



THE MEDIUM

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UTSU AGM to run amid controversy

The University of Toronto Students' Union and student societies are in a fee diversion conflict

LARISSA HO
NEWS EDITOR

The University of Toronto Students' Union, which represents all full-time undergraduates at the St. George campus and at UTM, will hold its annual general meeting this Wednesday amid a fee diversion conflict between the union and several student societies, including Trinity College Meeting, the Engineering Society, and the Victoria University Students' Administrative Council. Student societies have held referenda to vote on leaving UTSU, and the referenda have overwhelmingly passed, though UTSU maintains that they are not legitimate.

DEALING WITH DEFEDERATION

This past spring, the TCM, EngSoc, and VUSAC sought to defederate from UTSU and divert student fees currently being paid to UTSU to their respective student societies. Three societies that released reports on defederation alleged that they would be able to provide all



JUNAID IMRAN/THE MEDIUM

Students voting at last year's November AGM at the Medical Sciences building.

the services currently provided to students by UTSU at an equal or reduced cost, since volunteers staff the majority of these societies, whereas salaried employees staff UTSU. The

union contends that these reports are inaccurate.

Those societies that sought defederation requested that the students' union host the referenda. Then-

president Shaun Shepherd rejected this request, stating that UTSU's bylaws do not allow for such referenda. However, according to an article in *the Varsity* on the subject, he

conceded that they could be legitimized by a UTSU bylaw that states that referendum questions must be approved by three quarters of the board of directors.

The directors of TCM, VUSAC, EngSoc, and the St. Michael's College Student Union all voted unanimously to host these referenda, since UTSU refused to host them. Shepherd and incoming UTSU president Munib Sajjad maintained that the referenda are not legitimate because they weren't authorized by UTSU's bylaw but, they said, they would need to be so authorized to have the power to revoke UTSU membership.

The referenda for all but SMCSU were held in late March and students voted overwhelmingly in favour of severing financial ties with UTSU.

The results were expected to go to the University Affairs Board, a committee of Governing Council. The UAB, not UTSU, has the final vote on whether to approve the fee diversion.

AGM continued on page 2

Campus undergoing wireless upgrade

New access points added and old ones replaced, all equipment sourced from a single brand

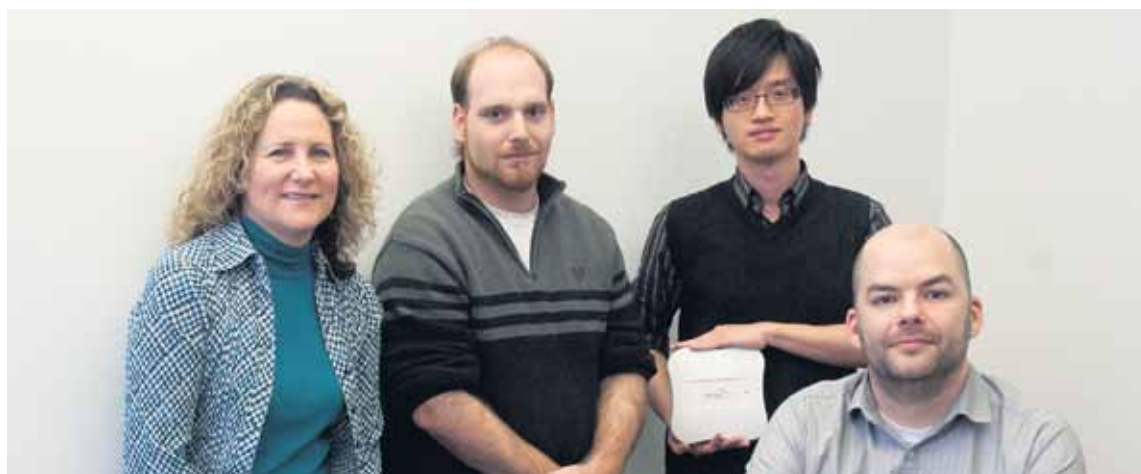
LARISSA HO
NEWS EDITOR

The campus is undergoing a wireless Internet upgrade that began in the summer at a cost of \$694,000.

To satisfy what she called an "insatiable demand" for improving wireless at UTM in the face of the increasing use of devices such as laptops, smartphones, and tablets, Susan Senese, the new director of information and instructional technology services, oversaw the wireless remediation project.

"There's been a significant investment [of] time and money throughout the campus to augment the wireless services for all students, staff, and faculty," said Senese in an interview.

The upgrade took three weeks in August, with the last installation happening in the two days before classes began. IITS staff completed plan-



KENJI LE/THE MEDIUM

From left: Susan Senese, Kyle Fozo (network analyst), William Hu (customer support), Mike Young.

ning, got quotes, brought vendors to campus, and determined where they needed to place or replace equipment before beginning installation. In some cases, they moved access points from hallways to suites in the residences.

Senese and Mike Young, a system analyst with UTM's Network Services, attributed the need to upgrade the system to a sudden surge in wireless devices, including the problem of increasing density—students bring-

ing multiple devices with them at the same time, which according to Senese is a growing trend at universities.

Wireless continued on page 3



A brighter future

Students march around campus holding candles to support victims of gender-based violence.
Medium News, page 2

Building momentum

I'll be watching to see what takes place at UTSU's general meeting—if only because *something* might.
Medium Opinion, page 4

Soon: rags to riches

UTM students read their stories for Life Rattle Press's Totally Unknown Writers Festival downtown.
Medium Arts, page 5

Do you believe in birds?

Websites list supposedly easy UTM courses, but professors think the label is bogus.
Medium Features, page 8

Keeping score on success

First-year Mississauga student Katy Teekasingh plays goaltender for the Blues, and she's on her way up.
Medium Sports, page 10

CAMPUS POLICE WEEKLY REPORT

November 14, 12:15 a.m.

Bylaw Offences

Campus Police responded to a smell of smoke coming from a unit in Oscar Peterson Hall. A residence student was cautioned for smoking in residence and told that further follow-up would be conducted by the Residence Office.

November 14, 5:11 p.m.

Trespass to Property Act

Campus Police responded to a report of unauthorized soliciting in the Instructional Centre. The person was gone upon arrival of Campus Police.

November 14, 12:21 p.m.

Parking-related

A vehicle parked in the Inner Circle was issued a parking infraction. The vehicle had excessive parking fines but could not be towed off campus safely without damaging the vehicle.

November 16, 11:00 p.m.

Information Only

Campus Police attended a unit at McLuhan Court after a don reported that a resident student was in violation of residence policies. Upon arrival, all was in order and no one was inside the unit.

November 17, 1:33 a.m.

Bylaw Offences

Campus Police responded to a noise complaint at Schreiberwood Residence.

All was in order upon Campus Police's arrival.

November 18, 11:53 a.m.

Information Only

Campus Police investigated the report of unauthorized access into a student's ROSI account.

November 18, 9:50 p.m.

Trespass to Property Act

Staff reported several males skateboarding inside the CCT Building. The skateboarders were confrontational with staff and they were gone upon arrival of Campus Police.

November 19, 10:15 a.m.

Parking-related

A vehicle parked in the CCT Garage P2 level was towed off campus due to excessive parking fines.

November 19, 7:11 p.m.

Fire Call

Campus Police, Mississauga Fire, and Peel Police responded to a fire in Erindale Hall. There were no injuries and the occupants were relocated for the night.

November 20, 5:55 p.m.

Trespass to Property Act

Campus Police responded to a trespass call at the RAWC. Campus Police attended and identified the parties involved, who departed without incident.

Opposition motions left out of agenda

AGM continued from Cover

However, the referenda didn't appear on the agenda of the UAB's May 28 meeting, despite it having been implied that they most likely would be by the fact that vice-provost students Jill Matus requested a statement from UTSU on their stance on the referenda before the meeting. (UTSU did not make their reply public.)

Fee diversion is not in effect for the 2013/14 academic year.

STUDENT SOCIETIES SUMMIT

Since the time the referenda were held, the U of T administration has stepped in to resolve issues between the union and the student groups and to facilitate discussion on fee diversion.

On September 12, Provost Cheryl Regher released a statement outlining the details of a Student Societies Summit, which at least 23 student societies and associations were invited to attend; the groups are to discuss the referenda of fee diversion as hosted by TCM, VUSAC, and EngSoc (St. Michael's is expected to hold their referendum next year).

