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# Few choices in WUSA executive election

JANSHER SAEED

Jansher Saeed  
Editorial Assistant

Two of the four WUSA executive positions have only one candidate: VP of Education and VP of Operations.

They'll face a 'yes' or 'no' vote, where they'll need 51 per cent of voters on their side to get elected.

Only one presidential candidate, Abbie Simpson of Team Vision, showed up to the debate out of the three students vying for the position. Presidential candidate, Kevin McGuire, was in San Francisco during the debate and declined to call in while Steven Wong gave no reason.

Here's what happened at the WUSA executive debate hosted by *Imprint*.

## Vice President of Student Life

Ian Tan is a 1B Geography and Aviation student seeking to expand club support, mental health advocacy, and support student needs on campus.

When asked about improving the quality of student life at UW, Tan noted a lack of "night life" at UW and hopes bringing back the Bomber Shelter will help fill this deficit.

"As a student, I am very studded for the reopening of the Bomb Shelter, I think that will bring a lot more life to the University," Tan said.

To promote student mental wellness in relation to WUSA wellness days, Tan believes more advertising for wellness days will attract students towards utilizing WUSA's mental wellness resources.

"By hosting wellness days, I think we need to put more advertising around the school so that more people know what wellness day is," Tan said.

In promoting student life on UW satellite campuses, Tan believes student societies should be allowed to take a more prominent role in the development of student life on all UW campuses.

"Right now, I think GBDA society, WASA and UW architecture... They don't really do much in terms of helping students," Tan said.

Tan believes student engagement is reduced due to clubs having issues accessing all of the resources WUSA offers, often in the form of lengthy procedures and paperwork.

"For example, room bookings take a very

long time. When you are a club, and you are trying to book a room for an event a month from now, you will have to literally get started right now," Tan said.

Nada Abouelnaga is a 3B Biomedical Engineering student looking to make club processes more efficient and help expand WUSA services.

When asked about the quality of student life at UW, Abouelnaga noted the varied perspectives and applications of student life by students on campus. Abouelnaga believes UW has a variety of clubs that are aptly appealing to the diverse definition of student life held by the student body.

"We do have those clubs. We do have cultural clubs... so on so forth I can list them for you. We also have services that appeal to different populations," Abouelnaga said.

Abouelnaga believes it is important to continue holding WUSA wellness days throughout the year but believes speaking to wellness day leaders and looking for student feedback will also improve the initiative.

"It is important to get feedback from students... so let's say we are holding an event for students and we do not appeal to a whole lot of the population, having feedback would be really helpful," Abouelnaga said.

To better address the needs of students on UW satellite campuses, Abouelnaga advocates for the availability of clubs, societies and student services on the campuses.

"Services are not just for the SLC; [the are] for all students. Whether [students] are in the SLC, residences, University colleges or Satellite campuses," Abouelnaga said.

The campus life fair, Abouelnaga says, is crucial towards maintaining student engagement at UW but encourages its reevaluation.

"I think [the campus life fair] is a great way for students to learn about what WUSA has in terms of what it has to offer," Abouelnaga said.

Manas Suri is a 1B Economics student, looking to shed some light on the issues experienced by first-year students at UW.

When asked about how he planned to bring student life to UW, Suri stated reopening the Bomber Shelter would be essential towards this development.

"I think we will be opening the Bomber shelter for [parties]... including bigger concerts and events so we can also keep in

mind the budget. On Saturdays and Sundays, we will be organizing parties in the SLC... I think that is the best part of relieving stress," Suri said.

Setting up posters and advertisements around the campus is one way Suri hopes to inform students on upcoming stress-relief events in the SLC.

In terms of student life on satellite campuses, Suri aims to provide the services available on the UW campus to the Stratford one.

## VP of Education

Megan Town is a 4B Chemical Engineering student who aims to focus on hosting town hall meetings for students, accommodating for public transportation needs and listening to the unique needs of each faculty.

When asked how the candidate hoped to appeal to coop students who feel the University is not enforcing student rights, Town believed advocated for action at a provincial level. Student feedback would also be vital in resolving this issue.

"It's about seeing if this issue does still exist by consulting with our students. And taking that feedback back to the coop as evidence that they still need to work on this issue," Town said.

To encourage mental health on campus, Town plans on addressing inconsistencies between student and instructor expectations on course load.

"Your instructor would be required to write 'you should expect to spend five hours per week on this course'... and then to follow up [there will be] course evaluation surveys," Town said.

Town hopes to work with OUSA on supporting issues UW coop students are having as well as the overall experience of international students at UW.

"Right now, domestic students have a lot of support from the government. I think it would be great if some of that support were extended to international students as well," Town said.

## WUSA President

Abbie Simpson is a 4A Recreation and Leisure, Social Development Studies student advocating for sustainability initiatives across WUSA's various operations, support for mental wellness and support for student societies.

Simpson pledges to make collaboration a

focal point of WUSA's operations if elected and believes collaboration is the best way to act out the role of WUSA President.

"One way our team decided to take [collaboration] to the next level was to advocate for more town halls around campus," Simpson said.

In addition to town halls, Simpson believes listening to student societies and catering to their individual needs is crucial in fostering collaborative efforts between WUSA and UW students.

Simpson hopes to better shape WUSA's image as a student union at UW by focusing on community building practices.

"Something that I have noticed since I was a first-year student is the lack of community. I want to make sure that we are really taking a focus on engagement," Simpson said.

With a student housing crisis underway, Simpson emphasizes a push for a more effective student housing action plan after attending city council meetings and personally experiencing similar housing issues.

"[We] Would take the housing strategy that is currently being developed and take that and advocate it to the region," Simpson said.

## VP Operations

Alana Guevara is a 4A Economics student who will be focusing on fiscal responsibility and balanced budgeting, the Bomber project, and the availability of more student jobs through WUSA.

When asked about how students would be made aware of the purpose of their student fees, Guevara commented that WUSA is already making sure students are educated before opting out on various student fees.

"If [students] try to come to one of our events and they haven't paid their fee, we try and explain to them what that [fee] is [for]," Guevara said.

Guevara also plans on helping to oversee the reopening of the Bomber project with the help of student feedback on multiple occasions. "We sent out a survey, and 4000 students answered that survey. What my team and I plan on doing is hosting town halls to get further feedback," Guevara said. "My job isn't necessarily to create more jobs but to prioritize the money we do have and give our students more responsibilities," Guevara said.



# Balzac's founder hosts event to promote empowerment of women

Diana Olsen tells the audience about her journey as a female entrepreneur

Julie Daugavietis  
Reporter

**D**iana Olsen, founder, president, and chief design officer of Balzac's Coffee Roasters', hosted 50 of Waterloo region's most successful women for a unique celebration of women empowering women. The event was moderated by Melissa Durrell, president of Durrell Communications, and eventually opened up to an Q&A with the audience of entrepreneurs.

As the founder of one of Canada's top growing companies, Olsen started her business in 1996 to empower other women entrepreneurs, visionaries and business owners.

Olsen said she had an early appreciation for coffee and where it came from.

"I was one of the few people that actually knew where coffee came from because nobody really knew that coffee came from a tree and that it's the seed of a cherry and it gets roasted," Olsen said.

"People didn't ask those questions back then. So I just had a keen interest in it."

Olsen explained that when she first started her company, her gender didn't discourage her from entering a male-dominated industry.

"When I first started Balzac's, gender didn't really cross my mind," she said. "It wasn't until later in my career that I felt somehow my gender did affect some of the things that were going on in my business life."

Olsen described how navigating a business presented unique challenges as a woman, including banks hesitating to give

her loans, and being excluded from coffee events. She explained that she had organized the night as a space to share their individual journeys they had faced in their professional lives as women.

"I think we should be allowed to do this; you know, we need this time. There's something going on here and we need to be able to speak openly and not feel like we're going to be judged, sometimes you need your sisters to support you."

Mara Ashby, veterinarian and owner of Carriage Crossing Animal Hospital, was in attendance and echoed Olsen's message.

"I think there's a lot to be learned from [gatherings like these] it's always great to see other women succeed in business," she said.

Olsen went on to encourage women to wear their titles proudly.

"Really, I was the first CEO [of Balzac's], I just never called myself a CEO. All of you women who own your own business should call yourself a CEO, because you know, you are. Don't be afraid to call yourself a CEO because it means the person who's basically running the company."

Annamarie Bordin-Kuch, Sweetwater Property real estate coach and real estate investor, enjoyed hearing about women's business experiences similar to hers.

"Having my own business for eight years definitely it has a lot of challenges, and to learn all of the things you need to learn can be very challenging, so to hear her story and how she's been so successful. I really find it inspiring to hear challenges and how she works through them, it's very helpful," she said. "I thought [the night] was fantastic. It's really nice to see Diana so down to earth and

approachable and so calm, and I love how integral she is and how true to her company and how personally attached she is."

Olsen is also partnered with Arlene Dickinson, who invested in Balzac's when Olsen went on Dragon's Den in 2012. With a team comprised of 70 per cent women, Olsen said a key to being a good leader is to work with the right people.

"The secret to good leadership is to surround yourself with good people that really do your job for you," she said. "When I opened the second cafe, I realized right away, I can't be both places at once. They need to survive without you and you need to empower your team."

After Olsen discussed her journey in growing a thriving business, the floor opened up for an Q&A.

Asked by a guest, 'how do you go as a woman keeping your brand true?' Olsen emphasized the importance of maintaining a work-life balance.

"I feel it's really important - I know when you first start out you have to pull those long hours, but it's really important to have a life outside of work, you're not doing your company any favours if you're not taking care of yourself healthwise," Olsen said.

