

im print

p2

COVID-19 CREDIT

Students question the university's pandemic compensation strategy.



OLYMPICS UPDATE

UW's Madeline Schizas skates for team Canada . P7

CEMC PARTNERSHIP P5

New CEMC initiative brings mathematical sciences programming to girls in Ghana.

HATEFUL LANGUAGE P8

UW professor analyzes the role of linguistics in the rise of misinformation online.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS P10

Why it's important for international students to keep up with current events from their home countries.

WUSA governing year extended. P3



COURTESY WUSA



Students question UW's pandemic compensation strategy

Alicia Wang
News Editor

On Feb. 4, undergraduate students from the University of Waterloo received a memo stating that students would be partially compensated for pandemic-induced costs.

The message from the president and vice-president informed undergraduates that full-time students would see \$125 of credit added to their accounts, \$37.50 for part-time students. Students will be eligible for the credit if their registered status is "Fees Arranged" on Quest by Feb. 7, or if they are on a co-op term for winter 2022.

The amount is expected to appear in Quest on March 3.

Due to the additional stress the pandemic has caused students, several students expressed concerns that the university was not doing all that they could to alleviate the strain.

"What could help is reducing our tuition instead of making us pay full price because at the end of the day we're teaching ourselves when we're online. We're not in the university buildings, it's not the same experience. They just post something, we read it or watch it and do whatever assignment or quiz we have that week," first-year honours arts student Leyla Koc said.

Tuition for many Canadian universities has increased in recent years even before the impacts of the pandemic. According to a research paper by Statistics Cana-

da, universities have increasingly relied on tuition as a source of revenue as provincial grants to postsecondary institutions have steadily declined — the 2009/2010 academic year was the last year that grants were UW's primary source of income, making up 45.1 per cent of operating revenue. In the 2020/2021 academic year, academic fees made up 63.6 per cent of the university's operating revenue, whereas grants amounted to only 29 per cent of its income.

As a result, tuition fees have been steadily increasing, with Canadian students' tuition rising by an average of 1.6 per cent and international students' tuition rising by an average of 4.3 per cent from the 2020/2021 academic year to the 2021/2022 academic year. The increased financial strain is ag-

gravated by the overall increase in the cost of living in Canada, which in 2021 experienced its fastest growth since 1991.

The long-term benefits of post-secondary education, particularly higher earnings and increased financial stability, have often been used to justify the financial stress of acquiring one. However, with the additional financial and mental strain placed on students by the pandemic, some have begun to ask whether or not universities could be doing more to help students now.

First-year AFM student Xander Chong initially appreciated the thought behind the \$125 credit gesture. "Especially cause of the pandemic, for a lot of students money has been kinda tight, so it's nice even though it can only cover the cost of one textbook," he said. However, Chong pointed out that due to the relatively small amount, "they could give compensation as often as they could to show their support for students in these times cause especially for students only just returning to campus after a few months or years, knowing that the school cares even a little bit is nice."

With the number of undergraduates at UW in the fall 2021 term totalling 34,609, a credit compensation of \$125 to each full-time student and \$37.50 to every part-time student would amount to over \$4M CAD. UW's total operating revenue for the 2020/2021 academic year amounted to approximately \$595M CAD.

Lukas Salib, a first-year honours arts student, was similarly hesitant to give the move his full approval. "It's a step in the right direction, but it still doesn't compensate for the entirety of the two terms because a lot of students have taken a hit from their grades since they had to basically teach [the content] to themselves, so it doesn't feel like a lot... there's still such a really big number we gotta pay."

These frustrations are compounded by the fact that this is

not the first time UW has given students small amounts of credit in order to resolve underlying issues. Koc explained to Imprint a previous situation where she received credit from UW in response to a mistake the university had made regarding her residence contract.

In August 2021, Koc received an email from Campus Housing stating her contract had been cancelled due to missing signatures, despite her having evidence to the contrary. When she contacted campus housing, she was told that she had to fill out a vacancy form and wait for a confirmation email — information that she later learned was inaccurate.

"I waited a couple of days and I heard nothing, so I emailed them back because obviously I'm anxious, and a completely different person got back to me and told me something completely different on top of that. They told me I had to resign the contract again, repay the \$500 deposit, and then I'd be good," Koc said. "The deadline was literally the day after I emailed them, so if I hadn't gone out of my way to email them I wouldn't have had a place to sleep. I paid another \$500 deposit, but there was just so much misinformation."

Koc received a \$50 credit compensation for her troubles. "What is that gonna do for all the anxiety and stress they put me through? I was in a different country at the time too, so getting that email that I didn't sign something even though I did was terrifying."

Regarding situations like Koc's, as well as increasing concerns about the ever-rising cost of tuition, the question of whether or not compensation has been "enough" weighs on many Canadian students' minds.

"We're already paying so much to be here, but they make you feel good by giving you money when really, it's nothing," said first-year chemical engineering student Melissa Ramdial.

"We're already paying so much to be here, but they make you feel good by giving you money when really, it's nothing."

MELISSA RAMDIAL, 1ST YEAR
CHEMICAL ENGINEERING STUDENT



MAIJA SCHADE

WUSA governing year extended, quorum reduced by half

Nicola Rose
Managing Editor

At a Special General Meeting on Feb. 1, University of Waterloo students voted to extend WUSA's governing year until no later than Sept. 1 and to reduce the General Meeting quorum by half, from 200 to 100 members.

Initially, WUSA proposed an extension of the current governing year for up to 12 months after the Annual General Meeting, which occurs in March. However, students at the Feb. 1 Special General Meeting reduced the proposed extension period to the Spring 2022 term only, requiring WUSA to hold an election before September.