Two discussion questions were posed by the administration: "How can the sometimes distinct interests of divisional societies be supported and respected in a democratic manner?" and "What are the implications of these answers on the evolution of the democratic structures of the student governments or on fee support for the activities of the divisional societies?"

FEE DIVERSION MOTIONS

There has also been a recent controversy concerning the exclusion of fee diversion motions put forward by Pierre Harfouche, one of the two engineering directors on UTSU's board.

In October, Harfouche, then a newly elected engineering director, submitted three motions regarding fee diversion.

Last year's AGM ended abruptly when members of the union refused to approve the agenda, which excluded motions submitted by Sam Greene, that called for electoral reform of UTSU.

Harfouche's first motion called on UTSU to support Trinity, EngSoc, and VUSAC in their stance of fee diversion at the Student Societies Summit. The second called for the appointment of new UTSU representatives to the Student Societies Summit. The third was a charter amendment to give a division within the university the authority to divert fees from UTSU.

All three motions were ruled out of order by UTSU's Policy and Procedures Committee, although the board has the final say on whether to permit the motions on the agenda. The motions failed approval by the board the following week,

meaning that the opposition-driven agenda was effectively excluded from the agenda for the upcoming AGM.

According to UTSU, the first and third motions were ruled out of order because they require that bylaw amendments be made beforehand. The board of directors must approve bylaw amendments, according to Sajjad. The second motion was rejected because it would undermine the university's stance against the changing of Summit representatives. Harfouche has contested these determinations.

Last year's AGM ended abruptly when members of the union refused to approve the agenda, which excluded motions submitted by Sam Greene, then co-head of Trinity College, that called for electoral reform of UTSU. The proposed reforms to the electoral policy of UTSU were submitted after the deadline, allegedly too late to be vetted by the Policy and Procedures Committee and the board of directors. According to some critics (including Greene), the deadline for these amendments was purposely obscured in order to prevent the proposed changes from appearing before the UTSU membership for discussion.

This year, UTSU members are able but not required to preregister for the upcoming AGM online. Proxy holders are not able to preregister.

The AGM will be held on Wednesday, November 27 in the OISE auditorium at the St. George campus from 6 to 9 p.m.

Residence Life lights the night



AATHIRA KOTTAPURATH/THE MEDIUM

Preparations for the Light the Night event were made at Roy Ivor Hall last Wednesday.

LUKE SAWCZAK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
WITH FILES FROM
JOUNAID LYAGHFOURI

Some 40 students walked around campus with candles to symbolize their support for victims of gender-based violence in the eighth annual Light the Night event held by UTM Student Housing and Residence Life on Wednesday night.

Before the walk began at 7 p.m., volunteers could be seen preparing at Roy Ivor Hall and inviting passersby to talk about the issues or to join the walk later in the evening.

A Campus Police representative joined the walk, as did two students in the WalkSafer program. The two chairs of the event committee led the group while dons and other volunteers stood at vari-

ous checkpoints and held posters bearing facts about the issue. Hot chocolate and cookies were handed out at the end of the walk.

The Residence Life Committee decided to forward the proceeds from their fundraising efforts, which included a canned food drive, to Interim Place, an organization created in 1981 that operates two emergency shelters for women and children in Mississauga.

"The important thing is to bring awareness about violence towards women and girls," said a representative from Interim Place who attended the event. She added that the goal of events like this is to "create a society that will take these issues seriously".

Arjan Banerjee, a third-year biology specialist and one of the vol-

unteers, said that Light the Night was also intended to advertise the Green Dot campaign. The campaign, adopted at U of T last year and supported by Student Housing and Residence Life, Campus Police, and other campus organizations, focuses on encouraging bystanders to intervene and prevent violence.

"Look out for family members and loved ones," said Jessica McGee, a third-year student who has volunteered at Light the Night since her first year. "Sometimes it's just about checking with somebody."

Among the facts promoted during the event was the statistic that 3,000 women in Canada sleep in an emergency shelter daily to escape domestic violence.

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Stem cell swabbing at UTM



JASMEEN VIRK/THE MEDIUM

Lifeline volunteers sit at booths to encourage students to join OneMatch.

MARIA IQBAL
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Students were swabbed for Lifeline, the UTM Blood and Stem Cell Society's bi-annual event held to recruit stem cell donors, last Wednesday.

Lifeline volunteers set up booths in CCT, IB, and the Davis Building to provide information and encourage students to join the Canadian Blood Services' network, OneMatch, which connects patients requiring stem cell transplants with compatible donors. To register, students were required to swab their cheeks to provide a sample of their cells to the registry.

"Currently, there are around 1,000 patients with diseases such as cancer that require stem cell transplants

during their treatments," explained Areej Shahab, Lifeline's director of communications. "Often, a stem cell match can't be found within one's family, and we need to look for matches outside of [the] family."

This year, there was a special focus on recruiting male donors between the ages of 17 and 35, and those of diverse ethnic backgrounds. According to OneMatch's online newsletter from May 2012, young males of various ethnicities are ideal donors because they tend to have a greater volume of stem cells than females, and their cells cause fewer complications after the transplant.

"Males, here's your chance to become heroes by registering to become stem cell donors," said Karo-

lina Chelminiak, the OneMatch representative for Central Ontario. "Females, here's your chance to become heroes by encouraging your boyfriends, cousins, and brothers to become donors."

Shahab added that while men are ideal donors, women are also invited to join the registry. "You never know whose life you can save," she said.

The event was part of the broader Canadian Blood Services' Get Swabbed! campaign, held annually to recruit donors from high schools, universities, and colleges.

According to Shahab, over 100 students were swabbed on Wednesday, an increase over last year.

Get Swabbed! events will be held on campus again next semester.

Wireless remediation project to cost \$694,000

Wireless continued on page 3

The upgrade specifically accommodated smartphones and tablets, said Young.

Young said that the Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre and some residences—namely, Oscar Peterson Hall, Roy Ivor Hall, and Erindale Hall—underwent upgrades. The townhouses and the other academic buildings are currently in the process of being upgraded.

The wireless service in the residences and in the library, which is used by 10,000 students a day, needed to be "flawless," according to Senese.

According to Young, the three separate UTM networks available prior to the upgrade—U of T, UTMRes, and UTMRes1x—were reduced to one by sourcing all equip-

ment from one provider, Meru, to emulate the one network available to students at the St. George and Scarborough campuses and simplify technical issues.

"We've seen an enormous decrease in complaints that were related to equipment failure and coverage problems," said Young. "The general frustration level went down, not just of our staff but, more importantly, for the students."

This year, for the first time, a IT support student staff member was on hand during the residence move-in days this year to assist students in connecting.

The \$694,000 for the project came from the university's operating budget; not all of it has been spent yet. Of what has been spent, \$66,000 went to the library and \$283,000 in the residences. About \$345,000 remains to be spent in the remaining

academic buildings.

Sixty additional wireless access points were added in the library, and 220 in OPH, Roy Ivor, and Erindale, with 150 additional points to be installed in the academic buildings and townhouses next term. A total of 45 kilometres of new wireless cabling has been and will be installed.

The quality of wireless has notoriously been an issue for students, even before the surge. As Young pointed out, in past years access could sometimes be lost after closing the door to a room. The heavy use of concrete in several UTM buildings' construction also inhibited the signal.

"We're firing at that moving target—wireless," said Young in an interview. "Wireless was really identified as the one major service that students just can't live without."

»WHERE ON CAMPUS IS THE WI-FI POOR?



Melissa Simic
3rd year, English

Mainly in the North Building.



Angela Sharma
2nd year, CCIT

I have had a pretty good experience with wi-fi on campus.



Nina Ma
1st year, commerce

In Davis.



Marcus Allina
4th year, political sciences

I have no problem with wi-fi since I have classes in IB and CCIT.

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NEWS BRIEFS »

Glass falls from hotel balcony in downtown Toronto

Police were called to the Shangri-La around 1:30 a.m. this morning when glass fell from one of its balconies. No one was injured, but Adelaide Street remains closed at University Avenue. This is the third time glass has fallen from the hotel's balconies since it opened last year. Glass fell in September, injuring a 53-year-old man, and in January with no injuries.

Source: CBC News

Rob Ford mocked again on SNL for his crack-smoking admission

During last night's "Weekend Update" segment, fake news anchor Cecily Strong had fun with the Toronto mayor's recent admission to City Hall reporters that he had smoked crack. She noted Ford said that he would've admitted to smoking crack sooner if they'd asked him "Have you smoked crack?" rather than "Do you smoke crack?"

