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TAKE BACK THE NIGHT
KW marches in support of survivors of sexual and gender based violence

GOOGLE CHALLENGE
Team of UW students win one of top three prizes at Google Solutions Challenge **P4**

ORIENTEERING CHAMPION P9
UW student represents university at World University Championships in Switzerland

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UW Centre for Sight Enhancement renamed after university receives $1.5 million donation

OLIGOPOLIES IN CANADA P10
How the existence of oligopolies in Canadian telecommuications caused the Rogers' outages

A conversation with the new WUSA President Stephanie Ye-Mowe

COURTESY WUSA

news

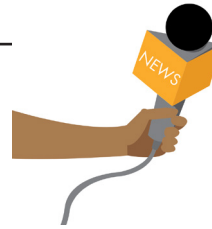# "I know what I signed up for, and I will follow through," says WUSA President

Abhiraj Lamba
Managing Editor

Stephanie Ye-Mowe began her term as WUSA President on Sept. 1 this year after a 16-month tenure as WUSA VP Education. In an interview with Imprint, she shares her thoughts on the new WUSA governance model, her plans for the coming year, and more.

How does it feel to be returning as a WUSA executive?

It's nice to be returning, honestly. You know, it's a lot easier in adjustment, I would say. I am very used to the work environment and the work and just glad to be able to continue some of the projects that we were working on last year.

How do you feel about the new WUSA governance model, and being the first President under this model?

I'm hopeful for the model, but I will say that there are some kinks that I wish we had worked out. You know you have this idea, this governance model in theory, but when it comes in practice — it's figuring out how to operationalize that, how to make everything work, and understanding where maybe the theory of the model doesn't quite apply in our circumstances, so I've had to do a lot of, I guess, catch up, reading on governance. I'm talking to a lot of other folks who have done this sort of work before to figure out what's best moving forward.

It's a lot of pressure to be the one setting the precedents for the future and I'm very careful with whenever I make a decision about how something should be structured that I'm writing down why I'm doing it, and what considerations go into play. I do think that for the next couple years, there's gonna be a lot of tweaking to make things work. So it's going to be an evolving process and I'm hopeful that the person who takes over after me doesn't just look at what I did and say, well, that's what we did last year, so we should do it again. They should be looking at my notes and thinking if something worked well, then we'll keep it that way, and if it didn't, then we can always change it. But it's gonna be a lot of playing around with things and seeing what ultimately works.

And that's exciting. Also, a little frightening, but I guess it's what I took on.

You initially ran to be the VP, but due to the lack of a Presidential candidate had to step up and become President. Has this affected your plans and goals for WUSA this year?

Yeah, I would say so.

You know, when I was running for VP, I always anticipated that I wouldn't need to get involved in governance work, to some extent. I just kind of expected to be taking more of a backseat role and providing my thoughts and assisting whoever ended up becoming president, but now obviously I have to take a more active role in that.

In the spring term, when I was VP Education, I was trying to set things up, for myself or for the person who would take the VP role so that their job would be easier. You know, laying the groundwork, and obviously now I don't get to benefit from my own laying the groundwork. So it's a little bit stressful in that regard. So a little bit disappointing that way, but when I ran for VP, I knew that it was my responsibility to take on presidency, if the president was incapacitated or nonexistent so I know what I signed up for, and I will follow through with that.

Speaking of, what are some of your plans and goals for WUSA this year?

The three big, tangible goals that I want to get is (a) getting us an ombuds office. That was something that we were working on before, with the university, and it's really important for helping students navigate petitions and grievance processes, but also just transparency and oversight. So that's one thing I'm hoping that we can wrap up and actually move forward with this year.

The other thing — I'd very much like a goose statue or at least be on our way to getting one. You know, I think, the goose is a very... It's a weird symbol in Waterloo, but I think it really embodies that sort of grassroots UW spirit and having a physical symbol of that I think would be really nice, and it was something that was tasked for us to do by a general meeting, which is the highest democratic body. So if students want a goose statue — it's a little bit silly — but I think it brings smiles to people's faces, so I would like one.

The last thing is getting a student-run accessibility service. I think it's really important, especially now. There's some work being done in the provincial government to create more standards when it comes to disability support within the post-secondary sector, so the university is in a place where it's going to be thinking and working a lot on that and I think it's really important to have a student organized group and a community.

AccessAbility services provides accommodations — sometimes they're really good at that, sometimes they're not. But there being a community and helping people understand that just because they have a disability, it doesn't mean that they are lesser than — it's a difficult process to navigate, and I think having a community there is really important to go through that and like currently we don't really have that identified community. So I think it's important for WUSA to step up and play a role in that.

**Would you like to share a message with the student body?**

I'll say that if ever you're facing a problem or you're noticing an issue on campus that it is really important to communicate that to WUSA so that we're aware but also being vocal about what you're experiencing, telling those stories, whether that be on social media or or through protest or elsewhere. It's really really important when I'm advocating to the government or the university or whatnot, that we have that student support backing that up. So you know, by responding to housing surveys or being vocal on Reddit, that there's a problem like that, is absolutely pivotal to letting me do my work. There needs to be a student voice. There needs to be something that I can point to to get decision makers to jump and do something.

And then especially when it comes to housing, like get out and vote in the municipal elections, that's gonna be really important. We make up a third of the city population. We're a powerful voice and we should be heard. But unfortunately we don't always get the voter turnout that we need. We didn't get the WUSA voter turn out that we wanted and I'd like more but if we don't get it, that's fine. But please, please, please... Housing is a big issue. There's a lot of students couch surfing right now. It's miserable for everyone, and I want to change that. But in order to do so, I need people to be talking about the municipal elections, and I need people voting. I need the candidates knowing that students vote. So please do that.

