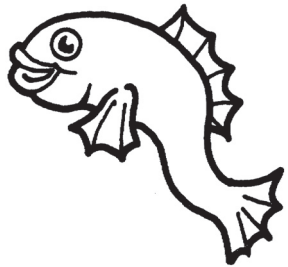


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the IRON WARRIOR

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO ENGINEERING SOCIETY

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 4 | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2006



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Engineers Show Strength of Heart at Bus Push



MICHAEL
SUE-KAM-LING
2A CHEMICAL

On Saturday March 4th, around 40 engineering students gathered in CPH Foyer to celebrate the 30th annual Bus Push. This year we raised money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, collecting sponsors before pulling a GRT bus 6.8 kilometres from CPH to Kitchener City Hall.

The morning started with free coffee and donuts, donated by Tim Hortons, as those brave souls slowly filtered in to CPH, despite there being a pubcrawl the previous night. At around 10:15, we set out on our journey. The trip was a slow but steady one, especially when faced with an uphill section, and everyone was aching and tired before we even reached the halfway point, but we knew our objective and were determined to accomplish it. Cheers from passers-by as well as honking from passing cars (despite us causing severe delays in traffic) kept our spirits high as we fought on through the cold of the morning.

To the dismay of the participants, several drivers were paying more attention to the Bus Push (probably in awe of the peculiarity of the event) and caused a number of accidents along King Street, delaying traffic even more so and putting somewhat of a damper on the day's events. As far as we know, no one was hurt, but there was one accident that involved as many as four cars.

Towards the end of the pull, the

TOOLbearers showed up with the TOOL and joined in the pull for a few moments. Cheers from the participants welcomed the bearers as they raised the TOOL high for all to see (needless to say the pedestrians were baffled by this).

After a gruelling hour and twenty-minute journey, we arrived at our final destination much to the delight of the masses of us engineering students, sore and tired from a hard morning's work. We then boarded the bus and headed back to CPH to enjoy a pizza lunch and to raffle off several prizes donated generously by some local businesses. We also then discovered that the money donated had reached around the four thousand dollar point and was still rising. We have yet to determine a final figure for the money donated, but we will make an announcement when we do.

Kate, Adrienne, Ruth Anne, Radhika and I would like to thank everyone who showed up to help raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation from the bottom of our hearts. This event could not have been a success without you guys and we realize how hard it is to sacrifice sleeping in on a Saturday morning to pull a bus for over an hour. A special thanks goes out to professor Barby from the ECE department who also came out on Saturday and dedicated his morning to helping charity. We would also like to thank the Heart and Stroke Foundation for being very helpful in planning the event, GRT for supplying the bus, the Waterloo Region Police Department who put up with a lot more than simply supervising our event and the inhabitants of Waterloo and Kitchener who openly supported us and donated without hesitation as we slowly moved through the city. It was an awesome event and I hope everyone goes out to it next year.



Material: good as a course, but...



ANDREW DODDS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

It feels like an eternity since I undertook this, the editorship of the Iron Warrior. Maybe that's just because it means that my Mondays don't end until sunrise Tuesday. It is still fun though, to see the works that you, the students, can come up with. It would be so amazing too, if we could see even more of it (hint hint, see ad below, see article on page 10). I can say that I am proud of the contributions of all my staff, and I would love to be proud of your submissions too, filled with your thoughts, ideas, your heart and soul.

However, I cannot say that I am proud to be a part of the Frosh of 2004. Sure, we had a fun time that first week, and I've made some friends, and yes I do enjoy both those things. However, it would seem that my fellow students have achieved a new great feat: they have come close to doubling the number of incidences of cheating. Granted, there could be several explanations for this feat. Perhaps some incidents were reported in other years, and my class is not the perpetrators; rather it is the seniors who have newly discovered cheating and the mirage of rewards it would seem to provide. Or perhaps people just really stunk when it came to cheating subtly enough to not get caught (as I'm confident that many, many more would be found out if none went unfound, or if TAs actually bothered to look at people's programming assignments).

It is a sad state that we are in, in that many people think that cheating is acceptable nowadays. The 'have-all' children, spoiled by their harder done by baby boomer parents, have now grown up. To some of them, education is viewed just as they would approach a cell phone: you pick your service provider (the University of Waterloo), you choose your package (Faculty, program, major, etc), you pay (and boy, do we ever), and you then get your service. In their minds, paying tuition entitles them to a degree. Just like grade 12 in high school, where teachers gave easy assignments and artificially inflated marks to help some students get accepted to their programs of choice, these students

now see that they have paid for something, and they expect to receive it. They do not see the reality of the situation, being that they have paid only to attempt to prove their worth. They merely see it as a nice vacation, and a few years waiting for their payments to process themselves into a nice degree to meet them at the end of their drunken orgy, once they've sobered up.

The thing that students need to realize is that they have certain abilities and aptitudes, and that in these things they will be able to succeed, and be able to find happiness. The 60+ hour work weeks of the Faculty of Engineering at UW are not meant for everyone. Cheating is not the answer either, when trying to account for one's self inherent deficiencies. We simply have to suck it up and find out what we are capable of, where we can make a difference, and make the move.

Since I do not wish to think that all these misguided students are pure evil, I would prefer to think that they have been lead astray, and can recover. (much as Skywalker was led astray by the Emperor, became Darth Vader and performed many evil acts, but was still able to reform moments before he passed on. Three cheers for deathbed repentance!) The evil Emperor in this case would be society.

We have placed so much importance on having 'bling', on being able to chivalrously foot the entire gargantuan bills for a date or a trip of a lifetime, or on being able to have a 5,000 square foot, two-storey, white-picket fenced house with a backyard in ground pool in the heart of suburbia. With that as our role model, how can we expect people to settle for anything less? When our parents, our friends, and our TV idols are pushing this lifestyle as the only way to live, does it come as a surprise that the people who don't have the ability to forge this lifestyle for themselves will turn to any means necessary to get it? Cheating seems to have a little bit more explanation now, doesn't it?

While the saying that 'money is the root of all evil' is not entirely true, money can cause more pain, suffering, woe and unhappiness than almost anything in the world (save the pain of losing loved ones, and the deathtrap of religious fanaticism). The American lifestyle, as many have come to call it, is not right for everyone, not meant for everyone. Most importantly, it is not a requirement for the majority of people in the world, so that they may

be happy. Love, laughter, lifelong friendships: these are all free, and all mean a lot more than having a fatter wallet or a car with bigger rims.

The solution to this sales pitch of the media, that we all need to live this ritzy, luxurious lifestyle, is to realize the blatant falsehood of this lie. We need to realize that what we have been given is a privilege, not a right. We should not be demeaning and putting down the manual labour jobs available to us, as there are many people (not just immigrants from Mexico as it would seem to be in the United States) who enjoy this lifestyle, enjoy being able to work out and make money for it, and not having to report to bosses or file paperwork everyday (cut to end scene of Office Space). We must support the decisions and wants and needs of people, and help them to find out just what they really are.

Personally, I enjoy being a part of the Engineering faculty at the University of Waterloo very much. I have an analytical mind, and enjoy learning the new concepts and theories presented in my classes. Yes, truth be told, I am not flawless, and devoting my time to other pursuits such as this paper can dilute my marks and lower my performance. But am I in the right field? Yes, of that I have no doubt. It is in my blood, my being to help others in need, to contribute to the betterment of society, and to put my needs behind the needs of others who have worked harder or are in greater need than myself. But I would not say that someone else who feels that they embody these characteristics is in the wrong field if they want to be a teacher, or a secretary, or a camp counsellor.

"You must be the change you want to see in the world," said Mahatma Gandhi. Take this to heart, and help teach the rest of our generation, the rest of the world, and the future in the process. Teach them that money can't buy you happiness, and that to find it you don't have to spend a penny. Take the time to enjoy the treasured and precious moments in life that don't have a huge dollar sign (or other denomination of currencies foreign): the sun rising over the trees on a summer's morn, some shinny during the cold winter months, or just the comfort and pleasure that comes from being with your friends and the ones you love. Find that, and you will see that no amount of dollars and cents could ever mean more.

IRON WARRIOR

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The Iron Warrior is a forum for thought provoking and informative articles published by the Engineering Society. Views expressed in The Iron Warrior are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Engineering Society.

The Iron Warrior encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the university community. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the university in general. The author's name and phone number should be included. All submissions, unless otherwise stated, become the property of The Iron Warrior, which reserves the right to refuse publication of material which it deems unsuitable. The Iron Warrior also reserves the right to edit grammar, spelling and text that do not meet university standards. Authors will be notified of any major changes that may be required.

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Praise the Lowered



Holy Moly LowRider,

IRS was completely whack dude! I was running around with nothing on but a black thong and an Iron Ring. I touched the TOOL. I touched it real good. Can you believe it? How the heck did I manage to get ringed? After the better part of 5 years of my life, I will finally be an Engineer. How sweet of a shit show is that?

On a side note, I managed to wake up this morning in some random apartment in dirty downtown Kitchener covered in chocolate sauce and syrup. My ring was replaced with a twist tie. I'm very much bummed. Thank God I can pick up a backup at minimal cost.

Shit my head hurts. Please print this letter in the Iron Warrior. This is column quality writing man. I'm going to go pass out now.

How many days to your IRS my very lowly friend?

With Love,
Pinky Ring

Dear Nursing-A-Wicked-Hangover,

Sounds like a random good time. Your writing is very clear and concise. You'd think after 5 years of work reports you'd understand proper sentence structure and grammar and usage of the english language. You're ELPE material. I hope it was real maple syrup. That corn syrup crap makes me sick.

You touched the TOOL eh? I must say that is pretty sick. I look forward to rubbing my BANADANA all over that sexy piece chrome plated goodness.

How many days? How should I know? I'll run that one past my secretary. I don't even know what the date is today. Far too busy.

LR

Dear Lowered Rider,

I think I'm coming down with something very serious. I've come into contact with a fatal disease. I thought I had it all together. I'm falling apart at the seams. I need to draw from your nearly infinite pool of wisdom Dr. LowRider.

I've never missed a class or tutorial. I sit in class everyday in the same seat. I copy notes down word for word. I pay attention. I do my homework. I've got everything going for me.

Lately though I've been staring at girls in my class. I notice them. Everyday, they look more and more like supermodels.

I'm going to be honest with you. My



buddies in class don't like me anymore because all I do is stare and drool. They keep calling these girls donkeys. I know it is very rude and inappropriate. I have identified with myself that these gals are generally accepted as butt ugly. Please don't take offense Mr. LowRider.

Slowly, I'm beginning to think these girls are super hot. I stare at the back of their head from the back of the class and I drift into day dream. I can no longer focus on rebar and concrete in class. They're turning into supermodels. Help me LowRider. I'm losing it.

Slowly Going Insane

Dear Serious Issue,

Congratulations son. You just hit Waterloo Engineering Puberty. Soon enough you'll notice black and gold stubble on your face. If you're lucky a couple of things will drop in your genital region.

You sound like a model student. You know what happens to model students? They all die. You will perish if you don't change your ways. You need a good time. I want you to stand up and go over to Laurier right now. They have some excellent test specimens over there. Go perform some experiments you perfect student you.

