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the IRON WARRIOR

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO ENGINEERING SOCIETY

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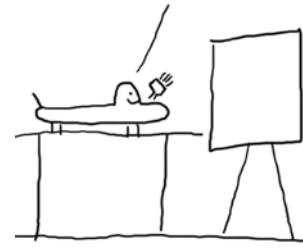
WEEF Stats

Page 6



Tin Soldier: What's Outside CECS?

Page 9



Arts Contest Winners

Page 19

Check us out @ <http://iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/>

New EngSoc Executive Elected



The results are in, the people have spoken, and after sixteen months of rule, our Exec has passed the torch on to a new generation.

Ruth-Anne Vanderwater was acclaimed President by EngSoc Council at the last meeting. From a man, now to a woman, what things can we expect from her?

Angus McQuarrie was elected VP External by the slimmest of margins, taking 131 votes to Steve Swanson's 129. It just goes to show you that every vote counts, and everyone can make a differ-

ence here and affect things.

Tyler Gale was elected VP Education, taking 149 votes, beating out the 107 votes cast for Andrew Dodds and putting an end to the hot competition between the High School friends. Expect Tyler to deliver on promises to improve the student submission based online exam and work report banks, as well as to get his hand in on PDEng, to ensure improvements continue to be made to this valuable program.

Kiri Neufeglise received 143 votes to be elected VP Internal, beating out the 111

votes cast for Mark Brawley. With some hard work, perhaps Kiri can live up to her promises, including fostering an environment at EngSoc events that is less elitist, promoting new events that appeal to a broader range of people, and to increase overall spirit and participation.

Todd Radigan took 105 votes to defeat the 91 of Michael Sue-Kam-Ling and the 63 of Steph Borgs and be elected VP Finance. With his seniority, we can surely hope to see a good amount of fiscal responsibility, as well as online access to

novelties, and a better idea of where all our \$14 goes, hopefully regaining some from FEDS.

Kathryn Pomeroy rounds out the team, being acclaimed to the position of WEFF Director, ratified earlier. She brings the experience of working under Katherine Chiang, and also has the most seniority of any Exec members.

If you catch any of these distinguished individuals in the hallways, congratulate them on a campaign well run, and start pitching them your ideas now!

The End



ANDREW DODDS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At long last, the glorious day is here. What day is that you ask? Why, of course it is the day of reckoning, the day of the holiness, the day that I no longer have to toil deep within CPH until the wee hours of Tuesday morning, preparing this paper for publication. It has been an experience, a very long and arduous one, and I think it is indeed time to pass the torch.

I would like to thank all my staff for their hard work. Dave, for showing me the ropes and chipping in with tons of help the whole way through, and continuing to provide me with easy targets for a zing or two. Ms. (Outgoing WEEF) Chiang, for her support, for her help, and for her late night use of PDF creation programs; god bless those who never sleep. Thanks to Pat for inspiring me late at night, for being interesting to talk to and to read, and for proving that you can party until 7B and still have a blast. Thanks to Cindy for writing about sex without using sex and without revealing her true nature, and always putting forth her best foot, even if it was meant to kick my ass for some joke. Thanks to Carolyn for keeping us well fed, chipping in for things that never seemed to make sense, and for wearing those black clothes to be all the more easily recognizable every day.

New paragraph, to break it up. Thanks to LowRider, for keeping it low, for always having nice photos to break up the mayhem, and for being reliable, both in quantity, and quality of the factor that is Low. Thanks to Devin for being my one new recruit, for keeping it light and interesting, and for proving that there is always hope for the future. Thanks to Mike for the laughs, the stories WITH photos, and the hair that should never be cut. Thanks to Chun for giving me something that not only made me think, but reminded me why we need editors. Now if only one had saved me from a slap back in 1A.

Thanks to Francis for doing what nobody else could or would and venturing into uncharted territory to bring us the stories that meant something, that needed to be told. Thanks to Tyler for giving us some insight into why the Earth is something worth saving. Thanks to Mr. Lee for the stuff it takes to keep us informed, and keep this paper filled. Thanks to Jeff for god knows how many articles, laughs, and serious thoughts. And of course thanks to Jaclyn for the comics, the ingenuity, and for taking up the position as EIC for the fall term. I welcome you all to a new era, which I'm sure will be far more successful than mine, and much less offensive.

If I forgot someone, it is because I can't remember much when Monday is done and I still haven't slept, but I thank one and all for their contributions. I hope that people realize the power they wield when there exists a publication such as this. To get your ideas into The Record you have to write a letter that will never be read or get a job. To write for Imprint (non-factual) you need to submit your three best columns and be approved at a meeting. To write for MathNews, you need to sell away your soul. Of course I may not be accurate on those accounts, but I do know that all you need to do to get into THIS paper is to write. Period. Time to be heard. Don't just bitch to your friends about those people who use the WEEF lab and other WEEF funded items (pretty much everyone uses this stuff every day), write about it and raise some awareness.

I feel compelled to share with you a pertinent piece of information now. That info would be that we do not fix Iron Rings. I received

a funny series of calls here. The first from a mother explaining how her son lost his ring doing something, and wanted a replacement. Then the son phoned and asked about getting a replacement, and gave me more details and contact info. I also got another man who outgrew his and needed a new one, and promptly provided his size, contact info, and info on how to get paid. No, advantage of this situation was not taken. I just wanted to share, because sharing is good. And also because I don't want you new grads to be filling up our answering machine: we need that space for potential paying advertisers!

Now I think I will share a story with you that is a little more close to my heart. It is a tale of my experience this St. Patty's Day. Part for amusement, and part for contemplation, here I go, simply because I can, and because I'm sure you're all tired by now of ultra-serious and preachy editorials. I am too. I also am tired of people who would complain without ever writing in to refute me. Anyways, on with the show.

It was late Friday night, St. Patty's Day. No, wait, scratch that; it was most certainly early morning Saturday (but I'd say the 24 hours that are home to half my ancestry's most joyous day reside comfortably and numbly between 8am and 8am). Celebrations had been going on ever since 8am in my books. A rare and joyous sight was it to see many a green-donning student out on the frozen Bomber patio before noon, drinking and laughing merrily. Enjoying green beer for lunch (prior to the last election in-class presentation no less) was quite the treat.

But anyways, back to the story. As I was saying, it had been a long day. In addition to being worn down by the sacred ales and lagers of my dear forefathers, I had the fortune of being worn down by those who were curious of my election platforms. Not too strange a thing for an election, really. But when no less than 3 girls that I can recall had asked me at some point many questions about the details of my plans, and when some of them could barely stand up afterwards or form any cogent similes at that point, it was quite the brutal onslaught.

Oh yeah, the story, riiiiight. I should probably be getting to that. No worries, it has everything: food, women, brutal violence. Oh and yes, here it is. Note that some elements may be out of order, because that was the state of my head that night. But it is all accurate.

I had gone with a few people from Bomber over to Campus Pizza that day, looking to satisfy a little thing I like to call the munchies. And that's my thing, so don't you go stealing it. Copyright infringement is rampant these days. Anyways, we were just eating some pizza in the store, when it started to get crowded with the bar-closing crowds of people. Eventually, there were groups outside, and no room to wiggle, jiggle, or electric slide inside the store.

It was at that point that two brilliant men decided to have a joke fight. These big boys proceeded to wrap their arms around each other, and blast out the door. In doing this, they broke one of the thingys on the door. You know, at the top, there's the mechanical rigid arm, and then the other one with springs and shit? They broke the latter. At this point, the shorter and rounder of the two older men who work behind the counter came to the door and started yelling at the fuckers for breaking it, flipping out something fierce, talking about how anyone'd flip out if someone came to their house and broke their front door.

Back behind the counter he returned, but he was still muttering and occasionally yelling at the jerks for their handiwork, yelling out the door. All of a sudden, a skinny brunette of a man with a green little hat steps into the doorway, into the bellows of the angry man. Now, what would a reasonable person do when he hears someone yelling in his direction, yelling at someone else? Would he get out of the way to allow the sound waves more freedom? Would

he politely ignore the fuming man to not cause further instigation? I certainly don't think he'd make things worse. But oh how he did.

The man, who reminds me of Brad Pitt in "Snatch" as a pikey named Mickey (for reasons you'll come to understand fully not too many sentences down the page), well, he proceeded to yell at the top of his drunken lungs at the man. No he didn't do it, no he didn't smash no doors, yes you saw that he didn't, why the fuck were you yelling at him, what the fuck did he do, fuck this, fuck that, fuckety fuckin fuckurt n fuck. And he kind of just became "The Blair Witch Project" script at that point.

After a bit of yelling at the store after slamming the door, he yelled around from crowd to crowd. Soon enough, I guess Mickey found what he was looking for, and he was locked in combat with Gorgeous George (read: taller male with abs used to press sheet metal into cheese graters). After a few sways to and fro, they crashed into the front window of the store, causing a nice reflection of light that indicated to me that the stress in the glass must have been near the maximum allowable stress, but just below the point of fracture or failure.

Now all three main behind-the-counter staple staff were up: shorter rounder older man, yelling even louder from the door at the fuckers, short older lady also yelling at the fuckers, while holding (I'd use the word brandishing, but it was clearly in self defense that she held it, and with no desire to have it called into use) the knife used to slice les pizza, held with the blade pressed against her forearm, behind her back. And of course the taller older less round man (forgive me, I know not names, I even called one of my staff 'Paul' today) bringing up the rear.

At this point, they proceeded to lock the door, and of course Mickey returned to bang on the door and yell at the fuckers for a while. Also, a Fat Joe look-alike tried to get in at this point, frustrated that the door wouldn't open, and he left. Soon, after some peace, the door was unlocked and we too left.

Of course the show wasn't over yet. Mickey found Gorgeous George again, and they kind of rolled down the ground next to Campus Pizza, locked in drunken combat. Not sure how locked in combat one can physically be while drunk, but mentally it sure does happen. They proceeded to exchange witty banter of 'fuck' after 'FUCK' after 'fucker', occasionally diversifying to 'bitch' when one gained the upper hand, or foot, or whatever limb it was.

The tussle made it all the way out to nearly Mongolian by the time that someone decided to come out as being a friend of Mickey's, and he broke him off from the fight. Surprisingly, Mickey held his own, hence he earns the moniker. Gorgeous George and several buddies headed off towards WLU, while Mickey and his man disappeared into the alleys behind Mongolian, moments before a fire truck, ambulance, police van, and police canine unit van arrived on the scene.

The moral of the story: curiosity may have killed the cat, but it's pride that can kill a person. Swallow your pride! Yes, this man was drunk. Perhaps it isn't an age limit on alcohol that we need, but a mindset. I don't think I want any 19+ people drinking alcohol if it leads them to be as tripwired as this fellow, or as wifebeaty as so many stereotypes. I'm sure it's not that hard to notice how people react to alcohol. It puts some to sleep. When I drink it, I end up loosening up. When Mickey drank it, it was like Bruce Banner getting pissed, minus the green or bursting forth of disgustingly gargantuan muscles.

Drink appropriately people, please! Save Campus Pizza more repairs, save yourself some hard to explain bruises (because 'a man yelling' is never an excuse to start a bare-knuckle boxing match), and save us all a lot of grief. If you can't drink responsibly, don't drink at all.

IRON WARRIOR

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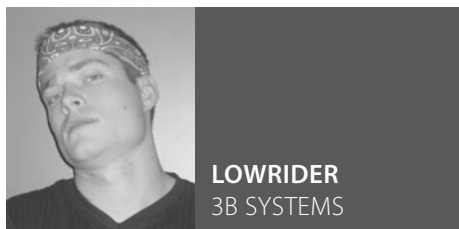
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The Iron Warrior is a forum for thought provoking and informative articles published by the Engineering Society. Views expressed in The Iron Warrior are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Engineering Society.

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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Vote Low for Mega-Ma-Phone!



LOW PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Ladies...

A Date with Matt Strickland (Ebay 5677540634)

Bid with Confidence

LR

Dear LowRider,

I heard now that we've got a new Bush government in Canada, our tuition is going to be unfrozen. We've been enjoying a fairly stable tuition bill for so long. I'm worried that I'm barely going to make enough on work term to pay for bread and milk. The soup kitchen doesn't accept Watcard. Beer, an essential to any Engineer's life, is pretty much out of the question for me. Any idea on how much of an increase I should be budgeting for? I'm very concerned.

-Still Frozen

Dear Melting,

\$629.76. That's the evil number for two terms. I think this is the first time LowRider actually ever answered a question in 49 years of ridin' low. It's the maximum that they can raise it. You seem to have an issue with our new leader named Bush? Democracy at its finest. You voted him in. You can trust your friendly neighborhood LowRider for all accurate political information.

LR

Dear Lowered Ryder,

I just got my wisdom teeth removed. It was wonderful journey. Something pricked my arm as I sat back in the surgeon's chair. I was back in the sixties in my baby blue VW Beetle covered in little daisies. I was wearing my matching tight blue velour bell bottoms cruising to some sweet melodies. I was playing drums in a rock band. Right before I woke up, the doors of my Beetle opened and white smoke billowed out. So chillin' man. In the meantime, they dislocated my jaw, somehow managed to drop a chunk of molar down my throat and removed part of my skull. It was a good trip for sure.

Lesse Wate

Dear Bad Breath,

How long has it been since you brushed your teeth. I can smell you breath through the email man. Go chug a bottle of Listerine. You've got festering sacks of flesh wound in your mouth.

Sounds like you had a good time. I'll bet you enjoyed the Tylenol 14's afterwards. White smoke eh? I know my VW's pretty good and I don't think that was the Beetle's fault.

LR

PS. You remember the sixties? How many times have you managed to fail?

Dear LowRider,

I've gotten into this really bad habit. I'm studying really hard this term. I've been pretty much living in the Davis Center library. My body is on a very tight schedule. Right before the library closes I usually need to take care of business. On more than one occasion, I've been locked into the washroom in the library. This leads to very embarrassing pantless security guard encounters. How do I break the vicious cycle LowRider?

subject larry...

Others have written me about TOOL visions. They seem to be a common occurrence for young, attractive arts girls. Maybe you need a little more tool in your life. Once I got a letter from gal complaining about a waking up to a little girl screaming beside her bed as her head spun around while there was a burning TOOL on her wall. Solution: come to 36 and POETS to celebrate EOT this Friday.

LR

A bunch of guys in black underwear worshipping the TOOL. Sounds like a good time eh?

LR

My dearest LowRider,

I am in need of some serious advice. I think I'm in love with this guy in my class. And if that wasn't bad enough, he has a girlfriend (also in my class) who he hangs out with like all the time. They never even fight or anything, it really sucks.



-Concerned

Dear Strict Schedule,

Prune juice. Chug a liter of prune juice as you read this. That should throw you off well into your work term.

LR

Low Rider,

Oh wise one, us St. Jerome's arts fe-not-males need your help! I've been living in the same house for about 3 years now and I've never seen anything like this. There are what seems to be drawings of the TOOL all over my house! In the kitchen, the living room, even the bathroom! What does this mean? Who is leaving their 'mark' all over the house? I've asked the womyn I live with what they think about this 'message' and no one seems to know what these drawings are all about. I will admit that it has always been a dream of mine to touch the TOOL, but I've never shared that with anyone before! I long to touch the TOOL. Is someone trying to taunt me?

Your immediate attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated.

-Roslin Womyn

Across the Creek Fyminists,

Ha. Myn can spell fem with a y. You like that huh? Yeah. Right back at ya. Why don't I just write myn? Then you can spell women with an e. I've never understood the whole y thing. Are you asking me y are myn > women? That's a touchy

Dear My Lowrider Lover,

I need some advice from my favourite BANDANA-sportin' love engineer.

I've been seeing a woman for a short while and I think that shes da bomb! We're attending our very first social function together that requires some dancing. Problem is, I've got the dancing skills of a Bavarian goat-hearer. Help me! What dance moves do you pull out to make sure Ms Lowrider is sass-y-fied?

~Desperate for a signature dance move.

Mein kleine Schatz,

Baby... You're seeing another womyn? I could get used to this...

So you're saying Bavarian goats can't dance? I beg to differ. Ever seen a goat that really has to pee do the two-step? It puts MJ to shame.

If you're still having troubles you can't go wrong with the worm. Get down. Get dirty.

LR

Dear Low Ryder,

What is this IRS you spoke of in your last article?

Regards,

1A

Dear Forever Frosh,

How can I break them up? Also, any advice to help me catch him on the rebound?

With love,
Green-eyed Girl

Dear Competitive Female,

So you're still feeling the effects of Cupid eh? You'd think that that little green leprechaun would give you enough of a headache on Saturday morning to forget about that terrible L word.

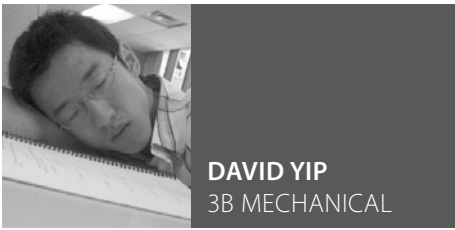
I say start dating his brother or cousin or friend. Or you could just come to class naked one day. That should get his attention. Come on people, I'm LowRider not LoveRider. Do what your heart says is right (choke... gag... small amount of vomit in the back of my throat)

LR

Self Editor's Note: "Dear LowRider" is open to the Waterloo Engineering Society for students who need answers to life's problems. It is meant as a forum for discussion and to inspire deep, sometimes philosophical, albeit simple yet enduring and metaphysical run-on sentences. Graduates go forth ringed into the real world. Everyone else keep it low on the work term kids. Don't do anything I wouldn't.

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

Thoughts on China. No, a rant inspired by China.



DAVID YIP
3B MECHANICAL

Going back to the motherland is always an interesting experience. It's not really a vacation, because you're not there to relax – you're not really a tourist, but you sort of are.

Tourist, because many things are new, the language is bit strange to see everywhere, even though I do speak it functionally. Same thing goes for food; I've seen 90% of it, but then a subset of the 10% I haven't sometimes shows up. Unlike a tourist, I can't just sample the culture, smile bemusedly, and leave. Being a Chinese in China, clearly I'm expected to fully participate in the culture, even if some of it is a bit different for me; after all I moved to Canada when I was four though I have been back periodically ever since.

