

THE TIMES TRIBUNE

NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA DEBATE SOCIETY

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Editor: Nicholas Tam

WINTER TERM IS ICUMEN IN

KYLE KAWANAMI, PRESIDENT

Welcome back, everyone! Last semester was a very successful one for the U of A. In addition to winning every tournament held in Western Canada (Sharon and James at Dief, Stephanie and Alex at Hugill, Roman at Fall Open), we also broke teams in other regions (James at Chancellors in Queen's, Stephanie and Julia at the BP Championships in Toronto).

Our string of successes culminated with Stephanie and Alex advancing to octo-finals at the World Universities Debating Championship in Malaysia, marking only the second time that Alberta has broken at Worlds, and the third time any Western Canadian school has done so. U of A debaters also brought home hardware for Top Speaker (Alex at Hugill and Roman at Fall Open) as well as a public speech victory (Sharon at Hugill).

This coming semester also promises to be quite eventful. The UADS is sending teams to compete at McGill Winter Carnival, as well as the North American Championships at Cornell. Additionally, the Western Canadian Championships (McGoun) are being

held in Calgary this year on the weekend of 4-6 February. Pacific Cup is being held in Vancouver on the weekend of 18-20 February. It promises to be very competitive with the added bonus that it takes place in the gentler climate of the coast. Finally, the Shumiatcher Cup, which as always promises to be a good time, will be taking place in Regina over the weekend of 4-6 March.

In addition, this semester the UADS has the honour of hosting the Canadian National Championships (18-20 March). Lots of judges and other logistics volunteers will be required, as we will be seeing teams come in droves from across the country. This is a chance to see the best debaters in the country compete against one another for Canada's most coveted debating prize right here in Edmonton, an opportunity that should not be missed.

As with last semester, we will continue to run regular practice meetings Wednesdays at 5pm in Humanities Centre 2-11 until the end of the academic year.

THIRD TIME'S THE CHARM

SHARON OHAYON

For the third time in the history of the tournament, the University of Alberta has the privilege of hosting the CUSID National Debating Championships. With over 50 teams from over 15 universities anticipated to attend, hopefully you've remembered to book off the weekend of 18-20 March so that you can help run the tournament. Here is your chance to volunteer and put on an amazing show!

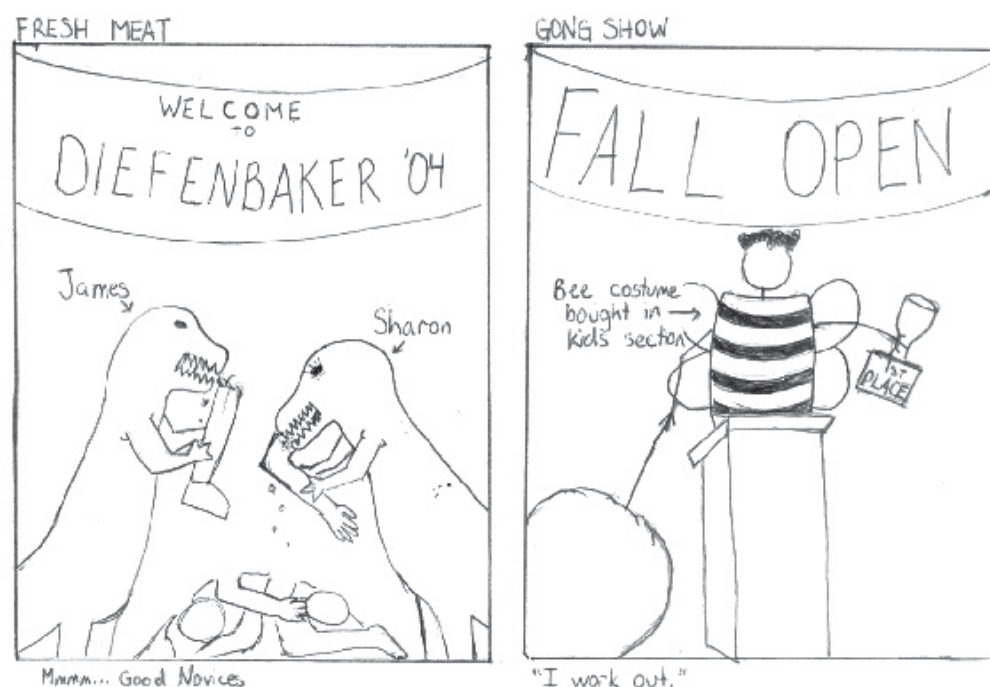
Prior to Nationals, we need help with fundraising. We also need someone who wants to help out with creating and maintaining a website. If you are interested let Sharon know (aviva83@hotmail.com).