The ratification of bylaw amendments to postpone the 2022 General Election, which would otherwise have occurred before the Winter term reading week (Feb. 19), is one step in WUSA's ongoing governance review process. WUSA representatives and the organization's legal team are now working to develop bylaws for the new governance system, which students will be able to vote on at the upcoming Annual General Meeting in March.

According to a Feb. 9 Governance Review Update from WUSA president Benjamin Easton, the governance review process began in part in 2020, when WUSA Students' Council and the Board of Directors approved a 2020-2025 Strategic & Long-Range Plan that "identified as a priority the review of our governance practices to address barriers to democratic participation in the organization."

Democratic participation in WUSA initiatives has been limited for the past several years. Between 2012 and 2017, the highest voter turnout for any WUSA election was approximately 15 per cent, while the lowest was below 5 per cent. Similarly, many candidates for WUSA positions run unopposed, such as was the case with the current executive team, and, in some cases, there are not enough candidates to fill the available seats. "Our team was acclaimed. We have had vacancies, for example, in the Faculty of Science on Students' Council all year. So and a lot of that kind of chronic disengagement or lack of buy-in from students has really motivated



doing this governance review in the first place," Easton said.

The ratification of a bylaw amendment to reduce the General Meeting quorum was also introduced to help with low engagement. The Feb. 1 Special General Meeting was the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic began that WUSA reached quorum, though achieving this goal necessitated a proxy voting system and a significant wait — quorum was not reached until one hour into the General Meeting.

When students are engaged, features of WUSA's structure restrict their ability to enact the changes they desire. In the Feb. 9 Update, Easton wrote, "Over the past several years, we have noticed some governance issues which inhibit students' effective control over WUSA, including an increasing complexity of process, a lack of clarity of responsibility between Students' Council and the Board, a 'scope creep' of these bodies, and chronic burnout of student executives who are placed in the middle of this system without the support to succeed."

When the current WUSA representatives assumed their roles in the spring of 2021, they began a more comprehensive assessment of the organization's structure, practices and policies, which involved consultation from external governance experts. The consultants presented WUSA with a report, recommending, among other things, that Students' Council and the Board of

Directors be combined into a single governing body elected at large by undergraduate students.

The report also recommended that instead of students voting on candidates for specific positions such as President, students would vote only for Board members, who would then elect amongst themselves a President and Vice-President.

In response to the new report, the current WUSA representatives chose to propose the governing year extension to give themselves more time to develop the bylaws for the new governance system. Following the extension approval on Feb. 1, Students' Council held a first reading for a new set of bylaws on Feb. 6. At this meeting, councilors sug-

gested several modifications to the consultants' model. Among these suggestions were "guaranteeing faculty representation on the new governing body, ensuring students will directly elect the officers of WUSA (i.e., the president and vice president), and proposing a name for the new body—WUSA Council," Easton wrote in the Update.

WUSA intends to hold a second reading and approval vote at a Special Meeting of Council in the first week of March. Following this meeting and subsequent approval by the Board of Directors, the organization will present the new bylaws to the Annual General Meeting for ratification.

In addition to the two amendments on the meeting agenda, students in attendance discussed housing issues, which have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and the often-changing plans for a return to in-person campus activity.

A WUSA survey from December 2021 found that although at the time, the university planned to reopen campus fully for the Winter 2022 term, 47 per cent of respondents had not yet secured housing for the term. Of those students who had not found suitable housing, 70 per cent indicated that they did not have family or friends with whom they would live and that they would need to find housing elsewhere.

Due to the spike in COVID-19 cases caused by the highly infectious Omicron variant, the Winter 2022 term began online, with a gradual return to campus beginning on Jan. 31 when the provincial lockdown was lifted. As of Feb. 7, many classes are held in person, while some students have still not secured housing.

In a Dec. 17, 2021 Advocacy Update, WUSA stated they were "advocating for you to the University to ensure a continuous learning experience for students who can't consistently be on campus, [which would] mean all students can participate in their classes whether you're on-campus all the time, have to miss a few classes, or are accessing everything remotely."

As of Feb. 15, the university has not mandated that professors provide permanent remote learning options, such as recorded lectures or class notes.

**WUSA Extends
Governing Year**

WUSA
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

SARAH MORASSUTTI

Meet WUSA's Sustainability Commissioner

Alicia Wang
News Editor

After being named one of The Starfish Canada's Top 25 Environmentalists under 25, WUSA Sustainability Commissioner Jenna Phillips is looking forward to seeing where the milestone takes her.

"I think I'm going to take the 'network and see where it goes' route," Phillips said jokingly in an interview with *Imprint*. Phillips' past work includes her Clear the Air blog and podcast, speaking at conferences such as Laval University's UniC 2021 Summit and, of course, her environmental work at the University of Waterloo, including positions such as WUSA's Sustainability Commissioner. Of these initiatives, Phillips highlighted her blog Clear the Air as the one she was most proud of, due not just to its longevity — having started it in 2017 — but to the many opportunities it has afforded her.

"I've been able to speak at conferences, attend conferences as a guest, cover stories of other leaders and projects that have been going on... it's given me lots of valuable experience," she said.

On the Clear the Air website, Phillips states that she "hope[s] to provide clarity around the complex issue that is climate change... Climate change may be a global challenge, but through the collective actions of individuals like you and I, we can create a sustainable future." The website includes links to Phillips' blog, which covers topics ranging from food to environmentalism, and her podcast, the most recent episode of which addresses the question of making schools more sustainable.

The Starfish Canada's list seeks to give recognition to young Canadians whose work has played a part in the environmental movement with "creativity and passion." Winners receive access to various opportunities, including paid speaking engagements, various job and networking opportunities and funding for their projects.

After following The Starfish for years, Phillips was surprised by the recognition. "I've really admired the work [past winners] have done. It was a surprise and an honour and there's so many amazing people I'm working alongside this year."