Some rapid fire questions for students to get to know you

- **Favourite thing about UW:** The Memes
- **Favourite thing about WUSA:** I really like the name. It's very fun to say.
- **Currently Listening to:** I'm listening to the sound of this jingle jangle thing [Points at cat toy], that my cat is attacking right now.
- **Currently Reading:** I'm reading a language lovers puzzle book, or actually that's not the name of the book, I think. Or maybe it is. It basically talks about linguistics and how different languages, depending on how a language is designed, impacts how you think and it has a whole bunch of puzzles and stuff related to that.
- **Last thing you watched:** I was watching American Horror Stories last night.

VIA WATERLOO NEWS

Centre for sight enhancement renamed
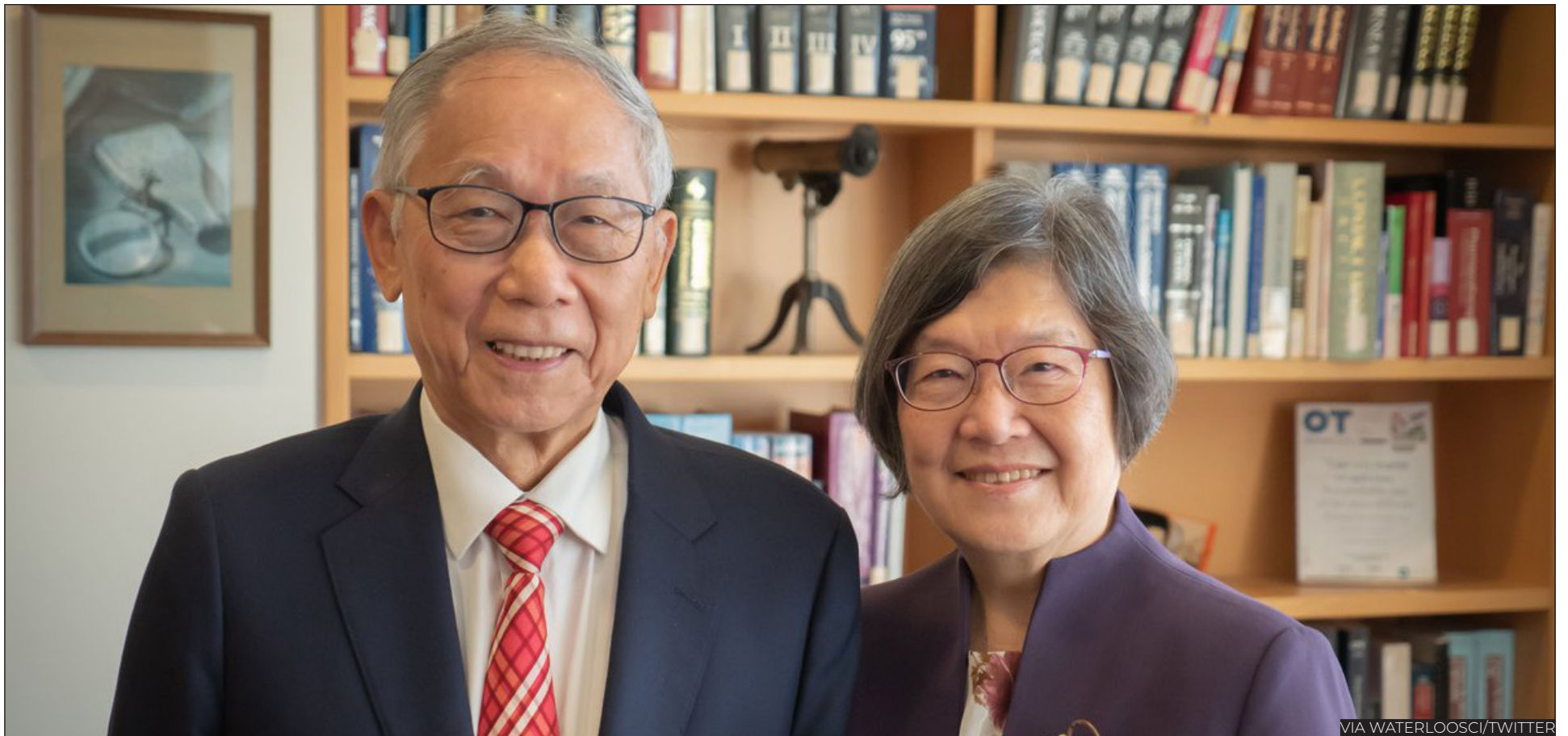
VIA WATERLOOSCI/TWITTER

Maahir Sheikh
News Editor

On Sept. 8, the University of Waterloo received a $1.5 million donation from former UW Professor George Woo and his wife Judy Woo. To celebrate this donation, the university's Centre for Sight Enhancement was renamed to "George & Judy Woo Centre for Sight Enhancement."

Born in Shanghai, Woo lived his early life in Hong Kong. An alumni of the university, he attended and graduated from UW after migrating from Hong Kong to Canada in the 1960s. After completing his undergrad, he attended the College of Optometry of Ontario in Toronto, the precursor to UW's School of Optometry, where he obtained his Doctorate in Optometry.

After finishing his studies, Woo worked for the Red Cross for two years. He provided eye care, primarily to children, in remote communities in Northern Canada. His experience with the Red Cross renewed his interest in visual function. Deciding he was ready for a new challenge, he enrolled at Indiana University in pursuit of a PhD. After earning his doctorate, he accepted a faculty position with UW's School of Optometry.