People like to call it a vacation, but again, it's sort of not. It's more of an extended family visit. A vacation for me would be to take someone special to some random Caribbean villa, and relax. There would be a button in the room for the butler to bring breakfast with fresh tropical fruit, and a white RX-7 FC convertible out front. That's a vacation. A vacation doesn't entail endless dinners and entertaining endless questions about school life, and now that I'm 22, do I have a girlfriend yet. Growing up the 'burbs, I'm used to limited social contact and quite a bit of quiet time; sometimes I swear my relatives are allergic to silence or something. But then they are my relatives, and all of them are pretty cool – once I was used to the daily social scene, I kind of missed it when I got back.

Several other things strike me about China.

Authenticity. So much emphasis on outward appearances. Buildings that appear impressive on the outside, but inside they're hollow and sparse. Buildings only a few years old show decay from lack of maintenance or quality in construction. Cars that are shamelessly copied from others. It's a copy of the external without an understanding of the substance. Perhaps this is a result of rapid economic advancement; there's been no time to fully understand, but a lot of emphasis on "catching up". Many of the new skyscrapers in Guangzhou look cool, but the most distinctive building is the Garden Hotel, which was built in the early 80s. Architecturally most new buildings have a superficial new-tech look, but none really stand out from any other. I think there's a strong need for an aesthetic education around here, as bourgeois as that may sound. Especially since China has such a strong aesthetic tradition. If you read my article on simulacra, it's like they just copied many elements from other modern cities in the world without developing their own. It's like they are trying to build a real city based only on the representation of another. Before anyone comes to any snap judgements I should note that it was only just my parents generation that was sent to the farms by Mao, and the agents of the Cultural Revolution were busy running around and smashing every single cultural artifact they could, "developing an eye for aesthetic detail" was probably far below "eating" and "staying alive" on their list.

Nevertheless, the list goes on: five-star hotels with enough scale and marble to be five-star, but lacking in the details

- poor TV reception, shower doors that don't seal, pathetic towels, mismatched art that is askew, thin sheets, hard mattresses. Counterfeiting is rampant, from the obvious media piracy to the not-so obvious car parts, baby formula, clothes, food, anything to make a fast buck. It's that "fake it till you make it" taken to the extreme, I guess.

This leads into my next point – the selfish "everyone for themselves" mentality that seems to permeate, again likely related to rapid economic advancement. This is most obvious on the roads – courtesy is something you extend to family or business partners, but to random strangers? – Never!

Dilution. Scale dilutes. Everything tends to be on a larger scale here, not surprising given the 1.2bn people there that everyone loves to talk about. In Shenzhen, the manufacturing centre of the world, I'm told there's a factory where original art is created and sold to hotels and restaurants all over the world. Original works, not reproductions. Does art on this scale somehow lose meaning? Does each art piece have an inherent value for appreciation that it deserves? I have to wonder because around here we see art as a very precious, a very special thing – to have an original piece of anything is several hundred dollars at least, and to have anything recognizable is certainly thousands of dollars. Now imagine you could buy original art at Wal-Mart, what does that do to it? Hm. Maybe art has been too elitist all this time anyway.

Of course, going back home raises random identity issues. I remember moving in with some roommates (Taiwanese) back in 1B. They asked me how long I've been in Canada – 19 years I said. "Oh, so you're practically a CBC (Chinese-born Canadian) then. There may have been a slight amount of condescension there, I couldn't be sure. Almost as if I'd somehow disappointed them – to which I say "Fuck you". I doubt very much that not listening to terrible pop music makes me any less Asian. I've been back, I know my way around, I speak the language, I even know some history, and write some. I'm not a threat to you – you're a threat to me. This idea of identity is interesting to me – why is it that people crave one so badly? I have Western traits, and I have Chinese traits. I am less Chinese in some ways, and less Western in others. I resent the idea that people can be labeled disparagingly based on superficialities like clothes or music. I doubt very much that any one culture is inherently superior to another – to believe otherwise would be to sow the seeds of prejudice and racism. Blind nationalism often obscures the truth, and my first loyalty I think is, as much as possible, an impartial truth. If they say the first casualty in war is the truth, then nationalism, and this notion of cultural superiority is often the weapon employed. The Japanese believed themselves to be superior to other Asians. The Nazis believed themselves superior to everybody. Even now I think there is a certain American superiority complex that compels them to save the world in their own special way.



Buying local! Wal Mart in China.

But this idea of identity, and this intense attachment that people have to it, is something that can be manipulated to both good and evil ends. Everyone wants a label, everyone wants a group, an ideal to ascribe to. Just the other day I read on msn.ca that there is a new group of vegetarians called "semi-vegetarians" who eat "limited amounts of meat". I'm sure there's another name for that: it's called "student on a budget". People should be more careful where their allegiances lie.

This might all sound a bit negative. But to be fair what it goes to show is how thin the veneer of our genteel civilization is. Most of us are properly fed, have health care, have welfare if one day we need it – heck – life is boring. We need to see movies like Fast and Furious 4: Tokyo Drift to make it exciting. We have time to indulge the senses in artistic pursuits, we aren't all out to make a fast buck, and it

doesn't bother us too much to follow traffic regulations.

But we do all this because we can afford to, because our basic needs have been met. In the past 20 years, the miraculously rapid pace of Chinese economic development meant that some things have been left behind, and what I noted as missing were not some glaring omissions from civil society, they are merely the comforts of home that I missed. While I nitpick about aesthetic paucity there are still people busy starving in the Chinese countryside.

In this chaos there's plenty of opportunity for development, that one of my friends once described as "the new America". Everything comes in due time, and I hope that I can do a part to bring that about. So don't get me wrong. China is a great place, fully of opportunity right now. You only have to read the news to know that.

Adieu Fourth Years

ADAM SCHUBERT
3B ELECTRICAL

I'm not sure why, but this year more than ever I feel like I'm gonna miss the graduating class. So I want to reserve a little IW space to extend my heart-felt farewells to a certain few ringed people as they spend their final undergraduate days here in Waterloo (in no particular order):

Ken Hanes - Dude, our staring contests were friggin' fun. You're a tank but never feel the need to prove it. I'm gonna miss your hilarious jokes in the C & D.

Matt Strickland - I never had the opportunity to just chill with ya dude because you are seriously always on the fly. You're one of those personalities that emits greatness and I can't wait to see what you get up to (no pressure).

John Fishbein - Guy, you're hilarious in an F-ed up sorta way. That is all.

All of GradCom - I was happy to make it to each and every one of your pubcrawls. You made it tonnes of fun for me all year 'round.

Dave Johnson - You smell like \$%^@^& put on some axe and get H3LL out of here.

Russ Parnel - You are extreme to the max. A real smooth brotha. Don't even act like I didn't almost have you in an arm bar that one time.

Zac Balson - (see description for Matt Strickland).

Dave Marentette - This guy always has your back. Whether I've needed/wanted a ride somewhere, or just plain needed a drinking buddy he's been there. I look forward to the day I can be as helpful to you as you have been to me.

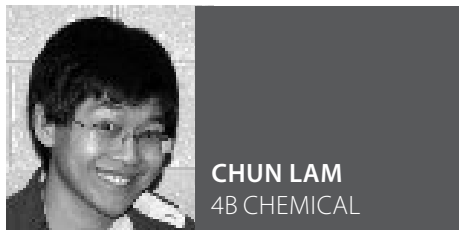
Pat Brown - Where would we be without Mr. Engineering? No where. That's where.

Mel Cesana - Other than making out with your arm once or twice I only ever saw you in pain at 36. You always blamed it on rugby or something else. Attaa boy CT!

This is by no means a complete list of the fourth years that made me feel special or helped me enjoy engineering here in Waterloo, just the ones I could think of in the five minutes I spent writing this article. I wish for everyone graduating that they enjoy wonderful and fruitful lives. I'll miss you all. Adieu!

POINT VS. COUNTERPOINT

Glad to be a Grad?



CHUN LAM
4B CHEMICAL

So its time, finally after 5 years of constant pain, blood sweat, and sleepless nights, that the end is near. That's right where you go to convocation, dressed in your black gown with your tassel, and you walk on stage in a gym baking with 1600 other people under the June sun with the aurora of human sweat in the air. You reach the stage and shake the hand of the distinguished members of your faculty, who are also baking in the heat, and they hand you your Bachelors of Applied Science (i.e. bachelors of engineering for all ye non-uwaterloo / utoronto folk). You look at your degree in amazement and as you spend the next hour and a half or so listening to the speeches and such... you think of back to beyond first year... to a happier time of high school grad... back to student life 101 (the high school re-education, I mean orientation event to get the high school students coming to Waterloo pumped about coming here. And boy did I, at the time, get involved with the propaganda when I saw those Waterloo students, dressed in those tacky yellow t-shirts with stickers saying 'Glad to be a Future Grad'. Glad to be a Future Grad eh? Well 5 years down the road I'm still thinking about that 'Glad to be a Grad'. As I finish my studies here at Waterloo and being my payments to the Governments of Canada and Ontario, for the next 60 years, I wonder if I'm 'glad to be a Future Grad'. Well after a brief thought it is a no.

Though my experience here at Waterloo isn't a horror story where the breaks didn't go my way, the experience has deviated from my ideal experience I was looking for in engineering. Here are some of the things that have made me somewhat disillusioned.

ELPE

Being a product of the Canadian education system, I felt that I had fluent writing skills; after all, writing those essays on obscure

books like 'Far from the Madding Crowd', and 'Heart of Darkness', this exam was money in the bank. Well I wrote the exam, during orientation week which was quite crummy, felt I had a 60% (to pass) at least, the topic itself was easy enough – discuss the role of technology in teaching. However to my disgust and shock, a 55% was placed near my id... WTF eh? Well after a profanity laced moment, I took a stroll down to the 1st year office to discuss my options. They directed me to the writing clinic in the PAS building (the lair of head shrinks and those bonus marks in psych 101) where I went in to register for the writing clinic. For all those who did not have to go through this pain, to absolve yourself of your ELPE failure, you had to either register for the writing clinic for a term or take an extra English course and pass it. Since taking an English course would cost me an extra \$700.00, I decided on the writing clinic. So I go walk into the clinic and I see what appears to be an official of the writing clinic talking to a first year engineer. Well you see this first year engineer, who had an Asian accent and enrolled in comp (from what I could get out of the conversation) had also failed the ELPE and was passionately pleading to be enrolled in the writing clinic, which was full for the term. As I was watching this episode, I could see the desperate nature of this girl's pleas – the stresses of engineering was getting to her and it was only the second week; this climaxed into her fainting. Luckily for her she was with a classmate who was able to catch her and place her on a chair. Well after assessing the situation and seeing it was stabilized, I got out of their hair and left. Coming back in 1B I finally enrolled in the writing clinic, with a 2 hour commitment a week. So I go to clinic and we first review my ELPE essay back. Well we review it and it appears ok until, we reach a grammar error, well then she tells me that this grammar error is significant, enough for failing my paper, even though I had a brainstorming, outline, and full essay completed. I asked my tutor how did I fail my paper, I got a beat-around-the-bush reply something about lack of proper grammar. Well anyways I write the three essays required for the clinic requirements, and my tutor seems impressed with my work; stating my writing abilities

many of the people in Engsoc are trying to help the rest of us make our way through our university careers. There are many services that Engsoc runs in whole or in part that have made life easier or more fun for many students. Exam banks, course critiques, special events for the entertainment and distraction of students are all good things. The "cool group" view that some have of Engsoc is flawed. There are many people within the society that do not fall into this stereotype, yet they are well respected and liked by both those within and apart from Engsoc.

It is only a small number of loud and boisterous students that people seem to notice as being the "Engsoc crowd". It is really too bad that many of my fellow fourth years never made the effort to get to know the rest of the society people before deciding that they wanted no part of it. I implore you younger students who happen to read this to look farther than the surface. You may be pleasantly surprised. I have been involved for many years and, yes, I have interacted with people I neither respect nor like. I have done this by choice. You know why? It's because I may have to later in life. That is what university is for: to prepare oneself for life. Having done this gave me the chance

to meet and get to know people who made my time here worthwhile and fun.

Tuition Fees

Ah yes, our beloved tuition fees. Ever since engineering tuition became deregulated because of its professional status, engineering undergraduates have been experiencing tuition increases of \$400.00 per term until spring of 2004, when the McGuinty Liberal government announced a tuition freeze on all regulated and deregulated programs, until 2006. For which myself and all the students of the engineering class of 2005 & 2006 are grateful. However I have always felt that reasons for tuition increases were always a bit inadequate. Back before the tuition freeze, University of Waterloo, had justified tuition increases by citing the desire to 'maintaining quality' and 'if we charge less, before long our programs will become inferior because we have had fewer resources to support them.' Well I think this would be a justifiable reason, however the fact that undergrads in chemistry (who's tuition is not deregulated) also have labs with similar equipment and resource needs as Chem Eng, just doesn't make me buy their argument. Also, as some of my counterparts in other programs (cough.. E cough ..C cough... E.. cough) feel that with the increased fees we pay to UW for teaching, they would be able to hire some teachers who could speak English.

Weird fee – Work Report Marking Fee

There have been several fees that appear on everyone's statement such as the mysterious \$14.00 work report marking fee. So it's a fee to pay professors to mark my work report for an hour. Ok I wish I didn't have to pay but whatever – there's no free lunch in this world. However what really bothers me is the fact that I still had to pay for this fee on terms where I didn't have a work term due. WTF mate? I'm quite confused, and I never really got a straight answer why this fee always comes up.

Lockdown of campus

to meet and get to know people who made my time here worthwhile and fun.

"Waterloo isn't the best university for engineering in Canada." Now this one depends on your point of view. If you talk about the quality of our professors and courses, then you may be right. I don't pretend to know enough about this subject to refute this statement. I do know that Waterloo is up there. The students coming out of Waterloo have one gigantic advantage in our education. This is the co-op process. What many people who belittle Waterloo neglect to see is that we will graduate with two years work experience already behind us. This leads to an understanding of real world concerns that many other schools' graduates don't have. This is a reason many companies prefer Waterloo grads.

There is a flip side to that. I know of a few companies that refuse to hire Waterloo students, due to their experience with those students who thought the world owed them something simply for being a Waterloo student or graduate.

Many of you who know me know that I've had some...interesting things happen to me during my time here at Waterloo. I have been jerked around by the administration. That is enough to make anyone

Ah yes the perpetual lockdown of campus on weekends. With most building entrances locked during weekends, getting into the engineering buildings is quite a challenge and journey filled with profanities. Now some people may say, why do you need to go to campus when you can do your homework at home? Well good question, but I believe I should have the right to use the buildings anytime since I have paid my tuition. Also some courses do require computer the use of computer programs such as Aspen in Chem Eng, C++/java in ECE, Solidworks and AutoCAD in Mech/Civil that are only available on on-campus computers. So these lockdowns are just another barrier to overcome to complete assignments and fulfill the undergraduate degree.

So here's some of my beef's in the past 5 years here at Waterloo. I believe any 4th year engineering undergrad could add pages and pages of grievances to my list. However in light of my grievances - in my final article as a staff writer - a job well done to the staff at the University of Waterloo Libraries, who have given myself prompt service for all my reference needs, to the staff of my department, Chemical Engineering, CECS, and 1st Year office for the same service, the parking services appeal board for overturning those parking tickets from frosh week (which I thought were ... to begin with) and to department of Chem Eng academic board that always saw my accomplishments and never held me back a term. But before I go I would like to say to all those first and second year folks that it's never too late to get involved with groups what ever its be with Iron Warrior, EngSoc, Imprint, orientation week, Warrior weekends, Feds, UW Tutors, or the student teams (UWAF, Midnight Sun, WOMBAT, Formula SAE, WARG). GET INVOLVED!!! Add another dimension to your life to just studying because no problem you face in real life is gonna have a solution in a textbook, and being homework doing drone just doesn't do it for the ladies/guys.

Only 40+ days until I get my \$64,000.00 (including textbook, housing, food fees) piece of fancy paper with a fake gold seal, and signature (hopefully genuine) from the Dean and President of the University.

bitter. However, what you need to realize is that coming to Waterloo has nothing to do with whether we are treated fairly or properly by the administration. They are not Waterloo. The professors and your fellow students are. What you get out of here depends entirely on what you put into it. I have had an amazing time at this university. I made sure I tried everything I wanted to try. I had the chance to travel, to meet people from all walks of life and from so many different cultural backgrounds that I will never forget my time here.

I will always be proud of my status as a Waterloo Engineer. This is because I worked alongside some truly amazing people. I came to Waterloo knowing that they accepted the best and expected the best. I would like to think that at least most of you have met those expectations, as well as meeting your own. I hope to see you all on the other side.

Editor's Note:

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

PATRICK BROWN 4B MECHANICAL

There are many people graduating this year who seem to be glad they're leaving Waterloo Engineering. And not for good reasons. There is a lot of bitterness brewing among engineering students at this university. Some of it is warranted.

"Tuition keeps going up, yet there doesn't seem to be an equivalent increase in the quality of our education, nor in the facilities we use." This is a problem. However, Waterloo is not alone in this issue. This is a problem that is endemic within universities across North America. I'll say right now that I don't really have an answer for this one, other than to say that I hope the changes being brought in by Dean Sedra's 2010 Plan will address at least some of the issues.

"University life is just like the high schools we left. There are cliques and groups. The Engineering Society is just another "cool" group that no one actually likes". This is somewhat true, but it is the fault of those who choose to let it be so, or to see it as so. The engineering society has many detractors, and it is one reason why some people really hate this university. The problem with these views is that

ENGINEERING SOCIETY DEPARTING EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A Look Back



NICK LAWLER
PRESIDENT

Phew, what an experience. This is my last report as an EngSoc exec member. I've been serving the engineering society since May of 2003 when I became VP External. Since that time I took the ride, and of course have also served as President since January 2005. It's been a tremendously rewarding and exciting experience, one that I will never forget. Serving as a student representative gave me significant insight into the ins and outs of this fine institution. The administration and people involved in this school do truly care deeply about the quality of your education, as well as the bounty of their often stunning research projects.

