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Series of Terrorist Attacks Strike Kabul



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Distraction was Widespread in the Aftermath of the January 27 Ambulance Explosion



**RAEESA
ASHIQUE**
3B ELECTRICAL

Kabul has experienced a recent surge of violence, with four major assaults in just over a week that, combined, killed over one hundred people and leaving many more injured.

The Military Academy

An attack on Marshall Fahim Military Academy outside Kabul on Monday, January 29, killed at least eleven, leaving sixteen others injured. ISIS has taken credit, according to their news outlet Amaq. One attacker detonated his suicide vest at the base's entrance at 5:00 local time. That was followed by a gun battle with troops lasting well past daybreak.

Defence ministry spokesman Dawlat Waziri told BBC "There were five attacks, two of them detonated their suicide vests, two others were gunned down by security forces, and one was arrested live." Four AK-47 assault rifles, one suicide vest, and one rocket launcher were seized.

Waziri added "the attack was against an army unit providing security for the academy and not the academy itself."

Questions have been raised about the Afghan government's ability to protect itself.

This base has been targeted in the past: in October 2017, fifteen military cadets were killed by an explosion while disembarking a bus outside the academy.

barking a bus outside the academy.

The Ambulance Explosion

An explosion on Saturday, January 27, in Kabul's crowded centre killed 103 people, and injured 235, according to Interior Minister Wais Barmak. This area is home to government buildings, embassies, a hospital, and a shopping zone known as Chicken Street.

The suicide bomber drove an ambulance full of explosives onto the crowded street at 12:15 local time, passing the police checkpoint by saying that he was taking a patient to nearby Jamhuriat hospital. The International Committee of the Red Cross said using an ambulance for this horrible act was "harrowing".

The Taliban is taking credit for what is Afghanistan's deadliest attack in months. Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid cited US efforts to assist Afghan forces with troops and air strikes, saying, "If you go ahead with a policy of aggression and speak from the barrel of a gun, don't expect Afghans to grow flowers in response."

The Afghan government has condemned this as a crime against humanity, accusing Pakistan of providing support to the attackers. US President Donald Trump said, "Now, all countries should take decisive action against the Taliban and the terrorist infrastructure that supports them... The Taliban's cruelty will not prevail." Other world leaders have also expressed their condolences, and called this event a violation of human rights.

The Aid Agency

ISIS attacked the Save the Children office in Jalalabad, a city in eastern Afghanistan, detonating a vehicle explosive at the entrance to the office at 9:10 local time. A message on their news outlet Amaq said the target was "British, Swedish and Afghan institutions in Jalalabad."

This explosion initiated a ten-hour battle, in which six people were killed and a dozen others injured.

Save the Children released a statement that they were "devastated" by the news, saying, "Our primary concern is for the safety and security of our staff." They have temporarily closed their offices across the country, but remain "committed to resuming our operations and lifesaving work as quickly as possible."

Save the Children is an international aid agency, with the mission to provide better access to education, healthcare, and essential supplies to children across the world. They have worked in Afghanistan since 1976, running programs in sixteen provinces across the country and reaching 700,000 children over the years.

The Hotel

The first in this wave of attacks was on Kabul's Intercontinental Hotel on Saturday, January 20. The luxury hotel was scheduled to host an IT conference on Sunday; over one hundred IT managers and engineers were on site at the time, according to an official at the telecommunications ministry. Six militants stormed the hotel in suicide vests; after a twelve-hour

siege, the Afghan Special Forces regained control of the building. The death toll was over thirty, with foreigners comprising the majority of the victims.

An eyewitness told the BBC that he was spared after saying that he was Afghan. The attackers reportedly entered the building shouting, "Where are the foreigners?"

The Taliban has claimed responsibility. In a statement, spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said the group has "killed tens of foreign invaders and their puppets".

A statement from interior ministry spokesman Najib Danesh blamed the Haqqani network, which is a group affiliated with the Taliban. He also said that a private company had taken over hotel security three weeks prior, noting that this may have been a mistake.

Who's to Blame?

There are multiple theories explaining the increase in violence. Government officials say this is a response to improved security elsewhere in the country. For example, US air strikes have helped push back the Taliban in Helmand Province.

Attacking the country's capital is also an effective way to undermine confidence in the government and attract international attention.

The chief of Afghan intelligence services said the increased US pressure on Pakistan is a factor: the US and Afghanistan are accusing Pakistan of sheltering militants. Trump recently suspended security aid to Islamabad. Pakistan denies these allegations.

Letter From the Editor

... And That's My Cue to Exit



NICHOLAS OWENS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Greetings, all. Hope you enjoyed my editorial last week about why a log is such a great symbol of potential. I think that, especially with interview season coming into full swing, it is important to be able to view potential wherever it can be found.

I'm going to keep my overview short this week. Of course, that does not mean that we do not have a great paper. We have a wide variety of articles including plenty on the increased fee for the co-op program. Most of your favourite columns are back once again. I even heard that the electro-conspiracy theorist himself is back. Having said that, I would like to take an unconventional approach to the editorial and spend a bit more time to simply speak my mind. I'm sure that my writers will forgive me for that.

A lot has happened since the start of the year. The American government shut down and reopened (sorry about being out of date on that one). President Donald Trump has given us no shortage of his usual shenanigans to discuss, the raise in co-op fees has been raising tension across campus, and just last week, we had "Let's Talk" day devoted to raising awareness of mental health. With all this in mind, I think that there is one topic in particular that is important to talk about right now. Star Wars.

Now don't close the paper yet. This isn't going to be a rant about "The Last Jedi". I'm sure that enough people are getting sick and tired of those already. I just want to take some time to talk about everybody's favourite little droid, R2-D2. Anybody who has watched the series will probably know that R2 usually shows up at the last minute and saves everybody. He's present for most major plot points and, even though he's only a side character, he still comes across as an anchor point for the entire story. What most people might not know is why the little blue droid with a bad attitude is always so integral to the plot. The answer is simple. He's the narrator.

I'm not making that up. That comes straight from George Lucas, the creator of

Star Wars. R2-D2 is the one who says, "a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away." So that explains why R2 always seems to come out as the hero. He's telling you a story and he wants to make himself look good. It's all a matter of his perspective. Darth Vader would tell a much different and much more tragic story.

Now comes the topic of why I even brought this up. Well, R2 has a lot of life experience and I think that there is a lot that can be taken from how he decides to tell his story. With each and every one of us, I think that it can be easy to find that life is a matter of perspective. Everything that you experience amounts to one long story and, although you can't always decide what that story is going to be, it's always your decision to choose how that story is being told. It's your decision to choose what part of your story is focused on.

Keep in mind that I don't mean that it isn't important to focus on what is happening around you. No matter what you want, that midterm that you forgot to prepare for is still going to be just around the corner. There will always be that job interview in the morning. But I've always found that it's better to view these from a certain perspective. You can view one of these as a trial, yes, or you can view it as a challenge. You can choose to be nervous, or you can choose to be excited to get it done. Of course, it won't always end well but you will enjoy the experience much more.

This all extends to the world outside of the university. The world always seems like it's getting progressively worse. I'm sure that most of the readers out there would be happy to hear me summarize that statement with the name of a certain president of the United States. But R2 watched a significantly worse public official get elected in his time. It never caused him to act any differently. Like I said before, everything is a matter of perspective.

Unfortunately, perspective can be a two-sided coin. It's always good to highlight those times when you can power through adversity and stay motivated. But there are also those other times. Life can be good. You can have a lot of friends. You can have high grades. You can be doing well in so many different areas, but it won't matter, simply because of the perspective that you have towards your

life. You can do a dozen things right but choose to focus on the one thing that you did wrong. Like I said before, Darth Vader would tell the story much differently than R2-D2. When things get tough, it can sometimes be easy to only focus on the negative and ignore the positive completely.

All that I can say about these situations is that it's in these times that we need to look to the master. R2 isn't centre frame for every scene in every Star Wars movie. We'd get bored of him if he was. There are major plot points that happen when he, the narrator, isn't even present. The only thing that I can say is that it is sometimes important to step aside and let other people take over the plot while you focus on yourself. It's okay to step aside and take a break now and again while the audience watches people hack at each other with laser swords for bit. It doesn't mean that you aren't part of the story anymore, it just means that you don't want things to get too boring.

On that topic, I think that I should bring up an announcement that I wanted to save until the very end. For personal reasons, I am stepping down as Editor-in-Chief of the Iron Warrior. I wish that I could have gotten more issues of the paper out, but none the less, I have loved my time as editor and am very sad to see that time cut short. The nature of these circumstances was sudden and fortunately, Cameron Soltys, a long-time writer and former Editor-in-Chief will be able to take my place despite the short notice. I believe that we should also all be thankful that we have Raeesa Ashique as an assistant editor to help fill the gap that I'm leaving behind. If you are still interested in reading my articles, I will be staying on as a writer, so be sure to check out Electro-Nick's Electronics when you can.

Of course, some of you might be wondering why I had to leave so suddenly. To that, I'm simply going to say that R2-D2 has to go to Dagaba for a while to help Luke Skywalker with his training. Don't worry though, he'll be back soon enough to fix the hyperdrive on the millennium falcon.

Now, keep in mind that all of this is just my opinion, but you can trust my opinion. I may not be an expert, but I know that things will turn out for the best.

May the force be with you.

Iron Warrior Policy Manual Update

On January 29, 2018, The Iron Warrior Advisory Board met to ratify the Iron Warrior Policy Manual 5 (2018), the latest version of the governing document for The Iron Warrior. The changes, which had previously been presented to both The Iron Warrior staff and to the Engineering Society Council, were

passed by consensus.

There are a variety of changes to the policy manual, not all of which will be discussed here. Some of the most notable changes are:

- 5.2.2.1: Formalizing the Engineering Society's advertising discount at half the regular rate

- 7.1.1: Establish quorum for the Advisory Board at four voting members
- 7.1.1.6: Selection process for the Student-at-Large

The new document can be found at iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/pdf/policy-manual-5.pdf

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Send your submissions for the next issue to iwarrior@uwaterloo.ca.

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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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Point Vs. Counterpoint

POINT

Should CECA Stop Increasing Coop Fees?

COUNTERPOINT

GABRIELLE KLEMT
2T GEOLOGICAL

By now, you've probably noticed the campaign Protest CECA. They're hard to avoid; they're on your route to class, they're in your face on bathroom walls and now they've even invaded your email inbox in the form of not one but two response emails. Why should we care, why indeed does Protest CECA care?