When asked if she had anything to say to other burgeoning environmentalists at UW, Phillips emphasized the importance of staying motivated. "Don't discount your own efforts because what you're doing is making an impact, and chances are someone is seeing it and it is impacting someone's life whether you know it or not. If it makes you happy, keep doing it because you never know what opportunities can come."

Phillips' work as WUSA's Sustainability Commissioner includes the planned opening of the Sustainability Store, a campus thrift store aimed at promoting sustainability in students' lives, which *Imprint* covered

in October of 2021. The Sustainability Store is just the latest of WUSA's initiatives meant to achieve this goal, though it has not been without its setbacks.

The store was initially planned for a soft launch during the winter 2022 term, due to UW initially setting the semester as its return to pre-pandemic learning. When asked about the impacts of UW's delayed return due to the rise of the Omicron variant, Phillips stated, "[The store] hasn't officially opened yet because of the shutdown that pushed things back, but we are hiring the managers and hopefully, they'll start working in the next few weeks... The store should be open probably just before or after reading week."

Despite the delay, Phillips remains positive. Regarding the many timeline changes WUSA has had to deal with, she stated, "I

think [WUSA] has shown a lot of adaptability and perseverance. The fact that we already had so much clothing before [the shutdowns] all got started meant we were able to organize even when restrictions were going on. I think we're just all eagerly waiting for when we can open."

Although the store is no longer accepting donations, Phillips advises students to explore existing initiatives such as the Green Residence program's warm clothing drive, as well as existing clothing donation bins in residences.

The Sustainability Store is also not the only initiative currently under WUSA's belt. "One of the really exciting things I've been doing this term is starting a student sustainability committee, where students each promote sustainability through their faculty.

We're planning some really exciting events such as a talent hall and a career fair... which will be online because of the timelines and because we don't want to restrict it to people in the local area," Phillips said.

Additionally, the Sustainability Office has also continued several initiatives of their own. "They have their own Green Office program and ambassadors who are in different offices on-campus. The sustainability office provides ambassadors with training and resources to [carry out initiatives], and (regarding future events) there might be some events for earth month like a campus-wide clean-up or information engagement campaigns online," Phillips explained.

Imprint will continue to update students on progress regarding the Sustainability Store.





WRITE FOR SCIENCE AND TECH

Got an interesting science or tech story you want to write about? Email science@uwimprint.ca

CEMC partnership inspires young girls in Ghana using mathematics

Shaza Syed
Reporter

A new partnership between the Centre for Education in Mathematics and Computing (CEMC) at the University of Waterloo and the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) is equipping young women in Ghana with the skills they need to excel in mathematical sciences.

The CEMC has been striving towards its mission of inspiring young minds using mathematics and computer science for over 50 years. Employing more than 40 staff members in addition to hundreds of volunteers, the CEMC has brought workshops, contests and free courseware to multiple countries.

The partnership between CEMC and AIMS brings together young women from across 16 regions in Ghana for the intensive Girls in Mathematical Sciences program (GMSP). Over the course of nine months, participants learn valuable skills in problem-solving and innovation, along with knowledge of data sciences and mathematics.

The program connects participants with mentors including top scientists, educators, CEMC members and industry leaders in STEM and tech fields. Mentors lead sessions in areas such as problem-solving and exploration of potential career paths.

Comfort Mintah, a lecturer at the CEMC, was one such mentor that worked closely with participants of the Girls in Mathematical Sciences program.

"I didn't even know what I wanted to be in high school. After the Girls in Mathematical Sciences program, the students were excited about careers in data analysis and engineering thanks to the program. It helps students see amazing opportunities for their potential at an early age," Mintah said in a CEMC article.

Dzesisenu Yetorgbe Adzomani, a high-school student and participant in the program, shared with the CEMC that the program helped her "develop an inquiring mind and strong curiosity about science and nature." Adomani hopes to study architectural engineering, and is "driven to strive for greatness and to pursue the AIMS goal of becoming the next Einstein."

Georgina Amoasi, another participant,

said the program helped her "realize that mathematical approaches can provide a vast array of solutions to the same problem." Amoasi plans to study data analysis in the future. Other participants have reported an interest in studying physics and health sciences with the skills they have gathered through the program.

In the past, UW has shown its commitment to gender equality and empowering women and girls through participation in the HeforShe initiative. In 2015, UW set a goal to increase the number of women and young girls in STEM outreach programs by 33 per cent by 2020. In 2019, the goal was surpassed with a 34 per cent increase in female participation in STEM programs.

In addition to global initiatives such as the GMSP, there are numerous UW clubs and programs dedicated to encouraging the participation of women in STEM, including WiSTEM (Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), Women in Healthcare and Hera.co.

Through the new GMSP initiative, the CEMC will be able to continue its mission to lead the next generation of innovative minds to success using mathematical sciences.



SARAH MORASSUTTI

Tearless Onions Coming to Canada

Alessia Czerwinski
Reporter

Ever tried to cut up some onions and ended up in tears? Gone are those days thanks to Sunion, the first tearless onion now for sale in Canada.

BASF, a German multinational corporation and the world's largest chemical producer, worked on the tearless bulb for more than three decades through conventional breeding efforts. This means that the onion was not genetically modified but instead created as a result of a completely natural cross-breeding program. BASF sells the onion seeds to farmers, who ultimately produce and sell the bulbs to consumers.

