

# THE IRON WARRIOR

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO ENGINEERING SOCIETY

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## Iran Backs Out of Nuclear Deal



Iranian Foreign Minister Javid Zarif

Source: The Atlantic

**NELA JANKECHOVA**  
1B SYSTEMS

The International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed last Monday that Iran has surpassed its stockpile limit for low-enriched uranium, effectively breaching the terms of the nuclear deal.

Iranian president Hasan Rouhani announced the country's intention to stop complying with the terms of the JCPOA, or the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, in early May, one year after the US backed out of the agreement. Iranian leaders explained that this was done in response to the failure of other parties to meet their end of the deal. Under the terms of the agreement, Iran would reveal any and all nuclear weapons research, halt any development of nuclear weapons, limit its nuclear capacities, and maintain nuclear facilities exclusively for peaceful purposes. In exchange, the other nations would lift sanctions and improve the economic situation in Iran. The Iranian econ-

omy, however, has been in steady decline ever since the US left the deal, and subsequently reimposed sanctions on Iranian financial institutions and banned all imports. Although China and India continue to buy Iranian oil, many smaller nations have halted trade with Iran to maintain economic ties with the US. As a result, exports have been limited and the currency has been devalued. The inadequacy of economic protection from the other members of the JCPOA led Iranian leaders to conclude that there was little benefit in complying with the deal.

Iran's withdrawal from the deal has been met with opposition, and the White House has announced that "Maximum pressure on the Iranian regime will continue until its leaders alter their course of action." If the US is interested limiting Iran's nuclear potential, why did it back out? Many US politicians, including President Trump, felt that the deal was not strict enough to adequately suppress what they considered a threat to the US, and to US allies in the Middle East, namely, Israel. The decision was also influenced by an archive of over 100,000 Iranian nuclear weapons research

files seized by Israeli forces in a raid. The documents, while predating the nuclear deal, showed that Iran had dabbled in nuclear weapons development, despite Iranian leaders' repeated insistence that such an initiative never existed. There has been debate as to whether or not Iran was abiding by the terms of the deal, despite the IEAA reporting that Iran was compliant, because the documents were proof that it did not reveal all of its nuclear research.

The announcement that Iran had begun to stockpile enriched uranium came during a period of tense relations between the US and Iran. On June 13, two oil tankers -- one Norwegian, one Japanese -- exploded in the Gulf of Oman (near Oman, Iran, and the UAE) following a suspected attack. The US blamed Iran for the explosions, but its evidence was less than conclusive. The US Navy announced that recovered mine fragments from one of the two exploded oil tankers bore a strong resemblance to those seen in Iranian military parades. US central command also released video footage which allegedly showed an Iranian military boat removing an unexploded mine from the wreck

of one tanker after the blast. Iran denied all involvement in the incident.

Less than a week later, on June 18, the US conducted a cyberattack against Iranian military command and control systems. The severity of the damage remains unknown, but similar attacks launched against the IRA in Russia showed that such tactics temporarily halted cyber capabilities but did not critically damage them.

On June 20, Iran's military shot down an unmanned US drone over the Strait of Hormuz, claiming the drone was in Iranian airspace. The US claims the drone was over international waters. The US President approved a military attack against Iran, but quickly recalled it, claiming the estimated loss of life was not appropriate given that the drone was unmanned.

While tensions between the US and Iran are high, leaders of both countries have repeatedly announced that they do not wish for war.

# Letter from the Editor

## How to be a Well Rounded-ish Person

**JANNY WANG**  
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Hello, readers. I regret to inform you that I am short on both the topics and willpower required for my regular dissertations. Instead, I will endeavour to substitute philosophy for history and make up for in romanticism anything which I lack in substance.

To start off on a high note: it is an exquisite pleasure to come of age with the digital era, where every day brings some fresh new injustice to your mobile screen. Doubtless, in a few dozen years, we will be able to trace the ascension of Supreme Leader Feige with the benefit of foresight, but for the time, let us leave affairs of state to those who know best how to mismanage them and return to the favoured topic of engineers everywhere: how best to have a personality.

I bought mine at a thrift shop in Scarborough when I was eight and supplemented it over the years with random bits of ragtag knowledge I found lying on the street. Social skills were recovered from the back of a dumpster at a later date and after a thorough dry cleaning- found to be pretty much serviceable.

Through this process, I managed to collect an eclectic array of hobbies and a diverse set of skills as far as enunciating, gesticulating and transcribing are concerned.

How you chose to be a well rounded person is an affair which must be settled between you and God, but I would like to take this opportunity to offer my unsolicited advice in that regard.

Firstly, this scarcely needs to be said: go listen to Mike Duncan's Revolutions Podcast. The French and Mexican Revolutions series together represent the pinnacle of human achievement this side of sliced bread. Were there any semblance of justice in the world, he would be the exclusive recipient of every Oscar, Grammy, and Juno, general lack of eligibility notwithstanding.

Now to inch my way towards some-

thing approaching the mainstream; the Wheel of Time series, by Robert Jordan, a beacon of cutting edge fantasy from the 90s. It is a short pithy read, spanning only fourteen books and two lifetimes. It tells the story of a handful of farm boys who are recruited by Lady Gandalf to save the world from a generic evil and who promptly all get varying brands of depression.

If you like the Hero's Journey, weird gender dynamics, and poorly placed BDSM digressions, then this is the story for you. Soon to be an Amazon live action series.

If you are not entranced by any or all of the three aforementioned points, I direct you instead to the Stormlight Archive by Brandon Sanderson, which has all the heroism and adventure of Wheel of Time without any of the impromptu spankings. Set in a world of crabs and chickens, it is the insufferably convoluted story of a handful of plucky brooders who must struggle against an ancient war, an arbitrary caste system, and a particularly sadistic author as they attempt to avert miscellaneous disasters which I can't describe without spoiling.

Other fantasy series worth looking into are; The First Law by Joe Abercrombie if you like grimdark, Good Omens (also on Amazon) if you like homoerotic rom-coms, and The Dresden Files, if you like urban magic and painstakingly adolescent descriptions of women's breasts.

I would now segue into shilling for superhero comic books, but my conscience holds me back.

The comic book industry is dominated by two giants, DC and Marvel. Fans of the latter have long since fallen upon their swords, while the former now exists primarily to produce squeals of existential despair every time another beloved pop culture icon is retconned into an amnesiac serial killer.

The initial batch of DC Rebirth books (circa 2016) make for pretty fun reading and were what initially drew me into the fandom. Some highlights of that era:

Super Sons, featuring the cute gimmicky adventures of Robin and Superman's annoying ten year old kid;

Red Hood and the Outlaws, about a former Robin's attempt to crimelord his way into heroism and;

Green Arrow, starring a vaguely Marxist billionaire vigilante, his ninja sister, and his girlfriend who wears fishnet tights.