As Engineering students at the University of Waterloo, it is mandatory for us to be enrolled and take part in Co-op. Waterloo Co-op, the holy grail held up as a golden standard to every university for miles around: look at us, we do it best. But we pay steeply for a glimpse of those tantalizing Cali job postings, and we have no choice but to pay for it. Many of us have used CECA's services and found them lacking in more ways than I care to list here and have opted instead to use our own wiles to earn a job outside WaterlooWorks, and yet we continue to pay the ever-hungrier monster that is CECA's "staff salary" budget.

Now it might seem that the Protest is one-sided. Why criticize CECA now, we know they're been raising fees for ages—not a year has gone by that they haven't raised them. Additionally, why are they asking CECA to show us their budget, when there has been an investigation into this that has been going on for about a year now?

The plain fact of the matter isn't that the Protest is some silly, shallow, almost-too-late-to-the-teaparty movement. It's the result of a slow burn and it's exploding now because we don't want to wait any longer. We don't want fees raised for a reason that seems to a to be a feeble excuse for wanting more money from a cash-strapped population, we just want to know where the money is going!

Transparency. That is what this movement is all about. That's what we want, and we want it now. We don't want to keep paying more, blindly: we want to know why. As the petition states "To increase student co-op fees while a deep dive investigating the very need for such a fee increase is still in progress undermines the integrity of the deep dive." The "deep dive" is on-going but it's taking too long.

Since starting their Change.org petition, Protest CECA has raised over 2,900 signatures at the time of writing this article with more expected in the coming days. Respondents to the petition have shared their reasons for protesting, which are mostly centered around CECA's claims that fee hikes are going towards salaries. One student saying, "CECA does not provide enough support and asks for more money. Cannot accept," with another writing "...the salaries

are outrageously high for the little amount of service that students receive from CECA. Especially since this is currently being investigated the salary increase should not be higher than the recommended rate of inflation. Our tuition and fees are some of the highest in Ontario and Canada as a whole." And they're not wrong.

It's true that I'm no great fan of CECA, I don't believe their services are representative of the money we pay, and I don't think they care about the programs that aren't high-profile, but I am not the only one and there has to be a reason for that. As one student put it "There should be some transparency to the client (student body) on how the budget is being spent. If students feel they are not getting value for money, why would the fee be mandatory? Shouldn't good service be mandatory? What is CECA "guaranteeing" to the client for the money? To what level are they held accountable?" The generally accepted opinion of the student body is that CECA's advice to students is often rude, unhelpful and downright demeaning, and students feel that employers are treated as more important than students. It's only a surprise that this "protest" hasn't come sooner.

The overwhelming interest in the issue has now caught the attention of administration enough to warrant an official response sent Thursday, February 1. The email to all students essentially said they noticed that students care, they have been working with students on a review of co-op fees, and nothing is going to change in the meantime. So stop buying coffees now if you want to afford to get a job next term.

In conclusion, though I think that there is not going to be much of a change from this—at least not more than was already on its way through the FEDS-led review, or "deep dive"—I'm happy to say that finally here is an issue we, the students, can really get together on and get behind. Students from every faculty are affected by this fee hike and for once FEDS is doing the right thing instead of standing idly by while we feel powerless to make a difference in our own lives. It may be true this Protest is not changing anything concrete, but it is showing us that we can work together to get the ear of the administration, and that feels pretty good too. And hey, now we're all aware of the issue we certainly won't let it stand in future and we're sure as heck going to be waiting for the outcome of this long-anticipated deep dive. So, speak up CECA, we're listening.

HASAN AHMED
2N NANOTECHNOLOGY

Heads-up: Read the disclaimer at the end of our PCPs. I'm only mentioning this now in case people don't read it and message me later saying "BUUUUUT this blah blah". I'm not for the CECA fee increase, but I do believe in seeing both sides of arguments before making a decision. So I've been doing some research as to why this fee increase may not be the worst thing. I know we're more frustrated due to the lack of communication and their short notice of the proposal to make the salary increase, but I will address both that and the fee increase itself.

First off, CECA hasn't really responded to any of the petition CECA stuff concerns going around in a timely manner in my opinion. Granted, it takes a while for an organization of this size to respond in an appropriate manner; not to mention they probably have a lot of things to deal with. Not saying they haven't heard of what's going on, but it would take a lot of time to respond appropriately and most of the students are looking for the reasoning behind increasing the fee while the deep dive continues, not just an acknowledgement of "we hear your concerns and we're working on it." That doesn't really solve much. And to be honest, none of us will really be satisfied until they make their decision (which is February 6th when the University Board of Governors votes on it).

Waterloo has the largest co-op program in Canada; it makes sense that the fee is rising with more and more competitive entries into our co-op programs and faculties. According to the 2017 annual report, 72.4% of students in the Fall 2016 class are registered in a co-op program; that's around 20 000. So let's take 20 000 and multiply it by \$709, the current coop fee, giving us a grand total of \$14 180 000. We also have the deep dive team working hard on increasing transparency of this fee and how this money is spent, of which most goes to salary. FEDS Student Council also released a statement on the fee increase, which I encourage you to read <https://uwaterloo.ca/feds/news-updates/statement-co-op-fee-increases-students-council>.

CECA is probably also working on other things, such as Co-op 2.0 (which is a whole other thing, maybe another PCP), the deep-dive, and feedback mechanisms. This

was all released in a letter to the SciSoc Board of Directors. So they're listening. We should be working with them to obtain good value for the fee we pay each term. \$20 is not a large fee increase, but if we can better the services, then I will have no problem paying it. Not many people use the CECA services directly, so we don't know how much behind-the-scenes work they do. That being said, that could be the point of the deep dive. I also don't want to speak on behalf of the students who use and are helped by the CECA services. It's really easy to write a bad review, especially when you've had poor services (as you're more inclined to file a complaint), but it's not like CECA's useless.

Cooperative Education Council also met in December and provided co-op fee trends. Over the last 2-3 years, it's been increasing linearly. In Fall 2014, it was \$634; Spring 2015 and Winter 2016 was \$658 (a 3.8% increase). Fall 2016 was \$676 (2.7% increase), Spring 2017 and Winter 2018 was \$709 (4.9% increase). And now Fall 2018 is proposed for \$729 (2.8% increase). Note that these were taken from the meeting minutes and were based on the author's personal quest bill. The point is that it's been increasing all along. However, the point of the petition again is to justify this increase. Salaries are not determined by CECA (University staff agreement determines it). I also don't think that the university receives government funding for co-op and we don't make a great profit, so this fee increase was inevitable (note: I got this information off reddit but it was one of the most upvoted comments so take what you will with that information).

To conclude, we don't know what's going to happen on February 6th when the Board of Governors votes on it, but they're probably not ill-intentioned; if it were, I wouldn't have chosen to write this side of the PCP. I've had limited contact with CECA since I don't usually use their services, and thus I don't want to speak on behalf of those who do. It's really easy to go against administration, and I'm glad we got a petition going to raise awareness and set a precedent; hopefully in the future staff will be more aware of the effects of their actions on the students who directly pay for these services. Finally, I want to thank everyone who's been heavily involved in this situation, especially those who helped draft the petition, the ones working on the deep-dive, and everyone who makes the general population of UW aware of the situation. I mean, we got an email recently from the Vice President Academic and Provost D. George Dixon, so we know our voices are being heard.

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.

A Guide to the Petition CECA Movement

JANNY WANG
1B NANOTECHNOLOGY

The poor sleep-deprived citizens of Waterloo have stirred from their customary stupor to protest what may be called taxation without representation; that is to say a 2.8% increase in the co-op fee has spurred a wave of fury, Reddit memes, and existential despair. This surge of populist outrage culminated in a petition of most exquisite craftsmanship and salt which highlights, in eloquent fashion, the sundry complaints and most wretched wrongs that for so long had no outlet save the r/uwaterloo subreddit.

No student can have failed to notice the lovingly designed posters which now plaster

every wall, nor any netizen miss the CECA posts that daily multiply and increase on the subreddit; yet, in the true modern fashion, the finer details of the matter have become somewhat obfuscated, memes not being excessively well-fashioned for the communication of subtleties.

CECA is a most ancient and revered institution; the name first appears in the dusty tomes of the mid-twentieth century. Its solemn duty is to facilitate the co-op placements that give the University of Waterloo its renown. In the fulfillment of this task, it provides the innumerable postings which grace WaterlooWorks, as well as sundry workshops, employer information sessions, and the much despised Professional Development

courses.

This duty has been performed with sufficient care that our co-op program may rightfully be the subject of some very immodest declarations, but whether the students are entirely satisfied is a point in some dispute.

One major point of ire is that 80% of the co-op fee is spent on staff salaries, which the proceeds of this fee increase shall supplement. This raise is in accordance with a contract dating from 2015, which stipulates that the employees of CECA shall have a yearly increase in salary from the given year to the present one. Though it ought to comfort the students to know that those to whom they entrust their careers are so adept at securing their own, it seems that the fruits of this cun-

ning have proved but little sanguine to the students.

This increase was sprung rather in the form of a fait accompli; there was but little forewarning. On the subreddit, outrage at this transgression mingled with the lamentations of a broken wallet. The netizens of Waterloo are so suffused with righteous anger that they almost forget to complain about the perpetual heartache of virginity.

The somewhat plebeian outrage of the subreddit were graced with a halo of officiality, when FEDS mingled their protests with that of the students. On February 6, the Board of Governors shall have the pleasure of discussing this issue; on their resolution we wait with baited breath.

The End of Gerrymandering?



TONY KAPPEN
1B ELECTRICAL AND
COMPUTER

The United States Supreme Court is poised to end partisan gerrymandering in all fifty states, in what could be one of the most significant court case in decades. If it decides to end this practice, this is something we should all celebrate.

To know why, let's first look at a little bit of history. In 1812, Massachusetts governor Elbridge Gerry was not in the mood to lose any elections, and so signed into law a map designed to give his party an advantage in the upcoming elections. The map involved such hideous maneuvering to draw districts that disenfranchised his opponents that one particular district came to resemble a salamander. Hence, the term gerrymandering was born. Gerrymandering is essentially the practice of drawing the boundaries of electoral districts in such a way as to benefit your own party. This is done mainly by stacking the voters of the opposing party into as few districts as possible and cracking or splitting the remaining voters into districts where they are the minority. So long as the relative population of the districts are roughly equal, and the districts are reasonably contiguous and compact, this is completely legal. The result? A landslide for your side and any requirement to actually win a majority of the votes being completely

optional.

