Deep down, I think we all have that eagerness to explore and travel the world. One of the best ways to accomplish this is by embarking on an international exchange. By doing so, you get to literally settle in another person’s shoes, walking in their country and campus whilst continuing your studies and your degree at the same time.

For each of the reasons that motivates you to apply there will also be a subtle ‘but’ to doubt yourself. I would love to go to France but I’ve forgotten all my French. It would miss my younger sister. I can’t wait to apply there will also be a subtle ‘but’ to my imagination at predicting your own future happiness.

Nonetheless, Waterloo students before you have been to every university on that list. The Go Abroad Waterloo Facebook page is the next step in finding someone to connect with. Recently there was a mega post on all the destinations this year’s exchange students are currently or about to study at. I highly recommend you give that a look and reach out to any student studying at a school that interests you. With today’s instant messaging technology, all of this is easily possible across continents. Not to mention how willing current exchange students are to help those coming up.

The human surrogate model is what I’m trying to lead you in participating. The model states that the real experiences of others have been proven to be considerably better than your imagination at predicting your own future happiness.

Continued on page 7

Netflix Promises 500 Million for Canadian Content

Canada has seen an upswing in film production in the past few years. These are just a few of the many blockbusters to come out of the Great White North. You might have heard of them...

BRITISH COLUMBIA
- Twilight (2008)
- Deadpool (2016)

MANITOBA
- Brokeback Mountain (2005)
- The Revenant (2015)

HALIFAX
- Titanic (1997)

TORONTO
- RoboCop (2014)
- My Big Fat Greek Wedding (2002)
- The Day After Tomorrow (2004)

Continued on page 4

“I British people love talking about the weather” - Welcome Team, Day 1
Letter from the Editor
(Pumpkin)Spice Up Your Life

It’s October and you know what that means: the MIDERMS are upon us. What could be worse than the start of October? Walking around campus and thinking about the exams you are about to be delivered with the feeling of dread in your stomach is the worst. Well get that gloomy cloud away from your head because I’m here to tell you that October is the best month of the whole damn year and I’m not going to mention apple picking or pumpkin spice everything ever! Apart from just now, that was an exception (I hope).

For better or worse, October is the month of midterms but that doesn’t have to define it. They’re necessary and if you’re lucky your final mark will eclipse this one by a long shot. If you’re a first year freakin out about physics, I take what I like to call the worldly wisdom on the topic, though my duty as EIC to share my nuggets of knowledge with you all.

When I was on co-op last fall, I got to really experience the changing of the world right in front of my eyes. Instead of being focused on school work, I was able to see how my walk home from work changed day by day without things like assignments, reports, and projects knowing what else clogging up my headspace. It’s true that as a student we can’t necessarily get out and enjoy the outdoors, but we are Waterloo Engineers. Which means we have four months every other term to completely unplug and focus on new things. Maybe this fall you get out of school and living under a pile of books, but next fall you’ll be out in the real world, experiencing it. What else does fall have to offer other than crisp air and beautiful colours? Thanksgiving! The best holiday of the year, don’t argue with me on this one. I’m right! It is the only time everyone can celebrate, no matter who you are or what you believe; everyone has SOMETHING to be thankful for. It doesn’t have to be about family or food, it can be about friends and taking a break from your hectic life to look at it from a distance and say, “This is one thing I am lucky to have”. It’s the best mental health holiday because there are no expectations of you; no one gives you (unwelcoming) presents, just hugs. Plus, it helps that this holiday incorporates two amazing pies, apple and pumpkin!

There is a legitimate excuse to consume unhealthy amounts of pie one should never complain. If you need one more reason to love October because pie doesn’t cut it for you, there’s Halloween. I have been a drama queen at heart from birth and the idea of dressing up for a day and having everything look like a movie is fantastic. It’s not just about dressing up, there’s pumpkins and all the exciting possibilities they entail. Carving contests, pumpkin seeds, experimenting with cooking them? Maybe you have a benevolent streak and you want to give out candy to children, or maybe you’re like me and you’re gonna hit up Rocky Horror at the Princess! This is my favourite Halloween tradition by far, I used to just watch the movie at home but being part of the audience at a screening is much better. So I’m gushing about fall, when do I talk about midterms? I suppose it’s my duty as EIC to share my nuggets of worldly wisdom on the topic, though I can only condone following methods. I take what I like to call the Harry Potter Approach to my exams, which has had mixed success rates, read on at your own peril.

About two weeks before midterms I turn into Hermione. I get way too stressed out, plan my studying hour-by-hour in an intricate study schedule that no human could ever follow. Then I pour myself a cup of tea while admiring the things of beauty and order in my study calendar, which I promptly hang on my wall and totally ignore. This is when I become Ron. There’s no point in getting too worried over something that’s weeks away, I’ll worry about it when my study schedule comes into effect... but there’s other things going on in my life. Group projects, assignments, a new season of Riverdale comes out on Netflix, and before I know it Reading “Week” has come and gone. Not only have I not started studying, I haven’t done the practice problems and my looming exams are staring me right in the face.

Now I do the Harry. I get scared into action and bite off way more than I can chew in the amount of time I have left. I focus my time on studying instead of practice questions, I waste hours in the library eating muffins and laughing, with my friends complaining about how hard my coursework is instead of doing the work, and come home late like I’ve achieved nothing. This usually leads to staying up late the night before, frantically Skyping friends who have prepared and worrying about small details that will almost certainly not be on the test while ignoring important concepts that most certainly will make their way onto my exam paper the next day because I find them hard. Of course something will be too hard to learn the night before; that’s what a study schedule was meant to prevent!