Unfortunately, the storylines fell into a minor abyss at some point since. All I can say is: if you need an outlet for frustrated masochism, read superhero comics.

Now to round my way back into the arcane, I recommend that everyone should develop their moral character by listening to Les Miserables on repeat and belting out the lyrics of Do You Hear the People Sing as tunelessly as possible at precisely midnight every Monday.

While you follow these surefire steps to spiritual ascension, be sure not to be too disheartened at the cruelty of your TAs or the wanton scorn of prospective employers. When life seems like one damn thing after the other, substitute masochism for misery and use your suffering to power your kinks.

This is an especially good attitude to have when you are undexterously juggling extracurriculars, academics and job applications. Should the whole process prove a bit too burdensome, close your eyes and imagine how entertaining it will be to reflect upon your struggles twenty years hence, when you will have a home, a wife, a mistress and a dog to enliven your days.

As to the present: don't burn out, stay hydrated, and stay in school.

For my part, I avail that this entire experience has been very appreciably character building. I am grateful for the contributions of my staff writers, for the ability to proselytize my hobbies, and for whatever graphic design skills I may or may not have gleaned from this endeavour.

To conclude with some matters of business: I will be succeeded by Kirsten Ehlers, and if you ever fancy soapboxing from the Iron Warrior, swing around to a meeting when she schedules one or nail your missive on the front door.

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The Iron Warrior encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the university community. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the university in general. The author's name and phone number should be included.

All submissions, unless otherwise stated, become the property of The Iron Warrior, which reserves the right to refuse publication of material which it deems unsuitable. The Iron Warrior also reserves the right to edit grammar, spelling and text that do not meet university standards. Authors will be notified of any major changes that may be required.

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# Italian Police Raid Neo Nazi Weapons Stash

## Authorities Found Guns, Bayonets and an Air to Air Missile

**NELA JANKECHOVA**  
1B SYSTEMS

Italian counterterrorism officials have seized a stash of weapons, fascist paraphernalia, and an air to air missile in Turin, according to the Italian Police. The raids were part of an investigation into Italian fighters with extremist ideologies who had fought alongside Russian-backed separatist forces in Ukraine.

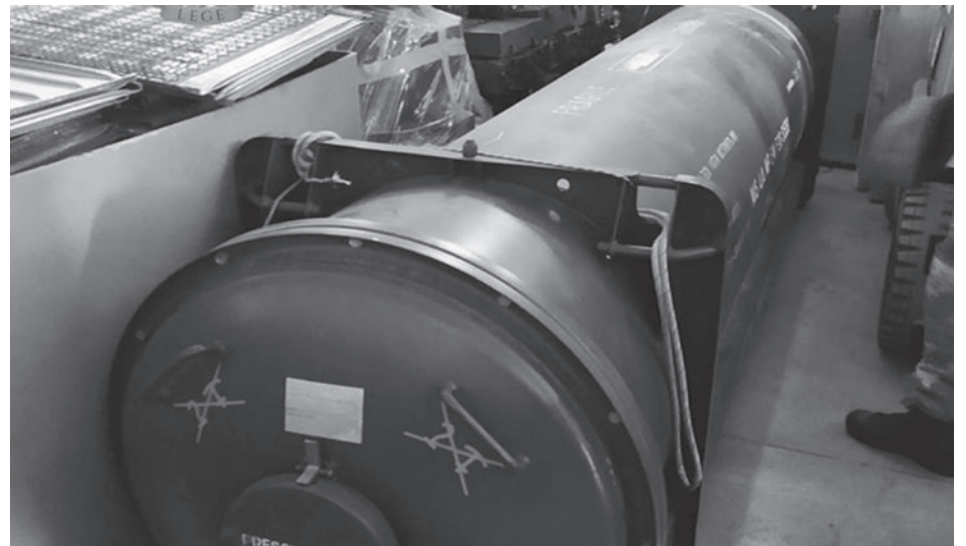
Alessandro Monti, a Swiss national, and Fabio Bernardi, an Italian, were arrested after a Matra R.530F air-to-air missile was found at an airport hangar they had listed for sale. The missile was in working condition but did not have an explosive charge.

While it was made in France, Qatar's foreign affairs ministry has announced that the missile was once owned by Qatar's military, and was later sold to a "friendly country" that remained unnamed.

The owner of the missile, former fascist party candidate Fabio Del Brogiolo, was identified by Italian police after he used the popular messaging platform Whatsapp to send photos of the weapon. According to Italian media, he was attempting to sell the missile for 470,000 euros, or just under 700,000 Canadian dollars.

A police raid on Del Brogiolo's home yielded neo-Nazi signs and coats of arms as well as a massive weapons stash: A machine gun, 3 shotguns, 9 assault rifles, 20 bayonets, 306 firearm parts, and 831 cartridges of ammunition were all seized.

The Turin police commissioner has called the event a "significant seizure, with few precedents in Italy".



Source: Reuters

Air to air missile seized by Italian Police

# Looking Back on Viola Desmond

**YONAE DEBE**  
1B SYSTEMS

Viola Desmond was a Canadian, an entrepreneur, a businesswoman, a civil rights activist, a beautician, and a mentor. Viola Davis (later Desmond) was born on the 6th of July, 1914 in Halifax, NS to two proud community activists. Inspired by her parent's work ethic and activism, Desmond strove to become an independent businesswoman. She built her career as a beautician who mentored and nurtured black women through her "Desmond School of Beauty Culture". In 1946, while traveling for business, Viola Desmond's car broke down in New Glasgow and that's where history would be made later that day at the Roseland theatre. While attempting to watch a movie from a floor seat because of her poor eyesight, she challenged the theatre's discriminatory practices by refusing to leave the floor section of the theatre that was reserved for Whites. This courage galvanized the movement to end racial discrimination in Canada. Her place in Canadian history is why she was selected to grace the new \$10 bill as part of its latest iteration. The Desmond bill's stunning design won it the coveted Bank Note of the Year Award for 2018, over eye-catching banknotes from all over the world.

After teaching and giving back to her community at a couple of racially-segregated schools, she started making her own path as an entrepreneur and beautician by joining the Field Beauty Culture School in Montreal. There were less than a handful of such institutions that accepted Black applicants in Canada and so she had to complete her education at schools in the U.S., in Atlantic City, New Jersey, and in New York. Having completed her education, Desmond opened Vi's Studio of Beauty Culture in Halifax in order to cater to the beauty needs of the black community. Recognizing the lack of training available for black beauticians in Canada, Desmond started a school that gave her the opportunity to mentor and teach these skills to students from all over eastern Canada. Having identified a gap in the beauty product market for women of colour, Desmond started her own venture called "Vi's Beauty Prod-

ucts" which received orders from all over Nova Scotia. She inspired her students and her clients with her entrepreneurial spirit and passion for community activism.