This technique can be employed with deadly efficiency and present massively skewed outcomes. A recent example can be found in Wisconsin, where the legislative map that passed into law in 2011 earned Republican lawmakers 60% of the seats in the state assembly, even though they only got 48.6% of the votes.

If at this point you are wondering about the state of would-be gerrymanders in Canada, never fear. Gerrymandering used to be a massive problem in Canada, with partisan parliamentary committees creating electoral maps that overwhelmingly favoured their own parties. This practice was put to a stop when parliament passed the Electoral Boundaries Readjustment Act, passing the responsibility of drawing maps to Elections Canada, free from partisan influence. Provincial governments soon followed the federal example and passed similar legislation themselves.

Returning back to our neighbours to the south, after learning about the grotesquely unfair map passed by the Republican government in Wisconsin, twelve registered democrats sued their state government. Their case, titled *Gill v. Whitford*, could end gerrymandering in the US, impacting how voters choose their representatives in the state assemblies of all 50 states and in the United States House of Representatives.

There have been many cases before the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of gerrymandering,

yet this time around presents some key differences and signs to be optimistic for a possible ruling ending it or at least stopping its growth. There are two main reasons.

The first centres on the work of Professor Nicholas Stephanopoulos from the University of Michigan. In 2004, a similar court case came before the Supreme Court with the potential to rule gerrymandering illegal on constitutional grounds. The court ruled 5-4 against with the deciding vote cast by Justice Anthony Kennedy. Kennedy provided an opening by which he could support any future arguments against gerrymandering on constitutional grounds. He said he could see ruling against gerrymandering if any future plaintiff is able to provide proof that a particular map displays extreme partisanship.

The problem presented by Kennedy, who still sits on the court, therefore relies on providing a definition of what extreme partisanship in a map would look like.

A possible solution to that problem is what Stephanopoulos believes he has achieved through his concept of the efficiency gap. The efficiency gap refers to the efficiency in translating the votes for a party into seats. The larger the difference in efficiency between the parties, the more likely partisan motivations were at play in the creation of a particular electoral map. This provides the argument against gerrymandering the opportunity to present a way to define what an extremely partisan map would look like, satisfying Kennedy's condition.

The second reason for optimism this time revolves around a similar case arising from Maryland being accepted for a hearing before the court. In the Maryland case, Republican voters argue that their rights have been infringed by a Democratic state government that gerrymandered the state's electoral districts.

The court normally does not take on two cases that are so similar to each other, but in this case it might present a particular motive. The Supreme Court, in its role as the neutral interpreter of American law, attempts to protect its reputation for neutrality wherever it can. In a case like this, where there are very clear political winners and losers, the court is likely to seek to avoid any accusations of partisanship. It therefore presents particular advantages if it is able to rule against the gerrymandered maps of both parties and hence avoid any accusations of partisanship within the court.

If the court rules that partisan gerrymandering is an unconstitutional activity that can be rationally identified and stopped, the impact on American democracy and the general structures by which Americans govern themselves will be huge. It will become much harder for elected representatives to completely ignore the people they represent and just trust in a skewed map to consistently return them to office. In a way, solving the problem of gerrymandering would be just another way of perfecting the American union. It's about damn time.

Logan Paul: What Was He Thinking?



HASAN AHMED
2N NANOTECHNOLOGY

Trigger Warning: The following article details topics about suicide and mental health.

So this whole thing happened in January of this year. I'm sure you've heard of it, but for those who haven't, the incident surrounds popular YouTube star and old Viner, Logan Paul, who was in hot water after releasing a video of him and his crew during travel to Japan's "suicide forest," a site where people frequently commit suicide. In their video, a recently deceased, hanging body was shown (with the face blurred). Paul received an immense amount of backlash across social media, aggressively asking him to take the video down, and telling him he did not realize that the disrespectful actions he committed offended people across the globe. A little while later, Paul removed the video from YouTube, claiming he made a mistake and wasn't trying to do it for the views, but he was instead raising awareness for suicide (encompassed in a tweet he wrote on January 1, 2018). Note that Paul took the video down; YouTube was not forced to removed it via their community guidelines under 'violent or graphic content'. So why was the media giant so late to respond? I'll discuss it later in this article, but I personally think it has to do with the fact that YouTube doesn't care about the viewers due to the large fanbase of Logan Paul and presumably the money he brings in.

This video wasn't the only reason that the YouTube star's Japan trip was ill-received. In his vlogs, he is seen disrupting the public in an attempt to seem funny. One such incident included buying a Gameboy Color, breaking it by tossing it on the ground, then returning to the shop claiming it was, "mucho

brokeno". Was this a "mistake" too? How ignorant do you have to be? It's not a mistake, or how you "didn't know better." He's a straight-up insensitive prick. Jomny Sun (@jonnysun) tweeted about this trip: "[A]sian people deal with some level of this kind of garbage every day. [I]t's incredibly infuriating and upsetting how this brings back so many tangible memories of how I've been treated, how my parents and grandparents have been treated, how my friends and family have been treated." But Logan Paul was definitely trying to "be careful to not disrespect the culture." An edited video is available at goo.gl/XEzeSy in case you're interested in seeing the disarray he caused himself.

YouTube then responded with their own tweets. The full thread is extensive, but I'll give a summary. They acknowledged the community's frustration with their lack of rapid response time, and want to make sure that videos like this never circulate again. Logan Paul has since lost his ties with Google Preferred, a service packaging all of the top YouTube channels for personal viewing, and was also cut from the original series *Foursome*, a YouTube Red exclusive produced by AwesomenessTV. However, YouTube still has issues with demonetizing LGBTQ+ content, which frustrates many content creators. Now their partner program has changed from having 10 000 total views to requiring 1000 subscribers and 4000 watch hours within the last 12 months (while this change was probably foreseeable I'm still a little bit salty that I lost my partnership). Not only that, but Paul's channel is still up: no demonetization, no nothing. We also have to remember how young Paul's fanbase is; they tend to be younger teens, and since he's in a position where he has a lot of influence, it sickens me that he is teaching them this is okay; that it is okay to disrespect culture, disrespect the body of a dead person, disrespect that person's

family, as long as you have millions of views.

Shortly after, Paul released an apology video (luckily I don't think it was monetized, but I have uBlock origin just in case). It pretty much summarized what he posted on Twitter, but seemed more genuine. That said, it's not much of an excuse to justify going through the process of filming, editing, blurring, thumbnailing, and uploading a video clearly against the YouTube community guidelines.

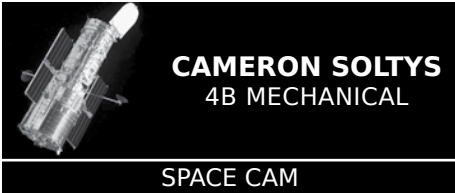
Logan released a video on Jan 24, 2018, titled "Suicide: Be Here Tomorrow." I watched this one. He talked to Bob Forrest, Founder of Alo House Recover Centre, who half roasted him about not knowing how big of an issue suicide was. To be honest, the video wasn't terrible, highlighting key people and information regarding suicide. Paul also spoke with Dr. John Draper, Director of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. He went over five steps to help prevent suicide: asking, listening, being there, helping them connect, and checking in. Honestly, they were decent points and I'd follow

the information. Finally, the video closed with Paul speaking to Kevin Hines, a survivor who jumped off the Golden Gate Bridge. Hines provided a very honest response about how we can prevent suicide. So I know my feelings towards Paul aren't exactly...sweet; however, he did say near the end of the video that he's pledging \$1 million to various suicide prevention organizations, with the first \$250 000 going immediately to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. He wants to immerse himself in the conversation and be part of the solution.

Paul's 22 years old; he's got a lot to learn and this was no "mistake". There are consequences actions for your actions. And yes, he'll still be making millions; yes people will brush this off after a few years (I use this expression lightly; I hated him before and I hate him even more now); and yes, he is still pretty young. And given that his viewer-base may be grow in terms of suicide and mental health awareness, we also have to remember all the people he negatively affected. We can only look towards the future now.



Planetary Jewelry



CAMERON SOLTYS
4B MECHANICAL

SPACE CAM

Saturn, the second-largest planet in the solar system, is often lauded with the title “Jewel of the Solar System.” This title is well-deserved; the planet’s magnificent rings stretch far off into space, a beautiful circuit adorning Saturn’s yellow lateral stripes. However, Saturn’s spectacular rings are not the only example of the incredible ring structure; there are plenty of other examples. In the solar system, all the gas giants sport rings of varying size and opacity. A few small planetoids, such as

Planetary rings are composed of many tiny objects orbiting a planet. These rings are extremely thin—1 km thick, in Saturn’s case—yet incredibly wide—480 000 km in radius for Saturn. In many cases, the density of material can vary by huge amounts depending on the radius of the orbit. This is particularly obvious with Saturn, since it has the most prominent rings; there are rings of darkness as well as yellow-gold. From a far-away Earth perspective, with a small telescope, these rings of darkness—regions of space and emptiness—appear to have sharp edges. Surprisingly, work from satellites such as the Voyager probes and Cassini that flew past and orbited Saturn, respectively, confirms this observation; Saturn’s rings have, in some cases, sharp and definite edges.

moons and asteroids. Saturn’s rings consist of ice and some rock, with many pebbles about 2 cm in size. The rings of Uranus are even bigger, including large ice boulders that can be metres across. Neptune’s rings are the least well-studied of these rings, but are thought to consist of small particles of rock and ice.