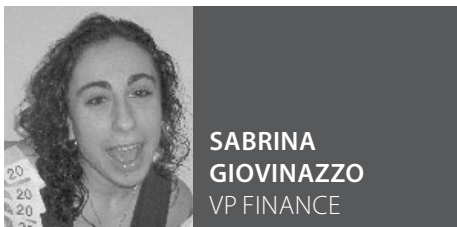
I have however observed an odd trend with the current attitudes of the administration. For decades the University of Waterloo has been known for our innovative approach to higher education. The fruits of this innovation have meant our degrees are known world wide, and probably has brought most of you here to study. Innovation does not come from an endless supply, and at times I get the feeling that UW is pumping innovation for the pure reason to be innovative. You may think I'm talking about PDEng, however I'm not really. I do believe that the fruits of PDEng will become evident as time goes on, and as this program is fully developed. The work report resubmit rates have been cut in half since the implementation of PDEng, and I feel that this program can enrich our degrees twofold. I am disparaged however at the rapid lateral expansion of the faculty in recent years. New engineering programs that seem to be the flavour of the month lead to what I think is a watering down of the faculty. Resources are being stretched, both on the administrative, teaching and student life fronts. We cannot sustain expanding our program without at the same time strengthening what we have. Although I can see where we would need such a program, and I think bringing engineering

process to the management world is a creative and sought after thing, I just think that at this point in our faculty's development, time must be taken to reflect over what we have and how it contributes. Strengthen the first year co-op employment rates, strengthen the quality of our buildings and equipment, and strengthen the low morale that some departments suffer with.

Student life has been something that I've been focused on during my time at the Engineering society. It's our primary function to strengthen student life, and serve the undergraduate students here. It's also something that I think we do very well. And like every volunteer organisation, our strength is our people. I've been honoured to serve as leader of this fine organisation, and it has also served me well. It has allowed me to grow as a leader, it has developed my problem solving skills, and most of all has strengthened my time management skills tremendously. I've been honoured to represent Waterloo Engineering at a multitude of functions and conferences, and the respect and admiration that we receive from other schools is always a pleasure to see.

As engineering students and future engineers, we are almost destined to be leaders. With EngSoc, my leadership skills have sharpened and increased to the point where I am confident that when I leave here I can be an effective and courageous leader. I also think that EngSoc is in a very strong situation. We are one of the strongest Societies in Canada, with some of the strongest participation around. Our charity initiatives are some of the largest and most ingenious. I am more than confident that the people taking over will continue to take the society to even biggest and better heights. The education that we are receiving is continuing to intensify, and the free time that we have is getting sparser. It is very important that we continue to be active participants in our education, no matter what the cost. This includes the academic and the social parts of our education, as both are integral to our success. I for one hope that EngSoc can continue to be the great organisation that continues to lead undergraduate engineering students at Waterloo to their more than worthy praise.

New Novelties



SABRINA GIOVINAZZO
VP FINANCE

To all directors, make sure you get your expense forms in by the last day of classes, Wednesday, March 29th, 2006. Forms can be found in the Orifice, or online.

As always, Novelties is having its end of term sale! Make sure you stop by on your lunch for some cheap t-shirts, picture frames and much more! Mary and I have been looking into some new items, a few of which are:

ties, women's shorts and pants, and nalgene bottles; so let us know of any new items you'd like to see sold through novelties!

Well I'd like to wish the new VPF and rest of the exec luck in their new positions within the society. I'd like to thank Mary for all her help over the past 16 months - it's been a pleasure working with you! All in all, I've had a lot of fun, but it's time to give someone else the opportunity to work with EngSoc's money! I'm sure you'll still see me hanging around the orifice and poets in the future, as well as doing some directorships once again!

Well, good luck to everyone on exams and hope you have a great summer. Only 1 more week of class!

Sabrina Giovinazzo

WEEF Funding Allocations



KATHERINE CHIANG
WEEF DIRECTOR

Hey everyone! I'd first like to congratulate my successor Kathryn, and

I wish her all the best. This would be my last report as WEEF Director and it's been quite an experience. I'd like to thank everyone who'd helped me during this time.

The funding decision has been deliberated and approved. Feel free to contact WEEF if you have any questions regarding the funding decision. Good luck on your finals!

Reading Party?



MELINDA HURD
VP EDUCATION

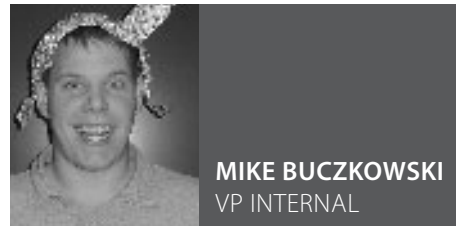
HELLO EVERYBODY!!!
It's time for a fond farewell from

your VP Education - Thanks to all of my directors and to my fabulous fellow exec! It's been quite a ride - many fond memories. Many thanks to Mary for all of her help and amazing dedication to her job and to all of us, Mary you RULE!! Good luck to the incoming exec!

Don't forget to come out to the reading party this week - watch for emails!

As always, Party On!

Party Until the End



MIKE BUCZKOWSKI
VP INTERNAL

Top 'o the Morning to Ye!
Well I'm nursing my day after St. Patrick's Day hangover today with a big glass of water and looking forward to writing this my last exec report. Let's start with the events that will be wrapping up the term. There isn't too much left to happen, the toga semi unfortunately had to be cancelled due to lack of interest, the winter road hockey classic might still happen if we can get it organized, A**5 Bowling will be the 26th of March and there are still some spots available. The Potluck is this Wednesday so make sure you come out to see the new exec get sworn in and taste some delicious home cooked food from your fellow engineers. EOT and Batch will be going down on the 24th as well so I hope to see everyone there.

I'd like to say thanks to my exec for being amazing over the past 16 months and also thanks to you the students for letting me fill this position and hopefully I've done a good job at it over the past two terms. I tried to be approachable and work with my directors and pull off some great events over the last two terms. Some highlights for me have definitely been the Pig Roast we had last term, the two amazing TALENG events that

have run over the last two terms as well as well as all the other great events we've had. I've tried to come up with some new ideas to get people who wouldn't normally attend engosc events would come out and I've really enjoyed working with all my directors.

I think I accomplished most of my goals with the exception of a few. I think our biggest failure as an exec has been in getting the younger students interested in engosc. After the graduating class of 2007 is gone there is going to be a huge hole in engosc. For some reason the younger students of '08, '09 and '10 have not joined the ranks of engosc in great numbers. The reason for this I'm not sure, maybe it is the increasing workload at the university and the competitive nature of the ranking system used at this school or because of the somewhat cliquish nature of engosc. Maybe engosc just doesn't run events that appeal to the nature of the student body anymore. I am definitely interested in any thoughts that all of you who read this paper especially if you are not involved in engosc might have on this matter and I'm sure your incoming exec whomever they may be are interested as well so send me an e-mail asoc_vpint@engmail.uwaterloo.ca and help me out. It has been a blast and I'll see you all at the potluck, especially all directors as you'll get those pirate monkeys I've been promising for 16 months as your reward for hard work this term...

Good Luck on Exams from your outgoing VPI, I know I'll need it!

Butch

SPRING 2005 FINAL FUNDING DECISION				
#	Page	Proposal	Requested	Allocated
Architecture				
1	1	ACM Audio Studio Equipment	\$1,909.00	\$1,909.00
2	2	Hot Wire Table and Sliding Table Saw	\$1,552.62	\$1,552.62
3	3	Camera Lenses for Undergraduate Cameras	\$1,840.00	\$1,840.00
4	4	Lecture Hall Lighting	\$1,906.22	\$0.00
Chemical Engineering				
5	5	Compressors, Micropipettes and Centrifugal pumps	\$4,480.00	\$3,900.00
Civil Engineering				
6	6	Permanent Data Acquisition System	\$7,073.32	\$2,500.00
7	7	Direct Shear Apparatus, Part 2	\$4,200.00	\$3,200.00
8	8	General Use MIG (GMAW) Welder	\$3,750.00	\$1,500.00
Electrical & Computer Engineering				
9	9	E&CE30 series & projects in Semiconductors and Electronic Circuits	\$10,300.00	\$5,300.00
10	10	Demonstration Transformers	\$2,500.00	\$1,250.00
11	11	Lab upgrade - LCD computer monitors E2-3344	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
12	12	E&CE FPGA Board Expansion and Upgrade for FYDP	\$3,200.00	\$2,880.00
Mechanical Engineering				
13	13	Materials Engineering Course Equipment	\$6,100.00	\$5,100.00
Systems Design Engineering				
14	14	Signal Generators for SyDe Teaching Lab	\$6,840.00	\$6,840.00
15	15	PCI DAQ Cards for Control Systems Lab	\$2,600.00	\$0.00
Student Machine Shop				
16	16	Funding for purchase of new milling machine	\$17,100.00	\$5,700.00
Departments Total			\$76,851.16	\$43,471.62
Student Projects				
17	17	CASI Free Flight Glider Team	\$1,092.40	\$800.00
18	18	Fantastic Frosh Leader Fund	\$500.00	\$0.00
19	19	UW Formula SAE Team	\$7,700.00	\$4,100.00
20	20	2007 Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Team	\$8,375.00	\$3,000.00
21	23	H2D[ee]P - Fuel Cell Powered Diver Propulsion Vehicle	\$1,304.00	\$1,304.00
22	24	Upgrade of IEEE office furnishings	\$600.00	\$0.00
23	25	Midnight Sun Solar Race Car Team	\$8,000.00	\$3,000.00
24	27	Autonomous Robot Racing Competition Equipment	\$2,970.00	\$1,980.00
25	29	RobotRacing Competition Entrant - 2A Systems Design Team	\$654.00	\$654.00
26	31	UW Robotics Team	\$3,200.00	\$1,600.00
27	32	UWAF Winter 2006	\$7,100.00	\$5,300.00
28	34	UWIRE Autonomous Robot Racer	\$780.00	\$370.00
29	35	Waterloo Aerial Robotics Group	\$3,200.00	\$2,600.00
30	37	Waterloo Off-road Mini BAJa Team (WOMBaT)	\$1,840.00	\$1,840.00
Student Total			\$47,315.40	\$26,548.00
TOTAL			\$124,166.56	\$70,019.62

ENGINEERING SOCIETY INCOMING EXECUTIVE REPORTS

Cheers to Our Predecessors



RUTH-ANNE VANDERWATER
3A COMPUTER

ACCLAIMED,
PRESIDENT

Hi there everyone! First I want to thank you all for ratifying me at the last EngSoc meeting. I am very excited about taking on the position of your future EngSoc president. I am also looking forward to working with the future exec that you elected to continue to make the Engineering Society really awesome. We are all going to need your help in filling directorships next term. Without the directors, many of the events and services offered by EngSoc would not be possible. I encourage everyone to come out and get involved to keep these events going!

Next I want to say a few words about the outgoing exec. I think they've all done a wonderful job over the past few terms. It's this group of fine people who have made EngSoc the way it is right now. Each of them has contributed their time and energy to keep the Engineering Society running smoothly and I want to thank them for doing such an excellent job. Your shoes will be hard to fill.

Finally, I would like to wish each and every one of you success on your upcoming final exams. I know it's a very stressful time of the term but soon it will be over and you'll be working at your next co-op job making money again. I wish you all the best on your upcoming work term (for those who have one) and for those fourth years who are leaving us, I wish you all the best for your future. Have a great summer everyone and I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Ruth-Anne

Thanks, Wyoming



TODD RADIGAN
3A COMPUTER

ELECTED,
VP FINANCE

So it seems that you've elected me as your new VP-Finance. Let me start by thanking everyone who came out to vote, your voice is important in EngSoc. I want to keep this short and to the point, and maybe we'll have time for a short story too. Keeping EngSoc's finances in order is no small task, and I am honoured that you have chosen me for this task. I look forward to working closely with the other Exec.

The outgoing Exec have done an excellent job these past couple of terms. I've always thought you could measure the success of EngSoc Exec by noticing that nothing seems to be on fire. While this is true (as far as I know), these Exec have gone above and beyond the traditional measure of success to take EngSoc to new heights. Hopefully we can all live up to the standard set by these outgoing Exec.

To continue this article's theme of keep-

ing it short, I'd like to offer one final thank you. This thank you is a blanket thanks to cover anyone I've forgotten. When I see any clips of award shows, I always wish the winner would offer just one big thank you to everyone involved rather than to everyone individually, so I figure that's what I'd do here. So, thank you.

Alright, now the moment you've all been waiting patiently for. It's story time. This is the story of an average family living in Wyoming. For those of you who aren't sure, Wyoming is an American state whose existence cannot be verified. Some maps claim that Wyoming is between Montana and Colorado, but nobody really knows for sure. The problem is, nobody's ever been to Wyoming. How can we be sure it's really there? Is it a government conspiracy? Maybe Wyoming is either a mythical or metaphorical place. Personally, I do believe in Wyoming. I don't have any evidence to prove or disprove the existence of Wyoming, but we all need something to believe in. It's just got to be out there somewhere. So the next time you find yourself thinking about Wyoming, just remember that I'm thrilled to be your new VP-Finance. Thanks for your support.

WEEF Gets A Seasoned Vet



KATHRYN POMEROY
3B CHEMICAL

ACCLAIMED,
WEEF DIRECTOR

Congratulations to all of the election winners! It has definitely been a busy week for both the candidates and for WEEF. Funding council met on March 14th to determine the distribution of this term's \$70,000 donation. I want to thank all of the council members (class WEEF reps) for their time and dedication. The allocations decided at this meeting can be found with Katherine's WEEF report.

WEEF's board of directors met on March 16th. In addition to ratifying my position as incoming WEEF director (thanks to all), and dealing with endow-

ment fund policy business, the board also successfully appointed two new student members: Brandon DeHart ('A' soc member) and Elaine Lui (architecture member). Congratulations to both of you, we appreciate both of your input and assistance.

Over the course of the campaign period, I have been speaking with some of the on-stream classes. One very valid question that was raised at one of these visit was as follows (I'm paraphrasing), Why are you never in the WEEF office? The answer, my friends, is that a very small amount of people come looking for the WEEF office, or its volunteers daily basis. If you are looking for us, send an email to weef@engmail and we will try to arrange a time that is convenient for you.

On that note, good luck on finals and have a great summer term. See you all next fall!

Down to Business



TYLER GALE
2A GEOLOGICAL

ELECTED,
VP EDUCATION

First off, thank you to everyone for your support. I mean thanks to everyone involved in the election, from people who've helped me with suggestions, to people involved in election logistics, to voters. A notable thanks goes to my man Andrew Dodds. We went to high school together and I'm honored to have run against a guy who knew how to throw down a solid campaign. He gave me a great run for my money, and was totally as deserving of winning as I.

Now down to business. When I was thinking up campaign ideas it was on the basis of whether or not the end product was realistically achievable within the scope of 2 on campus terms, 2 off campus terms, and the engineering society's mandate. I'm going to see to it that these goals are met.

Before the end of my term on exec, engsoc WILL offer better academic services. The exam bank and work report repository will be updated and ideally more sustainable than in the past. Other services like resume and work report critiques will be put under the microscope to see if any changes can be made to make them more unique and enriching. Means for accurate representation by the executive when time comes to vote on important academic issues will be implemented to get the word out to society members on what student representation can do to assist your academic pursuits.

I'm looking forward to working with the rest of the new exec. I'm confident that we're going to make a wicked team, here's hoping our accomplishments are many and memorable.

I'm ALWAYS open to suggestions, whether they relate to the goals I mentioned or not. My Absolute goal is to make everyone's voice heard loud and clear. Best of luck to everyone with the up and coming finals and all.

I'll Share My Secret, Please Share Your Skills



ANGUS MCQUARRIE
3A COMPUTER

ELECTED,
VP EXTERNAL

I'm going to let you in on a little secret. Due to the timing involved in publishing the Iron Warrior, all the candidates have to write articles to be published in the event that they win on the weekend. The fact that you're reading this means that the election has gone by, and I've been voted in.

I would like to take a moment to sincerely thank you for putting your support behind me. I expect that the races this year haven't been easy decisions. I'm going to do my best to make sure you've made the right one. I'm looking forward to the com-

ing terms, working with the other exec to make sure things run as smoothly as ever. The outgoing exec have done a great job, and we want to continue that for the next 16 months.

That said, I'm going to need to ask some more of you. The time is quickly approaching to choose directors for the next term. We need some motivated folks out there to grab on and take the reins on some really important events and roles. If they aren't up yet, they will be soon, so check the Engsoc website under forms and get your requests in ASAP.

We're going to have a blast in the next couple of terms, and thanks again for giving me the chance to help make that happen.

Goodnight, and Good Luck.
Angus.

Directorships: How You Can Make A Difference



KIRI NEUFEGLISE
2A CHEMICAL

ELECTED,
VP INTERNAL

Well, it's the end of the term now and with Butch leaving his position of VPI that leaves me to take up that (slightly large) space he filled. Directorship applications will be opening soon for everyone to apply for to run all of those awesome EngSoc activities and otherwise working for myself and the other exec.

I'd like to thank everyone that voted for me and thank Brawley for running against

me. I had a really good time running, putting posters up, and visiting classes and I'm glad I got to know everyone that was campaigning just a little bit better.

So, basically all of you should go and apply for the directorships for next term. All of you should also come out to EOT, A**5 Bowling and Wheelchair Basketball. (Along with any other events that I've forgotten.) And have an awesome work term. Any of my directors will be getting emails sometime in the work term to start some planning, so I'll talk to you all soon enough!

Cheers,
Your New VP Internal
Kiri Neufeglise

Thoughts on the Engsoc Election: How to do it Right



DAVID YIP
3B MECHANICAL

For the clueless, we just had an Engineering Society election (No, the other one was for Feds).

President

Being acclaimed is fun I guess, though as the acclaimed candidate noted, it can be somewhat unsatisfying to know that you were the only choice as opposed the preferred choice. Posters despite being acclaimed were a nice touch. Keep your people in line and there should be no problems.

