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# Teaching Excellence Initiative — David Cory



**FARZI YUSUFALI**  
3T NANOTECHNOLOGY

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## Can you briefly describe your research and its potential future uses?

We work on making quantum devices and, of course, quantum mechanics is at the foundation of the universe. Everything that we can do at the level that's uniquely quantum mechanical, we gain advantage over the classical world. We make quantum sensors, quantum actuators, and quantum computers (hopefully!) for which the applications are much broader than people recognize. If we want to image a single molecule, which would be great for drug discovery, quantum sensors are necessary to do that. To build a sensor that is sensitive to one molecular species and to differentiate it from another, quantum mechanics is a great way to do it; some examples include personalized medicine, environmental sensors, or even detection of past radiation events. Almost anywhere you can imagine, whether it's oil exploration to drug discovery to health to

environmental issues, there are places where quantum mechanics can make a difference. If you went into the labs, you would see a lot of different modalities. You will find labs that look very much like physics labs (which are low-temperature labs that operate under strong magnetic fields). In other labs, we use optics as opposed to [other available] labs that resemble materials science ones (where we grow devices, diamond, magnetic thin films). Some labs very much resemble chemistry labs where we grow two dimensional crystals. All of these labs have to come together in order to make quantum devices. Quantum devices are at the foundation of the world; yet, as we wander through the world, we never see something that is quantum. If you want to something to reveal its quantum nature, it takes a lot of new developments in engineering.

## What is the one application of quantum mechanics that is the weirdest or that most people would not recognize?

They're all weird! Anytime you have quantum mechanics operating in the real world, it's weird. Magnetic resonance imaging is something that many people have experience with but is, fundamentally, a quantum device; right now, there is constant work being done to improve the ability to use this device. A funny thing (that I'm not doing) but one of my former students is doing is that he's looking at electron spin resonance in fingernails because looking at the electron spin resonance signal in a nail can tell you about past radiation events. They are developing this as a tool so that, in the event that there was a dirty bomb or any other sort of horrible event, you can track it using people's fingernails to tell you if they were exposed to radiation or not.

## How does the approach of scientific research differ between the US and Canada?

Science is international. As we develop our science, we connect to an international community. If we ever advance in our lives, it doesn't mean anything until we can effectively and broadly share that. Moving here, I didn't actually change that community; before I came to Waterloo, I was already engaged with people in Canada and now that I'm in Waterloo, I'm still engaged with people in the United States, Europe, China, and Japan. I think that globally, there is no difference. As for locally, there are always strengths that each community has to offer; the Canadian system, perhaps, strives to have a very broad-based research initiative. In coming from MIT, which is a wonderful place with lots of energy, great students, and great colleagues, and then coming here (to Waterloo) which has the same great things, you can see the difference in culture. At the Institute of Quantum Computing, you're trying to do something collectively and part of the fun of being here is, when

I wake up in the morning and come to work, there is a bunch of colleagues that share my passion and that want to do something together in a specific area. In contrast, MIT is, noticeably, a collection of individuals (whereas Waterloo is a collection of groups). Waterloo has, at its

foundation, strong undergraduate programs and outreach through the co-op program that connects the university to students across the world at an early age. Waterloo is continuing to build something that, in my opinion, you can't find anywhere else in the world. It is taking an institute that is strong at co-op and simultaneously

uses that foundation to build a research university. At other universities, these activities are often separate. We have students working in labs during their co-op terms or travel to other universities to do research and, subsequently, bring those skills back to Waterloo. It's a wonderful new exploration to say that we don't have to choose one or the other, that we can do both well, and that we can do each of these activities because the other one is also here. As you come to a new place, you get to engage broadly with the community and you get to see people bring their vision here (like Feridun's [Hamdullahpur]) who has been able to share it across the institute).

## What do you think University of Waterloo needs improvement in currently as an institution?

I'm not sure I'd keep the word 'needs improvement' but I will say that the world changes. The context for how we deliver education and research continues to change; this is certainly true for education which is changing very rapidly at the moment. It's a good time to rethink and reinvent how we deliver education. As we bring people to the university who are contributing to the excellence in research, it is also important to engage them in the academic program because teaching is a very rewarding thing to do. When you build a community, you want the community to be rewarding and enabling to the individuals. As we're building our research-intensive university, part of the reward and the enabling is the ability to do great new science through engineering for which the rewards of having it done well are even better. That may be the piece that undergraduates don't recognize right away; research and, of course, education in the classroom is learning new things. When each activity is done well, one activity can communicate effectively with the other activity and it would be hard to imagine, for me, to be a professor and not to profess.

## How do you believe students should learn and why is this?

To teach students effectively, you have to engage them. It helps to believe that what you're teaching is interesting and to have some passion. You need to share with students that, when they walk out of the class, it's not enough that they've heard new things — they need to know that they can do new things. As I teach, whether it's here or MIT, one of the challenges is to convince students of their own capabilities. It's easy for students to not realize how much they can do; therefore, you need to find ways to challenge them so that they can discover for themselves how much they can achieve. You can see, whether it's a project or a design activity, or even a challenging homework assignment in a course or a being confronted with a problem in co-op, that these are the opportunities that you can learn for yourself that you are, in fact, capable; this is, of course, what I strive for. I put a lot of emphasis on homework and projects and don't care so much for what happens in a final exam. There is a place for final exams in that it's necessary to test some aspects of the coursework but does this equate itself to the question of 'are you capable?' You don't want somebody to equate their future success in a field with the ability to write a final exam.

## What kind of teaching styles do you use and why do you think it works?

I think, for me, teaching is to make sure that the students develop new skills and knowledge as well as a chance to display it. Students teach each other very effectively, therefore, one thing I like to do is to stop the class and ask the students a question that they're going to work on together. Spend a few minutes and let them learn from each other. This year, we tried a new method that worked really well; since we're in the QNC which has boards all over the place, we stopped and said, "Okay, let's go into the

hall and I'll hand out some really challenging problems. Break yourselves up into groups of four and five, take a board and work through the problem together while I and the TAs are there to help." Obviously, this is harder than something we'd normally ask them to do. The amount of interaction in the halls, where the students stayed late and really worked to the ends of the problems, really worked well. I was very impressed with the community of students at Waterloo — the interaction the students have and the self-motivated organization when they need to talk about the problem and learn it was great to see. If you want to learn something, you need to test your knowledge and testing your knowledge with a homework assignment or an exam is not very productive. Testing your knowledge by trying to describe what you know to a fellow student and then having them come back and probe you the questions is very effective; the more we can do that, the better.

## How would you adapt these methods to a broader course like Calculus?

Quantum mechanics is at the foundation of everything! You can't get any broader than that!

## Granted, but civil and mechanical engineers never touch the subject of Quantum Mechanics.

They should! When I was at MIT, I had PhD students from almost every department in MIT; that included Civil Engineering, of course, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Nuclear Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Bioengineering, Health Sciences, and even a student for business school. They all have important things to bring and the same thing will happen here. To answer your question, what happens when you're teaching Calculus? Again, there needs to be a dialogue that needs to be developed with the students and, of course, a set of skills. Calculus is challenging in that we teach tools without necessarily teaching the concepts or even, what I would call, skills. I would definitely try to find a way to go deeper...

## To try to, go towards the way you teach Quantum Mechanics with the sense of collaborating with students and giving practice problems and putting less emphasis on being able to write a final exam.

Absolutely! If I taught Calculus, there would be lots of homework!

## With that said, what's the one thing you struggle with when teaching a course like Quantum Mechanics?

There are a few things that I struggle with. I'm not organized; I can bring a lot of enthusiasm, I hope, but as one is teaching an undergraduate course, it always helps to have more organization and I always struggle with that. Of course, it always shows up in the way I organize things on the board, which is everywhere. I'll tell you, the best course I ever took was taught by a wonderful, brilliant, kind old man, Les Foldy, who was Oppenheimer's student; the worst course he would teach was general relativity. He started from the left and worked through all the way to the right and, finally, at the end of the right, he would write the last equation and then, he would say, "This is wrong. It should be this." He must have made a dozen errors in going from the left to the right — we had a rule in the class: nobody was allowed to correct him because, if you pointed out his mistake, he would stop (and it's very hard, at the board, to find your own mistake because you don't have any perspective as you can't get far enough away) and try to find the mistake. What we would do is, every day after class, we would all go and take over the same coffee shop, everyday, and we would work through the notes ourselves, correcting all the mistakes. At the end, even though it took an extra hour and it's not the way I aspire to teach, but it was a very effective learning experience.



**Would you say that, not necessarily on purpose, you ended up learning better than you would have if you copied the notes blindly?**

Absolutely! Remember that learning is an active process, it can't be done passively and so how ever people get engaged in the process of learning, it's always good. The engagement that I see here, of students getting together and talking about whether it's homework or a problem or a lecture or last year's quiz, is really beneficial. I would go very far out of my way to make sure that those conversations occur. Sometimes, they should, of course, occur with the faculty and TAs but then, if you're able to convince your fellow students that you know something, then you probably really do know it.