We also will need billets for the Thursday and Sunday of Nationals (17 and 21 March) in order to accommodate attendees who are arriving early or departing late. If you are available, we desperately need places. Furthermore, if you are able to drive people from the airport on Thursday or Friday, contact Sharon.

During Nationals itself, we need judges. We need lots of judges! We currently project that we will require 70 judges, so keep Friday and Saturday open. Make sure your friends keep those days open too. See if your acquaintances, neighbours, and nearby strangers are free. We need judges. We will be offering judges' training sessions at the regular Wednesday meetings leading up to Nationals, as well as the adjudication briefings on the Friday evening the tournament commences.

And for those not interested in judging, we also will need people to act as runners at Nationals, as well as people helping with food.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, or if you have any questions, e-mail Sharon (aviva83@hotmail.com). There will be other volunteer opportunities coming up, so keep checking the UADS website to find out more.



MEMBERSHIPS: ELECTABLE AND DELECTABLE

NICHOLAS TAM

If you have not yet purchased a UADS membership, remember that single-term memberships are still available for \$15 until the elections for next year's club executive in late March. While memberships are not required to show up and participate in regular club meetings or volunteer at club events, they are necessary for those who wish to represent Alberta at an external

tournament within the semester.

A membership will entitle you to discounts at local events such as Funspeak, and qualify you for subsidy money (along with a requirement that you have volunteered in at least two events this season).

You also need a membership card if you are considering running or voting in the executive elections. The five positions open for contention are President, Vice President, Treasurer, Internal Director and External Director. You can read the descriptions of the various duties these positions entail in Article III of the Constitution, which is available on the club website (the Club Info section).

If you have further questions, direct them to the current executive. And remember, members are welcome to attend executive meetings and see what business we are conducting; ask Kyle for dates and times.

Next season's Member-at-Large and Novice Member-at-Large will be elected in September; this year, you chose **James Crossman** and **Simina Ionescu-Mocanu**, respectively.

THERE'S MORE ON THE BACK!

Read about registering for upcoming events, Alberta's Fall winning streak and the other accomplishments our competitors have made.

QUOTABLE

"Just because people are assets, it doesn't mean they don't have feelings."

— Sharon Ohayon

PLAN AROUND THIS TIMETABLE

Jan. 21-23	Winter Carnival McGill University
Jan. 28-30	North American Cornell University, Ithaca NY
Feb. 4-6	McGoun Cup (Western Championship) University of Calgary
Feb. 18-20	Pacific Cup University of British Columbia
March	In-house tournament Wednesday meetings
Mar. 4-6	Shumiatcher Cup University of Regina
Mar. 11-13	French National Championship Université de Sherbrooke
Mar. 18-20	CUSID National Championship University of Alberta
Mar. 30	UADS Executive Elections (tentative date)
April 8	Funspeak wrap party (tentative date)

PRACTICE MAKES PARFAIT

NICHOLAS TAM

Most of our meetings are just open practice rounds, but that's not all we do.

In case one night a week isn't enough debating in your life, we are presently considering the return of the **second weekly meeting** for those of you who either want more pre-tournament practice or cannot make it to most Wednesdays. Currently we are looking at holding the

extra meeting on Thursday evenings, but exec is still open to suggestions of what works best. Expect a formal announcement once a time and venue have been decided upon.

After Reading Week, in the club meetings leading up to Nationals, we will also be holding the annual **in-house tournament**. Traditionally, this has consisted of three weeks of debating with randomly selected partners that change every round;

most participants will also judge one round. The top four speakers advance to the final.

These meetings are worth attending regardless of whether you intend to compete, as we are also using them to train you, and any friends or passing strangers you bring along, in the Fine Art of Baloney Detection—that is, judging—so we have as strong a judging pool as possible when we host Nationals in late March.

UADS TAKES DEBATE WORLD BY STORM

A TERM OF TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS AND TONS OF TROPHIES

COMPILED BY SHARON OHAYON

The UADS has accomplished an amazing feat: U of A debaters won every CUSID West tournament last semester, not to mention advancing to out- rounds at every tournament they have attended. And for only the second time in the history of the event, an Alberta team made it to a knockout round at the World Universities Debating Championships. Many congratulations are in order, so in chronological order, here is a synopsis of U of A's performance on the tournament scene:

DIEFENBAKER CUP

University of Saskatchewan
(15-17 October)

The UADS sent four and a half teams to compete at the University of Saskatchewan's annual Diefenbaker Cup. The top story was the team of **Sharon Ohayon** and **James Crossman**, who went 5-0 in regular rounds and proceeded to win the tournament undefeated, besting a prominent team from the University of Saskatchewan in a final round case about sending AIDS drugs to the third world. Sharon was also the 3rd place speaker in the tournament.

