Here we go again!...

And so it all begins again. Welcome back everyone! I trust that you are all well rested and ready for the next semester. If you're not...well, you better brace yourself because the Winter 2011 has officially started and we're in for a busy semester! As usual, I have my drop in hours available to all of you every Monday to Thursday from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. All other times are by appointment. I look forward to meeting and chatting with all of you!

Living OFF-CAMPUS!

Off-Campus Living in Student Life works closely with students, residents, City staff, landlords, and City Councillors to help facilitate communication and to ease the way for students who live in Guelph. Our goal is to help YOU be successful living off campus! Rental Listings at www.uoguelph.ca/och

Rental housing is very plentiful in Guelph - so take your time with your search. Look at several places before making a decision. Most listings for May 1st are posted in February and March! Most listings for September 1st are posted in July and August. If you will be renting a house or an apartment, in most cases you will need to sign a one year lease.

"Finding a Place to Live Off-Campus" Presentations: Nervous about finding a place to live next year? Need advice on any housing questions or concerns? Then come to one of these sessions and learn all the important information, receive valuable tools for increasing your success off campus and learn how to find a GREAT place to live!

Monday, January 24th - 5-7pm - UC 103
Tuesday, January 25th - 5-7pm - UC 103

Off-Campus Living Rental Housing Fair: Wednesday, January 26th 10-3 UC Courtyard. Talk to landlords, set up viewings and get answers to all of your tenant questions! In addition, OCL Peers and representatives from the City of Guelph will be there to answer any technical questions you have and provide resources on Bylaws, Fire and Safety, Waste management and Zoning.

Contact us: OCL@uoguelph.ca
http://studentlife.uoguelph.ca/ocl/
BOUNCE BACK PROGRAM:

Help for first year students with a fall semester average below 60%.

Bounce Back is a support program offered in the winter semester for students in the first year of their undergraduate degree who earned an average of less than 60% in their first semester. Students who opt-in to the program are matched with a mentor who works with them one-on-one to identify the source(s) of their fall difficulties and connect them with the appropriate resources.

Here is how it works:

1. Express your interest online (registration opens in late December) - you can opt-out at any time. Visit www.bounceback.uoguelph.ca.
2. We will contact you to set up a meeting.
3. Stay in touch with your Bounce Back Facilitator, an upper year student who will offer support and assistance with problem-solving and goal setting.
4. Keep track of your progress towards the goals you set for yourself.

Students in the program who work closely with their mentors, access appropriate resources, and approach their courses with a new perspective developed through Bounce Back report improvements in their marks and a greater satisfaction with the first year experience.

Hey Upper Years! BOUNCE YOURSELF BACK!

So even though there isn’t an official “Bounce Back Program” for upper year students, you can still access all of the same resources that the first years will be using through (you guessed it) the LEARNING COMMONS! Get yourself over to the library and get acquainted with all of the resources available to you including workshops, presentations, one on one support, webinars, podcasts and a whole lot more. The whole focus of the LEARNING COMMONS is to help you succeed academically, so why wouldn’t you use them? Plus, you’re already paying for it through your student fees! Take advantage of this great resource!
The Bachelor of Arts & Science Students’ Association!
Did you know that BAS students have the highest ratio of student representation across campus because we have reps on every college government? No other group has that! If you would like to be involved in YOUR student government helping to represent BAS across campus, then please let us know! We would also like to hear from you if you have any suggestions or ideas for events or things that BASSA could or should be doing! Just email us at bassa@uoguelph.ca !!!
We want to hear from YOU!

BASSA Exec 2010/11
VP Academics
Joe McBurney
VP Activities
Mia Callaghan
VP Finance/Admin
Caroline Tarjan
CSAHS Rep
Cathleen King
CASU Rep
Hilda Nouri
BAS Senator
Alisha Fernandes
Fourth Year Rep
Melanie Leblanc
Third Year Rep
Shelby White
Second Year Rep
Aleisha Korga
First Year Rep
Kami Valkova
BAS Cluster Rep
Sarah Dowling

Get published in “Footnotes”
Footnotes, Guelph’s undergraduate feminist journal, is back this year and will be going to press early this spring. We are seeking interesting papers roughly between 1200-3000 words in length that are analytical, clear, well structured and have feminist content/focus. You are welcome to submit papers written for a class, as long as they have not been published before. The deadline has been extended to January 31st, and we encourage submissions from all disciplines.

Questions? Want more information? Contact footnotes.guelph@gmail.com and keep your ears and eyes open.
Height4Haiti ~ Climbing to raise money for earthquake relief!