Sometimes, when I haul my butt into the exam and sit down to write my midterms, my sporadic preparation pays off. It also helps that I bring my surfing shorts and can ride the curve to pretty decent mark - just gotta do better than my schedule was meant to prevent! The exam and sit down to write my midterms, my sporadic preparation pays off. It also helps that I bring my surfing shorts and can ride the curve to pretty decent mark - just gotta do better than my schedule was meant to prevent! The exam and sit down to write my midterms, my sporadic preparation pays off. It also helps that I bring my surfing shorts and can ride the curve to pretty decent mark - just gotta do better than my schedule was meant to prevent!

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On September 26, 2017, a Tuesday which marked a turning point in the history of Twitter, the social media platform announced a change: a character limit increase from 140 characters to 280 characters for a few randomly selected Twitter users. The new character limit may be made available to all Twitter users depending on the success of this test run.

The decision to make the change was stimulated by the fact that different languages require the use of different numbers of characters to form expressive thoughts. Twitter noticed that while a tweet in Japanese is on average 15 characters long, the average length of Tweets in all languages is 68 characters, with 15% of all English Tweets reaching 140 characters compared to 0.4% Japanese tweets that hit the limit.

For much of its existence, the NDP has been the acknowledged hangers-on of federal politics - an awkward mishmash of labour activists and leftists, always an inch short of the major Political Party TM", but half an inch above the swirling vortex of eco-friendly irrelevance known affectionately as the Greens. Jack Layton rescued his party from this perpetual limbo, before he passed away due to cancer six years ago. Tom Mulcair, his successor, has a valiant attempt at torpedoing his party back into irrelevance before being unceremoniously kicked to the curb.

For workers, he wants a fifteen dollar minimum wage and an end to unpaid internships, equal protections and wages for temporary workers, and an end to long-term temporary work. For Native Americans, he has promised further investment into education, housing and infrastructure; for trans and non-binary Canadians he has promised further flexibility with regards to gender markers on federal ID and provide safe housing to "LGBTQ2S+ youth at risk or experiencing homelessness"; and for amateur journalists, it is hoped that he will reform his website to be easily navigable.

NDP elects a new leader

Regardless of whether the tax reform plan had merits to it, the implementation was not well thought out. For one target, private corporations is the symptom, not the cause. The cause is that the top characters, a Twitter trademark. Dorsey decided to preserve the 140 characters, a Twitter trademark.

In the Tweet announcing the change, Dorsey stated that cramping one’s thoughts into 140 characters "...has been a real problem people have when trying to tweet." Twitter is aware that an overnight doubling of character limit may not sit well with its users who have been tweeting for over a decade using 140 characters. But the company hopes that the change, while resolving the problem of crammed tweets, will help slow the crisp bursts of communication instrumental in broadcasting breaking news.

Although only a single-digit percentage of users are able to Tweet using 280 characters or less for the first time, the hope is that the new feature available broadly later. Even then, it is not guaranteed that 280 characters will be available to everyone eventually. When asked if the new limit is something Donald Trump, probably one of the most influential Twitter users, will be able to enjoy the change, Dorsey said that these users are randomly selected and the Commander in Chief may or may not be one of them.

The Conservative critique of the government’s tax reform plan had merits to it, the implementation was not well thought out. For one target, private corporations is the symptom, not the cause. The cause is that the top characters, a Twitter trademark. Dorsey decided to preserve the 140 characters, a Twitter trademark.

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The consultation period for Justin Trudeau and Bill Morneau’s tax reform ended October 2nd. The tax reforms deal with two main loopholes in the use of private corporations, passive income and income sprinkling. If an individual incorporates and makes it the top tax bracket, they will be charged the small business tax rate of 15%, compared to if they didn’t incorporate in which case the tax rate could be as high as 50%. The second plank of the tax reform is income sprinkling. This is when there is a stratification in the income where upper class is earning income, despite not doing any work in the business. The government has proposed a reasonableness test, yet to be defined, to determine whether that family member is doing work to earn the income.

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 Impressions of UW

Netflix Looks North

Continued from page 1

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Hidden Places on Campus

The University of Waterloo campus is a dense maze of buildings, passages and pathways. For the casual visitor, it is an unknown maze, for the seasoned student it is extraordinarily kind. If you have a question you can just ask an upper year and they’ll help you out. While the course work may be challenging, the people are an absolute delight.

For as school, while the material can be challenging, the Guild of New Fathers fears that the funds Netflix is investing will support “American shows shot in Canada with American talent in all of the top creative” as opposed to supporting “Canadian programming.” Quebeccois producer Roger Frappier, foreign producer of foreign-language Oscar nominated “Ho- chelaga, Terre des Âmes”, is concerned that anglophone Netflix executives in Canada will be inclined to allocate fit- ter money. Quebec’s staple, ETV is part of a faction who think a Netflix tax would be more appropriate than the 5-year, $500 million postal, as the mon- etary injection seems more equitable distributed to Canadian artists. Unfortunately for Frappier, but of relief to streaming media consumers, Minister Christian Paradis announced there would be no Netflix tax imposed by the Liberal govern- ment, rationalizing that “access and affordability of internet” is a big issue for real issues for many.” Plenty of people, including Frappier and Professor Pierre Bélanger are also quick to point out that the $500 million over 5 years is tiny. This constitutes only 1.42% of Netflix’s expected expenditures, and Netflix has stated that nearly $100 million was spent on Canadian content in 2016, so the new agreement is not particularly generous. Vagueness of the policy in general is also a concern to many. Kevan Funk believes the public-private partner- ships and corporations that the federal government attempts to fulfill their policies will instead “act in their immediate self-interest.”

