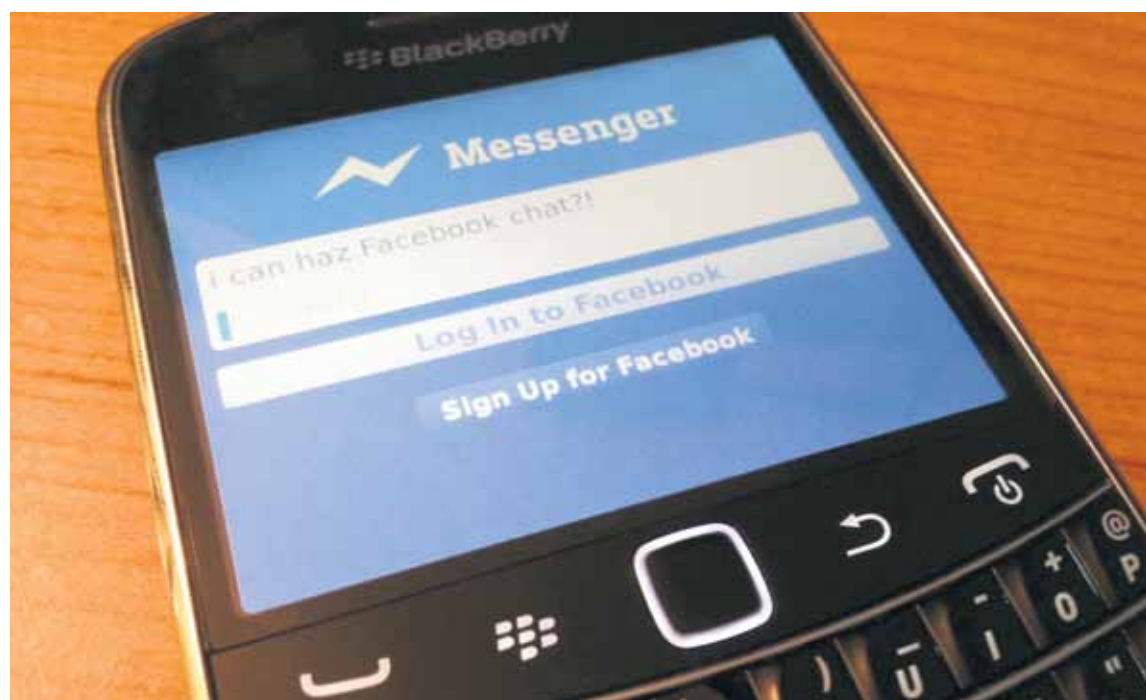
AY: Be patient and be grateful, because for me, on my journey, a lot of people encouraged me—otherwise I would already have given up. Also, find a good mentor and have a positive attitude, because sometimes it’s really frustrating.

TM: When it comes down to it, what does poetry mean to you?

AY: I found my soul. And I connect with other souls as well, readers and poets or anyone else. I discover myself again. I also see the other world, and I’m more understanding and compassionate. For example, I may complain, but now I’m more appreciative because I see the beauties there. [Poetry’s] meaning for me is that you leave your footprint. For me, life after death, what happens? I would really like to leave something for the world.

What’s next for BlackBerry

The UTM Investment Club discusses the company’s next move



COMMSMEA.COM/PHOTO

BlackBerry is trying to merge with Facebook to save their company.

ALPER BILGE

Facebook Inc. has spoken with BlackBerry executives in California about a potential takeover that could benefit both the struggling smartphone company and Facebook, who could use using BlackBerry’s assets to sell smartphones of their own.

Facebook’s CEO Mark Zuckerberg has publicly denied wanting to build his own smartphone, and although it’s still unclear whether Facebook is interested in placing a bid, BlackBerry is an attractive investment because of its assets: \$2.6 billion and no debt. The company also has patents valued

between \$1 and \$3 billion, consisting of exclusive rights to technologies that other smartphone makers don’t have. BlackBerry has 70 million subscribers and more than 80 million people use their instant messaging service, BBM.

However, things aren’t perfect at BlackBerry, either. In August, it was announced that the Waterloo, Ontario company would be put up for sale; 4,500 jobs were cut this year, including that of its former CEO, Thorsten Heins. BlackBerry declined Fairfax Financial Holdings’ bid to take over the company for \$4.7 billion, but Fairfax later invested \$1 billion in the company.