On the 18th of November 1946, Desmond was travelling to Sydney, NS for business and her car broke down in New Glasgow. While waiting for her car to be repaired, Desmond went to a movie theatre and attempted to buy a floor seat, unaware of the theatre's policy of restricting Black people to the upper balcony. When attempting to find her seat in the floor section, the usher told her to go to the balcony to find her seat. Thinking there had been a mistake Desmond returned to the cashier who refused to exchange her ticket and told her "I'm not permitted to sell downstairs tickets to you people." The realization that she was being discriminated against due to her race emboldened her to return to the floor section and take a seat. When confronted by the theatre manager, Desmond courageously stood her ground and refused to leave the theatre. The theatre manager then called the police who forcibly arrested, charged and convicted Desmond for failure to pay the extra penny in theatre tax required for the downstairs seat. Desmond's later efforts to fight these charges proved unsuccessful as the case was framed as tax evasion, instead of the true issue of racism that had been disguised under technicalities. Desmond's legal challenge acted as a spark for the Black community and brought attention to the racial discrimination in Nova Scotia. This spark was the first step in bringing greater awareness and movement around the issue of racial equality in Canada.

Although Desmond passed away in 1965, her story has begun to receive greater attention in recent years mainly thanks to the efforts of her sister Wanda Robson. This attention finally led to a posthumous free pardon from the Nova Scotian government in 2010 for Desmond's conviction. The pardon was granted by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia Mayann Francis, the first Black Nova Scotian to hold this position, and was accompanied by a public declaration and apology from the then-Premier.

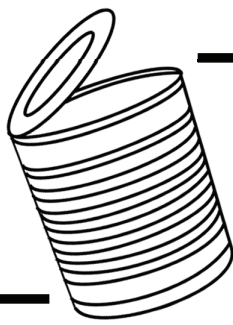
Desmond's passion for equality, activism, and justice mark her as an iconic courageous Canadian who will always have a place in the hearts and souls of

Canadians for years to come. That is why in 2016, she was selected as the next Canadian to feature on Canada's next regularly circulating \$10 bank note by the Minister of Finance. The design for her bill was completely unique especially for the vertical orientation of the banknote which was a first for Canada. The note features Desmond's portrait with a map

of the neighbourhood in Halifax where Desmond's salon was located. The other side of the bill has a picture of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, an excerpt from the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and an eagle feather which represent the history of Canada's path to racial equality as well as how far Canada has left to go.



New Ten Dollar Bill Featuring Viola Desmond



PLANS FOR E1000

REPORT: JOKES GETTING TOO META



EiC Can't Think of Any New Jokes  
pg. i

Millenials are killing the Bitcoin industry  
Our industry kill count is rising

soundcloud.com/TheIronWarrior

## PornHub Joins the Fight for the 'new Game of Thrones' with New Series on the Soviet Union



New Pornhub series will have an episode titled "Socialist Fraternal Kiss: GONE WILD"

Source: Rare Historical Photos

As streaming services vie with one another to produce the next Game of Thrones, an unexpected contender has cast its hat into the ring. Pornhub announced that it was planning a big budget five season drama about the 'rise and fall of the Soviet Union'.

A Pornhub spokesman told media that the Montreal based corporation was "really looking to diversify our brand. There's a unique spin we can offer consumers, which I think other corporations just can't manage."

"There's a lot of interesting and inno-

vative ways we can explore these well trodden historical figures," the spokesman continued.

The series will tell an epic and emotional story about the failed struggle for a worker's utopia, and will address 'interesting and topical political questions' such as: What happens when the socialist fraternal kiss goes a bit too far?

The spokesman went on to reassure their fanbase that they would be sticking to the source material: "We plan on preserving the emotional essence of the story, as well as taking full advantage

of Stalin's mustache and Che Guevara's good looks."

Leaked scripts reveal scenes where Mao Zedong and Khrushchev cavort with Ukrainian prostitutes while a Soviet official reads voiceovers detailing the reports of starvation during the Great Leap Forward.

Reactions so far have been mixed. Some on the left were excited about this "innovative and modern" take on the Soviet Union and hoped it would win converts to their side, while others criticised the show for being "full of white males"

and demanded that Lenin be played by a woman of colour. Meanwhile, notable Canadian academics condemned this series as another sign of the "Cultural Marxist infiltration of Western civilization".

Insider sources say that Pornhub was initially eyeing a more traditional fantasy adaptation but ran into difficulties when they tried to obtain the commercial rights to any major series.

# Nanotech Industry Grows more promising with surge of software development

JENNY WONG

The University of Waterloo's Nanotechnology Engineering program is beyond competitive, being the #1 undergraduate nanotechnology engineering program in the world. And yet, despite being beyond competitive, it grows more promising with the surge of local software development jobs available. While nanotechnology is still not a mature field, even roughly a decade after inception, fortunately the students have a promising career in software

development ahead of them.

"Wow! I took these chemistry courses in Nanotechnology engineering because I always wanted to do full-stack web development" says current student Michael Gretzky. Michael Gretzky will be doing full-stack web development for BrainGeek in New York city full time starting Summer 2020. Former student Bill Winning notes "it was always a pleasure to apply nothing in my degree to my professional career growth and development."

To help students prepare for these intensive software jobs, the nanotechnology faculty plans to offer new and exciting courses, like "Data Structures and Algorithms for Nanotechnology

Engineering" (totally unrelated to the CS "Algorithms and Data structures"). Junior lecturer Xinfeng Littlefinger notes diminutively "for our premium nanotechnology engineering students, all problems are small problems". While some people may have a small set of a questions, students are assured that since computers are at a fundamental level, molecules, this is highly relevant to Nanotechnology engineering.

Example job descriptions of co-ops for Nanotech students include "front-end software developer", "back-end software developer", "embedded systems software developer", and "nanotechnology engineering WEEF TA" and "student newspaper editor in chief".

# Systems Design Engineering Announces New "General Engineering" Option

SILVANA YVETTA DIANA  
EVETTA  
NOT SYDE

Systems Design Announces New "General Engineering" Option

Associate Chair of Undergraduate Studies Marolyn Cagregor has officially introduced the new "General Engineering" option, which will be available to Systems Design students beginning this fall. Students will be able

to choose from a variety of exciting and innovative courses, such as "General Systems" and "CS 100".

As per SYDE tradition, the new program will be advertised through word of mouth. One lucky intern will get a megaphone and 20\$ of Lime credits to travel the province and proselytize the program. Students in search of co-op positions should keep an eye out for a listing on WaterlooWorks.

Experts warn that this year's incoming cohort of Systems Design students will face unprecedented difficulties in

explaining to their parents what the program is actually about. "I just say it's like biomedical engineering, but without the biology part, or the medical part," reported one current student. It is unclear if this explanation will continue to hold water after the new addition to the program.

The announcement comes only a week after the department of Electrical and Computer Engineering revealed its new and promising IT specialization.