The Creative Canada Policy which promises more money and protection for Canadian media producers has some creators optimistic, but it’s implications is concerning for others, especially re- garding the use of the resultant invest- ment of $500 million from Netflix. In time, it will be easier to see how benefi- cial this policy was for Canadian content creators and one can hope that the D. Howe Institute says, at least “we aren’t imposing so many restrictions and loo on that (American compa- nies) just choose not to do business in Canada anymore.”

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One unfortunate downside is that en- gineering demands an awful lot of time, and there’s never enough time to do every- thing you want. Whether there’s a fer- riss wheel or free cotton candy, it leaves you wondering how you would do with your free little time. There’s never a bet- ter time to get involved with so much stuff. If you study and co- op tend to come first. Now to see if those sacrifices pay off on midterms.

The obvious locales are the campus Tim Hortons’s (SLC, DC, SLC again, SCH, UW, DC again) and don’t overlook the one in Modern Languages over in the arts quad, as it is small but mighty. Next most obvious would be the actual Food Services locations like Pastry Plus (B.C. Mathews Hall, Needle Hall, or the Tatham Center but only during interview day) you can spend less than $50,000, Eye Opener Cafe in Optometry (well played Food Services), Browsers Cafe in DP, the CIET cafe near the (well played Food Services), Browsers Cafe in DP, the CIET cafe near the

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The obvious locales are the campus Tim Hor...
Point Vs. Counterpoint

The New Fall ‘Reading Week’ is Worth a Shortened Orientation Week

HASAN AHMED
2A NANOTECHNOLOGY

Recently, a lot of controversy ha

Been piloting a new reading week, which made some people unhappy due to the shortened orientation week. However, even though there are some drawbacks to Orientation week, the reading week has a fair number of advantages that make it worthwhile. I believe that shortening orientation week will not impact the full orientation week since I was a 1st year first, so this means I only have experience based on the current piloting.

First of all, it’s during thanksgiving weekend. It’s always good for students to have the ability to go home and have a nice meal with their family. This is important for engineers as we often spend too much time submersed in our coursework and lectures that we often don’t have time to spend with our parents and family. Not only that, but with an extended weekend, people who live further away have a better chance to come home. For example, in Ottawa, Vancouver, or even the United States, it can visit their parents too, as a five day weekend might be more feasible. The cost of this is therefore more justified as well, as paying for a 2-day trip is much more viable than a 3-day trip, which in some cases could be extended to the whole week.

For first year students, this may also be the first time they get to go home since they were dropped off by their parents for move in and orientation week. Different first years obviously experience first years differently, but if they’re homesick, it’s a great chance to relax that feeling over the reading break. I happen to be a lucky person who’s home is just a GO bus ride away, so I don’t feel that as often. However, with Waterloo Engineering (and even other programs) being so competitive to get into, especially for international students, as a way to make the university feel smaller, especially against the first-year student body which are often close friends with the first people I met in high school and in my class so that I knew at least a couple of people that I would be spending the next five years of my life with. I also latched on to the first girl I met in my class. This sounds like a shallow way to make friends, but I am still very close friends with that girl today. We ended up having way more in common than just what we were taking and it would have taken me a lot longer to drum up the courage to introduce myself to her if we hadn’t been in the same orientation group. And now I have someone to sit with.

Orientation week is so important to give first-years a good first impression of the school and the community. It gives them a chance to see others’ school spirit and to find their own school spirit. Also, those first friends you make are important to not feel alone away from home. When I was in first year I made fast friends with the first people I met in my class so that I knew at least a couple of people that I would be spending the next five years of my life with. I also latched on to the first girl I met in my class. This sounds like a shallow way to make friends, but I am still very close friends with that girl today. We ended up having way more in common than just what we were taking and it would have taken me a lot longer to drum up the courage to introduce myself to her if we hadn’t been in the same orientation group. And now I have someone to sit with.

Orientation is important. Don’t cut it short.

ALEXA GRATTANI
4A MECHANICAL

Is a shortened orientation week worth an extra two days of break after Thanksgiving? Orientation is an important start to most students’ university careers. It introduces students to the university and its community. It gives you time to find your way around campus so you’re not getting lost on your way to your first class. Having a whole week for Orientation allows students to get used to living away from home before the stress of classes starts.

Orientation used to last a whole week before classes would start on the following Monday. Now, depending on when you move in, new students only get three or four days of orientation before they are thrust into the stress of classes. Orientation kind of continues after classes have started, but not much happens, and a first-year engineering schedule is very overwhelming, especially if you ever compared it to people you know in other faculties. So Orientation is really only those first few days before classes start.

First-year orientation is a process that helps new students feel better prepared for their university experience. It gives them the opportunity to make new friends so they have someone to sit with on that daunting first day of classes. You’ve got to become familiar with the environment where you’re spending the next five years of your life.

So, if orientation is shorter, it could reduce the success in fostering school spirit and create a welcoming atmosphere for first-years.

So why is the school doing it this way? Well, it’s for this amazing new Fall Break that we’ve just enjoyed. I admit it was nice to have a couple extra days, but I had to move in four days early for two extra days of break. That doesn’t really add up.

Some students are losing their break between terms because a lot of co-op students work for as long as they can at their jobs to make money. So, by shortening orientation week, they are losing their guaranteed week off between terms. Is it an even trade off? Losing that week between terms could be preventing some out-of-province students from being able to have the time to go home between terms.

In comparison, Wilfrid Laurier University starts classes on the same day as the University Waterloo, but they have a full reading week during the fall term instead of an extended long weekend. They make up for those two extra days at the end of the term. Laurier has the same three days of study break and then a thirteen day exam period that ends on the 22nd of December. Waterloo has a fourteen day exam period that ends on the 21st of December.