Source: The Canadian Press

Jennifer Chirico made bomb threats because she was late for court

A woman made seven anonymous bomb threat calls to court houses, law enforcement agencies, and newsrooms all because she was late for her own hearing, police say. On Friday, Jennifer Chirico, 30, admitted to making the threats back in March, according to the *Hartford Courant*. No bombs were found at the sites, but Chirico was arrested.

Source: Huffington Post

Israel says Iran nuclear deal makes world "more dangerous"

Israel's prime minister harshly condemned the international community's nuclear deal with Iran on Sunday. Benjamin Netanyahu said the world had become a "more dangerous place" as a result of the deal. He reiterated a long-standing threat to use military action against Iran if needed, declaring that Israel "has the right and the duty to defend itself by itself."

Source: CBC News

Doctor Who one of biggest shows in the world, says BBC

The BBC has claimed its science fiction drama *Doctor Who* is now one of the world's biggest TV shows after a special 50th-anniversary episode on Saturday was watched in 94 countries and simultaneously screened in 3D to more than half a million people in cinemas across Latin America, North America, and Europe.

Source: The Guardian

MEDIUM OPINION

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MASTHEAD

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A union learning to take criticism

The UTSU general meeting will let us gauge the result of last year's momentum

As someone who happened to start paying close attention to UTSU politics at a time when exciting things were happening, I'm looking forward to the annual general meeting on Wednesday. Last year the agenda was shot down before the meeting could even start and a president stood in tears before the assembly, an executive candidate resigned in defiance during the campaign, and several daughter societies (that's UTMSU's status, by the by) voted to split but were denied the chance. A lot of momentum had built up by the end of last year. Wednesday's meeting will tell us whether it's still building or now cooling off.

First, a disclaimer: being excited by developments isn't the same thing as agreeing with them. For one thing, as a UTM student and editor, I'm better able to make informed judgements of happenings at our campus than downtown. For another, there's a certain degree to which the players are bound to certain parts that colour what they do. For example, when engineering student Pierre Harfouche was elected to UTSU's board, he posted on Facebook that he would now advocate to "get rid of" the board. Whether he likes it or not, statements like this brand him as "opposition" and bear on how a disinterested observer should interpret the motions he submitted for UTSU's AGM, which would partly decentralize their authority, whether or not his arguments for

their legitimacy (they were rejected) were valid. That is, we should be excited by the criticism—and, in my opinion, glad to see any stirring of student interest in a politics that governs much of our university experience and moves massive amounts of money—but we should keep in mind that it comes from a self-proclaimed critic.

When Sana Ali resigned at the peak of her campaign last year, she was coming from the opposite direction. She was running for the responsibilities and sizable salary of an executive, after all, and I suspect that that had everything to do with why the response from the establishment was—rather than the cold, flatly delivered shut-out Harfouche receives with his much more direct jabs at the union—so emotional and personal (and finally shameful: "I drove you home once!" declared now-president Munib Sajjad, on video among his teary-eyed cohort). UTSU has policies for responding to self-proclaimed critics; it has no idea how to handle dissension.

When this really became clear to me was at last year's general meeting. One thing to watch out for are the proxies that inevitably dominate these meetings. If you're not acquainted with the fact, a member can cast his own vote plus those of up to 10 other members who don't attend the meeting but do sign a form handing over their vote to him. This is frequently cited as a democratic policy, and in theory it

is: it allows those who are prevented from attending to avoid losing their vote and their voice. But in practice it's murkier. At last year's special general meeting, the vote on a motion to implement online voting was barely approved, 575–567. Spread throughout the room were many smaller votes—yes, some with proxies attached—for the motion. And voting against it was a block of yellow signs bearing the number 11. That almost every member of that block held the maximum number of proxies is not accidental—it requires intentionally going out to stop students in the hallways to scoop up as much voting power as possible. And to see a single closely seated group, undoubtedly mainly made up of supporters and friends, trying to stop a motion that most of the rest of the room was in favour of was simply farcical.

It bears repeating (if only because the opening will be seized otherwise) that this observation is not to take a contrary position to UTSU or on student unions in general. I don't have a set of policies to pick out and disagree with. See a past editorial on the idea that we at UTM might not even need to have as large a stake in UTSU as we do. But it is to suggest that the reason the recent developments have seen such a flurry of attention—even from those who don't normally pay any—is that they tap into a long-standing frustration students have with the union for

just such an inability to take criticism as we've seen above. It's not specific policies that generate the most attention, it's the (sometimes almost indiscriminate) suggestion that something might be honestly challenged.

If UTSU wants such episodes as the explosion of support for Sana Ali's resignation to go away, they need to allow such disagreements to be commonplace, rather than to retaliate. Whereas what they have on their hands now—the serious threat of defederation from multiple important constituents—is the release of something pent up for a long time. It's a rare occurrence, so you'll forgive my watching with intense interest to see whether it comes to anything or, as per the norm, is summarily squashed.

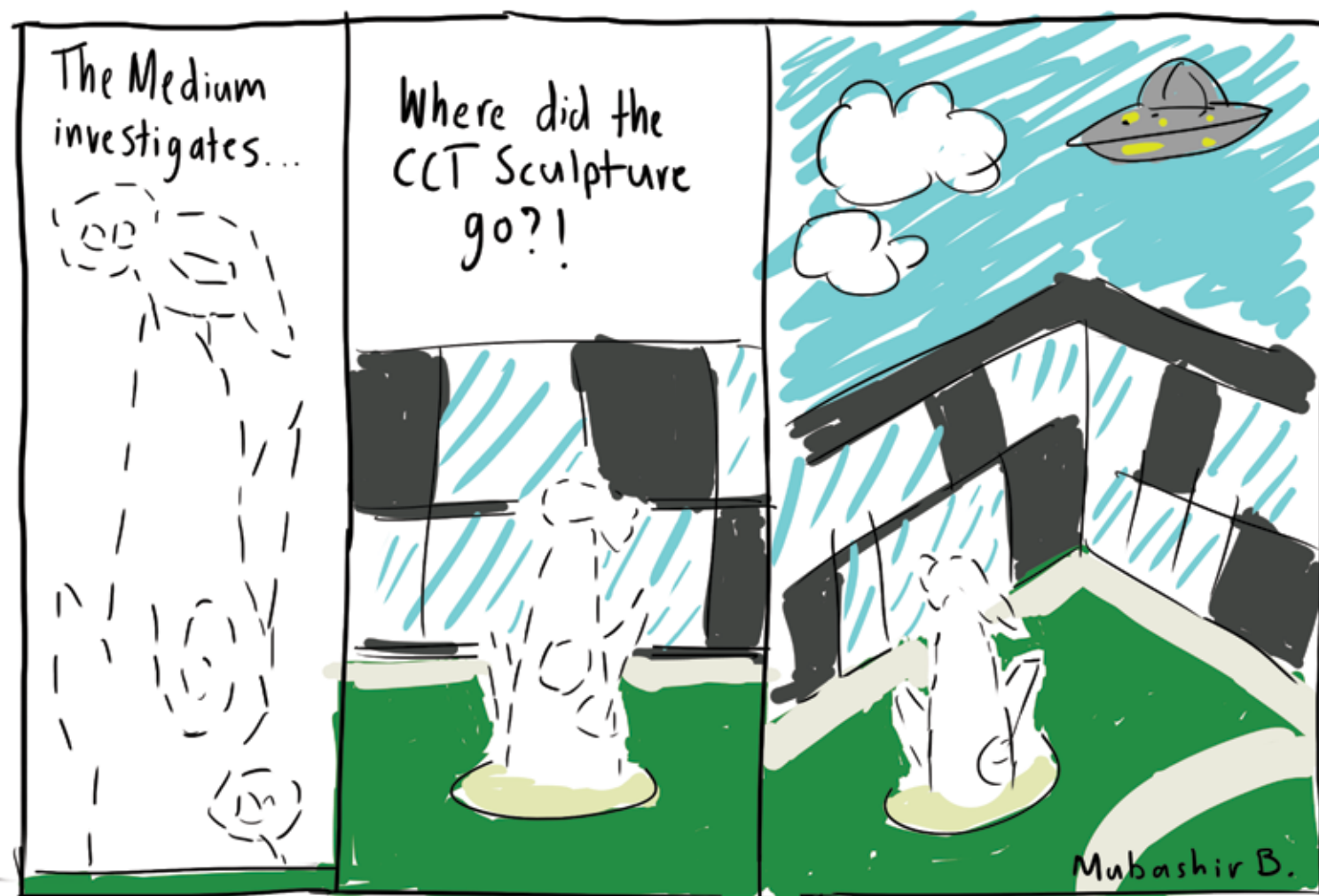
YOURS,

LUKE SAWCZAK

CORRECTION NOTICES

The article "A night of philanthropy and Game of Thrones" published on November 18 had several errors, including: this was the first year in which CFRE collaborated and the UMC executive band's song was not an original.