VP Internal

One of the most important jobs certainly, the running of internal events is what Engsoc is to most people – the apparently endless stream of pub crawls, bowling, etc, etc. This term there's been a lot of talk about harassment and such – I think this is more indicative of an ingrained exclusiveness, where people feel they can say things that they usually wouldn't, as opposed to some sort of sexist strain running through the faculty. I'm not sure that there's an institutionalized misogyny - the unenlightened actions of a few definitely do not reflect on the student body as a whole. However, what happened does illustrate a lack of inclusiveness, that people are treating the meetings too much like a gathering of friends, and not a mediated meeting ground where all are welcome. While some actions may be understood as being "a joke" among friends, in an open meeting of students of all sorts, it can be very off-putting, and as we've seen - potentially misunderstood, whether malicious intent exists or not.

Besides, if there are people who are of an regressive opinion, they will not be changed by any number of HR seminars.

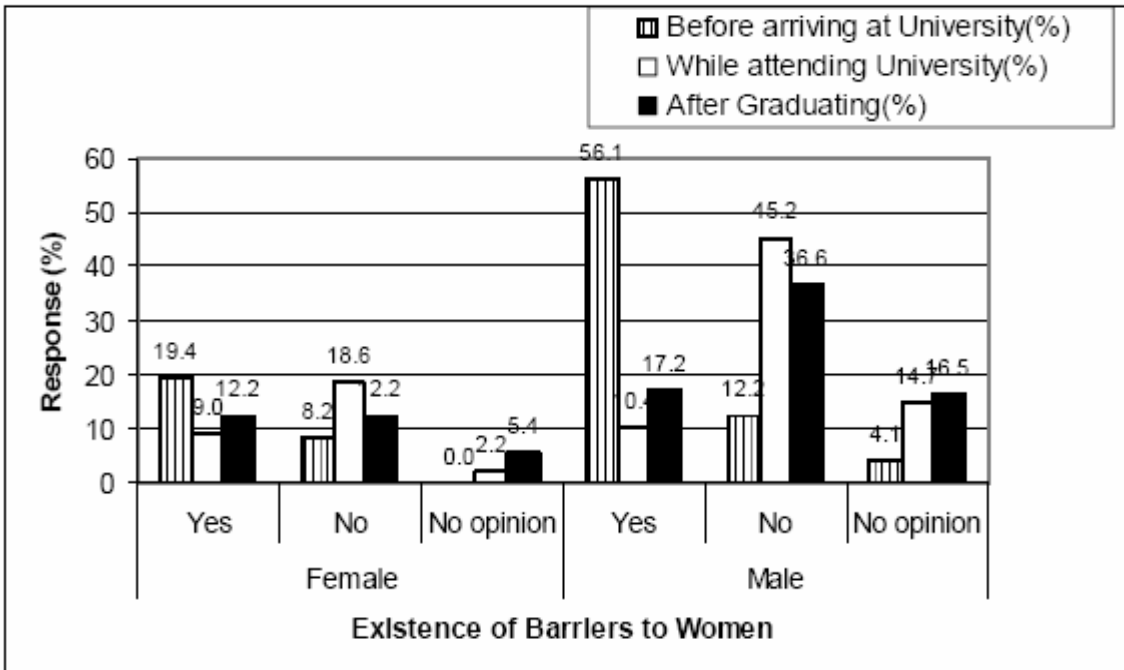
Stereotypes and WIE

CHRISTINE STEELE
2A MECHATRONICS

I come to engineering from a somewhat unique perspective, having grown up in a two-engineer family. As a child I always assumed that I'd be an engineer myself someday, because that's what grown-ups did. (And let me tell you, that makes interviews interesting when "So why did you go into engineering?" comes up.)

I have to say that my parents definitely encouraged my interests in math and science. However there were some downsides to the engineering stories I heard while growing up. Back when my mother attended the University of Waterloo, engineering was, more so than today, very much a man's place. When added to a reduced comfort with the rules of political correctness that our generation has grown up taking for granted, the engineering experience for a woman was rather different back then, and conformed much more closely to the stereotypes that we're all familiar with. I grew up hearing stories of her experiences, and some of her actions were very much coloured by what she went through in engineering: there was always a bit of extra care to make sure that I never ended up surrounded by too many guys.

Due in no small part to my mother's stories I cannot say that it was without



Graph from "Final report of the Task Force on Women in Engineering" from Vision 2010

However what they can do is keep their antics where they don't reflect poorly on the rest of us.

To further my point, the graph from the Women in Engineering Taskforce Report shows that the percentage of respondents who believe there were barriers to women decreases in all cases while in school. For both males and females the perception of barriers decreases to around 10% on entering school, however there is an increase after graduation, perhaps upon entering into the workforce. If we were truly a misogynistic bunch, those numbers would look different, I think. Perhaps one day attitudes will diffuse out school's effect so that "attending" and "after graduating" will be equal. Wouldn't hurt to have 0% as an ideal though.

On this topic on inclusiveness – we have an incredibly diverse student body. We need more events that don't involve DUSTED, or PBDs, or racing, or whatever. There must be things we can do that don't have the ole' social lubricant as the central theme, because let's face it, not all of us party like that. This isn't a call to end those events, but rather we need

more events like Genius Bowl, which I've heard is pretty popular – basically events that are more laid back. I am heartened by the note on one candidate's poster that reads something like "I would like to make sure Engsoc isn't seen as just an exclusive club" – best of luck – it would add a lot to the student experience if everyone could feel at least somewhat involved in some way or another with the student society. This is an issue that's been debated since way back, and at least in one PCP in the Iron Warrior. A new issue it ain't, but still a hugely pertinent one. It is crucial to the relevance of the Engineering Society that all feel welcome, that this idea that Engsoc is merely a clique of drinking buddies be dispelled.

VP External

VPX deals mostly with conferences, yet most of us don't know about any of the student organs here on campus such as Feds / Engsoc, much less the ones higher up like ESSCO, CFES, or OUSA. Honestly, we have no idea. For all we know you could just head off to conferences to get some commitment free action.

Educate us, let us know what all these student bodies are good for, and what value they bring to us on campus.

VP Finance

Keep up the good work, don't squander our money. Set up that online Novelties shop already, it's been talked about for way too long. Where's that engineering Nalgene bottle I was promised? Engineering Discraft Frisbee?

VP Education

Again, most of us have no idea how we can affect any change in our curriculum if we need to.

We don't need more forums for "feedback", or anything, there is no hidden voice within the student body that is begging to be let out. Most of us just don't care, because we don't feel anything is relevant to us. It'll be important to educate us, so that everyone knows what Engsoc does, everyone knows what Vision 2010 is, so if we're not active participants in the politics around here, at the very least we're conversant in the terminology. VP Education, educate us! Write something more substantial than the required exec report and let us know what is out there for us.

Being part of a student society lets you make all sorts of connections and have lots of fun I'm sure, but please remember, a student society exists to serve the students.

Best of luck to the new exec, may you serve us well.

The rest of the report from the Taskforce on Women in Engineering can be found: http://www.engineering.uwaterloo.ca/planning/files/TFWIE_Report--Final.pdf

Catholics on suicide: A correction



JEFFREY LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

My article "Suicide: The Fight for our Friends" which appeared in Volume 27 Issue 4 (March 8, 2006) contained errors with regards to the Catholic Church's teachings on suicide. Since Vatican II, the Church has reformed its teachings on suicide slightly, and has said that it is up to the bishop to determine whether an individual is entitled to a Catholic funeral under these circumstances. He (and hopefully she in the future) must make the decision on what he (or possibly she) feels is best for the diocese, the community, and the Catholic faith. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) states in 2283 that: "We should not despair of the eternal salvation of persons who have taken their own lives. By ways known to him alone, God can provide the opportunity for salutary repentance. The Church prays for persons who have taken their own lives." However, it should also be known that in 2325 that: "Suicide is seriously contrary to justice, hope, and charity. It is forbidden by the fifth commandment." The now deceased Pope John Paul II said in his

encyclical Evangelium Vitae that: "Suicide is always as morally objectionable as murder." (Section 66) So, the Church has come to understand that a person may suffer from psychological issues which lead them to take their own life. In these circumstances, the Church understands that the person may not have control over their being, and has altered their teachings accordingly. However, it must be stated that the Church still feels that suicide is a serious offence against a person, a community, and society as a whole. If you wish to read more about what Pope John Paul II said about suicide (and euthanasia), Evangelium Vitae is a very good read. It can be found at the Vatican website (<http://www.vatican.va/>). I would like to thank Christine Steele (2A Mechatronics) for bring this error to my attention.



the TIN SOLDIER

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VOLUME 11010 ISSUE 1111 | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2005



Secret Decoder...
...Panties?

Page 10



C-man:
The Man?

Page 11



Thumbs Up For A
True Leader...

Page 12

Check us out @ <http://iwarrrior.uwaterloo.ca/>

New Monument to Co-op at UW: the Shaft!



Friday the University unveiled a brand new statue in front of the Tatham Center, nicknamed by employees 'the Shaft'. The chrome plated statue was generously donated by CESC, because there was 'plenty of money lying around [thanks] to [ambitious] students' who found their own coop placements but still had to pay the \$466 coop fee. It was designed by Emily Nelms a 4th year visual media student.

How to Avoid those Nastier Co-op Jobs

GUUNTER SCHMIT
3B COMPUTER

As we all know, sometimes there comes an interview that nobody wants to get. You signed up for it fearing a(nother?) term without any work, but now that it is here, staring you in the face, you can't bare the thought of data entry, or a company exploiting your hard labour for rock bottom (read: slave labour) prices. I've heard that Hurd even managed to rank one of these babies a 9 and she still gained the spot (same goes for a man who was far too sharply dressed for the recent Warrior Weekend Speed Dating and wound up with a PDEng mentor stint). Now, in Melinda's case, I believe I recall her saying that it turned out alright in the end, but we aren't all so lucky. In fact, I'm never lucky. That is why I have turned out this guide for you on how to rock out your interview, and

rock out to the max. And by rock out, I mean fail to succeed.

First, the attire. Most people would normally dress for success via power suit, business casual, or sassy sex-appealing ab-revealing dress shirts. Not for you! You my friend, will be taking a visit to Toronto this weekend. Take a walk down Bay street, and you will find some homeless people begging for change. Being on Bay, these will be the men and women who bet it all on Nortel and refused to sell. From them you should obtain their currently-being-worn tattered business clothes, possibly in exchange for a McFlurry or a Twinkie. Now you can look your worst, and still have the credibility to get by the paging desk because it is indeed business attire. You're just grandfathering it in. Perhaps make up some sentimental story about how this suit saved your life and got you a date with Paris Hilton, and thus you

can never part with it (plus Paris' dog can explain the shit-stains).

Now my friend, you are ready for the interview itself. Start by eating some liver and onions. Bonus if you enjoy it, because the stench should never be a pleasure for the interviewer. When you enter the room, be sure to move awkwardly. Trip over the chair. Then extend your hand to shake his, and when he extends his own, trip over it. Finally, show off your strength by slamming the door, and then flip up your collar for that bad-co-op-student look that's oh so popular with employers these days. At this point, the employer will likely ask you to describe your last co-op jobs. Start by explaining how how you knew the chick from accounting had a thing for you. Describe how your deft use of Alt+Tab allowed you to have loads of work on your screen as the boss passed by, while allowing you to try to break even with the

vegas solitaire. You can even describe the various places you hid food, and the time you found that months old burrito in your filing drawer, and gave a quick dusting to the reports it was sitting on before handing them over to your boss. Bonus points for every gag noise your interviewer makes.

Before it is over, be sure to mention your plans for world domination, for turning your cubicle into a twin bed for you and your lover, and for finding out exactly how many spins your chair can take before it comes unscrewed. By this point, you have done your job. This company will never want to see you again. In fact, they will likely never come to Waterloo again if more than one student does this, so be sure to find out who else shares your plan, and arrange for a coin flip. Or maybe a pre-interview mud-wrestle. Hey, it can only help your chances, why not?

Spell Cheque



JEFFREY
LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

I am not sure why people are apposed to being reliant on spell cheque. It is one of the best things that came with the modern word processor. It catches all of my spelling mistakes, and even some grammar too. Without it, I would not have passed my first year classes. In elementary school, I was always near the bottom of the class when it came to English. Then, when I made it to high school, I was able to use the computer for my assignments. It really helped my grades a lot. I am not sure whether or not I would have passed high school without it.

Now that I am in university, it has paid off even more. If it weren't for spell check, my CSE would have been even more difficult. I couldn't always find the words to express what I wanted to say, so I started typing and then the computer tells me what is written wrong and I wrote my papers that weigh. I passed, so they must not have been too bad.

It has also shown to be very useful on work terms as well. By using the spell checker in my email program I have been able to talk to people without embarrassing myself. There is nothing worse than reading something that has all kinds of spelling mistakes in it. It's very unprofessional and looks poorly on both the person sending the email, and the company.

These are only a few of the many benefits of the feature come to be known as Spell Cheque. Without it, I am confident that many of my fellow students would not be able to complete their studies – or survive in the workplace. It is just another of the many benefits that computers have brought to humanity, and I don't know how people survived before it.

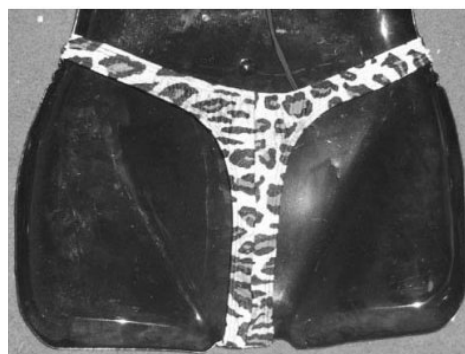
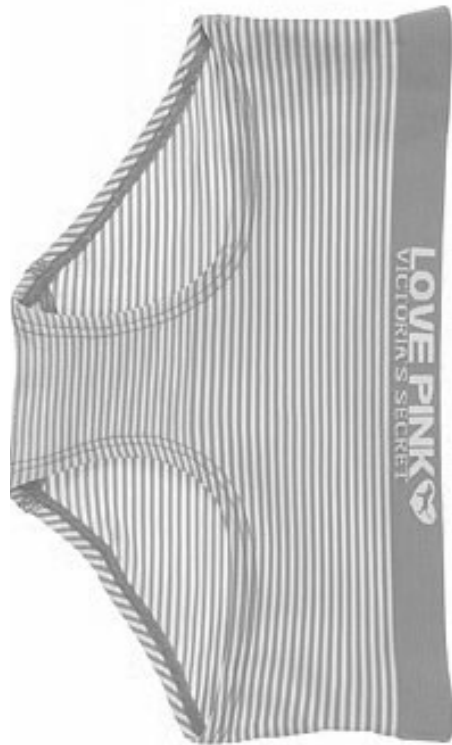
The Adventures of Dangerman: Broken Lappy

DANGERMAN
2A CHEMICAL

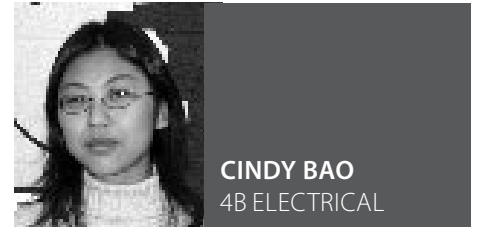
Admittedly, there are a few times in life when you just don't have the upper hand. When you're down and out, behind the 8-ball, all your luck is bad, and you're just losing the fight. Whether you're failing courses, just had your heart trampled on, or are surrounded and pinned down by gunfire from Mexican authorities, you tend to stop and wonder how it was that you were delivered to such ridiculously bad outcomes.

Not too long ago I too met with just such a catastrophe, now granted it wasn't as bad as some other not-so-treasured moments like when I lost all my pogs to that mean fat kid in grade 2, which I assure you still haunts me. But still, it hurt something awful the day my poor overpriced laptop made one last pained mechanical sputter and died. I'm willing to bet many of you out there are the not very proud owners of a certain Toshiba laptop that's full of weird and irritating glitches. However, just like those unfortunate people with cruel but hilarious nicknames they don't know about, I bet you have a certain soft spot for it. My computer or, "Wendy," as I'd come to call it, left this world roughly a week ago, and my thighs have felt cold and bare in the wake of it.

If that had been the worst of it, I could probably go on without further remark.



Decoding the Messages of Panties



CINDY BAO
4B ELECTRICAL

Silk matching set:

She defines the word "diva". This fashionista always looks flawless and has her finger on the pulse of the latest trends. She is the ultimate trophy girlfriend and makes you the envy of all who have seen you together.

The potential problem would be how to afford her spending habit on your engineering salary, unless her last name is Walton, Trump or Thomson (you are in Canada, after all). As well, she is high maintenance, so be prepared to wait for half an hour while she gets ready before you two head out the door (to the gym) and remember to call twice a day. If you don't, some other guy will. The competition is stiff and to be honest, I don't know how you won her over in the first place.

Leopard-print thong:

You did not pick this seductress up, she picked you. You didn't even know what hit you when it happened and she has you wrapped around her finger tip ever since. Between the two of you she wears the pants, not that you would notice that, or much of anything. You love her because she's exciting and carefree. Then again, she is too carefree to even worry about what you'd think before flirting with your best friend.

She's a challenge and you can't keep up with her. Actually she's a challenge because she doesn't exist in real life, your real life that is.

Cotton boy-briefs

She is the girl next door and down-to-earth. There will be no surprises, but if you have dated any of the above two, maybe it's a good thing.

She's the kind of girl you can take home to meet your parents, but the problem is that she's the kind of girl you can take home to meet your parents. Guess what's next? A house with white picket fence in the suburb, 2 Japanese cars and 2.5 kids?

Granny panties

Congratulations, at least you found yourself a girl.

However, without my lappy, there was no internet, there was no jobmine, no msn, no course websites, no access to some of my assignments, and that's just the legitimate stuff. So, in my meagre circumstances I was driven from the comfort of my home, into the dark recesses of the 24hr computer labs.