I heard about a fine institution where "it's all about talent". Monday nights they have an amateur night I think. If all else

fails, I would suggest picking up a copy of fifty plus. But that's the lowest you can go.

LR

Dear Low-Rider,

My roommate is driving me batty. When she cooks her ethnic cuisine it smells our house up big time. Because my room is located right off the kitchen, her stuff makes all of my clothes smell like curry. Don't get me wrong. I love curry. Everything that I own smells like curry.

Help me stop smelling. It is driving all

who are close to me very far away.

Monika G.

Dear Smelly,

Fight the power. Go over to Sobey's and grab 16 cans of sour kraut. Grab a few pounds of fresh Bratwurst. Fry up a load of onions and garlic, toss in the wurst and sauté with a copious amount of your favourite lager. Boil up the kraut with a little bit of caraway. That combo blows my mind. Oh God I miss the fatherland... Gimme a shout when you're done. Curry and Kraut, the aroma should be enough to peel wall paper off. Problem solved.

LR

Dear Low Rider,

My buddies and I have this wicked way of partying. We rent a good old u-haul and load it up with as many people and as much cheap beer as possible. We then proceed to drive around downtown Kitchener as fast as possible.

The other night, we got busted by the cops. Who figured they would pull over a u-haul doing donuts on king street at 3 am? Anyway, the paddy wagon showed up with about 15 cruisers. They opened the back of the u-haul and there we were, covered in puke singing the American National anthem.

All we got nothing but a warning. KW cops are amazing.

Joe P.

Haulin',

U-hauls are the best thing since sliced bread eh? Remember, each person needs to have a seat belt and a safe ride home. Safety first. Don't want to loose an eye.

LR

Have a problem? Need advice?
Email LowRider at
uw_lowrider@hotmail.com



Sandford Fleming Foundation
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TECHNICAL SPEAKER COMPETITION

The Technical Speaker Competition was held on February 2nd with three participants. Results were:

FIRST PRIZE

Paul Teehan, Electrical and Computer Engineering

OTHER COMPETITORS

Pallavi Ray, Chemical Engineering

David Kadylak, Mechanical Engineering

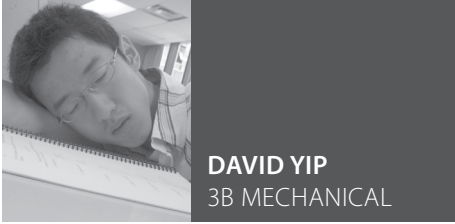
The Foundation would like to thank Professor W. Parker, Mechanical Engineering for managing the Technical Speaker Competition over the past several terms.

DEBATES - REMINDER

The Sandford Fleming Debates will be held from 11:30 – 1:00 on March 9 in E2 Room 3324 with finals on March 10 at noon outside POETS in CPH.

Funding for these awards comes from engineering student contributions and depends on them for continuation

Harassment: Just what happened at Meeting 1?



DAVID YIP
3B MECHANICAL

What's Engsoc?

According to Article IIa of its Constitution, the Engineering Society is the "official undergraduate organization of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Waterloo." Article IIb states that one of its roles is "To represent the interests of its members in relations" with other entities of the school, such as the Faculty itself, and the Federation of Students.

There are actually two Societies, ASoc and BSoc. This article concerns ASoc.

Who is a member?

"All undergraduates of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Waterloo who have paid and not withdrawn the Engineering Society Fee" are members. Chances are, you're a member.

What happened?

The Engineering Society has meetings during the term to share news among classes and make announcements. The first meeting of this term became rowdy and the point of a meeting was lost.

In the midst of the rowdiness, some students felt that things were done and said that were offensive, which in turn made many uncomfortable, "disgusted", and "extremely shocked".

No really, what happened? I saw apologies for sexual harassment.

Female students making presentations were heckled, often with sexual comments. When the third woman went up, she was encouraged to do twenty jumping jacks before she could speak. During another woman's presentation she was subject to mock sex and to mock groping. Many comments regarding the size of male genitalia and sex with girlfriends / mothers were made, so the harassment was not directed towards females exclusively. Male presenters were also subject mock groping and undressing. Additionally, potentially offensive comments regarding sexual orientation were reported. A picture of a fully exposed woman on the center-fold page of a pornographic magazine was shown to members of the audience as well. It has been said that it was all in good fun, but many in the audience felt uncomfortable.

It should be noted that the actions were those of individual members of the Engineering Society, and should not reflect on the Society as a whole.

Why is this serious?

It's potentially illegal.

University of Waterloo Policy 33 states "conduct that is contrary to the aims of maintaining a supportive, respectful and tolerant environment." is in violation of

the policy. Violations of 33 can be reprimanded in the same way as academic offenses, that is everything up to expulsion.

Part 1 of the Guide Ontario Human Rights Code states that "You might feel that your workplace is hostile or unwelcoming to you because of insulting or degrading comments or actions that have been made about others based on a ground in the Code. When comments or conduct of this kind have an influence on others and how they are treated, this is known as a "poisoned environment."

Laws aside, it is in the best interest of both students and Society that an inclusive Society exist to dispel the idea that the Society and events exist solely for an unruly elite. Furthermore, we are all co-op students, and the behaviour in the meeting would not be tolerated in any workplace.

It is also unacceptable that this behavior is presented as the norm to frosh, who may propagate this trend in the faculty. There must be a clear message that a sexist, homophobic or any other harassing atmosphere has no place in the faculty.

Inclusiveness

The Society as the following goals:

- To serve as the official undergraduate organization of the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Waterloo
- To represent the interests of its members in relations with the Faculty of Engineering Administration, the Engineering Faculty Council, the Federation of Students, and student organizations of other faculties and universities;
- To cultivate a spirit of mutual assistance and co-operation among its members;
- To promote and co-ordinate the cultural, academic, athletic and social activities of the members of the Society;

Our Faculty has an extremely diverse student body. While it is impossible to please everyone, it is certainly to Engsoc detrimental event attendance to make attendees to meetings feel uncomfortable. More than one person has mentioned that the events of Meeting 1 specifically prevented them from participating in the future.

Women in Engineering

Increasing numbers of women in engineering is one of the priorities of the Dean's Office in the Vision 2010 Planning Exercise. The aforementioned behavior is not constructive to this goal. In interview, the Dean stated this "undermines the goal" of attracting more women to the faculty.

What is being done?

Conflict Management and Human Rights Office

"The Conflict Management and Human Rights Office acts as a focal point and resource to all members of the univer-

sity community regarding matters of harassment, discrimination, and other general forms of conflict."

The Office's primary role is to act as a resource, a service provider to help when situations such as this arise on campus. When called upon, they can take on an investigative role, but this role is usually taken on by the organization where the incident occurred. They can be approached if someone feels an environment has been poisoned.

Faculty

Parties whose involvement was in question at the meeting have been spoken to by the Dean. He noted that in discussion with the offending parties there was "no argument regarding the acceptability" of the behavior, and that the Society as been extremely cooperative with the ongoing investigation by the Associate Dean.

In an interview with the Iron Warrior, the Dean made it clear that that kind of behavior "does not belong in the faculty."

The faculty response depends on "whether [Society President] Nick [Lawler] can exercise strong leadership" to prevent this from happening again. If it is found that "Engsoc cannot police itself" then the Dean will step in. When asked about the sort of measures that may be taken, the Dean answered that he did not want to speculate, and would "cross that bridge if we get there".

Dean Sedra pointed out that he is certainly in support of meetings with "clean fun", but that Meeting 1 was certainly not "clean fun".

So what has the Engineering Society done?

The President and the VP Internal have both published apologies for the events at the meeting.

In his apology in the Iron Warrior earlier this term, Engsoc President Nick Lawler outlined plans to for a presentation on sexual harassment, as well as organizing "a charity event to promote understanding of the unique challenges faced by women and to raise money for a women's shelter."

Planning for the charity event will "begin after reading days". At Engsoc Meeting 4 a presentation was given by Kristine Meier, from the Engineering Counselling office "on harassment, what it is, and how it can be prevented, and its consequences."

The Engsoc reps to Women in Engineering "are happy with the professionalism of the president and vice-president internal's apologies and feel confident that this will not be an issue at future Engsoc meetings."

Engsoc is also actively working with the Faculty to ensure this doesn't happen again, and the Dean has noted that the level of cooperation has been commendable.

It's just a joke. Can't you take a joke? It doesn't even bother some of the women.

One member who was present at the meeting noted that the women do not complain because they "expect it now", according to one woman she spoke with.

She noted that some may "enjoy the attention, but this attention is very degrading and totally regressive."

Another issue is not just the feelings of the "victims", but also that many in the audience felt uncomfortable with what was going on, even if it was all in fun, and the persons involved do not mind.

I don't want the meetings to become boring.

There is a world difference between a boring meeting and meeting with a poisoned, uncomfortable atmosphere for some of the participants. It should certainly be possible to have a fun, animated meeting without making anyone feel too uncomfortable. It is impossible to please everyone, but then there are lines that aren't supposed to be crossed.

What have some other students said?

Some students did not notice anything wrong. Some said that the behavior was "disgusting". Another wrote that it must have been hard to take the female presenters seriously because of the heckling and harassment. This meant much time wasted on the part of the presenters in preparing their material.

Some noted that the harassment was not directed towards females exclusively, and that males were also subject to comments.

Many commented that it was definitely not a face of the Society to present to first year students, who would either be repulsed by the behavior and discourage further participation, or take the behavior to be acceptable and propagate it.

Some did not find it particularly offensive, but agreed it should definitely not be the norm for productive meetings.

Another drew the line between being merely vulgar and being degrading. Vulgarity is a matter of taste, but degrading comments shouldn't be tolerated. Some said the behavior on show was just "stupid", and that people should have known better. One felt that the repercussions have merely been a "slap on the wrist", and the chances that it would happen again were high. An experienced student mentioned that the Engineering Society through the course of many years and through different leadership teams, has been run with various levels of seriousness, varying from "a joke", to "excessive professionalism".

What's next?

The Society is cooperating fully with the Faculty in its investigation, and once that is closed, it only remains to be seen if the changes will prevent such incidents from occurring again.

National Engineering Week: Not Just for Kids!



JACLYN SHARPE
2A MECHANICAL

I woke up Sunday morning, still exhausted from the night before and aching all over from bus push, at the respectable hour

of 8am and dragged myself to the children's museum in down town Kitchener. I did this because it was the last day of National Engineering Week (NEW) and I had foolishly signed up as a volunteer. The Waterloo Regional Children's Museum was hosting a K'NEX bridge building challenge where local school children were invited to build bridges out of K'NEX. The bridges were then loaded up with bricks until they collapsed. It sounds like fun,

right? Not if nobody shows up.

The fact that the museum doesn't normally open until noon on Sundays combined with poor advertising resulted in no kids showing up until 12pm. This left me with a lot of time to build my own bridge, which was a lot more painful on the thumbs than I had hoped. According to the list on the wall many children build bridges on Saturday that were able to hold all 18.75 of the bricks provided. My

bridge broke at 6. So I wandered around the museum for a while. I recommend that everyone go at least once, it's pretty cool. They have these neat cars that go by cranking the handle on the front back and forth and a wall of gears.