# Heartbreaking: Coop Student Bought a Suit, Still Doesn't get Cali Offer

WEAB PROFILE  
8T REDDIT ENGINEERING

Many STEM students in the Waterloo coop program look towards achieving their goal of landing an internship in the US; particularly a job in Silicon Valley, due to its impressively delicious In-n-out Burger menus. In order to prepare for coop hiring season, students often go through drastic measures such as skipping class to practice LeetCode, using a two-column resume and writing blank cover letters. In one particular case, this student focused more on other factors in an attempt to finally land a Cali job.

Earlier this month, an anonymous second year student posting under the username "fr3shPr1nce0fCali" revealed on a popular University of Waterloo forum that they had spent about \$1,800 on a tailored suit believing that he would do better on interviews and receive more job offers. Yet, after buying a custom suit made from fine Italian wool, bringing mouthwash with him to the Tatham Centre, and practicing technical questions in the mirror, he has still not received his anticipated Cali offer.

"Despite my lack of cali offers i like to believe that i did quite well on all my other interviews with my suit, i dont understand why Cali employers dont give me offers i always laugh at their jokes call them by their last name and act like

a gentleman during the interview [sic]".

Upon being asked for their GitHub and LeetCode profiles, the student became quite defensive and proceeded on a tirade about employers.

"Why would i need github? Or leetcode? github and leetcode are just superficial and its all employers care about. They never care to look at my awards or my linkedin connections its honestly there loss [sic]"

When asked about their other job offers, fr3shPr1nce0fCali has claimed to have declined them all because they were not in California.

"i deserve a cali job and i know that. ive honestly considered switching to UofT because its obvious that employers just dont value my education here if they aren't hiring someone as skilled as i am

[sic]"

Just devastating.

"fr3shPr1nce0fCali" has done all he could to establish rapport with his interviewers, have nice smelling breath and wear a quality suit, but has yet to find the job of his dreams. Of course there is the route of practicing coding questions and working on side projects, but such qualities shouldn't really matter when you are wearing a \$1,800 Italian suit.

We've contacted "fr3shPr1nce0fCali" for an update this past week, but he has yet to respond to us. Hopefully "fr3shPr1nce0fCali" can get eventually that Cali offer he desperately yearns for.



Along with a suit, "fr3shPr1nce0fCali" also bought soap, sponges and a toothbrush

THE TIN SOLDIER

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Somehow still passing classes

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Who???

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The Tin Soldier encourages submissions from students, faculty and members of the Non-Existent Action Committee. Submissions should reflect the concerns and intellectual standards of the The Society of the Travelling Pants in general. The author's name and phone number should be included, except if they are non-existent. This information may or may not be posted on our website.

All submissions, unless otherwise stated, become the property of The Tin Soldier, which reserves the right to refuse publication of material which it deems too suitable. However we're so desperate for content that we'll likely take it (but we might just send it to Imprint). The Tin Soldier also reserves the right to edit grammar, spelling and text that do not meet university standards, but engineers suck at english so it's a low standard.

Mail should be addressed to PJ Katie, c/o YTV Canada, P.O.Box 7500, Paris, Ontario, N2L 3W7. We do not currently have a phone, however you may redirect all inquiries to Kickoff's, as we're likely there. We don't have a fax number as no one uses faxes anymore.

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## 26523- Adult Network Engineering

Work Term 2019 - Fall  
Job Type – Continuous Round, 4-month position  
Job Title Networking and Relationship Engineering, JE and Co.  
Number of Job Openings: 5  
Job Category Junior & Senior  
Region USA -Washington DC or New York, NY

### Job Summary

Are you a current student looking to pursue a full-time networking career? Do you believe that you can use your superb communication skills to deliver client needs and work with clients on their projects? Do you dream of meeting different people regularly in a dynamic working environment?

At JE and Co. we pride ourselves on delivering HUMAN Resource solutions at a higher level. JE and Co. gives interns ample opportunity to show and improve their skills in a fast-paced environment. In this position, you will act in a consulting capacity to communicate the needs of clients with team members and deliver on the human solutions to these complex (or not so complex) issues. Our goal is to leave every client satisfied and coming back as a repeat customer. We strive to instill a level of trust and discretion

when handling these solutions, given the sensitive and high-stakes nature of some of the problems our clients ask us to solve.

Each day is different, but you can expect to touch and brush shoulders with power brokers and the who's who of the city on a regular basis through email communication. You will have the opportunity to pitch and demonstrate the effectiveness of our solutions in face-to-face meetings with these VIPs.

Note: This posting may require variable working hours, weekend hours, or travel to remote locations at the interns' own expense. If overnight accommodations are required due to for these reasons, it is the interns' responsibility to arrange with the human resources co-ordinator ahead of time. P.s. nerds need not apply

### Qualifications:

- Questioning the viability of your undergraduate education
- At least 3 years but no more than 5 years of work experience in similar jobs and in disruptive environments
- Strong technical proficiency
- Strong verbal communicator who can innovate responses on the spot and has a knack for "reading between the lines" (ex/ trying to understand what we

are really looking for in an intern)

- Demonstrated interpersonal skills and a team player
- Comfortable working in an ambiguous hands-on environment with rapidly evolving needs and conditions. The job pacing can change on a moments' notice
- Understanding of targeted marketing and ability to handle multiple concurrent streams of communication are considered an asset
- Skillful at pretending to understand clients' problems, especially when those problems do not actually exist but are a very lucrative opportunity for the company and will help the clients feel better in the short term but actually pose a very high reputational risk to them in the long term

### Salary:

Salary based on level of inexperience, with a fixed minimum base pay and regular opportunity for performance-based bonuses.

## 12425- Spatial Development Engineering

Work Term 2019 - Fall  
Job Type – Continuous Round, 4-month position  
Job Title Sobies Spatial Engineering  
Number of Job Openings: 1  
Job Category Junior & Senior  
Region Waterloo

### Job Summary

Do you have a deep appreciation for close packed and hexagonal stacking? Are you committed to developing space efficient structures? Join our innovative and dynamic team to develop your applied 3-D modelling skills in a fast paced and exciting environment.

We are committed to providing quality solutions in the exciting field of space management. Our clients involve supermarkets, warehouses and moving companies. We are a global leader when it comes to developing efficient and

innovative close packing designs.

### What You Will Learn

You will have the opportunity to model crystal lattice structures with a diverse array of fruits and cardboard boxes, while simultaneously developing in demand technical skills such as operating forklifts and trolley carts. Every day will bring new opportunities to develop structurally sound and spatially economic structures to suit the needs of our clients. In your spare time, you will be able to identify octahedral and tetrahedral holes in our stacks of oranges and apples.

### What You Bring to the Table

- Team player
- Minimum high school diploma
- Must be able to lift fifty pounds
- Experience with spatial arrangement
- Proficient at atomic and supra-atomic stacking

Salary:  
\$14/ hour



## Is Capitalism Corrupting Our Memes?

### MEME GATEKEEPER

Recently, there has been ads about Opencare, which is offering customers \$75 to get their teeth checked. One thing that really makes me want to ree out and lash out my fortified almond milk in the gen-Z style is the fact they can't use memes.