Near the end of the Q&A, "It can be hard to speak with a voice of authority as a woman, dealing with male landlords and business partners," one guest commented.

"Wear your bitch proudly -- it's actually called being assertive. For some reason in women, when we're assertive, it's considered aggressive. It's not ladylike, 'I've been for sure called a bitch, many times. But, whatever, I'm just doing what I need to do to protect my turf, my business, and hey,

men do it all the time, they don't get the same treatment. What's the male version of a bitch? Just a man. That's a word I think women need to appropriate and make it a compliment."

Olsen ended the night by congratulating the attendees on their accomplishments that had brought them there, and sent each guest home with a gift bag of Balzac's merchandise, elaborating on the beautiful pattern that adorned the mug and tea towel.

"You'll see there's a coffee plant, there's a french pot, there's a quill pen with a little ink bottle. Balzac himself wrote with quill pens, referencing the name, and there's the espresso portafilter, and a little terra cotta plant," Olsen described of the pattern. "[The woman who designed it] went to the Kingston cafe, sat there, and came up with this pattern. I didn't say anything about the company. I didn't say any of the things that represent us. She nailed it."

Olsen enjoys her time outside of her business visiting antique markets and spending time in her refurbished dream home with her husband.

Next year, Balzac's has plans to open four new cafes.



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THE CITY OF  
**Waterloo**



# Utilities increase by \$41.87 per year

Julie Daugavietis  
Reporter

Waterloo's city council approved 2020 utilities rates, which includes a 3.9 per cent increase on water utility bills. That equates to an additional cost of \$41.87 for the average household.

Of that amount, the city's share is 2.5 per cent (or \$27), while the region's share is 1.4 per cent (or \$14.87).

City utilities rates pay for the costs associated with providing drinking water, collecting and treating sanitary wastewater, and responsibly managing stormwater (including water quality control and flood control).

Nancy Kodousek, Waterloo Region Director of Water Services, said wastewater is an especially important factor to manage. "In 2007 we launched a wastewater master plan that was significant, it was \$700 million over 10 years to upgrade many of our wastewater treatment facilities."

She explained that climate change is responsible for many of these changes. "Climate change, we're seeing an impact both in our water and our wastewater sys-

tems," she said. "When the water comes into the river, the rivers are filling so high today, we actually are building a pumping station"

The city says it is hiking water bills to deliver clean water and meet regulations to keep drinking water safe, maintain decaying pipes, and improve the environment by better treating the sewage that pours into the Grand River.

The drainage fee for water treatment has increased by the most, having doubled since 2014. The city maintains that it is critical to manage flooding as the climate changes. "We are seeing changes with climate change in how we operate and how we have to operate our facilities," Koudesek said.

Council expects water prices to continue to increase over the course of the decade. In 2018, average water bills were \$886, double the rate in 2006. Council expects this to more than double over the next decade, up to \$1,310 by 2029.

To help combat rising water bill problems, the city is planning to introduce a pilot program for a smart meter to provide real time water consumption data. It will involve the citywide implementation of an advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) system.

The AMI system will work by producing real time water reads

on an hourly basis. The transmitters relay water consumption data (water reads) through a wireless communication platform and are ultimately received by the water utility's database environment.

The new technology will prevent tenants from being surprised by abnormally large water bills.

"Any type of abnormal consumption for any property in the city would be captured real-time and be addressed in a much quicker fashion than our current meter-reading process, which is a bi-monthly process," Todd Chapman, the city's manager of programs in water services, told Waterloo Chronicle.

In addition, the system will help to prevent water waste and help to return the increased bills in reduction. "Flagging abnormal consumption in real-time would allow us to (prevent) significant waste of water, something that customers would not even know is happening on their property. That's not something that saves the city money per se, but it's in the general spirit of conserving our potable water," explained Chapman.

AMI meter installations will begin in the spring of this year and are projected to be completed by the fall of 2023.

# Celebrate the day of love at UW

## Your guide to a fun Valentine's week

Vidyut Ghuwalewala  
Assistant News Editor

With Valentine's day fast approaching, the clubs at UW are hosting events to celebrate and spread the love throughout the week of Feb. 14.

The UW music club JamNetwork will be setting up a booth in the SLC from Feb. 11-13 where you can pay to send someone a 'Jam Gram', a musical serenade to anyone on campus who is in class.

All proceeds from 'Jam Grams' will be going toward renting the required instruments for the members of the club who do not have access to one. University Club will host a Valentine's Day Luncheon on Feb. 13-14 where they claim to have you falling head over heels for red curry, watermelon salad and tiramisu.

The UW International and Ca-

nadian Student Network will be hosting a Cultural Connections event in the SLC multipurpose room on Feb. 13 from 6-8 p.m. More information can be found on their Facebook page.

The UW Library is hosting a 'Valentine green screen with open licensed images' where you will be able to pick from a choice of Valentine's background that is open licensed. You can take a special picture to keep as well as learn about open-licensed contact in your studies. This will be held in the Dana Porter Library on Feb. 13 from 1-3 p.m. The UW Library is also hosting a 'Blind date with a book' where you can take a book out on a blind date. There will be clues which will lead you to a book, you can decide if it is for you and later check it out at the circulation desk.

You can stop by Dana Porter, Davis Centre, and Musagetes Libraries between Feb. 10-14 to take a book out.



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# Campus Question



## What are your concerns about the Coronavirus?



Joshua Perlman, 1B  
Math

"My general concern is mostly with the risk of infection across campus, were any of our students to contract the virus. I do however think that our medical authorities have been very professional about it and their experience with SARS incidents that happened in the past. I mean with any virus there's that risk of infection disrupting local systems, but I'm fairly confident that we'll be okay."



Andre Sprenger, 2A  
Physics and Astronomy

"No concerns really. I don't know what? There are only like two cases in Canada or something like that. And they're both in Toronto. So the odds are pretty low. I feel like everyone that dies from its kind of bored and has a weak immune system. I'm not about that life. I'm chilling."



James Stewart, 2B  
Physics and Astronomy

"Well I heard that relative to other past infections it's less dangerous and we shouldn't be as concerned. And as for in Canada, I know there's a lower risk. So I kind of trust the government and what they're kind of putting out in the university their statements are telling us that it's kind of low risk and we shouldn't like behave differently than we would otherwise."



Grant Sinha, 1B  
Computer Science

"So I think my only concern would be someone on campus contracting the virus and then the risk of it spreading around campus. But, I think I have faith in medical professionals. It seems like their on top of the coronavirus, especially more so than with the SARS coronavirus. Like for example, WHO reacted to it faster than with SARS. I think the risk is mostly...I think the risk is very small. I think we'll be fine."

# Coronavirus hysteria goes viral

Jansher Saeed  
Editorial Assistant

**H**oaxes and hysteria have abounded in response the mostly non-lethal coronavirus.

Ryerson University, McMaster University and Durgham College have all reported that fake notices on a coronavirus outbreak on their campuses as well as pictures of people in hasmat suits have been circulating widely online.

A change.org petition to "Close All Campuses in Ontario to Stop the Novel Coronavirus" has garnered over 47,000 signatures.

In response to the epidemic, UW has been routinely screening all students who have recently travelled internationally, regardless of the location of their trip.

Masks and other safety precautions are provided for those who may potentially be experiencing respiratory infection-related symptoms.

The university has also confirmed that over 100 students are currently working in China for their co-op term. Mathew Grant, director of Media Relations at UW, says UW will continue to be in touch with these students and offer any assistance if it becomes necessary.

One student at an affiliated university in Wuhan, but UW has been in touch and guaranteed there is no need for concern. Of the

many UW co-op students currently in China, one is at an affiliated university located in the centre of the outbreak, Wuhan.

With that said, UW says its been in contact with the student and says there is no cause for concern.

So far, Canada has confirmed a total of four positively tested cases, one case in British Columbia and three in Ontario with the fourth one confirmed in London, Ontario, all linked to recent outgoing travel from China. two confirmed cases in Ontario and one in British Columbia, with a fourth confirmed in London Ontario, all linked to recent outgoing travel from China.

Dr. David Williams, Ontario's chief Medical Officer of Health, says that through the province should have been concerned if seven to ten cases had already been confirmed, that is not the case.

While 27 cases are currently under investigation and testing in Ontario, 38 people have been tested negative for the virus, Dr. Williams says.

2019-nCov has relatively similar transmissibility to influenza or the common flu virus. Where the two differ, as supported by recent studies says Dr. Williams, is that 2019-nCov is not transmittable when a person is not feeling its symptoms.

But as the viral disease remains relatively contained, a surge of new epidemics—one of them being growing racism and stigma held against Chinese and East Asian populations.

Geoffrey Fong, Professor of Psychology, Public Health and Health Systems at UW, recounts how one of his colleagues, who identifies as Chinese, experienced racism at a grocery store in Brampton.

"She turned around, and a man behind her said, 'I don't want to get the coronavirus,'" Fong said.

There is a clear link between the coronavirus' origins in China and the increasing discriminatory attitude towards the Asian population in Canada, according to Fong.

But this is not the first time Chinese Canadians have been faced with racist attitudes linked to a viral epidemic originating in China.

In 2003, SARS, also considered a type of coronavirus, became a motive for racism against Chinese Canadians.

"We saw it in 2003 with SARS. And the world has changed a lot since that time. There's transmission of a virus... it is spreading, and it is spreading more quickly because, of course, there is a lot more [international] transportation in China," Fong said.

Like transportation, the exchange and availability of information has become immensely difficult to track due to sheer size and accessibility of social media.