**Because the best way to learn is to teach someone else. Given that you've mentioned that you like the collective nature of how students learn, a big part of that has to do with the cohort system considering that we see the same people eight hours a day, every day, for five years. There is talk of introducing a system where it is more like the other faculties where you have a certain set of courses that you have to take but can take it whenever you like as opposed to progressing with a class; do you think this would be detrimental?**

I haven't thought of that because I haven't been a part of that discussion. I find it extraordinary that the students sit there in the same seats and that it's the faculty that come and go; I know, as a student, I would go crazy. However, I'm amazed at how collegial and well-run the student population is (which is a real strength in the program) and so, I hope that there's more flexibility within the program but I wouldn't want to lose the sense of a shared experience which the Nano program has right now.

**What's the best critique you've gotten or the one critique you took to heart?**

I find that it works when students come to ask something directly after the class. In class, you'll notice that I try to hit important points twice such that I'll give a lecture and then, during the next lecture, I'll compact it with a little bit more organization. The reason why I do that is, from discussions with students, when you see material for the first time, it's very difficult to figure out how it fits together. You need to have the second look at it after you've had a chance to think about it. If students think about it first, then it works well. I used to teach Introductory Electronics at MIT where I would teach an electronics course for non-EE majors (so everyone else at MIT besides electrical engineers). Very much like the Quantum

Mechanics course in Nano, the Electronics course had to cover everything in one semester but still be useful. I changed the course from how it was taught; it used to be taught where lectures were given and then there were a bunch of labs at different random times. I changed it so that we built a new lab and, after the lecture, we would all stand up and walk together to the lab (I would be in the lab) and we would spend a couple of hours doing something that would start off as pretty directive to 'I want you to build something that does this,' so that you had to bring some ideas. We'd go around every lab connected to the lectures and talk to every group of students and find out 'what did they know' or 'what didn't they know' or 'what did work' or 'what didn't work.' You combine the efficient means of communicating to a group with the local means of 'let me hear what you know' (thereby catering to the individual's needs). I would love to do that with Quantum Mechanics as well (where you'd attach a lab component somehow to every lecture).

**How has the Quantum Mechanics course changed since you first taught it?**

I can thank you [the 2014 Nano class] for putting in all that work. Based on the first year I taught in the Nano program, we've changed the course so that it has a bit more application and more uses of quantum mechanics. I think we'll continue to do that; the first time I taught it, the comments about 'what is this good for' were a little bit too

throwaway but now, this is more central to the course. I hope, at some point, as the curriculum for Nano develops, that there will be a second course in senior year where we can teach quantum design and quantum devices as you take the information and apply it in the light of everything you've learned as well. It would be fun to put more devices into what's taught in Nano.

**In the interest for Nano students, what analog course is there on campus that you could direct us to that would give us this education or, if there isn't one, what is something the Nano students can look into in the event that there isn't an option for this technical elective course in fourth year?**

There are good courses in Electrical Engineering [in photonics for those interested] where you can go learn the material. There's a beautiful structure to photonics and so it's a nice thing to learn and teach. I would hope we can do something more, that we could say, 'now if you're sitting in the quantum world, you can do these things that you can't do otherwise.' One of the pieces you want to give students as they're leaving a program is to put them on a trajectory to developing on their own. A key measure, today, of success of an academic program is how effectively you've taught 'lifetime learning.' Lifetime learning does not mean you take night school; what it means is that you decide that you're going to go in this direction and you're going to make a habit of learn-

ing. You're going to be pushing against the frontier and if you want them to push against the frontier after they leave, it helps them to bring them to the frontier first and that's what we can do. IQC is well-positioned to bring them to the frontier; the lovely thing is that IQC added a lot of young faculty members and continues to do (so there are great opportunities). In the area of photonics, we've just hired Michael Buchin from Stanford who's an expert in nanophotonics.

**To the effect of bringing students to the frontier and promoting a lifelong habit of learning, do you think the technical electives bring students up to that point or are we still (sort of)...stuck?**

No, we're not stuck! We're enabled to do anything we like so we should do something good and great. It helps to not speak too broadly and to say, 'Ah! Where can we make a difference?' Even for a place that's as big as the University of Waterloo, you can't do everything. One of the advice I give to students is that it's important to take courses for more than just, 'yes, I have to learn all of these things.' You also need to look around and say, 'Oh! I know I can learn this piece; I don't know why this is necessarily useful but there's a great professor who's very enabling of future ideas and I know it will be a wonderful experience.' To populate your life with wonderful experiences...

**Any and regardless of the knowledge you get, it's all equal. Going off of that, is there somebody in your past that set the tone as to what your career was going to be?**

There were many; Les Foldy, who I already mentioned, is probably the top example at Case Western Reserve University (where I went to school). The final physics course in everything was always taught by him as a nice end-all in university.

**Was it his teaching style or his enthusiasm?**

His enthusiasm, his knowledge... You want somebody who you never have to guess, 'Does this person really know this subject?' Demonstrably, you want somebody who knows what they're talking about and is a very practical [hands-on] person. When it came time to doing something, he could do it; you want to build that into the program such that students see, right in front them, that 'Yes, you can make a difference.' He was the kind of person who inspired you to say, 'let's see what I can do with this or contribute to it' (rather than the normal nine-to-five and doing something that the person before you has done). I hope that I can bring some of that enthusiasm and share some passion.



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# Point Vs. Counterpoint

POINT

**MEAGAN CARDNO**  
IT NANOTECHNOLOGY

Internet culture has given us several images and symbols that we cannot help but associate with certain ideas. Perhaps one of the most memorable is that of the Guy Fawkes mask, most easily identified with the Anonymous movement of online activism and their efforts. However, the idea of anonymity has existed far before the group's beginnings, and far before the birth of the internet. Perhaps one of the biggest problems that arise with our generation's current passion for the internet is just how much we now seem to think of it as a simple human right rather than a privilege. Don't mistake this for me belittling invasion of privacy though, it is a very serious issue. Especially considering how much talk there already is concerning the NSA and spying. The main issue is when we confuse our rights as humans with our rights to safety.

The new bill passed by the Canadian government is not one aimed to strip people of their freedom to speak, or their freedom to protest or any other liberty that they currently possess. It is one aimed to keep protests peaceful, and to minimize illegal activity during such large, public events.

One of the biggest factors to consider during any large assembly of people is the authorities' concern for public safety. Most often the number of police available for security during such gatherings is insignificant in comparison to the amount of civilians and protesters. As many of these events are fueled by legitimate sentiments and passions for change, there are also worries of emotions running too high, and dangerous actions can be incited given the right circumstances.

People who seek to start riots and perform other destructive activities at protests can be easily lost in the mayhem, and so successfully identifying them during the event itself is often the difference between charges being pressed and the agitator getting off scott-free. When authorities are facing a sea of identical faceless protesters in masks, the task of identifying perpetrators can become impossible. Investigation quickly reduces to an endless process of interrogation and finger-pointing, with minimal success rates. In extreme cases police are sometimes

## Should Canadian Citizens Be Allowed to Wear Masks During Unlawful Assembly

**CAITLIN MCLAREN**  
IT CHEMICAL

left with no choice but to detain absurd numbers of protesters. Sometimes they even have to detain all people present at the event just to settle matters. Not only is this a huge undertaking both in magnitude of size and time, but it pleases neither the protesters nor the authorities and often more harm is accomplished than good in the process. Such undertakings can be avoided with the new law prohibiting concealed identities — violators of public safety can be identified, detained, and charged in a much more efficient manner.

One of the biggest issues people have against the new law seems to be for people who have legitimate reasons for wanting their identities hidden, such as risk of losing their job if they are recognized at the protests and their employers do not agree with their political views. While this is most definitely an unfortunate circumstance, and one that I personally do sympathize with and hope will change in the future, I do also believe that sometimes such sacrifices increase the impact — and are sometimes necessary — when conducting such politically-sensitive protests. By allowing your own identity to be attributed to the movement, you are committing to it far more seriously than those who feel the need to shield themselves from potential ridicule and consequences. If one felt strong enough about a cause to proactively protest and seek change in the matter, one should also be willing to commit personal sacrifices to the cause. One human face at a protest should be worth one hundred masks.

In short, the Canadian bill should be the first in many steps towards cleaner, safer protesting in the country. Anonymity has a time and a place when it comes to activism, but unfortunately physical protests is not one of them. The time has come for people to start valuing personal safety over attempts at artistic symbolism. It is time to respect our protesters as the humans they are, risking more than just their time, and not just a mask on the street or another statistic in tomorrow's headline.

As of June 19, it is now illegal to wear a mask while attending an unlawful assembly. The penalty for doing so can be up to 10 years in prison. Needless to say, this is highly controversial.

The controversy is mainly due to the fact that this is a law that deals with and restricts civil liberties, while at the same time involves protests and activism. Furthermore, the Bill C-309 is a pile of excessive buffoonery that will serve no useful purpose except create a hassle and increase already-great police powers.