BlackBerry’s future lies in the hands of John Chen, the executive chairman and interim CEO. Chen will receive a \$1-million annual salary and a performance bonus of \$2 million. Chen’s real chance to make money is 13 million restricted BlackBerry shares, worth about \$84 million. These shares can only be exercised and sold for cash once the share price is \$20, compared to the low of \$6.50 as reported by the Globe and Mail on October 30. Chen will have to stick around for three years to receive 25% of those shares, four years for the next 25%, and a full five years for the remaining 50%.

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Revisiting our green projects

Students can get involved in reducing UTM’s footprint

MARIA CRUZ FEATURES EDITOR

Wondering why it seems impossible to get a bottle of water on campus? It’s because of the bottled water ban, one of UTM’s recent green initiatives.

At UTM, Facilities Management and Planning is responsible for campus construction, renovation, and maintenance, as well as the energy projects and green buildings on campus—including the three LEED-certified buildings on campus and the two that are currently under construction.

From the bottled water ban to the anti-litter campaign launched in September, Facilities Management and Planning and UTM environmentalists are gradually working on making the campus greener.

As a fairly large university, this campus has a large impact on the environment. Many students commute to and live on campus, so it’s important that those who spend so much time at UTM reduce their carbon footprint, says Chelsea Dalton, Facilities and Management Planning’s environmental and sustainability coordinator. Dalton adds that as leaders and innovators, universities should be green and strive to be leaders in sustainability.

It can be hard to motivate people to add what are often inconveniences to their lives. “We want to decrease the

barriers and increase the benefits,” says Dalton. “When the U-Pass came in, that decreased a barrier as far as taking the bus because now you have a bus pass included in your tuition. We also want to increase the benefits, such as better bus routes to get to campus.”

Dalton explained that encouraging other forms of active transportation depends on removing obstacles; for example, bike-riding requires “having our roads cleared quickly in the wintertime, having adequate parking for bikes, and having protective parking for bicycles” and will benefit from being promoted as an opportunity to exercise and get some fresh air.

Dalton says that future projects will be aimed more at faculty and staff than at students—for example, a green course certification.

Meanwhile, an anti-litter campaign was introduced in September as a partnership between Facilities Planning and Management and UTMSU. Dalton says UTMSU had their frosh leaders pledge to avoid littering on campus, and an online pledge was made available for signing during Orientation Week. Whether pledges like this will be effective in terms of

changing students’ behaviour remains to be seen.

The ban on serving or selling bottled water, which all three campuses began putting in place three years ago, was brought to completion on September 1 after enough time was given to install infrastructure to provide alternatives to bottled water. “In order to ensure students still have the choice to drink water, we’ve retrofitted eight fountains to have bottle-filling spouts,” says Dalton.

The other programs Dalton cited include the carpooling program, the shuttle bus, and BikeShare.

Students can also get involved in this work, for example through the UTM Green Team, which offers paid and volunteer positions, or through clubs and societies with an environmental focus, such as WWF, the Student Association for Geography and Environment, and Residence Council’s Green Team. These opportunities and the projects that come out of them are sometimes hit-or-miss, but they have been the catalyst for some of the more well-known developments on campus.

Dalton says that future projects will be aimed more at faculty and staff than at students. For example, the university is working on green course certification to reward professors who avoid environmentally wasteful practices like printing redundant lecture slides.

MEDIUMSPORTS

Editor | Jason Coelho

Fighting to keep the right to fight

Controversial rule changes that aim to make the game safer are being adopted at universities

JASON COELHO
SPORTS EDITOR

Hockey has changed drastically over the past century. Goalies have been required to wear helmets, for example. Concussions are now a common occurrence, taking players out for most of the season, like Pittsburgh Penguins superstar forward Sidney Crosby's head injury that forced him to miss half of an 82-game season in 2011.

But any player can be affected, and Hockey Canada has gone so far as to provide an online Concussion Prevention Resource Centre so players will understand the symptoms of a concussion and why it's important to seek help. With Rule 48, which makes hits to the head illegal, the NHL is also ensuring that fewer players spend the season off the ice by disciplining players who go "head-hunting" with a seven-game suspension and a fine.