Bilgehan Suer, the project leader for Sunions Europe, spoke in another interview with the National Post that tearless onions

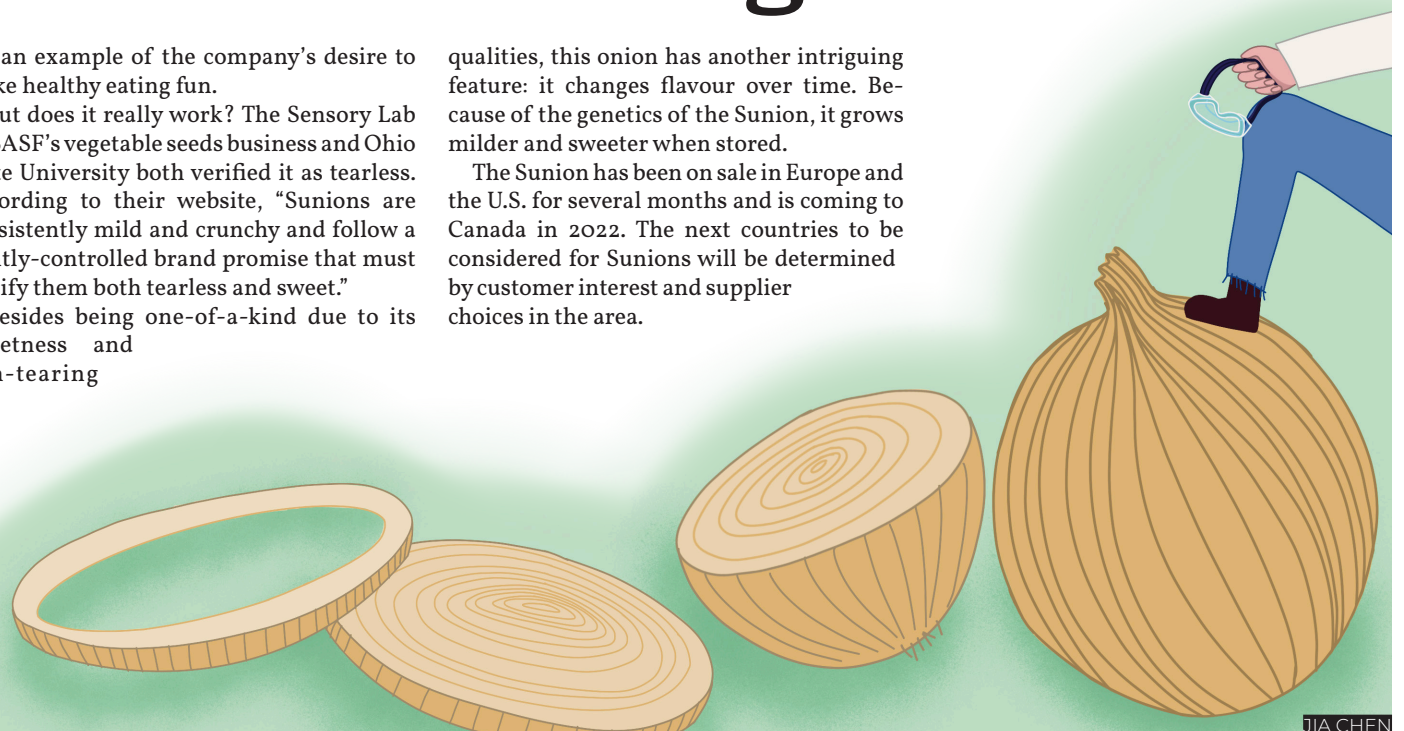
are an example of the company's desire to make healthy eating fun.

But does it really work? The Sensory Lab of BASF's vegetable seeds business and Ohio State University both verified it as tearless. According to their website, "Sunions are consistently mild and crunchy and follow a tightly-controlled brand promise that must certify them both tearless and sweet."

Besides being one-of-a-kind due to its sweetness and non-tearing

qualities, this onion has another intriguing feature: it changes flavour over time. Because of the genetics of the Sunion, it grows milder and sweeter when stored.

The Sunion has been on sale in Europe and the U.S. for several months and is coming to Canada in 2022. The next countries to be considered for Sunions will be determined by customer interest and supplier choices in the area.



JIA CHEN

sports & health



WRITE FOR SPORTS

Want to go to UW games for *Imprint*? You'll be able to talk to players, coaches, and fans! For more info, email sports@uwimprint.ca.

Athlete Spotlight: Carley Bosse Olivier

Suhani Saigal
Reporter

Carley Olivier, a member of the UW Women's Hockey team and a health studies student at the University of Waterloo, has been playing hockey since the age of three.

"I've been skating ever since I was two years old, and playing ever since I was three. Hockey has definitely been in my life for most of it," she said.

Originally from Sudbury, Olivier comes from a close-knit community that has always been involved in hockey. Playing hockey on a team has helped her polish several different skills.

"I've learned to work with the team and on the team. So my social and collaborative skills, I would say, have developed a lot," Olivier said. "I have learned how to communicate better. In hockey, if my linemate and I want to coordinate, we need to be able to communicate well."

Apart from being a student-athlete, Olivier also works as a supply teacher. Hockey has taught Olivier how to prioritize and manage her time well.

"As I got more competitive in hockey, my time management skills also began to improve. The balance between school, work, and sport can be pretty demand-

ing, and being able to have a healthy lifestyle, on top of that, is almost like an added stress," Olivier said. "But now, I know if I can get my stuff done ahead of time I know I'm gonna be good to go out and socialize on the weekend."

Typically, the hockey team holds practice twice a week, around which Olivier organizes her academic commitments.

"Usually, we have a workout session and practice in the morning on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sometimes, we have athletic therapy appointments and then, of course, classes," she said. "I'm fortunate to not have any in-person classes this semester, but in a regular year, I would go to class after practice."

The UW Women's Hockey team has been having a great season with a 7-1 record so far, their only loss coming in overtime at Western all the way back in November.