In the first place, there is already an existing law, against "Disguise with intent" while committing a criminal act. The more astute readers will have no doubt observed that it is unlawful to attend unlawful assemblies. Thus, there are plenty of laws just waiting to prosecute ill-intentioned rioters. The only possible purpose Bill C-309 serves is to increase the punishment that can be dealt to such people, few of whom do much damage. Very few indeed commit crimes that in the ordinary course of things would lead to ten years of imprisonment!

If this law is to be strictly enforced, it will lead to many perfectly harmless people being imprisoned, costing taxpayers money and wasting police resources. If it is not to be strictly enforced, what on earth is the point? There is, however, one further option: it could be used specifically against protest leaders and other individuals whom the police consider to be an unusual threat, while in the meantime less high-profile activists will be tacitly ignored. This is in fact plain discrimination, and the worst option of the three in terms of civil rights.

Meanwhile, there are other cans of worms that this bill might open: that of religious head coverings. While the bill does specify that those with a "lawful excuse" may continue to cover their faces, how long before such an issue arises? Perhaps

COUNTERPOINT

bigoted police officers will cause trouble when confronting people who wear such coverings. Perhaps non-religious protesters will use such provisions as a flimsy excuse while committing crimes, causing legal hassle and baseless accusations of discrimination against honest police officers. The law could easily cause trouble for everyone.

What is more, how will this law actually be applied? Perhaps Anonymous masks stand in clear violation, but what about face paint? If face paints are overly blatant, what about heavy make-up? Many members of subcultures, such as goths and punks, wear a good deal of make-up every day: perhaps not coincidentally, these types are commonly seen at protests. Suppose the police were grasping for excuses, say, sunglasses make people difficult to recognise. Would sunglasses now be illegal to wear at protests? Suppose protesters took to growing a beard or moustache before protests, and shaving them off afterwards? Or vice versa? These situations could be considered as instances of identity concealment, and under the new law, could be prosecuted.

What many people do not realize is that a peaceful protest becomes an "unlawful assembly" the moment the police say it is. The potential here for abuse of police power is astronomical. Imagine a protest against police corruption, or some police brutality scandal. With such a harsh punishment available for people who commit the crime of concealing their face, which in itself is completely harmless, think how easily police with something to hide could silence those speaking against them.

In fact, the police admit that this law is intended to make it easier to break up "potential" riots, and to pre-emptively arrest suspicious characters. This overly vague nonsense merely emphasises the fact that this is a law explicitly designed to arrest those who have done nothing.

Bill C-309 is a pointless restriction on civil liberties and a dangerous weapon in the hands of an unscrupulous policeman or politician. It does not serve to protect the public from danger, and it expands police power to an alarming extent. There is no reasonable justification for its existence.

### 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.



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Nominations for the Memorial Leadership Award can originate from student groups, faculty members, or other individuals. A Letter of Nomination and Letters of Support from colleagues, faculty, and others familiar with the nominee's accomplishments are extremely important and form the major basis upon which the Executive Committee of the Sandford Fleming Foundation will form its decision. Nominations must be submitted to the Foundation by August 31, 2013 and/or before the last day of the student's 3A term.

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# Human Papillomavirus Vaccine Works

## Doesn't Increase Incidence of Sexual Activity



**NANCY HUI**  
3N CIVIL

The vaccine against human papillomavirus (HPV) infections has been found to be more effective than expected. A study published in *The Journal of Infectious Diseases* stated that since the vaccine was introduced in 2006, the incidence of HPV has decreased 56% among all, vaccinated and unvaccinated, females aged 14 to 19, including those who had not been vaccinated. Amongst vaccinated females, HPV incidence decreased 88%. Introducing the vaccine at a younger age prevents the virus from being passed through other sexually active people later on in life and lowers the incidence of certain cancers of the

whole population in the future.

HPV consists of a group of 150 viruses, of which 40 can be spread through direct skin-to-skin contact.

HPV itself is usually not dangerous, since around 75% of men and women have HPV infections during their lifetimes, most of which resolve themselves and do not cause cancer. However, a few HPV strains such as HPV types 16 and 18 cause nearly all cases of cervical cancer and anal cancer. HPV types 16 and 18 are also responsible for half of vaginal, vulvar, throat, and penile cancers, and have been also been linked to oral cancers. HPV infections cause 5% of all cancers worldwide. However, it is important to apply Bayesian reasoning and remember that most HPV infections do not cause cancer.

Because of the high rate of prevalence and general harmlessness of the infection,

STD tests do not usually screen for HPV. Pap tests can be conducted for females to identify lesions and cytologic abnormalities that may result because of HPV and progress into cervical cancer if left untreated. There are currently no FDA-approved tests to detect HPV infections in men. There is also currently no medical treatment for HPV infections, but precancerous lesions can be exised in various ways, such as through freezing, surgical removal, or with lasers.

Since it would be commercially unviable to develop vaccines that protect against all strains of HPV, vaccines are developed to protect against a few strains that are linked to cancer.

However, only a third of girls 13-17 have taken the full three-stage vaccine against HPV. This may have been caused by parental fear that vaccinated against a

sexually transmitted disease would promote promiscuity among teenagers. But along with showing the decrease in HPV incidence, the study also found that sexual behaviour did not vary significantly between groups of vaccinated and unvaccinated females.

The vaccine was introduced to 11 year old girls in 2006 and recommended for boys in 2011. Unfortunately there is no data as to how many boys have received the vaccine.

There are currently two HPV vaccines available: Gardasil and Cervarix. Gardasil is covered by the undergraduate university health plan, and offered in Health Services for male and female students. Gardasil protects against HPV types 17 and 18, responsible for 70% of cervical cancers, and HPV types 6 and 11, associated with 90% of genital warts.

# Human-centred Design and the Developmental Politics



**ROB REID**  
EWB JUNIOR FELLOW

I like to say that anyone who's human is already an expert in human-centred design. We see around us many poorly designed products, processes, and organizations/structures, which I find really frustrating because all it takes is some empathy and humility to design well. Good designs lie at the intersection of technical feasibility, financial viability, and user desirability. As engineering students, we take courses looking at all three of these to some extent, but for most programs the emphasis is on the technical side. In addition, very traditional management structures separate "engineering" as the strictly technical part of a given task. Professional engineering ethics dictate a duty to society, and typically people would like to contribute personally to society as well, however this aim is constrained by the inability to do higher-level design.

The ideal human-centred design process, as used by the philanthropic arm of the legendary design house IDEO, has a few steps. First, qualitative research is used to get a basic level of understanding about different potential users. Then this research is synthesized to develop broader themes.

Within this landscape, opportunities for solutions in different areas are identified, and specific products/processes are brainstormed (directly with users if possible). The best ideas are then prototyped and iterated upon to test assumptions made to overcome missing and imperfect information and interpretation. Finally, a design passes a tolerance and may be scaled up and deployed. Good processes don't end here, and the design continues to be monitored to influence similar designs in the future. Because the process relies heavily on user input and feedback and goes through real-world testing, if followed it produces something more driven by user needs than typical engineering ways of thinking. In my job at tech startup VOTOMobile.org, I'm constantly coming back with usability feedback to our software developers who have designed based on how the languages they use. If I get them to step back and look at the product from the user perspective, they understand me, but intentionally taking that point of view is not part of their daily work routine yet.

In addition to producing more desirable designs, human-centred design can also be looked at as a political statement. Governments forming policies based on recommendations from technocrats can easily be ineffective even if they made sense on paper. Designing from the user side forces

technical decisions to be made in a different way, and thus changes the way the government works and thinks. For example, classic macroeconomic theory says that unemployment insurance creates disincentives for value-adding job-seeking and entrepreneurship, increases unemployment, and results in dead weight added to the economy. However, if you are designing something the address unemployment, looking at unemployed people and potential employers as users, you might design something different. You might realize that people are looking for access to credit and mentorship to start their own businesses, or that the social pressure to be employed is a stronger motivator to work than unemployment insurance is a motivator to not work. Whatever you found, it would probably be different than the simplified, clinical theories used by policy makers and would push the government somewhere new.

Although human-centred design is powerful, it is not without limitations. For one, it limits itself to what people will say they want. This is not always the best choice, as people have imperfect knowledge and might never anticipate that going in an unexpected direction could be beneficial. Secondly, the iteration process is similarly prone to finding local optima and will typically not produce a revolutionary redesign, even if it would be beneficial. In the end,

human-centred design is just one lens to use a designer, but one that typically is ignored by designers who have been raised to believe they know more about what would work for their users than their users. In the development sector, this view is pervasive, and in addition to enforcing a damaging colonial mindset, also results in ineffective projects.

There is a project just up the road from our work and living space in Kumasi, Ghana. A sign tells us that USAID, WSUP, CARE, and WaterAid are responsible for the borehole and water tower the was put up to give people access to water. However, you can immediately see that they have overlooked the drainage system necessary after water is provided, and a filthy puddle persists in the middle of the road where the gutter crosses. From the perspective of someone living there (like me) who cares about not getting diseases and wet feet, I would want to give some feedback to USAID and friends, but they have not included any contact information on their sign. What is the point of the sign anyway? I don't even know who all these groups are or what they do. chainlink and razor-wire around the bottom exacerbated the fact that I now feel like I can't participate in the community, and toward these NGOs I feel distanced from and patronized, their water tower much higher than my house or any of the other buildings around. USAID even writes "From the people of America" on their projects, making me feel worse about not being American. In this situation, applying user-centred design to consider my feeling that I want to be involved in my community is quite revolutionary. External donors and NGOs fundamentally believe that they have better ways of doing things than they people they want to serve do (and they often do). It's a persistent tension in development, as Eric Dudley puts it "The very idea of doing good implies an us and a them. This is an embarrassment we cannot escape." Attention to my concerns of feeling like I have no voice builds ideas of indigenous sovereignty into the system, something that doesn't typically come with foreign development interventions, especially in Canada where domestic indigenous sovereignty is treated with such little urgency.