Woo became an assistant professor at a time when the School of Optometry was new to the university. This provided him with the opportunity to teach, conduct research and see patients. His research in low vision, myopia, contrast sensitivity function, refraction and contact lenses helped advance the field of optometry. His work was published in numerous scientific and professional journals. He eventually specialised in low vision rehabilitation, helping people who are visually impaired, partially sighted or have experienced vision loss that cannot be corrected medically or with prescription lenses.

Woo's eldest son, Stanley Woo, explained that his father's main interest in low vision rehabilitation was the chance to help people. "The idea is that … you can harness that [remaining functional vision] and help with either devices or assisted technology or training, they can utilize that vision to maintain their independence, maximize their quality of life and ultimately do wonderful things and continue on with their lives."

George Woo went on to found Waterloo's Centre for Sight Enhancement, as part of a broader effort to assist people who have experienced vision loss. "[The Centre for Sight Enhancement] was an opportunity to provide a multidisciplinary approach to care. You have an optometrist, occupational therapist, technology specialist [and] a counselor. It really enabled [the Centre] to provide a holistic approach to being able to look after the whole person so not being just a pair of eyeballs but also being able to look at the needs and goals of those patients and bringing in various expertise in a team based approach to really be able to tackle complex problems that visually impared folks were experiencing." Stanley went on to add: "There was clearly a need. It was sort of a niche that needed to be met. The impact was really quite self evident."

When asked about his father's donation, Stanley explained that the donation served as an opportunity to give back and support the work done at UW, to advance the field of optometry and magnify that impact. The money was donated as part of a much bigger project, the Waterloo Eye Institute. "The Waterloo Eye Institute is a clinical modernization that will enable the Centre for Sight Enhancement to extend its work. It will also allow us to have specialty clinics like myopia contact lens and myopia control, it will allow us to have a vision therapy clinic and a number of different services that will be a great benefit to the region. It will also be an opportunity for our students, who practice all throughout Canada and the world, to be able to have access to cutting edge technology and be able to deliver the latest and greatest in services. The Waterloo Eye Institute is really sort of the bold ambition for the school, to set us up as a centre of excellence and maintain a leadership position as a national resource in Canada."

In a follow up discussion, Stanley gave a brief overview of his father's career after his departure from UW. "From 1987 to 1989, he was the founding Head and Professor of the Department of Diagnostic Sciences of the then Hong Kong Polytechnic. In January 1997, Professor Woo was appointed Chair Professor of Optometry and Dean of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He became Associate Dean and CEO of PolyVision after deciding to relinquish the deanship after eight years, but resumed the position on 1 August, 2008. Professor Woo has retired from the university since March 31, 2011. He was appointed as Emeritus Professor by PolyU in the same year. He has also been Honorary Professor at China's Sun Yat-sen University, Tianjin Medical University and Wenzhou Medical University."

He goes on to add, "Professor Woo has served on numerous local and international optometry, health and research committees. He is Past President of the World Council of Optometry and the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO). He has served as Secretary General of APCO and President of the Hong Kong Contact Lens Research Association. He served as a member of the Research Grants Council of University Grants Committee from 2000 to 2006. He was appointed as a board member of the Hospital Authority of Hong Kong from 2008 to 2011. He has been a member of the Working Group on Primary Care under the Health and Medical Development Advisory Committee since October 2008."

In his 26 years at UW, Woo has had a lasting impact on the field of optometry. His work helped improve the lives of numerous individuals. In honour of his accomplishments, in 2006 he received the William Feinbloom Award from the American Academy of Optometry. This award is bestowed on individuals that have made significant contributions and advancements to the field of optometry.

science & tech

UW team wins Google 2022 Solution Challenge

Alicia Wang
Editorial Assistant

UW defends its reputation as a leader in STEM once again. A team of four first-year students from UW's systems design engineering program, Jinal Rajawat, Het Patel, Aditi Sandhu and Mehak Dhaliwal, took home one of three top prizes from this year's Google Solutions Development Challenge. Among the prizes the team received were cash prizes of $3,000 each, a mentorship at Google, and a feature in the Google Developers Blog.

The challenge invites students from around the world to submit a solution for one or more of the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals, using Google technology. These goals include striving to end world hunger, promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth and combating climate change and its impacts.

The UW team's solution encompassed the goals of achieving gender equality, health and well-being, ensuring quality education and reducing inequality.

The team described the feeling of being one of the three winning groups as "un-matched," stating, "Most of all, however, we were glad that Blossom was beginning to receive support from an even larger audience. Our goal has always been to create safe spaces for young girls around the world, and seeing our mission resonate with so many people is heartwarming."

The team's winning entry was an app called Blossom, built using Google's Android, Firebase, Flutter and Google Cloud Platform. In the project demo, Dhaliwal described the app as an "innovative, one-stop app for young girls to get access to relevant and reliable menstrual education and resources."

The demo then went on to describe how the app works to provide girls with the aforementioned information. The initial onboarding process, which asks for the user's age, topics of interest regarding menstrual health and basic menstrual information, helps the app customize each user's experience. The app's home page includes information such as the user's cycle tracker, related stories, and daily questions to test learning.

Several other features of the app were highlighted throughout the demo as well, including a period logger, where users can input information like dates, mood and pain levels. "[This feature] allows young girls to develop healthy period tracking habits while also allowing users to look back at information and more accurately predict their future cycles as well as cycle habits," said Sandhu during the demo. Blossom's period logger was built using the Table Calendar Flutter package, a calendar API, with Firebase used to restore users' data upon login. An API, short for Application Program Interface, is a software intermediary enabling two softwares to communicate with each other.