Once the children started arriving the event got very busy and seemed to be quite successful.

POINT VS. COUNTERPOINT

Has UW Engineering Been Evolving Well?

KRISTI HERLEIN
1N CHEMICAL

Engineering students have lately been accepting a number of changes to their schooling. Almost all of them have been sudden and difficult to accept, with no chance of change after it has been done.

For a few years now, new programs have been added and enrollment increased. Students have not been witness to the supposed co-op employment and engineering student retention rates in excess of 90%.

The PDEng course was thrust upon the class of 2009 and beyond, after upper year students and the VP Education arguing against it on our behalf in a Winter 2004 EngSoc meeting, after students and even some faculty voted against passing the motion to create the course. A few months later, engineering students unknowingly accepted their offers to Waterloo, and later received a short warning, no larger than this paragraph, on a single-sheet pamphlet I glanced at once.

The engineering buildings have recently been locked down from 11pm to 7am every day. This change happened with little warning and no opportunity for discussion.

All these things show the bad direction that engineering is moving in. Though some improvements have occurred, they often have a hidden, darker side.

Engineering students are known to take late nights working on labs, projects and assignments and early mornings finishing them off. But the recent nighttime shutdown of the engineering buildings has tampered with this reality. This eight hour daily loss is more acceptable for those with computers, but those who cannot afford to use their own, for whatever reason, are not so easily reassured.

One thing I personally found very comforting at Waterloo was that if my computer ever stopped working (a fair worry, owning a certain unreliable Toshiba) I could simply head to one of the campus labs. Now, however, my laptop has a precious existence, and I fear the day that it finally does not

restart after one of its numerous, infamous, spontaneous shutdowns.

The buildings have been closed at night to stave off a relatively recent increase in vandalisms and thefts. Although it is in one way a good idea to close the buildings for this reason, we have suddenly lost the 24 hour access to the engineering buildings that we are accustomed to, and no less paid for with our tuition.

The fact that we were losing this access was only given to us in November, eight weeks before the restricted access began. The first information anyone received about this was sent out in an informal email by Nick Lawler, the A-Soc President, to the Engineering Society mailing list, which class representatives may have passed on to their classes. There was no official warning that the services we had been paying for were about to disappear.

Basically, not only did we lose our engineering buildings nightly, we were poorly informed about it and had little to no say in the matter, with no plans for discussion or change in the near future.

Another problem at Waterloo is the recent failure rates.

One considerable reason people come to Waterloo for engineering over other schools is because it's so "not U of T". In other words, Waterloo is known for its high retention rate of engineering students. For the class of 2009, however, this has not been the case.

In their 1B terms, several classes lost 30 to 40 percent of their peers. Both chemical engineering classes lost at least 25 students, meaning at least 50 of the original 160; the 4s-stream computer engineers lost around 30 percent, and software engineering lost an outrageous 40 percent. Waterloo has been accepting more students to several programs to accommodate for the double cohort, but they have been decreasing entrance averages to do so.

Chemical engineering averages were lower than usual for the class of 2009, and the notoriously high entrance average for computer engineering has dropped below that of several other programs.

will cater to students who want the solid foundation and technical esteem of an engineering degree, to compete in a typically lay profession. As engineers we should welcome these new programs because nobody enjoys working for a manager who doesn't know how many inches are in a foot, or building a visually stunning but structurally ridiculous building. As projects get more complex, people who are trained in several disciplines are becoming indispensable because they can coordinate between different groups.

PDEng is another beneficial addition to engineering. Though many students are not happy with the current implementation of the program nearly all of the students taking it concede that the concept is valid. The main argument against PDEng is that it is trying to teach skills that can be better learned naturally in the workplace. However, we aren't all lucky enough to be landed with good role models at work. PDEng gives an opportunity for all students to be exposed artificially to a wide variety of office environments and management styles. It also draws attention to the numerous soft skills that can be learned by example in the workplace. As PDEng advances it moves away from the basics covered in 15 and 25, and starts to go into more advanced topics such as how to manage a project and skills for a global workplace. These are skills that can be learned on the job by trial and error, but a little instruction should help Waterloo grads have a head

While the lower entrance average was of benefit to students like me, who had trouble the first time around but elected to continue in the program, students who found themselves painfully struggling and wondering why they had gone into or even been accepted into engineering, only to fail their first year, most likely had trouble seeing the difference between Waterloo and U of T after having lost \$8000 dollars to the school for a degree they no longer wanted to complete.

When I look to my left and right next term, I will no longer see the people I was told I would see while I was in frosh week. Although I'll be glad to see anyone at all, I'll be wondering why enrollment keeps increasing and new programs keep materializing only to lose a huge number of students a year later, and why Waterloo is so different from U of T.

For the last few years, Waterloo has been consistently introducing new programs, and few have been removed. We have seen the introduction of software, mechatronics, and nanotechnology engineering. Also, an extra class of chemical engineers was accepted to replace the enviro-chemicals for the class of 2007, and environmental engineering is being phased out next year. An extra class of computer engineering students was accepted for the class of 2008, and while that was reduced again this year, an additional class of electrical engineering students was accepted instead.

So, Waterloo has added five classes of students to the engineering faculty, and only one of them was added to replace another.

The class of 2009 had significant troubles finding their first co-op positions, especially in the mechanical, chemical and mechatronics classes. Most found jobs eventually, but only after the deadline for finding a co-op position was extended. Many of the jobs finally received only reached the bare minimum of co-op requirements. Jobs were found outside of their own discipline—chemical engineering students working in civil type positions, IT, and one even going on the trip to India.

The introduction of mechatronics

start when entering the workforce. Waterloo is famous for providing a comprehensive education thanks to labs, design projects, and most of all real world workterm experience. It is only natural to add professionalism to this list. Once the kinks are worked out PDEng will become an indispensable part of the Waterloo engineering degree.

Engineering has also been experiencing some non-academic changes, affecting the engineering society. The engineering society has been undergoing a renaissance caused by the first meeting of this term, which got a little bit out of hand. Meetings have become much tamer lately, and the last meeting included a brief presentation on sexual harassment. Increased awareness of harassment and discrimination will help everyone in engineering to feel included and comfortable, in a program with a bad reputation. Engineering can only shake the negative stereotype of a sexist misogynistic boys club by working hard to promote inclusiveness and diversity. Recent events have acted as a sharp wake up call, and made people stand back and look at the travesty which has become norm. In any other situation the events of the first meeting would have been viewed as not only crossing the line, but doing so at a dead run. So, why was it that nobody during the meeting said a word? By re-evaluating our values and taking a critical look at our past behaviour we can work towards an inclusive future that can be enjoyed by everyone.

engineering was questionable, because it was another program that was an existing program with an available option—mechanical engineering with a mechatronics option. Students in chemical engineering were similarly worried about the introduction of nanotechnology—a course with much overlap in chemical engineering—when they were having such trouble with employment and losing such a high percentage of students to failing already.

Now, with all this being considered, the faculty still wants to add another program.

The new program is planned is management engineering, planned to start in 2007. It will have one 8-stream class of 60 students. It is described as a newer industrial engineering type program and will be run from the existing Management Sciences (MSCI) department.

Currently, however, students in any engineering program can take an option in MSCI. Since, in management engineering, you are able to take electives from other engineering programs to specialize your degree, this management engineering degree is basically a reversal of taking a current engineering program with the MSCI option.

The new management engineering program is redundant, and instead of adding a specialized program of 60 students we should better promote the option in management science which students of any engineering program can take.

Adding management engineering to Waterloo will simply lower average entrance averages of other engineering programs, increasing failure rates and decreasing employment.

All these changes have had poor effects on the morale of engineering students, and the planned changes do not seem promising either.

Engineering has seen many changes, and while many look good on the surface, not all is as it seems. However, the roots of Waterloo Engineering are deep, so as long as we look critically at all new developments, the frost will not reach us.

The most recent EngSoc meeting was almost devoid of frosh and the overall attendance was comparatively low. Even though recently the meetings have been tame by EngSoc standards many people appear to have been scared away by the scandal surrounding the first meeting. The engineering society must be open to all students who wish to participate and should not be confined to a small circle of friends who 'get' each other's sense of humour. The meetings can be very intimidating to newcomers who are still acclimating to the engineering culture. By toning down the meetings and enforcing the no tolerance of sexual harassment policy, EngSoc will be able to recover and gain new members, and maybe win back a few of the people who were scared off.

There are many changes taking place in engineering today that will have a huge effect on where we end up in the future. Whether we'll be graduating with the first undergraduate degree in nanotechnology, or working our way up the corporate ladder thanks to PDEng; the changes taking place in engineering right now will affect our careers for years to come.

Editor's Note:

The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the authors, the Iron Warrior, or the Engineering Society.



JACLYN
SHARPE
2A MECHANICAL

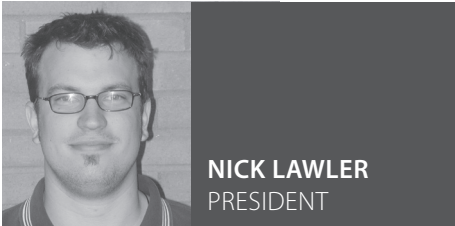
The engineering program at Waterloo has been in a state of flux recently. New programs are being added constantly keeping the faculty on the cutting edge, and innovations like PDEng are helping to boost the university's reputation with employers. The engineering society is also changing right now to become more welcoming to female members. This may be worrying to some people, change is scary, but all of these changes are in fact improvements. Everybody likes improvements.

Engineering at Waterloo is showing that it is dynamic and changing with the times. A major adjustment taking place right now in engineering is the addition of new programs like nanotech and mechatronics. These two programs have been very successful, and both are full of ambitious students attracted by the shiny new programs on the cutting edge of new technology.

Vision 2010 is proposing the addition of two new programs to engineering: architecture engineering and management engineering. These programs would start taking students in 2007. Both of these programs

ENGINEERING SOCIETY EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Time for a Change



NICK LAWLER
PRESIDENT

As the term comes to a close, we all know things are getting busy. But the Engineering Society has a whole bunch of events and activities to participate in: Genius Bowl, PI Week, the EngPlay and Explorations just to name a few. I want to briefly talk about the elections that we will be having on March 20th. This is an important occasion in the Engineering Society. You, the students get to decide

who will be in charge for the next 16 months! It's a big responsibility, with lots of work, but fun too! Anyone can run, and you can have a voice in how EngSoc is administered. If you are interested, please fill out a nomination form, available in the EngSoc Office (CPH 1327). The best thing to do if you are interested is to contact the respected Executive that you are interested in replacing. They should be able to answer any questions that you may have. As well, if you have any further questions regarding the election or its procedures you can contact the CRO (that's me), and I'll see what I can do for you. Good luck to all of you, and remember that if stress is getting you down, take time to relax and take time for yourself. Best wishes!

Donations Donated



SABRINA GIOVINAZZO
VP FINANCE

For those that missed it, donations were decided at the last EngSoc meeting. A total of \$2500 will be given out. To see a where the money is being allocated, check the website or e-mail me. I will let all contacts know when checks are available

for pickup. For those of you who haven't already, make sure you let me know whom the checks should be written out to so you can receive your money!