Human centred-design can offer valuable new perspectives, and presents a way of legitimizing grassroots concerns to traditionally exclusive structures. As engineers or as designers in other roles, I would encourage trying the process out. A great place to start is IDEO.org's Human-Centred Design Toolkit, available free from their website.

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# Texas Pro-choice Filibuster Barely Succeeds

**JAMES MACLEAN**  
3A NANOTECHNOLOGY

As many may know Texas has a very large Christian population combined with being a Republican state, creating a very pro-life atmosphere. Despite this Texans have enjoyed access to abortions since Roe v. Wade. Republicans have introduced multiple bills in the past few years to ban or hinder the clinics. This month an anti-abortion bill, HB2, disguised as a health regulation bill was introduced. Its purpose was to create requirements for abortion clinics that were so hard to meet that the majority of the abortion clinics in the state would be closed from financial failure. Although Republican leaders have directly claimed these measures will make abortions safer, doctors have condemned the bill, calling the requirements proposed unreasonable.

For pro-choice Texans this bill would be a nightmare. Texas already has a high unplanned pregnancy rate especially among teens and those in poverty. Many are just

ashamed that we still have to fight for the right to an abortion. However Senator Wendy Davis, a pro-choice Democrat took a stand on Capitol Hill to prevent these measures from passing. To do this without having majority support in the senate she performed an unorthodox move called a filibuster.

A filibuster is a loophole in the rules that allows a speaker to delay government proceedings. The rules vary depending on the situation but in this case a filibuster involved a person refusing to yield the floor by talking continuously often for hours until the end of the session so that there was no time for a vote to be made. However due to the physical and mental stress needed to successfully perform a filibuster they are quite uncommon. Admittedly the ability for one person to halt the progress of the entire government is somewhat anti-democratic, perhaps even deceitful. However in this case the Governor had called for a special session to pass the bill. Unlike a normal senate session in which two thirds of the vote is needed to pass the bill, this time Republi-

cans only needed a majority. Wendy called this a "raw abuse of power" and responded accordingly with a nearly 13 hour long filibuster.

Thousands watched the situation online as the session came to a close Tuesday night. While politics is often dull, this was anything but. Wendy Davis stood for over 12 hours, talking continuously about abortion and how this law must not be passed. However, one catch is that she had to remain on topic or risk losing the floor and therefore fail the filibuster. As the day began to end, she received a third and final warning for being off topic around 11:30 p.m. and was forced to yield the floor. For the next half hour Texans and their supporters expressed anger at her removal and worried that the vote may pass. The hash tag #standwithwendy and "Let Her Speak" exploded over Twitter and Facebook. Those physically situated at the State Building were not content sitting by idly. By creating noise, distractions, and rushing into the room, pro-choice supporters were able to delay the vote un-

til almost exactly midnight. The vote was called at 12:02 a.m., two minutes after the session should have ended. Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst immediately attempted to declare it legitimate and within the required time frame despite objection from Democrats. The next morning a review of the situation revealed that the vote was indeed after midnight and therefore illegitimate. Texas women and families are able to keep their right to abortion a little longer.

Unfortunately, Texas Governor Rick Perry has vowed to continue to push pro-life laws and has already called for a second special session to pass this same bill. In a special session only a majority vote is needed for the bill to pass and therefore minority democrats in Texas may not be able keep delaying restrictions on abortions. However this event surprised many Texans and the rest of the world with the number and energy of those in Texas supporting Wendy Davis. Although Republicans have dominated Texan politics for years, the Democrats are hopeful that things may begin to change.

# Boycott of Lethal Injection Drugs May Force Use of Gas Chambers in Missouri



**MICHAEL LAANVERE**  
3A MECHANICAL

Currently, pharmaceutical companies throughout the world are refusing to sell the drugs used in lethal injections to correctional facilities. This has caused shortages in many states and has caused most states to switch from a three-drug protocol to a one-drug protocol.

The standard method of lethal injection uses a three-drug combination: an anaesthetic (usually pentobarbital), a paralytic agent (pancuronium bromide), and potassium chloride which stops the heart.

Now many states have switched to using just one lethal dose of anaesthetic due to shortages of the other drugs.

The anaesthetic formerly used was sodium thiopental. The only US manufacturer of the drug stopped producing it in 2011 due to controversy over its use in executions. Sodium thiopental cannot be imported into the US because it is used for the purpose of executions which is unapproved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This caused many states to change their anaesthetic to pentobarbital. Pentobarbital is the same drug used to euthanize animals. The manufacturers of pentobarbital have refused to sell their drug for executions and require all medical facilities who buy it to sign a document saying the drug won't be used for executions.

Lethal Injection Supply State-by-State			
State	1-drug protocol?	Remaining Supply	Notes
Alabama	No	Unknown	Switch to pentobarbital caused executions to be on hold while courts review.
Arizona	Yes	Two executions	
Arkansas	Yes	None	Plans to use phenobarbital. No other state has used or has planned to use phenobarbital.
California	No	Unknown	Executions on hold due to challenge in courts
Colorado	No	Unknown	Executions on hold due to challenge in courts
Delaware	No	Unknown	
Florida	No	Unknown	
Georgia	Yes	None	Last supply of drugs expired March 1, 2013
Idaho	Yes	Unknown	
Indiana	No	Unknown	
Louisiana	Yes	Unknown	Executions on hold while courts evaluate 1-drug method
Mississippi	No	Unknown	Executions on hold due to challenge in courts
Missouri	Yes	Three executions	Executions on hold while courts evaluate 1-drug method. Only state that plans on using propofol, the drug Michael Jackson overdosed on.
Nebraska	No	100 executions	Nebraska imported Sodium Thiopental from India. FDA ordering them to turn it over. Nebraska refuses. Case is in Federal Courts
Nevada	No	Unknown	Executions on hold due to challenge in courts
North Carolina	No	Unknown	Executions on hold due to challenge in courts
Ohio	Yes	None	Last supply expired September 2012
Oklahoma	No	20 executions	
Oregon	No	None	Oregon sold all its drugs to a wholesaler after Governor vowed there to would be no executions while he is in office
South Carolina	No	Unknown	
South Dakota	Yes	Unknown	
Tennessee	No	None	
Texas	Yes	23 Executions	
Utah	No	Unknown	
Virginia	No	Unknown	
Washington	Yes	Unknown	Choice of 1- or 3-drug method
Wyoming	No	Unknown	

deathpenaltyinfo.org

The switch to a one-drug injection has caused lethal injections throughout the US to be postponed due to court challenges stating that the one-drug method constitutes cruel and unusual punishment. These delays are causing problems for states like Missouri because their dwindling supply of drugs are set to expire relatively soon.

Hangings, electrocution, firing squad,

and lethal gas are secondary methods that can be used depending on the state in which the execution is being performed. The electric chair was last used in Virginia last January, firing squad was last used June 2010 in Utah, and lethal gas was last used in March 1999 in Arizona. The Attorney General in Missouri, Chris Koster, is now advocating the use of gas chambers, the only other allowable method in Missouri,

for executions while the courts decide whether one-drug injections are legal.

Missouri currently has no gas chambers, its only gas chamber is now a tourist attraction. If Missouri decides to start using gas chambers they will have to build new ones. The table above illustrates drug protocols for executing convicts sentenced to the death penalty for those states which still utilize capital punishment.

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# Not Representing Students is Hard Work and You Should Too

**SEAN HUNT**

UNDERGRAD. STUDENT GOVERNOR

The last week has been a bit of a blur for me. Last Tuesday, at the meeting of the Board of Governors of the University, I set aside my role as a student representative. As is the duty of every governor, I made my decision on each matter before the Board in what I believed to be the best interests of the University. Accordingly, I voted in favour of the tuition increase effective this term.

In making that vote, I did not put any consideration into the measures that the administration had taken and would take to ensure that students were properly in-

formed about the increase. I wish I had, because although I think that my final vote would not have been changed, I could have asked the administration more about their implementation plans and maybe have changed the way they did things. As it was, the fact that the increase was happening in the middle of the term went mostly unremarked.

Since then, there's been a flurry of activity as students noticed the new fees, got upset, and started talking about it. In a hurry, I decided to do an AMA (for Ask Me Anything, a form of open Q&A period) on Reddit on Thursday evening. I spent most of Thursday morning running around the University to get more information so that

I could be sure I was giving accurate answers rather than just speculation, and then I spent several hours Thursday evening doing the AMA itself.