A team of 3 students from the University of Guelph, including our very own Thomas Dickson (BAS grad—Biology & History minors) will be climbing Mt. Rainier in Washington State to raise money for Haiti relief and rebuilding. In Thomas’ words...“On January 12, 2010 Haiti was ravaged by massive earthquake. The death toll is estimated to be over 100,000, and countless homes and buildings were lost. A year later, people remain homeless. Any donated money will help them on their long road to rebuild. As it stands Haiti is the poorest country in the western hemisphere, and a disaster like this simply cannot be fixed without our help. A lot of the promised money has not yet been delivered to Haiti, and so it becomes more important than ever to donate as much as we can. Our primary goal is to climb Mt Rainier in Washington, and all pledges that we receive for this event will go directly to Haiti. The climbers are all personally responsible for paying all their own expenses for the trip. We will also be holding several fundraising events, such as benefit concerts, that will help us meet our goal.”

To Kill A Mockingbird

Written By: Christopher Sergel
Directed By: Jeff Dakin
Produced By: Todd Westcott

THURS: Feb 3 & 10 (8PM)
FRI: Jan 28, Feb 4 & 11 (8PM)
SAT: Jan 29, Feb 5 & 12 (8PM)
SUN: Jan 30, Feb 6 (2PM matinee)

www.guelphlittletheatre.com

LAWRENCE MURPHY ON STAGE!!

One of your instructors, Lawrence Murphy, is playing Bob Ewell in the Guelph Little Theatre production of To Kill A Mockingbird! It’s a classic production and provides an opportunity to support local theatre.

A compelling and compassionate show, To Kill A Mockingbird tells the story of Scout Finch, as she and her family endure an odyssey through the fires of racial prejudice in 1935 Alabama. She and her older brother, Jem, witness their father, Atticus, take a stand against intolerance and injustice. Based on the 1960 Pulitzer Prize winning novel by Harper Lee, this masterpiece of modern literature is as relevant today as it was when Ms. Lee penned her unforgettable tale. “You never know someone,” Atticus tells Scout, “until you step inside their skin and walk around a little”.

THE STREAM
An afternoon to connect Guelph Researchers and others working Internationally.
Want to meet other researchers who may be working in the same countries you are? Share contacts? Collaborate? Are you from a country where Guelph research is taking place? Want to connect with a project or program? This is the event for you. Save the date: Feb 23, 2011 from 2:30-4:30pm in Peter Clark Hall (U.C. Basement).

The first hour will feature a guest lecture on intercultural skills by Bob McArthur of Multicultural Business Solutions and the second hour will be a networking opportunity for researchers to connect with others doing work in similar parts of the world. Refreshments provided. Register now to give us an idea of numbers. Come out and Connect! Faculty, post-docs, graduate and undergraduate researchers welcome.

REMINDER: All semester abroad applications for the 2011-12 academic year are due January 28th 2011. To apply for a semester abroad program, you must attend a Study Abroad Information Session through the Centre for International Programs.

www.uoguelph.ca/ cip

www.tedxguelphu.com
Aquarius - This new year is off to a good start for you. Though in the next couple of weeks I would suggest taking some time for yourself and taking care of business. You know what I’m talking about. Whether you know it or not, one of your main resolutions this year is to focus on self-care a little more often. That doesn’t mean that other people aren’t important. It just means that you’re just as important as the people are you that you are constantly there for. Get comfortable with yourself. Go out and see a movie on your own. Go out for a nice meal on your own. If you don’t like spending time with yourself...how can you expect other people to? Ok, and one more thing...you are looking good...that outfit is a keeper.

Taurus – It looks like family will continue to be a big theme in your life for the next little while. Although, the focus is going to shift a little from your blood family to your urban family. There are two important decisions made in the next few weeks that are going to impact your urban/school family. How it turns out will depend on how you carry yourself. Take the high road my friend. I’ve also noticed that you’ve been more and more preoccupied with “you know who.” Is it worth it? What are you going to do about it? I have been using this useful bit of advice...take what you want, but eat what you take. That was posted on the all of the Dunlap Hall at camp. It’s a metaphor. Think about it.

Leo - So there’s this fantastic series from the BBC called “Being Human” that I’ve been watching this past month. The crazy thing is, I just found out that the US is going to have its own version of it. Apparently, I’m a bit late. I’ve also heard that they’re coming up with a whole new “ Buffy the Vampire Slayer” dealio. They’re calling it “rebooting.” Apparently they’re doing that to Spiderman too. Seriously, have we run out of ideas that we have to keep re-making old hits? That’s my question to you my little lions. What’s up with all the re-cycling? If you really want things to change, you are going to have to change things up. Take a moment and really listen to what our family and friends are saying to you and always be there for them.

Scorpio - So I recently found out that I’m going to a family reunion in the summer in Vancouver. That’s awesome. The downside is that it is CRAZY expensive. Dang, it just is. I bro’ed out at my first sight of the costs. I’m a bit suspect. I’ve also heard that the BBC is coming up with a whole new “Buffy” series. They’re making their own version of it. Admittedly, I’m a bit suspect. I’ve also heard that they’re launching a website called Study Groups at Guelph. That’s awesome. The downside is that it is CRAZY expensive. Dang, it just is. I bro’ed out at my first sight of the costs.

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Group study is an excellent way to enhance the understanding of a subject or particular course. The opportunity to discuss anything from minor details to major concepts with classmates allows you to gain an in-depth knowledge base of course material and a greater ability to articulate what you know.