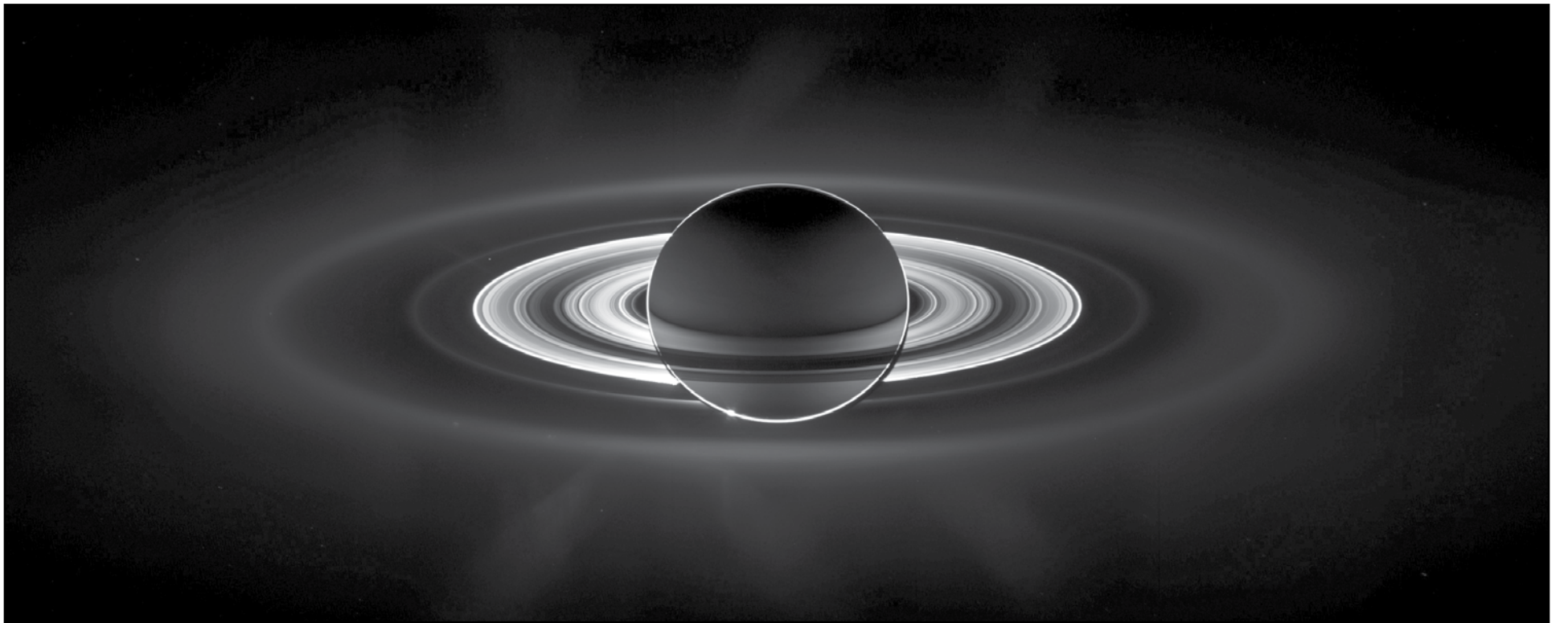
Planetary rings are mysterious, and their formation seems almost implausible or designed. The structures are incredibly wide and incredibly thin. In some cases, the line between dense rings and empty space is unnaturally stark. It seems incredible to think that they are naturally-occurring.

Ring Origins

The first thing that is required for rings is material for the rings, broken up into tiny

cles is conservation of angular momentum; over time, the objects that make up the rings collide again and again, exchanging angular momentum. This process continues until all objects have approximately uniform angular momentum.

Any object that doesn’t conform to the average orbit must pass through the rings twice on each orbit around the planet. During each of these passes, there is a high (at least by space standards) risk that the rebel object will collide with material in the ring. The rebel object will lose some if its errant angular momentum, while the collided object will gain some. Both objects will now pass into and out of the rings, colliding into yet more material. Over time, the angular momentum of the initial rebel object is distributed throughout the



NASA

Photo of Saturn taken by the Cassini Orbiter in September 2016, When the Sun was Eclipsed by the Planet

the centaur-class Chariklo, also have rings. Looking beyond the solar system, there is evidence that some of the multitude of identified extra-solar planets have rings as well.

Without even considering the extra-solar planetary rings, there is a huge diversity in planetary ring composition. Jupiter’s faint, narrow rings are made of dust, probably originating from impacts between the planet’s

pieces. There are, it is thought, several possible sources. As previously mentioned, much of Jupiter’s ring material is probably expelled from its moons during asteroid impacts. Volcanism can also play a role: some of the material for Saturn’s rings is thought to originate from its icy moon Enceladus, which throws plumes of water from its surface into space. Other material is thought to come from collisions between moons—for instance between Saturn’s moons Prometheus and Pandora.

A final source of material for planetary rings is through gravitational tearing-apart of planetary bodies. This process is caused by tidal forces between the planet and some smaller body like a moon or comet which become too extreme when the Roche Limit, aka the Roche Radius, is surpassed.

Tidal forces occur because some parts of an orbiting “secondary” body is closer to the larger “primary” than others. The parts of the secondary that are closer to the primary want to orbit more quickly than the parts that are further away, since objects in lower orbits orbit faster. If the force caused by this discrepancy is greater than the gravitational force the body exerts to hold itself together, the body splits into smaller pieces. The Roche Limit is only true for bodies that are only held together by gravity and have no internal strength which, it turns out, is true for a wide variety of small stellar objects such as some comets, asteroids, and moons. The Roche Limit increases with body size, which is why material is not ripped apart indefinitely once a certain orbital radius is reached.

Ring Flatness

The flatness of planetary rings is notable. Saturn’s rings, for instance, are so flat that they disappear from view twice per Saturnian year when the rings are exactly aligned with the Earth. The fundamental reason for this spectacular organization of countless parti-

whole ring by a branching tree of less and less drastic collisions.

Sharp Edges

In some cases, such as Saturn’s innermost “F Ring”, the ring is very thin and has well-defined edges. Similar patterns are also observed with all of the other gas giant rings and with Chariklo. This is surprising, since it would be expected that collisions within the ring would cause the objects to slowly diffuse away from the defined ring (assuming a way to make a well-defined ring could be contrived).

The cause of these distinct edges, it is thought, is shepherd moons. These are moons that orbit the primary body and, by some mechanism, keep the material in the rings in place. There is still a significant amount of research going on in this area. For instance, it used to be thought that Pandora and Prometheus were excellent examples of shepherd moons, keeping Saturn’s F Ring well-defined from outside and inside, respectively. The mechanism, it was thought, was that each moon would either force diffusing material back into the ring or eject it from the low-density region. However, at least one paper from 2014 suggests that Pandora does not act as a shepherd, and that Prometheus’ shepherding effect comes by it disturbing the ring in one way during one orbit, than disturbing it the other way during the subsequent orbit.

Planetary rings seem like some sort of epic, fantastic planetary feature. They adorn the sky in science fiction movies such as James Cameron’s *Avatar*. They capture the imagination of generation after generation of astronomers. The limited evidence is that these rings occur around many planets and even small bodies throughout the galaxy. What is known is that, common or not, there is plenty more work to be done in figuring out their intricate details.

What are Planetary Rings?



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The State of the Union...



We are back once again with “Damnit Donald”, chronicling the absurdities and scrapes which have characterized every point of his presidency.

The State of the Union Address

President Trump delivered his maiden State of the Union address on Tuesday, January 30. At an hour and twenty minutes, the speech drew nearly 46 million television viewers.

Apparently, his administration is “building a safe, strong, and proud America”, and “there has never been a better time to start living the American dream.”

He called for bipartisan cooperation with Democrats—ironic, since cooperation has been severely lacking throughout the duration of his term—saying, “Tonight I am extending an open hand to work with members of both parties, Democrats and Republicans, to protect our citizens, of every background, colour and creed.” However, he tarnished the pledge to revisit the issue of immigration with the seemingly snide comment, “Americans are dreamers, too.” This is a reference to the topic of Dreamers, which is addressed later in the article.

Trump began by bragging about his economic record: the low unemployment rate, restored consumer and business confidence, and a high stock market. While it is true that the economy is prospering, the accompanying statistics are much lower than one might expect.

Presidents generally take the opportunity in this address to introduce new policy initiatives; eager to be different, Trump spent more time bragging than speaking towards productive matters. His noted policy initiatives included lowering the high cost of prescrip-

tion drugs, investing in American infrastructure, and prison reform. However, he did not specify how these prices could be reduced, or from where the target of \$1.5 trillion to invest in new infrastructure would come.

Joseph Kennedy III, great-nephew of President John F. Kennedy, Massachusetts congressman, delivered the Democratic rebuttal, calling the presidency “chaos”, and noting that “many have spent the past year anxious, angry, and afraid.”

The “Putin List”

The US Treasury Department released a list of 210 prominent Russians last week, as part of the sanctions law—Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (Caatsa)—passed by Congress in August. The government stressed that this “is not a sanctions list, and the inclusion of individuals or entities... does not and in no way should be interpreted to impose sanctions on those individuals or entities.” It also notes that “inclusion on the unclassified list indicate that the US Government has information about the individual’s involvement in malign activities.”

The sanctions law is meant to punish Russia for meddling in the 2016 US election, its human rights violations, the annexation of Crimea, and ongoing military operations in Ukraine.

However, by not imposing news sanctions on said people, some US lawmakers say that Trump is giving Russia a free pass.

Trump begrudgingly signed the act with ten minutes to midnight on the deadline of January 29, attaching a statement calling it “deeply flawed”. In a very Trump-esque manner, he said, “As president, I can make far better deals with foreign countries than Congress.” The US government also argued that Caatsa had already pushed other governments to cancel deals with Russia worth billions of dollars, so sanctions were not necessary. State department Heather Nauert said, “From that perspective, if the law is working, sanctions on specific entities or individuals

will not need to be imposed because the legislation is, in fact, serving as a deterrent.”

The list included 114 politicians—excluding Putin—and 96 oligarchs. The politicians include all forty-two of Putin’s aides and top law enforcement official, spy chiefs Alexander Bortnikov of the Federal Security Service (FSB) and Sergei Naryshkin of the Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR), and CEOs of all major state-owned companies. The oligarchs appear to be from a Forbes magazine ranking of Russia billionaires, arranged alphabetically; they are all worth more than \$1 billion and affiliation with the Kremlin does not seem to have been a factor. In fact, the Ananyev brothers are included although they fled the country last year, threatening to sue the government after their bank was declared bankrupt.

By calling attention to those who have benefited under Putin’s rule, this list isolates Putin’s government diplomatically and economically.

The Kremlin is calling this an attempt to meddle in their presidential election, as it could damage the reputation of those named.