I wish I could say I went fearlessly, but frankly the engineering buildings are creepy at night. Walking along those empty corridors, with your footsteps echoing, it's basically the premise for every story of "Are You Afraid of the Dark". You can tell at any moment you're either going to; A, get chased by something you can't see because the special effects budget isn't very high; B, meet some crazy looking professor who's secretly testing his research on students he catches alone at night and keeps caged on the 3rd floor of DWE; or C, run in to Ramone the hulking night-janitor with the lazy eye and the constantly ominous tone of voice who tells you, "Don't you know it's dangerous to walk around the engineering buildings alone at night...". Of course all three of these events could occur in the same episode if it's a good one, but that's neither here nor there. Getting back to the story, with a heavy-heart, I packed up my books, and headed out.

Now admittedly, it wasn't that bad. The computer labs were quiet for once, most of the cleaning staff didn't glare at me for walking on the floors they'd just

cleaned, Ramone being the exception (who I'm fairly certain might practice voodoo), and really there was something exhilarating in being in a giant building alone. It's like when you break-and-enter into a rich person's house when you know they're on vacation and sample their cigars and scotch, it just feels good. There's a certain amount of luxurious satisfaction in walking around like you own DWE. You can openly practice your tap-dancing and kung-fu, both of which you've never had lessons for, and almost manage to not feel like an ass. You can shamelessly use the bathroom of the opposite sex without fear of being walked in on in the process, and even take a moment to consider a world where there are dispensaries in your bathroom with masculine products whatever they might be. Sigh... however, a world of such wonders could never be.

Still, I miss my poor broken-down lappy. Right down to the unnecessary blinking lights and even the loud obnoxious whirr of its cooling fan that kept me up at night. I can barely sleep without it now. And sure, I'll probably never find a manner of repair that doesn't cost 70% of the purchase price, and I'm doomed to wander these computer labs for the rest of term with no one but Ramone for company. But in the end I suppose making your way through challenging experiences is what it's all about. And if I don't make it, I can always resort to piracy.

**ENGINEERING
SOCIETY**



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

COUNTERPOINT VS. COUNTERPOINT

Graeme Baer vs. Chuck Norris

JACLYN SHARPE
2A MECHANICAL

There is no such thing as global warming. Chuck Norris was cold, so he turned the sun up.

Chuck Norris doesn't wear a watch, HE decides what time it is.

Chuck Norris does not hunt because the word hunting implies the probability of failure. Chuck Norris goes killing.

Chuck Norris counted to infinity - twice.

Chuck Norris doesn't read books. He stares them down until he gets the information he wants.

Outer space exists because it's afraid to be on the same planet with Chuck Norris.

If Chuck Norris is late, time better slow the fuck down.

If you can see Chuck Norris, he can see you. If you can't see Chuck Norris you may be only seconds away from death.

The quickest way to a man's heart is with Chuck Norris's fist.

Superman owns a pair of Chuck Norris pyjamas.

Chuck Norris can divide by zero.

If at first you don't succeed, you are obviously not Chuck Norris.

Contrary to popular belief, George Bush is a great speaker and rarely mispronounces words. He appears incompetent because he knows Chuck Norris is watching.

Mr. T pities the fool. Chuck Norris pities Mr. T.

When Chuck Norris falls in water, Chuck Norris doesn't get wet. Water gets Chuck Norris.

PATRICK BROWN
4B MECHANICAL

At first there was nothing. Then there was Graeme. Graeme created God and told him to get to work.

Graeme's tears can cure cancer. Too bad he never cries.

Graeme Baer can shoot down enemy airplanes just by yelling "Bang!"

Graeme invented McDonald's "Special Sauce".

Graeme Baer invented punctuation one day in high school, just because...

...Then went back in time to teach it to Shakespeare. When Willie wouldn't listen, Graeme kicked him in the head until he submitted.

Graeme Baer sleeps with a nightlight. Not because he is afraid of the dark, but because he knows that the dark is afraid of him.

Graeme can count to infinity...backwards.

Graeme doesn't actually write anything. The words arrange themselves for him out of fear.

A picture is worth a thousand words. A picture of Graeme is worth a billion words.

Wilt Chamberlain claims to have slept with more than 20,000 women in his lifetime. Graeme Baer calls this "a slow Tuesday."

Graeme Baer knows where in the world Carmen San Diego is.

Graeme Baer joined Mensa just by looking at them...Actually, they made him president at the same time.

Graeme doesn't bowl strikes, he just knocks down one pin and the other nine faint.

Graeme is responsible for world over-population. Women just think of him and get pregnant.



Only a woman could make these boys behave enough for a photo.

Graeme Baer can slam a revolving door.

Graeme does not "style" his hair. It stays perfectly in place out of sheer terror.

Graeme can in fact build Rome in a day.

Graeme doesn't bother to play God. Playing is for children.

Graeme Baer won three Stanley Cups in a row. The other teams were too scared to show up.

In a recent survey it was discovered the 94% of Canadian women lost their virginity to Graeme Baer. The other 6% couldn't get his attention.

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!

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Student Quotes

"Is that a diagram? It looks like a Picasso to me..."
-from Chem 102

"No sir, you don't look fat."
-from MSci 261

(outburst during quiet tutorial) "YESSSSSS! GOOOOOOOOAAAAAAL!"
-from Chem 102

(outburst during quiet tutorial) "No, shut UP! Foot IS the same thing as feet!"
-from Chem 102

"Why are we here? What is the point? What is the purpose?"
-from any Arts Elective class taken by an Engineer

Prof: "What do you know about the summer of 69. Bryan Adams doesn't even remember the summer of 69."
Student: "I only know one kind of 69."
-from Econ101

Prof: "How can you know the opportunity cost of something if you haven't evaluated the alternatives?"
Student: "I know I like women. I haven't tried the alternative."
-from Econ101

Prof: (fill in important lecture here)
Class: "ZZZZzzzzzzz....."
-from any 4B class after IRS

the **Tin Tribunal**

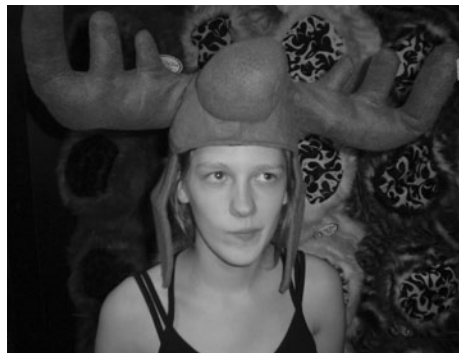
Why did you vote for Nutsy?

Tin Soldier News Bureau



"Just think of what he can pull out of his sack."

Mark Hazlett
1B Chemical



"Because Nutsy's balls demasculanate everything else."

Kiri Neufeglise
2A Chemical



"The glimmer in his eye when he looks at me."

Chris Olekas & Jay Grigg-Tait
2N Computer & 3B Mechanical



"Strong fiscal policy."

Jeff Aho
2A Mechatronics



"Cause he had the balls to run after all those rejections."

Pat Brown
∞A Mechanical



"I think he's hot."

Chris Olekasbein
4B Software



"He was the classiest candidate."

Eric Sellers
2A Geological



"Those buck teeth turn me on."

Carolyn Sutherland
2A Mechanical

Hazing: Abuse or Just a Little Fun?

PATRICK BROWN
4B MECHANICAL

There is an important question that we in engineering have to ask ourselves. Is hazing okay? Or more accurately, is some hazing okay?

This is a question that has a lot of importance with Orientation Week, sports teams, and even some not so well publicized events. Heck, even our Engsoc presidents go through an initiation ritual. Take a look at some old photos of various former presidents in a state of purple.

There are many people of so many different backgrounds that argue this all the time. Should people be allowed to do this to others? Some argue that hazing is only done with others and not to them. While this may be a valid argument in some cases, in others it is complete and utter garbage. The fact that lawsuits have been brought to court by many individuals over the years alleging assault and emotional trauma is a fairly concrete point in argument against hazing.

From this point on, there will be a distinction between initiation and hazing. Initiation will be defined as steps or actions taken to prove something for those in positions of authority. Hazing is abuse or degradation by those in authority over a supplicant or junior member of an organization.

There have been psychologists and sociologists arguing the merits of initiation for some groups. One point of view is that when someone wants to join a group or organization, they need to prove their worthiness. This is a weak argument, even for someone who would support initiation to begin with. What is actually supposed to happen with initiation rituals, be it with a Frosh, frat rusher or rookie on any team, is that the individual is supposed to prove their willingness and ability to put the group ahead of themselves. This is especially important for sports teams, given the need for teamwork and the sublimation of self into the group to improve the whole team.

There is a necessary element of embar-

assment and discomfort involved in things like this. If all you had to do were wear a pink shirt for a day, it would not be too effective. The problem lies in where that crosses the line into hazing. Hazing has no place in initiation. Its sole purpose is to humiliate the individual. Reported instances of people having to fondle each other while naked, or eat excrement are outrageous.

One of the things that those in power must recognize is that everyone has a limit. They must also know that those that they are initiating into their group are placing their trust into their seniors. This is a trust that is not to be abused. When someone looks up to you, not only should they prove that they're willing to put the group above themselves, but you must also prove that that group is worthy of their dedication.

I would like to make a comment on Engineering Orientation week in particular. I've been around campus for quite a while now, so I've seen a lot, and I've also talked to people who came here before I did. One of the things that disappoints me about the week as it is now, is that the first years are no longer treated like adults. As an older student once told me, in 1997 Edcom asked each frosh to go into a mud pit. This is not really a big deal for me, but I'm sure that it would make some people uncomfortable. For this reason, each frosh was given a way out. They were told that if they didn't want to, that they would have to choose a leader (big or huge) to go in for them. There was actually a competition among the frosh leaders as to which of them got to go in the most. This made the young first years more comfortable about refusing to dirty themselves. It is for this reason I find it hard to believe that this could be seen as hazing, as some members of the administration have alleged when they talk about negative aspects of past orientation weeks.

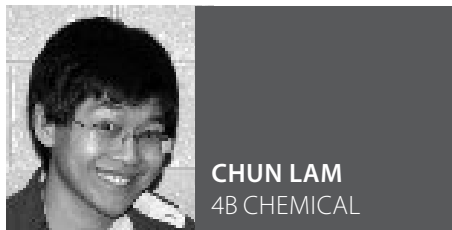
Regardless, we must all be careful never to let abuse enter into initiation. No matter what form it takes, it is nothing but a failure to respect the one who comes in good faith.

Origins Map Waterloo Diversity At A Glance



The Origins Map, seen here in the CPH Foyer, is a powerful reminder of Waterloo diversity. Each pin on the map, colour-coded by discipline, is placed by a student on his or her country of origin or ancestry.

Patient Turned Away for Being 55+



59-year-old Ontario woman on disability for a heart-related problem is complaining of age discrimination after she was rejected by a local doctor advertising for new patients. Edith Paulus had already endured two fruitless years of searching for a family physician in Barrie - for all you 'Toronto is the centre of the Universe' folks the city on the highway towards your cottage... - a city designated under Ontario's ministry of health as being under-served for family doctors -- when she found Dr. Derek Nesdoly's ad in a local community newspaper, she felt she'd won the lottery. Dr. Nesdoly was seeking new patients. But when Paulus called Nesdoly's office she was told the doctor wasn't accepting patients older than 55. Disconsolate, Ms. Paulus felt the only thing left to do was go to the press about this injustice screaming age discrimination. Dr. Nesdoly in his response denies that he discriminates against older people, noting that he has plenty of elderly patients and was accepting elderly patients. However he felt he had to start making room in his practice for young families in the community, and thus it seems like Ms. Paulus tried to register too late. Nesdoly's actions and position may be justified by a 2005 Statistics Canada Community Health Survey, which found that 95.2 per cent of people over 65 already have a family doctor, compared to 75.7 per cent for those between 20 and 34. Also the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons does not restrict a doctor's right to reject a person based on age. So Dr. Nesdoly may have game, set, and match in this struggle. But the Ontario Human Rights Commission may have something to say about that. Most likely if Ms. Paulus does file a complaint with the Tribunal, the outcome of the ruling will have much precedent on the ability of doctors to choose patients and to cater to what age demographic.

Regardless of the accusations, Paulus's story highlights a struggle many Canadians may have to endure of the doctor shortage acute in Canada. This shortage is worsening with a November, 2005 Ontario Medical Association study stated the province could have a 2,400-doctor shortage by 2006 and a predicted shortage of 2,800 physicians by 2010.

So where did this doctor shortage come from? Well I don't really see medical program enrolment dropping in the last 20 years or so, so a lack of interest in the profession is not the case. One of the disputed major roots of the doctor shortage in Canada was a report written by Morris Barer, and Greg Stoddart, two health economists, titled *Toward Integrated Medical Resource Policies for Canada*. In that report they predicted that Canada would have a doctor surplus. In direct response, the provincial governments, suffering through a major recession and waving the government slashing knife, felt this report justified 10% reductions in enrolment in Canadian medical schools to reduce future doctor supply and save government money in the short term. Though, these two academics have been vilified for their report, their report may not have started the doctor shortage, but it sure didn't stop it. Recently

however, provincial governments have begun to invest money in medical schools; increasing enrolment trying to reduce this doctor shortage. These initiatives will take several years to see the positive effects, as medical school takes around 5 years plus to complete.

So with increases in doctor supplies from domestic sources years away, is there anything that Ontario can do to alleviate this? Well there is... foreign trained doctors. Canada being the immigrant friendly country where attaining citizenship is as easy as passing the ELPE, receives a large quantity of immigrants who are trained as physicians. Canada could potentially relieve its doctor shortage by providing these foreign trained professionals with licenses to practice medicine. Unfortunately, getting this license is as impossible as Canada winning the World Cup of soccer. The main difficulty for foreign trained doctors is getting residency openings, a requirement by all provincial colleges and surgeons that grant doctors licenses to practice. When a student gets a doctor of medicine from a medical school, they must do at least 2 years of hands on experience, with a licensed doctor or in a hospital called a residency. A residency is like a co-op work term but times 7 as long. The problem for foreign trained doctors is that getting residency is like getting a first year co-op job: a struggle where many fail. This is due to the fact that residencies in Canada are given first to the Canadian trained professionals, leaving the foreign ones to get the scraps. With the impossibility of getting a residency in order to become a doctor in Canada, many immigrant doctors are stuck in menial jobs, such as taxi driving, food service, dishwashing.

So why then does Canada, with a doctor shortage, not license these foreign trained doctors to solve our problem? These doctors are already here and ready to go... A speculative reason for this is that the provincial colleges that do license doctors have made the application process quite difficult deliberately to limit the supply of doctors in their respective provinces. If every foreign trained doctor was licensed in Canada adding to the perpetual supply of home grown doctors it would eventually lead to a doctor surplus. A doctor surplus would be bad for doctors as each doctor would get less patients to treat, which means less money from OHIP, and less income. Currently the doctor shortage maximizes the income of licensed physicians as there is a high demand and a low supply of doctors. So that, as the above story tells, any doctor that wants new patients can get them easily. Now the college may not be solely to blame, as with our public health care system the entity that pays the bills is the Provincial governments. Reducing the number of doctor visits, by reducing the number of doctors available, leads to reduced health costs for the government.

So what can foreign doctors do in Canada? Well personally I would recommend the USA 'cause they love doctors, those crazy capitalist junkies where health care is a match in the capitalist game, always want more doctors. Now mind you they'll desecrate your culture and faith but when you're making more money than driving cabs, it's bearable. But until Canada opens up more resident positions for foreign trained doctors, I think people like Paulus will have to wait, wait for a doctor to take them as a patient.

Memories of Cambodia: A project with Engineers Without Borders

ADAM KAUFMAN
ALUMNI

One thousand years ago, the Khmer civilization with its capital city of Angkor was a dominant force throughout South-East Asia. The Khmer people, ancestors of today's ethnic Cambodians, built some of the most impressive temples and monuments the world has ever seen. Though often half-swallowed by the jungle today, these sites benefit their people not only as symbols of a greater past but also as the backbone of a growing tourist economy and a reminder of what they can hope to achieve. Tourism itself is a recent development in Cambodia. The country's troubles began at the end of the 1960s, as the Vietnam War spilled over across the eastern border. Cambodia's King Sihanouk had made the mistake of playing both ends of the Cold War against the middle. By 1970 he found himself in exile in Beijing, supporting a little known



Weight testing the baskets

communist military group, the Khmer Rouge, in its efforts to capture the capital, Phnom Penh. In 1975, the Khmer Rouge captured the city, liquidating all of its inhabitants into the countryside. With the king no more than a figurehead under house arrest, the Khmer Rouge began to implement a plan to create the world's first perfectly agrarian communist society. City-dwellers, the educated, the physically impaired, all were to be eliminated, executed or slowly worked to death to make way for a new vision. The result was the Cambodian Genocide, a massacre that killed two of every seven people in the country, followed by over twenty years of civil war. Today Cambodia, once the envy of South-East Asia, is a country impoverished, scarred, and littered with landmines. Its educated and professional classes wiped out or fled during the genocide, it suffers from corruption, lack of education, and a weakened infrastructure. Nevertheless, the Cambodian people remain resilient, known throughout the area for their laughter and their eternal willingness to smile. Throughout 2004 and 2005, EWB worked alongside International Development Enterprises (IDE) of Cambodia, an international NGO dedicated to poverty alleviation through market creation, to help bring clean water and improved agricultural tools to Cambodia's rural poor. Each and every IDE project is dedicated not only to providing appropriate technologies but also to fostering a locally profitable and sustainable manufacturing, distribution, and retail chain. In this way, wealth is generated and retained in the rural economy. Amongst other projects, I worked alongside them managing a donor request to investigate rates of spoilage of green leafy vegetables as they were transported from farms to market, developing and testing potential solutions to the problem. Between rainy season droughts and dry season

floods, Cambodian farmers generally eke out only three harvests per year. With tropical heat, terrible roads, and lack of resources to contend with, green leafy vegetables must be sold within twenty-four hours of harvest or they become virtually inedible. Farmers and transporters have developed a variety of means to store and move their vegetables from farm to market. Balancing costs, benefits, and drawbacks of several of these methods, participants at the conference were asked to find their own solutions to the problem of spoilage. The results were very creative, ranging from improved containers, to a trampoline-like truck platform, to a simple plan to pickle vegetables thereby them over an extended period. Our own investigations in Cambodia had taught us that farmers were too risk averse to be made to consider any additional expenditures on spoilage prevention. The most popular method of transport, one metre diameter, half-metre high wicker baskets, capable of holding 250kg of vegetables when loaded to twice their normal height, did little to protect against crop damage and wore out after only ten trips. They were popular for their durability, not their affordability. After much brainstorming and consultations with farmers and transporters, we worked towards a simple improvement, wicker baskets reinforced by bamboo, equipped with an added platform to redistribute the weight of the vegetables. Though fifty percent more expensive, these baskets would last three and a half times longer and cut spoilage rates in half. The project has been initially successful and is currently being tested on a wider scale. If this success continues, a sustainable, profitable supply chain should be possible.