Anyways, it may not seem like a big problem, but every time I see a meme done incorrectly, it triggers me, in a way only millennials and gen-z's will only know. Or just me.

As a gen-z, or millennial, a meme has a meaning behind it and it is an unspoken rule to have the meme stay in the same meaning it first came out as. For example, the use of the "Shut up and Take my Money" meme with Fry in the picture was used incorrectly in a way that at first, if the picture is not associated with the meme, it would make sense. But the picture itself did not have a caption "Shut up and Take my Money" in impact font.

Another meme that they misused is the "Roll Safe" meme, which the Opencare advertisement missed the irony completely. I would assume people reading this would already have seen these ads, so I won't go into further

explanation on how it works. In addition, the two memes that I have seen was already outdated and not even relevant anymore. If marketing department decided to use memes, at least do so with the original irony attached with the meme, rather than just adding text that does not relate to the original meaning of the meme.

Not only that, I have seen the university doing the same thing with certain memes, such as the CECA petition a year ago, where they used the expanding mind template but did not keep the original meaning of that meme. Instead of being ironic in the last panel, it just flat out said to do the right thing and sign the petition, wHiCh Is NoT

hOw ThE mEmE wOrKs.

Anyways, my rant over memes is over. I should probably start studying and looking for jobs rather than complaining about memes, but this is an important issue that needs to be stated. If you use memes in ads, please keep the original meaning and irony intact with the picture, even if people already forget about it.

# Is not the University of Waterloo also a Concentration Camp?

By: 你的社区的五毛

我的好朋友，如果你最近有关注西方的新闻，你有可能看到了很多媒体的报告关于我们的“再教育营”。这些没道理的外国人永远试着破坏我们国家的名声，一旦有机会就说假话。他们说我们在违法的抓起来我们国家的穆斯林人，说我们在犯严重的侵犯人权。都有人把我们跟二战的德国比较，敢说我们对这些穆斯林就像纳粹对犹太人的对待。这些指责真的吓人的，一定得被改正。对西方朋友们，我们需要问你们一个问题关于你们的社会。难道你们没有这样的机构吗？难道我们现在所在的滑铁卢大学 - 一个全球各地出名的学校，不也是一个“再教育营”吗？

政府在新疆开的这些机只是学校。全部他们的学生都是小心翼翼的挑选上的，为了帮助他们未来可以成为成功的国人。有一些被挑中的有可能没意识到自己有多少的天分，不明白他们有什么必要去上这些学校，但是那些老师和指导们都会努力的说服他们。这有可能就是大家提到的人权问题在哪里出现的。来给你们讲解这些问题为什么不存在，我们来跟滑铁卢比较比较。来滑铁卢的学生也都是很特别的人，也是小心被选上的。很多这里的学生也没有想来，但是他们的父母，老师，指导们，和整个西方社会的要求，也没有别的选择。到全部滑铁卢学生们毕业的时候，他们会意识到他们的未来被锁定了。

很多人有误解新疆的这些学校。有人说这些学校会虐待他们的学生。这完全是错的。肯定有一些学生会觉得他们在学校里需要努力的比他们习惯多得多，或者他的学习压力很高。但是如果你要变成以后的临到，如果你有很大的梦想，你肯定需要受一点苦才能达到呢个级别。我们在滑铁卢不是也有一样的困难吗？有一些媒体会提到这些学校的住宅条件很差。我们没法否认这一点，因为住宅的条件本身就不是一个优先。学生们也就晚上睡个觉才需要用这些设备。钱可以被跟好的花在别的跟有意义的东西上。你看滑铁卢的住宅，不是一样的吗？我们这边的学生一样有比较过我们的住宅和监狱的房间。有一些最可恶的媒体都喜欢说我们不让这些学生们回家。这根本不是一个规定，但是你想一想，滑铁卢每一个周末会有多少学生回家。整个学校算下来没几个，因为大家都在忙，都在努力的读书，学习。新疆这些学校也是一样的。

们以后在网上看到什么傻逼发表的文章关于新疆的穆斯林，不要被他们的谎给骗了。好好的看一看你在滑铁卢经历了什么然后意识他们跟你没差多少。我希望你们看了这篇发表以后能为自己思考然后不要被反国家的外国鬼子骗了。

My good friend, if you have recently paid attention to Western news, you may have seen a lot of media reports about our “re-education camp”. These unreasonable foreigners will always try to destroy the reputation of our country and tell lies if they have the opportunity. They said that we are illegally arresting Muslims in our country and that we are committing serious violations of human rights. Some people compare us to Germany in World War II and dare to say that we treat these Muslims like Nazis to Jews. These accusations are really scary and must be corrected. For Western friends, we need to ask you a question about your society. Don't you have such an institution? Is the University of Waterloo where we are now - a school that is famous all over the world, isn't it a “re-education camp”?

These machines opened by the government in Xinjiang are only schools. All of their students are carefully selected to help them become successful people in the future. Some of the people who were picked may not realize how much talent they have, and they don't understand what they need to go to these schools, but the teachers and the guides will try to convince them. This may be where the human rights issues mentioned are emerging. Let me explain why these problems don't exist. Let's compare them with Waterloo. The students who come to Waterloo are also very special people, and they are carefully selected. Many of the students here did not want to come, but because of their parents, teachers, guides, and the requirements of the entire Western society, there is no other choice. By the time all Waterloo students graduate, they

will realize that their future is locked.

Many people have misunderstood these schools in Xinjiang. Some people say that these schools will abuse their students. This is totally wrong. There are certainly some students who feel that they need to work harder at school than they are used to, or that his learning pressure is high. But if you want to become a future, if you have a big dream, you definitely need to suffer a little bit to reach it. Are we not having the same difficulty in Waterloo? Some media mentioned that the housing conditions of these schools are very poor. We can't deny this because the conditions of the house itself are not a priority. Students also need to use these devices when they sleep at night. Money can be spent on other things that are meaningful. Do you see the same house in Waterloo? The students on our side have the same rooms as our homes and prisons. Some of the most hateful media like to say that we don't let these students go home. This is not a rule at all, but if you think about it, how many students will go home every weekend in Waterloo. There are not many schools in the whole school, because everyone is busy, they are studying hard and studying. These schools in Xinjiang are the same.

Later, you will see on the Internet what stupidly published articles about Muslims in Xinjiang, don't be fooled by their lies. Take a good look at what you experienced in Waterloo and then realize that they are not much worse than you. I hope that you will be able to think about yourself after this publication and then not to be deceived by foreign devils who are anti-state.

