



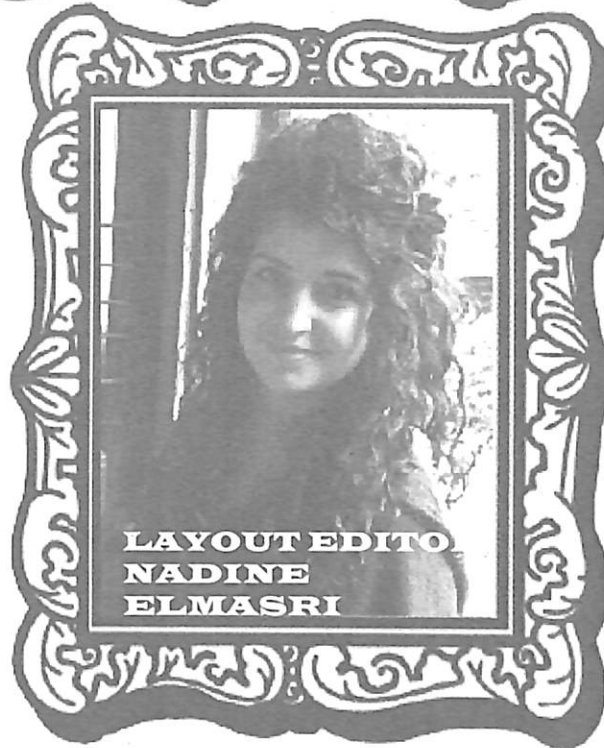
INTRODUCING

ISSUE 2 06/19/2011



the **B**OLT

Meet the Masters



Wanna join the family and write for the BOLT? Let us know! CONCORDIA.BOLT@gmail.com

Hey there, how are you? As you budding academics may have noticed, your friendly neighborhood student newspaper has undergone a drastic change since you last saw it. Mainly, we've changed our name and are now proudly The Bolt. What does this mean to you? Well for starters it means that we are going to be a lot more visible. Enjoy Thunder Athletics? Look for a member of our Super-Sexy-Action-News-Team there covering it. Have an event you want to be featured in The Bolt? Contact us and let us know about it. We feel that Concordia has some top-quality students and we want to connect with you. Which brings us to the Thunderbolt Community. What is it? You're a part of it, and I'm a part of it. The Bolt is a part of it, and the Thunder Athletics are too. So is the CSA. It's about making your University experience work for you. Connect at www.thethunderbolt.ca. And, as always, drop us a line at concordia.bolt@gmail.com, because we love to hear from you.



BIAS IN MARKING: ENGLISH TEACHERS GET A BAD REP

ANGELA ANDERSON

Have you ever wondered why it is so easy to get an A on a paper in any class but English? Have you ever hated an English teacher that just "doesn't give As"? It is tragic when you put hours of work into an English paper only to receive a B+, but that paper for religion you wrote in a few hours gave you an A- (not that I have ever done this).

You need to understand the major difference between the disciplines. Most non-English professors are concerned with how well you have learned the material in their class, but only slightly concerned with how well you convey those ideas grammatically, whereas English professors meticulously focus on how ideas are conveyed; after all, that is

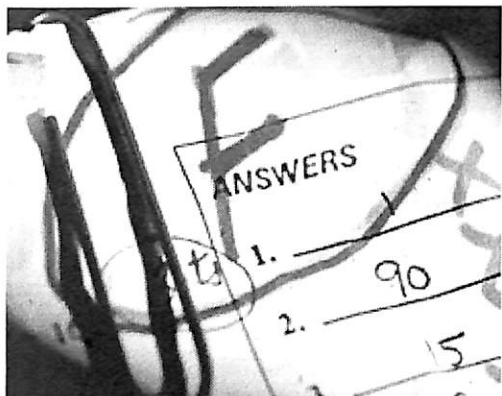
their discipline. Most English professors have gone to school a long time to earn the right to tell students in a few tedious 50 minute lectures, how to use the comma properly.

There is one good thing going for English teachers, which is MLA formatting. MLA is the simplest and easiest way to format and cite a paper. However, do not be afraid if your other disciplines ask for another style like APA or Chicago (I know, words that are probably foreign to you if you're in your first year of university). After writing a couple of papers in the other styles, you will feel more comfortable with them too.