Selling the vegetables at the night market

Development and poverty are complex in their natures and in their interactions. Though the needs of the poor must come first, the requirements of a donor cannot be ignored. In this project, the true challenge was finding a solution that would meet the donor's requirement to reduce spoilage, while still emphasising the farmers and transporters more urgent desire to cut costs. The need for balance, between donor and recipient, between local culture and outsider's vision, is a fundamental part of all development projects. Finding this balance requires a willingness to listen, the humility to acknowledge that the workings of poverty can never be understood fully by an outsider, and an abiding hope that solutions are always possible.

This article reprinted from "in Development - The Engineers Without Borders - Waterloo Chapter Newsletter" courtesy the authors.

More of Adam's story at adamincambodia.blogspot.com

Find out more about EWB by visiting uwaterloo.ewb.ca.



Sanford Fleming Foundation
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www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~sff

DEBATE RESULTS

The final debates were held on March 10. The results were as follows:

FIRST PRIZE **Zac Balson and Matt Strickland**
 Electrical Engineering

RUNNERS-UP **Jeff Alfonsi and David Johnson**
 Systems Design Engineering

The Sanford Fleming Foundation would like to thank Professor Chris Clark of Mechanical Engineering for managing the Debates.

Ode to the CSE



JEFFREY
LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

Nearing the end of my 2A term, I am also nearing the end of my second Complimentary Studies Elective (CSE). In 1B, as with many other departments, I was required to take MSCI 261. This term however, I had to select a CSE on my own. At first, I was mildly upset that I had to take an additional class on top of my already heavy course load, to make my total number of classes 6. However, as the term progressed, I have come to appreciate this class, and the benefits that CSE's provide.

Now, I don't want to give a one-sided view of the situation. I understand that some CSE's are not enjoyable or beneficial. Personally, I did not enjoy MSCI 261, because I am not overly interested in the business aspect of the world. Nonetheless, it did teach me some valuable skills and information that I am confident will help me in my work as an engineer. Through discussions with classmates, I have discovered that many are dissatisfied with the course they are taking. The course does not appear to match the description in the calendar very well, and as a result, they do not feel they are getting the most out of their elective. Through these discussions, it has become apparent that some sort of "ranking" system for CSE's would be of benefit. *ahem*incoming VP-Ed*ahem* Most of the time, we are selecting our CSE's while on work term, so we don't have the opportunity to consult upper years to find out the pros and cons of the courses. If there were an online database of the impressions of the course from a student's perspective, then I think that will really help. I don't know if this is possible – or if our current course critiques already handle this – but I just wanted to throw the idea out there.

For my CSE, I selected Peace and Conflict Studies (PACS) 325: Conflict Management for Technical Professions. It's a List C (Humanities/Social Science) course, and I would recommend it to everyone still needing to fill that list up – or even just for fun. The class has more of a practical feel to it than theoretical. Through the readings, and class discussions (a major component) we learn about different methods that can be employed to resolve various conflicts that are common in the technical professions. These skills will become very valuable in the workplace, as conflict is inevitable, and being able to effectively manage it will become a definite asset.

Through taking this course, I came to appreciate the work that other

faculties have to complete. This coming week, I have a paper due for my class. It is a case-study on a conflict related to a technical profession that is of interest to me. (I should actually be working on it now, instead of writing this, but that is just the way the proverbial cookie crumbles.) It showed me just how different their work load is than mine. The readings for the class were quite long, and required a fair bit of time to keep up with. Also, writing this paper is proving somewhat difficult because I have not written a non-technical paper since high school. I barely remember what I did in 1B, how am I supposed to remember Grade 12? But these challenges are helping me more than anything. They allow me to understand the difficulties that others encounter in their education, and allow me to be empathetic towards them. I enjoy writing, but not the extent that many arts classes require. I enjoy numbers much more.

Also, my CSE has kept me up to date in the world. We often had discussions about the various conflicts occurring around the world at this time, many of which I was unaware. I do not have a T.V., and I don't have much time to spend surfing the net to get the "real story" so I often have the biased view that Canada.com presents. Through this course, it allowed me to become more informed, and learn more about society.

I also met some really amazing people in my class. There are engineering students from other faculties in the class, as well as students from planning, various Arts departments, and some from the affiliated colleges. There is even a student of WLU. As a result of the discussion-based learning style, we have come to get to know each other and appreciate other's points of view. The people that I have met through my class, I would likely not have met elsewhere. I am a better person for meeting them, and I am grateful for the opportunity that I have been presented.

So, in short, CSE's are a definite benefit. Some classes are not enjoyable, but I am of the mindset that you get out of something what you put into it. Even if a class isn't identical to the course description, it can turn out to be something else that you really enjoy. Even if you don't enjoy it, that is still a benefit. One of the most important parts of the journey in discovering what you want to do, is finding out what you don't want to do. By eliminating something from the equation, you are one step closer to finding your true passion (if you haven't already done so). So pick your CSE's wisely, and they can go a long way in making your engineering education more valuable than it already is.

(If you want more information about PACS325, just drop me a line: jmlipnic@gmail.com)



BioDesign: Breathing Life into Technology

CORINNA HENSON
U OF T CE COURSE COORDINATOR

In the past three years, the Complementary Education (CE) Course has grown to be one of the most worthwhile projects of the Canadian Federation of Engineering Students (CFES). In collaboration with the CFES, host universities organize specific technical theme-based weeks to immerse students in a complete academic, social, and cultural learning experience. Any Engineering student who is a member of an Engineering Society that is a part of the CFES can apply to attend a Complementary Education Course.

This year the University of Toronto (U of T) will host its first CE Course focusing on the theme, "BioDesign: Breathing Life into Technology" from August 20th to 26th, 2006.

As one of the fastest growing industries in today's market, biotechnology has been incorporated into the traditional engineering curriculum known as Biomedical Engineering. An interesting aspect of the Biomedical/Biotechnology field is that it spans a number of Engineering disciplines including but not limited to computer, electrical, mechanical, chemical, materials, and industrial engineering.

In the Biotechnology field, Toronto is widely recognized as a major player and leader, being positioned at the forefront of research and development. In addition, Ontario is home to more than half of Canada's entire biotechnology industry with many of these companies and research institutions located within the Greater Toronto Area.

Located in the middle of the "Discovery District" with seven world-renowned hospitals and more than thirty medical research and laboratory facilities (including the Medical and Related Science (MaRS) Project), the University of Toronto is a prime location to learn about current Biotechnological developments and opportunities.

During the week, thirty participants

from across Canada, the United States, and Europe will get the chance to learn about featured topics in the areas of Bioethics, Genetics and Biotechnology, Biomimicry, Genetic Circuits and Bioinformatics, and Cybernetics. These sessions will be designed to be as interactive as possible and will be conducted in two formats: 1) in-class university and industry presentations and 2) off-class university lab and industry tours. Through these academic activities, students will be able to interact with the University of Toronto Undergraduate and Graduate Biomedical Engineering Faculties and a number of prominent industry researchers and representatives of the Biomedical/Biotechnology Field.

In addition, the U of T CE course will provide participants the opportunity to experience Toronto and help them discover that the "world can be offered within a city." Situated on the coast of Lake Ontario, Toronto offers countless hot spots and must-sees scattered throughout the culturally diverse and action-packed city. Whether it is visiting the C.N. Tower or the Royal Ontario Museum, picnicking in the Toronto Islands, eating at 2 a.m. in Chinatown, shopping on Queen Street, or playing games at the Canadian National Exhibition, one will be sure to fall in love and be ready to call Toronto a second home.

For more information, visit the following websites:

University of Toronto Complementary Education: cecourse.skule.ca

Application Process: ce.cfes.ca

Please direct any questions regarding the University of Toronto Complementary Education Course, "BioDesign: Breathing Life into Technology" to the CE Course Coordinator at coordinator@cecourse.skule.ca.

For questions regarding Complementary Education, please email the CFES Commissioner of Complementary Education at complementary.education@cfes.ca.

Betta Be Bruschetta!



CAROLYN
SUTHERLAND
2A MECHANICAL

A staple of Italian food is the antipasti, also known as antipasto or antipasta. These types of dishes are meant to "tease the palate" and quite often are served after the main course to help alleviate the discomfort of a full stomach.

Salads, eggplant cakes and the delicious baba ghanouj fall into this category, as does the popular bruschetta. Done the Italian way bruschetta is essentially bread covered in a mixture of olive oil, tomatoes, garlic, herbs, cheeses and anchovies. It's a simple yet delicious appetizer that is very popular in Europe and North America.

Bruschetta
Serves 6, but portions are small.

Ingredients
1 cup diced 'mini tomatoes' (cherry, grape, etc...)
1 cup chopped basil
1/4 cup chopped oregano

3-4 cloves diced garlic
1-3 sliced anchovies (optional)
Balsamic vinegar
high quality extra virgin olive oil (any cooking oil you've got can work)
six 3/4 inch thick slices of Italian rustic or French crusty bread
1/2 cup parmesan cheese (any kind can suffice)

Preparation

1. Combine the tomatoes, basil, oregano, garlic and anchovies. If you find garlic a little too strong, roasting the cloves reduces the intensity. Simply brush the clove's 'head' with olive oil and roast at 375 degrees Fahrenheit for 40 minutes.

2. Drizzle the Balsamic vinegar over bread and brush on some olive oil. Top with equal amounts of the bruschetta mixture, then cover with cheese. You can add salt and pepper to taste if desired.

3. Toast until cheese is melted. A broiler works best in this case, but an oven should suffice. Keep an eye on the bread, which will turn golden brown when done.

There are many types of variations to the classic Italian recipe, so go experiment and see what tasty deviations you come up with!

Simulacra: the Matrix

What is really real?



DAVID YIP
3B MECHANICAL

At work I'm supposed to be doing simulation work, but the client hasn't provided us with enough information, so at the moment, as usual, I am bored and underutilized. Thinking about simulations led me to look up "simulacra", a random Big Word that I didn't know, and they say learning new words makes you smarter, so what the hell. Some internet searching brought up results on simulacra and simulation, terms associated with the social theorist Jean Baudrillard.

A simulacra is a representation of something that's real; a copy, if a slightly imperfect one. Simulacra make up components of a simulation. This is simulation in a social context, not a technical one. There was an analogy made to a certain story where cartographers create a map of a kingdom, so perfect there is 1:1 correspondence. Over time, the map remains, but the actual kingdom begins to crumble. but ostensibly the map becomes the actual kingdom on which other's perceptions are based. The kingdom is the real, the map is the simulation.

"Simulation is no longer that of a territory, a referential being, or a substance. It is the generation by models of a real without origin or reality: a hyperreal.... It is no longer a question of imitation, nor duplication, nor even parody. It is a question of substituting the signs of the real for the real".

Jean Baudrillard – Simulacra and Simulations

The replicants in Blade Runner were simulacra of humans. They were not human, and no human was ever like a replicant, but they were close. The world as presented by the media is a simulacra – the world seen through the news is just a representation of the world, a compressed version to deal with limited bandwidth – no information system has the bandwidth of real life.

Paper money is a representation of value, but has no value unto itself. It used to be that paper money was backed up by actual gold or silver, but no longer. In that way paper money has no intrinsic value, only the value we assign to it. However you could also argue philosophically (As opposed to financially) that gold and silver also have no intrinsic value save the value that we assign to it. How do we tell when we're working from the real, or from a copy?

I read an article in BBC News: "Nearly one in 10 of the children questioned for the ... survey thought chips were made of oil, while others suggested eggs, apples and flour. More than a third (37%) did not know cheese was mostly made of milk." You can perhaps call me alarmist, that one day these kids will obviously figure out that cheese is made of milk, and that chips are made from potatoes, fine. But that hints of detachment from the real and the creation of a new real are unmistakable.

Wiki also cites media coverage of war as a simulacra - the real war in our minds is nothing like the actual war on the ground, but it has been represented to us with signs of war, reports of victory, precision strikes, that sort of thing. I wonder if these can be extended to general pop music and pop culture, where romantic songs and mov-

ies are far more melodramatic than life could really be, more tragic than tragedy. Certainly the exaggeration is part of its appeal, the escape from reality, but as with all things there must be balance, the concern now being that it's no longer an escape from reality, but that it has become reality - what if we're all shooting for impossible ideals?

Elsewhere in the media we have the good ole' problem of body image in the media. This is a simulacra if there ever was one - all of the models in magazines have been digitally altered to be bigger / smaller / smoother / brighter. They are NOT ACTUAL PICTURES OF PEOPLE. They are representations of people, but nowhere in the world will you find someone who looks just as they do in a picture.

I wonder if this dissonance, this disconnection from the original reality and this new reality that is susceptible to being adopted has caused any sort of depression in us, a system shock if you will, when what actually happens to us runs smack into false perceptions formed from signs. It's close to Christmas, everyone knows the Christmas ideal - perfect tree, pine smell around the tree, cinnamon around the rest of the house. Gifts, lights, a fireplace, warmth, family, love and friends. Yet I know that Christmas makes a lot of people unhappy. In the case of body image, we of course have steroid abuse, anorexia, etc, etc. Is it ever as perfect we imagine it to be?

Most people I know I think are aware of these sort of false ideals. I suppose I just didn't know prior to now that this collection of ideals had a fancy name, or that they were noteworthy enough to deserve a fancy name – "simulacra". I guess what a name does is give a label, and then helps us realize what other things could fit under the label.

We all know behind this veneer of our daily lives that people are still dying all over the world from the causes of your choice. That nature changes her seasons, that natural disasters strike, that people are fighting, starving. But are we so far removed from everything else that we have adopted this veneer as our reality? Is it too much for a single mind to process so much reality at once? Certainly in pre-media times we didn't have this problem, we knew the world we saw and felt, and that was it. The food we ate sprang from the ground, the meat we ate came visibly from animals we killed. Everything beyond that was unknown to us, and didn't really concern us, but with communication today, mostly anyone can know what's going on anywhere. We are all vaguely aware that our supply of eggs is from factory farms, that chickens are abused, that cows are pumped full of drugs. We are all vaguely aware that there are massive amounts of poverty in the world, that you-name-it-they're-happening kinds of atrocities are going on all the time.

Righteous types make a point of rubbing this into people's faces, but of how large of a reality can one person conceive?

In 1909, EM Forster wrote "The Machine Stops". Briefly, the story describes every need of humanity being met by The Machine, such that everyone lives in individual cells, connected to others via the Machine, fed via the Machine, and sleep via the Machine. Firsthand experiences are frowned upon: if you need information, or discussion, do it via the Machine.

This reminds me of the the internet. While the internet is a long way from feed-

ing us, this idea of it being our primary communicative conduit is becoming true. Indeed, you can sit in your room all day long and "communicate" with others via IM / VoIP / email etc, and for discussion, news and such, there are plenty of blogs, news sites, and forums where you can discuss further to your heart's content, having never left your room for the firsthand experience.

There is also some discussion lately over Google Print - people have been wondering whether Google's publically stated ambition of cataloguing all the world's information is perhaps a bit too scary. I heard a program on CBC radio interviewing both supporters and detractors of Google. CBC radio did a parody after their segment of Google Print, wherein Google becomes an omniscient Big Brother, scanning your to do lists, and indexing your dreams. A Google search on your dreams, imagine that.

This confluence of information was slightly disconcerting. Is "simulacra" just a fancy word for what we already know, that our perception of the real is based on representations? That outside of what I see and touch every day, everything else is just a sign? That advertising in particular, sells based on ideals and "realities" that are hardly rooted in a more objective reality (Note "more objective", not just "objective".) Cigarettes would be the most obvious - everyone's seen the ads for Virginia Slims and Marlboro, and everyone knows how far the ads are from what smoking is really like.

The links between the internet, Google, and this notion of simulation are manifold. People wary of Google would argue that Google is becoming the simulation of the internet, representing the 8 bn pages via search. The internet to some extent reflects the real world, wherein we see the internet as represented by Google. Critics contend that Google could be pressured into adding or removing information, effectively censoring the internet, and by extension, the world. Indeed there was a minor uproar when Google caved in to Chinese demands for censorship. Google and its endless databanks could be (and perhaps are) an effective barometer on what people want to know, when they want to know it, and where they are.

I for one have probably been seduced by this new reality in a way. Always a keen reader and curious, the internet presented itself as this limitless fountain of knowledge and information, unbound by such physical realities as space and time, especially in the day of broadband. The problem with that is that this notion of space and time independence doesn't apply to the physical world.

In light of this, is there a danger of growing generations of people who expect instant gratification for everything? Will we have people who will see the world, who will see life's experiences secondhand through TV and the internet, and be duped into thinking they've lived? (In fact I'm fairly sure my cousin is one of those people.)

My contact with many people is often limited to instant messaging for long periods of time, which must certainly represent people slightly differently than they are in real life. We are in an age where you can come by acquaintances primarily via instant messaging - I have this feeling that it is more unsatisfying to talk to those you have known in person, because you have a grasp of who they are, they can clearly poorly represented by IM, whereas talk-

ing to people you have primarily spoken through IM feels more natural. Moreover, there must be a certain dissonance when you put two people together who have heretofore only communicated via IM. IM is not real life, there is that time shift that allows for a certain amount of self-censorship, just the few seconds where you can backspace and change what you were going to say originally. You are representing yourself differently than you would in real life, and so your IM persona is a simulacra of yourself.