Last week's article "UTMSU audit shows significant profit" implied that the university's offer to match student funds for a Student Centre expansion had been 1:1 since 2008; it was in fact 1:2 from 2008 to 2012 and 1:1 thereafter.



MEDIUM A&E

Editor | Colleen Munro

“Unknown” writers make their voices heard

Several of UTM’s own participated in the 20th annual Totally Unknown Writers Festival in Queen Street West

ANNIE RATCLIFFE

“I never expected to have been recognized for any of my writing,” says **Phoebe Lau**, a fourth-year UTM English student. “This [is] the first time I’ll be published in print, and I haven’t shared any of my work orally in the past, so this is pretty exciting.”

Lau, with her short story “Little Bird,” written under the pseudonym Anna Li, is one of the talented UTM writers selected to read her short story at the 20th annual Totally Unknown Writers Festival last Wednesday. The festival took place at the Rivoli, a small bar and restaurant nestled in Toronto’s historic Queen Street West area. The festival consisted of 10 short story readings, carefully selected by Life Rattle Press, which has held the event for the past 20 years. An anthology of these works and others selected by Life Rattle for their radio podcast has been published and was sold at the festival.

Life Rattle Press was founded in 1988 as a non-profit publisher of short stories written solely by new writers. Their first Totally Unknown Writers Festival took place in 1993, and it has been held annually since. In addition to the festival, Life Rattle, through the work of its founders **Arnie Achtman** and **Guy Allen**, continues to publish the stories of new authors, features them in an online radio podcast, and showcases the 10 stories that best ex-



ANNIE RATCLIFFE/THE MEDIUM

The Rivoli proved a cozy and welcoming venue for the Totally Unknown Writers Festival.

emplify the true nature of Life Rattle Press’ mission statement: to “stress the expression of censored experience, experience that schools and other guardians of ‘culture’ ignore or marginalize”, as stated on the Totally Unknown Writers Festival webpage.

The festival began at 7 p.m. and carried on for several hours. Attendees were encouraged to give whatever they wanted (with a suggested amount of \$5) for admission. The doors opened at 6:30, at which time friends, family, UTM students, and

other guests took their seats in the cozy, dimly lit room. The crowd fell silent as the readings began; the readers and those who introduced them took turns presenting on the small stage in front of a single microphone stand.

The stories evoked various responses from the audience, from hysterical laughter during the reading of **Reade Domazar’s** caught-in-the-act story “Valkyrie vs. Busybody” to shocked gasps following **Raja Asimi’s** “Tweety” to a sad silence after **Be-**

linda Grayburn’s “Letting Go”. The other new writers included **Sami Karaman** with “Counting Time”, **Vincent Gao** with “Broken Mirror”, **Kiranjyot Chattha** with “Lights Out”, **Mitchell Pateman** with “Roll It Up”, **Niall Carson** with “The Wedding”, and **Andrew Ihamaki** with “Yellow”.

Ihamaki, this year’s associate editor of UTM’s non-fiction publication *Mindwaves*, explained the origin of his story: “It’s about me at my Grade 8 graduation dance, awkwardly dancing with my first crush, and thinking

about how much I love her, and being utterly incapable of not telling her that, but not even being able to really speak to her at all.”

“It’s an overwhelming yet surreal experience [to be selected],” he continued. “After reading the work of other writers and seeing just how much talent they all have, it makes me feel that much more proud of my work.” Ihamaki’s story made the audience laugh, smile, and reminisce about their own preteen awkwardness.

While there were plenty of UTM students reading and in attendance, story submissions were also accepted from non-UTM students, and they were welcome to attend the festival. The students’ works were mainly submitted through their UTM professional writing professors. “[Prof.] Laurel Waterman asked if she could send three of my stories written for a class last year to Laurie Kallis, one of the cofounders [of] Life Rattle Press,” said Lau. “Laurie mentioned that she had passed my stories along to the festival committee and they had chosen one of my stories, ‘Little Bird,’ as their top choice.”

“I was thrilled and was so honoured to have been chosen,” she added. “Writing was my first love in elementary school, but I hadn’t written creatively for years, though I journal a lot.”

Acoustic performances dominate at UMC open mic

The UTM Music Club hosts the year’s second night of varied student talent in the Faculty Club

ANGELICA LITSIOU

Following this semester’s fundraising dinner, multiple karaoke events, and the Sound Summit, the busy UTM Music Club hosted its second open mic night this past Friday. The event was held in the Faculty Club—a venue that has a bit of a recording studio feel and that brought the audience closer to the performers.

The songs played during the night were of different genres, and most were played in an acoustic style. Several performers also delivered impressive original songs. After a few minutes of amp and microphone checks, one of UMC’s event coordinators, **Sarah Elshater**, kicked things off by welcoming the audience and introducing the UMC and the first performer, **Sam Chen**. Chen sang a cover of a **Bruno Mars** song and an *a cappella* cover of **Miley Cyrus’** “Wrecking Ball”.

Nicolas Colosimo also stepped to the front of the room with his electric guitar and cheeky smile and asked the audience, “Are you guys



KRISTEN SCHAGEN/THE MEDIUM

UMC rounded out a busy semester with their second open mic night of the year.

ready to rock?” Nicolas played some crazy chords and riffs in a song called “Surfing with the Alien”.

Performances alternated between acoustic covers and original songs. **Helen Zhou** played a sweet cover of

Death Cab for Cutie’s “I Will Follow You into the Dark”, as well as a Chinese song that she sang for her grandfather, who sat in the front row.

One of the most unique perfor-

mances of the evening was **Steven Manu’s** original rap songs. He started out with his song “Unfortunate Events” and livened the room with some hip-hop beats. He ended his performance with a partly *a cap-*

pella song called “Shooting in the Gym”, which he performed for the first time. Manu showed amazing creativity and a great voice to match his lyrics.

Later in the evening, **Vinh-Khang Nguyen-Huu** played a mix of classical piano pieces and two original songs called “Split Leaves” and “The Mad Dash”. He made playing the piano seem easy, but the patterns he layered and built on each other were overwhelmingly complex, and watching him perform was intriguing. Open mic favourites **Cameron Gossman** and **Ryan Hellinga** also covered a couple of popular songs on guitar with great energy and stage presence. The duo concluded their smartly selected set with an electric version of “Some Kind of Wonderful”.

Adam Laughton performed late in the night and had the whole room in the palm of his hand with his impassioned performance. A man of few words, he let his singing speak for itself, and it definitely raised a few goosebumps.

Tarragon serves up both style and creativity

Toronto theatre company presents an uneven but enjoyable production of *The Double*

KATE CATTELL-DANIELS
ASSOCIATE A&E EDITOR

As is the case with many GTA theatre companies, the audience that attends the Tarragon Theatre's shows isn't exactly young, and may be more interested in shows that are safe and likable than groundbreaking or gritty. When it comes to the storyline, Tarragon's *The Double*, directed by **Adam Paolozza**, is no exception to this generalization.

The plot follows Golyadkin, an incompetent office clerk, dysfunctional lover, and bachelor without authority over his manservant, who finds himself mysteriously shadowed by his double, a man who looks exactly like him, does his job, and woos a woman in his name. The conclusion was vague at best, and left me incredibly confused about what had actually taken place.

However, the play's form is brilliant. Set on the very intimate stage of the Tarragon Extra Space and narrated by a master storyteller and musician, *The Double* introduces a new type of play to the theatre world. The cast consists of three men who are vastly different and incredibly versatile. One plays the narrator and the upright bass, another Golyadkin, and the third everyone else. The one female character is played by the shapely bass and voiced by another actor.

Each of the performers is abso-



Adam Paolozza and Viktor Lukawski spend some quality time together in *The Double*.