Putin called the list a “hostile step”, but that he will not act: “We were waiting for this list to come out, and I’m not going to hide it: We were going to take steps in response, and, mind you, serious steps, that could push our relations to the nadir. But we’re going to refrain from taking these steps for now.”

Government Reopens

The American government shutdown for three days, starting on Friday, January 19, when Republicans and Democrats could not agree on a bill to temporarily fund the government. Trump signed a stopgap funding bill late on Monday, allowing hundreds of thousands of government workers to return to work on Tuesday. This is the fourth temporary funding bill since October, which will keep the government open until February 8; the Senate approved it by 81-18, and the House by 266-150.

Trump ended Deferred Action Childhood

Arrivals (DACA) in September, which protects nearly 800,000 undocumented people who were brought to the country as children, saying that he would reinstate the policy in return for funding for the Mexico border wall. Immigration issues have been entangled with the budget ever since, as Democrats are looking to protect “Dreamers” from deportation.

However, the Democrats caved on this issue, as they did not want to be blamed for the government shutdown. In a statement, Trump said, “I am pleased that Democrats in Congress have come to their senses.” Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has promised to discuss this issue further at a later date.

Donald, the Superbug

Rapper Jay-Z appeared on CNN’s The Van Jones Show, and called Trump’s evaluation of African countries as “s***hole” countries “disappointing and hurtful”. He said that the election has highlighted fundamental issues of racism in the country, including “how people talk... behind closed doors”.

“You have sprayed perfume on the trash can... What you do when you do that is the bugs come. You spray something and you create a superbug because you don’t take care of the problem.

“You don’t take the trash out, you keep spraying whatever over it to make it acceptable. As those things grow, you create a superbug. And then now we have Donald Trump, the superbug.”

President Trump tweeted a characteristically immature response: “Somebody please inform Jay-Z that because of my policies, black unemployment has just been reported to be at the LOWEST RATE EVER RECORDED!” First of all, this is false: African American unemployment dropped to a historic low at 6.8% in December.

Jay-Z also commented on unemployment figures on the show: “It’s not about money at the end of the day... That’s missing the whole point. You treat people like human beings... that’s the main point.”

Woman Denied Emotional Support Peacock on Flight



A woman was denied bringing her emotional support peacock on a United Airlines flight from Newark to Los Angeles.

On Saturday January 27, Ventiko, a Brooklyn photographer and performance

artist, was checking in for a flight from Newark, New Jersey to Los Angeles, California. Her emotional support peacock Dexter was denied from boarding the airplane, despite having his own seat and ticket.

According to a statement released by United, Dexter was not allowed to board the flight due to his weight and size. In addition, they have stated that the traveler was told three times on separate occasions that she could not bring her peacock before they ar-

rived at the airport.

However, Ventiko stated that she has every right to bring a support animal on the flight. This is because of the Air Carrier Access Act of 1986, an act that prohibits the discrimination against passengers with disabilities. This also meant that any animal that is trained to assist a person with a disability or provide emotional support can be brought on an airplane.

Through this incident, United Airlines has

pushed for more restrictions on what can be brought for flights. Starting from March 1, United Airlines will require passengers to send appropriate documentation within 48 hours of a flight, which includes proof that the animal has been trained properly and the owner will take responsibility of the animal’s actions. In addition, a letter from a medical professional will be required before allowing the animal to board.

Getting the required documentation may not be an easy task. There were also concerns of passengers misusing the ‘support animal’ label, due to airlines having no way of determining whether the letter was written by a medical professional. There have been numerous incidents in the past year where animals were not behaving properly in flight. Some instances included cats urinating on the seats, dogs that blocked the aisle, and ducks that wandered around the cabin.

Delta Airlines has cited that there has been an 84 percent increase of support animals in the airplanes from 2016 to 2017. With more animals in the cabin, it is more likely there could be an incident. In one incident, a man was attacked by a dog that was classified as an emotional support animal. The man ended up with permanent scars on his face.

This may or may not be the case with Dexter the peacock, as he was seen quietly perching on top of a luggage cart while waiting to be boarded.

Fortunately, Dexter was able to get to his owner in Los Angeles through the help of his “human friends”, as stated on his Instagram account.



Jyshah via Wikimedia Commons under Public Domain

Trudeau's Approval Rating at "Middle Marriage" Phase



JIMMY WANG
2A MECHANICAL

A survey released by Nanos Research on Monday, January 15 has shown a drop in support for Trudeau's Liberal government. The poll revealed that 39% of Canadians rated the federal government's performance as either "poor" or "very poor", and that 37% of Canadians reported a "very good" or "somewhat good" performance. It was only November 2015 when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau was sworn into the highest office in Canada, entering office with an approval rating of 60%. The landslide of optimism and enthusiasm displayed by the Canadian public for the new PM has not been seen in many years, but two years and two months later, that optimism and enthusiasm seems to have faded away, with the Trudeau government's approval rating falling back to the Conservative government's approval rating back in 2014, a year before they lost the last election.

How did Canada's overly positive view of the young and charismatic Justin Trudeau slide back to the status quo so quickly? Let's review the Liberal party's policy during the 2015 election and how Trudeau's government has delivered. The Liberals campaigned on a platform of:

- Reducing the retirement age back to 65
- Marijuana legalisation
- Reopening VA offices
- Reforming child benefits
- Electoral reform
- Investing in the healthcare system to lower cost of prescription drugs
- Reducing taxes on small businesses
- Favouring the idea of a carbon tax
- Encouraging a non-partisan senate
- Admitting more Syrian refugees

- Ending airstrikes on Syria
- Running three fiscal deficits to fund infrastructure programs
- Funding for housing projects
- Support an inquiry into missing and murdered Aboriginal women
- The establishment of a youth advisory council
- Funding the establishment of more youth jobs
- Amend bill C-51

With the next federal election set for October of 2019, how well has the Liberal government returned on their campaign promises? Here is a list of accomplishments and the statuses of their promises:

- Moved the retirement age from 67 to 65 (March 2016)
- Recreational marijuana is set to be legalized (July 2018)
- 9 Veteran Affairs offices reopened out of 116 locations currently active (December 2017)
- Child benefits reform set to take action soon (July 2018)
- Electoral reform ambitions abandoned (February 2017)
- OHIP+ enacted (January 2018)
- Following previous conservative party's small business tax plan from 2015 (October 2017)
- No federal carbon tax plan enacted but provincial carbon taxes are enacted in QC, AB, and BC (January 2018)
- Revamped senate-appointment system enacted (April 2016)
- Ended Canadian airstrikes in Syria (February 2016)
- Accepted 40,000 Syrian refugees into the country (January 2016)
- 120 billion dollars invested into infrastructure programs (March 2016)
- Announced housing funding plan schedule to come into effect after 2019 (November 2017)



US government via flickr

Trudeau with US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson

- Initiated inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women (December 2015)
- Youth Advisory Council established (July 2016)
- Amended Bill C-51 being discussed in Parliament (January 2018)

As you can see the Liberal government hasn't been completely stagnant, yet the most common complaint of Trudeau's government is the sense of inaction. Perhaps it is the immediate impact fullness of the actions the government has taken. Legislation like reworking the senate appointment system don't exactly grab news headlines or people's attentions. The average Canadian doesn't worry about funding for infrastructure programs everyday. In my opinion, the average Canadian doesn't worry. We are not in the mists of a war or recession. There is currently no major issue Canadians are discussing for a prolonged period of time for the government to take immediate action. Simply put, this country is not in crisis and, when a country is not in crisis, minor actions made by the government aren't seen as significant. I believe that the true reason Trudeau's popularity has fallen wasn't because of the policies he advocated; it was the feeling of change and the new he instilled in Canadians. Here was a party led by this young and pro-

gressive politician replacing the decade old conservative government. People expected change and they got that shortly after the election (gender balanced and multicultural cabinet, and encouraging Syrian refugees, for example), but there just wasn't and hasn't been enough big ticket issues to go around till now.

I find today there's a strong sense of the establishment party being in power and that sense is founded in reason. Justin Trudeau is the son of Pierre Trudeau. With him coming to power, it marks the first political dynasty in Canadian history. The Liberal party is the oldest party in Canada and is centre-left on the political spectrum. But the question I want to you to ask is: "is establishment politics really that bad?". With the 2016 US election still relevant in our collective memories, establishment politics was painted in a negative light by popular candidates Bernie Sanders and Donald Trump. Even Trudeau campaigned on a platform of change and reform. However, with our current "establishment" government, there is no major crisis and most Canadians are living fairly good lives. Looking south of the border at what is apparently a non-establishment government led by a "Washington outsider", perhaps we should be thankful with the stability Trudeau's government provides.



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Over 40 Meetings Later...

ABDULLAH BARAKAT
PRESIDENT

Hey friends! Well the past two weeks sure have been busy, but that just means that I have a lot of things to update you on. I'll try to focus on the more important things I've been working on, and there's a lot of good news to go around. Firstly, I have continued to work with Mary Robinson (Academic Advisor in the Undergrad Office) on a space utilization plan for increasing student study space on campus, and it is coming along quite well. I will be working to finalize the plan within the next few weeks, and then we'll be working on sources of funding, so more on that to come. Secondly, I have reached out to the Accessibility Office, as well as to Karen Dubois (the Faculty Space Manager), to discuss the possibility of introducing accessible ramps to the entrances on the second floor of RCH, and she is now looking into quotes so that we can make this happen!

So one thing I had mentioned in my previous article was that I am trialing a 'POETS study space' idea for the term, which is happening every Tuesday starting at 6:30 pm. Just know that the space is yours, so please

feel free to utilize it. I have also continued my work with the Faculty Strategic Plan, which I now sit on four different committees for: the Undergrad Office, the Dean's Office, Engineering Computing, and the International Office. Things have been progressing well, and the hope is to have the initial draft for each committee done by February 23. I have been working to set up an in-person meeting with the person in charge of Bar Services, Rob Sexton, to discuss the current relationship between the Engineering Society and Bar Services, so more to come as things develop.

One of the biggest things that has been on my radar this term has been the mental health referendum that we planned on running in order to bring a new Engineering Counsellor to reside in the Undergrad Office. Because of complications with this process and concerns brought up from the Faculty, we've come to an agreement that we will not be running the referendum this term. However, we have created such a stir that word of our referendum has reached the Associate Provost-Students (Chris Read) and is being talked about at the highest level in our University. Things are not 100% set in stone, but because of the evident need for ad-

ditional counsellors that has been presented, it is looking like we might be getting a brand new Engineering Counsellor, no additional charge to students! Once this is confirmed, we will better advertise this awesome news, so keep your eyes posted.