I guess the thought that's forming is that the simulation is getting more pervasive – more and more perhaps we are dealing with representations – of people, places, and things. So is this more than random intellectual banter? Maybe not. What I'm trying to say, is people's problem with body image, people shooting for a house in the 'burbs with a pool and minivan, people who wish their significant others were more like the ones on the screen, people who wish their families were more like the Brady Bunch, or their holidays more like White Christmas, when you meet someone in person when previously you've only known them online, these are not isolated nuggets of social malaise, they all fit together, as simulacra in a simulation.

Important Dates

March 22

UW Innovate
5 - 8pm in SCH Festival Room
Come hear Profs discuss ideas for your fourth year design project, and enjoy a free dinner to boot!
www.uwfit.org

German Exchange Info Session
5pm in DC 1304
Free Coffee and Donuts!

EngSoc Potluck
5:30pm in POETS
Bring food, and enjoy the open bar!

March 23-25

FIRST Robotics Competition
Competition held in PAC
www.firstrobotics.uwaterloo.ca

March 26

A**5 Bowling
Sign up yourself or your team and come have a blast!

March 27

Careers in Health Informatics and Bioengineering
4:30 - 7:30pm in DC1302
Find out about exciting career opportunities through company presentations and have a chance to network with leaders in the field

EWB Bomber Night

EWB Discussion: Make Poverty History
7pm in Gradhouse

March 29

LECTURES END!

Fed Bus is Too Small Where it Counts



Everyone is familiar with the Fed Bus, whether you've seen the lineups outside of DC Friday afternoons or have used it to escape Waterloo on the weekends. I myself used the Fed Bus extensively last spring term to get to Toronto, and was unfortunate enough to use it a few weekends ago.

Fed Bus is offered by the Federation of Students as an alternative to other bus services, namely the Greyhound 'luxobuses'. For \$9 a UW student can get a seat in a classic yellow school bus and catch a nap or do the crossword on the way to their destination. The buses leave at various times for specific locations in the Greater Toronto Area as well as Hamilton and London.

Naturally for under \$10 I'm not expecting to be served caviar and sushi while I recline in my own private booth, but there are reasonable expectations which my recent Fed Bus trip was grossly lacking:

Problem: Absence of Leg Room

Description: I don't consider myself very tall (around 5'8 or 5'9) when compared to the average height across both genders, so imagine my surprise when I sat down on the seat and LOANDBEHOLD I couldn't sit like a normal person would because my femurs were apparently too long if I placed them perpendicular to the back of the seat. Not only did this make sitting at an angle for two hours uncom-

fortable but any sudden braking and I would be thrown against the back of the seat in front of me.

Recommendation: &*\$%^@# put more than 2 feet between each row, please!

Problem: Environmental Instability

Description: If the lack of leg room wasn't enough, I had the misfortune of sitting on a seat designed to replicate the feeling of being in hell. Some heater was churning out 500 degree heat towards the left side of my leg, which rose according to thermal properties and began to burn my face. My puny copy of the Imprint wasn't enough to deflect or absorb any of the heat, so I had to hope I could find a damn good plastic surgeon to hide the third degree burns I suffered before Monday rolled around.

Recommendation: Don't localize the only heater in the entire bus and have it point towards one person (me) at full blast for two hours. I'm all for keeping warm on cool March days but it's kind of like sticking your hand in an oven; the heat is nice for a while but leave it in any longer and you're going to have one smoky, charred appendage on your hands... no pun intended.

Problem: Unsanitary Conditions

Description: No thanks. I'll let your imagination think of the worst possible things and then multiply that by 1000... to the power of e... and pi just for fun.

Recommendation: CLEAN THE BUS!!

So in conclusion the Fed Bus needs to take these three requirements into consideration if they ever want me to use their infernal service ever again! Now is there anyone who can give me a ride to Toronto this Friday?

Genius Bowl: Where the Smart Come to Win



Last Thursday evening an epic battle of knowledge took place in RCH 101, where a multitude of teams battled for the title of the brightest class in Waterloo Engineering. Twenty-two teams would enter, but only one could emerge victorious and \$150 richer.

The teams endured four twenty-question rounds of various trivia as well as one lightning round each. The lightning rounds took place between normal rounds and required that one representative from four randomly picked teams be sent to the front to compete. Five questions were then asked, each one worth one point, with a one point deduction for wrong answers. In the middle of the contest came the infamous Death Round, which sadly once again claimed no victims. The Death Round was comprised of five extremely difficult questions worth three times the value of normal ones.

In the end, only one team could come out on top and win the cash prize as well as the legendary Genius Bowl trophy, so here are the results. The competition for third place was as fierce as they come with the 4B Enviro/Geo + Mary team having to go to a sudden death tiebreaker against the returning champion 4B Comp team. After neither team knowing which war the Battle of Inchon took place in, the 4B Enviro/Geo's stole 4B Comp's chance at a possible third top three finish in a row by knowing which three towns form Cambridge,

Ontario. Second place went to the 3A Mech team, who finished well ahead of their 12th place finish from the previous Genius Bowl. And first place went to a team who has constantly improved their game each Genius Bowl, the 3A Chem (Knights of Ni) team! Congratulations to our winners.

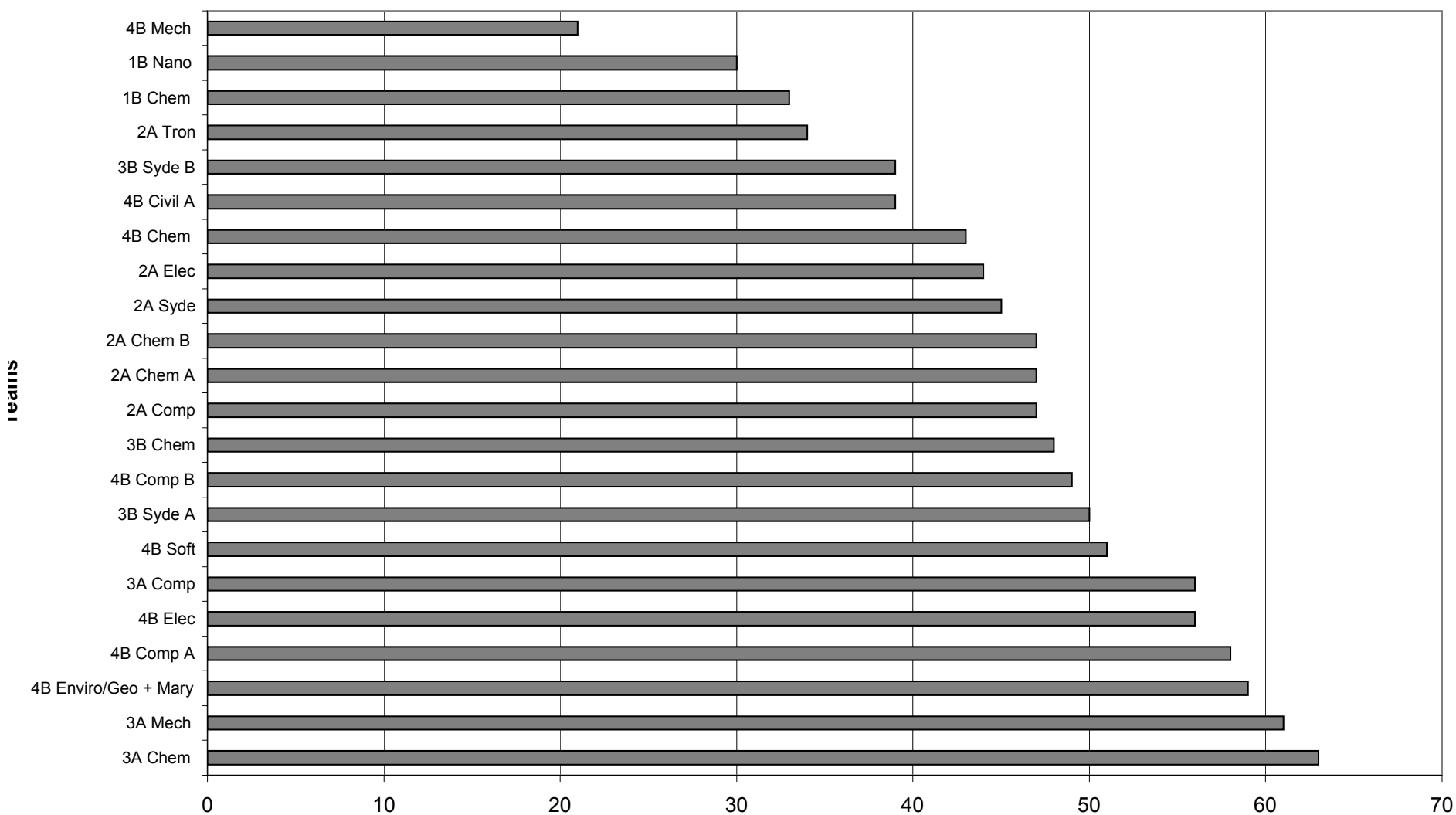
An additional congratulation goes to the 1B Nano class that despite finishing second last, managed to win the "best dressed" award for donning their lab gear.

The directors of Genius Bowl, Richard Clark, Jeffery Aho, Tyler Gale and myself, would like to thank all the teams for coming out and competing as well as our lovely team of judges (Melinda, Sabrina, Adrienne, Hilary and Olekas) who volunteered their time to mark the results. Remember to start studying for the next Genius Bowl, where I can guarantee the competition will only grow fiercer!



Genius Bowl Final Scoring Chart

TOTAL RESULTS



The Sexier Side of Hypnosis



CAROLYN
SUTHERLAND
2A MECHANICAL

It was a windy Monday night when Fed Hall opened its doors to throngs of students (UW and WLU alike) for an evening of XXX-rated performances courtesy of veteran performer Tony Lee.

First up on the agenda was an opening act by Lucy and Sarah from the Showcase series Trailer Park Boys. After talking about themselves and the show, they persuaded audience members to impersonate the character Bubbles, a profane cat lover with an under bite and some hardcore coke-bottle glasses. A man known only as Da Moose, complete with personalized t-shirt, was the winner.

After a 10 minute intermission, the burly Lee took to the stage in a flurry of vulgarity with a deep voice reminiscent of the villain Dr. Claw from Inspector Gadget. "GADGET!"

Lee began to talk about hypnosis and the power of suggestion if a person believes it. Contrary to popular belief, people who are very focused and intelligent are more easily hypnotized. Lee even said he could make someone believe that all their household taps pour beer for the next 3 months!

Getting underway, Lee asked everyone in the audience to hold their hands together and to utterly relax their entire body. He described a scenario involving permanently fused index fingers, and the inability to separate them. Upon requesting that anyone who couldn't separate their fingers to please come up to the stage, about 30 people silently stood up and unknowingly became volunteers to Lee's hypnotic showcase!

Some of them seemed calm, bored even, while a few were trembling with

the effort of keeping their hands together. Lee then spent the rest of the night reducing the number of people on stage to 15 of the most hypnotized. This ensured the most rambunctious and utterly believable performances!

Being XXX-rated, guys were stripping down to their boxers and giving audience members lap dances one moment and then 'playing an instrument' aka jerking off the next. Lee had the group humping chairs, miming oral and even cued one guy to moon everyone and slap his ass when "Breakaway Tours" was yelled... which understandably became quite often.

Upon asking the audience for random words, Lee took 'shopping cart' and introduced the audience to Rob, the new doorman at Fed Hall. Lee told Rob to get on all fours and then told the hypnotized guys that the only way they could dislodge Rob aka the shopping cart from the mud was to use hip thrusts. Poor Rob got pushed halfway across the stage by three huge guys before Lee called them off!

Naturally Lee was heckled that the girls weren't doing as much stripping (read: none) as the guys, so he invited a drunk one to come down and participate in a self defense class with the girls. Lee told the hypnotized girls they were to practice the 'groin kick' on the heckler since he had no balls and thus couldn't be harmed. The first girl was hesitant, but when coaxed by Lee she went in for the kill. Naturally the heckler protected his buddies by deflecting the kick, but he was no longer his happy drunk self. He left the stage to give his buddies the finger and was kicked out of Fed Hall for starting a fight with them.

The night ended with Lee leaving all sorts of triggers and behaviours in the hypnotized group, the funniest one being a guy who will believe for three months his underwear is his lucky hat which girls find absolutely irresistible. Be sure to give him a shout if you see him perusing campus with it on his head! GADGET OUT!

WIE: No Big Deal

MICHAEL BUCZKOWSKI
3B CHEMICAL

In no way does this article represent the opinions of the University of Waterloo Engineering Society...

Since the first EngSoc meeting of the term and the resulting "unpleasantness", EngSoc and the males involved in EngSoc and UW engineering have taken quite a beating in terms of their supposed behaviour around the faculty with no one even defending their interests.

I definitely won't say that what happened at the EngSoc meeting was appropriate, and any individual at any time who feels that their environment is poisoned should speak up and take action. Those who are responsible should then do everything in their power to make sure that the problems are corrected and that everyone who wants to be involved feels welcome in any situation. However, I personally feel that events that happened in the past should be taken in the context of our modern 21st century society.

First lets discuss the jokes regarding having sex with various people including: moms, friends, and with regards to penis size. These types of jokes are definitely immature yes, but who ever said that engineers are mature and, let's be realistic, if you went to any grade school playground during recess you would hear hundreds of these types of jokes. I know they were around during my day. I would also like to point out that these jokes were all made and

directed between friends who were in no way offended by the jokes.

Second, the pornographic material, I agree that if someone doesn't want to look at pornography then they shouldn't be subjected to it. However, let's take a look at Friday night television. At any point past 10pm while flipping through standard cable channels, there will be an incredibly more vulgar and disgusting amount of pornography than has been or ever will be present at any engsoc meeting. Society is definitely sex driven; sex sells, and when you walk into a plaza convenience store you'll see the exact same thing that you saw at the engsoc meeting.

A third item I would like to discuss is the issue of men degrading the women who spoke at the meeting and causing to people to disregard the important issues that were being discussed. If you actually pay attention to an engsoc meeting you will note that this is not a problem that is specific to the sex of the speaker, any speaker who speaks for more than about 1 minute is pretty much ignored after that point, and yes that is a huge problem but not one that is restricted to male or female presenters. Generally e-mail is a much more effective method of communication than engsoc presentations.

I don't think the events that took place at the first meeting were appropriate and they definitely weren't becoming of a society of up and coming professionals. (As can be seen by my apology in the first IW) However, we have to look at the context of

Engineers Singled Out



JEFFREY
LIPNICKY
2A MECHANICAL

Over the past term, I have become involved in different activities that have broaden my horizons, and also brought me to meet some amazing people in different faculties. During the course of these activities, it became painfully obvious that there are several stereotypes about the Engineering Faculty here at UW, about engineering students in general, and misunderstanding about the engineering profession.

This past week I was involved in an Orientation Leader Training session on Diversity. The session covered various topics, including harassment, helping students to fit in, sexual assault, and hazing. When it came to hazing, the "class" was asked if anyone was from Engineering. I am quite proud to be in engineering, and consequently, I raised my hand. I was asked if I could say how I felt about the topic. I was taken a back by the fact that engineering was singled out, but I stood up for the engineering faculty and for the activities, events, and actions that take place during Orientation Week and other times during the term. There was a misconception that EdCom was there to harass and initiate the first years. For those of us that went through Frosh Week, we know that is not true. EdCom does not harass the frosh. They do not require them to do anything that is inappropriate. We all know this, but it appears that other faculties do not.

As I touched on in my previous article "Women in Engineering: A Male's Perspective", the public still holds the stereotype that engineering is a male dominated faculty. Statistically, yes, there are more males than females in engineering studies. For those that have taken stats, I am sure you all will recall that "even though something is of statistical importance, does not imply that it is of practical importance." This holds true here. Just because statisti-

what went on and let's not compare harassment and discrimination to the holocaust and discrimination against the Jewish people as was done by one columnist in the last issue of the Iron Warrior.

Men in engineering are not chauvinistic, they are not misogynistic, and they certainly don't dislike women in engineering. If we were so misogynistic then why the hell would we have two female EngSoc presidents? By promoting these stereotypes and taking the events of the first meeting out of context the reputation of waterloo engineering men is being damaged beyond repair with little being done to correct this, hey maybe we should start a MIE group...no wait that would probably be considered misogynistic.

I believe that groups such as Women in Engineering (WIE) almost make the issue worse because they single women out as being different from men. As one of my female friends said to me "It isn't what's between your legs that makes you an engineer, we are all here because of what is in our heads." Now I'm not saying disband women in engineering, as I think they do a lot of good things for promoting women to come into engineering, but for the women who are actually here I don't think that they do an awful lot to help them be more integrated. Do you know why? The women who are here are integrated!

If we want to have an environment free

cally there are fewer females in engineering studies, does not mean that those women are demeaned or suppressed. We welcome everyone into engineering, regardless of gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, hair colour, eye colour, height, strength, physique, etc.

The other week, I had a conversation with some friends, and we moved onto the topic of the engineering profession. My friends thought that engineers just "designed stuff" without having responsibility for its usability or safety. We all know that this is quite contrary to reality. I informed them that engineering is similar to the law and medical professions, in that we are committed to an oath, and we are held liable for our actions. As engineers, our primary responsibility is for the public's welfare. Any other intentions pale in comparison.

Another common misconception about engineers is the Iron Ring. Many people in the public equate the iron ring to being an engineer. They are not aware of the "ring's" true significance. The Iron Ring is bestowed to those individuals who have completed engineering studies at a Canadian institution. Therefore, it does not make one an engineer. To become a Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) in Ontario, you need to meet several requirements, including: completing an accredited undergraduate degree, four years of applicable professional experience, and successfully completing an ethics examination. All requirements must be met in order to receive a P.Eng. and as a P.Eng. one is responsible for all material bearing one's signature of approval.