Coupled with mass paranoia, social media is host to the circulation of misinformation surrounding the virus, including a social media hoax at UW.

Ever since its announcement by Chinese

officials on Jan. 7, efforts ranging from international bodies such as the World Health Organization (WHO) to local ones such as UW have aimed to find a solution to the infectious aftermath of the 2019-nCov paranoia and the virus itself.

On Jan. 30, WHO declared the 2019-nCov an international passive public health emergency across the globe.

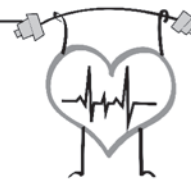
They said that its primary concern is the virus' potential to spread to countries that have inadequate health care systems to deal with the outbreak.

"To the people of China, and to all of those around the world who have been affected by this outbreak, we want you to know that the world stands with you. We are working diligently with national and international public health partners to bring this outbreak under control as fast as possible," Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the WHO, said.

Federal Health Minister Hajdu took to Ottawa to support WHO's statement and said Canada has a developed Health care system apt enough to deal with the epidemic at hand. "The World Health Organization's global emergency status is really [...] about helping countries that do not have the same level of sophistication as Canada, or perhaps the United States, to protect their citizens if in fact they have a citizen who returns from China who is ill, or has been close to someone who has returned from China who is ill," Hajdu said.



# sports & health



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## How to have a hot girl semester

A deep-dive into the little known benefits of working out on academic performance

Aleesha Thomas  
Reporter

Everyone knows that exercising can help achieve that hot girl summer body that we all desire. However, did you know how much it can help with achieving your academic goals? Exercising has been repeatedly proven to have immediate and long-lasting benefits for the brain, so incorporating it into our daily lives as students can be extremely beneficial.

If you're a fan of running, you have probably experienced what is commonly known as the runner's high. This immediate mood and energy boost can be linked to an increased release of hormones in the brain. When we work out, our body releases endorphins that relieve pain and stress, as well as neurotransmitters like dopamine, serotonin, and norepinephrine, which play an important role in regulating our mood. Along with the mood boost that results from this process, we also experience a shift in our ability to stay focused and maintain attention for at least two hours. So instead of paying \$8 for that venti cup of some latte from Starbucks to stay alert during your study session, try going for a small walk or run for a healthy and cost-effective way to remain focused.

These benefits can be felt right after working out, but, what kinds of benefits can we see when we incorporate exercise into our daily routines? When we increase our cardiorespiratory function on a regular basis,



CAITLYN YU

Studies have shown that brain function improves in the hours following a physical workout. Furthermore, regular workouts may also improve long-term memory.

our entire brain anatomy and function can be positively influenced. In her TED Talk, *The Brain-Changing Benefits of Exercise*, Wendy Suzuki, a professor of Neuroscience and Psychology and fitness instructor,

showcased that when we participate in daily exercise, brand new links between brain cells can be formed within our hippocampus to increase its volume and improve our long term memory overall. She also highlights

how it can result in long-lasting increases in the "good mood" neurotransmitters that release in our brain, which can be very beneficial to regulating our mental health, a key factor in our academic success.

Now you may be wondering, what is the minimum amount of physical activity needed in our everyday lives to experience these effects?

Suzuki recommends that we all get at least 30 minutes of daily sessions of aerobic exercise three to four times a week. As students, it can be difficult to maintain a balanced lifestyle with exercise as a regular part of it, but there are many convenient and cheap ways we can do so, right on campus.

One way is to simply walk more when you get the opportunity. The recent GRT strike helped a lot of us achieve this by forcing us to commute to campus by walking. To add on to the number of steps we get per day, we should also opt for the stairs more often, rather than taking the elevator.

Besides just walking, we can also join an intramural team or one of the many recreational sports clubs at the university. We should also take advantage of the facilities at CIF, which include three gyms and a fitness center open to all UW students.

Regardless of how we exercise, it is crucial for all of us to keep active in our daily lives as students. Physical activity can transform our brain health, help us to stay focused, retain information better, and keep a positive mood. Make sure to lift some weights along with your textbooks this term.

**THIS WEEK IN ATHLETICS**

WATERLOO WARRIORS

im print

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FEBRUARY 7 VS McMASTER (W) 6 PM (M) 8 PM PAC GYM

FEBRUARY 8 VS BROCK (W) 12 PM (M) 2 PM PAC GYM



**VOLLEYBALL**

FEBRUARY 8 VS McMASTER (W) 6:00 PM (M) 8:00 PM PAC GYM



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# Champions League Round of 16 preview

Advait Trivedi  
Sports Reporter

The UEFA Champions league (CL) is back in two weeks with some mouth-watering ties that promise goals, entertainment, and football of the highest quality. Let's break each of the Round of 16 fixtures down.

## Game 1: Atletico Madrid vs Liverpool

Having won 22 of 23 league games this season and undefeated in over 390 days, Liverpool has been the best football team in the world by a mile. Atletico, on the other hand, are sixth in the La Liga and have been very inconsistent this season. However, Diego Simeone has caused problems for the best of teams in the world at the peak of their powers by setting up a low block to frustrate the opposition and hit them on the counter-attack when the opportunity arrives. Liverpool are certainly the favorites, but to count an *El Cholo* masterclass out would be naïve.

Prediction: Atletico 2-4 Liverpool (agg.)

## Game 2: Borussia Dortmund vs PSG

With Sancho, Haland, Reus, Mbappe, Icardi, Di Maria and Neymar set to face off against each other, this fixture promises a lot of goals and entertainment. PSG have been near perfect so far, having topped a group that included Real Madrid and dominated Ligue 1. Dortmund on the other hand, scraped through to the Round of 16 and survived the group of death that included Barcelona and Inter. They find themselves in the middle of a tightly-contested title race in the Bundesliga, trailing leaders Bayern by a mere three points. How Dortmund's suspect defense deals with the in-form quartet of Neymar, Mbappe, Di Maria, and Icardi could well determine the outcome of this fixture.

Prediction: Dortmund 3-6 PSG (agg.)

## Game 3: Valencia vs Atalanta

If you were told that these two sides would make the Round of 16 before Game-week six, you would have probably laughed it off. However, here they are. Both these sides are considerably far from the table toppers in their respective leagues but have a very good chance of making the top-four. Atalanta have scored more goals than any side in the Serie A and Valencia will have to be wary of their in-form attacking duo Alejandro Gomez and Josep Ilicic.

Prediction: Valencia 2-3 Atalanta (agg.)

## Game 4: Spurs vs Leipzig

In one of the Champions League's most awaited fixtures, newbie Julian meets veteran Jose. Jose Mourinho has given Spurs fans a ray of hope since taking over, leading the Spurs to fifth place and just four points behind fourth-placed Chelsea. Leipzig has been one of the surprise packages of the

season. They are just one point off league leaders Bayern and are surely not going to be pushovers for last year's finalists.

Prediction: Spurs 4-3 Leipzig (agg.)

## Game 5: Chelsea vs Bayern

Every football fan in the world remembered Drogba's CL winning penalty at the Allianz Arena in 2012 when this fixture was drawn. Bayern have picked up serious form since the appointment of Hans Flick and find themselves in a rather familiar top-spot in the Bundesliga. Chelsea, on the other hand, have been very inconsistent. Their home form has been a concern for them and they will have to improve if they want to make Bayern even break a sweat.

Prediction: Chelsea 2-5 Bayern (agg.)

## Game 6: Napoli vs Barcelona

Barcelona surprisingly find themselves in second position in La Liga, trailing leaders Real Madrid by three points. Barcelona have not been their usual selves this season, but they are showing signs of improvement under new manager Qique Setien, who has made clear to everyone that he is bringing back possession-based football to the club. Napoli sacked Carlo Ancelotti in December, but have not seen their fortunes turn around under Gennaro Gattuso. They are in the bottom half of the league table and beating Messi's Barcelona seems like a near impossible task for the Gli Azzurri.

Prediction: Napoli 2-5 Barcelona (agg.)

## Game 7: Lyon vs Juventus

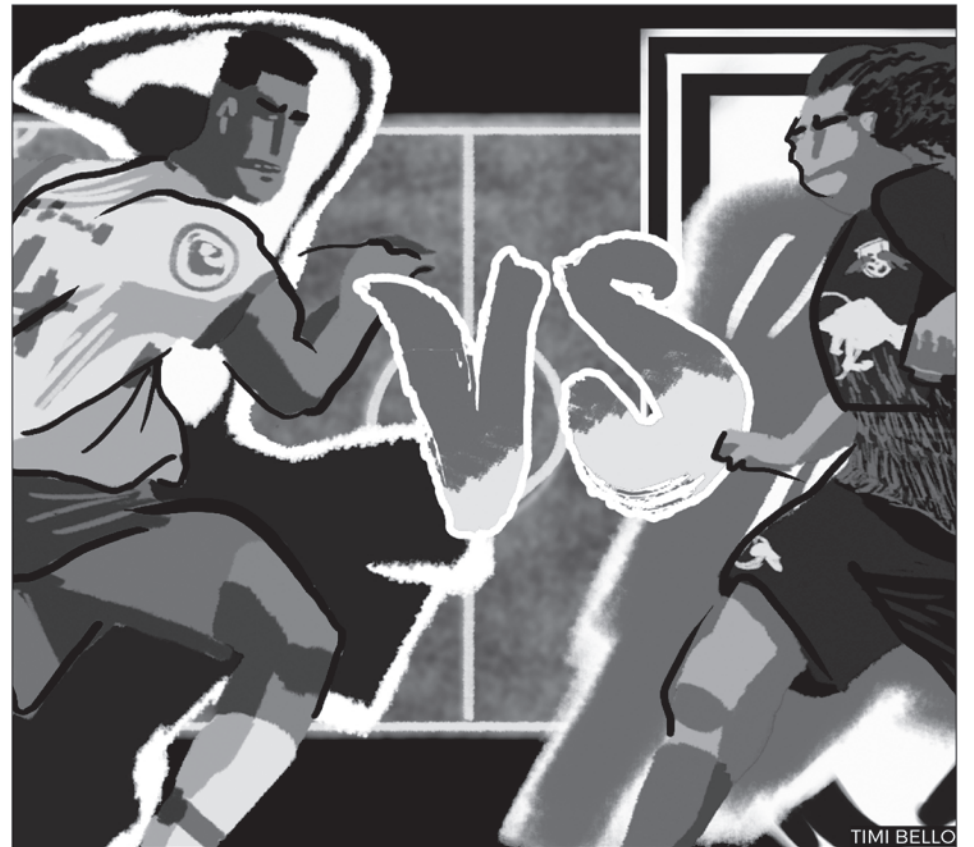
This is perhaps the tie with the most predictable outcome. Juventus are leading a tightly-contested Serie A race. Their star player and the all-time leading goal-scorer of the Champions League Cristiano Ronaldo is in imperious form. Lyon are sixth in Ligue 1 and their star player Memphis Depay is ruled out till at least April. It is difficult to think that Lyon are going to make Juventus work hard for qualification to the next round.