On a final and personal note from me, I

have been very proud to represent all of you as your President, and now I am proud to represent the engineering profession with my shiny new Iron Ring! That is all from me for now, but if you have any questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to ask. 'Til next time friends! :)



A Bite-Sized Update

CÉLINE O'NEIL
VP COMMUNICATION

Hey everyone! This will be a short update, since it's been a relatively quiet couple of weeks as I wind down after attending Congress earlier in January, and start ramping up for the First-year Integration Conference on Friday. However, one very significant event on the external relations front was the Ontario Engineering Competition the weekend of January 26. Forty-two Waterloo students competed! A special congratulations to our two Innovative Design teams, who won first and third place.

The Engineering Student Societies' Council of Ontario (ESSCO) is organizing a blood drive competition, drawing on rivalries between Ontario schools to effect positive change. Waterloo participated in a similar event last year, and we won! On a related note, ESSCO Eng Hockey is com-

ing up in March! We're planning on sending a Waterloo team to a fun inter-school tournament. Keep an eye out in the next few weeks for more information on how to participate in the blood drive and hockey tournament.

I'm about to start work on an initiative to update the layout of the LCD screens that are placed throughout the engineering campus. We use them to advertise events, but in general I find they aren't very eye-catching and don't convey much information. Plus, they're quite inconvenient for our staff and designers. If you have opinions or suggestions about these screens (or about any other element of our branding and advertising), please let me know! I can often be found in the EngSoc office, or email me at vpcomm.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca.

Good luck with midterms and inter-

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Upcoming Events Calendar

Wednesday Feb 7	Thursday Feb 8	Friday Feb 9	Saturday Feb 10	Sunday Feb 11	Monday Feb 12	Tuesday Feb 13	Check out up-to-the-day event postings on the EngSoc website at engsoc.uwaterloo.ca/event-calendar/
Coverall Sales 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM CPH Foyer EngSoc Council Meeting #2 5:30 - 7:30 PM E5-3101 P & P Awards 7:30 - 8:30 PM POETS	Hot Chocolate by EWB 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM CPH Foyer Poker Tournament 6 - 9 pm POETS	Coverall Sales 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM CPH Foyer			EngiQueers 6 - 9 PM POETS	Board Game Bonanza 4:00 - 6:30 PM POETS	
Wednesday Feb 14	Thursday Feb 15	Friday Feb 16	Saturday Feb 17	Sunday Feb 18	Monday Feb 19	Tuesday Feb 20	
EngProv 7 - 9 PM POETS Romantic Pics with The Tool 11:30 PM - 1:30 AM POETS	Hot Chocolate by EWB 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM CPH Foyer Puppies in POETS 5 - 8 PM			Dungeons and Dragons 1 - 4 pm POETS			

Change in Action!

PAT DUONG
VP ACADEMIC

Hi Everyone. More updates! This is Pat Duong your EngSoc VP Academic for the Winter 2018 term! I deal with all things co-op and academic related.

Co-op Fee Deep Dive

See more at uwaterloo.ca/co-operative-education/your-co-op-fee

Waterloo Co-op has newly updated their co-op fee deep dive information. They have released the summary of an approximate breakdown of the co-op fee (see the figure). About 51% of the co-op fee is towards directly impacting services (student resources/support/programming, co-op employment process, and new job development). The other 49% goes towards maintaining employer relations, managing co-op (both the people and buildings), administration, and some research on the co-op system. This is the next step is to collect student feedback and start making suggestions on changes to the current system.

Add an External Job on WaterlooWorks

If you have found a job externally, you can add that external offer to WaterlooWorks during the main round interview period, before rankings begin. This new feature is thanks to many years of student feedback in collaboration with advocacy to CECA. If you are in the position where you have an external job offer and do not want to suffer the potential consequence of being kicked out of WaterlooWorks should you reject WaterlooWorks offers that you've been matched with due to having an external offer, contact your student advisor about your situation. If you have any questions about this feature, please feel free to email or

talk to me in person!

WatPD

View the Final Report on Recommendations: www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~watpd

Remember the survey about WatPD that over 1000 students filled out in Spring 2017? The final report was published in late December 2017, where 7 categories of recommendations were made. Please do look over this report. Some changes to WatPD Engineering that will be happening starting in 2018:

- S18: 3 am PD course deadlines (so that it'll be due midnight for our west coast co-oping friends)
- F18 (running pilots): a choice in assignment frequency (PD5), and allowing upper years to do 2 PD courses in a term (to finish the courses earlier) OR to defer a PD course until a later term (if you have a particularly tough co-op) with the departmental academic advisor permission
- Ongoing: transformation of courses into textbook-like summarized resources to keep after the course
- Going forwards: revamping PD 22 to decrease workload/time spent on the course to match other PD courses, PD 13 development for the Research Co-op designation

Other Discussions

- The impact of the ON minimum wage rise on OSAP (due to parental income eligibility) and co-op employment
- The re-evaluation of Orientation Week, Fall Reading Break, and calendar flexibility
- Nation-wide Engineering Education stances on Workload and mental health
- Have thoughts/opinions/concerns on the topics above? Or anything academic/co-op related? My office hours are Fridays 11:30 am - 1:20 pm in the Orifice or drop me an email at vpacademic.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.

Pre-Hell Week Events

MARIKO SHIMODA
VP STUDENT LIFE

Here we are again! Another dawn, another day, another Iron Warrior update from your favourite exec! How are all of you doing? I hope your term is going well. Come hang out with me in the EngSoc office! I like friends. Or come hang out with me at all our super fun events.

So what's on the menu for the coming weeks?? Tal Eng is happening soon, at Wilf's as usual. Come show off your talents or watch others be more talented than you!! It'll be a good time, I promise.

Hey fourth years!! Why not take advantage of the fancy new ring you got and come out to Romantic Pics with the Tool on Valentine's Day. Fun times with friends, Toolbearers, and love.

As always EngiQueers is happening every week, and D&D is coming up as well! Post secret service is ALSO running, so if you have something you want to get off your chest, why not write something to share with your fellow engineering students?

Tubing trip went fantastically! All the tickets sold out quickly, so keep an eye out for the event next year. Ski Trip also went extremely well, with everyone making it there and back

safely. Engineers Read Things They Wrote as Kids was a HUGE SUCCESS. Same with coffee house! There is also another coffee house coming up later in the term, if you missed the first one!

We are also looking to get more feedback on our events! Keep an eye out for feedback forms circulating on the Facebook event pages. We take all your feedback very seriously, and it will be used to improve all our events in the future. They're quick surveys and shouldn't take you longer than a couple of minutes. If you have any feedback for me in general, feel free to email vpstudentlife.a@engsoc.uwaterloo.ca. I would love to hear what you have to say; I value all of your voices.

We're chilling out with the events since Hell Week and Reading Week are coming up, but stay tuned for all the fun and shenanigans happening next month! Everyone, please make sure to take care of yourself during mid-term season. Get lots of sleep, eat healthy (stop living off of C&D patties and soup), exercise a little, and take breaks!

Good luck with midterms everyone! Take it easy, don't be too hard on yourself, and always remember you are amazing and you are loved. If you need a reminder of that, come hang out with me in the EngSoc office! Til next time folks <3

RidgidWare, POETS, and E7

MICHAEL BEAUCHEMIN
VP FINANCE

Hello all! Coming into the second month of term now, I'd like to extend congratulations to all of our freshly-ringed fourth years. It's an exciting time, and hopefully y'all aren't regretting the weekend too much. I've been to a lot of meetings recently, so I'm going to bring you all up to speed on the goings-on there, and I'll also get into the POETS excitement.

First, let's get you up to speed on POETS! Our first licensed event in POETS was a huge success, and the return of Warrior Lager was welcomed by many a fourth year. There's a photo of the bottle on the POETS facebook page, and don't forget that it will be featured at all of our licensed events, and you are allowed to keep one bottle (empty)! Our next Fourth Year Friday will be licensed and is this Friday, February 9! After that, there's Feb 16, and March 2 and 9, so if you missed the first one, there's no need to cry; we're here all term!

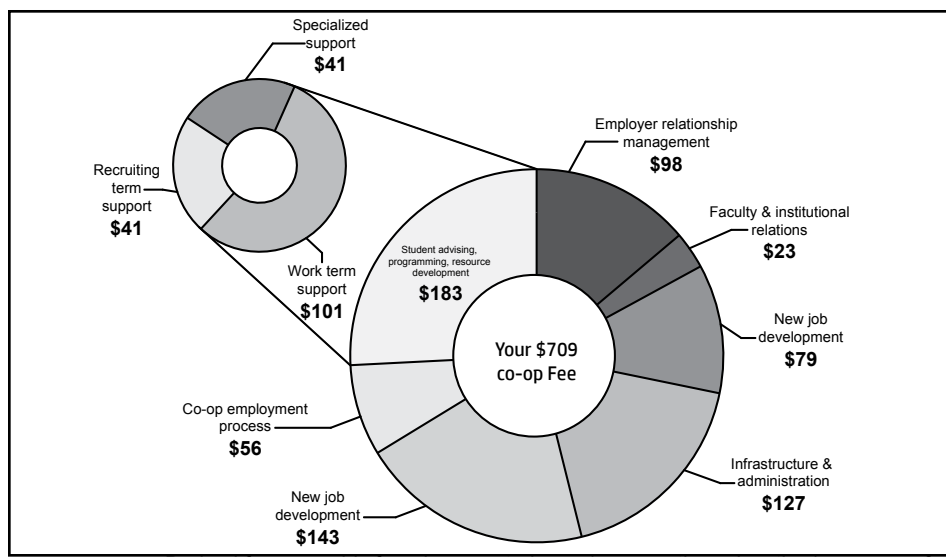
I have a meeting planned with Bar Services this week where I will be discussing the high prices in POETS - I think I speak for everyone when I say we'd like to see the prices a bit lower. Bomber gets lower prices for the same items, so I see no reason why the Engineering

Society can't swing the same. Also on the agenda is our relationship with Bar Services. In the past it was a bit strained, but recently we've been models of good behaviour, so we just want to make sure Bar Services appreciates that we are responsible and trustworthy.