NOWTORONTO.COM/PHOTO

lutely elastic. The narrator, played by **Arif Mirabdolbaghi**, draws the audience into the piece, telling the story as much with words as with accompaniment, plucking, strumming, and tapping on the bass. He also acts as Golyadkin's conscience, another version of his double. The narrator plays a powerful part because of the history of the piece: it was originally a hugely unpopular novella by **Dostoevsky**.

This character slips between the world of the play and the audience, a stranger to neither.

Golyadkin, as a character, is pathetic. I felt sorry for him because he is even more clumsy and indecisive than I am. Having said this, the actor who plays him (Paolozza) is always in control of his body on stage. I have never seen such clean, consistent mime work, which itself was a treat to watch. As a perfor-

mance artist, he straddles the line between dance and drama, using unmatched energy and technical skill to tell a story.

But there's a problem—the story's not particularly captivating since the stakes are remarkably low. Golyadkin is by no means miserable: he lives in a comfortable apartment with an irritating but hugely comic manservant, he is employed, and even has 700 ru-

bles in savings, so I don't see why he needs the double's help.

The music is amazing, and sound effects are also frequently used. Every time a door opens or a stair creaks, one of the actors is there to make the appropriate sound with amazing accuracy. This is especially important because there's hardly anything to the set, and the whole world is created through mime and narration. One particularly poignant moment is the opening sequence, in which the narrator describes a dream Golyadkin is having. In it, he is being chased down a dark street by none other than himself. At this point, Paolozza runs on the spot in a harshly lit centre stage. This alone was very believable, especially in the context of a dream sequence and a story as told from the outside. Then **Viktor Lukawski**, who plays some 15 different characters throughout the show, sneaks under Golyadkin's open coat to make it fly out behind him. The level of teamwork that *The Double* requires to sustain the type of theatre the actors have committed to is remarkable.

The Double is a highly appealing show in terms of comedy and creative staging, but leaves something to be desired in terms of plot. It came close to breaking the Tarragon's conventions, but didn't quite manage it, remaining safe, funny, and palatable.

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Bugg embraces his influences

The young Brit has bite on his second album, *Shangri La*



NPR.ORG/PHOTO

Jake Bugg channels Bob Dylan and Britpop on his sophomore album, *Shangri La*.

COLLEEN MUNRO
A&E EDITOR

Because of his youth and mop-topped hairdo, 19-year-old **Jake Bugg** could easily pass for a member of **One Direction**. However, after listening to the scraggly retro rock of his 2012 self-titled debut album, all he seemed to have in common with that band was that he hails from Britain. And while Bugg's second album, *Shangri La*, released last week, does offer a bit of newly mined pop sheen that brings him closer to the One Direction lads, it also cements Bugg's place as a fresh voice in rock and shows admirable growth.

While Bugg's debut had a number of solid songs (including the unshakably catchy single "Lightning Bolt") and showcased his unique voice, *Shangri La* proves that Bugg's songwriting abilities have improved by leaps and bounds. From the rambling, **Bob Dylan**-esque opening track, "There's a Beast and We All Feed It", to the gentle twang of the album closer, "Storm Passes Away", Bugg tries on a plethora of influences and manages to leave a hugely enjoyable collection of songs in his wake.

Oddly, *Shangri La*'s lead singles, "What Doesn't Kill You" and "Slumville Sunrise", are among the less compelling tracks on the album. While

they're catchy, rabble-rousing little rock ditties, they feel more like an extension of the snot-nosed garage rock of Bugg's first album. It's when Bugg takes risks here that the depth of his songwriting shows itself.

"Me and You" is the album's first truly revealing moment, offering acoustic guitar strums, lovesick lyrics, and a sweetly melodic chorus. Bugg's voice shows off a pleasant lilt instead of its usual snarl, and it feels like we're watching him transition from a smartass teenager to an adult willing to reveal new sides of himself for the first time.

Bugg continued on page 7

Doctor Who celebrates 50 years

Missed *Doctor Who*'s anniversary special? We've got you covered.



BBCAMERICA.COM/PHOTO

Matt Smith, David Tennant, and John Hurt unite in the *Doctor Who* 50th-anniversary special.

KIMBERLY JOHNSON

Much to the delight of *Doctor Who* devotees everywhere, the 50th-anniversary special of *Doctor Who* was simultaneously broadcast around the world last Saturday at 7:50 p.m. Greenwich (2:50 p.m. Eastern time).

For the non-Whovians out there, *Doctor Who* is the British sci-fi drama about the adventures of an alien Time Lord from the planet Gallifrey named, quite simply, the Doctor. The Doctor normally travels with a companion—usually an ordinary person from Earth—through time and space in what looks like an archaic British police box called the TARDIS, a spaceship bigger on the inside than it looks.

The special episode was named “The Day of the Doctor,” and it marked the return of the beloved Tenth Doctor (**David Tennant**), the (current) Eleventh Doctor (**Matt Smith**), his companion Clara Oswald (**Jenna Louise Coleman**), and the first companion of the Doctor in the new *Who* episodes (those made when the series returned in 2005 after a 16-year break), Rose Tyler (**Billie Piper**). The War Doctor (**John Hurt**) appeared in this episode after being mysteriously introduced in the latest season's finale.

At the start of the episode, we learn that Clara is now a teacher, and the Eleventh Doctor has been travelling. They speak only briefly before the TARDIS is picked up by a helicopter with Clara and Eleven inside. They're dropped at Trafalgar Square, where they meet Kate Stewart (**Jemma Redgrave**) from the UNIT, the British or-

ganization that aims to protect Earth from aliens, and scientist Tom Osgood (Ingrid Oliver). They're shown a 3D painting of Gallifrey that doesn't belong in modern-day London, through which someone has broken into the outside world.

We then see a flashback to the War Doctor, who's responsible for the double genocide of his own people and the Daleks (the first villains ever to appear on *Doctor Who*). The War Doctor has stolen Gallifrey's most dangerous weapon, the Moment, a device with a developed conscience. The War Doctor hides the device while he tries to figure out how it works, and the device is activated in the shape of Rose Tyler.

Meanwhile, the Tenth Doctor is shown frolicking in the woods with Queen Elizabeth I (**Joanna Page**) in 1562. Disappointingly, I found Page's performance rather flat. She lacked chemistry with Tennant, which was especially important since we're supposed to believe these two have a romantic history. Their relationship just didn't come across as believable.

Ten then asks the Virgin Queen to marry him and she says yes. Ten calls her out for being the fake queen, because the real Elizabeth would never share the throne. It's then revealed that there are two Elizabeths, one being a Zygon, a monster from the old *Who* that looks like a bipedal triceratops and has the ability to shape-shift. A vortex suddenly appears, and Eleven jumps out to meet Ten in 1562. They're later joined by the War Doctor.

Back in modern-day London, Clara discovers that Stewart and Os-

good are also Zygons. Stewart and Osgood have a standoff with the Zygon versions of themselves, and Stewart is willing to sacrifice the few for the plenty. The War Doctor agrees that there's no alternative and decides to sacrifice his people to save the universe. Clara joins the three Doctors and together they decide to put an end to Gallifrey and the Time War.

The episode, though a bit confusing, was incredible. At moments it felt almost cinematic. The depiction of the Time War was fabulous, managing to show chaos while simultaneously showing the Gallifreyan people's humane side. This episode shows just how hard the Doctors' choice was.

I must admit, I found the way they used the Zygon masquerading as Rose a little disappointing. I would've loved to see the real Rose as well. Heck, I would've loved to see the two interact.

However, the episode had many great moments, including many clever references for the diehard fans of the show, including a cameo by **Tom Baker**, who played the Fourth Doctor, and a peek at the upcoming Twelfth Doctor, played by **Peter Capaldi**. Using the original opening credits from 1963 was also a nice touch.

I also thoroughly enjoyed the interactions between the Eleventh and Tenth doctor. I loved the Sonic Screwdriver competition and their moments of synchrony. On that note, seeing three incarnations of the Doctor interact was great.

“The Day of the Doctor” was an incredible episode and was totally worth the wait. Bring on the Christmas episode!

Bugg's move for the big leagues

Bugg continued from page 6

However, it's not just the soft acoustic ballads on *Shangri La* that provide moments of revelation. On the album's penultimate track, “Simple Pleasures”, Bugg fully embraces his Britpop influences and produces a swirling guitar epic nearly on par with **Oasis**' “Champagne Supernova”. This kind of plaintive, hazy rock with a massive chorus suits Bugg perfectly, and in spite of all the recent comparisons between Bugg and Dylan, this track shows that Bugg may be more closely influenced by the **Verve**'s **Richard Ashcroft** than anyone else.