## New ECE Simar Says Course Announced

SCOTT VACATION

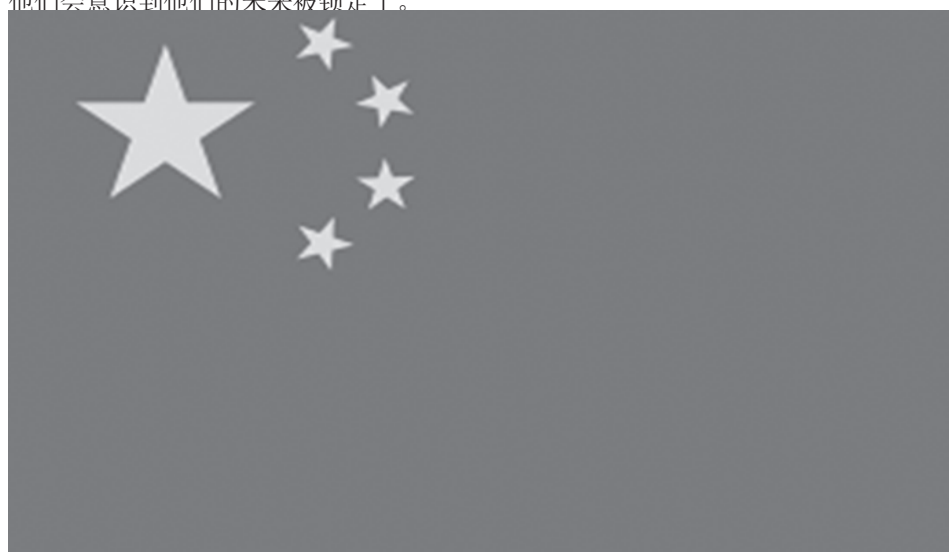
In light of the smashing success of the new, disruptive ECE curriculum the Electronic and Computational Engineering faculty announces a new, exciting course: ECE 12A! This course will be taught by Prof. Eric Wong.

The first 12A course curriculum says the first deliverable is to get a full degree from another faculty. The second deliverable is to create a startup and get at least \$1,000,000 in funding. Another alleged deliverable is to create your own course with competitive, unrealistic deadlines. Fortunately for the students, this course should take no more than 10 hours of startup time to finish all deliverables.

Some attribute the open-ended nature of this course to the new scheduling concerns where faculty were permitted 30 minutes and 3 napkins to develop the entire course. This proposed additional constraints on students who now must rent their own rooms to do work in and make their own

computers from scratch. Prof. Wong says this'll provide great opportunities for students to have industry experience where they people pay for themselves at their startups. Additionally, the students who take this course are now permanently exempt from PD and are now legally allowed to leave coop interviews after 15 minutes.

Luckily for students, the alternative curriculum has already been posted: Do whatever the professor says and get free marks. One catch though: The professor must say “Simar says” first. Doing anything the professor says without it guarantees. Former upper year student Chris Jain-Wang was failed after signing the attendance sheet without being told. Additionally, to make accommodations to the computational engineering students, proposed further updates include allowing getting \$5 on the streets as an alternative to getting startup funding and passing Ian Devine's Magic Smoke class as an alternative to completing a full degree (with a guaranteed class average in the double digits).



## Ode to Elizabeth May

As the 21st day of October nears  
-The time to vote away our fears-  
I search, nay yearn for my one hope  
To save the people of Port Hope.

My dearest Ms.May, Elisabeth,  
The time for you has cometh  
The shining glory of your green  
Future of socialist Canada dream

It lights my world when all is dark  
When Jagmeet makes it seem so stark  
Please come and tell it like it is  
Get rid of Trudeus's sunshine frizz

Elizabeth, 'Lizabeth, 'Lizabeth May  
It's time for you to save the day  
Storm the land, if but by force  
In a beautiful, drunken stupor of course.

You are the grandma on the stage  
Proof that tree-hugging's all the rage  
As the 2 degree noose tightens more  
Let's save our precious island shores

In the glory of your precious curls  
And the smile of your glorious,  
shimmering pearls  
Bring your peace-loving Canada-wide  
So that I may always stand by your side

I yearn to see you in the face  
To shake hands and hug during the race  
To follow your movements wherever  
you go  
And GPS you so I always know....

Where my sweet Elizabeth toils every  
day  
To make the bad polluters go away  
To bask the country in the greenest of  
light  
I declare that you are my biggest fight

Amen.



THE TIN SOLDIER

# Second Year Reflections

## A Retrospective Look

As I write this article, I slide into the end of 2B Computer Engineering. Halfway done! My orientation leaders in first year were in this term right before I met them, and now they're almost about to graduate. It's remarkable how fast time flies when it feels like I just started a few weeks ago. Of course, looking back, people aren't who they were to start; Change is inevitable. Overall, there's three areas I'd consider the primary areas of change: academics and relation to them, social life, and personal achievement.

In first year engineering, many courses are very general. I remember taking a course load to the theme of something like "Calculus, Linear Algebra, Physics, Programming, Chemistry and Ethics". Chemistry? Despite the requirement for cross-disciplinary knowledge, I find I have not applied it much. Of course, it isn't bad that first year is very general. Students who find that they would actually rather another program can transfer without graduating later. This is particularly important at Waterloo, where degrees already take an extra year to fit in coop.

In second year, the courses are beginning to specialize. This term, my courses were along the lines of "Embedded Systems, Concurrency&Systems Programming, Discrete Math II, and Signals". A lot of these courses are much more enjoyable and in line with my interests. While my calculus professor (Eddie Dupont) was fantastic, quite honestly I never had much passion for integration. Embedded Systems (ECE 224) was one of the primary reasons I chose Waterloo ECE, and I find every course is delightful and interesting. Of course, Signals is just calculus in hiding. Perhaps some things are still the same...

In first year, a lot of people either studied a lot or not at all. In turn, there was a relatively high attrition rate, with friends either failing to study and failing to proceed, people realizing they don't actually care for engineering, or generally vanishing. A lot of people spent a lot of time studying, with some courses being arguably unfair. Since a lot of the content, all things being equal were unfair, there were questions that really pushed the boundaries of what people could learn. Since the Class of 2022 is an experimental year, this means a lot of courses were either new or highly changed. Whether it was making some alarm clock on a knock-off raspberry pi, or painstakingly scrutinizing significant digits to be very clear about the time a ball was in the air for, there were many long nights dealing with panic.

By this point, we're rapidly approaching the point of no return. Anyone wanting to switch likely will graduate later. On the other hand, people largely stop failing. People still either study a lot or not at all, since exams have always been a time to cram for 72 hours to learn a course. The exams are largely reasonable, not expecting people to pull a magic trick to learn some new content, or having midterms with 40% averages. Perhaps students are now less likely to fail though, it's hard to tell. Unfortunately, since we're still stuck with experimental courses, we'd have the pleasure of pulling all nighters. Lots of people either spend their entire weekend in the lab trying to figure out

why their music player sounds like a chainsaw, or get their hokey prototype to function as intended.