"Given the circumstances of us not playing for the last year and this recent small break, I think it just made everyone miss hockey a little bit more so we were able to get off to a good start," Olivier said. "Everyone was excited to be there. Everyone just wanted to get back on the ice and play. I think that has a lot to do with the success we're having this year."

The administrative team, too, has been making changes to give the athletes a better experience.

"Our coaches, our team, and the leadership group have been working together to create a new atmosphere which is really helping everyone settle in," Olivier said. "Everyone is getting a better understanding of the values and the system that we have in place this year."

The time away from the pandemic made Olivier feel an even bigger love and appreciation for the game.

"Now when I get a chance to play, I don't take it for granted anymore. It has been taken away from us before, so it makes me more excited to go to the rink every day and play hard and practice hard," she said.

"Now when I get a chance to play, I don't take it for granted anymore."

CARLEY OLIVIER, 4TH YEAR
UW WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM



UW ATHLETICS

imprint
THIS WEEK IN ATHLETICS
GO GOLD GO BLACK GO GOLD GO BLACK
WATERLOO WARRIORS



BASKETBALL

FEBRUARY 18 | PAC (TOTZKE COURT)
(W) 6:00 PM (M) 8:00 PM

VS LAURIER

THINK PINK



RESIDENCE DAY



EMPLOYEE DAY



M HOCKEY

FEBRUARY 17 | CIF ARENA
7:00 PM

VS LAURIER



W HOCKEY

FEBRUARY 18 | CIF ARENA
7:00 PM

VS WINDSOR

FEBRUARY 22 | CIF ARENA
7:00 PM

VS BROCK

THINK PINK



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Stay up to date with Warrior Rec programs, events, job opportunities, tips and tricks on how to stay well, facility information and more. Visit gowarriorsgo.ca/warriorsinsider to sign up for our newsletter.

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK
WATERLOO WARRIORS
BLACKGO
WARRIORS

MIKAYLA SCHNARR
HOCKEY
HEALTH STUDIES

JACK PHIBBS
HOCKEY
RECREATION & LEISURE

UW student, Madeline Schizas, competes in the Beijing Olympics

Safia Ahmed
Sports and Health Editor

Madeline Schizas, a first-year undergraduate student at the University of Waterloo, is currently participating in the 2022 winter Beijing Olympics in figure skating.

Schizas, native of Oakville, Ontario, started ice skating at age three and has attained significant achievements in the sport ever since. On the national level, Schizas managed to secure third place at the Skate Canada Challenge in 2019 as a junior contestant, followed by first place in 2020 and 2021 as a senior contestant.

The past year has been Madeline Schizas best and most critical year so far. In March 2021, Schizas secured thirteenth place at the 2021 World Figure Skating competition in Sweden. She also won first place at the Canadian Figure Skating Championships in 2022 where she was crowned the national champion of Canada in the ladies' singles category. This made her the presumed nominee for the Canadian Olympic team, and on Jan. 9 of last year Schizas was announced as part of the 2022 Olympics team.

As one of the 13 figure skaters on the Canadian Olympic team this year, Schizas is the sole competitor for the ladies singles event. At the time of writing this article, the ladies' singles event has not taken place and will be held on Feb. 15. She did however, compete in the teams event last week and managed to set the season-best short program for 69.60 points - bumping Canada up from sixth to fourth place.

As the youngest on the team at only 18 years old and an Olympic rookie, Schizas wants to make a name for herself and put on a good skate. "I'm aiming for the top 10 there and this was really what that was about for me. I am able to keep a cool head under pressure and that's what I did today. I felt the pressure just knowing that I was the last one

to go and knowing that it was going to be up to me whether we qualified for the team, but I think that

kind of fed my competitiveness a little bit and allowed me to give my most in the performance" Schizas said in a CBC interview.

Madeline Schizas skated on February 15th for the ladies singles event and you can catch her on on February 17th for the teams event.

If you would like to learn more about Madeline, you can watch her full CBC interview online.

Good luck Madeline!



VIA SKATECANADA

Recipe: Nutty Panko Salad Topping

By Ingrid Au

A good salad topping changes everything. You could have fresh quality vegetables, but if you have a bad salad topping you have a sad salad — I don't make the rules. But don't worry, I am here to help you with a topping that will add crunch and flavour to help elevate your salad.

Tools:

- Non-stick pan, or a dutch oven if available
- Baking sheet pan

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp of olive oil (1 ½ tbsp of olive oil if you are not using anchovies)
- 1-2 pieces of anchovies (optional)
- 1-2 shallots, sliced (shallot size can vary)
- ⅔ cup of panko breadcrumbs
- 1 cup of nuts or seeds of choice (e.g. pumpkin, sunflower, pistachios, almonds, cashews, walnuts)
- Salt & pepper (to taste)

Instructions:

i. Roasting the nuts or seeds

- Preheat your oven to 350 F. Evenly spread out your nuts or seeds of choice and drizzle a light amount of olive oil (about 1 tsp).
- Roast them for 10 minutes, making sure to stir so they roast evenly. It is important to note that different ovens have different heat settings and can emit heat differently, so I strongly recommend you closely sit by during those last 5 minutes to make sure they are not burning.
- Once everything is golden brown, immediately remove the nuts or seeds from the pan to allow them to cool. Make sure you do not leave them on the hot pan as they can continue to roast and scorch.

ii. Frying the shallots

- Slice the shallots, avoiding thin slices as they can burn easily.
- Heat a pan with olive oil at medium heat.
- Add the shallots and stir continuously until they are lightly golden.
- Remove from the pan as they should continue to cook with the remaining heat and oil, gradually becoming golden brown and crispy.

iii. Toasting the panko

- If you are using anchovies: Using the leftover olive oil (add more if needed), add your anchovies and allow them to melt under low to medium heat.
- Add the panko breadcrumbs and stir continuously until lightly golden.
- Remove from the heat and they should continue to toast with the remaining heat, becoming golden brown.

iv. Assembly

- Combine the roasted nuts or seeds, fried shallots, and toasted panko with salt and black pepper to taste. The topping can be stored for 1 ½ week in the refrigerator.