So, if Waterloo isn’t willing to give us a full reading week in the fall term, why can’t they take those two extra days for our “fall break” from the end of the term? They might have to shuffle around a few extra exams, but it sounds doable. Then they wouldn’t have to sacrifice orientation week.

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Editor’s Note:
Point Vs. Counterpoint is a feature meant to stimulate discussion on thought-provoking topics. The views and opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of the authors, The Iron Warrior, or the Engineering Society.
An opinion piece that caught my eye was a column by Hasan Ahmed titled "The Rusty Knight: A Blast From The Iron Warrior's Past." In this column, Ahmed reflected on the 1960s, a time when he wished he was a part of the action. He mentioned how much had changed since then, but there were still some things that remained the same, such as the excitement of new discoveries and the thrill of winning. Ahmed also talked about the role of the student in the Iron Warrior, and how it was more than just a takeover and nothing more; student The 'against side' mentioned how it was as well.

The article included that POETS used to be the 'unpublishable.' Other cool things mentioned by the alumni include:

- The Imprint was used to be the Engineering Faculty. It was started as a rival to the Chevrion, which has recently reappeared on campus. The Chevrion was eventually shut down due to biased political views.
- The jackets used to be navy blue. Why not black? Black leather jackets were considered too closely associated with gang activity, and thus the jackets were ordered in navy blue to avoid any misconceptions.
- Arcade games used to be set up in POETS. We’re talking Space Invaders, Asteroids, Pac-Man, you name it. They (SARCASTICALLY) talk about the complexity of girls (or guys) that other guys want to meet in a biology-textbook kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. I’ll copy the main point of the article so some of you lucky fellas kind of way. 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Low Sales of the iPhone 8
A Look at How They’ve Been Selling

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The iPhone 8, released last month, had faced a decrease in sales during the opening week compared to previous iPhone models.

Despite the reported low sales of the iPhone 8 and 8 Plus and with the upcoming release of the iPhone X, the latest iPhone release had been meeting analysts’ expectations. The anticipation of the more advanced iPhone X would have caused the low sales 8 sales after the opening weekend. It was also suggested that the iPhone 8 was produced at a lower quantity than the iPhone 7, explaining both the low sales and the low expected sales.

Even though the sales of the iPhone 8 were doing well for a while, the sales started to drop during the release on the 22nd of September. The lower-than-expected number of people buying the iPhone seems to suggest that not many people wanted the new iPhone. In an Apple Store located in Hangzhou, China barricades and security guards had been placed to control what was expected to be a crowd-china line up. Surprisingly, only 2 people showed up for the release of the new iPhone.

This show-up was not only reported in China, but in some parts of the world as well. In Hong Kong, it was also reported that there had been less people showing up during the opening weekend of the iPhone 8 release compared to previous years. In London, UK, there had been less people turning up early in the morning of the release, but as time went on, more people showed up to get the new iPhone. Still, it was not as big as the line up in the previous years.

Even though the release date of the iPhone X was announced to be in November, it is not expected to be readily available until 2018. Analyst Ming-Chi Kuo has stated that Apple is struggling to meet its problems with the mass production of the “TrueDepth” camera sensor for the Face ID facial recognition system, the iPhone X will not go into full production until next year. Kuo had also predicted that only 2-4 M units by January 2018. In the meantime, customers might have to wait until the iPhone X production ramps up.

For now, the iPhone 8 is being sold from 929 CAD, while the 8 Plus is sold at a price of 999 CAD. The iPhone X itself offers a wireless charging feature, which was a new feature from the previous generations. The iPhone X will start at around 1319 CAD, and pre-orders for the iPhone X will begin on 27 October. The iPhone X will be Apple’s first smartphone to offer a wireless charge and will not have a home button.

While the iPhone 8 is currently being sold, the iPhone X will be released on the 27th of November, but the units will still be sold sparingly until next year.

My Experience on Exchange

Continued from Page 1

Meaning that the experiences of an exchange student right now will be a fairly accurate reflection of your own future experience, should you undertake an exchange as well. Your mind is telling you that this can’t possibly work, because you’re a different person than they are: your studies are different, taste in food, interests as well...

To save you from an argument with Harvard psychology professor Daniel Gilbert (although I do recommend his book: Stumbling on Happiness) the basic premise is that the two of you are both humans. Humans share an incredible amount of similarities that are rarely talked about, we tend to focus on the few differences to stand apart from one another.

Happiness, excitement and general pleasure are common human emotions, if your surrogate found it at that exchange school, so will you.

You can do exchange as soon as you’re finished 2H. If you should firmly decide that you’re going abroad, and manage to narrow down the mountain of exchange universities to a select few, you’re (figuratively) halfway out of the country.

The second half is more tedious, although it won’t require as much decision making.

Endless applications, Visas, accommodation, languages, getting there, exchanging currency and trying to match all of your degree courses/requirements might seem overwhelming. Not to mention all the little things that linger in your mind like the people you’ll be living with, what your friends will think, how to get a phone number, medication, vaccination, constitution, nutrition and culture education.

Once you actually apply, remember not to panic. Imagine running a race of hurdles where the finish line is the final destination. Deciding to do this race when you’re already halfway through, and there are no winners or losers. By staring down your lane, all you see are the obstacles one after another. The challenges seem insurmountable until you actually start running. Then you realize that, in between one jump to another there’s at least ten meters of breathing room.