Being a student representative, even when you're not actually representing students directly such as at the Governor's meeting, is hard work. It takes a lot of energy to do a good job, and with a few exceptions — I'm not one of them — is entirely unpaid. I still have much to do: there are some follow-ups I need to make with students from the AMA and I, along with others, need to talk to the administration about the plans going forward to prevent this sort of thing from happening again.

As a student body, it is very important

that we have representatives willing to stand up and take this time to work on behalf of their fellows. But somehow, this does not often materialize. Elections for senators and for Students' Council are often not elections but acclamations, because only one candidate wanted the job. At MathSoc Council this week, Council decided to affirm the statement made by the Federation's Students' Council on tuition increases without so much as a question asked. We owe it to ourselves to stand up and have real elections, real discourse, real debate, because if we do, then what will we say to the University will carry that much more weight and that much more force.

What do you do for your fellow students?

## CHL to Ban European Goaltenders



**ANDREW  
MCMAHON**  
3A ENVIRONMENTAL

The Canadian Hockey League (CHL) draft that took place last Wednesday was the last time that a European goaltender will be drafted to a team in the CHL. The league announced June 10 that goalies born in Europe would be ineligible for the entry draft starting in 2014, all goaltenders eligible for the draft in 2013 could still be selected and have the ability to play out the remainder of their eligible years in the league.

The CHL is comprised of three leagues: the Western Hockey League (WHL), the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League (QMJHL), and the Ontario Hockey League (OHL). The league gives players aged 16 to 20 from around the world an opportunity to develop their skills against other players the same age as them, and produces

many of the players taken in the NHL entry draft. In fact, 13 out of every 18 players in the 2012 entry draft came from the three leagues. In North America, the league is something of a natural stepping stone in a young player's development and the league also serves as an alternative for European born players who don't want to jump straight from minor hockey into one of the men's leagues that the region is famous for. However this is no longer an option for European goaltenders, since the CHL recently made a decision to ban the drafting of European goalies starting in 2014.

The new policy is intended to benefit both the North American goalie system as well as the European system. The CHL is hoping to give more opportunities to homegrown talent as opposed to bringing over teenage goaltenders from Europe to play in the league(s).

Since 2004 there have been 52 European goalies taken in the CHL draft; of those goalies just 11 of them have gone on to play in the NHL, three of which have gone

on to become starting goaltenders (Jaroslav Halak, Michael Neuvirth and Ondrej Pavelec), none of whom have won a Stanley Cup or a Vezina Trophy. What does all of this mean? There seems to be evidence that while a number of European goaltenders are playing in the CHL, very few of them are going on to have successful professional careers in the NHL. Today's best European goaltenders (Rask, Rinne, Backstrom, Vokoun, Varlamov, Hiller, Fasth) all stayed home and played in a men's league until they were ready to come to the NHL. This indicates the CHL's policy change may have little effect.

On a related note the NHL draft took place two Fridays ago, and it will be interesting to see how the changes to the CHL's goalie policy will affect the goalie market in future drafts. Despite all of the free agent signing madness that went on last Friday, let's not forget that teams were making trades on draft day as they jostled for positions in an attempt to secure the futures of their franchises. The Winnipeg Jets

acquired Michael Frolik from the Chicago Blackhawks in exchange for a third and a fifth round pick. The Vancouver Canucks shocked much of the hockey world when they sent Cory Schneider to the New Jersey Devils for the ninth pick in the first round. The Toronto Maple Leafs acquired David Bolland from the Blackhawks for second and fourth round picks in 2013 and a fourth round pick in 2014. The San Jose Sharks traded a second round pick to the Penguins for Tyler Kennedy. The Islanders traded Nino Niederreiter to the Minnesota Wild in exchange for Cal Clutterbuck and a third round pick.

It will be interesting to see if the goaltending landscape in the NHL will be affected by this new policy that the CHL has put in place. As things stand right now, it appears that European countries will benefit from more of their goalies training and developing in their home nations and the North American goalies will benefit from the increase in opportunity to develop alongside premier talent in the CHL.

## Introducing Mickey Mouse in Steamboat Willie!



**JOSHUA KALPIN**  
2B SOFTWARE

THE SHORT SHORT REVIEW

Hello readers and welcome back to the Short Short Review! Just as a refresher, in this column I attempt to review a short film or story in a really short number of words. This week, I'll be reviewing the short film that features the first appearance of Mickey Mouse ever, *Steamboat Willie*, in 420 words, the length of the film in seconds.

*Steamboat Willie* was originally released in 1928 and not only features the aforementioned Mickey Mouse, but Minnie Mouse as well. The film is in black and white and is presented with no dialogue, as was consistent with most films of the period.

The film primarily focuses on Mickey, who is working on a steamboat that appears to be transporting a number of animals. The first half of the film mainly focuses on Mickey steering the boat, moving animals, cleaning and other boating duties. In the second half of the film, Minnie arrives and an impromptu jam session occurs on the boat with the animals and boat supplies serving as instruments. This plot is fairly simple, but

the emphasis on music throughout already shows the telltale signs of more modern Disney films.

Speaking of sounds, the music in the film is spot on and incredibly catchy. The film opens up with what is now known as the "Steamboat Willie theme." You probably have heard this before in any modern Disney film in which Mickey whistles it. The sound effects and other music are also perfectly crafted and really allow the film to have a certain level of nostalgia.

In terms of look, it is very difficult to review a film like this because of its age. However, the black and white hand-drawn graphics pop and really manage to portray the emotion of the characters. It also is important to note that Mickey and Minnie in this film look very similar to the modern versions of the characters. It really tells how well drawn the film is, considering the design has lasted almost a century.

Overall, *Steamboat Willie* is a classic example of why Disney was and still is a tour-de-force in animated films. The plot is playful and entertaining. Furthermore, the music and look of the film are timeless, even though it was made almost a century ago. *Steamboat Willie* gets five whistling mice out of five for being just plain amazing. That is all for this week, next week is the last issue of the term and I will be reviewing something completely different once again. Stay Tuned!

## (Bunches of) Highly Variable Bacon Recipes



**CAITLIN MCLAREN**  
1T CHEMICAL

A HIGHLY VARIABLE X RECIPE

Everybody loves them some bacon! Crispy, tasty, salty... it's the perfect food. There are tonnes of things you can do with it — sandwiches and salads are just the beginning.

If you don't eat pork or meat, I'll be giving some alternatives. You have no excuse!

1. Popcorn: Drizzle the bacon grease over popcorn. Instead of butter, not in addition, you fool. Break up the bacon itself into little pieces and mix it in with the popcorn. Add salt and cheese to taste.

Alternatively, you can make sweet popcorn, using dried or fried apple and cinnamon instead of bacon. Syrup can replace the bacon grease — maple, Aunt Jemima's, or cough.

2. Bacon Banana Bread: Mix bacon in with your banana bread — Use your own recipe. Half a cup or so of crumbled bacon will be good. It may sound odd, but think about it, there is salt in banana bread and there is oil or fat. It won't be that odd, just a little interesting (and bacony.)

Alternatively, fry some bananas in a little salt, chop them up, and use them the same way.

3. Bacon Brittle: Like peanut brittle, except with bacon. Boil one part water and two parts sugar in a saucepan for 8-10 minutes. Stir in one part peanuts and a spoonful of butter, with spices to taste. At the same time, add in a few chopped-up slices of bacon.

Alternatively, use chocolate or candy, with a bit of salt.

If you don't eat peanuts, see above, but replace the peanuts with either sweets or a snack cereal. you can also use your imagination, there are dozens of things you can put in brittle.

4. Bacon and Date Appetizers: Quite simple, actually. Slit the dates open, and stuff almonds outside, and wrap them in uncooked strips of bacon. Bake the appetizers until the bacon is crispy. Voila!

Alternatively, use thin strips of sweet dough; buttery dough, like that used in croissants.

5. Bacon as a garnish: You can add bacon to anything. Literally. Crumbled bacon makes an excellent topping for cookies and cupcakes. Use it on a cake or like peanuts on icing. Bacon works really well when paired with maple; sprinkling bacon bits on top of maple icing is positively delicious.

I can also suggest the good old standby: maple walnut. If you feel like being weirder, you can use fake bacon; obviously, that goes for all of the above recipes.

Good luck, and happy bacon-ing!

# Kickoff the Night with Scotch Tasting



Good evening loyal readers,

This week we will not be talking about what we are drinking at the moment, which happens to be the Ammarone which we wrote about in article two, but rather what we drank a couple weeks ago, which is Scotch!

On June 23, Derek and Graeme had a grand adventure and took Bill's Distillers Edition Scotch Class, and it was [Spoiler Alert] wonderful. This class was intended to be a follow up to Bill's Scotch 101 class, which Derek and I were both unable to attend, luckily we have Kayla here, who did attend and can fill us in on what we missed.

Well that's two paragraphs down, WINE BREAK... and we're back.