Blossom also includes a map service with filters allowing users to find menstrual products as well as other related health services like doctors' offices. Upon settling on a location, the app then provides details on that location such as the hours and products available. The map service was built using the Google Cloud platform which was used to call the Directions and Places API, which in turn uses an HTTP request to return different formats of directions between locations.

After the demo, the team entered into a Q&A session with judge Nilay Yener, a Flutter program manager at Google. When questioned on the most difficult part of creating the app, Rajawat described the team's efforts to protect the privacy of us-ers, particularly given the sensitive nature of information on the app as well as the sometimes taboo topic of menstruation.

"We developed Blossom with the focus of making it really easy for users to track their history and get connected with reliable information, and as a result, we decided to use Firebase for the data retrieval. However, from the user research we conducted, we found that many users were sensitive to a privacy risk, given the delicacy of the content on the app… As a result, we decided to add a feature that would let users log in anonymously," Rajawat said.

"To overcome this challenge [of not associating information with a user], we learned to improve our back-end technology by either retrieving data externally from Firebase or locally from the phone's storage," added Patel.

The Google mentorship will pair the team with a product manager to discuss their market and next steps. "Alongside technical improvements, our goal is to make the Blossom experience as accessible and user-friendly as possible," the team said. They also hope to partner with school boards and relevant youth organizations to expand the app and get user feedback.
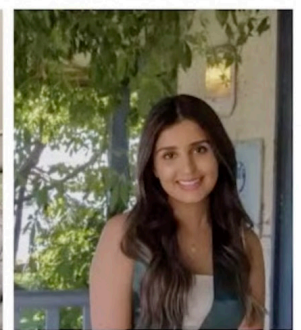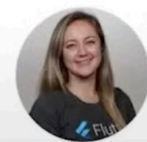

Aditi Sandhu   Het Patel   Jinal Rajawat   Mehak Dhaliwal

Blossom - Canada
University of Waterloo

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING   4 QUALITY EDUCATION   5 GENDER EQUALITY   10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Judge: Nilay Yener
Flutter Program Manager, Google

VIA GOOGLE DEMO DAY

Laura Mae Lindo, MPP for Kitchener Centre

O:se Kenhionhata:tie Land Back Camp members (from left to right: Maddy, Dee,

Take Back the Night: Conversations

Remy Leigh
Arts & Life Editor

On Sept. 15, hundreds of people gathered on Gaukel St. in Kitchener to pay homage to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

Take Back the Night is a global movement dating back to the 1970s, with its contemporary roots in the U.S. stemming from several protests that took place in New York, Florida and California. In conjunction, restrictions were placed on women in Belgium and England that prevented women from walking the streets at night. The phrase 'Take Back the Night' was first coined by National Organization for Women's Anne Pride in 1977 in a memorial she read at an anti-violence rally in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For the KW Region, this year's gathering marked Take Back the Night's 39th anniversary. The event typically takes the form of a march, however it can also come in the format of vigils and memorials, protests and rallies, and more. Ultimately the objective is to increase awareness, education, and dialogue about sexual and gender-based violence in hopes of supporting survivors and decreasing rates of violence.

Sarah Wiley, public education coordinator from Sexual Assault Support Centre Waterloo Region, opened the event with a powerful address, stating that although she is glad to see so many people gathering for the event, it is indicative that sexual violence continues to be pervasive.

"My goal is to build a world where we don't have Take Back the Night, where we don't need to constantly be supporting survivors, where we have over 200 folks on our waitlist, because sexual violence just isn't happening."

Organizations such as the Sex Workers Association Network (SWAN), St. John's Ambulance, UW's Sexual Violence Pre-vention and Response Office (SVPRO), The Healing of the Seven Generations, and KW Counselling Services, among others, were in attendance. They set up booths offering information and resources for attendees, as well as emotional support for those who might be affected by the subject matter of the event.

A lineup of speakers took to the microphone to address their lived experiences with sexual violence and what such an event means to them. Speeches included personal anecdotes of sexual and gender-based violence, comforting messages for survivors, and suggestions for improvement for the KW Region.

The importance of opening dialogues with loved ones and your community was repeatedly emphasized throughout the event, showing that ending sexual and gender-based violence begins with breaking the silence and preparing to challenge stigma and the status quo.

Laura Mae Lindo, MPP for Kitchener Cen-tre, discussed how sexual violence has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and how political leaders need to pay attention and be held accountable with regards to this issue.

"So here I am again, […] and here we are outside navigating the pandemic, and all of the data has demonstrated to us that the issue of sexual and gender-based violence has skyrocketed. Whether or not you want to believe that, […] many of the people that are in positions of influence around us don't. They don't want to collect the data, they don't want to find a way to take that research seriously, they don't want to listen to us, they want us to do very superficial things that will help maintain the status quo."

Lindo touched on her Nigerian roots through song and reference to Elegua, the West African god of crossroads.

"What I'm excited about when I think about Elegua being at the crossroads is that we actually have an opportunity to make a different choice. […] We have an opportunity

Amy Smoke, Jack)

Sarah Wiley from SASC

REMY LEIGH

on Consent, Education, and Respect

to make sure that at every level of government, survivors are sitting at those tables. We have an opportunity to make sure that the people who are sitting in positions of influence are listening to the people on the ground. And so my hope is that as we stand at this crossroads, we decide to do something differently, to not accept the status quo, to keep talking about racism, to talk about Indigenous communities, to recognize that things are way more complicated, to recognize that survivors deserve support."