Bugg also has super-producer **Rick Rubin** on his side this time around, and the influence is apparent. Some listeners may recoil at the polish and high production values on the album, which occasionally seem at odds with Bugg's otherwise raw sound. This is perhaps most clear on the sweeping ballad “A Song About Love”, which, while melodically lovely, feels oddly generic with its acoustic flourishes and pitter-patter drum beat. It's one of the few tracks on *Shangri La* that gives the impression of having been tinkered with so much that it's lost its initial spark.

Bugg has also pulled in a few high-profile writing partners;

Brendan Benson of the **Raconteurs** gives him a welcome hand on the hooky “Messed Up Kids”, which tells a plainspoken tale of a number of local characters who seem to be close to Bugg's own heart and has an infectious guitar riff to boot.

Bugg is still very young, and there's likely more room for him to grow. But *Shangri La* is a highly promising step in the young rocker's career. Considering the media attention that's starting to swirl around him, he seems to be well on his way to becoming a prominent voice in popular music, and *Shangri La* shows that the fuss is well-deserved. **MMMM**

REJECTED REDISCOVERED

We get sent so many CDs to review that we just don't have room for them all. Here—sometimes years later—they get a second chance.

ANDREW NABLO
ASSOCIATE COPY EDITOR

Sulk
Sulk

I've never understood why so many people like to listen to sad music when they're upset. Why not throw on some disgustingly cheery anthem to make the sadness go away? I thought music was supposed to be medicine. But as luck would have it, recent relationship troubles have given me plenty to brood about. So when I picked up *Sulk*, the 1997 album by **Blair O'Halloran** and **Sherrie Laird** (known collectively as **Sulk**), I was ready to do as it said.

The album's cover art doesn't set the tone very well; on it, a woman and a man holding an electric guitar stand apart, leaning against a brick wall, looking in different directions. Are they forlorn lovers, strangers, or commuters enduring Mississauga transit wait times? Oh, the mysteries.

Sulk is not what I expected. For one, most of its tracks are upbeat and pleasant. Laird's vocals have the confident twang of **Shania Twain** and the youthful enthusiasm of **Taylor Swift**.

Although it's not really my taste, her voice is controlled and powerful—she's certainly talented.

At nearly six minutes, *Sulk*'s longest and strongest track is “Tomorrow”. It's about losing love, picking yourself up, and moving on when you've left a part of yourself behind. It's a message of hope after heartbreak, when every breath is painful. The lyrics may not be anything special, but Laird performs with such sincerity that they don't need to be.

However, *Sulk*'s weak finish is disappointing. The electronic keyboard in “Talk” is meant to be ethereal but shows its age instead. “Dreamtime” also suffers from having a late '90s sound; it could have been proto-**Florence and the Machine** but instead it's like **Whitney Houston** accompanying *Mortal Kombat*. I must admit I didn't want it to end, but I also couldn't believe what I was hearing.

I've heard that an album should be consumed as a whole and appreciated as a complete experience. *Sulk* starts strong but doesn't stick the landing. It's a shame, too. I was so ready to sulk, but *Sulk* brought me to a place I didn't want to go.

Like the sound of the album? The first person to come by our office this week can pick it up for free.

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MEDIUM FEATURES

Editor | Maria Cruz

Ending victim-shaming at UTM

One-year-old UTM club Students Ending Rape and Sexual Assault faces an uncertain future

JANE BURKE

Last week, the *Huffington Post* published an article titled “Amherst, Vanderbilt Accused of Botching Sexual Assault Complaints”, which discusses the federal complaints issued against two prominent Massachusetts universities, Amherst and Vanderbilt, accusing the schools of mishandling sexual assault reports on campus.

One victim, Sarah O’Brien, was sexually assaulted by another student in her first year but was too intimidated to report it at first. When she did, university counsellors failed to refer her to any resources and she was diagnosed with PTSD by an off-campus clinic in her senior year.

The release of this alarming story coincides with the one-year anniversary of Students Ending Rape and Sexual Assault, a UTM group trying to battle the phenomenon of sexual assault on campus.

SERSA, created by UTM students Amy Pryhoda and Maria Garber, targets victim-blaming ideologies. They have held information sessions worked in the framework of the Green Dot cam-



EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/PHOTO

At one American university, a student’s report of sexual assault was met with indifference.

paign, a campus initiative spearheaded by the UTM Health and Counselling Centre that encourages bystanders to prevent violence.

Garber told the Medium that SERSA’s creation was a result of

some of Pryhoda’s friends’ negative experiences, which inspired them to do something to end “rape culture” on campus, especially in cases where sexual assault complaints falls on deaf ears due to the

race or gender of the victim. The issues at Amherst and Vanderbilt are exactly the kind that Garber and Pryhoda want to prevent at UTM.

So far, SERSA has benefited

from the services of about 100 volunteers to date, but Garber believes there could be more if anti-rape movements weren’t viewed as “radical feminism”.

“Unfortunately, feminism is often confused with a radical group, which it shouldn’t be, but I wanted people to know we were about equality,” she says. “A male friend of mine [was] raped and he was disowned by his family. For men, or anyone, to be subjected to that sort of experience is life altering. I didn’t want them to experience victim blaming.”

“To say that someone is responsible for someone else attacking them, [because of] the way they dressed or the way they acted, it’s implying you can control someone else’s actions,” she continues. “My friend was able to seek help and move on from it, but not everyone can. I wanted to speak for his cause and his story.”

When she heard about the *Huffington Post* article, Garber was surprised that so many female employees at the university were ignoring the reports.

SERSA continued on page 9

Don’t expect to fly through a bird course

UTM instructors of courses labelled “easy” online find it hard to believe that the rating is accurate

MARIA CRUZ
FEATURES EDITOR

Don’t pretend you haven’t taken a “bird course” in university. Easy classes are sought by many students looking to boost their GPA when they feel the pressure. Some students take them just to see if the course really is as easy as their friends say.

An article published in *Metro* this August, “These courses are bird-brained”, discusses an online resource for students where ratings are posted for classes at many universities, including which are the easiest to get a good grade in with minimal work. Created by Colin O’Farrell 10 years ago when he was almost 30, the website, *birdcourses.com*, has taken off in the past two years, *Metro* reports.

The classes are ranked on a scale from one to five, where five denotes the easiest courses. Several courses offered at U of T have ratings between 3 and 4.50, including Introduction to Sociology, Expressive Writing, and an ecology course, to name a few of almost 100 courses listed on the site.

Upon hearing this, professors on campus had a few words to share about how easy they think their courses really are.



BILLESOWITZ.COM/PHOTO

At least one UTM professor says she doesn’t believe bird courses exist.

Prof. Jayne Baker, who teaches Introduction to Sociology this year, was surprised to hear that her course had been ranked as easy.

“Historically, the average [grade in] SOC100 is around 65%. Last year it was 62%,” Baker says. “If I were to poll my current students, I don’t know that they would agree it’s a bird course.”

She also doubts that the website

reflects the significant changes that were made to SOC100 in September.

“I think it’s possible there are some students who believe a course that has multiple choice tests is, perhaps, easier because they think multiple choice is easier,” Baker says. “But 45% of the mark comes from multiple choice.”

Baker revealed that her current class’s average has ranged from 60%

to 67% on the past few tests. “I disagree [...] because I see the grades,” she continues. “Keep in mind also [that] those end-of-year averages don’t include the students who dropped out early because they did really poorly in the beginning of the course.”

Rahul Sethi, a sessional lecturer in the professional writing and communication program, teaches three

writing courses this semester. One of his courses scores 4.5 out of 5 on O’Farrell’s website, but Sethi observes that a passionate writer can mislead impassionate writers into thinking that a writing class is easy.

Sethi has heard that some students take his classes believing them to be bird courses; students have even told him directly that they think his class is easy during one-on-one critique sessions. Sethi believes that students underestimate how demanding a writing-intensive course like Expressive Writing can be. In fact, though 35 students (the maximum allowed in the class) begin the class each term, with more on the waitlist, a large chunk leave after seeing their marks a few weeks into the semester. “I think one of the things with the writing course is that [in] a lot of them, we don’t tell you to do research, we don’t tell you to write them in an essay format, we don’t tell people to cite all kinds of stuff,” says Sethi. “People think that [because they] don’t have to do all this other extraneous stuff, creating this content will be a lot easier.”