The Distillers Edition class covers four Distillers Edition Scotches and provides background information into how Scotch is distilled, the history of distillation in Scotland, how Scotch is tasted, how to properly serve Scotch, which was all covered very briefly, as much of this was taught in depth at the Scotch 101 class. The course also covered the flavours of each of the Scotches in depth and how those flavours were developed in the distilling process.. For the price of only

\$25 we were rewarded with four Scotches, and learned a lot too, but less than what we would have learned if we went to Scotch 101. The trade-off here is that we did get nicer Scotch. All in all it was a surprisingly educational, tasty and delightful afternoon with one Bill Thompson (no relation).

The four Scotches which we tried were, in order: Lagavulin Distillers Edition, Caol Ila Distillers Edition, Oban Distillers Edition and Cragganmore Distillers Edition. All of these scotches were quite tasty, as we will get into later. A Distillers Edition is a Scotch which is taken aside by the distillery master after the standard aging time and modified for further aging as the distillery master sees fit. Of particular importance in this process are the cask, and environment in which the Scotch is finished, both of which can affect the flavour.

NOW, on to the Scotch!

The first Scotch we tasted was the Lagavulin Distillers Edition. The first thing to note about this Scotch is that "it hits you like a freight train." This Scotch has very strong smoky flavours which are very overpowering, however a nice underlying sweetness can be found as well, if you give it time. As we learned in class, the proper way to drink a Scotch is one drop at a time, and to allow it to sit in your mouth for ten seconds before swallowing, allowing all the flavours to fully develop. To properly drink two Scotch and smoke a cigar is supposed to take four hours. The Lagavulin in particular needs this to

get the full flavour to come across. Also of note is a strong medicinal taste, which comes from the Lagavulin Distillery being on the south coast of the island of Islay, where the casks are aged in the sea breezes, which adds a considerable note of iodine flavour to the Scotch. All in all we give the Lagavulin 4.2 Surly Bartenders out of 5.

Next up is the Caol Ila, which was much lighter in colour than the three other scotches. The scotch itself was much less smokey and had some very nice milk chocolate flavours. While being somewhat bland in comparison, the Caol Ila was still quite nice, and would be particularly good for those who do not enjoy the smokier scotches. Derek pointed out that this would be a very nice scotch to enjoy on the deck of a cabin overlooking a lake, or a similar body of water. Overall the Caol Ila was very nice, but in comparison to the others we tasted it was somewhat less flavourful, particularly when it came to the earthier flavours. Overall, we give it 3.9 Surly Bartenders out of 5.

Now on to the Oban, by far the best of the bunch. This scotch had a very strong dark chocolate flavour with a nice hint of blackberry sweetness. Derek and I did not quite agree on the blackberry flavour, but Derek wasn't quite able to pinpoint a particular fruit flavour, and was more surprised at the "fruity flavour" of the scotch, so I'm sticking with blackberry. There was also a nice hint of smokiness to the finish of the Oban, but not nearly

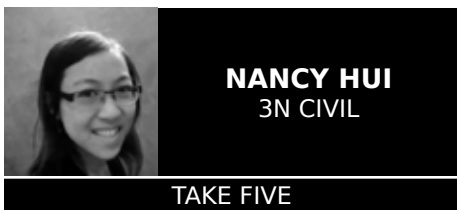
as overpowering as what we saw with the Lagavulin. This was by far our consensus favourite of the day both for its rich flavours and its mild finish, overall we give it 4.7 Surly Bartenders out of 5. Just great.

Last of all was the Cragganmore, which was far more complex than any of the other scotches we tried. It was definitely delicious, but it was difficult at times to pinpoint any particular flavours which contributed to its deliciousness. It was pointed out to us by Bill that several reviewers have found a "banana bacon" flavour to the scotch, which sounds ridiculous, but after tasting turns out to be somewhat true. There is a definitive banana taste to the scotch with a lighter smokey flavour, which the bacon, in banana bacon can be attributed to. Much of the scotches complexity comes from its finishing in Port casks. Overall, the Cragganmore was quite tasty, we just aren't completely sure why. We give it 4.2 Surly Bartenders out of 5.

Well gosh darn it, it looks like we're running out of space. Sadly, we cannot include everything we learned from the lesson in this article as we would run out of space. So we encourage you to, if you ever get the chance, attend a Scotch tasting at Kickoff, for \$25 it is well worth the price for the Scotch alone. We give Scotch Tasting 5 Surly Bartenders out of 5.

Join us next time, where we will discuss the effect of our Fourth Year Design Projects on ourselves – Cheers.

## R.I.P. Google Reader (2005 - 2013)



On July 1, 2013, Google Reader died at the tender age of eight. It was a beloved RSS feed reader to millions, bringing light into their lives via personalized content pulled from all over the web. Best of all, you didn't have to share it with anyone else. It was the ADHD bibliophile's oasis.

Look, I know not a lot of people are going to mourn it, but I was devastated when Google announced that it was going to discontinue its reader. Even though I jumped ship to The Old Reader soon after, lest my beloved reader be wrenched from my fingers, Google Reader still holds a special place in my heart.

Anyways, here are five movies to watch in between your search for a new RSS reader.

### *The Internship (2013)*

Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson play two salesmen who are laid off from a wristwatch company when the company president realizes that people now check their cell phones for the time. They ambitiously apply to become Google interns to avoid having to work dead-end sales jobs at senior homes and mattress warehouses. Amazingly but expectedly, they are hired for the summer and compete with a bunch of bright-eyed, bushy-tailed students half their age to gain permanent positions.

Did you know that Google did NOT pay for the product placement in this movie? Director Shawn Levy just has a thing for the Silicon Valley giant, famed for its free food and creative floor plans. But if Google had known this would be the finished product, they might have paid to be removed from the movie. Not because *The Internship* is not a bad movie, but because

of the lack of originality. In structure, it resembles an underdog sports movie: a group of misfits coming together as a team, overcoming inexplicable prejudice from the competition, finding the meaning of life, etc. It's *Dodgeball*, just with nerds instead of pirates. Be prepared for two hours of bootlicking.

### *The Social Network (2009)*

Google killed Reader because of the spread of social networking. This wasn't entirely unexpected since Google had been coddling its own dear social network for ages: Google+. Remember the fuss and disappointment when that was opened? The problem was that Reader didn't fit into the social creature template that Google was trying to become to compete with Facebook, Twitter, and the like. Unfortunately, the way content is consumed in Reader doesn't lend itself well to sharing. I don't want anyone to know about all the makeup blogs and webcomics I read each day, and nobody cares about that either, so boo. Anyways, *The Social Network* is about how Mark Zuckerberg (Jesse Eisenberg) came to create and operate Facebook while screwing his best friend over, smoozing with the founder of Napster (Justin Timberlake), and becoming an asshole so not to get himself mistaken for Michael Cera all the time.

Supposedly, the factiousness of this film is limited to the accuracy of replication in Zuckerberg's sweatshirt wardrobe, but I still found *The Social Network* to be as arrogant and brilliant as Eisenberg's character. Make no mistake: none of the main characters come off in a good light here, especially after things get dirty and lawyers wade into the undergraduate chaos. Regardless, it is an excellent movie that allows you to look both up to and down upon the players that brought Facebook to life.

### *The Poseidon Adventure (1972)*

Like rats on a sinking ship, Reader

users fled in March 2013 when Google announced its imminent shutdown by exporting their feed data to different readers. Feedly, another RSS reader, had 4 million users before Google announced the shutdown. By the end of May, Feedly had 12 million users. My own alternative reader, The Old Reader, buckled under the influx of new users and had thousands-long queues of users trying to import their data for a week.

It's New Years Eve on a cruise ship, when a freak wave flips the ship after a round of "Auld Lang Syne". While the sheeple huddle in the inverted dining room, a small group of survivors slowly traverse the soggy ceilings to escape the sinking ship. Of course, the dining room finally bursts and the ballroom guests try scrambling up aluminum Christmas tree ladders, which collapse under their weight.

The survivors in *The Poseidon Adventure* are distinguished by their ethnicity or profession: the preacher, the retired prostitute, the Jewish couple, and so on. They invariably run into obstacles that thin their numbers. Heroic sacrifices are made. The plot pieces are extremely predictable and thus extremely relaxing.

### *The Pirates of Silicon Valley (1999)*

In the seventies, Steve Jobs (Noah Wyle) and Steve Wozniak (Joey Slotnick) are at UC Berkeley. Jobs also has a beard. Bill Gates (Anthony Michael Hall) attends Harvard. They tinker with computers, frolic through psychedelic fields, and build empires. Naturally, some things and people are going to get overlooked in the technological revolution. The revolution is about pretty GUIs, shapely cases, and Ridley Scott's Apple commercial. Nobody cares about DOS or Google Reader.

In contrast to *The Social Network*, the persons portrayed in *Pirates of Silicon Valley* found their portrayals to be true beyond their wardrobe choices. Bill Gates found that his "portrayal was

reasonably accurate" and Steve Jobs stated that Noah Wyle had done "a good job" of impersonating him. But this is no documentary. The movie plays out like a horror show: Gates and Jobs both exhibit ghastly manners throughout, ranging from frat boy antics to egomania, while Wozniak narrates as a tired spectator in a Hawaiian shirt. One never fully connects with any of the characters as the film jumps from amusing anecdote to amusing anecdote. Perhaps life is stranger than fiction, but with this movie, it's hard to believe.