The first step would be applying via Waterloo Passport, deadline being November 1st. From there you can choose up to three exchange universities to apply for. The Waterloo International office is located on the second floor of SIC. Any questions regarding passport should be directed to them. Furthermore, if you drop by in person and ask nicely, they might be able to let you know how many students typically apply to the school you’re interested in. If you’re really lucky, based on your term averages they might also estimate your chances of being “nominated” and from there you could work out how to better your odds at finding a match.

Nominated simply means Waterloo nomimates you as their student to the foreign university. This is the same as placements as you are only nominated to one university, all of this will happen around mid January. From here you have to submit an application to the school you’ve been placed at which typically requires a scanned transcript and your preliminary course selection. Generally speaking, there aren’t many reasons for the exchange university to reject you if Waterloo has nominated you as a candidate, you just need to fill out the application properly and show that you are capable of taking the courses you’ve selected.

At this point I do want to address my fellow engineering students in their course selection process. This step is usually the most difficult unless you are following a specific course list. By that I mean, check to see if someone from your program has completed an exchange term at your selected school. If not, you’ll have to build your own timetable by matching as many foreign courses as you can to equivalents at home.

Each program of engineering has its own exchange course coordinator, make sure you confirm the following with them. For most if not every disciplines (please confirm with your discipline advisor) a 50% content match is enough for a credit back home. The majority of courses abroad are only judged on a pass/fail and will be transferred to your Waterloo transcript as just that, no percentage grades. All you have to do is email the UW professor who has taught or is currently teaching that course which you need for your degree.

Ask them to glance through the syllabus of the foreign course you want to take for a 50% content match and pre-approve in a simple email. Then you can go abroad and take that course, pass it and then bring back your lecture notes in some form to prove you learned what you needed to. Then the final approval is given and your transcript will be updated.

This is something I do on my own step alone, a lot of things can go wrong. Remember that it’s the most tedious step and that you have some flexibility in juggling fourth year electives if you plan on exchanging in your third year. Technical electives, especially of the Gene kind outside your discipline (for example Mech and CSEs need to take two non-internal electives) are rather easy to pre-approve. If you have a CSEs from any list that you have not yet fulfilled those can also be matched with a course dealing with the theme of that list. Impact of technology on society in list A, business/ economics in list B and humanities/social sciences in list C.

From here the tough part is over. The application you must submit to the exchange university will typically take place up to 6 months in advance from when you’re scheduled to begin your studies. One thing to look out for is which semester you apply. Sometimes it can happen that if you apply late (due to visa issues) and if the prerequisites they list are similar to something you’ve already taken, you won’t be able to participate in the wave of exchange students heading overseas every year. Your destination university or government will most certainly have guidelines on visa requirements, sometimes for short periods of study you won’t even need a visa. If you do need a visa however, make sure you apply early although applying late is possible, it’s just more expensive. Plane tickets on the other hand should be arranged early to save money, also look for various airport collection services either offered by your university or local business as many other students will be making the same trip.

Sometimes in the process, after solving one problem and encountering three more, it’s easy to lose hope and change your mind as if you never wanted to do any of this in the first place. I hope that the strength of your purpose will be strong enough and I also hope you look on the time scale. You have an entire year to sort this entire thing out. One at a time. I believe it’s quite a testament that almost every student who has returned from their international exchange had something amazing to say about their experiences. These people are so delighted to talk about their exchange that it’s almost off putting to hear the same things over and over again. Until you get started and actually look into what these foreign destinations can offer for you, people often like to think “that’s not for me, 1
First Year Engineering Leadership Conference

On September 30th, 2017, the University of Waterloo hosted the First Year Engineering Leadership Conference (FYELC). This conference caters to first year students, allowing them to experience what a conference is like and introduce them to other opportunities. The day started early, with check-ins beginning at 8AM. However, first years were eager to show up (not only for the breakfast) and had a great first session with Diane Freeman, a Waterloo graduate and Civil Engineer. Students were able to ask questions about her professional and personal life, and gauge how Waterloo has changed over the years. It was also neat to learn that Diane worked on the new residence building at UWP!

After this, EngSoc executive came and had a presentation, which also included Dan Robertson’s information about attending conferences. First years were interested to see which schools they might be able to go to for the upcoming conferences, which are for the first time at Ryerson on November 3rd and Conference on Diversity in Engineering (Nov 10th-12th at McMaster). There’s an upcoming First Year Integration Conference in the winter term, which also enticed a lot of the audience. The rest of the executive also explained their roles and services, and even stayed for a Q&A session afterwards.

Following a short break, a panel was held with members from FEDS, Student Design Teams, Varsity Sports, and Clubs, in order to showcase how much they were able to get involved outside of class in not only EngSoc. The audience was able to ask a lot of questions about time-management and how much these extracurriculars impacted themselves and the University. It was a great way for open discussion to be held.

Afterwards, we had Wayne Chang from Conrad come to teach Networking 101. This was an extremely informative session with tons of resources and tips for first years to use. Wayne talked a lot about weak and strong connections as developed as you networked, and gave a great insight on how to get started in networking. He also followed up by promoting Conrad’s services and making sure first years knew where they could go if they needed help.

After a lovely lunch, the afternoon followed. Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO) came and spoke a little bit about the licensing process and what it means to legally be an engineer. They spoke about requirements needed, as well as where and who you worked for. They also handed out nice pens for the first years to keep, which happened to be black and gold like the University’s colours.

The afternoon closed out with The Iron Warrior and the University. It was a great day for all involved and made the conference a great experience.

The People have Spoken!