Courses continued on page 9

Twitter as an investment

UTM's Investment Club discusses interest in the marketing data



GUARDIANLV.COM/PHOTO

Is Twitter still capturing the attention of investors?

ROHAN JASRA

Twitter's initial public offering of 70 million shares at a price of \$26 a share has left investors wary of the company's valuation. An IPO is the first time a corporation issues part of its ownership to the public.

The IPO raised \$1.8 billion, which means Twitter is valued at around \$18 billion. The valuation seems peculiar to a few, since Twitter hasn't recorded a profit to date. In fact, in 2013, Twitter posted three consecutive quarters of losses, totalling \$134 million, though the company also generated \$422 million for the same period, which interested investors.

Something to keep in mind is that Twitter has an active member base of 232 million users per month.

Very few are producing content, but this isn't a problem since Twitter's business model is centred on advertising. The three main ways Twitter makes money are sponsored tweets, sponsored accounts, and paying for trends. And while advertising compromises 85% of Twitter's revenue, these advertising techniques are considered relatively unintrusive.

The other 15% of the revenue is made by selling analytical data to companies, which can be used to gauge people's sentiment towards a certain product or brand. And with 500 million tweets every day, the sample size is big enough to make reasonable and useful inferences.

Twitter was the breakthrough in real-time marketing, making it a desirable investment. When 35-min-

ute power outage interrupted this year's Super Bowl, Oreo used real-time marketing to advertise their product by tweeting, "No power? No problem. You can still dunk in the dark."

Since Oreo was aware that 23 million tweets were posted during the blackout, they used a unique strategy to reach a wide range of consumers, and received praise for it. This example shows how valuable Twitter is from a marketing standpoint.

Twitter definitely has a lot of room for growth and is currently investing vast amounts of money into advertising technology while looking to expand its team. Whether their business model is sustainable enough to warrant an investment remains to be seen.

There's no excuse to dismiss claims

SERSA continued from page 8

"They may have had pressure from above, I don't know, but I don't think that's an excuse to dismiss serious claims. [...] At a younger age, we don't always think what an adult is doing can be wrong," she observed.

"When adults don't report something, it's even more shocking, because they're supposed to be the mature, reasonable mind."

Cases similar to Garber's high school experience are not unheard of among students. Students have similar stories to Garber about instances of inappropriateness in their school.

The fear some students may have of reporting sexual abuse is something SERSA wants to change, and every school may have such incident.

Just two years ago, University of Toronto professor James Andrew Payne was arrested for his second count of sexual assault after breaking into a young woman's apartment.

SERSA aims to take away the taboo surrounding sexual assault in and beyond the university environment.

At UTM, Garber feels such cases are being dealt with properly, but that there's room for improvement. "I think that there are several officials at UTM [who] are active in trying to eradicate rape culture from the UTM communi-

ty; for example, Corporal Bobbi-Jo Duff of the UTM campus police," she says.

"Fixing the emergency phones around campus should be a priority," Garber continues. "Maybe even a campaign emphasizing self-control and self-accountability, as well as a continuation of Green Dot's mission; the bystander's responsibilities could be woven into frosh week or another public event."

The future of SERSA is unknown, since many of the executives are in their final year at UTM, leaving many positions open for next year.

The future of SERSA is unknown, since many of the executives are in their final year at UTM, leaving many positions open for next year.

The group has held several events this year to increase their notability and to inform students about their cause. SERSA will be starting a St. George chapter within the next few weeks, and they hope to host a membership event at UTM in January.

Many possible explanations for why professors mark easy



ZDOROVII.RU/PHOTO

These students all think they're getting As. They aren't.

Courses continued from page 8

Some of the classes labelled "bird courses" have been so for years, and the *Metro* article cited Steve Joordens, coordinator of pedagogical development at U of T's Scarborough campus, saying that a perennial bird course can be a sign of a professor's lack of engagement.

Baker said it was hard to comment on such a claim. "I don't think it's fair to equate what a website says to the quality of an instructor. I wouldn't make that kind of direct link," Baker says. "I think, as instructors, we have to always look to make our courses

interesting and relevant. But at the same time, some courses will appeal to some students and won't to others. I don't think that's carelessness on the part of the instructor."

Sethi argues that if students understand the content, the instructor could be doing a good job. But he concedes that it's difficult to gauge. "It's kind of a catch-22," says Sethi. "There's so much involved. Are they getting the content across? Do they mark easy? How do students gauge what is a bird course?"

Baker believes nothing needs to be done about bird courses. "From an instructor's perspective, I don't

think they exist," she says, and adds that the more students use websites like O'Farrell's, the more accurate the information will be, which for her means the disappearance of the label.

In the end, says Sethi, professors don't blame students for taking what they believe to be a bird course to boost their GPA, especially since there's so much competition in university. "But what I do think students should do is admit a course is easy due to their personal views," he says. "There should be more of a dialogue rather than these tags that a class is easy."

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Editor | Jason Coelho

The goalkeeper with her own goals

Katey Teekasingh, a first-year UTM student and backup goaltender for the Varsity Blues, sets her sights high

JASON COELHO
SPORTS EDITOR

If baseball is America's pastime, hockey is Canada's lifeblood. Growing up in Canada, you're privy to a show of hockey fanaticism at its finest, and chances are you'll be sucked into the sport at a young age and stay loyal to your team for life.

UTM's Katey Teekasingh felt compelled to try the sport after watching the NHL's best duke it out during Hockey Night in Canada with her father. "I started playing at the age of six and have never looked back since," says Teekasingh, a first-year student hoping to major in sociology and CCIT and one of the three goalies on U of T's Varsity Blues women's hockey team.

A Toronto native, Teekasingh got her start in hockey as a forward in a house league and eventually found her calling between the pipes as a goaltender. "Coaches really make sure that every player has a chance to play every position, including goalie, at least once," explains Teekasingh. Though she was nervous about playing in net, she was pleasantly surprised at how rewarding she found hearing the cheering fans and teammates, which she felt gave her position importance.

Teekasingh remembers a specific save she made that elicited wild cheers, which made her realize she had potential in this role. "It was like I had just made the save of my life and the highlights were going to be featured on TSN that night," she says. "I went home later and told my



JASMEEN VIRK/THE MEDIUM

Teekasingh achieved a shutout win in her first game with the Blues.

parents that I wanted to play goalie again because I loved being on the ice for the entire game and I loved how loud people got when I made saves."

Honing her talents over the next few years, Teekasingh attended goalie school and eventually found a spot on the Mississauga Chiefs Midget AA team. With the support of her parents and coaches, she continued to improve her goaltending. Her inspiration was one of the greatest NHL goalies of all time: Patrick Roy. When the opportunity arose to play hockey at the university level, Teekasingh decided to take it. "It has always been a dream of mine to

take my hockey career all the way to university and the dream was so big that I was willing to do whatever it took to play, wherever it is that I ended up at," she says.

Vicky Sunohara, the head coach of the Varsity Blues women's team asked Teekasingh to attend training camp at U of T to assess her performance. "We were on the ice two hours every day," says Teekasingh. She was asked to play between the pipes in an exhibition game against Laurentian University on September 13, in which she earned a shutout and gave U of T the victory. It was after this game that Teekasingh was asked to be the Blues' third goalie.

"By far, [that was] one of the top three best days of my life," she says.

So far, Teekasingh is loving the experience of playing for the Blues. "It's been absolutely amazing and I can't be more thankful. I truly believe that my first year at university wouldn't be as great as it is without the team," she says.

Teekasingh hopes to improve her game during her first year with the Blues, and is taking advantage of the expert coaching offered through the program. "There are some technical things I would like to improve on: for example, better controlled rebounds, being more consistent, and a couple others as well," says Teekas-

ingh. "I mainly want my coaches and the rest of the team to see that I deserve to be there as much as the next player."

Off the ice, Teekasingh coaches at a Markham goalie clinic every Sunday as part of M-Power Hockey's programming. "The experience is great; I really love working with these girls because they remind me of myself as a goalie at their age," she says. "It really helps me improve because I'm able to see what the mistakes look like from an outside perspective, so that when I go in to practice I can do a better job of making sure I don't make the same mistakes."

"It's also a lot of fun shooting on them, because as goalies, we don't ever get a chance to shoot on another goalie," she adds.