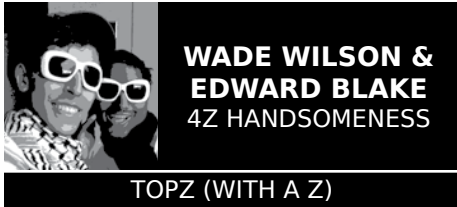
### *The Red Planet (2000)*

What happens when a planet is no longer able to support human life? You look for a new one, terraform it, and inhabit it. The same applies to RSS readers; you test as many as possible and tweak them to be as close to Google Reader as possible... but if it doesn't live up to your standards, discard it. Unfortunately, planets aren't as easily accessible as readers.

In 2056, humanity has pushed a dying Earth to its ecological limit, so the nations of the world have been terraforming Mars by seeding it with oxygen-producing algae. When the oxygen levels drop inexplicably, a team of scientists, including two played by Carrie-Anne Moss and Val Kilmer, are sent to the Red Planet so that they can rectify the situation.

NASA was asked to serve as the science advisor for this movie but, after reading the script, concluded that there was nothing they could do to ensure scientific accuracy. This allowed the director to do things like call beetles "nematodes", which aren't even part of the insect family. However, that is my biggest complaint about this movie. It's formulaic, yes, but there are a few interesting setpieces: an astronaut when his oxygen is about to run out, and an astronaut devoured by the ravenous indigenous life on Mars. The Red Planet is a solid, if unmemorable, B-movie.

## Top Colours — Six Summer Classics



With the dread of midterms finally ending, the dread of getting back marks... wait, we already did this one last week. It is obvious what this week's topic should be then: A physicist will tell you colour is the representation of the visible spectrum of wavelengths between 400nm and 750nm. A biologist will tell you colour is a perception of sensory information from the cones in our eyes interacting with photons. An American will tell you "they have no idea, do you mean 'color?'" Also something about gun rights, football,

and bald eagles. This week, we at Topz (With a Zed, that means "Zee," to you 'Murkans) are taking a look at the best colours which will have you changing your wardrobe faster than you can see "Synesthesia!"

6: How eyes glimmer at just the sight, having us lusting for more with every glance. When we are home alone, we don't wear pants.

5: Even without cleaning the wax from your eyes, this colour will have you stop and fantasize. Under the right weather conditions, we like eating pies.

4: Planting a seed in your cornea that flourishes into your mind, relaxing your body like a gentle breeze is what you'll find. Also, likely causing brain tumours, did you think it would be more kind?

3: Under your skin and slowly

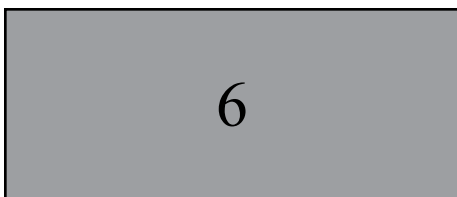
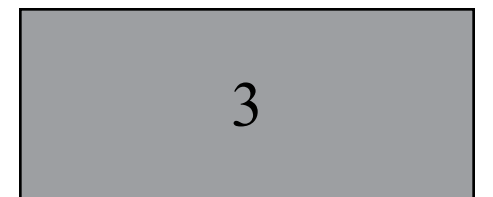
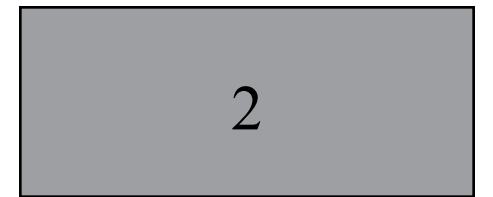
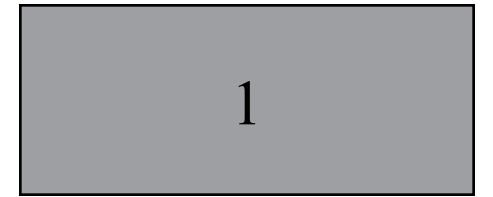
sliding across your body, causing many goosebumps in a lifetime. I fear choking with no reception of aid, when I dress as a mime.

2: Sitting at the edge of your seat at this point, you may pause out of confusion. This is likely a result of your eyes being too ignorant to comprehend the complexity of such a colour, something that rhymes with "confusion."

1: Through the process of elimination, intelligence such as yours has probably figured out what colour is numero uno (that is "number one" for our 'Murkan readers). Many don't realize that door hinge rhymes with orange.

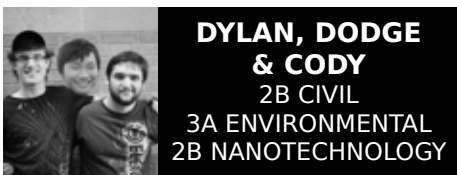
The beauty of colour is one we cannot represent well (if you disregard CIELAB colour space specified by the International Commission on Illumination and focus

on the CIE 1936 standard instead). Even without a good representation, colour has a great deal of influence, inspiring many poets throughout time. Roses are red, violets are blue, drinking too much coffee, makes us want to poo.



## Bands, Brews, and Bad-Asses

*White Paint, ...Like Clockwork, Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots, Back in Black*



Let this stand as a testament of a most ambitious quest: to gain the opinion of three engineering students on music and BEVERages.

First up, Golden Pheasant. An exceptionally smooth Slovakian Lager, Dodge describes the sensation as "a rich feeling of rich barley butts exploding in your oral cavities." Dylan took a different approach, "rich with the feeling of separation, with just a hint of hops." Everyone agrees there is almost no after taste, and it is of such good quality that no one wants to finish it quickly.

After seeing Hollerado on Monday and picking up their newish album for cheap (it's also signed, be jealous), we figured it would be perfect for a review. It starts off with a very low-fi, Bon Iver feel, but gradually changed pace to a more rhythm centered indie-pop sound, much akin to Foster the People. The tracks "Desire 126" and "Too Much to Handle" are perfect examples of this sensation. Also, the song "So it Goes" was inspired by the decency of a German soldier who spared Menno's grandfather's life during the Second World War. While discussing this, the argument changed to formatting and citing sources. I personally hate formatting, so my stance was ignoring all of the above. Continuing on with the album, Hollerado's tune changes once again to a more progressive feel, but never veers far from its alternative/indie-pop center. The final track is "Pick Me Up," a beautiful song that is the perfect way

to end the album, with up-beat guitar riffs and a wonderfully lyrical vocal line.

As cliché as this may sound, the drink of choice perfectly matched the music, providing a nice, light atmosphere perfect for relaxing and discussing. But this article isn't about relaxing, so moving on.

Oh god, now we're onto politics. All I know is that I'm not under the influence enough to really care about this, so I'm staying out.

...*Like Clockwork* by Queens of the Stoneage starts off with a dark, somber song that is driven by the bass. This song has a very experimental feel to it, different from classic Queens of the Stone Age. The album overall follows the experimental trend, with the band trying out different sounds and feels in different songs. Now we reach Cody's favourite song, "Kalopsia." "Kalopsia" is defined as the delusion of things being more beautiful than they are. I'm not sure whether it's the BEVERages or the music, but this song does seem quite beautiful. The song is initially a slow ballad, before growing into a strong grunge sound. It fades back though, and very much enjoys changing its tone. Dodge isn't a big fan of this song. Cody enjoys the contrast compared to the classic Queens of the Stone Age sound, since this entire album feels much more melodic and emotional than the old style grunge, riff powered music. Upon reflection, we noticed that the title of the song is too perfect, as the lyrics are so disjointed and strange, that they show a different light of the song when analyzed. Dodge is, however, a fan of "Smooth Sailing," a very riffy tune with a rhythmic groove, drawing you in immediately. Dylan now has a favourite on the album as well, the song "I Appear Missing," a slow-moving, bass-driven ballad with extremely memorable lyrics sang in Josh Homme haunting falsetto. The ending of the album cannot be explained, as it is one of the most heart-wrenching pieces of music ever experienced. Just listen to this album - we somehow sat through the entire thing, saying nothing.

The second beer is Pure Gold. Like actually, it is called Pure Gold, by Tuborg. Imported from Turkey, it is

encapsulated in a can of gold. And by that, I mean that it is a normal aluminum can with gold paint. Anyways, this beer has a very soft taste to it. It starts out with a sweet, light taste, and then fades. It has a classic lager smell, so the obvious expectation is to have a fair aftertaste. This beer doesn't though. Rather, it has a very slight sweetness to it, very similar to the initial taste. Cody is looking forward to the next one, and I do not disagree. While not bad, this experience is nothing special. Later on... "Holy mother of Thea & Freyja, this beer doesn't end!!! I just want this madness over!!!"

A life lesson for everyone: don't mention quantum mechanics to Nanos. Even now, this is making rather little sense. I'm not alone however, for Dodge is also confused by what Cody is saying. When it comes down to it, quantum mechanics to non-Nanos looks like this: fgbalidhfdiuhflia (this should actually be about 500 pages longer - Cody.)