This crunchy and savoury salad topping is quite versatile. It can be mixed with some mayo or mustard and slathered onto a sandwich. It can be used as lasagna or eggplant parmesan topping or mixed with some popcorn. It acts as a go-to crunchy topping for any dish. The roasted, fried and toasted elements give a savoury depth to any salad. I would mix the crunchy topping with a salad dressing to bring the best of both worlds. Enjoy!



INGRID AU



Linguistic devices increase hate speech and misinformation



VIA WATERLOO NEWS

Suhani Saigal
Editorial Assistant

Jennifer Saul, an analytic philosopher and Waterloo Chair in Social and Political Philosophy of Language, has been conducting research on the role played by linguistic devices in the rise of racism.

Recently, Saul was named as one of the 10 most influential living philosophers of the past 10 years by Academic Influence, an academic rankings website.

"It's a nice compliment, and one thing that made me very happy was that there were lots of women and racialized people on that list," Saul said. "Philosophy has been so overwhelmingly white and male for so long that it was really heartening to see so many people who weren't white men coming out at the top of that list."

Saul's research uses psychology, philosophy and linguistics to analyze the increase in racism, sexism and misinformation in the US and UK.

"Back in 2012, I wrote a book about the distinction between lying and merely misleading, focusing on things like the way that politicians carefully construct their utterances that they can say something true, but is, in fact, incredibly misleading," Saul said. "So, I did a lot of work on that, and then in

the years after that, I got very interested in the ways that people engage in a sort of subtle racist and sexist manipulation."

Dog whistles are one linguistic device people use to code their speech, enabling them to signal racist ideology to others with similar opinions, without alerting those who don't hold the same beliefs to their racism. Essentially, dog whistles allow people to engage in racist rhetoric while still maintaining plausible deniability.

"A classic example of this would be talking about problems in the inner city. When you are trying to say something negative about Black people without mentioning Black people, it is communicated quite effectively to your fellow racists," Saul said. "But you can always defend yourself by saying, 'I didn't say anything about race, you're the one bringing race into it, I just talked about the inner cities.' This technique is called dog-whistling."

Saul was particularly interested in understanding how and why Donald Trump won the U.S. presidential election in 2016, despite being openly racist.

"All the predictions from political psychology would have been that he would fail and that his campaign couldn't succeed on the national level. If he was so obviously racist, people would reject it," Saul said. "So, I became interested in how he was suc-

ceeding in the election.

Saul identified figleaves, another linguistic device that allows for subtle racism, as a key contributor to Trump's success.

"I started to notice that along with the very obviously racist statements, he was also including what I now call figleaves, which are additional statements that are designed to reassure people that maybe it's not all that bad," Saul said.

In a 2017 article, Saul explained, "I use the term 'figleaf' because it is an utterance that provides a small bit of cover for something that is unacceptable to display in public."

One example of Trump employing figleaves comes from Trump's candidacy announcement.

"When he announced his candidacy, he said Mexicans are rapists. But then he said, 'I'm sure some of them are good people,' and that was all in the same speech," Saul said. "And that I think is something that's been added on as what I call a figleaf. This way, people who like what he is saying need not worry about supporting racism."

Saul believes that since the onset of the pandemic, figleaves have been used to inject conspiracy theories into political discourse.

"For example, when Bill Gates was under the radar for controlling people's minds through the vaccine, people were saying

things like, 'Bill Gates is trying to control people's minds for the vaccine. Maybe we should look into it, right?' When questioned, these people would then go on to say that they are not endorsing this theory, they are just suggesting to look into it," she said. "I think this kind of device is a very potent one and has had a really terrible effect on our political discourse in lots of ways."

Saul mentioned that this linguistic device has also been used to mask sexist remarks. Benevolent, or more covert sexism, is accompanied by figleaves that disguise the true nature of the comments.

"A benevolent sexist would say that women are wonderful and they should be put on a pedestal and protected and that acts as a figleaf in itself," she said. "Because this person is still going to restrict what women should be doing and then justify it in terms of protecting women and putting them on a pedestal rather than saying that they're not capable of it."

Saul is currently writing a book titled *Saying The Quiet Part Loud: How Dogwhistles and Figleaves Facilitate Blatant Racism and Falsehood* that explores the rise of racism and conspiracism along with the linguistic devices that have allowed for this to happen. She is also working on a joint project with the UK Statistics Authority on the misleading use of statistics.

Make the most of your reading week

Abhiraj Lamba
Arts & Life Editor

With the stress of midterms and assignments on the rise, it is great to know that reading week is right around the corner. Of course, for many of us, reading week will be followed by more midterms, so we'll have to spend some time studying but there should still be enough free time for other activities so here are some suggestions for how you can make the most of your reading week.

Study for your midterms/classes

As mentioned above, midterms are around the corner so it would make sense to spend your reading week preparing for them. Additionally, if you want to, you could also spend some time getting ahead on schoolwork, either by studying ahead or by making a plan of how you would like to approach the rest of the term. You can also extend this to your extracurricular activities, and see if any preparation is required or could be helpful there.

Catch up on your to-read/to-watch lists

University life can be hectic and that means that for some of us we have books, movies and TV shows that we haven't been able to get to, so take this time to do exactly that. Consuming media is an amazing experience that is not only fun but also often educational. However, we end up having to forego it in order to catch up with our academic and extracurricular commitments. So let's use this reading week to catch up on that. It sounds like a more fun interpretation of 'reading' week anyway.