Though hockey has always been an aggressive sport, there are now



RAIN CITY HOCKEY FILES.WORDPRESS.COM/PHOTO

Hockey fans live for a world where upsets like this are possible.

more rules than ever in place to make the ice safer for players. The recent introduction of "hybrid icing" in the 2013/14 NHL season allows referees to blow the whistle

before the puck is touched behind the opposing team's red line after a dump-in. This saves players from racing to touch the puck, which in past seasons has sometimes ended

in many players crashing into the end boards at high speeds and sustaining serious injuries.

With all these changes being made at the professional level, it was

only a matter of time before safety precautions came to the non-professional hockey world. The University of Toronto has announced that its tri-campus hockey league will be making the switch from contact to non-contact hockey beginning next season, so players who have made body and hip checks a part of their game will have to re-strategize.

The switch has been met with disdain by various players in the league. "It allows for dirty plays to get away with dirty plays," says Kyle Kuczynski, a fourth-year political science major and captain of UTM's tri-campus team.

"This year there's a lot more scrums and cheap shots being thrown by players who can't keep up the higher game tempo," says Ben Gryschuk, a second-year CCIT major and goaltender for the Eagles. "There's a lot of cheap shots being unnoticed by the refs."

Fighting continued on page 12

Love it or hate it, fantasy football isn't going away

Since its inception in the '60s and public interest in the '80s, the pen-and-paper sport has exploded

ISAAC OWUSU

Andrew Boudreau, a lifelong Miami Dolphins fan, grinned after looking down at his iPhone. A mobile app called *theScore* had notified him that his team was getting stomped by the Dallas Cowboys at halftime by a score of 17-3. "I took the Cowboys' defence in my draft last week," he said. "I think I got a sleeper."

Boudreau was discovering that a pre-season game is rarely a good predictor of the team's future performance, and this time the Dolphins simply fell flat. So why was he jubilant rather than disappointed when his favourite team lost?

The answer lies in fantasy football.

Almost every fantasy football fan knows about the "Rotisserie League" founded in 1980, which was the catalyst for fantasy baseball throughout the 1980s, but few know about what came before it.

Fantasy football was created in August 1963 by Wilfred "Bill" Winkenschach (a limited partner in the Oakland Raiders' organization), Bill Tunnell (the team's PR manager), and Scotty Stirling (an Oakland journalist). They wanted to add more personal interest to a sport they were closely involved in but didn't play. The trio then created the Greater Oakland Professional Pigskin Prognosticators League, which is still popular in its 50th year.



VH1.COM/PHOTO

Looks like this might be the new gentleman's game.

The most common forms today are the head-to-head leagues, in which teams compete on a revolving weekly schedule, and total-point leagues, in which top-scoring teams win at the end of the year regardless of records.

The players are selected in one of two forms of drafting: a "snake" draft, in which, like in a common NFL formatted draft, teams wait for their turn in a particular order; or an "auction", in which everyone has a chance to bid for players within their budget, which can consist of real or imaginary currency depending on the league.

Keeper leagues are widely popular, since they allow fantasy players to build a team not just for the current season but also for future seasons, at the cost of compromising their future draft positions.

Fantasy gives football fans the flexibility to cheer for a unique team comprising their favourite players. Fans also make all the executive decisions, including trades, cuts, and even the team's name and logo.

Some believe that the increasing popularity of fantasy football is decreasing support for on-field football.

"I think some of the football purists would look at it as bad because fans no longer are fully into rooting for their team," said Walter Cherepinsky, the owner of walterfootball.com, which gives users access to detailed fantasy scouting, ranking, and projecting. "For example, if you're an ordinary Eagles fan, and Philly is battling Dallas, you'd obviously love to see a blowout or shutout. However, if you own Tony Romo, you'd want to see him do well."

"I feel like fantasy is great for football, though, because anyone who

plays fantasy is going to be way more familiar with all of the players in the NFL. They'll also be more likely to watch games that don't involve their favourite team."

Adam Rank, a writer for nfl.com and host of NFL Network's Fantasy Live, sees a division between fantasy loyalty and simply playing to win.

"I think the Packers fan who ends up with Adrian Peterson has already shown his or her hand—loyalty aside, we're going for fantasy wins," Rank observed. "Whereas the Packers fan who has avoided Peterson or Matt Forte or Calvin Johnson has shown that while fantasy is fun, it's not going to come between [them and their favourite team]."

Fantasy football's prominence and coverage has grown beyond what an average fan can consume. One thing is made clear by the abundance of weekly and daily television shows that feature Sunday afternoon football coverage aimed mostly at fantasy players: no other North American sport enjoys as much fantasy league popularity as football.