Prediction: Lyon 1-5 Juventus (agg.)

## Game 8: Real Madrid vs Manchester City

This is definitely the most awaited fixture of this round. After winning two consecutive league seasons, Pep Guardiola's City side have struggled for consistency this campaign and trail runaway leaders Liverpool by an astonishing 22 points. Madrid, on the other hand, look like their old selves again under Zidane this season and are on top of the pile in the La Liga. However, the timely returns of defender Aymeric Laporte and winger Leroy Sane should bolster City's chances. It will be fascinating to watch Pep's free-scoring City attack play against Madrid, who have conceded just 13 goals in 22 league games. This promises to be a tie for the ages.

Prediction: Real Madrid 3-4 Manchester City (agg.)



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## Review: Meet me at the Crossroads of my heart

Cyrus Fiori  
Reporter

**H**ey Food Fans, Welcome to Date Night. Date Night is the extravagant, exclusive reporting of adventures in romance by yours truly.

Let's meet our contestants. In one corner, showcasing a sophisticated retro style, dazzling the competition with her brilliant sunbeam smile, the Goddess of Guelph, it's Queen G.

In the other corner, sacrificing his taste buds for the good of the people, joking first and asking questions later, the dude who likes food, it's me (*Mario*).

Our Waterloo rendezvous was scheduled to kick off at 7:00 p.m. at the mutually agreed upon venue: Crossroads Boardgame Café. Nestled in the heart of Laurier country at 258 King St N, this trek through Waterloo's backstreets was complicated by the ongoing transit strike. My good buddy Uber was there to assist, but as is often the case with working acquaintances, it was at a cost.

Arriving early for the date, I had the opportunity to take in the sights. Much like myself, a charmingly dishevelled atmosphere pervaded the entire space. Worn booths and tables, superhero and anime posters, and humongous shelves of regimentally organized boardgames greeted my eyes. The faint stale scent of molten brains, courtesy of past Dungeons and Dragons quests, wafted through the air. While initially quiet, the anticipation of a boardgame bloodbath hung ominously overhead.

My early arrival was predicated by the fact that they do not take reservations. Luckily, it wasn't too busy.

After choosing a booth, I was instructed on its operation. A button at the table's end facilitated waitering service by sounding a tone throughout the restaurant, not only alerting the staff, but also the entire establishment, that you are feeling needy. For entertainment, I was to choose from the dizzying variety of board games present for a flat charge of \$6 per person. It was revealed that the washrooms were protected behind a curtain of darkness, which could possibly drag me into the abyss. This threat was in effect, at least until they replaced the lightbulb in the hallway. Menus were provided, and my host bid me a pleasant evening, gliding away with the grace of Gandalf the Grey and the pep of a middle-aged Astro Boy.

My date arrived, and we quickly launched into the evening. We combed the boardgame treasure trove, settling on the mutually un-

Date-worthiness  5 out of 5 roses

 7 out of 10 spoons 



Relish the delicious London Fog at Crossroads Boardgame Cafe at 258 King St N.

known game of Babel. Requiring brusque play and cunning tactics, this boardgame promised to ignite the fires of competition between us. However, the pedantic setup quashed such an activity. A lengthy and complicated rule book, potentially written by Bathilda Bagshot, stood staunchly in our way. It resolutely instructed us in the dark arts of conquest with the soothing voice of Morgan Freeman and the descriptive content of J.R.R. Tolkien. Needless to say, the ring did not make it to Mordor.

In the meantime, we ordered drinks. I ordered the vanilla milkshake (\$5) while my date had a London Fog (\$4.50). My date's drink did indeed have the foggiest idea, offering a salient mix of ingredients. Two per cent of milk was detected immediately, as was a sugar content comparatively milder than Starbucks. After the temperature decreased to a manageable level, the tea and other flavours settled in comfortably, lazily unwinding on the palate like cats in the sun. Luckily, they were hairless cats.

My milkshake was thick and creamy (that's what she said), offering the flavour profile of vanilla ice cream and the texture of slightly warmer vanilla ice cream. Pompously expounding the air of a 1950s diner, the milkshake was built like a Sunset Boulevard, although it handled like an Invasion of the Body Snatchers. Overall, it offered a "mac and cheese" type experience, mediocre but satisfying.

Amid the cries of battle from neighbouring tables, my date and I got better acquainted. I rolled a 20 for courage and scored a critical hit with a quick compliment. She fired back, boggling my mind by bopping a triple word combo and moving her bishop into a checkmate. I had no choice but to bribe the GM with a Yahtzee, knocking my final domino in the table and declaring Uno. However, she turned out to be a jack of all trades, clubbing me with an ace up her sleeve and becoming the queen of my heart. She truly was a diamond in the rough and gained a Monopoly over my attention. Our boardgame sat forlornly on the table between us, missing the warmth of our touch. It pulled out its cellphone and quietly dialed an old flame.

We talked well into the night, becoming the lone survivors of the surrounding boardgame carnage. With the exceptions of Friday and Saturday, Crossroads closes at 11:00 p.m., and we were hurriedly rushed out. While paying the bill, I noted that it could be readily split. This would have been handy in the event that chivalry was dead.

All things considered, Crossroads provided a fantastic venue, especially for a first date such as this one. The boardgames readily broke the ice, the drinks wetted our whistles for rampantly splendid conversation, and the atmosphere was conducive to establishing great interpersonal connections. I would avidly recommend this establishment for any date, especially those which are preliminary.

As for the rest of my date, that's for me to know and you to speculate. You're really just here for the restaurant reviews anyways.

Until next time, stay hungry Food Fans. Special thanks to Queen G for her help with this review!

*A Note about Ratings:* the Dateworthiness rating is different from our typical restaurant rating, which is based on food taste, texture, amount, price, service, and atmosphere. The Dateworthiness rating takes into account different criteria including the presence of shareables, ability of the bill to be split, no-hassle service, romantic atmosphere, and unique appeal to either contender to determine the worthiness of an establishment for dates.



# What's next for Kitchener's homeless haven?

A corner store that served as a sanctuary for the homeless seeks a new home

Shruti Bagmar  
Reporter

Udanapher (Nadine) Green was evicted from her convenience store in Kitchener at 10 Water Street North on Jan. 21. The same convenience store that was home to many homeless people at night since 2014.

Green found a way to give back to the universe by choosing a life filled with compassion and empathy for the homeless in Kitchener.

However, she claims the BIA Downtown Kitchener was part of the landlord union that sought to evict her, which they do not acknowledge.

Imprint made multiple attempts to contact the BIA but the organisation never returned requests for a comment.

In court, the landlord who owns the building Green's store occupied claimed that Green stopped paying rent in September. Green denies that claim and argued the real reason was her store's welcoming attitude to people living on the street.

A statement from Green's former landlord read "Our staff noted that in addition to the poor state of repair of the premises, there were people loitering about the front of the property throughout the day and evening and sleeping inside and outside the premises nightly" reads a statement from

the company that owns the building."

Green ran the convenience store for the last seven years and said she was shocked at the landlord's decision to evict her.

Without an inkling to their motives or a formal notice, she was asked to pack up and



ANTONIO BREVIA

leave the store. She believes that the eviction is linked to the fact that Crafty Ramen faces her store and seeing homeless people in her store reduces the restaurant's business. Green started seeking legal help on Oct. 7 and did so until she was evicted and the store was locked on Jan. 21.

Her personal belongings remain locked

up, and she said she fears they will be sold with the property to the next highest bidder.

Despite the court's verdict and society's discouragement, Green continues with her motion to help the homeless because they have become family to her and she has

formed meaningful bonds with them.

After her eviction by a sheriff and 10 policemen, she focused on finding a new place where she can build another convenience store that doubles as a roof for shelter at night. Green initiated a fundraiser on Jan 16 to help open a new store and help the homeless, and she aims to collect at least \$50,000.

The fundraiser has collected \$220 as of Jan. 29, but Green hopes the response will strengthen in the near future.

"I have to stand up for my rights and for the homeless people's because no one stands up for them and now they're my family," Green said.

She feels grateful that she had the means to help the homeless in the past and wishes to continue to do as much as she can.

Although she feels that the way she got evicted was disrespectful, she has an enhanced driving force to fight her battles and help those in need because she cannot forget about them.