Following Lindo's opening remarks, drumming and speeches were hosted by the O:se Kenhionhata:tie Land Back Camp, led by Mohawk Nation Turtle Clan public speaker and activist Amy Smoke, and three youth members, Maddy, Jack, and Dee.

To add onto Lindo's remarks of future steps to take, 18-year-old Oneida Nation Bear Clan speaker Jack poignantly said, "It is necessary for our survival if we can reform education on consent and sexual violence in our schools, we can protect the next generation and shield them facing a traumatic, continuous problem. Having these conversations are impactful for our future, and each of our voices are so powerful."

For Maddy, the policing of bodies might be inevitable, but that is no reason to avoid change and withdraw support and protection from fellow youth.

"It's not realistic to say that future generations are not going to experience [policing of bodies], they're still going to get dress-coded, they're going to get pulled inside, they're going to lose a recess to be told that they can't wear skirts or spaghetti straps or whatever it is. That's still going to happen. But I want them to be able to hold onto their youth, their childhood, to their feelings of safety just a little bit longer. Real change can happen — real change is happening — it's happening in spaces like this where folks are showing up to say, 'We're here, we're not going away.' But the reality is that it's going to take a while to get to that point. […] And so I hope that in some ways we can find space to curl inside of ourselves and feel okay."

The O:se Kenhionhata:tie Land Back Camp concluded their speeches with the Women's Warrior Song.

On behalf of SWAN, sex worker Willow Gaudette gave a frank and powerful speech about the marginalization of sex workers, which so often leads to exclusion in social justice spaces, sexual assault, unsafe work conditions, and murder.

"I could wax poetic about the healing value I feel my work sometimes has, but I'm not going to. I'm not going to justify. I'm not. I don't need you to like me and I don't need you to like what I do, I need you to respect my humanity and my right to perform my labour safely."

Following the speeches and performances, as well as sign-making, people took to the streets to march through Downtown Kitchener with the notion of reclaiming the night. Many attendees carried red umbrellas during the march in support of the safety and advocacy of sex workers.

Ella Sakai, a social development studies student at UW, spoke on what gathering for Take Back the Night meant to her. "It means empowering the people who need it. I know there's the 'all lives matter' [attitude] but it's just, you have to focus on those who actually need the help for those lives to matter."

Several speakers and students had reassuring messages for survivors of sexual and gender based violence. Jack from O:se Kenhionhata:tie Land Back Camp said, "Bravery doesn't start when you tell your story, it's [about] the bravery you have when you live on. You are brave for holding space for others, and that is more than enough, and we are here to support you."

Sakai added, "What you have gone through is a terrible thing, but you are strong and you can get through anything."

sports & health

Recipe: Sweet Umami Tofu

By Ingrid Au

The crispiness of a golden brown surface glazed with a sweet umami sauce is a dish incomparable to others. When I first started cooking, I found tofu to be an intimidating food to cook. Something so bland yet so complex with earthy flavours. As I dived deeper into the art of cooking, I realized the blandness of tofu provides a clean plate for any flavour. The sweetness of the honey and the umami flavour of the sesame – this is everything clean and flavorful in a dish.

Tools:
- Non-stick pan
- Bowl

Ingredients:
- 1 pack of firm tofu, diced
- 2 tbsp of honey
- 2-2 ½ tbsp of sesame oil
- ¼ cup of toasted sesame seeds
- 1 tsp of light soy sauce or Worcestershire sauce
- 1 clove of minced garlic
- A pinch of salt
- Green onions for garnish

Instructions:
i. Toast the sesame seeds in the pan until golden brown or the aroma of sesame intensifies. Set the toasted sesame seeds aside to cool.
ii. Mix the honey, sesame oil, salt, garlic, and light soy sauce/Worcestershire sauce in the bowl.
iii. Begin by pan-frying the tofu with a few drops of sesame oil until the surfaces are golden brown and crispy. Once golden brown, mix the tofu with your sauce and garnish with sliced green onions and sesame seeds.

Sweet and easy! This dish is quick to make and simple enough to throw into a salad as a topping or a side dish with some rice or noodles. Personally, it is the perfect meal prep dish for the days when I am too busy to cook. Feel free to explore this simple dish by adding some protein such as pork, shrimp or chicken. Mixing this tofu dish with some stir fry noodles would also be delightful. The world is your oyster, or in this case, your tofu! Experiment with what you enjoy as tofu is simply a friend that goes along with anything. So explore and enjoy!

VIA OMNIVORE'S COOKBOOK

THIS WEEK IN ATHLETICS

WATERLOO WARRIORS

GO BLACK GO GOLD

FOOTBALL
SEPT. 17 | 1:00 PM
WARRIOR FIELD
VS MCMASTER

CAMPS AND MINOR LEAGUE DAY
DONOR APPRECIATION DAY
EMPLOYEE DAY

W RUGBY
SEPT. 16 | 4:00 PM
CIF LOWER FIELD
VS BROCK

TENNIS
SEPT. 17 | 12:00 PM
WATERLOO TENNIS CLUB
VS MCMASTER

BASEBALL
SEPT. 17 | 12:00 PM/3:00 PM
JACK COUCH PARK
VS YORK

FIELD HOCKEY
SEPT. 18 | 9:00 AM
WARRIOR FIELD
VS MCMASTER

SOCCER
SEPT. 18
(M) 12:00 PM (W) 2:15 PM
WARRIOR FIELD
VS BROCK

M RUGBY
SEPT. 18 | 4:30 PM
CIF LOWER FIELD
VS YORK

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

CARSON HEPBURN
BASEBALL
REC & LEISURE

NICKLAS SUA
FOOTBALL
ARTS

Athlete brings UW to the international stage

Alicia Wang
Editorial Assistant

In August 2022, UW athlete Graeme Farrand competed in orienteering at the World University Championships, held this year in the Swiss cities of Magglingen and Biel. The championships have been held in various forms since 1923, and under the current hosts, the International University Sports Federation, since 1949.