I also had a meeting with Abdullah and some folks from the faculty about RidgidWare and moving into E7, with all of the difficulties that entails. We'll have a much bigger space for RidgidWare, of course, so we'll have to fill it! We're working out an agreement with the Ideas Clinic and the SDC/Machine Shop to see if we can come to a compromise and make sure students have access to the latest and greatest all the time. This could include tool sign-outs, interesting new items, and access to massive amounts of stock. There's some boring back-end stuff that I may talk about at this week's council meeting (catered by Baba Grill), but it's not all that important to most of y'all.

Finally, kind of on the same topic as above, I had a meeting with Karen DuBois about storage and furniture solutions for RW and the CnD. Karen is being an amazing resource for us so I wanted to give her a major shoutout for being awesome! Basically, RidgidWare is going to operate on a service desk model—if you're buying you'll bring a list of items you want, and it will all be gathered and brought to you. That way we can save you time browsing the shelves, and we'll be able to tell you right away if something is unavailable. Hopefully this will help us maximize our throughput, and keep you from waiting too long. With the space we're being given, there's also some potential to have small hands-on workshops with our Ridgid Techs, but this will be worked out later. There's also going to be a variety of seating options near the C&D, like we have in CPH but much, much more space, so it's exciting! I will hopefully be able to bring you some sneaky photos of the inside of E7 by the end of term, but we are all going to be moved in for sure in the Fall term! Something to look forward to, all you third years who were promised E7 aeons ago (sorry fourth years).

That's all from me for now. I'm looking forward to hearing the results of the election and training my successor (I wonder who it will be!). And this Friday you'll hopefully find me kicking back in POETS with a Warrior Lager in hand (I haven't had a chance yet, unfortunately). Until next issue: keep it cool, folks!



Derived from graphic found on uwaterloo.ca/co-operative-education/your-co-op-fee

Co-op Fee Breakdown 2018

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The Iron Crossword

As American As Apple Pie

CAMERON SOLTYS
4B MECHANICAL

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14				15									16	
17				18									19	
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55	56	57				58						60	61	62
63				64				65					66	
67				68									69	
70				71									72	

ACROSS

- 1: Exclamation of shock (abbr)
- 4: Tissue that connects your skin to muscles
- 11: Movie about a talking teddy bear
- 14: Sandra and ____, a popular web comic
- 15: Surround and starve out
- 16: Single-stranded information molecules
- 17: Acknowledgement of a debt (abbr)
- 18: Land of leprechauns and clover
- 19: Magic: The Gathering variant with 100 unique cards
- 20: Battery or speeding, for instance
- 22: US Great Depression economic policy (2 wd)
- 24: IJK
- 25: Hefor__
- 26: Maniac confectionery maker Willy
- 29: Story of Paris and Helen
- 33: American Film Institute (abbr)
- 34: Tabletop linear electron accelerator (abbr)

37: __-13, easily-decipherable encryption algorithm

- 39: Not yet known (abbr)
- 40: Live for Speed racing simulator (abbr)
- 41: Vehicle for traversing many terrains
- 42: Female sheep
- 43: 10 000 years
- 44: US agency heading the "war on drugs" (abbr)
- 45: A non-profit voluntary group (abbr)
- 46: Citation style of most humanities
- 47: Change, for instance a game or car
- 48: Had possession of
- 50: Repugnant
- 52: Roald Dhal's most recent movie (abbr)
- 54: Driver's license for commercial vehicles (abbr)
- 55: Country of the infamous 419 scam
- 59: Filled with wine or, sometimes, fire
- 63: Hyperlink (abbr)
- 64: Put a program on your computer
- 66: False statement

- 67: Private campground network
- 68: __ Harris, country singer
- 69: Metal-containing mineral
- 70: Opposite of start
- 71: Expression of protest (2 wd)
- 72: Has a school survival guide

DOWN

- 1: War starting in 1941 (sic)
- 2: Used by humans, chimps, and crows
- 3: Dirty and polluted
- 4: Standard order at McDonald's
- 5: Did again, for instance data analysis
- 6: German for "donkey"
- 7: Doesn't mix with water
- 8: Low-fat, especially ground meat
- 9: Name meaning "holy"
- 10: Colours of the Chilean flag
- 11: Natural green tower
- 12: Employment Non-Discrimination Act (abbr)
- 13: Author of "James and the Giant Peach"
- 21: Deer that sounds like a bugle
- 23: Gradient operator
- 26: Frequently-missing white and red-wearing man
- 27: "The Power ____" Christopher Walken film
- 28: First month of the Assyrian and Hebrew religious calendar
- 30: Things
- 31: Canadian pronunciation of "about"
- 32: Fine and ____
- 35: Power source used on the Voyager spacecrafts
- 36: Ontario public broadcaster
- 37: Period of sleep associated with dreaming (abbr)
- 38: Nocturnal flying hunter
- 49: Extraterrestrial Biological Entity
- 51: Every
- 53: Exclamation if you don't have any beer (2 wd)
- 54: Tint (archaic spelling)
- 55: Cook in a microwave
- 56: Fe
- 57: Happy, especially for another
- 58: Society that makes standards for steel
- 59: High wind
- 60: __ Musk
- 61: Cars have 4 of them
- 62: Plant originator
- 65: Trust Your Heart (abbr)

Sudoku

#2018-01

CAMERON SOLTYS
4B MECHANICAL

easy

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

Medium

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

Very Hard

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

Solutions for previous crosswords can be found on *The Iron Warrior's* website at iwarrior.uwaterloo.ca/distractions.



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John Fisher & Roy Duxbury Leadership Awards

The John Fisher Award and Roy Duxbury Award for Leadership are given to undergraduate students graduating in the Faculty of Engineering who have shown outstanding leadership throughout his or her academic career in activities that relate to Co-operative Engineering Education.

Nominations for these awards can originate from student groups, faculty members, or other individuals. 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 April 1, 2018.

The John Fisher and Roy Duxbury Awards consist of a Certificate plus a citation and an honorarium of \$2,000. The awards have been named in recognition of the outstanding contributions made toward SFF by its former Chairs, Dr. John Fisher & Dr. Roy Duxbury.

Nominations Must be Submitted to SFF Office Manager by April 1, 2018

E2-3336, Extension 84008, sff@engmail.uwaterloo.ca
www.eng.uwaterloo.ca/~sff

Broskies on Brewskies: Try a Welly On!



**DONOVAN MAUDSLEY
TRISTAN KUEHN**
3A MECHANICAL
3A SYSTEMS

BROSKIES ON BREWSKIES

Welcome back to a very special episode of Broskies on Brewskies, the newly ringed edition. Tristan and I finally made it to that classic rite of passage, the Iron Ring

Ceremony, and received our cold iron. Immediately after tossing on our new bling we hit the LCBO to find some new beers to review. This week we're bringing you four beers from the Wellington Brewery in Guelph. I was introduced to the Wellington brewery by a friend and have enjoyed them ever since.

The first beer up was the Wellington Special Pale Ale. This beer is very reminiscent of the classic craft beer pale ale, but just a little better. It favours malts over hops

which cuts down a lot on the bitterness. It's also a very smooth drink with a good light feel to it. It's a fairly popular beer; if you find a Wellington beer on tap at a local bar, this is probably the one. Overall we liked this beer well enough and would drink it again, but it's not something that we'd seek out. We gave it 3/5 stars.

Next up was the Up Side IPA. This returns to the classic IPA bitterness, with both malty and hoppy flavours. It favours citrus heavily, and is fairly acidic which

we weren't super happy about. This acidity ruined the feel of the beer. It's also definitely a summer patio beer, which wasn't reflected in this week's weather. Overall we weren't super happy with this super hoppy beer. We gave it 2.5/5 stars.

The third beer we sampled was the Kick-in' Back Session IPA. This was the best Wellington beer thus far, and has a nice dry and hoppy taste. It's also very clearly a summer beer, with more tones of citrus present. They nail the citrusy undertones in this beer, which don't overpower anything and provide nice summery hints. While it was the best beer we've had so far it still isn't really anything to write home about, and we settled on a score of 3.5/5 stars.

Our last beer was the Russian Stout, which was a large departure after three pale ales. As usual we were a little split when it came to the stout. I like stouts far more than Tristan does, and it's one of the key differences in our palettes. This stout was very well put together though. Undertones of chocolate and coffee come through in varying levels with each sip, and it feels very nice and rich. There's a fine line to toe with stouts, and this beer is an excellent pass at one. We ended up settling on 3.5/5 stars but I'm hopefully awaiting their next batch.

That's the end of another review. Even though we were fairly hard on the Wellington Brewery I still think they've got a lot of good things going and am excited to try their new batches when they roll out. Next time on a very special episode of Broskies on Brewskies we're going to be bringing you reviews of four beers from the Lake of Bays brewing company, which Tristan and I are both very excited about. Until then, please taste responsibly!