Work on your hobbies

Take this time to work on your hobbies. Practice a musical instrument, write some-

thing new or learn a new skill. Of course, any of these activities will need more than a week to improve significantly, and you would have to spend some time on them during the rest of the term as well, but reading week is the perfect time to start building the foundation.

Travel

With the current pandemic this may not be the easiest option, but if you can then travelling is one of the best things you can do. Whether you take a trip to a different country or just to a local place that you haven't visited in a while, it can be an extremely enriching experience. Be it just a change of scenery or the opportunity to explore new cultures, travelling always has its perks.

Take Rest

This is probably the most important point. Take this time to relax and catch up on any



VIA PEXELS

lost sleep from the term. Maybe listen to some music, draw yourself a bath or just spend some time with your thoughts in-

lence. A university student's life can be very taxing so do whatever works for you to energize yourself for the second half of the term.







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Next scheduled post-mortem meeting:
 Virtual due to COVID-19

Next scheduled board of directors meeting:
 Virtual due to COVID-19

Imprint acknowledges that the University of Waterloo is situated on the traditional territories of the Attawandaron (Neutral), Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples. The University of Waterloo is situated on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. Therefore, Imprint recognizes and respects this land that it is situated upon.



opinion



HAVE YOUR SAY

Submit your letter to the editor or your community editorial to opinion@uwimprint.ca. Find more opinions at uwimprint.ca.



VIA PIXABAY

Letters from home

The importance of news from home for international students

As an international student, I've always found CBC, CTV News and Global News – three of the largest Canadian news sources – to be interesting. Often, there's little consideration of social issues and their impact on the everyday lives of people. The news space is cluttered with advertisements and articles that were cherry-picked to be easy on the mind. There are seldom riveting pieces of journalism that look at issues as more than statistics – pieces that break down and rebuild our understanding of the political, social, and economical systems in the modern age.

I came across such a piece last month. The editors of The Wire India, Devesh Kumar and Ayushman Kaul, wrote a series of three articles that explained, in depth, "TekFog." For those of you who don't follow Indian news stories, here's a quick run-down: "TekFog" is an application developed by Persistent Systems, an Indian-American tech firm. The government-subsidized company built the application for internal use by the Central Indian Government, who then used it to amplify stories that promote hatred against minorities or target individuals through harassment or even death threats.

Typically, articles that explore ideas surrounding the government's abuse of power don't appear on India's bigger national newspapers such as Times of India or Hindustan Times. They appear on much smaller publications like The Wire.

The "TekFog" articles themselves are amongst the more Orwellian pieces in journalism, describing the previous use of the application by employees who were contracted by the government. The articles detailed sexual harassment of prominent female journalists as well as the use of the application to automate 50,000 tweets from existing user accounts about topics such as "#Hindusriseason" – a nationalist hashtag designed to promote religion-based hatred and violence in India. The goal was to amplify the message enough so that active users would "join the conversation."

However, I would never have known about any of this if it hadn't been for co-op. In January, I lived with my family for a short bit, and it was my father who introduced me to The Wire. Since moving to Canada, as an international student, I have realized that it is difficult to follow the ongoing events and the news from India.

This difficulty might have to do with the simple fact that the daily processions of India are of little or of no concern to CBC, CTV News, Global News or other major Canadian news sources. However, the lack of connection we may feel to major news in our home countries could also be due to the lack of interest that we show in events back home – Indian provincial elections are none of my concern when I'm busy with co-op and online courses. Still, I can acknowledge that those elections will have an impact on the daily life of my friends and family, and by association, affect me too.

There is one more reason why it's extremely important to stay connected to the current events from our home countries – to bring about change. As students, I believe we are in a position more empowered than many would find themselves in. It's vital that we go out to rallies, advocate for our beliefs and fight for positive change. None of this is possible without an informed public, and that's the importance of being connected to the news from where we belong.