Orienteering is a sport in which athletes navigate unfamiliar terrain using only a map and a compass.

Farrand competed in three events: the men's sprint, men's middle-distance, and men's long-distance competitions, finishing with times of 14:20, 54:16, and 2:24:46.

Farrand, a fourth-year math student and Hamilton native, described his start in the sport as fairly simple. From the age of ten, Farrand participated in running groups organized by Dontgetlost, a volunteer organization with membership in both the Ontario Orienteering Association and Orienteering Canada. These weekly activities also included orienteering, and as Dontgetlost also ran official orienteering events, Farrand began to participate more and more seriously in the sport.

On what he enjoys the most about ori-enteering, Farrand stated, "I guess freedom is a decent word, because there's no set path. And it is really enjoyable, the response to going through and reading your map and connecting to the terrain around you. That's a really nice cycle."

As athletes are not allowed to see where the race will take place for a period of time before the competition, Farrand explained how he attempts to replicate the event conditions by having a coach or a friend make up a course for his training. Elements can be added to make training more closely simulate the event, for example by removing trails from the map in order to prepare for a potential situation where the race area may not have trails.

"You really have to be focusing on what you're doing and the very specific process of what you're doing," Farrand said.

Farrand worked his way up to the Junior World Championships, which he explained helped set expectations for future competitions, particularly as orienteering is not as large a sport in North America as it is in Europe. "At the Junior World Champs, our coaches kind of expect that this is going to be a step up for you, and kind of help you through that. So doing a couple of those really helped you going into [the World University Championships]."

However, for the World University Championships, Farrand was not given a coach to accompany him, for several reasons including the fact that he was the only athlete going to the competition. This required Farrand to stay on top of logistical details that a coach would typically cover, such as quarantine information, bus schedules and call times, in addition to taking care of his regular training.

"Several hours prior, you kind of need to be aware of all the times you need to be somewhere, and you probably should know what all this stuff is, but having a coach there is really helpful," Farrand said.

Of his performance at the championships, Farrand leaned slightly more critical, recognizing that he wasn't at the top of his game.

"My physical speed wasn't there as much as I would've wanted...I might have overtrained," Farrand said. "It may also honestly be a bit of just comparing myself to others. It is a world event, and especially in a bunch of European countries, orienteering is much bigger and they do have a really high caliber of athlete, for orienteering especially, so seeing that felt like I had a lot to go, a lot to improve."

This year's orienteering winners were indeed dominated by European countries. Sweden took home gold for both the men's sprint with a time of 11:30 run by Jonathan Gustafsson, and the men's mid-dle-distance with a time of 32:10 by Viktor Svensk. Switzerland's Fabian Aebersold took the gold for the men's long distance with a time of 1:18:43.

Orienteering first got its start as a competitive sport in Sweden in 1919, seeing a growth in popularity over the last century particularly due to technological advancements. In comparison, Orienteering Canada, which governs orienteering in the country, was founded in 1967.

Farrand is not currently preparing for any upcoming competitions, and has decided to take some time off from participating in international competitions to prepare for changes to his sporting career. Farrand did not elaborate on what the changes might be.

However, Farrand does hope to see orienteering grow in North America, stating, "I think it's really fun, and I guess [orienteering] becoming larger would mean more races, maybe a bit more competition, which would always be good."

UW was also represented at the World University Championships by Carla Munch, who was selected as a coach and team leader for Team Canada during this year's golf championships which took place in July in Torino, Italy.

COURTESY UW ATHLETICS

opinions

The problem with oligopolies in Canada's telecommunication sector

Who remembers the double occurrence of Rogers' network outage? People across Canada were left stranded as they lost contact with everything. Customers using Rogers were not the only ones without a network — everyone utilizing Rogers' subsidiary companies, such as Fido and Chatr, were also affected.

Due to a problem with a software upgrade that affected a piece of equipment in the central section of the wireless network, the first outage happened in April 2021. As a result of the network outage, remote workers' access to the internet and commercial transactions (sales and cashless payments) were both disrupted. During this time, Canada was still in a state of lockdown where people regularly made emergency calls to 911 or hospitals to book vaccine appointments. Schools and universities were also largely online, so every student that relied on Rogers' WiFi or phone plans faced a disruption in their activities. For UW students and many other university students as well, this occurred during the Winter final exam period.

On July 8, 2022, more than a year after the initial outage, there was another occurrence — this time because of poor maintenance. The affected businesses were the same. Debit cards and Interac payments were not working, 911 calls went unanswered, and WiFi networks were failing in homes and schools. One provider going offline and subsequently taking down such a large portion of the internet and network raises concerns about how, if at all, this massive oligopoly system is managed. Oligopolies are big firms in the market with few rivals. They own most of the market and are price setters. This can be disadvantageous for consumers because they are getting neither variety nor cheap goods.