As the future engineers, it is our responsibility to improve the image of the Engineering Faculty, and the engineering profession. I feel that the best way to do this is just get out there, and meet people. Show the campus, the community, and the world what engineers and engineering students are truly about. Show them our heart, our spirit, our charm, our intellect, and most of all, our good looks. Stand up for the profession that we all hold in our hearts. We are not only shaping the future of the world through our innovations, but also through our actions. Engineering is what we make it to be, and no one can take that away from us.

of discrimination and sexism then we must not single any group or person out as the 'other'. The only way we can make fun of other people is if we consider them to be different and sub-human or different from the majority. By singling out women as different we are almost encouraging men to treat them differently. The problem of declining women's enrollment in engineering programs is not the fault of the men of engineering; we are definitely not discouraging it. Maybe they don't want to spend \$40000 on a degree just to be treated differently because they are women. Maybe women are just smarter than men as well and don't want to spend five years getting a degree, graduate and become a member of a profession where the number of graduates will soon be incredibly larger than the number of jobs available.

Thomas Hardy stated in 'Jude the Obscure', a novel set in 1800's England that "A University degree is the hallmark of a man who wishes to do anything useful with his life." (Note: man in the context of person these days, as it was the 1800s) This concept is even more emphasized in our society today but the events of this term have definitely made me question this statements validity. So lets all take everything in context, react as appropriate, and behave like civilized human beings and remember that men and women are both equally adept to be engineers and neither should be singled out or stereotyped.

Arts Contest Winners!

ELENA L'PRIS
4B CIVIL



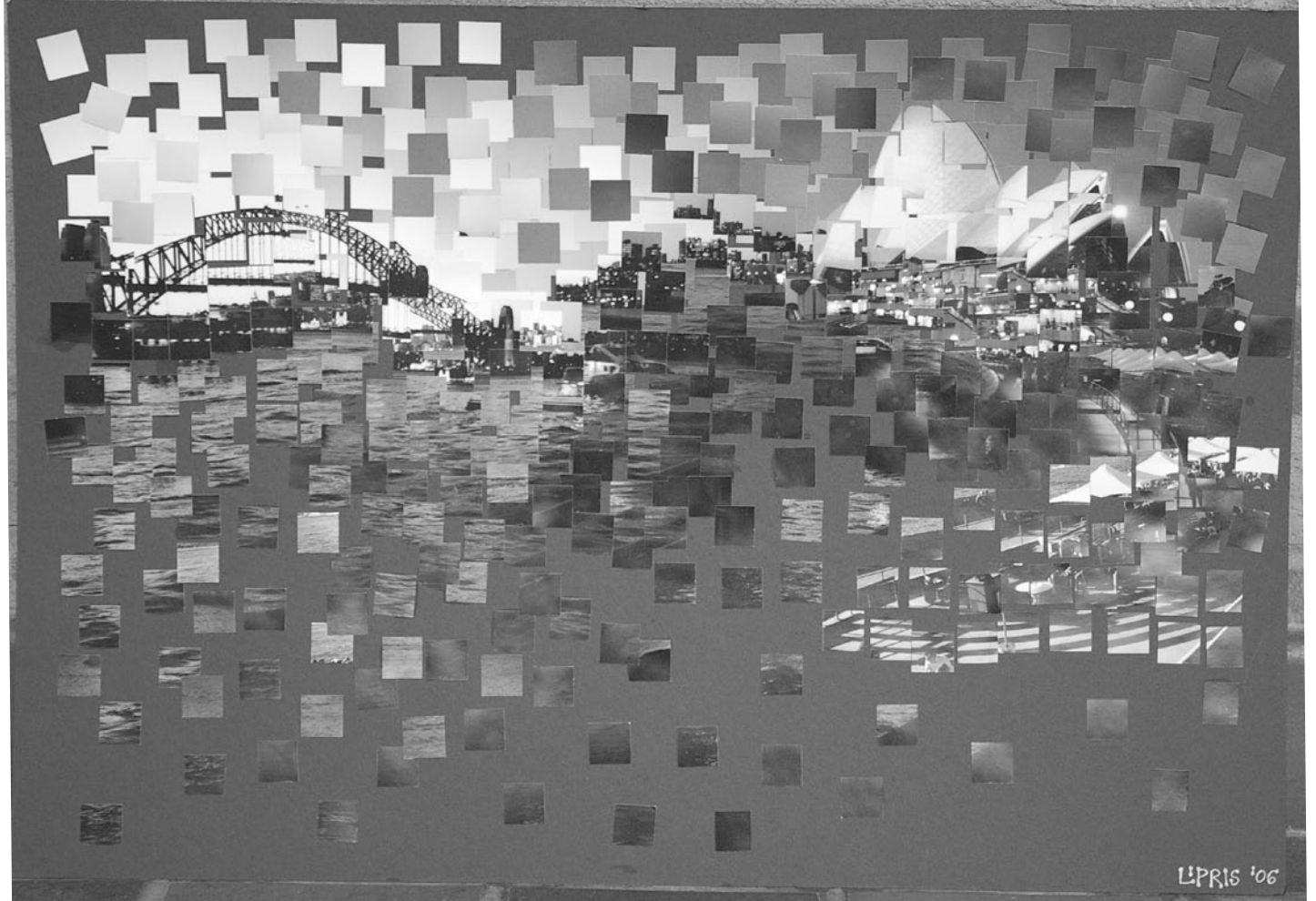
The EngSoc arts contest this term was closed on March 10th. We had some amazing entries and I'd like to thank everyone who submitted your work. You made my decision a really hard one. Honourable mention goes to former IW editor Ryan Bayne, who took my "Can you draw better than this?" Mutant Dog poster in good humour. His submission is featured (on the back cover) along with all the winners for each category are (*drum roll*):

Photography:
Elena L'Pris - 4B Civil

Poetry:
Rahul Bhardwaj - 4B Electrical

Other Art Form:
Joanne Hastie - 4B Mechanical

Congratulations and please pick up your submissions and prizes in the Orifice.



RAHUL BHARDWAJ
4B ELECTRICAL

There is no substitute for the one you love,
There will never be a rose with her name,
Never a pearl of her white,
Never a darkness of her night,
Her hair is a world of its own...
Starved for it's touch...I am all alone,

You don't know what it's like,
To stare at the falling snow,
In the middle of the night,
To grace the touch of an empty pillow

Flakes of snow that rest so soft,
Sweetly, oh so sweetly gliding on top,
Memories of you dressed in gentle white,
My love, how I wish you were here with me, tonite

And in the morning Sun,
The snow that melts is but water,
And although the rays make a graceful run,
Without her, it doesn't matter....it doesn't matter

The coming of the morning mist,
A shadow moves across the floor,
To feel what's been missed,
I want to hold you, but you're not there anymore

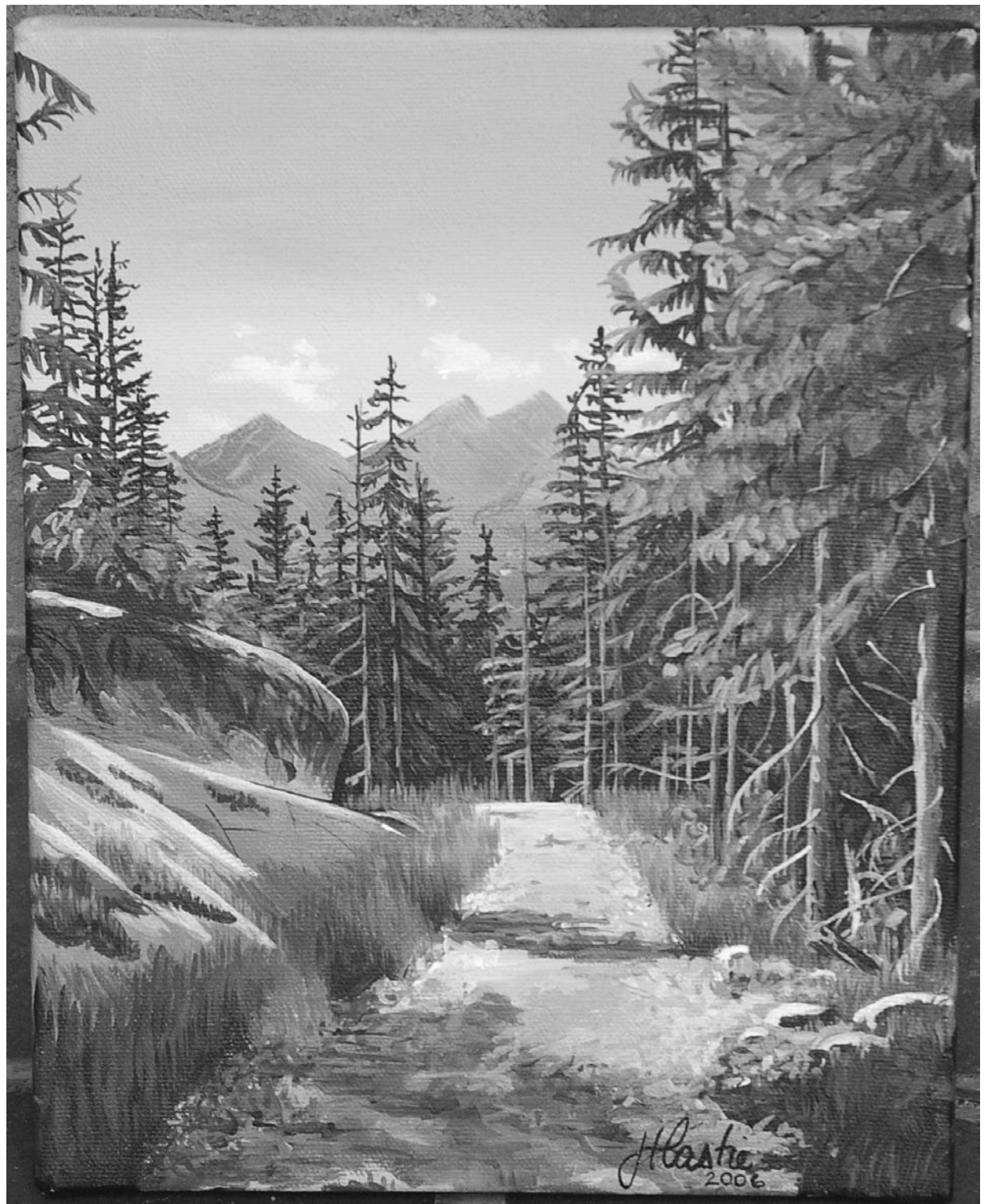
All those memories all those thoughts,
You say you don't remember,
But I have never forgot

There is a voice of the birds that sing,
And that leaf which dances on the grass,
Running blind I scramble within,
My time has come but her love has passed

And of the early spring,
Everything that had, has begun to start,
The dripping water that is now a stream,
Is the blood that flows through my melting heart

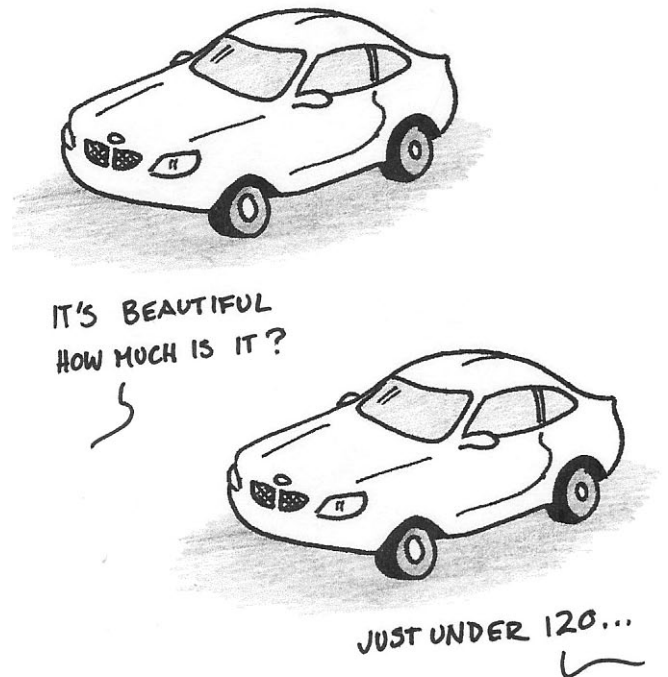
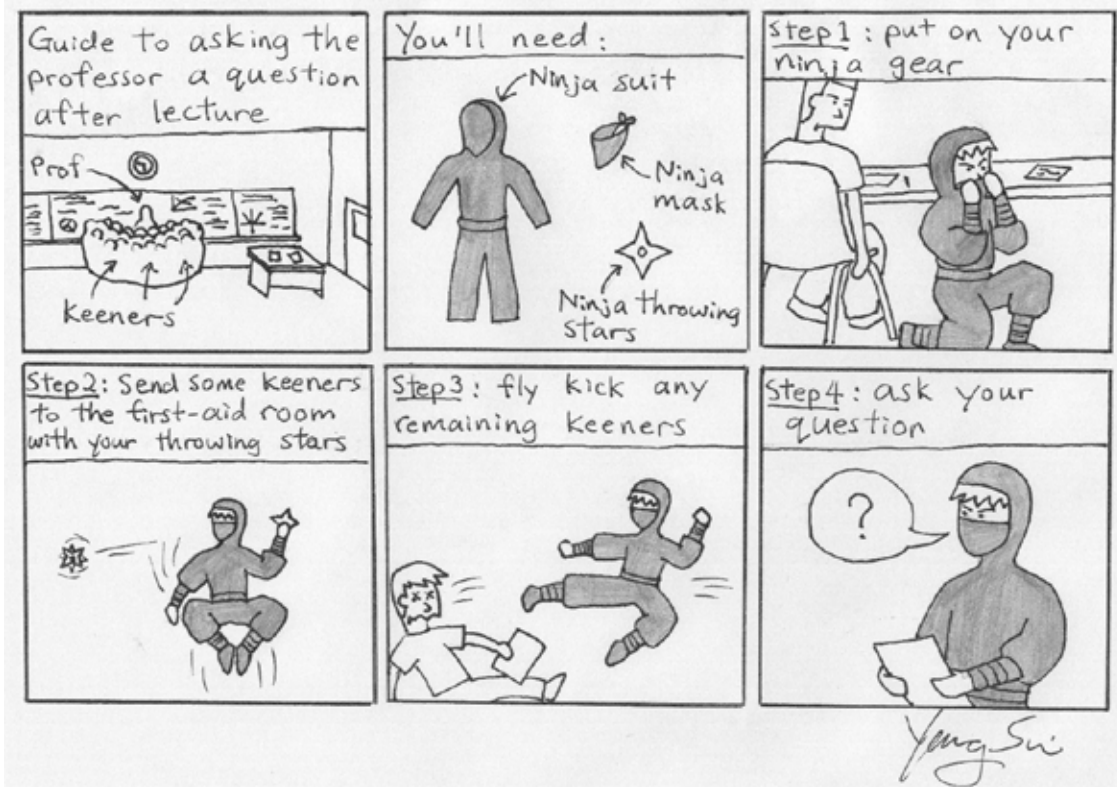
And there will never be a rose with her name,
Those eyes, of the summer's light,
Blinding with her beauty,
she leads me into the night....

JOANNE HASTIE
4B MECHANICAL



YANG SUI
3B MECHANICAL

JACLYN SHARPE
2A MECHANICAL



RYAN BAYNE
MUTANT DOG



the Iron Inquisition

David Yip, 3B Mechanical

What's your dream co-op job?



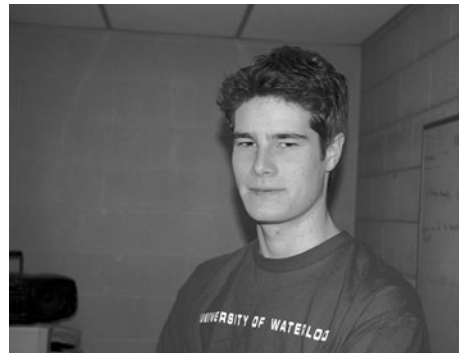
"Sanitation engineer"

Alvin Wan
2A Chemical



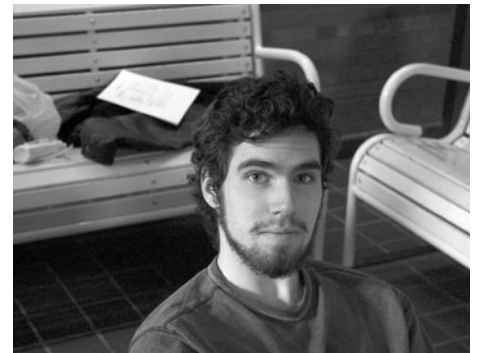
W: "As long as it has free food"
T: "Not a heat sink designer"

Wendy So & Winston Tran
3B Mechanical



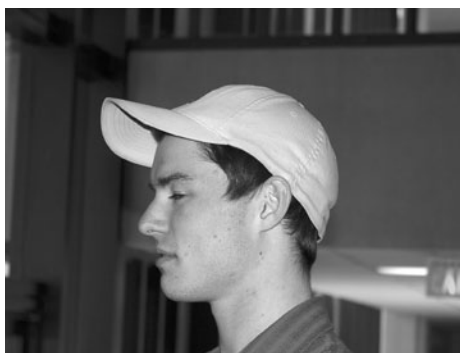
"A PDEng mentor... at the centre of the Earth."

Eric Migicovsky
2A Systems



"Lube technician"

Sean Smith
2A Chemical



"Well, I am going to Hawaii next term."

Mark Brawley
2A Computer



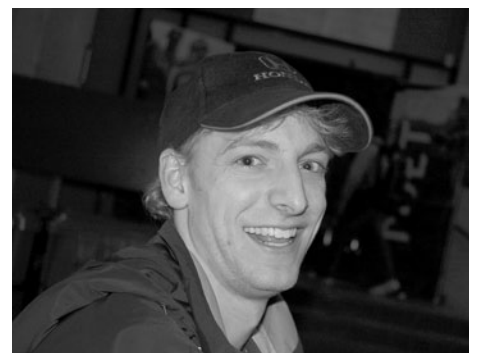
"Something that pays better than last time"

Alex Giroux
2A Mechanical



"Cat sunscreen testing"

Felix Wong
3B Mechanical



"Brian Boitano's stunt double"

Brian Vanden Boomen
6A Mechanical