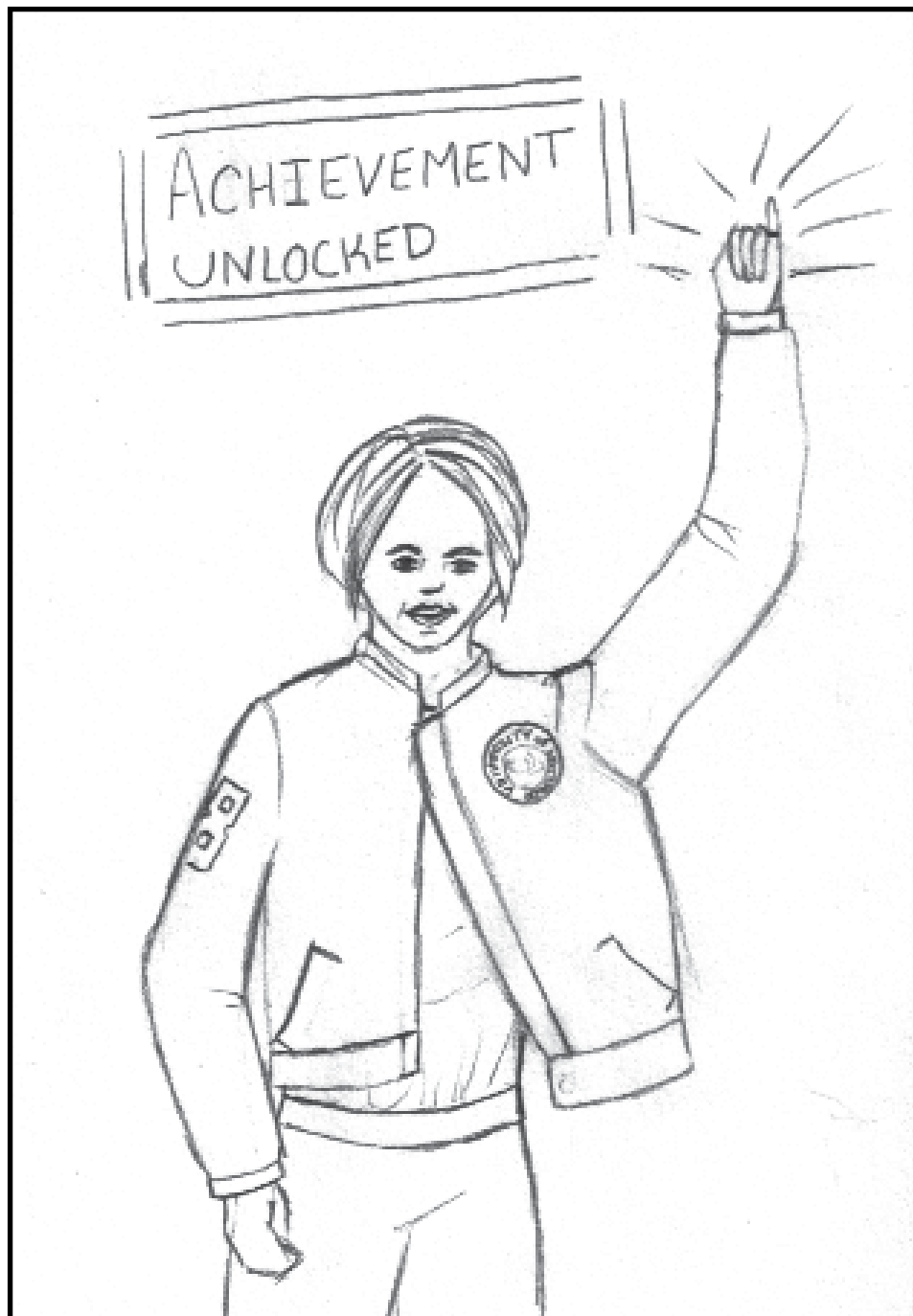
Girlly Things

LEAH KRISTUFEK AND DARCY SIMMONS



Life is a Game

LEAH KRISTUFEK



Why Interac Debit is Evil

(There, I Said It)



NICK OWENS
2A MECHANICAL

ELECTRO-NICK'S ELECTRONICS

Note: The following article was written by an Unlicensed "Professional"

Hello to all you Android users who are out there to stop Apple and all you IOS users who didn't get the memo. It's me, Electro-Nick, back to take on the most pressing issues regarding electronics. First of all, I would like someone to let that blockheaded editor know that I did not miss the first issue because I was afraid of the Y2K virous. That would be absurd. Y2K means year two thousand. I was hiding from the Y2K18 virous, thank you very much. Second, I've never made a full-on accusation in my title before, but this time, things are going too far. Interac must be stopped, and I require you, the readers, to help me on this one.

Remember what using a debit card was like only a few years back? You'd take your card out. You'd type in your pin number. Everyone in line behind you would grumble because you didn't use cash. Then, after doing it all again because you accidentally nudged the machine, you would be done at the checkout. Those were the days. But now what does using a debit machine look like? You step up to the machine, you tap your card, then you're good to go. Isn't that the most convenient thing that you've ever heard? Probably. Does that make cash obsolete? Of course it does and good riddance. Cash was only ever a way to get you to subliminally link

wealth with loyalty to the queen. But there is one consequence to the new Interac Debit that cannot be suffered. Is it the high security risk? Only conspiracy theorists would believe that garbage. It's the fact that using the card is fun now.

Yes, it's all fun and games now. The first time I pressed a bank card to the machine and heard it beep, I almost let out a childish scream (a fully professional and dignified childish scream, of course). It was like living in the future. I just wanted to sit there and swipe my cards all day. But therein lies the problem. There's too much joy in it now. Handing over money used to be a chore. But now, Interac even has me loving the payment process. But as we all know; sinister plots don't stop here. They don't stop at a company trying to get us to spend more. But, then, where do they stop?

Interac has already proven that they can control our behaviour. It has taken me this long to notice the debit problem (which I will admit is by no means new). By now, we don't know how else they might be controlling us. We could be tools to their dastardly plans and not even know it. Well I, for one, have had enough. Interac Debit is evil, and we don't even know why. I propose that we all go back to those old, slow, annoying debit cards so that we aren't tempted to fall into their plans. Be vigilant though. If something causes you as much joy as a beeping debit machine, it could be a mind control tool from Interac.

Of course, all of this is just my opinion, but you can trust my opinion. I'm an expert.

Now get out there and stop Interac.

Disorientation Week 2018: Prank Rundown

Enviro Balloon-Pit

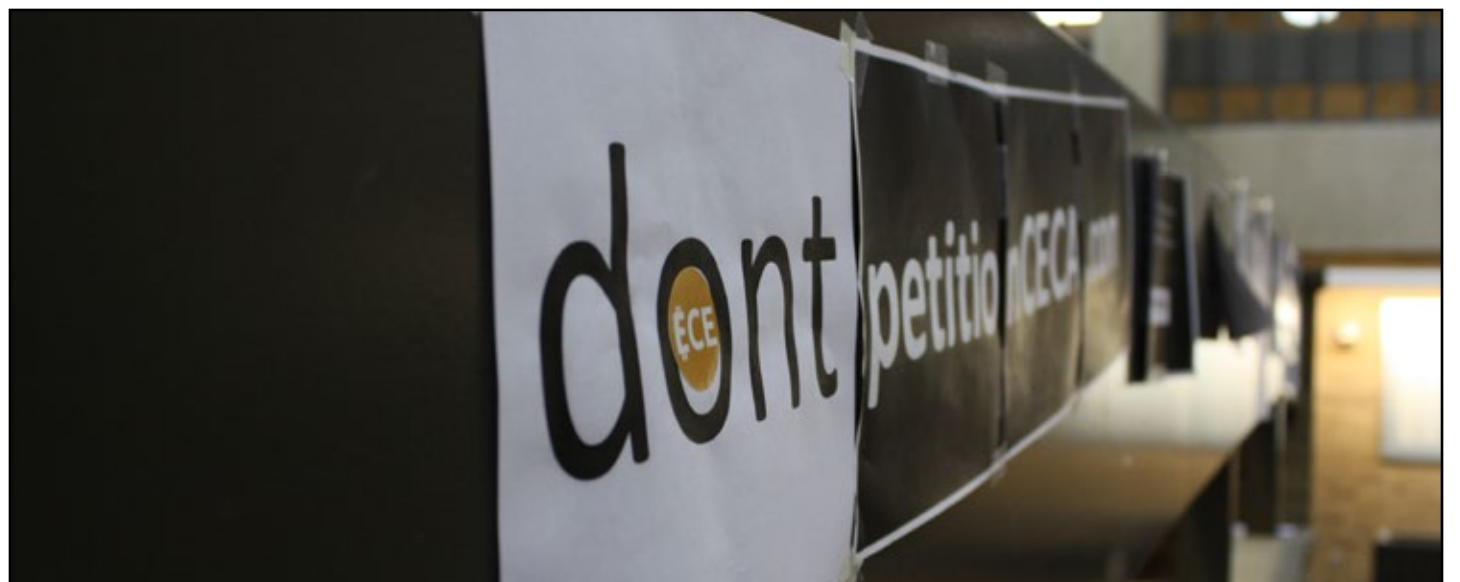


Tweety Visits Civil Engineering's E8

Meth '18 Iron Ring (Featuring Stamford Mechatronics)

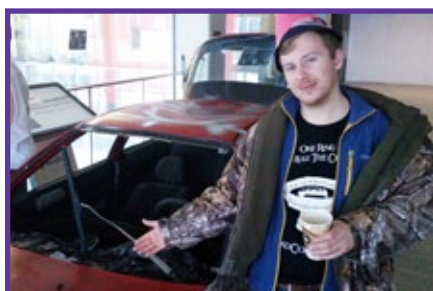


ECE's Campaign in the Defence of CECA



THE IRON INQUISITION
Cameron Soltys - 4B Mechanical

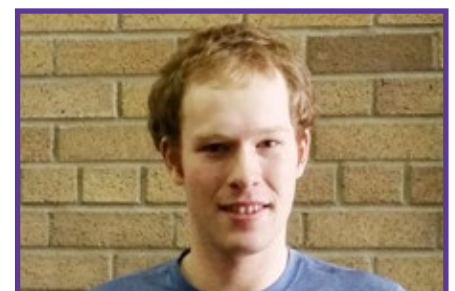
"What was the Best Disorientation Week Prank?"



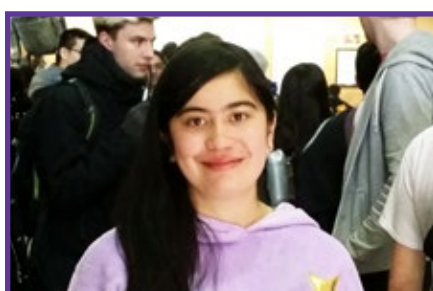
"The car"
Grant Mosekjaer, 4B Mechanical



"The zoo—it's a wild experiment"
Daniel Lahey, 4B Civil



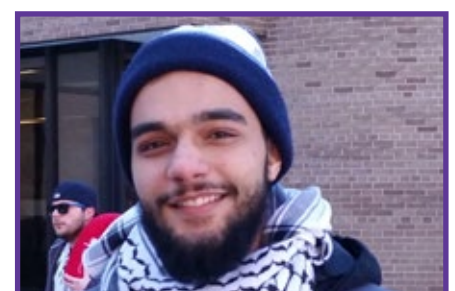
"Balloon pits. I just love balloons."
Ben Moir, 2A Environmental



"The crazy banana-flinging gorillas outside"
Melanie Perrault, 4B Civil



"The fake electrical plugs from a few years ago"
Divakar Kapil, 3A Electrical and Computer



"The ECE memes"
Eyad Abdalla, 3A Electrical and Computer