The recent Rogers' outage on July 8 was on the same day as a highly anticipated concert. The Weeknd was going to start his 'After Hours till Dawn' tour with the first concert at Rogers Arena that day. Along with a good chunk of the nation, the Arena too had no network. I was in line, holding my ticket outside the Arena when it was announced the concert was postponed (rescheduled to September 22) and two people beside me were in tears. I overheard a particularly loud and upsetting conversation where the people mentioned that they flew in from Alberta, having saved the money for the plane tickets by telling their parents that it was for books for their university courses. The person I was in line with told me he had trav-

eled from Hamilton to Toronto with no network (he used a Fido sim) and had no place to stay the night either because he had used up all his monthly allowance on the tickets and traveling.

Bell, Rogers Inc., and TELUS Corp. are the three largest corporations in Canada that control the country's network. 94 to 99 per cent of Canadians are served by their 4G LTE and LTE-A networks, which cover 20 to 30 per cent of the nation's landmass. As a result of lack of competition, high barriers of entry, strict policy controls, etc., they can and absolutely do charge high plan rates. If you compare Canada's phone plans to those of other developed nations like the US (about $60 a month for 2GB of data) and Australia (about $22 a month), you will find that Canada is quite expensive ($74 a month for 2GB of data). The money from the mobile phone business is roughly $29 billion annually and 90 percent of it goes to the Big Three. In an article that I wrote for the UW Economics Society, I explore the economic implications of this oligopolistic market.

If we tried to generalize the concept of these oligopolies and their somewhat outrageous pricing strategies, we can confidently say that we are all losing way more money than gaining the benefits these corporations are claiming to provide. Why else would Rogers, a prestigious networking corporation, have not one but two network failures? Did they not learn from the first time?

It has been noted in a CBC article by Benjamin Shingler that promoting or introducing competition among network service providers would reduce costs for consumers. To increase competition, it has been suggested that the network infrastructure become pub-

lic domain, as it is in Australia. Although this is a good idea in theory, installing the necessary cables and cell towers would be very expensive. In simple terms, the outcome of this will be higher prices for consumers yet again. For those in stable and high-paid jobs, these expenses may not weigh as heavily as they do on a financially struggling student. We too want better service and quality but the cost of that is far too high.

As students, we are keenly aware of the opportunity costs of our choices, perhaps more so because of how tightly budgeted some of our daily activities are. An expense such as a phone plan, something that is meant to keep us connected to our peers and families (especially if we are far from home), is something most of us are willing to pay a high price for. In this day and age where online platforms are thriving and interconnectivity is saving lives, going off the radar is not fully possible nor feasible. So, Rogers Inc. needs to improve themselves and provide more than just data compensation to cover their collateral damage, especially because they are aware that many people's livelihoods depend on their service.

The oligopoly market of telecommunication in Canada casts a veil of competition with the existence of multiple network carriers but we have seen through their illusion. Communication is meant to make our lives easier and we are willing to pay the price for that. But, we are keeping up the end of our bargain, it is high time the telecommunication providers make changes in their methods as well.
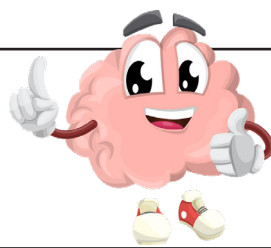
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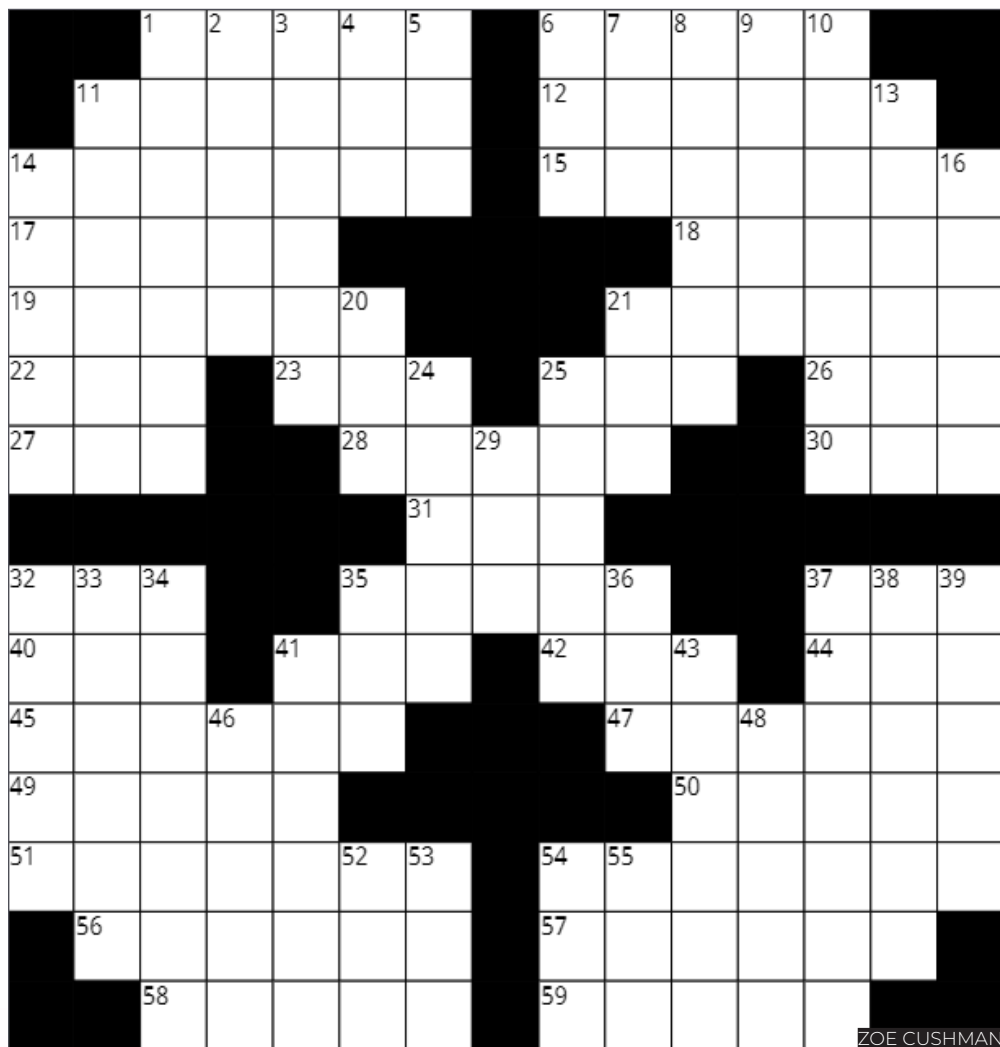
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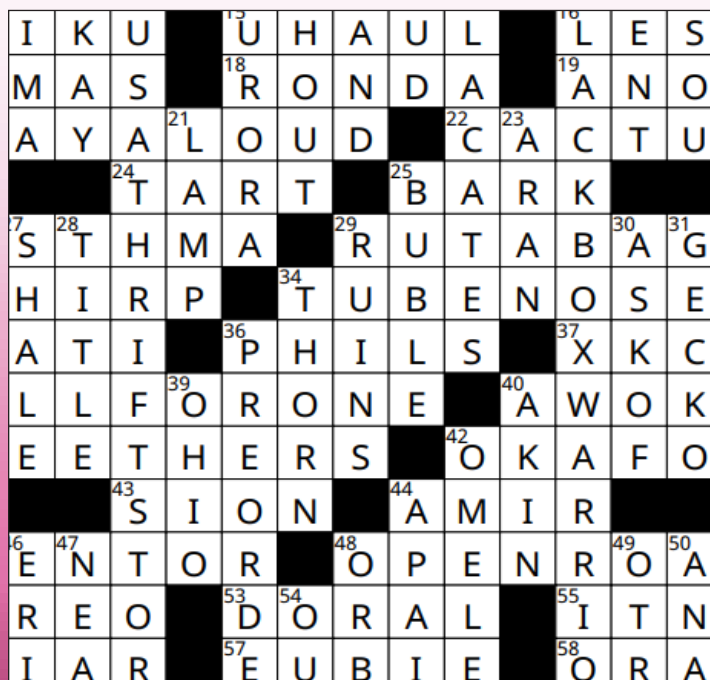
Across