I think students should think twice before badmouthing the English

professor that just gave them a B or C. It is not personal; think of it as constructive criticism. Make each paper better by reading your comments and put those skills into practice in the other disciplines. A word of personal advice: if you struggle with writing, Concordia has support for you:

- 1) Go see your professor(s)
- 2) Ask the librarians for help with research and proper citation
- 3) Use the writing center located in HA 115 (across from the bookstore)
- 4) Ask a friend to edit your papers and be sure to read your paper out loud (like I just did with this article)



GOT A FUNNY STORY?
Get it in the BOLT!

THE ADMINISTRATION

PAT CHAN

The student body is generally dissatisfied with their admin service. Complaints tend to comment on wait times, poor information, needless bureaucracy, etc, etc. There are even rumblings from the Student Association that even they would like to see these things sorted out. My experience with the Registrar's Office last year was no different. The people were moody, the forms were misleading, and there were massive differences in the opinions of advisors on how the system did and did not work.

My experience this year, on the other hand, was wildly different. I have no idea if this varies from advisor to advisor, time working there, or the date on the lunar calendar, but I had everything sorted out in one quick visit.

Renee M was the advisor on my case and, though we sat down for almost a full half hour, she was able to give me every piece of information I needed in a kind and concise manner. She knew the system inside and out, and when I asked her how

(con'd) long she'd been working there she said barely a year. There is no excuse for anyone else not to be as efficient as this green-horn. I can understand why they had the new girl shadowing her.

I spoke with the president of the CSA, Andrew Koning about the vast differences in my experience of this year from last, and he was quite interested. I suggested to him that if reform was needed that advisors should be paid on commission somehow based on quality of service. I have no idea how it would work, but I'm just the idea man. I urge you to email him at sapresident@student.concordia.ab.ca and suggest the same thing, if for no other reason than to see if the system works. Failing that, request Renee if you have any troubles to be sorted out with the registrar. She may hate the extra business, so be sure to get her before she becomes disgruntled too!

The Big Textbook Scam

Oliver Marlow

The start of the new school year is for the most part an exciting time for students. For returnees, it means the re-acquaintance with old friends and maybe a few "start-of-the-semester" parties. Freshmen can look forward to starting a new chapter in their lives and experience the thrill of university life. However, this part of the year also includes the dreaded visit to the campus bookstore to drop a big chunk of that hard-earned summer job money on new textbooks. While the experienced university student has gotten used to spending a fortune on this unfortunate aspect of student life, it can sometimes come as a shock to first-years: when you've never had to pay more than thirty dollars for a new book, that two hundred dollar price tag on the Economics 101 text can be a little alarming. Five classes does add up and after dipping into the grocery fund for a little extra cash, that twenty dollar bulk pack of Kraft Dinner at Costco seems to a pretty affordable way to feed yourself for the month.

If you were to ask a publisher why the cost of university textbooks is so much higher than other printed material, the typical answer you would get is that textbooks contain a lot of graphics and charts that cost a lot more to print than simple words. While this answer made a lot of sense to me at first, I decided to compare the price of a textbook with other types of books which contained high amounts of graphic material. The best example I could find was a published work by Dawn DeVries Sokol called "1,000 Artist Journal Pages," which, as the name suggests, is a one thousand page book of high quality artwork on almost every page. Judging by the amount of high-definition colour printing on this book, one might assume that it would be pretty similar in price to that Economics text. Actually, it's listed at \$27.50 in stores and only \$17.24 if you purchase it online from Amazon. Turns out that in the digital age, even high quality printing is actually pretty cheap, especially if you're doing so in bulk.

The real reason for the exorbitant prices of these textbooks is that their sale doesn't follow the ordinary laws of supply and demand. Unlike Dawn Sokol, who is only going to sell books if her asking price is reasonable in comparison to what customers are willing to pay for her collection of artwork, textbook authors will sell books no matter how high they jack their prices because the aforementioned Economics 101 student doesn't have a choice in buying the book if they want to pass their class. Therefore, as long as universities keep teaching out of the textbooks, their reputable authors need not worry about a lack of demand even if they choose to sell the books at twenty times the cost.

concordia.bolt@gmail.com

Steampunk

Madison Crenley

If you have become disillusioned with the slew of vampires and zombies wandering around the film and literature scene these days, you'll be glad of a trend which is becoming more and more prominent in popular culture. It's a movement called Steampunk, a genre of science fiction which emerged in the 1980s. After hopping over to Japan for a while, it's been making its way back west, influencing everything from theatre design (as in Twelfth Night at the Freewill Shakespeare Festival this past summer) to commercials to video games. Basically, Steampunk evokes a specific cultural context (traditionally Victorian England) which uses advanced technology. The aesthetic is characterized by period dress infused with bronze gears, clocks, gadgets, and, of course, goggles. But Steampunk as a genre has expanded into a culture of its own. Steampunk Magazine.com writer Libby Bulloff had this to say:

"[Steampunk] culture is not based only in story—it's about action. Contrary to what we often see on blogs and in forums, steampunk is inherently political. Daring to wear what we want and creating communities in our image is rebellious. Popular or no, steampunk is not commonplace. It is anti-establishment...Let us not speak only of ages gone by, of retrofutures and fantasy worlds. Let us talk about change in our time...Let us talk of the environmental impact of mainstream culture's technofetishism and of civil rights...Let us make real what we hallucinate on paper or online."

A professor I heard speak at a Con this summer explained Steampunk as a genre set in a physical world where technology is solid, complex, grungy, and beautiful; it reacts, she postulates, to a society enamoured with ethereal technology, what Bulloff calls our "technofetishism". For example, the communicatory function of a cell phone is performed in the steampunk novel *The Apparition Trail* by a miniature zeppelin with finely tuned gears. The individually handcrafted and time-consuming method of sending messages cross-country hearkens back to a time when vampires still slept in coffins and zombie-ism was a legend from the colonies across the sea. And I say, the sooner we get back to that, the better.

www.thethunderbolt.ca

Thunder Hockey Lends a Hand to Help Local Group

Karen Leonhardt



The Concordia Thunder Hockey team spent a hot fall day helping to move iHuman to its new location. The iHuman Youth Society is a non-profit organization providing support and programming for high-risk youth with drug addiction or mental health issues who are working or living on the streets of Edmonton. They offer arts programs in fashion, music, visual arts, and writing, and support to youth to make a transition into healthier lifestyles, jobs, and housing.

iHuman was forced to move out of their previous location to make way for a development project. Their new building will provide them with more space, but getting moved was a challenge. Eight members of the Concordia Thunder Hockey team an-

answered the call for volunteers, spending over five hours loading and unloading trucks with art supplies, fridges, furniture, and a whole lot of filing cabinets! A grateful Program Coordinator, Catherine Broomfield, repeatedly exclaimed, "I don't know what we would have done without them!"

The move was part of a new initiative for Concordia Thunder in which members of the team take part in a major volunteer event each month. Their connection with iHuman does not end with the move, however. Participants in the program will be invited to be VIP guests at a Thunder Hockey home game, another initiative launched by the team this season. Concordia Centerman Mike Wilson in an interview on CTV news had this comment: "That's probably the most rewarding part of it all – seeing who we're helping and seeing the end result of it all."

As the heat of the afternoon wore on and the team remained in great spirits, volunteer Karen Sutherland was amazed, saying, "I don't know where they get their energy!" We will have a chance to see that energy on the ice at our season opener, Friday October 7th at 8:15pm at Clareview Arena.

For more information on how you can help visit: www.ihuman.org

READ SEPTEMBER'S STUDENT HEALTH 101

WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

- **WIN SEPTEMBER'S \$1,000 CASH PRIZE** just for reading Student Health 101.

- **SOME GREAT ARTICLES** in Student Health 101 like:

- ◊ Studying: Have the Rules Changed?
- ◊ How new techniques can improve your grades.
- ◊ Fitness and nutrition tips to start the year off right.
 - ◊ University Without the Mess
 - ◊ Get Ready to Take on the World
- ◊ Why you should spend a semester abroad...and how to get ready.
 - ◊ UCookbook: Healthy Breakfasts
 - ◊ And much more...

- **IF YOU MISSED IT** – be sure to check out the special Back-to-School issue, with The Roommate Survival Guide, Get a Life Outside the Classroom, 5 Rules for Healthy Eating, and much more, at <http://sh101.ca/go2concordia.html>

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF STUDENT HEALTH 101 TODAY at <http://sh101.ca/concordia.html> – and **ENTER TO WIN \$1,000!**