ESPN reports that over 10,000 mock drafts took place in July and August in preparation for the drafts in the fall. Still, fantasy writers and columnists face the challenge of deciding how much information is too much.

Fantasy continued on page 12

Rule changes may not make the game safer

Fighting continued from page 11

CBC Sports recently discussed whether taking contact out of hockey makes the game safer; a number of current NHL players were interviewed and CBC concluded that fighting actually makes the game safer. Several of the players agreed that preventing fighting between players will lead to a lot more dirty plays and cheap shots. In particular, players could expect a lot more slashes instead.

“We have to teach guys how to take a hit and make a hit. [...] Without contact, we’re forced to use our sticks and fish for the puck. It just doesn’t feel like regular hockey.”

—Kyle Kuczynski

The elimination of fighting has been a hot subject of late and long debated in the NHL. European hockey leagues have worked to make fighting illegal—so much that players caught fighting can be ejected from games. Though the NHL won’t be drastically changing its rules and dropping fighting anytime soon, many players worry that the league will eventually see no other way to make the game safer than by

outlawing fighting.

No matter the level, hockey without contact drastically changes the aesthetic of the game. “It definitely changes how you play the game,” says Charlie Foster, a second-year medical student. “Guys hold on to the puck longer. Before, they would move it up the ice because they’d be taking a hit.”

Though the tri-campus rules are ironclad at the moment, Kuczynski has offered suggestions for how the league could educate players on how to play contact hockey correctly.

“The emphasis should be on learning how to play. We have to teach guys how to take a hit and make a hit,” says Kuczynski. “We also have to teach guys not to make suicide passes: a pass where a player is supposed to look behind him to receive the puck, only to turn around to get hit by the opposing player in front. If a guy doesn’t want to play contact, there are lower levels without contact that they can play in. Without contact, we’re forced to use our sticks and fish for the puck. It just doesn’t feel like regular hockey.”

As UTM and the NHL fight to play hockey the way they know how, fans are speaking up as well. “I think changing the rules would ruin the game,” says third-year English major Antonio Fernando. “It’s the way the sport is meant to be played, and it’s why many people love watching. Hockey without physical play just isn’t hockey.”

Replacing the real thing



MASHABLE.COM/PHOTO

The thrill just isn’t the same... or is it?

Fantasy continued from page 11

“We want to target the newbies, but we also want to target the people who are experienced and have been playing fantasy for years and years,” said Michael Fabiano, an nfl.com writer, co-host of NFL Fantasy Live, and 2013 Fantasy Sports Writing Association Hall of Fame inductee. “I have the audience who doesn’t know who Steven Jackson is, and then I have the audience who knows that Lata-vius Murray is battling for the #2 spot on the Oakland running back depth chart.”

Football isn’t the only major sport supported by fantasy gaming, but it is the most successful.

“I think it has prospered so much because it’s the easiest to get into,” says Dan Bilicki, the *Toronto Sun*’s fantasy

sports writer. “When you consider the depth of knowledge and research that you need to succeed at fantasy baseball, the general malaise about fantasy hoops, and the fact that many Americans still consider ice hockey a niche sport, football is undoubtedly the top dog. Also, it’s easy to follow and requires the least maintenance.”

But the stakes are also high. “I’ve heard of leagues in Vegas where entry fees are in the thousands. The most I’ve spent was a \$200 league with \$5 transactions. I like to make a lot of moves, so I had about \$100 in transaction fees,” said Cherepinky.

“I haven’t been involved in any real big-money leagues, but have heard of 10-team leagues with \$200 buy-ins. That’s really when it stops getting casual,” said Bilicki. “Last year [...] I had the highest-scoring team in the

league, yet didn’t make the playoffs because I always gave up the most points. I also saw a 0.08-point win turn into a 0.08-point loss for one player thanks to a stat correction after the game.”

It’s tempting to dismiss the importance of fantasy, but its momentum is undeniable. And Rank predicts that it will only continue to change football.

“I’m waiting for the first wave of Hall of Fame candidates who’ll be judged based on fantasy numbers. Like, wouldn’t it be crazy if Larry Johnson gets some Hall of Fame consideration because some NFL writer won his fantasy league one year because he helped him win his league?” said Rank. “I guess this is the kind of thing that will probably keep me from ever having a vote for the Hall of Fame.”

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