Even though she does not have a convenience store anymore, she still visits the homeless and also drove them from one place to another in her car during the GRT strike.

She feels blessed she has a number of people standing by her side who care about the results, adding that people have set up rallies to support her. Green once encountered a man who said,

"What can I do, there are so many homeless in Kitchener?" she said.

"The next time you come across a homeless individual, just look at him or her and say a simple 'hello', because they don't want anything else than to know that they are worthy of existing." Green concludes that every cloud has a silver lining.

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## VP Student Life



**Manas Suri**  
Team Beeba Bois

I am Manas Suri, an international first year student from the Faculty of Arts. I am majoring in Economics. I am a volunteer member of the WUSA Clubs Support Team and I am standing for the post of VP Student Life. It is of common view that first year students lack experience. Regarding why I am standing for such a big position, let me shed some light - I do all those things for which I find scope and can gain experience from. There is nothing bigger in life than gaining experience. I am not alone in this race of elections. I have a team: a team which is not just a team but a family, "the Beeba Bois." I know people will find it difficult to understand the name of our team. Beeba Bois literally translates to gentlemen, and by gentlemen I don't mean the one with suits, boots, and ties. Instead, by gentlemen I mean people who have all that qualities to win over their spectator's heart. The Student Life VP is a fantastic way to make new friends, build professional networks and gain practical skills and experience. I want to be helpful to all and I want us to build memories we will treasure forever. I will always be here to listen to everyone's concerns and will stick with it until we figure it out. I will strive to make improvements in the university for every student here at Waterloo.

Zihui Qin is a statistics student and did not submit a platform to WUSA. She is the sole member of Team Litty to survive the nomination process and didn't show up to the debate on February 3.



**Zihui Qin**  
Team Litty UW

Greetings UW students!

It's Nada here. I am in my third year of Biomedical Sciences and I am running to be your VP Student Life. Since the beginning of my second year, I have been heavily involved with clubs, services and orientation. My extensive experience is why I have a clear vision of how I can improve existing systems to support students on our campuses. I am passionate about meeting new people, making connections, and exploring new interests. That is why my area of focus is evaluating current clubs support and creating a new system to keep information in one place. My plan will make it easier for student groups and clubs to host events. Students should always feel that WUSA is on their side. WUSA offers many services to clubs to improve their offerings and engage students. My goal is to make these services easier to access and provide opportunities for developing and delivering engaging events.

My experience as the former president of the UW Chess Club and as Clubs Assistant has enabled me to engage with and understand the needs of students and clubs across campus. However, I'm not just focused on clubs. My primary focus is to ensure students like YOU can benefit from WUSA regardless of your background or faculty.

Visit our website to learn more: [bit.ly/TeamVisionUW](http://bit.ly/TeamVisionUW)



**Nada Abouelnaga**  
Team Vision

Right now, it takes weeks to book a room for a club meeting. It's easier to find housing in K-W than it is to secure locker space for clubs. And especially since clubs support staff work nine to four, when most students—club execs included—are in classes, the inconvenience and difficulty in terms of filing paperwork for WUSA is amplified.

For clubs, there needs to be an exec who is available to club heads at the grassroots level. Club heads, who run these amazing services and support for students, shouldn't be turned away at the reception desk because they showed up at 4:25 to hand in paperwork, nor should they have to fill in forms for dollar spent.

I want to be an exec who is available to help and answer to any club head that needs it. For the Student Life portfolio, more attention from the Vice President is necessary to truly make sure clubs aren't hindered by inconsequential administration.

There are several issues that have been overlooked by WUSA simply because it's considered 'niche' or that it 'doesn't represent the will of the students.' There are few lockers at CIF and PAC, and as a result, theft is rampant. Despite the prevalence of affordable Feds bus routes to the GTA, there is not one that goes to the airport, which is why few participate in elections, and two executive positions are uncontested. Students don't care about an organization that doesn't even try to interact with them.

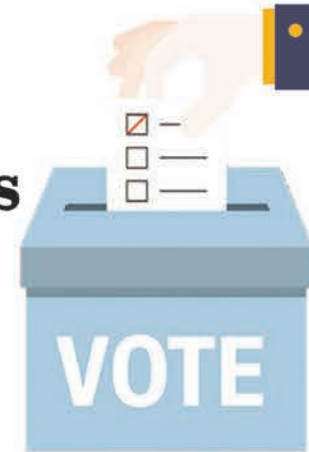


**Ian Tan**  
Team Ian Tan for Student Life

# WUSA elections 2020: Sneak peek executive candidates

Not sure who to vote for - or even who's running- in the next WUSA elections? Here's a brief rundown of students running for office, and what we know about the platforms.

Voting ends  
Feb. 6



Vote on  
[vote.wusa.ca](http://vote.wusa.ca)

## VP Education



**Megan Town**  
Team Vision

Hello friends!

My name is Megan and I'm currently a 4B Chemical Engineering student. I'm running to be your next VP Education because I am passionate about advocacy and I believe I can make a difference in your student experience. My goal is to lead data-driven advocacy based on student priorities. One of my key platform points is to hold town halls all over our campuses to ensure that my team and I understand the diverse needs and priorities of our students. In conjunction with this, I also want to better communicate WUSA's follow up actions from student feedback. Abbie and I are also passionate about mental health advocacy. We will address the root causes of mental health challenges on our campus such as the overwhelming workload students face.

You should vote for me because I have the experience and dedication to students which makes me an ideal candidate for the position of VP Education. Some of my previous roles include WUSA Councillor-Director, EngSoc Mental Health Commissioner and Chemical Engineering Undergraduate Representative.

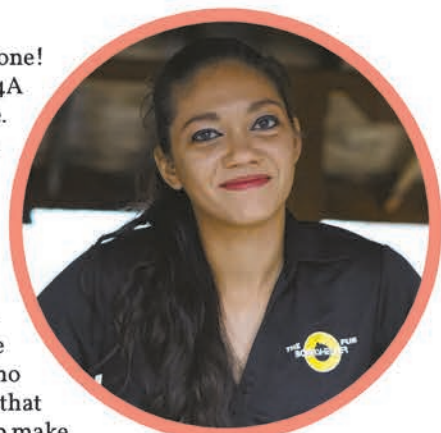
You can learn more about Team Vision's platform and contact us at [bit.ly/TeamVisionUW](http://bit.ly/TeamVisionUW)

## VP Operations & Finance

Hey everyone!

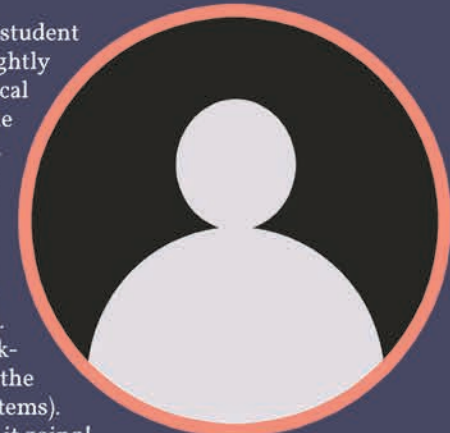
My name is Alana and I'm running to be your next VP Operations & Finance. I'm in 4A Economics and I, weirdly, love hospitality management and all things administrative. Anything that makes operations run smoothly and efficiently brings me joy. My team and I are passionate about ensuring that WUSA is doing the best we can to serve students at the University of Waterloo. Fiscal responsibility and development of student spaces will be my top priorities.

Working at WUSA for the past 5 years has granted me intimate knowledge of WUSA's processes and capabilities. I know this will prove useful, especially when working on the renovation of the Bomber space. In the 4 years I spent behind the host stand or bar, I witnessed the positive impact that such a space had on our community. I saw the friendships and loves; the stresses and tears of so many who found a place to belong, who left their worries at the door, or talked it through, over a drink and meal. I truly believe that somewhere like that needs to exist on this campus again, and I would be so happy to help make that a reality if I'm to be your next VP Operations & Finance. You can learn more about Team Vision at [bit.ly/TeamVisionUW](http://bit.ly/TeamVisionUW)



**Alana Guevara**  
Team Vision

## President



**Stanley Wong**  
Team Hey Hey Hey

Hey hey hey, I am Stanley and I'm running for WUSA president. I am a 3rd year student and I enjoy watching and playing intramural basketball. Although I might be slightly inexperienced in student politics (FEDS/WUSA), this shows that I am not a typical presidential candidate. I can work hard every day and execute my duties, for the better of all the students.

In my platform, I will generally be working towards environmental sustainability throughout campus, especially the use of our resources. (A big problem may be the use of resources to print out all the course notes/textbooks). Also, there should be more plant-based food options on campus, and I will strongly vouch for that, as it is much more sustainable (and there are not too many options on campus right now).

My top-most priority will be accomplishing those goals stated above, whilst making other minor progress in environmental sustainability (such as discouraging the use of disposable items). We're gonna work hard every day, lets get it going!



**Abbe Simpson**  
Team Vision

What's up Warriors!

My name is Abbie and I'm in 4A Recreation and Leisure and Social Development Studies. I am running to be your next WUSA President. I realized that our student association plays a large role in student experience and campus culture when I ran for council in my first year. I am passionate about community development and hope to engage students through meaningful experiences and interfaculty collaboration. I have spent the last two months listening to students and hope to use this knowledge to launch WUSA's Long Range Plan. Listening to students matters to us. That's why our team is focused on creating an organization that serves all students with opportunities for more student engagement.