As always, make sure you stop by Novelties on your lunch! Mary and I will be sitting down to make an order next week, so let us know if you have any ideas for some new items.

Other than that, make sure you get your expense forms in and I'll be sure to give you your money!

Sabrina Giovinazzo

EOT for You and Me



JASON JAGODICH
VP EXTERNAL

What's up Waterloo!?! The hectic exam period is upon us, but not before the second round of races. Boa-tracing will be held 5:30 on Saturday March 18th. The End of term gathering will be on the 24th of March...Hope to see you all at

both of these great events. Also, for those lucky fourth years, Gradball is being held Saturday April 1st at Bingeman's.

Any chefs out there looking to show off their talents will have their opportunity on March 22nd at the tri-annual Engsoc Potluck meeting. So get your oven mitts on and have-adder...You have my personal guarantee that the delicatessens served this term will not include any of the animals featured on any Canadian cash.

Git r done,

Gunnerz

Debt Load Ho!



MELINDA HURD
VP EDUCATION

Hope you've all survived Midterms and enjoyed your very last "Reading Days" at the University of Waterloo; next year we will all have a whole week off!! Start planning your amazing vacations and shenanigans now!

Just a reminder – Debt Load Surveys are due WEDNESDAY MARCH 8th. If you missed the surveys in your classes this term, extra surveys are available in the Engineering Society Office (CPH 1327). Please take the time to participate in this survey for the Dean's Office – they look at every single survey completed!! If you have any concerns or questions about

the surveys please feel free to contact me (asoc_vpedu@engmail.uwaterloo.ca).

I would like to congratulate Amanda and Kevin on their fabulous work initiating the PDEng Rep Meeting that ran on IRS. Thanks to all of the class reps that participated. There is a great deal of work to be done by this committee and you're all off to a great start!

I'd also like to thank everyone that came out to the Stuffing Party this week – we stuffed those course critique envelopes in record time! Hopefully we'll see more volunteers at the course critique reading party in a couple off weeks, dinner will be provided again!

If anyone is interested in running for the position of VP Ed in the upcoming EngSoc elections please come and talk to me if you have any questions! I strongly encourage those interested to consider this position within the engineering society!

Party on, only a couple weeks to go!!

Term Winds Down, EngSoc Winds Up



MIKE BUCZKOWSKI
VP INTERNAL

A Right Folks, I'll keep this short and sweet because it feels like we write about one thousand of these exec reports per term. Thanks to everyone who came to the Engsoc meeting last Wednesday; it was an extremely long meeting with plenty of valuable information for everyone who was there... There was also tons of free food, WOO! What will be coming up in the next couple of weeks you ask?

Genius Bowl: Wednesday March 6 – Become the Biggest Genius Class in UWENG!

Engplay: March 10 -11 – Self-Explanatory but Amazing Fun!

Wheelchair BBall: Sunday March 12

– Support Charity by playing BBall!

Explorations: Monday March 13 – Show the Youngsters what UW is all about

Campus Day: Tuesday March 14 – Show the Adolescents what UW is all about

Class Rep Advisor Party: March 17 – Get More Free Food and make Engsoc better

Hope to see many of you at these events, I know I'll be there! Engsoc elections are also taking place, nominations are open until the 9th of March with the election of the 15th so make sure that if you're interested in becoming part of what makes the society run, you talk to a present member of exec and get yourself in the race. It looks like there will be healthy competition this year. VPI has been a great experience for me so it can be the same for you!

That's it from Butch, here's to hopefully passing 3B!

Butch

WEEF



KATHERINE CHIANG
WEEF DIRECTOR

Well, it's a month till finals and I'm still not done midterms, can you believe it?! In the WEEF front, everything is doing fine. We are close to the end of the term, the proposals are all in and ready to go, and by the time this article hits the stand, the presentation would also be underway. The final funding decision will be deliberated by the funding council next Tuesday, March 9th, and will be published in the next issue after approval from the Board of Directors. The proposal booklet in electronic form is available on the WEEF website.

EngSoc Future Executive:

President (2B or higher)

VP Education (2A or higher)

VP External (2A or higher)

VP Internal (2A or higher)

WEEF Director

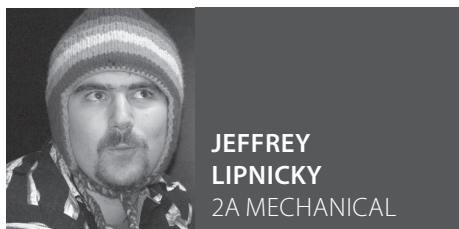
Forms in Orifice

Nominations Close Thursday March 9th at 4:30pm

Elections March 15th

Questions: Contact CRO Nick Lawer (ndlauer@engmail)

Shooby: Hail to the Chi... Senator!



**JEFFREY
LIPNICKY**
2A MECHANICAL

The FEDS elections have come and gone, and with "Fish" getting his iron ring, the position for Engineering Senator was decided by the polls. For those of you that didn't sit by your computer waiting for the results to roll in (like me), Adam Schubert claimed this position with 381/638 votes. In hopes of enlightening the engineering community on who "Shooby" is, and what he plans to do, I was sent out with my pencil and doodle pad to go and observe "Shooby" in his natural environment. However, I am somewhat lazy, and have become heavily reliant on information technology. Therefore, I sent Mr. Shooby an email asking him some questions about himself and his position. This is what he had to say:

1. What is your real name?

Good question. Some say my name originated as Shoob-tholomew in the Swedish cicle-worshipping cult of the 1940s called the Shoobsicles. Apparently Shoob-tholomew is Swedish for "a whale's vagina".

For virtual anonymity in everything I do, I have assumed the name 'Adam Schubert' on all legal documentation and identification. Recent versions of my name have been 'Shooby' or the now more contemporary 'Shoobs'(less is more).

2. What program are you enrolled in, and your year of graduation?

'Electrical Engineering'/'20??'. Next question.

3. Why did you decide to run for engineering senator?

I've done a lot of 'participating' in EngSoc events and haven't really organised a lot of them. As a result, I think that I've come in touch with a lot of engineering students but haven't really made use of the relationships I've been lucky enough to form. This is my chance to make use of these to benefit all of engineering. I guess what I'm trying to say is that this is my way of developing useful rhetoric skills, gaining some experience, and giving back to those who have given me so much.

Plus, Darth Vader from the planet Vulcan told me that if I didn't run for senator that he'd melt my brain.

4. What plans do you have to make Waterloo better?

Well, my immediate mandate isn't for all of Waterloo but only for engineering. In my campaign, however, I promised to delve into others' affairs and help them in the hopes that I can then rally them to the causes of engineering.

I don't take office until May and as such it is difficult to say what my immediate concerns are, but the pressing issue seems to be the proposed 'management engineering'. Many engineering students right now question how 'engineering' this program will be, how many students will actually want to do this and how is it different from SYDE with an Msci option. So if you see me in the hall, stop me and tell me what you think.

5. Favorite Sandwich?

Well I'm more of a taco guy myself, but if you're limiting me to 'sandwiches' I guess The Crippler is my favorite sandwich. The Crippler is a 3 lb beef burger on a loaf of sourdough bread. Some say it couldn't be done (see Mike 'Butch' Buczkowski and Jay 'Gunz' Jagodich) but I did it. I'm the first to ever complete

the Crippler Challenge (finish in under an hour). That's right baby, I'm Neil F\$%@ing Armstrong! I wish I could say I was \$100 richer for it, but I'm not. (see Mike 'Butch' Buczkowski and Jay 'Gunz' Jagodich)

6. How often do you floss?

I floss my teeth every day. Darth Vader from the planet Vulcan told me that if I didn't, that he'd melt my brain. I also apparently have to take Lorraine to the Enchantment Under The Sea dance but I have no idea what the hell he's talking about.

7. How long is your term as engineering senator?

I'll be your student senator starting in May and lasting one full year. But it is far too early to start the re-election campaign. ONE MORE YEAR! ONE MORE YEAR! ONE MORE YEAR!

8. What one thing helped you become senator the most?

Well I guess those honours would have to go to my bud Evan Murphy. He helped give me a heads-up about architecture, me make buttons, take down posters, and covered for me at work when necessary. Thanks to my bosses too for being so forgiving about me needing to be in and out of the office so much.

9. What is senate responsible for?

The official word about senate: "The structure and powers of the Senate are spelled out in the University of Waterloo Act, 1972 and include the power to enact bylaws and establish committees and councils"

Basically they vote on decisions regarding tuition, course scheduling and academic policy.

I'm also hoping to institute a BINGO night for the senators.

CECS Important Dates

Work Search Strategies

Monday, March 6
3:30-5:00 TC 1208

Special Session for International Students

Monday, March 6
4:30-6:00 TC 2218

Interview Skills: Selling Your Skills

Tuesday, March 7
2:30-4:30 TC 1208

Working Effectively in Another Culture

Tuesday, March 7
4:30-6:00 TC 2218

Writing CVs and Cover Letters

Wednesday, March 8
12:00-1:30 TC 2218

Career Decision Making

Thursday, March 9
3:30-5:30 TC 1208

Business Etiquette and Professionalism

Monday, March 13
3:30-4:30 TC 1208

Successfully Negotiating Job Offers

Wednesday, March 15
4:30-5:30 TC 1208

Alumni Career Planning Workshop

Saturday, March 25
10:00-6:00 London Ontario Chamber of Commerce

Don't forget that there's still time to book an appointment online for Mock Interviews, Resume and Cover Letter advice, Career Decision Making advice, and much more.

Advanced Snow Sculpture 142



**DEVIN
CASS**
1B ELECTRICAL

A snow sculpture is a very fun, safe and inclusive activity to partake in, especially with all the time you have to frolic and be merry. This article outlines the basic ideas behind creating a snow sculpture in a few easy steps.

1. Wait for it to snow.

2. Wait for the snow to be useable in creating snow sculptures. To test for useable snow, pick up the snow and mush it into a ball. Proceed to throw at any object. If you didn't throw like a girl and the snow is useable, there will be a distinct audible sound. If your object happens to be a person, the sound will be

similar to that whining sound you make when someone has eaten the last of your sour cream cookies.

3. Now we need some snowballs. To make a big snowball, you (being a smart engineer like you are) could roll the snowball down a hill, it being sticky enough to pick up other snow. You could also roll it horizontally (requiring effort) too, I guess. Now you want to make the snowballs reasonably big for your sculpture.

4. Construct two large snowballs with the steps aforementioned, and place them side by side. Not on top each other. Rub them with your hands until they are smooth. If one is a little bigger than the other, don't worry, that's normal. Your snowballs should be at least up to your knee-ish. (Like I said if one is a little bigger or hangs a little lower, that's normal.)

5. Now for the shaft. We need to make a "snow cylinder." This is sometimes difficult. If your snow is good enough, you may be able to use the hill technique to get a small cylinder

rolling; it may get you off to a good start. To be really impressive you want to have your cylinder as large and long as possible.

6. After you feel your cylinder is approaching adequate, then prop it up perpendicular to the ground next to your snowballs. Pack snow around it as required keeping it upright.