Think about it. Please take a moment, as you absentmindedly thumb through this paper, your neglected textbook glaring at you out of the corner of your eye, to reflect upon the gravity of your present situation. You are in college. This means that you have agreed to take part in a shared, institutionalized project that will have a profound effect upon practically every aspect of your daily life for the next six months. This sobering thought in mind, ask yourself a simple question: why bother? Is there a point to being here? My intention is not to cast doubt upon the value of an education, but to test whether you and I can personally testify to the purpose of our presence at Concordia. If you were to jot down a few of your reasons for coming to school, would they be reasons that came out of deep personal convictions, or would they just be the tired old mantras that society teaches us to regurgitate? "I want a good job when I graduate." Yeah, yeah, we all do, and there's nothing wrong with that, but just for a minute slap yourself out of the stupor of an unexamined life and ruminate on your long term goals and what you are doing to achieve them. Now, I understand that the current pandemic crisis of identity that plagues our modern culture is a highly effective stumbling block for many of us who attempt a coherent answer as to what we want to do with the rest of our lives. But here's the game: This semester you can either engage in something which will improve you as a person, or you can further cement yourself into the laziness of academic apathy and the surrendering of your life into the current of social pressures rather than your own critically analyzed decisions. If you can't fully convince yourself of why you're in school, then let me suggest that you may be happier elsewhere temporarily. Hitchhiking around South America, for example, would be an adventure far more entertaining, not necessarily as financially demanding, and certainly more beneficial to your overall education than a year of school which you tackle with only marginal enthusiasm. If staying in school, however, it might be worth your taking it seriously. If you cannot bother to develop and mature that undeniable piece of reality we call "you," then

you effectively disregard your own worth. Don't insult your own existence through laziness; think of something creative to do. Go climb a tree, or maybe even show up for a philosophy club meeting every Tuesday at 3:15 in HA344. Think about it.



Concordia Music Opportunities.

Angela Anderson

I saw Dr. Hooper canvassing some music classes for choir recruits and thought some of you not involved in music classes would like information on this and other great opportunities in the music department. "The Concert Choir is certainly the main choir for students," writes Dr. Hooper. "In addition, there is the Community Choir that some student have participated in. Off and on over the years, we've had a chapel choir, a chamber choir, a women's choir and a men's choir. The last three have been off shoots of the Concert Choir. It all depends on the interests of the students and the faculty in a particular year. There is a lot on line at <http://music.concordia.ab.ca/>".

Concert Choir meets Monday, Wednesday, and Friday's 2:50- 4:30pm. After booking an audition with Dr. Hooper, you can register through the Registrar at the beginning of each year, and it is for credit. The

Concert Choir often goes on retreats, tours, and performs for festivals and concerts throughout the year. The Community Chorus is not for credit and meet Monday nights from 7-9:15pm and also sings at a few festivals and concerts each year.

Also offered at Concordia are handbells, orchestra, wind ensemble, and private lessons. Concordia also offers Music Education classes through the Faculty of Education and under the instruction of Jody Stark. This winter she is teaching Music Literacy for Children. Concordia also offers classes in theory, music history, conducting, and many others taught by the talented and dedicated staff.

Music complements academic studies, and fulfills arts discipline requirements. If you or anyone you know are interested in any of these opportunities or attending concerts please email or see Dr Hooper, or any faculty or student of the School of Music.

THE UNI RULES

PAT CHAN

So I was just dumped. Literally. Moments before I started to work on my bi-weekly articles my girlfriend dropped the bomb. She was a fantastic woman. Smart, clever, funny, beautiful, and an amazing story teller that could keep you enthralled for hours. Ex-soccer all-star, extremely independent, and played a mean game of pool. You could not do better than this broad, right? So why, you might ask, aren't I upset? Because, my poor, deficient freshman, we're in university. The women are never of a higher calibre than they are now. The girl I described above? In the uni setting, she's a six at best. I've been in school a long time, and the one thing I've learned is that you're not doing it right if you're not enjoying it. Not the lecture part, god no, but the weekends. I can count on one hand the number of months my girlfriend and I had been

together and included some of the most fun I've ever had. The key to the mutually beneficial relationship was that we followed the rules. The uni rules. From the word go, we both knew she was way sexier than me. No question. Somehow, she figured that I was way smarter than her, which put us on equal footing (that math never added up for me, but different strokes I guess). So we established ground rules: no attachments, no commitments, and no expectations. There was a mutual understand that we weren't looking long term and that we weren't maliciously trying to hurt each other, though we would be "exclusive". What resulted were some wildly good times and nice girl to come home to some nights. When the time to say goodbye came, neither were upset, or hurt, or disappointed. We both saw it coming and were both ready when

it did. Final year before graduation, we figured we'd be too busy to ever truly commit to one person the way we did for so long (three months). Don't get me wrong, monogamy is definitely for some people, and even in this little escapade I had to promise not to sniff around for a whopping 12 weeks, but Edmontonians as a whole tend to be leaning the other way. Kevin Cutting, an organizer of Polyamory Edmonton has recently revealed that multiple relationships simultaneously has become more common as well as more commonly admitted in our fair city. There are even workshops on the subject taught. Personally, it likely isn't for me in the long term. While I sit here in my 20s though, I'm going to milk it for all its worth. Consider yourself warned