One of my main priorities is pioneering sustainability initiatives within the Student Life Centre while ensuring campus initiatives are student driven. I believe I am the best candidate for the role due to my previous work with the Long Range Planning committee, WUSA council, Peer Health Education, Waterloo Orientation, and various positions on campus with key stakeholders - including the Office of the President. You can learn more about Team Vision at [bit.ly/TeamVisionUW](http://bit.ly/TeamVisionUW). Share your vision for WUSA with us and help shape our priorities!

As the sole member of Team Extinguish to survive the nomination process, I am honored to stand as candidate for the WUSA presidency. Here is my platform:  
Sell the department of Environment to the highest bidder. Pour the funds into an autonomous bus design team - rendering GRT strikes a thing of the past.

Ban coughing to prevent the Coronavirus. Floggings will be administered to law-breakers.

Rename WUSA - rebrand as Feds.

Disband Feds. Replace it with a feudal model. Faculty Barons and Earls will collect tuition from students directly, financing their own militarized versions of campus police to maintain order.

Make DC smell better, or demolish it altogether.  
LRT barrel roll.

Mandatory and daily, gamer appreciation hour.

I would also like to emphasize the importance of my mentor, Jason Small. His contributions and continuing inspirations, constantly mark my career in student government. None of this would have been possible without his support and love. He's very humble and won't acknowledge this, but I hope I will make him proud.

With luck, I hope to be WUSA's final president.



**Kevin McGuire**  
Team Extinguish



# Review: Nothing Beats Rock!

Vishal Lilman  
Reporter

From Feb. 6 to 8, the Faculty, Alumni, Staff and Students (FASS) Theater Company will present their Winter 2020 show, *Nothing Beats Rock!* a historical musical odyssey, at the Humanities Theatre in Hagey Hall, FASS does not miss a beat with the educational-alternative. I got a sneak-peak of the first act and it was amazing to witness and be a part of.

The writing is truly magnificent. First off, you know it's going to be a great show when the story is narrated by an overly-excited dog and a goose with conniving vibes (as if anyone had any other depictions of Waterloo geese). *Nothing Beats Rock!* Goes to the stage with ambition and a hefty task of covering the different eras of Earth since time began. SPOILER ALERT: It was done flawlessly. Each scene was a unique experience, taking you from the first conception of an

emoji during the stone-age, modern Olympic sports in a not-so-modern ancient Greece, a quack of a doctor setting up shop in medieval times, and the bamboozlement of proper hygiene during the era of 'witch-hunt' (before Trump brought it back). All in the first act.

From subtly breaking the fourth wall to not so subtle (but really self-aware) 'dick jokes,' the execution and delivery of each punchline hit the right cues. The timing and spacing of it all were exceptionally done, as nothing seemed forced or unnecessary. Everything that was said and done had a purpose, whether it was for audience enjoyment, to set up the next line, and in most cases both!

A lot of the character names were cheeky during their own part such as an Olympian named Wayne Granitesky, a patient names Pat Tient, and tourists Dee Wayne and Laroche Johnson.

With a show titled *Nothing Beats Rock!* You expect two things: one, rocks are praised and worshipped and two, the music is fire.

FASS is always on the ball with creating parodies of popular songs to fit the tone, setting, and context of the scene and they did it again with *Nothing Beats Rock!* I don't want to reveal too much, but my favourite was done at the end of the first scene titled "My Rock!" which was a parody of Lin-Manuel Miranda's "My Shot!" from *Hamilton*.

The performers did an impeccable job singing/rapping a rather complicated song, and it really set the atmosphere and energy for the rest of the show.

The performers were all a joy to watch; the cast of *Nothing Beats Rock!* executed the script flawlessly. From the time the lights dimmed, these individuals lit up the entire room with their high energy and pure talent. Every line was delivered comedically pure and raw, and nothing seemed forced.

All of the players had great chemistry on stage, playing well off of each others energy.

A majority of the cast are play-



*Nothing Beats Rock!* runs from Feb. 6 to Feb 8.

ing multiple roles throughout the scenes, and they dove deep into their character's archetype and made sure that each new character being presented was distinctly different in either the tone, pace of speech, body language, and overall "personal vibe."

It is truly an awe that can't be described by words on paper, and you need to witness yourself.

*Nothing Beats Rock!* is going to be a spectacle that I encourage ev-

eryone to go see.

I have only seen the first act, so I am dying to know what the rest of the play is going to be like, as the satire of current times and the future will be explored.

From what I've seen, it's shaping up to be five out of five stars show.

You can check them out on Feb. 6-8 2020, at the Humanities Theatre in Hagey Hall.

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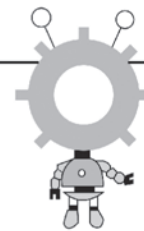
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## Climate change threatens small economies and communities

Julie K. Daugavietis  
Reporter

Communities around the world are seeing increasing effects of climate change. One of such community is that of Canadian skiers.

Daniel Scott, Executive Director of Waterloo's Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change (IC3), is the lead author of an article in the Nov. edition of the Journal of Sustainable Tourism that details the impact climate change will have on the multibillion-dollar ski industry.

"If we do not achieve the Paris Agreement, in the latter half of the century, only high-elevation areas of Vermont and New Hampshire and select ski areas in Québec will be able to maintain a 100-day season and open regularly over the Christmas-New Year holiday," Scott said in a media release.

Under low emissions, ski season length is predicted to decrease by nearly 20 per cent by 2080. Under high emissions, season length could decrease by double that, cutting season length nearly in half before the end of the century.

Scott explained that many areas will suffer the impacts of a rising global temperature. In addition to skiers missing out on winter fun, economies of smaller communities are under threat.

"Some of these smaller towns depend on [ski resorts] for jobs. Most of these ski areas are closer to sort of smaller towns, so their economies are not as diverse. It's partly why we do the research--to give as much lead time to these communities to give a head's up," Scott said.

In addition to the economy, Scott explains that a big reason that climate research is done on industries is to engage the impacted community.

"The reason we do some of that work is, again, to inform smaller communities that part of their economy may be lost, but also to engage people."

The closer you bring it to home and make it meaningful to something they do, maybe birdwatching, maybe certain species change, maybe skiing, maybe sports, that's how you engage people, by connecting it to something they care about," Scott said.

While climate change has been a worsening problem for decades, it has been grossly overlooked by many sectors of society.

"We haven't listened to scientists for 25 years, who pretty much said the same things I've been saying for 27 years, we procrastinated, procrastinated, procrastinated, that's what governments have done," Scott said. "In the last two or so years, I've seen a real difference; in the signing of the Paris Agreements, by governments, businesses as well, and certainly the youth voice has really activated significantly in the last two years, so we're in a different place [socially] than we were in the last 32 years, so there is some optimism from that momentum."

Despite the positive steps taken, Scott believes it is too little action, too late in the game.

"When you look at the scale of the transition that would

have to happen to achieve a 1.5 or even a two degree [temperature increase] which is what the Paris Agreement aims for, that's just not in the cards when you look at the pledges that have been put forward by countries to date," Scott said. "Holding to 1.5 and 2 degrees, I have to be scientifically honest, I don't see that happening for economic, political, and social reasons. If we could stick below three degrees I would be thrilled."

UW currently invests in fossil fuels, with 68 million dollars invested as of 2017—which many students have protested. Scott believes UW should do their part in resisting climate change by divesting as soon as possible, both for environmental and financial factors.

"In the long term, if you invested in different funds and portfolios without fossil fuels, you would already be doing better than if you were invested in fossil fuels," Scott said. "So not just in a climate perspective, but purely from a financial perspective, we should [divest] at the earliest opportunity."

Matthew Grant, director of Media Relations at UW, defended the university's position on sustainability.

"We're proud of the work the university has been doing around climate change, which goes beyond its important contributions to research and scholarship," Grant said.

According to Grant, UW is the first educational establishment that has com-

mitted to use environmental, social and governance (ESG) principles when making investment decisions and is also the first to host the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network and committing to use ESG principles as an important lens when making important investment decisions.

"We're in the process of developing our first ever Climate and Energy Action Plan," Grant said. "The Action Plan, when completed, will outline what further actions we can take."

Individuals can do their part in reducing climate change by recognizing how their actions impact the environment.

"There's no one answer to [reducing your ecological impact]; the starting point for everybody is if they calculate their own carbon footprint...It's really person-dependant, but [a major] part of the process is to discover where your biggest source of emissions are, and then adjust them accordingly," Scott said.

In the big picture, the world stands to lose a lot more than skiing terrain if climate change cannot be dealt with.

"The loss of [the ski industry] is peanuts compared to the species lost, both marine and terrestrial, floods, [and] fires that affect our own country, as well as many other parts of the world where you have hurricane related damage, agricultural losses, the ability for self-sufficiency and food security in some parts of the world. Sea levels rising will have some couple hundred million people displaced from coastal regions, so there's a lot of other reasons to be concerned about climate change, beyond skiing," Scott said.



# UW researchers create AI tool to improve fake news detection

Praveen Natarajan  
Reporters

Amidst the growing concerns over the dissemination of false information, researchers say that it is now more important than ever to curb the propagation of false statements.

UW graduate students Jason L. Deglint and Ibrahim Ben Daya in collaboration with Chris Dulhanty, and Alexander Wong, the Canada Research Chair in Artificial Intelligence and Medical Imaging developed an automated fact-checking AI tool which can detect fake news with high accuracy.

They developed screening tool sets a new benchmark for accuracy, in that they say it can flag fake news correctly nine out of ten times.

The tool uses a technique called stance detection, which is an emerging area of research that determines the degree of relationship between the principle claim

of one story and other news stories. In other words, the learning algorithm compares the content in the claim with news from a variety of different sources on the same topic and estimates whether these stories substantiate or refute the claim.