Please visit studygroups.lib.uoguelph.ca to find the new Study Groups at Guelph website, or email studygrp@uoguelph.ca for more information!

Horrscopces

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GEMINI - Hmmm...what’s up with the fixation on vanity lately? Or should I say lack thereof? You know what I’m talking about. Anyway, that’s not the important thing I wanted to tell you. In the upcoming weeks, there is going to be more settling down with a boyfriend. What kind of action are you going to be doing with your ouyanist? In my opinion, you should be as serious as possible. Keep your wits about you this month. Also, don’t those read-a-thons are not going to read themselves. Get moving...you know what happens last semester. Lastly, it’s about your shoes. What’s going on there? I’m not judging...I’m just saying...really?

Cancer - Stop it. Right now. I really mean it. Why do you keep putting yourself down and doubting yourself? For what? Don’t think I haven’t noticed all the little jokes that you make about yourself in an effort to cover up your insecurities. And don’t you think I’ve noticed that you are constantly there for. Get comfortable with yourself. Go out and see a movie on your own. Go out for a nice meal on your own. If you don’t like spending time with yourself...how can you expect other people to? Ok, and one more thing...you are looking good...that outfit is a keeper.

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YoU in Guelph....

"YoU in Guelph" is an opportunity for students to connect with various low income local neighborhood groups in Guelph and contribute to regular food and clothing drives, soup socials, family events, after-school and breakfast programs. YoU in Guelph takes place throughout the semester and kicks off February 6th when students are invited to help out with Winterfest festivals taking place in neighborhood groups throughout the city. For more information about ways to become involved with this form of service learning, contact Rachel Farahbakhsh, Coordinator for Community Engaged Learning:

rachel.farahbakhsh@uoguelph.ca.

Check out all the other opportunities available through Student Life...

http://studentlife.uoguelph.ca/

Just so you know...

More important info that you WILL find useful....

- It is illegal to own an armadillo in the state of Maine (US).
- January 28th is the deadline for all applications to study abroad in the 2011-2012 academic year.
- Other than humans, armadillos are the only other mammal capable of getting leprosy.
- Reading Week is the week of February 21st-25th. There are NO classes scheduled this week.
- Research on leprosy in armadillos has helped scientists find a vaccination against the disease.
- Applications to graduate at the end of this semester and convocate in June are now available on Webadvisor.
- Armadillos can hold their breath underwater for almost six minutes.
- Please get at least one other ASCI student to read this newsletter. Seriously, I don’t make these things for my health. (although it is kind of fun)

Not sure where to find information online?
CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!

www.uoqugelph.ca/bas

Another option is to click “Current Students” on the UofG homepage...check out all the links!
Some of the top scientists in the US are taking their New Year’s resolutions extra-seriously this year—it is, after all a year when we could see both some revolutionary pro-science political change and some major funding evaporate thanks to that pesky “worst recession since the Great Depression.” So when the respected group the Union of Concerned Scientists drafts up resolutions, expect some practical, important proposals. (No room for the mundane or the lofty here—“Try to call the folks more often” nor “Obliterate global warming with an iron fist” make the cut).

The resolutions are, yet again, aimed at the new administration. And while we all know that Obama’s suggestion box is already overstuffed, these resolutions have a particular resonance—if only because they’re brief, pointed, and wise. Here’s the scientists’ top 10 New Year’s resolutions:

Union of Concerned Scientists’ Top 10 New Year’s Resolutions

1. Defend Americans from unsafe drugs, toys and other products by requiring that federal agency leaders protect employees who blow the whistle when science is misused.

2. Allow the public access to tremendous scientific resources by letting government scientists tell us what they know.

3. Protect the air we breathe by obeying the law and setting air pollution standards based on science.

4. Restore our faith in government by providing more information to the public about how science-based policy decisions are made.

5. Use science to conserve our natural heritage for future generations.

6. Collect enough information to give us flexibility to meet future challenges and keep tabs on current problems.

7. Hold your administration accountable to high scientific integrity standards.

8. Keep politics out of science by reining in the power of the White House to tamper with purely scientific analyses.

9. Safeguard our health by putting the Environmental Protection Agency back in charge of evaluating the potential dangers of chemicals without interference from other agencies.

10. Protect us by shining a bright light on all agency meetings held with special interests so we can understand their influence.

Sort of puts my list—which includes the likes of “stop biting fingernails” and, ahem, “try to call the folks more often”—to shame, doesn’t it. Maybe I’ll add “protect my integrity by shining a bright light on the fact that I need new fluorescent light bulbs in my apartment.” Still doesn’t have quite the same ring.

Anyhow, there’s more detailed info on the UCS resolutions available, and I for one, will be celebrating the New Year’s knowing that we have a president-elect in the wings who may actually pay attention to such suggestions.

So Happy New Year’s, scientists and other green folk alike—it’s going to be a wild one.

(From www.treehugger.com, posted on the eve of 2009...it’s old, but I just thought it was pretty cool)