Overall, in academics, while the courses are a lot more of what people signed up for, it appears there's always going to be long nights rushing to finish hard courses.

During orientation week (and all of first year), many people intended well to keep many friendships up as they can in all sorts of places. I lived with at the time strangers who all wanted the same residence as I did (which we got), and I talked to people in many different programs - AFM, CivE, Physics, SYDE, whatever. However, for us at the time, we were largely strangers in a strange land. People were still making friends and talking to a lot of people. In some ways, it became almost unsustainable to maintain so many conversations at once, but it was nice. Unfortunately, one downside was that it's unclear who your closest friends were.

Ultimately, that didn't hold up so well when roughly half your friends are out of synchronization with you, and you've got a lot of work to do. Some friends fail. In general, people are relatively busy trying to live their lives, and on coop you're likely to be

far from many of your friends and unavailable to meet up with them. While I still think highly of the many people I met in first year, it's hard to keep active contact with them. By now, there's established groups of friends, and friends by location. In trade of having many, weak friendships, I now have people I take time see on a regular basis. My roommates aren't strangers but now close friends. Time is blocked off for people. I try to see a movie with one of my best friends every other week. Every few weeks I go out for a curry with a group of friends. I make time to write for the Iron Warrior when I can. When I see people in my class, they're typically a friendly face. While perhaps it's disappointing that I don't get to see as many people often, the people I do see absolutely make up for it.

Finally, habits as a person have changed a lot, in all sorts of terms. On first co-op, everybody was struggling,

hoping for a good co-op (often software development). People didn't have skills, and found it hard to find a job. By this term, people have two internships under their belt and largely have settled in to aim higher. I found myself turning down jobs I really would have loved in first year for various reasons. As people get more skills, their expectations go up too. Perhaps that "AI" company that actually has more of "Human AI" isn't so good. Perhaps that embedded systems company paying \$18.21 an hour with two and a half stars on glassdoor isn't such a good company after all.

In first year, I was a very nervous cook, in hindsight making foods that are both facile and perhaps, less appetizing (I remember eating ground beef with beans, rice and hot sauce in a bowl). I also never really looked for deals, primarily shopping at the local Sobeys. Now, it seems silly. There's no reason not to go grocery shopping at Produce Depot or Freshco. In return, the deals by far and large are a lot more. Instead of trying to cook the simplest foods I knew, I'm willing to learn to cook something new - whether it's a soup (with homemade stock), a stir fry, a basted steak, hand-made hamburger

patties, or anything else.

In first year, due to a fire alarm at 8:10 every Monday morning, and in general classes at 8:30am, the entire class would enter lectures running on fumes. They'd be up until late working on assignments until 2am, 3am, or 5am. Now, classes start at 11:30 at the earliest. By pushing back classes, I often enter lectures full of energy, and am able to absorb material far better. 8:30 labs are now addressed groggily, but the lectures are much better.

Overall, whether it's school being actual classes desired, spending time on meaningful friendships, or developing (some) better habits, there's been changes at Waterloo. While some things may still be the same, I'm far more optimistic about the future. I'm excited to conclude this year of university and see what the future brings.



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# Waterloo Warning: Co-op in the Mirror May Not be Exactly what it Appears

## Looking Back on Student Expectations

Waterloo: Co-op in the mirror may not be exactly as appears.

Like most students, when I first came to Waterloo, I had very high hopes for coop. The one student in my program I knew from my high school had a fantastic set of co-ops, working at companies like Apple right off the bat. It seemed like no matter what, everything about Waterloo was a place of dreams in many ways. Much like everyone else, I came in with an unreasonably high admissions average.

Like most students, I thought I was at the very top. I thought I'd ace my courses, I'd get a co-op where they'd fly me off in a private jet to corporate housing with unlimited cake, and party every day. I thought every day would be super sunny, and I could start it with a refreshing coffee watching the sun rise. The "experience Waterloo" video from their webpage right now reflects this in some sense.

It turns out that isn't true. Turns out the cake is a lie, half the year is grumpy and miserable, a quarter is goose season, and the best part of your summer will be spent in a windowless room, working. Late nights working means the sunrise is more often seen after a long night of panic in a lab than a relaxing start. Co-ops are often spent

working on an internal project that'll see neither glory, nor the light of day. At least it beats working at the old grocery store like my friend at UofT.

A common platitude is "happiness equals reality minus expectations". Maybe you read it in a book, maybe you heard it when Elon Musk smoked weed with Joe Rogan. Doesn't matter. Unfortunately, what's unexpectedly ambiguous is whose expectations take away from happiness. Many parents make major sacrifices to allow their children to go to Waterloo. Some students pay for tuition from their parent's retirement plan. Some parents got PhDs and demand their student must be the absolute best.

Of course, for many, they don't even need to look at their parents' expectations to be unhappy. While it's true that students were among the best in high school, it turns out not everyone can be number one in university. In fact, half the students are going to be below average, and unless you intend to work very hard, you probably won't be the best anymore. Even worse, many students did very similar things in high school. Most people might play an instrument, have been a life guard, and even been on their robots team. It did a great job to help the entirety of

Waterloo really stand out from their peers.

My peer who had the great co-op was extraordinary, even for Waterloo. Of course, many of the smartest people are humble, so I didn't realize it until it was too late. I later found out in high school he single-handedly built a technical and spent his summers in high school doing professional development. Me? Well, I can do a pretty nice backstroke. It turns out employers really didn't care all that much my swimming, proficiency in Microsoft Word® (thanks CECA), or my excellent communication skills developed by working on various team efforts on school projects.

Of course, no one by default deserves anything. The school shouldn't give rank 1 because I want it, and I can't imagine that I'd spend money on someone for being great at using word editors. Unfortunately, at the time it were my expectations weren't what I wanted. All things being considered, being in good academic standing and having relevant work experience is very much worthwhile. Many people have failed, and if you're ready this, you likely haven't failed out (yet).

Throughout all this time, unfortunately it's never easy to

reconcile one's expectations with reality. In the book *Mistakes Were Made (But Not by Me)*, the authors discuss how people's expectations of reality are only emboldened by evidence to the contrary. Whether it's the belief that Iraq possessed WMDs or you'll study for finals before exam season, evidence against your beliefs only creates more motivated reasoning. It's especially hard reconciling against what you want because it'll make you sad. Maybe that'd make you a failure. Maybe you just aren't as good as you think are you. Whatever.

Perhaps whatever Brad Pitt's rant was in *Fight Club* was real. We aren't all ninja rockstar x10 developers. Maybe our train just hasn't come yet. Who knows? There's still another term, until there isn't. I guess maybe university isn't about your dreams coming true, but perhaps about setting realistic expectations.



## Waterloo Engineering Competition A Review



**STONE HE**  
2B MECHANICAL

Writer's note: I only been to one hackathon so far and it is not even the one where you must pull all-nighters. I may have no right to say anything about hackathons nor WEC, but this could be useful for students doing these competitions for the first time. I would mainly go over the design challenge as this is the one I have done, so I won't have as much details in consulting and software competitions. If I am wrong with these

facts, please email Iron Warrior.