7. You may require more snowballs to be added to the top of your cylinder, and then smoothed out. You really want to have your cylinder as cylindrical as possible. Be careful, if you rub your cylinder too much, you could end up with a curved shaft.

8. If none of this is working out at all for you, fuck it, go skiing or snowboarding...or whatever.

9. Now it's time for the top of your sculpture. This is the most meticulous part. You'll need a steady hand. Make a "snow mushroom" on the ground by taking snow and putting it on top of other snow. Now put this creation on the top of your cylinder. You'll need to sculpt and

attach, by putting more snow in areas that need it. I'm sure you can figure it out.

10. Now it's time for your master sculpting techniques. You'll want to delicately shape a hole in the very top. Around the mushroom shape you could pack more snow, or not, to show where you're from. Let your inner artsie escape and sculpt!

11. And volia! You have your sculpture. Just an arbitrary sculpture. From here on you can do whatever you want with it. But sign your name on the ground many times above or below the shaft. Even on the snowballs. Do it in that special curly writing and push really hard so it's dark and people can see. Girls might not like it if you sign it on the shaft itself. (Should be trim at least, but some like it shaved.)

Well this was a complete waste of time. But, if you were really keen on making a snow sculpture, good for you. I hope this really helped you.

Explorations Needs You!

GRAEME BAER
4B SOFTWARE

This year's Engineering Explorations is fast approaching, coming up this Monday evening!

Explorations is an annual event sponsored by the Faculty of Engineering and the Engineering Society which provides grade 6, 7 and

8 students from local schools a chance to see what Engineering has to offer. Each department (including Architecture for the

first time this year) provides a few displays around Engineering, and many of the student teams join in for the fun. We have well over 30 displays spread out through all the Engineering buildings.

Over the course of a few hours on Monday evening, 1500 students, siblings and parents will swamp the DC Fishbowl. They'll leave as quickly as humanly possible for their personal tour of a random selection of exhibits, which might include the Midnight Sun Solar Car Team, Electronic Ping Pong, Wind Tunnel Testing

and our annual favourite Liquid Nitrogen Ice Cream, spread out across Engineering.

To make this event run smoothly, we're in desperate need of volunteers to join each of these tour groups on their journey through Engineering. We'll get you fed, give you a tshirt, and send you right out with a tour group to see the cool showcase projects set up around Engineering.

Of course, no Explorations is complete without the odd lost child (or parent), hilarious comments made by younger siblings, or our mascot Pounce de Lion.

So take some time from your heavy workload to see all the cool displays this Monday from either 4:30 to 6:30 or 6:15 to 8:15. You'll get to grab some food (not pizza!) and a tshirt and maybe even corrupt...err...inspire young minds to their possible futures in Engineering. Who knows - you might even learn something! Sign up at <http://engsoc.uwaterloo.ca/explore/>.

Suicide: the Fight for our Friends



JEFFREY
LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

Suicide. What is it about that word that catches people's attention? What makes people shy away from discussing it? The sad reality is that the suicide rate in the world is on the rise. In Ontario alone, the number of suicides rose from 930 in 1997 to 1032 in 2001. Doing the math, that is just over a 10% increase, which is consistent with the increase in suicides nationally. Looking at that number, it is easy to dismiss it. But if we look past the numbers, that is 102 more brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, friends, colleagues, schoolmates that are no longer on this earth. Are things coming into perspective?

Suicide is the fourth leading cause of death for people between the ages of 15 and 44 worldwide. What's more, more people lose their life to suicide than in armed combat. In 2000, 815 000 people perished as a result of suicide, compared to the 306 600 that lost their lives in armed combat. The statistics regarding suicide are astounding, and I cannot even make a dent in the information that is available to the public in this article. That being said, I can still do my best to raise awareness about this "silent killer."

Having just finished midterms, and with finals quickly approaching, I have heard (and shamefully participated) in a number of jokes surrounding suicide. From the "70% average" if a roommate takes his/her own life, to going to the "rope store" after an exam did not seemingly go well. These jokes became increasingly common during this period of the term. I did participate in them, and did not make an effort to stop them. I am therefore as guilty as anyone in this regard. However, over the past weeks, these jokes have had time to sink into my mind and my heart, and I have become deeply disturbed by them. That is the motivation for this article.

Suicide is not a topic that should be taken lightly, and it especially should not be treated as a joke. If we treat suicide as a joke, then when someone does confess

their feelings and intention to end their own life, they will not be taken seriously. It takes a tremendous amount of courage to open up to others and to cry out for help. If that cry goes unheard, or if it is demeaned, then the person is further discouraged from seeking the assistance they so desperately require, and are encouraged in their thinking that there is no other choice.

Suicide has taken on a stereotype that suggests that only "crazy" people have those thoughts. That could not be further from the truth. Suicide can affect people from every walk of life, every religion, every race, and every gender. It is estimated that for every death attributed to suicide, there are an additional 20 attempts. So with an estimated 1 million suicides per year world wide, that is 21 million attempts. That is 2/3 the population of Canada! And what is more staggering is that due to the negative stereotype that is associated with suicide, often deaths resulting from intentional bodily harm are said to be accidental. Therefore, the statistics that have been gathered can be thought of as being underestimated. And that only counts the number of people who have attempted to take their own lives, it does not include those who have thought about it. I cannot ignore the fact that there is a link between mental illness and suicide, because that would be ignorant. But since 1 in 5 Canadians will suffer some form of mental illness in their life time, and the remain 80% will be indirectly affected by it through someone they know, it doesn't really exclude anyone.

Another reason for the stereotype stems from religious or philosophical beliefs. I was raised, and still am, a Roman Catholic. That being said, I do not agree with the Church's teachings on all topics. That is part of what distinguishes us from animals: free-choice. As humans, we have the choice to decide what is best for us, and to adjust our beliefs and values accordingly. I am not an expert on religious theology, in Catholicism or any other religion, but I do know that in general, most religions have a zero-tolerance policy regarding suicide. In the Catholic Church, you are not entitled to a Catholic funeral if you have taken your own life. This zero-tolerance policy does not help to resolve the problem. It is just turning the back on the problem. Instead, we should ask, "what is wrong with the

world, if it caused this person to resort to talking his/her own life?" If we find the answer to this question, then we are one step closer to ridding the world of this unnecessary means of death.

If you are contemplating suicide there is help available to you. Health Services, and Counselling Services here on campus are free, and are confidential. The only drawback is that they are not available 24 hours a day and these thoughts don't always happen during regular office hours Monday to Friday. There are still other resources available to you. Here is a list of some that are available in the KW region. This list is not comprehensive by any means, but I hope that it is sufficient enough to help someone if they need it.

Kids Help Phone 1-800-668-6868
Canadian Mental Health Association
Help Distress Line (519) 745-1166
Mobile Crisis Team (519) 746-1813 or
1-800-366-4566
Community Links (519) 744-5594
(information regarding Mental Health assistance in the area)

If you do not feel like these will help, you can go to the emergency department at the Grand River Hospital. You are not alone, and there is help available for you.

If you have a friend who has mentioned suicide to you, or one that shows signs of committing suicide (please see http://www.ontario.cmha.ca/content/about_mental_illness/suicide.asp?cID=1614 for a complete list) please do not turn your back on them. You do not have to be the person to bear this burden, and to help them out of the hole. Just listen to them; that is the single most important thing to do. Try to reserve your own opinions, and just listen to what the person is saying. Encourage them to seek help, and if necessary, go with them for support. Many of us are away from home, and our friends are our major support system. If our friends fail us, there is nothing to prevent us from falling.

Suicide is something that can be, and should be prevented. Do not judge someone who has taken their own life, or is contemplating it. Rather, ask the pivotal question: "what on this earth is making this person feel this way?" That way, we can start to put an end to the startling trend that has engulfed the population.

Pi(e) Week

TYLER GALE & KRISTI HERLEIN
2A GEOLOGICAL & 1N CHEMICAL

Pie week, or Pi Week, is a week to celebrate the number Pi. It is held during the week of March 14, which happens to be next week. It is a week of merry-making and pie throwing, and all for charity.

Many universities across Canada celebrate Pie Week, though some are less accurate than Waterloo and just celebrate it anytime during the third month of the year, rather than the 3.14th month. The purpose of Pie Week is to raise money for local charities. This year the money raised is going to the Kitchener-Waterloo Chapter of the Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

You can buy pies Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of this week and all of next week in the CPH Foyer from 11:30 until 1:30. Pies are \$5 each. You can direct the pie at whoever you wish—friends, professors, good-natured artsies—just give a name, time and location. If a pie has been directed at you, you have four options: You can either accept the pie in the face, pay five dollars to pass the pie on to someone else, pay ten dollars to neutralize the pie—to stop the pie where it is and nobody gets pied with that pie—or, if you are uncomfortable with any of these options, you can simply deny the pie.

So, get on with the pie throwing! Also, at the end of the week whoever started the longest pie-throwing chain will get a free pie to throw.

If you would like to volunteer to be a pie deliverer, email me at klherlei@engmail. Just think of the glory of throwing pie in all those faces.



Constantines Play Waterloo

LUDWIK A. SOBIESIAK
2A MECHATRONICS

People who cancel plans at the last minute are terrible. If someone invites to you a show, you accept and said person proceeds to purchase tickets and make arrangements, you should go, or at least give notice of cancellation well enough in advance. Otherwise you're just plain selfish. Not only do you inconvenience the person who originally conceived the idea of inviting you, but you also burden one of the person's unsuspecting, musically disinclined friends with the duty of going to the show as to not waste the ticket.

It was the role of the musically disinclined friend (and photographer) that my colleague Sam was playing when he found himself at the 70s-esque Starlight Social Club in uptown Waterloo. At odds with the venue's retro disco bar decorum was the evening's headliner band: one of Canada's premier (though woefully under heard) rock bands, the Constantines. Sam had never heard of them nor of Jon-Rae and

The River, their alt-country-synth mutant beast of an opener, but, in my continuing mission to expose the boy to new music, I decided the show would be an excellent opportunity to slingshot him into the kaleidoscopic world of indie rock. It is at shows like these where anyone, given the right band, the right performance, can catch the bug that is independent music.

Jon-Rae and the River were out to prove me right that evening. Their bombastic fervor took an unsuspecting audience by surprise. It was like someone had taken Granddaddy and mashed them and their synthesizers together with an alternative country band that had a gospel singer for a lead vocalist. Singer/guitarist Ron-Rae, decked out in a tattered brown collared shirt, worn jeans to match and 80s thick-framed bifocals, belted out each song with his southern accent as if the microphone was broken. Backing him up and even taking the lead at times was the talented Anne Rust D'eye. The two often forgot about the microphones altogether and sung to each other, or other

band members, giving the feel that they were just merrily practicing and there was no audience at all. Constantines' frontman Bry Webb would later say "These guys are the best band in the world," and although it was hyperbole for the most part, with performances like the one this evening, one can see where he's coming from.