Teekasingh has already established herself as a Varsity Blues goaltender, but hasn't yet reached her goal. "I'm the third goalie, and my long-term goal is to be a starter in my last couple of seasons with the team. But for now, I just really want to continue to work hard day in and day out, get better each day, and prove that I deserve my spot," she says. And with more than 11 games left in the season, Teekasingh is bound to see more starts before the season is over.

UTM students can cheer Teekasingh and the Blues on in their final two games of the fall semester on November 30, when the Blues face Laurentian University, and on December 1, when Nippissing University comes to the Varsity Centre.

Eagles narrowly fall to St. George

SANTIAGO BOTERO

In their second game of the season, the UTM Eagles took on St. George Black in tri-campus volleyball last Tuesday at the RAWC. St. George opened the scoring after the initial serve, prompting an answer from UTM that put the Eagles in the lead with two back-to-back spikes. St. George held the lead for the majority of the first set, but the Eagles came back and won the first set of the game by a score of 25-21.

The Eagles took riskier shots when the second set started, but St. George took the lead. UTM started to fall behind, and St. George took advantage to gain a 21-9 lead. The Eagles tried to close the gap but couldn't

and ended the set at 15-24 to tie the game up to that point.

The pressure was on at the start of the third set. With their fans' support, UTM took a 3-1 lead and increased it through the majority of the set. Spike after spike and mistakes made by St. George allowed the Eagles to keep ahead by three points. But after some rallies back and forth, the teams were tied at 24-24—two points away from a win. UTM tried to take the set, but fell after two consecutive points by St. George, ending the set with a final score of 27-25.

"There are a lot of tough competitors on tri-campus, but we are in it to win it," said Alex Singh, a second-year CCIT major and member of the Eagles, after the game.

Season half: White Christmas

Men's Division 1 basketball team boasts unbroken 7-0 record

FERGUS TALBOT

The UTM men's basketball White team will enter the Christmas holiday at pole position on the University of Toronto standings after their seventh consecutive win of the season.

After giving a strong performance in the second half, UTM White defeated the UTSC Maroons 66-36 last Wednesday at the RAWC to take the first seed in Division 1 with a 7-0 record.

After having given a string of exhilarating performances this season, Jeff Thorpe once again appeared in the Eagles' starting lineup and eventually led them to victory in their last game of the fall semester.

The game began at an aggres-

sive and quick pace that lasted through the first half. Thorpe was the dominant figure in the Maroons' paint, grabbing numerous rebounds to return possession to the offence.

UTM White defeated the UTSC Maroons 66-36 to take the first seed in Division 1. After only six minutes, UTM was leading the match 8-0.

Marked by three defenders on the opposing team after only three minutes, Thorpe caught the ball again and laid it off to Miguel Be-

diones, who rounded one defender through a faked jump shot before scoring from close range. Thorpe was also present on the opposite side of the court, where UTSC's offence were having a difficult time netting their layups, and Thorpe was catching many of the rebounds. After only six minutes, UTM was leading the match 8-0.

The Eagles' Zak Khan also started the game off well. Khan stole possession from the Maroons and burst into their half to beat three opposing defenders and score on a layup. Moments later, he gave an assist to UTM's Paolo Militar, who took his chance to score the basket ahead of two defenders.

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Div 1 Blue battles KPE

Blue plays final game of fall semester, sits fourth in standings

ERIC HEWITSON

The Division 1 UTM Eagles men's Blue basketball team outperformed the U of T kinesiology and physical education basketball team for an 87-80 win last Wednesday, putting Blue solidly over the .500 mark with a 4-3 record.

Both teams started off at a quick pace, although they had trouble getting shots to fall. UTM's Tariq Ado broke the ice for his team, opening the scoring at just over two minutes into the game. KPE had a tough time capitalizing on many opportunities during the first quarter of the game; they took many uncontested shots that would hit and slip into the hands of a UTM defender. After a timeout at the 7:33 mark, KPE seemed to find its rhythm, slowing the pace and passing the ball much more effectively under the net, where KPE's Erec Kingston had little trouble putting the ball into the basket.

Once the Eagles slowed their own pace, they were able to organize themselves and get into a defensive rhythm. Victor Dang made a major block against Kingston, allowing UTM's Tyrelle Subban to dribble the ball down the court and make a clutch jump shot, putting UTM at a 28-21 lead. Subban was a vital player for the Eagles in the first half, not missing a single basket and scoring eight points to

take his team to halftime with a lead of 34-23.

The second half started off much more controlled and organized, with both teams passing the ball more effectively, leading to more scoring opportunities. UTM put their trust in Subban, who continued to dominate with more clutch baskets, scoring five three-pointers during the half and rarely missing his free throws and two-point jump shots; he ended the night with a total of 26 points.

"We need to come out less anxious in the beginning of the game and settle down so we can make shots that we know we can make."

—Tyrelle Macdonald

KPE exposed a flaw in the Eagles' play: they found them covering the three-point line more vigorously than other parts of the court, leaving the area under the net open. KPE took advantage of this weak spot and put Devante Brown and Prabjit Singh-Ajrawat in the paint, passing to them often and letting the big men repeatedly put the ball in the basket. Brown and Singh-Ajrawat finished the game with 14 and 22 points respectively.

KPE's Patrick Dooc was a firecracker, playing well above his size, creating great opportunities for his team to score points and making two outstanding three-point shots to inch his team closer to the tying mark. Dooc's performance solidified him as KPE's MVP of the night. Unfortunately, a collision with another player forced Dooc to limp off the court with a hamstring injury, sidelining him for the rest of the game.

After Dooc was benched, his team's shot at winning slipped away. Eagles guard Greg Roberts connected on clutch free throw shots to lengthen the lead. KPE scored a total of 57 points in the second half—more than doubling their first-half performance—but it wasn't enough to give them the win.

After the game, UTM's Tyrelle Macdonald reiterated the comments the Eagles' head coaches had made at halftime: "We need to come out less anxious in the beginning of the game and settle down so we can make shots that we know we can make," he said. He attributed his team's strength in the second half to their shots at half.

The UTM men's Blue team is now fourth in the Division 1 standings at the end of the fall semester, the halfway point in the season. Blue will be back on the court on January 15 to take on UTSG's Rotman team.

UTM White beat Maroons handily

White continued from page 10

Afterwards, Bediones continued his strong start with a steal before passing the ball to Khan, who was situated at the head of a counterattack by the Eagles and managed to net a three-pointer. Swift UTM counterattacks and a lack of creativity from the UTSC offence gave the Eagles a lead of 15-6 in the first 10 minutes of the game.

With 10 minutes left in the first half, the Maroons took a more agile stance in offence. UTSC's Rahman Saleh grabbed a rebound, rounded UTM's paint, and was unmarked when he took an open shot from close range. The Maroons' William Babatunde then rounded UTM's Joshua Codinera and Militar to finish his brilliant solo effort with a well-made layup. UTSC climbed back up to make the score 15-10. But with only four minutes on the clock in the first half, the Eagles' defence remained solid. They consistently shut down Babatunde when he had possession and forced Saleh to create a turnover. In the last minute, Thorpe made a terrific block before assisting Khan, who, again unmarked, netted a layup to end the first half 25-19.

The second half saw complete and utter domination by the UTM squad. Codinera made a smart steal from behind a UTSC defender and passed the ball across the court to a sprinting Khan, who scored one

of his many clutch layups. With 13 minutes to go, the Eagles chose to play at a slower tempo in offence to capitalize on set plays. Khan was more often open in the paint and scored more often. He also gave Militar an incredible cross-court assist after UTSC's offence failed to net the ball four times in a row.

David Dai also put his name on the scoresheet with 10 minutes to go by dribbling past three defenders to score. Harris Nurkanovic came off the bench to replace Thorpe in the last 10 minutes and, like his teammate, kept UTM's defence stable while pushing his team's offence as well.

UTSC appeared to give up hope of a comeback, being down 53-23 with seven minutes remaining. They continually lost the ball to UTM's offence and their spirits were visibly lower than in the first half. UTM went on to win by a margin of 30 points.

"The guys played a well-orchestrated and intensive second half; it was a great team effort," said Juan Nunez, UTM's head coach. "We wanted the win more than they did. This performance gives us reason to hope for a title to [come] to UTM at the end of the academic year."

UTM White's dominating performance has given them a perfect record at the end of the fall term. They'll be back in action on January 8, taking on the Maroons again at UTSC.

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