RACHEL MALEVICH
PRESIDENT

HASAN AHMED
PRESIDENT

2A NANOTECHNOLOGY

WEEF Director elections are open for the week of October 16th and campaigning will follow the week after. There will be several opportunities to meet your candidates, make sure you make use of these opportunities to be an informed voter! One of these opportunities will be at our next Council meeting on November 1st in RCH 301 at 5:30 pm. On the topic of Council – I’d like to mention some of the important events that happened at Council last meeting. Council approved a stance against shortening Orientation Week further. If this stance passes next term on A-Society, it will join our other four stances against the 2016 international student tuition increase; encouraging engineering counselling to strive for wait times of less than 2 weeks; encouraging engineering counselling to have increased availability outside of class hours; and encouraging the Engineering Faculty to adopt policies that restrict professors from teaching exams. Stances are powerful statements particularly when voted on by the entire engineering student body. They help executive advocate on your behalf to Faculty and external individuals. If you have experienced an issue in Engineering that you feel affects more than just you, bring the issue to Council for discussion!

As midterms approach, it’s important to remember that there are plenty of resources available for Engineering students. On October 20th, De-Stress Meditation will be happening in the SLC - check the EngSoc calendar on engsoc.uwaterloo.ca for more details!

Make use of the peer-to-peer support service MATES - if you have questions about this service, send an email to mates@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca. For additional academic resources, check out our Exam Bank on the EngSoc website under Services.

Finally, looking forward to the end of midterms and the end of October, the Fall 2017 Waterloo Engineering Competition will be happening on October 27th and 28th. Doing well at this competition could lead to competing at the provincial and national level! Send an email to wecf@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca if you’re interested in learning more about the competition and how you could be involved! Good luck everyone!

Upcoming Events Calendar

Wednesday Oct 18
Change for Charity
CPH Foyer
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
CPH 1546

Thursday Oct 19
Change for Charity
CPH Foyer
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
CPH 1546

Friday Oct 20
Change for Charity
CPH Foyer
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
CPH 1546

Friday Oct 20
EngSoc Goes to THEMUSEUM
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
THEMUSEUM, 10 King St. W

Saturday Oct 21
De-Stress Meditation
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
SLC Multi-Purpose Room

Sunday Oct 22
Patch Design Voting
1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
POETS

Monday Oct 23
Board Games
1:30 pm - 6:30 pm
POETS

Tuesday Oct 24
Charity Grilled Cheese
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
CPH Foyer

Tuesday Oct 24
EngQuers
6:00 - 9:00 pm
POETS

Wednesday Oct 25
WE Zenga
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Thursday Oct 26
Let’s Talk Mental Health
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
POETS

Friday Oct 27
Waterloo Engineering Competition
Begin at 5:00 pm
RCH

Saturday Oct 28
Waterloo Engineering Competition
Ends at 12:30 pm
RCH

Sunday Oct 29
First Year Mentoring
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Monday Oct 30
First Year Mentoring
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Tuesday Oct 31
Halloween with The Tool
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
POETS

EngQuers
6:00 - 9:00 pm
POETS

Blender & WebGL Workshop
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
CPH 1146
October is a Spooky Month

Couches are Coming to POETS!

Hey fam, it’s me again, your friendly neighborhood VPA (ya somehow Andrew this hitting you with a POETS Iron Warrior article numero doso. This article is targeted a bit more towards first-year engineering students, but it could apply to students in any year. I remember how anxious I was doing my first exams.

Events to Distress

If you’re feeling stressed out, and want a chance to blow off some steam, EngSoc is running events throughout First Year and Upper Year ‘Hell Week’ to help relieve stress. On the 20th of October, from 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM we will be running a stress relief event in POETS. The directors running the event will be going through a series of calming exercises designed to help calm down and manage stress.

Furthermore, we are continuing to run our weekly events during both exam weeks. These events include our weekly board games nights from 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM on Mondays in POETS, and our LGBTQ group EngQueers meetings, which happen on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM in POETS. These events are a great way to blow off some steam, and a fantastic way to meet new people and make friends in the process.

If You Need To Talk To Someone

If you feel overwhelmed, stressed, upset, anxious, or just want to talk to talk to, please do not hesitate to take advantage of the various mental health resources at your disposal. Engineering MATES, Engineering Counselling in the First Year office (CPH 1320), and Good2Talk are all phenomenal resources available for engineering students. If you’re struggling alone, please don’t feel like there’s no one to talk to, as there’s always someone who cares, and there are resources available for you.

To Wrap Things Up

As always, if you have any questions, comments, concerns, or just want to talk about the co-op process, academics, Smashing Pumpkins (both the Halloween activity, and the band) – please don’t hesitate to contact me at vpacademic.b@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca, or find me in the Orifice at CPH 1327.

Patches, Patches, Patchesi

Happy October! In the spirit of the recent Patch Sewing Party that was held in POETS, I thought I’d give some basic instructions on how to sew patches onto your coveralls for when you all get them.

Step 1: Pin your patch to your coveralls where you would like it to go, use at least two pins on either side to make sure it doesn’t shift.

Step 2: Choose your thread colour, preferably one similar to the colour of the patch, unless you’re like me and you like to be colourful.

Step 3: Thread the needle, and tie the ends together so that you have two layers of thread with the knot on the opposite end to the needle. Make sure the needle you choose doesn’t have too thick of a head, otherwise it will be difficult to put through the patch. As for thread length, it should be approximately 3x the perimeter of the patch.

Step 4: Start threading from inside your coveralls and push the needle through the patch just inside the border of the patch. The knot you made at the end should hold the end of the string on the inside of your coveralls. Pull all the string through tightly so that there is no slack.

Step 5: Push the needle in and out of the patch along the edge, leaving about 1cm between each stitch. When you get close to the pins you put in the patch, take them out.