Alright, new BEVERage, new album, new writer. The Dortmund native DAB is our new contender, and this is the first time we all agree: this drink has almost absolutely no taste in the beginning. However, it also has a slightly stronger aftertaste compared to the previous two contenders. This "fact" was further validated by Peter, who makes his first guest appearance as someone who is not blinded by the common substance contained in these drinks. Oh, in terms of the album, it's alright. *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots* by The Flaming Lips, according to Cody, it's a typical Flaming Lips album: very experimental, and very melodic. Another description includes mellow, but uplifting, at certain sections of songs. As the album progresses, the melodic nature of the band really starts to appear before the listeners' ear. We are only on the first half on the album, and there already have been four instrumental interludes, which goes to show the focus of this band on melody. Also, half way through the drink: this "mound" of something still tasted the same, which is nothing at all.

So we've hit the point where everyone feels the need to show mathematic proofs. This is the reason why engineers under the influence are hilarious.

I've always had an opinion about German / Eastern European BEVERages: I believe the reason they all taste really light is to allow the consumer to drink a lot more

and have the reputation as a "drink drinker," as they have now. The others are saying sure, but I seriously doubt their belief in my impaired intellect. That being said, even though it has a very light taste, the kick is well-hidden and full on, so when you do try them, do not be fooled, you will feel heavy-headed very quickly with their 5% - 5.5% content.

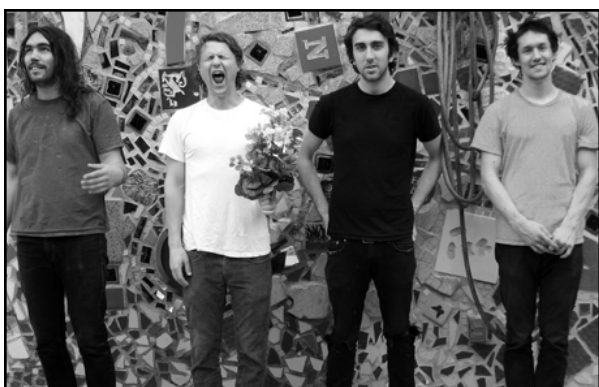
Here we go. Big finish.

For all you haters out there, we're ending it off with *Back in Black* by AC/DC and Czechvar. First song, boom. One of the most influential guitar riffs ever, "Back in Black," smacks you like a big, wet fish. Yeah, my vinyl is a little off, so the next track is "You Shook Me All Night Long," but whatever. It starts, we all air guitar and start singing. We look like complete idiots, but honestly, you would look like an idiot here if you didn't. It might be the BEVERageS talking (I just decided this joke was funny again), but I [redacted] love this band. "Have a Drink on Me" and "Shake a Leg," two more awesome tunes that are just pure rock in your nuts which are just generic AC/DC and pure awesome. Nevermind, apparently I'm just an idiot and didn't realize how the album is actually set up. So what?? THE BELLS!! It's like the Tool is entering my apartment!! Also, side note, this is the second best-selling album worldwide, over 50 million copies. Yeah. What up. "Hells Bells" is just phenomenal. "Nuff said. Now, "Shoot to Thrill," that tune off *Iron Man* which is just pure rock and roll. Don't really have much to say about the rest, as it's just more balls to the wall, straight in your face, rock. Love it.

Arguing about *Hancock* and *Now You See Me*, they apparently have the same ending, Hollywood really needs to rethink its stuff. Also, Dylan has officially lost all my respect. Ask him why.

Now to the Czechvar. "It has a nice aftertaste that slowly fades, but retains the flavor through the entire experience." I'm going to assume that means Dylan likes it. "Flavourful and memorable," or so says Dodge. Overall, it's just a really nice taste that isn't at all overpowering, with a sweet aftertaste. Delicious.

In conclusion, this quest has appeared too large for just one article, and thus shall be continued in subsequent issues. Hope you all have had fun, and maybe learned something along the way. I know we sure have.



Just Hollerado being gorgeous



# The Iron Wordsearch

Waterloo This Week

**FARZI YUSUFALI**  
3T NANOTECHNOLOGY

P	Z	A	P	O	Y	A	G	I	M	M	I	C	K	E	Y	M	O	U	S	E	A	M	O	U	W	R	S	L	E	Z	H	G	O	M
F	T	T	M	K	J	N	X	P	X	H	W	I	K	I	P	E	D	I	A	Z	A	K	A	B	E	N	N	E	L	A	J	O	X	Z
Y	R	C	C	X	U	M	I	E	C	X	H	S	S	D	Q	Y	X	V	U	U	W	C	G	D	S	C	Q	U	M	U	L	A	R	I
Z	B	O	M	A	X	R	V	T	Z	K	A	K	Z	A	N	O	Z	H	O	B	X	G	I	A	X	V	D	R	A	U	I	L	A	A
C	A	P	O	P	U	I	N	R	E	P	U	B	L	I	C	A	N	B	S	G	B	R	I	V	E	B	B	O	Y	M	K	T	C	H
X	V	Y	V	O	N	E	S	A	I	N	T	A	W	J	C	S	M	R	N	P	P	Z	W	G	O	Y	Y	P	E	W	Y	E	Z	U
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J	R	M	G	S	A	T	L	R	E	T	U	I	X	C	R	X	F	Y	Y	B	M	L	X	M	S	P	D	O	P	E	O	F	I	E
M	M	B	V	M	I	I	I	L	S	Y	S	N	Y	E	N	X	L	P	N	P	A	F	S	T	O	I	T	O	E	N	A	G	Y	N
Y	K	G	G	S	P	R	N	F	H	Q	J	E	J	W	S	W	Q	P	K	Q	T	L	C	V	V	B	H	H	Z	K	I	S	V	I
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C	C	Y	E	Q	U	O	B	A	W	W	A	L	I	N	P	X	O	S	T	F	S	A	D	N	E	S	S	Z	Y	P	N	R	Q	L
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H	K	E	L	E	O	N	U	A	T	B	O	U	R	A	T	X	L	I	G	R	E	Z	A	B	L	V	Q	R	F	M	D	K	G	W
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Y	W	P	V	S	E	X	M	C	V	P	K	K	D	N	M	S	U	K	J	P	O	L	I	T	I	C	S	A	P	G	G	K	L	D
E	N	G	P	L	A	Y	C	G	G	Q	M	K	K	O	N	J	V	D	G	M	P	K	S	W	Y	Y	W	K	Q	G	A	K	N	M

- |               |                |               |             |            |            |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Disease       | Scotch         | Alumni        | Fillibuster | Saint      | Brazil     |
| Sadness       | Golf           | Bacon         | Whiny       | FedS       | Murica     |
| Vaccine       | Quantum        | Goaltenders   | Bicycle     | Wordmark   | Pirates    |
| Branding      | Reddit         | Mickey Mouse  | Missouri    | Pride      | Ghana      |
| Beatification | Purplepooza    | Mask          | Modality    | Grey       | Republican |
| Reader        | Papillomavirus | Engplay       | Snowden     | Politics   | Hollerado  |
| Penguins      | Protests       | Genital Warts | David Cory  | Canada     | Paintball  |
| European      | Unemployment   | Exams         | Steamboat   | Google     | Egypt      |
| Chop shop     | Gigabit        | Student       | Dollars     | Internship | Wikipedia  |

# Sudoku

#2013-09

**FARZI YUSUFALI**  
3T NANOTECHNOLOGY

Easy

		4			7			
1		6			9			
9			5	4	6	7		
	9	7		3				5
			2		4			
6				7		8	4	
		9	8	1	3			7
			7			3		2
			4			9		

Medium

9				2		1		4
		4	6	3				
	1							6
7			1		9		4	
1			8		4			2
	4		3		2			9
8							9	
				1	7	5		
5		2		8				1

Hard

9								
1		5		6		2	3	
	8		3	4	5			7
	9	3			6			
		1				3		
			1			6	7	
3			7	5	2		6	
	5	9		1		7		8
								3

Solutions for previous crosswords can be found on *The Iron Warrior's* website at [iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/distractions](http://iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/distractions).

**THE IRON INQUISITION**  
Lucas Hudson, 3A Mechatronics

*"You must flee the country; where do you go and why?"*



*"England, back to my roots"*  
Mary B., EngSoc Business Manager



*"Madagascar, hardest to infect with a pandemic"*  
Ali V. & Graham B., 1B Systems Design



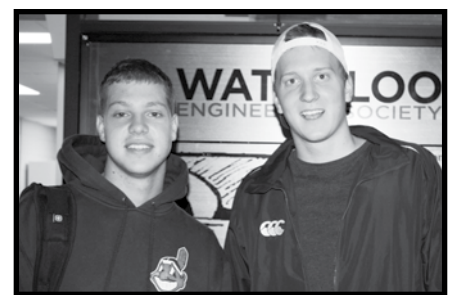
*"Tanzania, can't be extradited, chill with lions"*  
Peter M., 1A 'Q' Engineering



*"Hide myself in a colony of giraffes"*  
Alex W., 3A Mechanical



*"Greenland, because if Canada falls, the world is ending"*  
John C., 3A Chemical



*"Under da sea"*  
Derek S. & Matthew M., 4A Electrical