Before the audience could catch its collective breath, the Constantines were out to steal the show back from Ron-Rae and his pack of thieves. Bry Webb sang each song with the same raspy voice everyone there had come to know and love; the band delivered their trademark sound with passion and skill. Yet the evening's sonic excellence vs. time graph was looking rather like a sine function, oscillating back and forth between hit and miss. "Young Lions", "Tank Commander" and "Some Party" captured the band's power and intensity, but songs from "Tournament of Hearts" like "Hotline Operator" seemed to fall short of the mark. "Nighttime/Anytime", with its hammering guitars and driving percussion brought a moment of

pure sonic glory to the show, a moment that was sadly not often repeated during the night.

Towards the end of the show, the crowd was still a blob of head nodding and fist pumping but had lost its initial enthusiasm. I found Sam navigating the room, looking for interesting shots, not necessarily of the band, somewhat disinterested with the music. It was a sentiment I was beginning to share. The show continued, and the band was playing as animatedly as ever, yet this energy failed to translate to the crowd. The Constantines brought the show to an admirable close, inviting Jon Rae and The River back for the final hurrah of the evening but the show failed to leave you with that definitive feeling of seeing a truly first-rate show; the kind that makes you want to run home and re-listen to all the band's albums. My slingshot was pulled back far enough, but as if wielded by a poor marksman, it was just shy of the bull's eye.

ManEng: The Facts...

JOHN LEE
3B SYSTEMS

As the demand for engineering undergraduate spots at the University of Waterloo are increasing, the faculty of engineering is currently in the process of approving a new program: the Management Engineering program. It would appear that the University is again expanding its faculty, but first an exploration of the programs offered at the faculty of engineering and its entry date:

1. Software Engineering (2001)
2. Environmental Engineering (2003 – Amalgamation of Enviro Chem and Enviro Civ)
3. Mechatronic Engineering (2003)
4. Architecture (2005 – Joins Engineering after a long absence)
5. Nanotechnology Engineering (2005)
6. Management Engineering (Planned 2007)

In the span of 5 years the faculty has grown with 5 new programs, an approximate influx of 400 students per year. The significant increase of students has been putting a lot of strain on the existing infrastructure of the Faculty. Space allocation is becoming an issue of increasing importance and student resources are being diluted by the significant increase in the student population.

To add to this strained infrastructure a new program is being created. The new program would be managed under the existing Department of Management Science and would be offered to first year students entering in the fall of 2007 with its inaugural graduating class in 2012. The increase in student population will also entail the hiring of 16 new faculty members to support the 60 or so students in each class. Having obtained approval from the Faculty of Engineering Undergraduate Studies Council (FUGS), the proposal is now being considered by the Engineering Faculty Council (EFC). Once approval is obtained from the EFC, the final decision rests with the University Senate. With the

progress through the University bureaucracy, the program gains greater clarity and purpose.

The proposed curriculum for this new program is modeled on Industrial Engineering programs from other universities with a strong emphasis on organizational management. Following other engineering programs, the proposed curriculum calls for a standard fare of 1st and 2nd year engineering courses (calculus, algebra, programming, etc.) with a wide focus in later terms.

In all likelihood, this program will become a new undergraduate engineering program at the University of Waterloo. The momentum gained in its conception is gaining approval by the various level of University regulation. However it would be irresponsible of the administration to approve a program without ensuring that there would be no negative effect on other engineering program by its approval. It is hoped that the potential outcomes have been considered and that they do play a role in the approval process.

Do You Have Something to Contribute?

Drop off your poetry, cartoons, drawings, photos and anything else artistic in the "Arts" box in the Orifice, or email them to iwarrior@gmail.uwaterloo.ca

Submissions may be published here in The Iron Warrior, and earn you valuable P**5 points for your class!

...and the Flaws

JOHN LEE
3B SYSTEMS

When we (3B) started in systems, it was being touted as being among the most stringent and academically demanding programs at this University, and it was... until about 3A. But through our times here we have seen trons and nano come in and take a lot of bright students who would normally have taken the systems route. It would appear that these new programs are really just a push by the administration to take a system based area of study and make it standalone. When tron started, there was a big rumble [internally] among the students in Systems who would have taken this program given the chance.

It would appear that they [the university regulators] are essentially taking a systems focus stream and giving it its own degree program. I think with the continuation of this trend the university must closely take a look at what kind of students it wants as alumni. As part of system, we integrate a great number of disciplines to gain a technically based understanding of real world complex systems. A maneng student would most likely be taking a business approach to technical systems; for which a program already exist as MBET [1], the masters program which started last year to provide the business flavour to technical professionals.

In essence this new program [maneng] is no different than a diluted systems program without hardcore engineering courses. Systems has always been referred to as the "soft" engineering because we take so many courses on the softer side of engineering (ie. human factors, ergonomics, conflict analysis), and bringing a new program that requires even less engineering foundation is in my opinion and the opinion of the students to whom I have talked, irresponsible.

Then again the benefits of such a program must be taken into account; new faculty, more business and management focused courses than already offered, better career focus for students in the program. The benefits are definitely many, however the reality of the situation is that this

new program will again affect the systems entrance numbers; following the entrance class of 2008, the acceptance average and application numbers to systems has been slipping severely; in fact the acceptance average for systems is now low-80's [2] with approximately 120 applications [3] for 90 spots. In creating all these new programs, I can foresee the day when the number of applications for the entire department will drop below the 90 mark. Will it then be viable to maintain a program which attracts less students than it admits? Perhaps the new university focus is to have highly specialized programs with no program providing an integrated approach to engineering.

The university must provide a plan to maintain the viability of existing programs before it starts implementing new programs. If a complete analysis of the current status of undergraduate programs throughout the faculty can justify the creation of such a new program, then by all means vote for approval. However such a study will most likely not be conducted and this program will move forward supported by the administration.

ENGINEERING SOCIETY



Did you know you can earn valuable P**5 points for volunteering time at the C&D? Email Mary Bland at mbland@gmail.uwaterloo.ca to schedule your shift.

Socially responsible investing: Getting rich guilt free

MIKE SPENDLOVE
ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

Making money in the stock market seems perfectly ethical to some, but to those familiar with Naomi Klein's writings, Nike's sweatshop practices or countless other reports of corporate malfeasance abroad, the stock market index might as well be a ticker measuring the rising greed and self-interest of morally vacuous transnational corporations. However, as more consumers seek to build their investment portfolios, attitudes begin to change, as do the tools used for social justice. Now more than ever, consumers in Canada looking for a good investment opportunity while desiring to see issues such as environmental sustainability on the corporate agenda are increasingly turning to Socially Responsible Investing (SRI) to realize both goals.

Two presenters at this year's Engineers Without Borders National Conference are fully engaged in this movement. Francois Meloche is a researcher for the Montreal-based Groupe Investissement Responsable (www.investissementsresponsable.com) and Brian Jackson is a financial planner with an emphasis on SRI with the Independent Planning Group in Ottawa (www.socialinvestment.ca/Directory/BrianJackson-IP.htm).

While they came to the conference pre-

pared with a slideshow and presentation, it didn't take long for the audience to start up a barrage of questions regarding the implementation and credibility of ethical investing.

Questions arose regarding the oversight of the funds: who decides which stocks are deemed ethical, and how do they make these decisions in an open and transparent manner? Is there any governmental regulatory body or NGO approving the research without a financial stake in the results? (An example of this in a different field is the NGO Transfair International, which oversees and certifies fair trade products to ensure consumers are not being duped.)

Francois concedes there are a lot of gray areas in SRI. Ethics are often subjective – one person's cartoon expressing freedom of speech, for example, is another's hate propaganda – so ethical investment researchers and managers take two approaches. One is to place an outright ban on particularly controversial industries – such as arms, tobacco, nuclear power and, in some cases, the oil and gas sector. The second is proactive and involves selecting those firms in each sector who are leading the way in environmental and socially responsible policies. Weightings are assigned to factors such as climate change policy, and all methodology and rankings are available to clients to ensure transparency. While the investment choices may

not please every ethical investor, they present an attractive alternative to the typical choice of funds, and serious investors are always free to build their own portfolio based on the available research.

Regarding oversight, no recognized NGO exists yet in Canada to certify such funds, so it is up to consumers to ensure their financial planner is doing the research. According to Francois, governmental regulation is not even on the horizon. But this is not a bad thing, he argues; SRI is a self-regulated industry and is becoming increasingly competitive, so if clients have misgivings, they are always free to move their portfolio to a competitor. Furthermore, online databases and news sources allow consumers to do their homework and make sure their money is being used judiciously.

Another key principle of SRI is advocacy and shareholder rights. As these ethical funds grow, the fund managers wield more voting power, allowing them to table proposals and motions which must be raised at a firm's Annual General Meeting. Unfortunately, even if these motions were to achieve over 50% of shareholder support, a firm is under no obligation to act upon them. Simply raising the issues, however, has proven to be an effective method to pressure companies to do the right thing, and to keep their investors apprised of environmental and ethical issues.

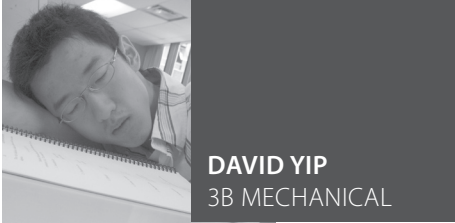
Besides providing investment choices and advocacy, SRI also targets lower profile investments that provide a stronger social return. This can include community economic development through credit unions and microfinance initiatives that would normally not receive funding, or social venture capital – investment given as an incentive to socially or environmentally conscious entrepreneurs.

So after all these great benefits, what more could you want? How about an above-average return on your investment? For the past 2 years, the Jantzi Social Index has outperformed the TSX Composite, yielding a 6.9% return over the past year alone. While SRI funds are not the most lucrative, you won't lose money on ethical investments, and furthermore you won't lose any sleep wondering if your retirement money is fueling sweatshops, wars, drugs or pollution.

For more on SRI, please visit any of the above websites or try SocialInvestment.ca, socialfunds.com and srstudies.org.

Recommended books on the subject include Deb Abbey's *Global Profit & Global Justice*, David Skinner's *Ethical Investor*, Russell Sparkes' *SRI: A Global Revolution*, and Peter Camejo's *The SRI Advantage*.

IW: More power than you can possibly imagine.



DAVID YIP
3B MECHANICAL

You're reading a newspaper right now, presumably bored in class, on the toilet, or waiting for something more important to come along in your life so you can put this down and do something else. But before you do that, there is something you should realize, that this newspaper represents a great power – the power of the media of course.

Everyone knows about the explosion of blogs over the past few years. Bloggers reflect the range of human experience and opinion: homeless bloggers, travel bloggers, tech bloggers, political bloggers (who registered on the radar for the past American election), and of course, the daily struggles of emo teenagers.

What is that that drives these people to write anyway? People want to be heard, to distribute news, to influence opinion, or maybe just rant. Maybe they broke up with their significant other. Maybe they uncovered a massive conspiracy. Maybe they think NATO has been irrelevant since the Cold War. Who knows. But blogging has allowed anyone to have their writing published, easily accessible to everyone. Think back to the not-so-distant past, where to get anyone to read anything you

wrote, there were really two things you could do. One, you could write a letter to the editor of newspaper, and hope they print it. Second, print whatever you have to write, and photocopy it a hundred times, and distribute as you see fit. The beautiful thing about the Iron Warrior, is that you can do both. If you send us a letter, there is a pretty good chance we'll print. If you send us an article, there's an even better chance we'll print it. Better than blogging, the Iron Warrior actually has an audience, that is to say, you.