Step 6: Once you get back to the first stitch make sure the last one is on the inside of your coveralls. Cut the remaining string off and tie the two ends together.

Step 7: Celebrate because YOU JUST SEWED ON YOUR FIRST PATCH!

Another development in the works, is the national survey that was sent out to all engineering schools across Canada. By January 2018, a report will be created, and then presented to the National Council of Deans of Engineering and Applied Sciences (NCDEAS) at their next general meeting. This report will summarize various data collected on mental health, work load, language electives, and co-op programs. The goal of this report is to bring forth a stance that encompasses the thoughts of nearly all engineering students across Canada and ultimately bring more awareness to the decline in mental health of engineering students due to enormous workload, allow for improved co-op programs, and elective choices. This, as you can imagine, will be a powerful statement for students to make to NCDEAS.

Next month, the Professional Engineers of Ontario – Student Conference, and Conference on Diversity in Engineering will be held. This will be a great experience for everyone in attendance, and I encourage everyone to apply for Congress in January, and the First Year Integration Conference in February (if you’re a first year). Look out for some blog posts about those in the coming months at www.uwengconferences.ca. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to stop by the Orifice during my office hours, or send me an email at vpcomm.b@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca. Cheers!
High Speed Podcasts

RATAN VARGHESE
2 COMPUTER

In most forms of media, lots of details are kept out of the control of consumers. Good luck asking art gallery staff to shift the playback speed, or playing a video game from the end to the beginning. Podcasts have their share of constraints as well, some imposed by the state of technology and some imposed by user interfaces. However some podcast apps provide very easy access to powerful interfaces. However some podcast apps provide very easy access to powerful interfaces.

The podcast app I currently use, Overcast (iOS only), allows the user to alter the playback speed from less than 1× all the way up to 3×. Additionally there is a “Smart Speed” option to shorten silences, which effectively increases the speed by different amounts every second. I did not really pay attention to these features until Brady complained about them on the Hello Internet podcast. Brady and Grey seemed to think that such features would distort any sort of emotional message. That sounded correct, but I felt like trying it for myself. The settings I started with were dramatic enough to notice but subtle enough to not turn every podcast into Alvin and the Chipmunks Reminisce on Their Youth. Much like Grey on Hello Internet, I found that the higher speed made the podcast wearable even at 1.5×, enabling Smart Speed, and started listening.

Most of my listening time was spent on Dan Carlin’s Hardcore History, and it was rewarding indeed. The podcast seems a bit more flippant, but still entirely audible if you are paying attention. When playing at normal speed, there are moments where Dan Carlin seems excited enough to intentionally speed up his voice. With the higher speed settings, Carlin’s voice always seemed to be in this mode. The podcast felt like a considerably higher energy affair. Additionally an episode titled Hardcore History is multiple hours long so there’s a lot of time to be saved.

The effect on Morph Club was more mixed. Megan and Carey are already rather fast talkers, and Animorphs features some very short sentences. Just like it still just meat. Raise your hand if you think this is going to be difficult! My hand is up but it shouldn’t be because even if the thought of touching raw meat with my fingers gives you a genuine goosebumps, this recipe is super easy and the results are even better than IKEA (please don’t tell them I said that!)

What you need:
Ground meat (this is obvious, sorry to any vegetarians out there I really can’t help you with modifications you’re just going to have to Google it) you can use any ground meat that you want! I am cheap and I like to go for whatever’s on sale. 30% off ground beef? Perfect. Ground pork for less? I’ll take it. A combination of both? Sounds kind of gross, but I spent my future life savings on my degree so if it costs less than other options I will eat it. It’s also a good idea to go for low fat if you can because it cooks faster I have found. Less raw in the middle = less time spent driving the meatball up and down a hot pan, which effectively increases the speed a lot more sense at the time. Silence removal, the intros and outros are considerably weirder. Also, the advertisements were almost incomprehensible: is that a bug or a feature? I noticed the same effects, but sub-
tler, when listening to Hello From the Magic Tavern. Now this article was actually running a bit late. To fulfill my meatball quota without my editors eviscerating me, I realized still higher speed was necessary. At 3× with silence removal, the ten-minute section of Hello Internet planning about high speed podcast listening is basically incom-
prehensible to me. However things made a lot more sense at the setting right below (a lot more than 2× - hoary unlabeled for axis points). I could understand every word if I paid attention, and the voices of the hosts were still distinct. However they generally sound ed a lot worse: they were no longer the smooth talkers who kept me up to date on flag news for years. Ultimately I cannot recommend speeds higher than 2× when multitasking, except if you are the podcasting out Apple products.
A few weeks ago, Saudi Arabian high school students were delightedly surprised to see the American film Star Wars, depicted in one of their history textbooks. Apparently, when Saudi King Faisal (a prince at the time) was signing the 1403 charter in San Francisco back in 1945, Yoda was calmly watching over the affair. At least, that is what the textbook says. The textbook page went viral on social media, the Saudi Minister of Education Ahmed bin Mohammed Al-Issa fired the under-secretary of curricula Dr. Mohammed bin Attia Al-Harthi. The minister also tweeted an apology for the "unintentional mistake" and set up a committee to investigate this mind trick.