As well, **Maria Chen** advanced to the public speaking final—in her first external University tournament, no less—and delivered a highly entertaining speech.

BP CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hart House, U of T
(22-24 October)

Stephanie Wanke and **Julia Lisztwan** advanced to the final round and placed 4th at the inaugural British Parliamentary Championships, hosted this year by the University of Toronto. Stephanie was the 7th place speaker and Julia was the 29th place speaker.

Chris Jones, while a member of the UADS, attended the tournament representing Athabasca University. Chris and his partner, **Monica Ferris**, also did very well—placing 13th in overall team standings and narrowly missing the break to semi-finals. Chris was the 24th place speaker.

All three members of our contingent placed in the top third of the tournament in speaking points.

FALL OPEN

University of Calgary
(29-31 October)

The U of A sent a very large contingent of debaters to Calgary to compete at this year's Pro-Am tournament. It was a great learning experience for everyone, and the U of A fared very well.

Roman Kotovych and his novice partner from SFU, **Xenia Menzies**, defeated a Calgary team in the final to win the tournament, making this the second year running where the U of A has won Fall Open. The team of **Mat Johnson** and **Maria Chen** advanced to semi-finals, and the team of **Julia Lisztwan** and **Alan Cliff** appeared in quarterfinals.

Roman Kotovych was also the top speaker at this tournament. Stephanie Wanke placed third.

Stef also finished third in the public speaking competition; **Sharon Ohayon** and **Veronique Hill** were both finalists.

CHANCELLOR'S CUP

Queen's University
(29-31 October)

While most of the UADS was competing in Calgary, one of our members flew across the country to represent the U of A in Kingston. This prestigious tournament attracted 50 teams from across Canada as well as competitors all over the world, from the United Kingdom to Romania.

Alberta was represented by **James Crossman**, who debated with **Joanna Nairn** from the University of Toronto and advanced to quarterfinals. James was also the 15th placed speaker in a field of 100 debaters.

HUGILL CUP

University of Alberta
(12-14 November)

With a four team contingent from Alaska and an Australian delegation, this year's Hugill Cup was a prestigious and truly international tournament. Debating in British Parliamentary style, the format used at Worlds, our debaters represented us well at the UADS' home tournament.

Stephanie Wanke and **Alex Ragan** won the tournament, making it the U of A's second victory at Hugill in a row. The teams of **Sharon Ohayon / Mat Johnson** and **Roman Kotovych / Julia Lisztwan** advanced to the finals, while **Nick Tam** and **Jung-Suk Ryu** made it to the semi-final round.

Alex Ragan was the top speaker, with Stef Wanke, Mat Johnson, and Roman Kotovych placing second through fourth, respectively.

As well, Sharon Ohayon won the public speaking competition.

WORLD UNIVERSITIES DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

(27 December - 3 January)

During the winter holidays, three UADS members traveled to Multimedia University in Malaysia to represent the University of Alberta at the 2005 World University Debating Championships.

Stephanie Wanke and **Alex Ragan** advanced to the octo-finals, meaning that they finished in the top 32 teams among the 312 participating, in the largest World Championships in the history of the competition. **Raj Bhui** also attended Malaysia Worlds as an adjudicator.

This is only the second time that the UADS has had a team advance to the knockout rounds: Stephanie and Alex reprised their earlier success as Alberta's first breaking team at Worlds (Toronto 2002), this time amidst an even more competitive field. Congratulations!

FUN WITH BYLAWS

CHRIS JONES

As those of you who've been around the club for a while know, we've been looking at incorporating as a society. This is likely to help fundraising, and gives the club an independent legal existence apart from its members (this is a good thing). With that said, most people won't notice any changes to the club.

As a society, we'd be required to file some fairly simple paperwork with the province each year, and elect a board of directors to handle the society's business between general meetings. What we're currently thinking of is having the club executive be that board of directors, in addition to its current duties: there really isn't enough in the way of oversight needed to justify electing separate people for a low-volume job.

To date we're also pretty happy with how exec is set up, not having heard any major suggestions for changing the responsibilities of exec members, adding new positions, or downsizing the body. With that said, we certainly welcome any suggestions you have for clarifying responsibilities or fixing problems you perceive.