Alexander Wong, a professor of Systems Design Engineering at UW, said the automated fact-checking system consists of a series of sequential sub-tasks.

First, during the document retrieval stage, the AI gathers news stories pertaining to the claim.

Next, in the Stance Detection process, the stance or relative position of each article with respect to the claim is identified.

Then the penultimate step, Reputation Assessment, determines the trustworthiness or reputation of each news source.

Finally the claim verification step determines the veracity of the claim in question.

Wong said fact checkers could use this screening tool could be used by fact-checkers as an efficient means to flag fake news, a n

cient means to flag fake news, a n

otherwise be a laborious task when is done manually.

The learning algorithm leverages the features of an open source, bidirectional language model, which allows the neural network to gain a deeper understanding of the context in



research team had to deal with, as bias in the data leads to undesirable outcomes. Therefore, the intended primary end-users of the developed automated tool will be journalists and fact checkers.

“That said, a simple user interface in the form of a browser plug-in will be rolled out in the near future,” Wong said.

Although there have been some fascinating improvements in the

## News

algorithm’s capability to flag fake news.

However, it is still a challenge to keep up with the barrage of disinformation in varying forms.

This prompts the subject matter experts to work toward sophisticated calibration of the tool’s fake news detection.

The UW researchers are determined to elevate the algorithm’s performance further by training their model with much larger datasets targeting media outlets that report news in other languages.

the principle claim. It also references articles compared to earlier unidirectional models. “Garnering reliable sources of datasets for training the model is one of the major challenges the

CAITLYN YU



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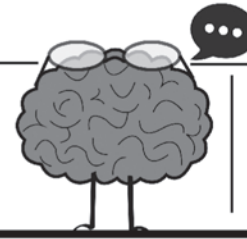
**Next scheduled post-mortem meeting:**

Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 4:00 p.m.  
Imprint Office, SLC 0137

**Next scheduled board meeting:**

Thursday, February 6 at 6:00 p.m.; SLC 0137

# opinions



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## Reflections on racism and coronavirus

In some ways it feels like the coronavirus has taken over my life.

Not only is it all over the news and social media, but for me, particularly, there are notable and numerous strong links.

My family is from *Wuhan* (the italics serve a purpose, they are a reminder that this is a Chinese term, a sort of reclaiming of the city's name).

*Wuhan*, as defined by us and not the outsiders whose tongues are happy to report on or mock it, but not learn how to pronounce it), I still have a lot of family there. I was born there.

I spent many summers there, hiding from the heat in air conditioned rooms (*Wuhan* frequently spends summers with day after day hitting forty degrees; it's known to be a city with particularly hot summers in China), eating *nianpeng*, enjoying the sights and savouring having so much delicious food at my fingertips.

Having grown up in Canada and being a reflective person, I have a complex relationship with home, identity, and belonging.

I am always immersed in Canadian culture and politics, I have a "Canadian" opinion on many issues, I "behave" like a Canadian, saying sorry excessively and all, but every day Canada sends me messages that I don't belong, my outside looks too Chinese for that, but I am too "Canadian" on the inside to really belong in China either.

That's the context I exist in as the world weathers this Coronavirus outbreak.

For me, it's a multi-layered burden, seeing the news coming out of China, because those are my people.

If only a few things had gone differently I could be one of them; being concerned for my aunts, uncles, and grandparents, who are much closer to outbreak than any of us in Canada.

Meanwhile, I also acutely feel the stigma, racism, and xenophobia slowly closing in on me, pointedly directed at me.

Even without closely following the news about it, I knew it would be happening because I know Canada.

Canada does it better than many, but multiculturalism in its current form in this country still falls flat in many ways.

In its current iteration, it largely demands assimilation into "whiteness", and if people of colour (POC) "pass" adequately, and only bring up their own culture when it's convenient or when white people can enjoy and/or exploit, it then we're allowed to exist.

However, as soon as people of colour

can be associated with what people of the dominant culture don't like, such as a viral outbreak, racism and xenophobia rear their ugly heads, and it really hasn't been pretty.

escalate and result in serious injuries.

Racism can be enacted into laws, and Canada has a history of this (read up on the Chinese Exclusion Act, if you're unfamiliar).

It affects people's employment opportunities and more.

But not everything is frustrating and dreary.

In all honesty it's a really notable thing that people are talking about the racist backlash against East Asians. People who aren't East Asian are standing up for us, *institutions* are standing up for us – York Region District School Board sent out a warning regarding how concerns around coronavirus were veering into anti-Chinese racism



SOPHIE LIN

Chinese people are getting harassed on the streets, people are refusing Lyft and Uber rides from Asian people.

Restaurants, businesses and Chinatowns are being boycotted.

And this may be the most frustrating part of all this, the fact that people have the gall to be racist, to mock us, to stereotype, and erase the complexity of 1.4 billion people plus approximately 46 million diaspora, while Chinese people are suffering and fighting on the front lines against the virus.

Last week I said to my friend, "I am more afraid of the racist backlash over coronavirus than I am of the virus itself" because here's the thing, there's plenty that can protect me from the virus – handwashing, rubbing alcohol, doctors, hospitals, medicine and more.

What is there to protect me against racism?

Something that not all people get is that racism is about people's lives and livelihoods.

Racist calls to boycott businesses and restaurants can result in people being forced to close. Getting harassed on the street can

territory.

Racism against East Asians is often not discussed thanks to ideas like the "model minority myth".

One thing I will point out is that many people are trying to stand up against racism with phrases like "not all Chinese people are..." and the blank is filled with things like "uneducated", "eating exotic animals", or "disgusting" and I'm grateful to everyone standing up, but I would challenge you to take it a step further.

I shouldn't have to be a "perfect victim" to deserve not having racism lobbed at me.

Often "likeability" is entangled with assimilation into whiteness.

People are suffering and they deserve compassion even if they make mistakes or bad choices.

We all do.

**Maggie Chang**

*Environment, Resources, and Sustainability 3B*



# The lack of diversity at the Oscars... again

The Oscars have always been regarded as the pinnacle of film awards. However, this reputation has been shrouded by the lack of diversity in its nominees. This year, the story is no different.

Lack of diversity was pushed to the forefront of popular film narrative in 2015 by activist April Reign after she created the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite.

This backlash came after the 2015 Oscar nominees had no actors of colour nominated in any category.

Despite the adverse reaction, the same thing happened in 2016, angering many people due to the array of diverse films that had been ignored by the Academy.

Unfortunately, this upcoming Oscars has proved to be an overwhelming disappointment once more, with only one person of colour being nominated for an acting award.

The only person of colour who was nominated in the acting categories this year was Cynthia Erivo, for playing the slave Harriet Tubman, in *Harriet*.

Not only was Erivo's performance coined as "stunningly forgettable," but it also confirms the racist ideal that successful black films have to be based on sorrow

and violence, often linked to slavery.

Erivo's token nomination becomes almost laughable, especially when considering the number of incredible roles in cinema over the past year, which have championed original and innovative black narratives, created by black visionaries.

This can be seen through Lupita Nyong'o's work in *Us*, a horror/thriller film directed by Jordan Peele, in which she successfully plays two opposing characters. However, Nyong'o's Oscar snub becomes even more painful when we acknowledge the fact that Scarlett Johansson has been nominated in the best actress and best supporting actress categories, despite having a history of being complicit in the rampant whitewashing in Hollywood casting. This can be seen as she has accepted the roles of an Asian woman and a transgender character, despite facing an overwhelming backlash.

It has been her response to this resistance, however; that has angered people beyond reparation, as she has said: "I should be allowed to play any person, or any tree, or any animal because that is my job..."

How can the Academy be comfortable nominating someone who

is so unaware of their white privilege, twice, when they cannot find it in themselves to pretend to care about the work of people of colour?

This lack of diversity is not exclusive to the acting categories, or discrimination towards people of colour.

The Academy has proved time and time again that they are also sexist, with many categories such as Best Picture and Best Director, amongst others, often excluding women and female-centric films.

This became extremely obvious this year when Greta Gerwig was snubbed from a Best Director nomination for *Little Women*, despite it being one of the most critically acclaimed films of the year.

Additionally, many other female directors such as Lulu Wang (*The Farewell*), Lorene Scafaria (*Hustlers*), Céline Sciamma (*Portrait of a Lady on Fire*), have been neglected, despite their films being lauded as some of the most diverse and artistically advanced of 2019.

This sexism is blatant within the Best Picture category as most of the nominees are white male-centred narratives, with some films such as Tarantino's *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood* being slated for the lack of dialogue given to female characters, rather relying on their looks in spite of their undeniable talent.

There is one film that has transcended the seemingly racist and prejudiced norms of Oscar nominations.

Bong Joon-ho's, *Parasite*, has received numerous nominations, including Best Picture and Best Director. This South Korean comedy-drama has been praised by many film critics as being one of the most inventive films of 2019, which has led to it being one of the very few foreign-language films in history, to become nominated for Best Picture.

Bong Joon-ho, aware of the lack of recognition for foreign films, pointed out in his acceptance speech for the Best Foreign-Language Film at the Golden Globes, "Once you overcome the one-inch-tall barrier of subtitles, you will be introduced to so many more amazing films."