Avitej Singh
 2B Nanotechnology Engineering



distractions

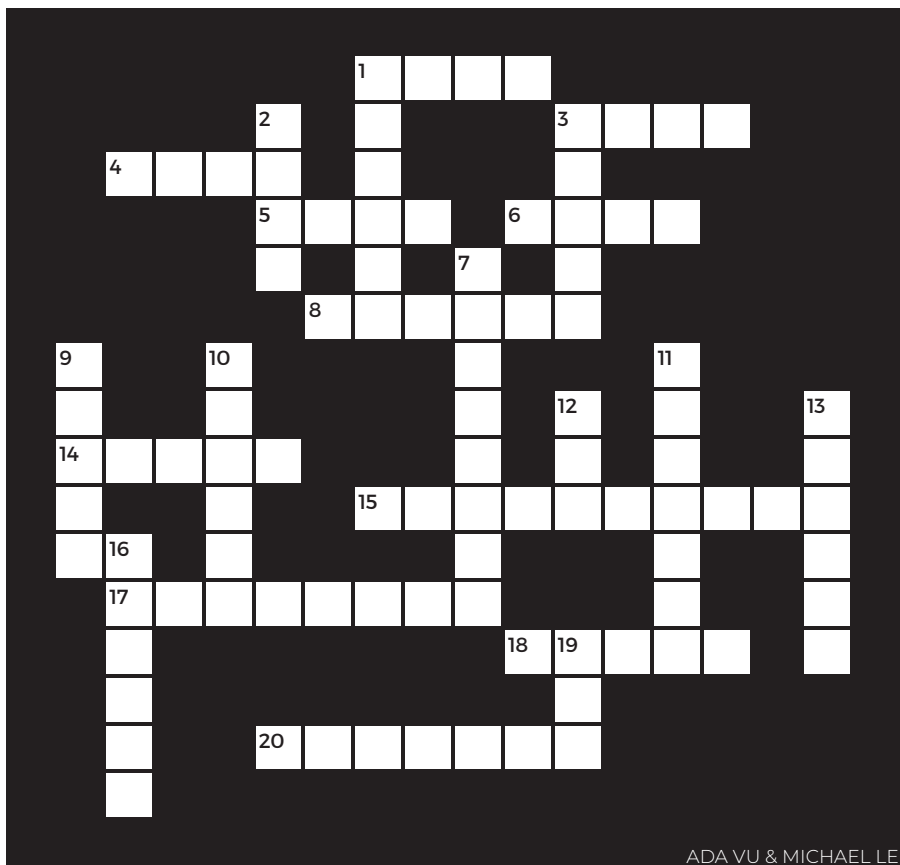


Q: HOW MANY BRONZE PLAYERS DOES IT TAKE TO SCREW IN A LIGHT BULB?

A: WHO KNOWS, THEY CAN'T CLIMB THE LADDER

VIA UNRANKEDSMURFS

Imprint crosswords | Riot Games



ADA VU & MICHAEL LE

Across / Gamer

1. A strategic selection of characters to win 19 Down
3. Agent from 7 Down who says: "You will not kill my allies!"; agent that is easy to play for newbies
4. Bonuses to your champion in champion select
5. Champion that has a big ice arrow that stuns
6. Powder's new name
8. The show about Hextech, Vi, 6 Across, and friends
14. You can unlock these characters from 7 Down, singular
15. Top 200 players in 12 Down
17. Mobile game version of 12 Down
18. Buy these to make your champions stronger
20. Top ranked players in 7 Down

Across / Normal

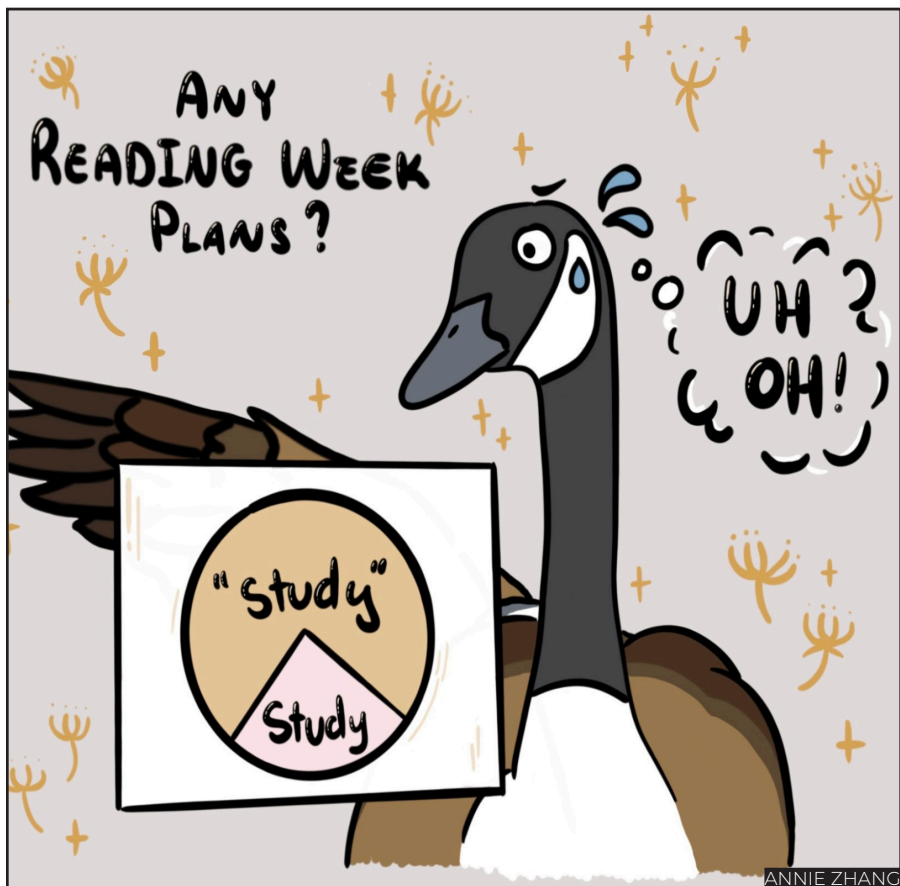
1. Short form for competition
3. An aromatic plant with green leaves used as a culinary herb; a shade of green
4. A mark with a magical significance
5. Pikachu's owner + "e"
6. "_____, you owe me a soda!"
8. The Netflix show made by Riot
14. 007 is what?
15. People who engage in contests or 1 Across
17. "____ animals" + The big crack in Africa
18. General term for a collection of objects
20. Glowing very brightly

Down

1. Gains intel for the team through tripwires and cameras
2. Bottom laners may take this summoner spell
3. Attackers plant this in 7 Down to win
7. A game that requires you to plant or defuse, also has a Snowball Fight mode
9. Spell to instantly jump a short distance
10. Gun that can one tap heads
11. Quieter alternative to 10 Down
12. Riot's first game, acronym
13. Riot's largest annual competition for 12 Down
16. Smelly rat with a crossbow in 12 Down
19. Alternative to Dota Auto Chess, acronym

Down

1. The "C" in the RC4 cryptography algorithm (less common spelling)
2. A synonym for recover and become healthy again
3. In volleyball, you use this move near the net in hopes to "end" the round and gain a point
7. Riot's shooter game
9. DC superhero who is speedy
10. Person that damages other people's property
11. The _____ of the Opera
12. A text message to convey that you are laughing at something
13. Some believe there are an infinite number of these in the universe; plural
16. A streaming platform to watch other players
19. Team Fight Tactics



ANNIE ZHANG



LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

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

JOHAN ALANT