As part of the transition to society status, should that be approved by the membership over the next few months, we'll also be simplifying and clarifying our bylaws. There are some aspects of the bylaws that don't reflect how we do business as a club anymore (for example, the summer steering committee), and it's time to clean those up. As the proposal gels, expect to see a draft set of bylaws for your consideration.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

Winter Carnival

McGill University (21-23 January)

Registration is closed for this tournament; the UADS will be sending 2.5 teams.

North American Debating Championships

Cornell University, Ithaca NY
(28-30 January)

Registration is closed for this tournament; the UADS is sending one team.

McGoun Cup

University of Calgary (4-6 February)

Registration is open until 21 January. We want to send a large contingent. If you want to go as a debater or a judge, e-mail Stephanie Wanke (sawanke@ualberta.ca). We need to send a certain quota of judges, so don't hesitate to sign up.

Pacific Cup

University of British Columbia
(18-20 February)

Registration is open until 1 February. This tournament promises to be a blast, and it falls on the first weekend of Reading Week for your vacationing convenience. If you are interested in debating or judging at this tournament, e-mail Stephanie.

Shumiatcher Cup

University of Regina (4-6 March)

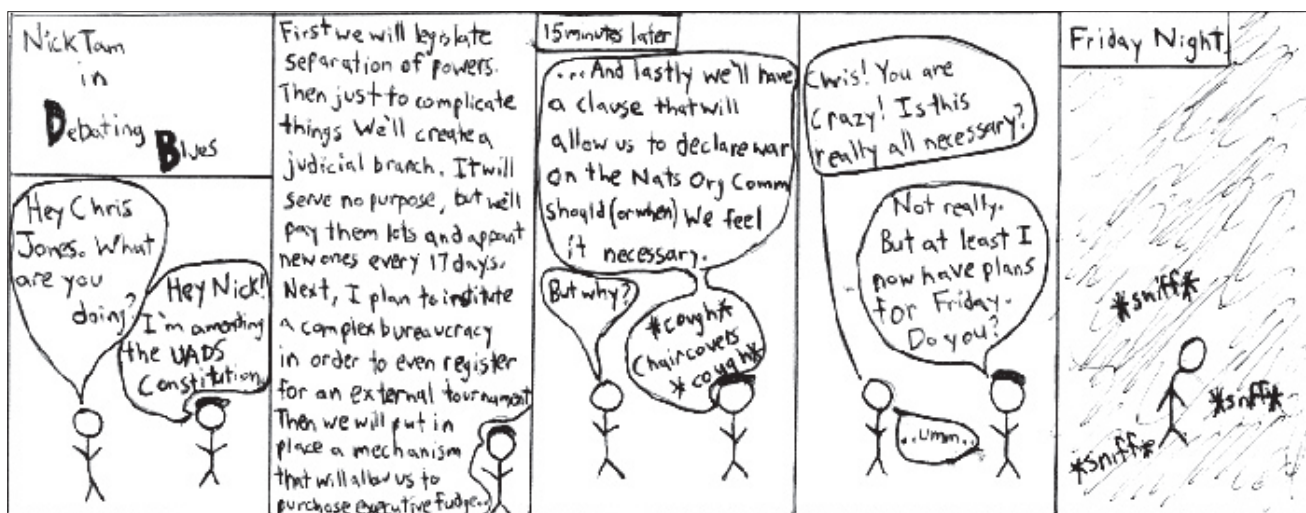
Registration will be opening shortly. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail Stephanie.

French National Championships

Université de Sherbrooke
(11-13 March)

Registration is open. If you are interested in attending, or would like more information, please e-mail Guillaume Laroche (glaroche@ualberta.ca).

debating blues nick fowler



WIN BIG... REALLY BIG!

With not a lot to report at the end of the year aside from the typical ballyhoo about how we won this tournament and that one and picked up an assortment of karaoke prizes to boot, this newsletter is going to have a lot of space come Funspeak time—and that's where you, dear reader, come in. In five words inclusive-or less, send me stuff and win. Categories include Best Tournament Story (Non-Fiction and Fiction), Best Debate Photo, Sappiest Poem, and the Silver Bail for the Most Gratuitous Use of the Word 'Equity'. Entries in the visual arts are particularly welcome, especially comic strips and orthographically accurate murals. Winning entries will be published in the wrap-up issue of *The Times Tribune* in April, and there will be prizes. Good ones.

You won't be disappointed, but if you don't submit anything, I might be. Submit your entries to Nick at ntam@ualberta.ca.

Employees, officers and representatives of *The Times Tribune* are not eligible to enter.