If you have a blog with opinions, chances are no one reads it. Maybe someone will stumble across through Google. With the Iron Warrior, 1200 copies of whatever you have to say are distributed to a faculty of 2500 students on stream. A fair number of faculty, including the dean and other deans across the country also read the Iron Warrior, and the online version exposes your work to Google Search.

"But I have nothing to write!" you protest, "I don't know what to write about!" Think of what the media brings – everything outside our daily observation is known only to us through the media – war in Iraq, genocide in Darfur, victories in Torino. The media brings us the less serious – movies to see, movies not to see, songs to hear, places to go. Israeli journalist Amira Hass says the job of the media is to "monitor centres of power". Who are the centres of power here? The Engineering Society, the Faculty, Feds. Co-op. What are they up to? You'll notice that I've contributed

a few articles in this vein. You can too. Volunteer with the Iron Warrior, become a part time journalist, and ask some questions. What does the \$14 go towards? Does the C&D make money? Where could I complain about co-op service? What does Feds do for me? The media broke Watergate, Enron, Martha Stewart, the Gomery Inquiry, and countless other scandals. It keeps watch, so that those in power do not act with impunity. (When you're REALLY in power, you acknowledge this, and control the media as well, so that you CAN act with impunity.)

The media also serves up opinion, and if those opinions are valid, they could spread, via the media. Not happy about the proposed Management Engineering? Does PDEng suck? Ranting to 4 of your closest friends is not the same as having hundreds of people reading about it. Engineers are supposed to be self-reliant, do-it-yourselfers, but when it comes to opinion, are we, as Curtis White writes in the "Middle Mind", a "A done somewhere by someone else culture"? No, of course not! In conversation with my classmates, they're all full of thoughts and opinions. Co-op sucks. Moving sucks. Courses jump into analysis too quickly before understanding concepts. Life is terrible. So we're full of opinions. But reading the Iron Warrior, we'd be hard pressed to tell. The Faculty, who reads the Iron Warrior, does not exactly see an assertive student body by reading the student paper.

What else does the media bring? The expe-

riences of others. It answers questions. The travel section, the book review section, the car review section. Where have you gone, what have you done, read, listened to? Did people pepper you with questions when you went to California for co-op? Write about it, and answer everything at once! Did you go to Boretown, Ontario instead? How did you keep yourself busy? Did you buy a car? iPod? Did it change your life? What do profs do besides teaching? When will their research be on Discovery Channel? Inquiring minds want to know. Ask them. They won't mind.

Think about what kinds of articles interest you, and think perhaps that you could write one yourself. Create some content. These days content is in short supply. How else could a story about boy wizards and magic wands make millions of dollars? Why are they remaking Bullit? Lack of content. Create some yourself. You might be good at it, who knows. If you fancy yourself a bit of photographer, let us know. Photograph Society events. Photograph around campus. Write some cheesy poems. Write an acrostic for goodness sakes, it got that Sai Kit Lo guy into office. Cartoonist perhaps? Draw something, send it in.

We at the Iron Warrior are not snobby. If you want to bang out 400 words, that's fine. That's an article. If you want to bang out 3000 words, that's also fine. This is your paper, take advantage of it. Take advantage of the power, let yourself be heard. We all love our freedom of speech. Why don't you use it once in a while?

Women in Engineering: A Male Perspective



JEFFREY LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

A couple weeks ago, I was volunteering at the Waterloo Regional Children's Museum for National Engineering Week. While there, I had a conversation with a couple regarding engineering studies for their grandchild. They asked questions regarding the academics, the cost, coop, and general university questions. When one of my peers, a female, came to join in the conversation, the first thing that she was asked was what it was like to be a female in engineering. She answered the question by playing down the stereotypes that typically surround engineering and saying that she loves being in engineering and wouldn't want to be in any other faculty.

Later, we talked about that conversation, and we were both uneasy about the fact that the couple's first question was about what it was like for females in engineering. This is a much larger issue that just this conversation. I do not wish to slander this couple, because it was a pleasure to discuss engineering with them and share my experiences. I wish their grandchildren all the best in their studies, whether it may be in engineering or another discipline.

The major issue that I feel needs to be addressed is the stereotypes about engineering. In discussions with people from other faculties, and even adults who have families and careers, there is an alarming misunderstanding about engineering. It seems as though most people believe engineering to be a male-supremacy. They feel that engineering is a male-only club where we put down others who are not engineers, especially females. That could not be further from the truth.

From my own personal experiences, and the community that I grew up in, I have come to appreciate many different cultures, genders, creeds, races, and sexual orientations. My high school was so diverse that no ethnic-group was the majority. This taught me a lot about the world, and acceptance. When I sit in my class, I do not see people of different backgrounds, people with different flesh tones, or even of different genders; I see a group of people who are here to learn and to become engineers. Each of us has our own reasons for wanting to become an engineer, but at least one part of that equation is that we care about humanity. As engineers, we are required to place the public welfare and safety, along with all other factors, before ourselves. This fact alone goes to show that engineering is truly a selfless profession, and consequently, engineering students are the same. Although we are not legally required to take the oath until we become Professional Engineers (P.Eng.), we are required to uphold its ideals and integrity while we complete our studies. Personally, this is something that I take very seriously.

I wish that I could say that women are accepted with open arms into engineering, without incident; however there is evidence to the contrary. I cannot simply ignore that. There are incidences of harassment, and even affirmative action. I cannot place a number of the frequency of these situations, however, any number greater than 0 is too many.

We need to take action in order to prevent these situations from occurring in the future. As Mrs. Meier mentioned in her presentation on sexual harassment at the previous EngSoc meeting, when a male feels that women are inferior, they are not going to listen to them when they say that he is wrong. Another male has to confront him to change his mind. That is the first step to solving this problem. The administration and Engineering Society have both taken this step. They have admitted that

there is a problem, and the foundation has been created to allow for us to move past this issue.

We cannot stop there however. It is imperative that we continue to accept women in engineering, the same as we accept men. Our society has seen the tragic effects that are the result of discrimination (e.g. the Holocaust), and we have come to accept that racism will no longer be tolerated. In 1963, Dr. King "had a dream." He dreamed that one day everyone would be able to stand side by side, as equals. His main cause was for the African-American people; however I believe that he wanted equality for all people in society, regardless of race, creed, or gender. We have come a long way since that August afternoon, but not far enough. There are still groups in society that oppress others. There are double standards in our laws, and under-representation of people's interests in the political arena. We do live in a country, and a world, that has seen tremendous change from the time of our grandparents. But change is still needed. There are people who are not welcomed into society as they should be. Women are just one of the many groups that are still oppressed today.

If you ask any male in engineering, I am confident that they agree there should be more females in engineering. We need to have women around to keep us in line. What's more, we need to have women around to complete the picture. Women bring their own varying experiences with them when they enter into engineering. These experiences are vital to the understanding of what we as engineers need to do in order to improve the lives of society. Our work as engineers goes far beyond the buildings, bridges, and gizmos; it goes into the hearts of everyone. Our actions promote and foster healthy communities, and assist people in their daily lives. We take our oath seriously, and with great pride. That is what makes engineering a great profession to be in. Shouldn't eve-

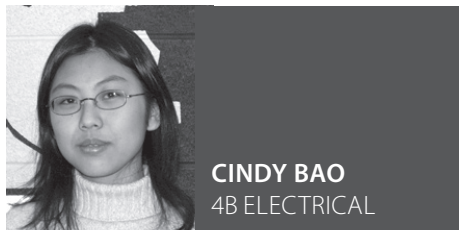
ryone have an equal opportunity to be a part of it?

Something that is rather ironic is the way that many men treat the women that are in engineering (I include myself in this statement). We often assimilate the women into becoming "one of the guys." We all want to have more women in engineering, but the few that we do have are often considered "guys", so it seems to be a contradiction. I admit that this is a foolish way for us to act; especially since the women in engineering are no less feminine than those in arts. And plus, they are all attractive women that any one of us would be lucky to take home (or be taken home) to meet mom and dad. That doesn't mean that we should go around trying to date all the girls in our class -- we have to be together for 4 years remember! But for those of you who are in "engineering relationships" you can relate to what I am saying. So instead of treating the girls like one of the "guys," (constantly: there is a time and place for everything) why not do something that they want to do. Here is an idea guys (and girls): the engineering formal is coming up on the 18th. What a coincidence? Why not ask the girl in the back row who you think is kind-of cute to go? What's the worst that can happen? I don't know about your class, but for mine, all the girls that we were with in 1A are still there, and only guys have left. So there is a good chance that if she says no, you won't need to worry about the repercussions in the future, because you may not even be in the class anymore.

Another coincidence that cannot be ignored is that today (assuming you read this on March 8th) is International Women's Day. So why not get that girl a nice bouquet of flowers (or wrenches as the case may be) to show her that you care.

Women are an important part of our culture, and they cannot be ignored or suppressed. After all, where did you come from?

Obligatory Sex Column



CINDY BAO
4B ELECTRICAL

Today's twenty-somethings have been known collectively as the incredibly spoiled. Raised by one of the most influential generations in history, the baby boomers, most of us grew up surrounded with all the material comforts a child would ever need and more were treated by our parents as equals than the youths before us. As we graduate from our post-secondary education and enter the work force, our high and sometimes unrealistic expectations and refusal to settle on anything less have been noted over and over in the media.

Unrealistic nature aside, expectations are not necessarily a bad thing. Of its two forms, not so scientifically defined by yours truly, there is the *self-orientated*, the ones we impose on ourselves and the *other orientated*, which we hold out for people, things and situations we interact with. The former can be an important motivational factor. The goals we set for ourselves constantly push us forward and drive us to succeed. However, it is the latter that seem to be problematic at times.

When the other individuals did not meet what we have hoped from them, it often can strain the relationships. Even if the letdown is purely situational and does not directly involve another party, it adversely impacts our lives. (Our own perfectionist tendency can be a stressor as well, but nobody really complains that we work too hard, presumably from their other-oriented expectations.)

So should we have wished for/from things

that are beyond our control? After all, the conventional wisdom is, don't expect much and you will not be disappointed. However, speaking from somewhat limited personal experience, as we have to repeatedly lower our expectations, be it a relationship, a project, we are less willing to put in efforts.

IW's own David Yip draws an analogy from the famed economics professor Larry Smith, when the anticipated return, as well as the personal confidence of the investors, is diminished, why should one invest? If we cannot even expect what we wanted from it, is the involvement still worth undertaking? Living in a state of pursuing, professional or relationship-wise, I am willing to take risks for what would become meaningful and significant, when I can trust a partner/the collaborating parties will take it as seriously.

Despite all the above declaration, the worse part is not failed expectations, but simply not knowing what do expect at times. The perpetual state of uncertainly or waiting for an outcome completely beyond one's control can almost be nerve-wrecking, such as after you have handed in an exam that you just BSed your way thru, or an interview you honestly thought you bombed because you couldn't sort your linked list.