This remarkable image of the role of the Jedi in diplomacy is the brainchild of the artist Abdullah Al Shehri, also known as "Shaweesh". Once upon a time, Mr. Shehri was looking through his childhood photos, inspired by the visual style of the Jedi in Star Wars, he embarked on a project to integrate elements of the Jedi Order into the history of the Middle East. After looking through many heartbreaking pages of war, politics, and pop culture, he ended up creating a series of artwork where American pop culture was edited into historical events. These works were showcased in galleries around the world. The photo was not made out of disinterest in the book, but rather to highlight the outsized slavery and spread public education during his 11 year reign over Saudi Arabia. Mr. Shehri made the particular image of Yoda at the UN because he thought the king and Yoda shared many good qualities. He described them both as "wise, strong and always calm." Yoda and the king were both known for their intelligence. Furthermore, Yoda and his light saber are both green, just like the flag of Saudi Arabia. Interestingly enough while the colors might be fitting, the original photo and the version from a galaxy far, far away are both black and white.

While we know about the artist behind the photo and under-secretary fired for it, the process by which the photo ended up in textbooks in the first place remains unknown. "I am the one who designed the image," said Mr. Shehri. He only found out about this debacle when his mother, a biology teacher, texted him about it. It is one drawback to Blade Runner 2049 is the pacing and run time. I think it is one of the better movies that you only need to watch once, as the slow and methodical pacing lets you absorb everything in time, and really think about what you’re seeing. This however draws out the run time to a whopping 2 hours and 43 minutes, which is long even by today’s standards. The movie honestly could have used an intermission, like Kubrik's A Space Odyssey. Overall I enjoyed Blade Runner 2049. I think that casual audiences won’t enjoy it due to its pacing and somewhat ambiguous ending, but fans of the original film will see this as a true sequel.

**Blade Runner 2049**

**A Terrific and Faithful but Inaccessible Sequel**

This remarkably faithful Blade Runner 2049 is a truly faithful sequel. Rather than try and eclipse the movie also left more questions unanswered, it needed. Something fun, something that makes it less depressing,” Mr. Shehri said. He only found a small part of the textbook page, and the image is only a small part of the image, and the image is only a small part of the textbook page. Maybe it was some sort of elaborate prank. Or perhaps the textbook makers, like Mr. Shehri, were fatigued by seeing so much of history swallowed up by the Dark Side of the Force.
Down:
1: Area where hockey is played
2: Bitcoin-like currency which isn’t 8x the value despite name (abbr)
3: Sport with “pizza”, “french fries” poses
4: 13 stripes are on this (three words)
5: “Like gold to ___ thinness beat”
6: Played in Olympia, Joe Louis, and Little Caesars
7: Superhuman video game speedrunners (abbr)
8: Successor to incandescent bulbs
9: Wiltfied Hurley’s nickname
10: Sports beardsmen like Brett Burns and Joe Thornton (abbr)
11: British equivalent to China’s opium
12: “Know your limit, play within it” corp.
13: “1T” author (initials)
14: An educational leadership institute (abbr)
15: Formerly the Pakistan Peoples’ party (last name)
16: Slang greeting
17: Space sci-fi TV series of early 2000s
18: An educational leadership institute (abbr)
19: Bus protocol with larger bus-widths than no standard
20: Number measuring air pollution
21: Mercury Sulphide
22: Charge for impaired driving (abbr)
23: Olympic headquarters in a big city
24: Form of confirmation
25: “I scroll through Instagram and keep Snapchat streaks.”
26: Non-neutral particle
27: Famous multi-tool (abbr)
28: Line break in html
29: Between 25% and 75% (abbr)
30: North America’s biggest baseball league’s games (abbr)
31: Pick up a hot dog before the third inning?
32: Ode to a brother-in-law
33: “Look at jobs, or things I’m interested in like side projects.”
34: To ignore someone
35: “Play Road Rash.”
36: “talk to my friends.”
37: Nickname of the 70s Bruins (abbr)
38: Between 25% and 75% (abbr)
39: Non-neutral particle
40: North America’s biggest baseball league’s games (abbr)
41: “Like gold to ___ thinness beat”
42: Used for air circulation
43: Created after a hockey stop
44: Form of confirmation
45: Form of confirmation
46: Ode to a brother-in-law
47: “I scroll through Instagram and keep Snapchat streaks.”
48: Founding year of the Las Vegas Golden Knights
49: 2006 Conn Smythe winner (last name)
50: Ode to a brother-in-law
51: “Like gold to ___ thinness beat”
52: Ode to a brother-in-law
53: “I scroll through Instagram and keep Snapchat streaks.”
54: Ode to a brother-in-law
55: Ode to a brother-in-law
56: Ode to a brother-in-law
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65: Ode to a brother-in-law
66: Ode to a brother-in-law
67: Ode to a brother-in-law
68: Ode to a brother-in-law
69: Ode to a brother-in-law

Across:
1: Former CEO of GM (initials)
2: “This tea is just a ___ too warm”
4: Memory cache used to reduce access time for user memory locations (abbr)
5: Made of a Heel, Toe, Shaft, and Butt End
6: An ear ___ helps you hear
7: Distractions
8: “What notes?”
9: “What do you do in class when you’re ‘taking notes’?”
10: “I’m on Reddit.”
11: Jordan Peterson refuses to call film “__”, says clown is clearly a “HIM”
12: Famous multi-tool (abbr)
13: Created after a hockey stop
14: An ear ___ helps you hear
15: “Like gold to ___ thinness beat”
16: “I scroll through Instagram and keep Snapchat streaks.”
17: Famous multi-tool (abbr)
18: Established time
19: “This tea is just a ___ too warm”
20: An ear ___ helps you hear
21: Famous multi-tool (abbr)
22: An ear ___ helps you hear
23: Established time
24: An ear ___ helps you hear
25: Established time
26: Established time
27: Established time
28: Established time
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Solutions for previous crosswords can be found on The Iron Warrior’s website at twarrior.uwaterloo.ca/distractions.