1. Municipal dept. responsible for cleanup
6. Lesser degree focus
11. Location of white picket fences
12. Spherical maps
14. All-encompassing solution
15. Crams (Remembrance day saying)
17. Extra, briefly
18. Cover story?
19. Feudal lords
21. ___ the mist and coldest frost (theatre warm-up)
22. Key in the top left corner, or a popular music competition, for short
23. Apple built-in software
25. A kindergarten teacher's degr., perhaps
26. Fair-hiring letters
27. Wall St. purchase
28. Power problem
30. Subway stop (abbr.)
31. Billiards stick
32. Circle segment
35. Alex ___ ('After Hours' vocalist)
37. Suffix meaning 'somewhat'
40. Celtic sea god
41. ___ v. Wade
42. Game where someone's 'it'
44. 1959 Kingston Trio bluegrass hit
45. "you promised you'd be Tesla, but you're just another ___" (Penelope Scott lyric)
47. Dress with pant legs
49. Start over
50. "The East ___" (1960s Chinese anthem)
51. Common stim
54. Castrated stallion
56. Braun of 'Attack on Titan'
57. Bruckner and Chekhov
58. WUSA's anti-racism service
59. Namesake of UW's W'party residence'

Down

1. Upper part of a cruise ship
2. Go out with ___
3. Cell control centres
4. Wrath
5. Yet unreleased (abbr.)
6. Classic British sports car
7. 1969 Peace Prize grp.
8. Yellow-labelled brand found at NoFrills
9. Division symbols
10. Lives (in)
11. Cruelty enjoyer
13. Group within a group
14. Loses colour
16. Climber's spike
20. Universal signal for help
21. ___ Attorney (game subject to a recent onslaught of memes)
24. Sugar. In French.
25. Discharge
29. We often say that someone we admire had a good one
32. Vigilant
33. Sunfish with colorful gill covers
34. Fridge drawer
35. Extremely long time
36. ___ Mahal
37. This newspaper
38. Some Dutch masterpieces
39. What a gal has that a gent doesn't?
41. Curly pasta
43. Verdict for defendant who said "Your honour, League of Legends"
46. Brown tone applied to old pictures
48. Lesser-known XPG mousepad
52. Nintendo's Super ___
53. College sr.'s test
54. Needlefish
55. Hydrocarbon suffix

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

I	K	U		U	H	A	U	L		L	E	S
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		T	A	R	T		B	A	R	K		
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H	I	R	P		T	U	B	E	N	O	S	E
A	T	I		P	H	I	L	S		X	K	C
L	L	F	O	R	O	N	E		A	W	O	K
E	E	T	H	E	R	S		O	K	A	F	O
		S	I	O	N		A	M	I	R		
E	N	T	O	R		O	P	E	N	R	O	A
R	E	O		D	O	R	A	L		I	T	N
I	A	R		E	U	B	I	E		O	R	A

ANISHA KARKERA