The Waterloo Engineering Competition (also known as WEC) is a 2-day long competition in both the Fall and Spring terms, hosted by EngSoc. Teams of 2 to 4 are given 6 hours to build, code, or research in order to solve a specific problem based on the nature of the sub competitions. The 4 competitions held by WEC are the junior/senior design, consulting, and software. Winners of each category get a cash prize and can advance to the Ontario Engineering Competition. However, all participants and volunteers are provided free food during the competition- but don't eat while you are trying to solder a wire

to your motor!

It's hard to prep for WEC because the design challenges change each time the competition rolls around. However, senior design seems to love using Arduinos in their competitions, so that's probably a good thing to look over before the competition. Junior design seems to not include Arduinos as part of the design (but it may vary), but it is only for students in terms 2A and below. Consulting would be one that is more research heavy, as it is a competition to provide a solution through a pitch. Software design would be more into like regular hackathons, but with only 6 hours to write your code. WEC seemed to be

the competition that fills in the niche of the hackathon-like environment but with more design and research aspects implemented into it.

Also, in some previous competitions, no one completed the objectives of the design challenge, so it is okay to not have a perfect (or functioning) prototype, research project, or demo when you present in front of the judges. Don't worry about making it perfect, as the design challenge is meant to be difficult (it doesn't mean you should not try however). Another portion of the competition is the presentation, which can affect your score as well. Be ready to present your final product and sometimes, the run could be

In addition, winning teams will also win a monetary prize, which can be useful for your textbooks – or side project expenses. Even if you don't win, you still get some free food and a lot of experience with designing, research, coding, or design pitching -and you can always improve for the next competition!

However, the one disadvantage of WEC is that you need to have a group beforehand in order to compete in the competition. It would be hard if you don't know people interested, but I hope this issue gets addressed in some way for students interested in doing the competition but has no one to work with.



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# Carolyn MacGregor Wins S2019 Friend of the Society Award!

## How this Prof Keeps Her Door Open

**THOMAS DEDINSKY**  
VP ACADEMIC

The Friend of the Society Award is awarded to a faculty or staff member every semester for their contributions to bettering the mental health of their students. They are selected through a nomination period by a committee composed of the VP Academic 'A', VP Student Life 'B', and three at large council-elected members. The winning person's nomination(s) must indicate that they have contributed significantly to at least one of the following:

1. Advocating on behalf of students to eliminate elements that have a negative effect on student mental health
2. Showing a long-term commitment and vested interest to the betterment of student mental health
3. Taking action to directly improve the mental health of students

Professor MacGregor has always been known to look out for her students and check in on their mental health. In first year, if a student seems to be struggling with their midterms, she will reach out to the student and see if there's anything she can do to help. She also encourages all the inter-class bonding that takes place in systems; she always attends coffee houses and has been known to perform and interact with her students. Her office door is always open and available for students to come in, ask questions, and have candid conversations about their mental health. She's extremely knowledgeable about available mental health resources and continually seeks out more in order

to be able to provide better support to her students. In class, she's willing to modify due dates and marking schemes in order to benefit students. Professor MacGregor has been offering support to all SYDE and BME students for a long time, and continues to show an interest in supporting them and their mental health. If you want to hear more about her efforts to better her students' mental health, read the interview below to find out more!

### What brought you to Waterloo and what kept you at Waterloo?

Carolyn MacGregor initially started as a Psychology student at the University of Waterloo, one of the first Psych co-op students, in fact. During her co-op at Transport Canada, she became interested in systems and industrial engineering. This led to her taking courses in Systems Design Engineering while at Waterloo and she went to the University of Toronto to study Industrial Design. Afterwards, she started work at Human Factors North doing consulting, but when her family wanted to raise kids here in Waterloo, she took a sessional job in the Systems Department in 1994. She became full-time in 1996, and she can't imagine any other place where should would be. Systems just fits with her, and she enjoys being with the students.

### How do you embrace your department's community, both your colleagues and your students?

The department has a long history of community, recalling how even very old alumni will say SYDE had a community. "Systems felt like a family. (...) They made me feel like I was part of a family. So it's easy to help pass that on when you have others that make you feel like you belong." A big contribution early on was the decision to invest in dedicated

classrooms rather than dedicated research areas. The bigger size nowadays has made it a bit more challenging, but you can still see the culture starting at the first-year level due to upper-years helping them fit in.

### What is your favourite part about interacting with students and how do you make the SYDE environment open and comforting?

She really enjoys having conversations with students. Often, she'll have the hard conversations, since some students are seriously struggling with academics or other issues. This is all the more reason why it's important to make students feel like there are multiple touchpoints available to them. They might meet with Kristen Deckert, the SYDE Undergraduate Administration Coordinator first. They might go to a continuing lecturer that have been hired by the department in the last few years. The goal is to create a safe space for students to talk about issues, because having tough conversations is difficult, but if you can trust the person you're speaking with, it can be a bit easier. Hopefully MacGregor and the student during the conversation can figure out a positive path forward together.

### Why is mental health important to you? Why is students' mental health important?

Professor MacGregor is very familiar with the subject, as she personally struggles with mental health issues, as do some of her family members. "It doesn't mean we can't learn to manage it, but it does mean that we have to be mindful of when we're starting to hit issues where maybe our management is slipping. Sometimes we just need to be able to say to someone else 'I think I'm going nuts' without that other person panicking." Despite mental health issues being common, students

might be afraid to speak up due to the stigma or worry it may affect how they are viewed; they may be embarrassed, or may not have family to talk to. We all have good days and bad days, and we all need somebody we can trust when we're at our lowest.

### Do you think faculty and staff get enough education regarding how mental health affects students?

Short answer: no. Longer answer: Faculty and staff already have a lot on their plate with teaching, other commitments within the university and anything off campus. Interacting with students who are struggling is often emotional and can be just as stressful on the person offering support as the person receiving it. The bottom line is they need more support. Faculty and staff should receive better training on how to offer direct help in crisis, as well as how to look after their own mental health and life balance. They are often the first point of contact for students, and it's hard to help others without that necessary training.

### What message would you like to send to students reading this article?

It's okay to be you, whatever that is. It is okay to not succeed in academics and have a stumble. Sometimes knowing that you're okay with a stumble can allow you to pick yourself up earlier or even catch yourself beforehand. "Be yourself, and it's okay to let others see yourself."

If you have any questions about the Friend of the Society Award, please feel free to reach out to Thomas Dedinsky at [vpacademic@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca](mailto:vpacademic@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca). If you would like to hold one of the student at large positions for the Friend of the Society Award committee, come to the second EngSoc Council Meeting next term!



Professor Carolyn MacGregor



Dr. Mohammad Nassar