Why (I Believe) Albert Einstein Would Cheer for Concordia Thunder

Karen Leonhardt

There is no historical evidence that Albert Einstein enjoyed hockey. In fact, as a German, he was far more likely to have boasted about his local brewery than his sports team. So why do I believe that Einstein would have been a Thunder Hockey fan (aside from the obvious connection to breweries)?

Einstein is quoted as saying: "Education is what remains after one has forgotten everything he learned in school." We know that the training of one's mind, rather than specific mathematical formulas or historical dates, is the lasting legacy of an education. The same is true of the qualities one develops through athletics. Discipline, perseverance, teamwork, and dedication to excellence are a few of the values that are instilled in athletes. These attitudes create leaders, and would (I think) meet with the genius' approval. In Einstein's words, "Weakness of attitude becomes weakness of character."

Every hockey player knows that an important part of their program is giving back: not only mentoring younger players in skills and winning attitudes, but by being a contributing member of the community. Einstein knew the value of this when he said, "A person starts to live when he can live outside himself."

Last spring, when our hockey program was in jeopardy, I was asked to provide some sort of measure of the value of our team. That's not easy to do. The payoffs of hockey extend beyond the ice into the stands when students, faculty, staff, alumni, and families join together to celebrate victories and agonize over defeats. What is the dollar value of school spirit? What is the economic benefit of developing dedicated leaders? Einstein understood something of this, judging by this sign which hung in his office in Princeton: "Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts."



The Concordia English Department sponsors...

A Clerihew Poetry Contest

****Prizes**** ... Fame ... Silliness... what more do you want?

Poetry doesn't have to be dull, profound, or even moving. It can also be short, witty, and funny. The Clerihew is a poem that is all of these things. Here are the rules:

1. It is only 4 lines long.
2. It only uses two rhymes – lines 1 and 2 rhyme with each other, and so do lines 3 and 4.
3. It has to be about somebody famous (whose name is mentioned in line 1)
4. It should be biographical (but don't worry, you can make it up)
5. It should be funny (obviously!)

Here are some examples to inspire you:

Sir James Dewar
 is smarter than you are
 None of you asses
 Can liquify gases.

Ernest Hemingway
 Disliked lemonade.
 He would rather sip a martini
 With Mussolini.

As you can see, writing a clerihew is easy. So submit your entries (a maximum of 3 per person) by November 1st, 2011 (email them to conrad.vandyk@concordia.ab.ca). All students are welcome to participate and you can write on any famous person you like. Clever rhymes are appreciated, but the most important thing is wit!

Prizes: 1st Place: 75\$ Amazon gift certificate;
 2nd Place: 50\$ Amazon gift certificate; 3rd place: 25\$ Amazon gift certificate.

Fame: The winners (and likely some other entries) will be published in the Blue and White and on our website.

Silliness: available to everyone.

The Bolt Asked:

There is a **ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE** and you may choose only one of the following three butt-kicking characters as your sidekick. You choose

- a) Kevin McAllister, the kid from Home Alone
- b) Ron Burgundy of Anchorman fame
- c) Inspector Clouseau (but only the original)

Concordia Answered:

37% chose Kevin McAllister

17% chose Ron Burgundy

46% chose Inspector Clouseau

Honorable mention:

One inventive respondent chose Superman, and while the B&W commends your originality (and choice of character), we hope that you find a more conventional approach to test taking during midterms or finals.

Now we want to know:

A race of intergalactic space aliens have descended upon the earth and are demanding the **SACRIFICE** of the most celebrated earthling. In a bid to rid the world of perhaps the **MOST ANNOYING CELEBRITY** ever, you choose to send:

- a) Tom Cruise. Scientology? Jumping on couches? No more, please.
- b) Paris Hilton. That's not hot.
- c) Any person who started off as a reality TV star, lost, then was featured on Dancing with The Stars, and is now currently participating in Dr. Drew's Celebrity Rehab.
- d) The guys from Hedley. We do not need to see any more of your rear ends. Please stop. Please.

Send your answer to concordia.bolt@gmail.com