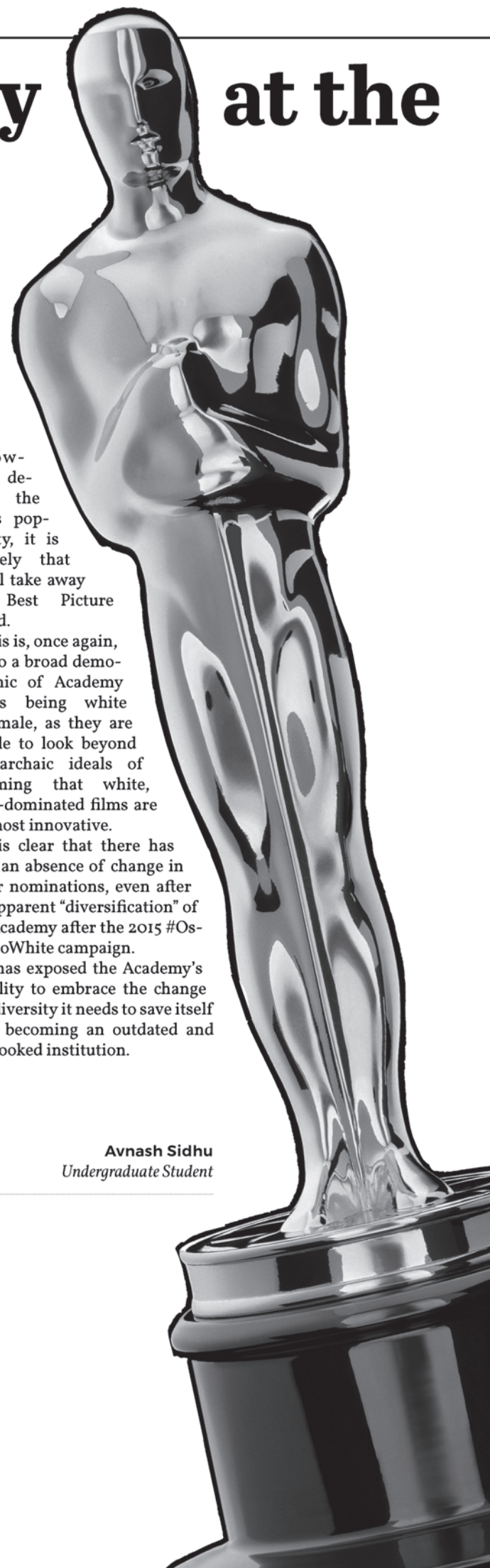
However, despite the film's popularity, it is unlikely that it will take away the Best Picture award.

This is, once again, due to a broad demographic of Academy voters being white and male, as they are unable to look beyond the archaic ideals of assuming that white, male-dominated films are the most innovative.

It is clear that there has been an absence of change in Oscar nominations, even after the apparent "diversification" of the Academy after the 2015 #OscarsSoWhite campaign.

It has exposed the Academy's inability to embrace the change and diversity it needs to save itself from becoming an outdated and overlooked institution.

Avnash Sidhu  
Undergraduate Student



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# campus bulletin

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## upcoming events

### February 2020

**For all of UpTown Waterloo** Winter activities visit [www.uptownwaterloo.ca](http://www.uptownwaterloo.ca).

**Savour in Stratford** — Saturday morning Market from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Rotary Complex, and more, [www.visitstratford.com](http://www.visitstratford.com).

**Unplug from screens.** Connect with friends. Sing your faith. Chapel Choir meets Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Sign up for an audition at [uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles](http://uwaterloo.ca/music/ensembles). No prep required. For more details [ksteiner@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:ksteiner@uwaterloo.ca) or 519-885-0220, ext 24226.

**Choral and Ensemble** auditions begin. Can be taken for credit (.25) or extracurricular activity. For more info [www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensemblesmusic@uwaterloo.ca](http://www.uwaterloo.ca/music/ensemblesmusic@uwaterloo.ca).

### Wednesday, February 5

**Partnerships for Employment (P4E) Job Fair** - meet with 200+ employers at the largest Fair of its kind in the country at Manulife Sportsplex at RIM Park (free busing from Ring Road at Hagey Hall). Begins at 10 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. from campus). For more info [partners4employment.ca](mailto:partners4employment.ca).

**KW Chamber Music** presents "Annual Associate of Musical Creators - formerly CIA" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact [jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca).

### Sunday, February 9

**KW Chamber Music** presents "Canadian Guitar quartet" at 8 p.m. at KW Chamber Music Society, 57 Young Street, W., Waterloo (walkable from campus). To reserve tickets/info contact [jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:jnarveso@uwaterloo.ca).

### Tuesday, February 11

**Coin collectors - The Waterloo Coin Society (WCS)** is meeting today at 6:30 p.m. at 510 Dutton Drive, Waterloo. Attendance is free and all are welcome. The month's meeting includes door prizes and a 50 lot auction open to all. Membership discount for UW and WLU students. Visit our website [www.waterloo-coinsociety.com](http://www.waterloo-coinsociety.com) or email [vicepresident@waterloo-coinsociety.com](mailto:vicepresident@waterloo-coinsociety.com).

### Saturday, February 29

**Emmanuel United Church** presents "The Soviet Influence" at 7 p.m. at 22 Bridgeport Road, W., Waterloo. 519-886-1471 or [info@emmanueluc.ca](mailto:info@emmanueluc.ca).

**Thursday, March 12**  
**Conestoga College Job Fair** from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Doon Campus, Recreation Centre. For more info [mycareerservices@conestoga.on.ca](mailto:mycareerservices@conestoga.on.ca).

## volunteering

**Bereaved Families of Ontario** - Midwestern Region, The Family Centre, 65 Hanson Ave., Suite 1042, Kitchener. We currently have a number of exciting volunteer opportunities. For more info, [jaimie@bfomidwest.org](mailto:jaimie@bfomidwest.org) or 519-603-0196.

**Become a Meals On Wheels** volunteer! Call 519-772-8787 or [www.communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply](http://www.communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/apply).

## help needed

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020



Wednesday, February 27  
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# IMPRESSIONS



A page entirely devoted to art for the sake of art.  
This page is created by UW students  
and serves as a speaker's corner for the school's creators.



I suppose it also explains why our brains are left behind



# distractions



CONGRATS TO THE SUPERBOWL CHAMPS, THE KANSAS CITY CHEFS  
No one can stop the tomato stalk chop!

## Quiz: Which defunct UW mascot are you?

*How to play: Read the questions to your right and circle the answer you most agree with. Tally your answers and count which letter you chose most often. Then check the answer-key on the right to learn which defunct UW mascot represents you.*



ARRIBA THE AMOEBA. LAST SEEN IN 2019.

You may look like you starred in *Scream* (1996) but you're actually greener and meaner. People get rid of you before they even know if the next option is better. Seriously Like the Science faculty you represent, you're reclusive, wrinkled, and probably died a long time ago. With your pickle-like appearance you should've stayed with the banana in environment. Overall, you really tried, so who can blame you?



THE BOMBSHELTER BOMB. LAST SEEN IN 2018.

You were the bomb that never exploded. Full of potential as a first year but by the 4(0)th years' end, you fizzled out like the aspirin in the coffee that you take to prevent heart disease because you're so damn old. You've been here so long, everyone thinks you're a lifer. And they're right. You'll probably be back at UW before Amber Heard's career recovers, dragging down your intramural team.



KEVIN O'LEARY.

LAST SEEN, IDK ON *CBC GEM?* Since graduating in '77, you're the token not-nice Canadian and one of the two hosts on *The Lang and O'Leary Exchange* to violate journalistic standards. Running for a political position you became a meme. You then sank like a brick when you broke the #1 UW code; pay your co-ops. Now you've proably retired to hunt the most dangerous game—never to be seen again.



POUNCE DE LIONE. LAST SEEN IN 2012

Named for a physicist, your parents had high hopes. As the Alumni Relations mascot, people can't help but feel bad for you. You look like a paper-maché kabuki doll that was left in the rain, and then in the sun, and then in the rain again. Your fun-loving nature probably won't make up for you bad looks. You try to milk UW's mild approval of King Warrior for all it's worth.

a. is Arriba the Amoeba, b. is Pounce de Lione, c. is the BombsHELTER Bomb, d. is Kevin O'Leary. Special mention to Hughston the Laurier mascot technically defunct by a UW mob who mobbed him on Sept. 20, 1986

Beside your bed you have ...

- a. Birds
- b. A 24-pack of batteries and a bottle of flavoured lube
- c. Leftover food from last year
- d. My juul

What song do you sing in the shower?

- a. The theme-song from the 1960 film *Psycho*
- b. "Closer" by the Chainsmokers, <3 Alex & Drew
- c. "My Sherona" but I change it to "Showerona"
- d. Nickelback!!!

When you see somebody cute, you...

- a. Stalk them like Penn Badgley in *You*
- b. Pretend to like everything they enjoy until they notice you
- c. Ghost them until they notice you're gone
- d. Invite them to bubble tea and ask "What are we?"

When you see someone litter, ...

- a. Toss the trash in the recycling and jump inside too!
- b. Show them *An Inconvenient Truth* (2006) until they pass out
- c. Glance at them and slowly shuffle past
- d. Check that my Yeezys don't touch the trash

How do you feel about learning a language?

- a. After studying Cobol I refuse to learn anything ever again.
- b. Just pig latin, so I can speak to Arts Porcelinos!
- c. Learning a language is impossible unless you're a baby
- d. It can't possibly take over a month

You feel sexiest when ...

- a. Lab coat on, No pants
- b. Showing off merch from the W store
- c. I look like a mannequin from the Sears' Catalogue
- d. I'm wearing-my Supreme™ fanny pack

Wha are your socials?

- a. Dunno, maybe Reddit? But I don't post, I just lurk
- b. LinkedIn and GoFundMe
- c. I'm on just about everything; Facebook, IG, Twitter and Yelp
- d. *CBC* is my media of choice, but I'm not very social