When it comes to relationships, social norms are developed to ease this problem, so we come to have different expectations for a close friend, a casual acquaintance or a significant other. Yet at times, relationships can simply be undefined. We choose to live in such limbo because we don't want to risk losing what we currently have.

Expectation is a complicated and deeply personal matter. Amidst all my own confusion, all the words I have to offer is don't let anyone else tell you what you should or should not expect. I know it sounds lame, but what do you expect?

SpoonBelt!



JEFFREY LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

Following on the success of "The Super Buggy", I have returned this issue with my new and marvelous creation: The Spoon Belt! I am sure that many of you have been eagerly anticipating this article after reading the past two instalments. I hope to live up to the reputation that precedes me with this new device that promises to make your culinary works easier, and better tasting.

Before I dive into how to make your very own Spoon Belt, I am going to provide a little background. We are all engineering students, so we know the importance of having the right tools for the job we are about to perform. But what good are those tools if we don't have access to them? If we have to spend more time looking for them than actually using them, it defeats the purpose. This has happened to me all too often when I am in the kitchen. I spend minutes searching for the proper utensil, and I often end up overcooking my culinary delight. After burning too many grilled cheese sandwiches, I decided that it was time to get working. That is how the Spoon Belt was born.

For this creation, you will not need to commandeered any articles of material. Many of the things used to make the belt can be found around the house. So without further ado <insert theme song here>: The Spoon Belt!

1. You are going to need a belt. No explanation required.
2. To make the pouches and such, I recom-

mend getting a sewing machine to make the work a little easier. I am lucky enough to have a mother who taught me how to use it, so that makes my work a lot easier. Just remember, it isn't like a car...easy on the pedal! If you don't have access to one of these devices, you can always do the sewing the old fashioned way: needle and thread.

3. The pouches should be made out of a material that is strong enough to hold the weight, but also easy to wash, because we know that they will get pretty dirty in the kitchen. I suggest using a pair of old jeans for this. They are sturdy, and faded jeans are all the rage nowadays (or so I am told). Plus, they already have a few pockets, so that saves on the amount of work for you.

4. Fashion the pouches, etc. to hold the equipment that you feel you need the most to create your culinary masterpieces. The tools that I typically use are: olive oil, flipper, spatula (Yes, there is a difference), measuring cup, spices, and of course, a wooden spoon. If you feel that you don't use some of these, and you want something else, or you just want more, then more power to you. This is your time to shine. The men (or ladies as the case may be) will really dig the fact that you are so organized in the kitchen. Trust me on this one.

5. Assemble.
6. Start cookin'.

I hope that the Spoon Belt becomes an important part of your kitchen utensils. You will always know where things are when you need them, and when your mom comes for a surprise visit, you can be sure to whip up a fabulous meal in no time. If you have any comments, or ideas for future creations, give me a shout (jmlipnic@engmail). I will do my best to make your lives easier with my next contrivance. Till next time, keep your stick on the ice.

Engplay a Great 'Drag'

PATRICK BROWN
4B MECHANICAL

For anyone who doesn't know what live theatre is like, a little culture won't kill you. This Friday and Saturday, the Engineering Society Drama Production will be putting on a performance of *Our Girls*, by Conrad Seiler.

Our Girls is a farce set in the 1940s about a family with three boys. They have an eccentric aunt named Jesse living in England who believes that her nephews are actually her nieces. As she doesn't like boys, their parents have never told her the truth. Especially since she has offered to give her "nieces" \$5000 on their sixteenth birthdays.

The problem is, she's coming to visit for the first time to see the boys a few days before the oldest has his sixteenth birthday. Now the parents have a problem.

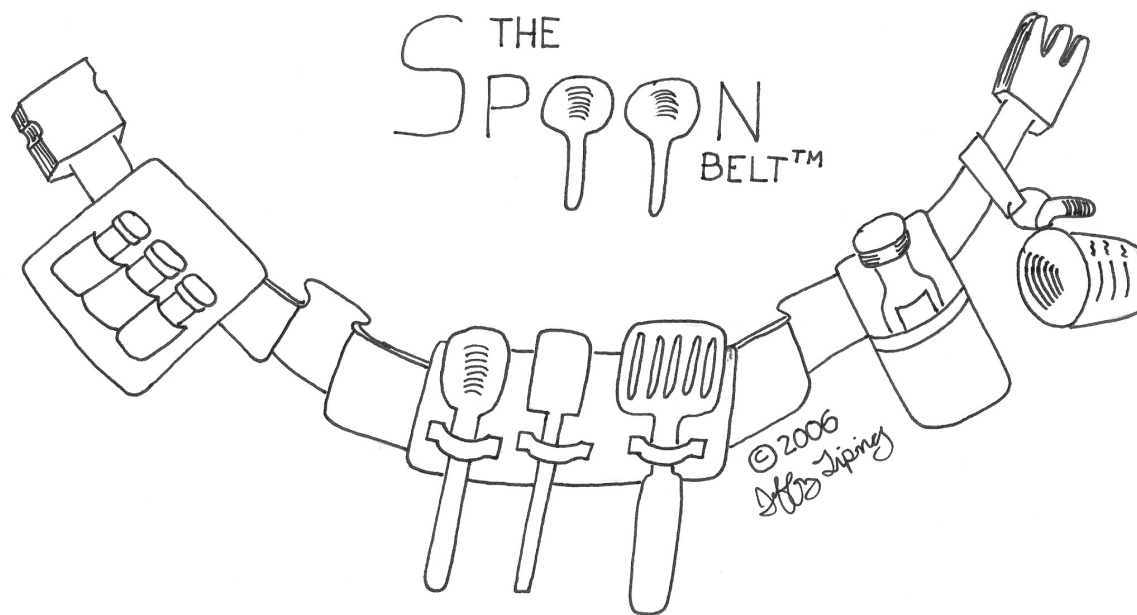
To ensure that their boys get the money, they decide to dress them up as girls to try to fool Aunt Jesse into giving them the money.

One problem is the next door neighbours, another their Swedish maid. How are they going to get the money from

Aunt Jesse? You'll have to come to find out.

This is a play that is quite entertaining. It's not every day that you get to see guys dress up in drag (or at least it's not every day that they'll do it sober). Come on out and see the fun. Performances

are on Friday March 10th at 7:00pm and Saturday March 11th at 2:00pm and 7:00pm. Tickets are \$6.00 and are available from Betty in the Orifice (CPH 1327), at the SLC turnkey desk and in the CPH foyer at lunch.



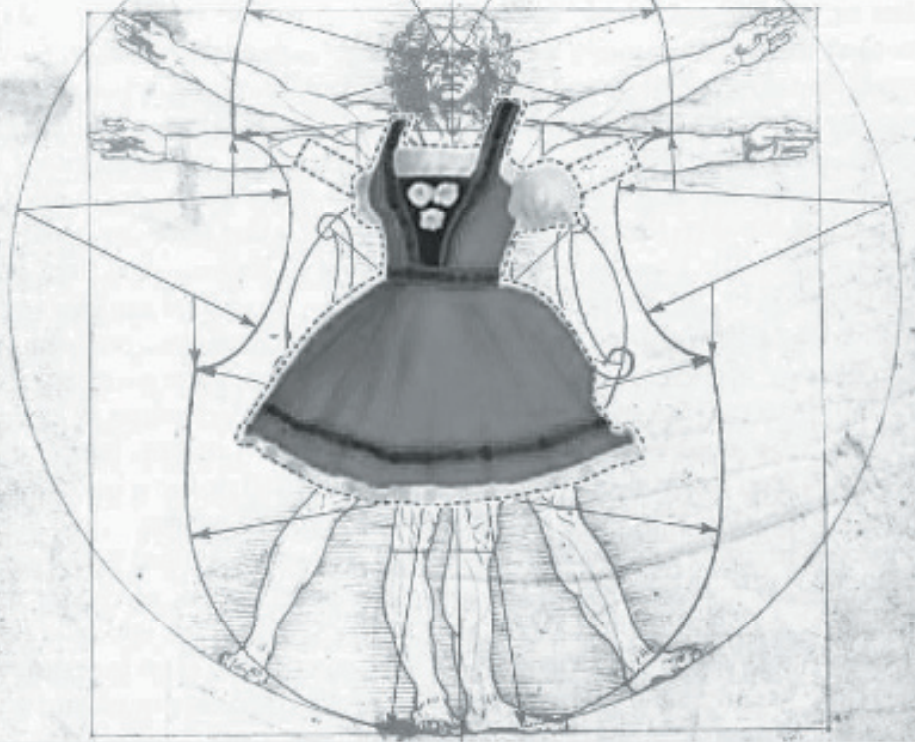
Upcoming Events from EngSoc							
Sun March 12	Mon March 13	Tue March 14	Wed March 15	Thu March 16	Fri March 17	Sat March 18	Check out up-to-the-day event postings on the EngSoc website at www.engsoc.uwaterloo.ca
	Explorations IW Meeting	Campus Day	EngSoc meeting 5	Genius Bowl	IW Submission Deadline St. Patrick's Day	Semi Formal	
Sun March 19	Mon March 20	Tue March 21	Wed March 22	Thu March 23	Fri March 24	Sat March 25	
	EngSoc Elections		EngSoc Potluck	FIRST @ UW	EOT FIRST @ UW	FIRST @ UW	

The University of Waterloo Engineering Society
Proudly Presents

ALEX WATT
1B VIDEO GAME DEVELOPMENT

OUR GIRLS

By Conrad Seiler



A Farce of Incredible Confusion.

University of Waterloo Arts Lecture Hall 113

Showtimes: Friday March 10, 7:00 pm
Saturday March 11, 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE TURNKEY DESK IN THE STUDENT LIFE CENTRE
ALSO IN CPL1 FOYER FROM 11:30 - 1:30 EVERY DAY.

TICKETS:
\$6.00



AFTER SEEING 'BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN',
SCOTT REALIZED THERE WAS SOMETHING
VERY DIFFERENT ABOUT THE NEW
RANCH HAND THEY HAD JUST HIRED...

Arts Contest Last Call!

The Arts Contest of the term is closing soon on the 10th of March. You still have a few days to send in poetry, photography, painting or any other form of art. Email it to asoc_arts@engmail.uwaterloo.ca or drop them off in the Orifice. Don't forget to check out those awesome submissions in the trophy display case.

Did I mention that there will be prizes for the winners in each category?
Cindy Bao,
Arts Director

Send in your prof quotes, drawings and poems!

the Iron Inquisition

Jaclyn Sharpe and Jeffrey Lipnicky, 2A Mechanical

Why'd you come to Shadow Day?



"I am so smart, S-M-R-T!"

Alan Gates- Mechanical



"My boyfriend made me come."

Holly Murray - Business



"Nano makes me feel big."

Kieth Reiris - Nanotech



"I love mechatronics and want to be an engineer."

Mike Martyniak - Mechatronics



"I like to feel productive while skipping class"

Ryan Gariepy - 2A Mechatronics



"Waterloo ownz. It's the shit."

Tobiasz - Mechatronics



"Well, I've heard a lot of good things about PDEng..."

Vito Vrancheelln - Nanotech



"I haven't been to school in 7 days, why start now?"

Tom Bohdanowicz - Nanotech