MINI WEC IS HERE!!!

Mini-WEC is here and is happening this Saturday. For those of you who are abbreviation-challenged, WEC stands for Western Engineering Challenge. All the Western Universities (the cool ones) get together and do a mini-WEC as a qualifier for the WEC Final. Last summer it was here in Victoria. For more details, look inside this wrap. Hope to see you out there engineering your hearts out!

SAFARI

Another Engineering Safari by Flash Gordon is in this wrap, you’ll wet yourself. Look for a third issue at the end of semester to compliment this excellent series.

PAINTBALL

The CSC Union is putting on a Paintball event on August 16th. The cost is $35 and that includes travel out there and rentals. All you need on top of that is money for balls. Check cscu.csc.uvic.ca for sign-up and more information.

SLURPEE TIME

In case you didn’t notice, at the end of the week, the robot is fired up and through some interesting thermo-dynamic refrigeration, two delicious slurpee flavours are available to you. A 25 cup is sold to you and you enjoy a delicious cup of cooled sugar and artificial flavouring. But how does this happen you might ask?? Well, if you happen to see Mark Messmer cruising the building, be sure to lay down some thanks because he is the guy who makes it happen and makes our Friday’s that much more enjoyable.

THE FOOSBALL TABLE WILL SOON NOT EXIST IN THE ESS OFFICE!! SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS...

Looking for something more productive to do in class than Facebook? Take note of the funny quotes your profs rattle off in class and send them in to essa-com@engr.uvic.ca. Here are the latest contributions:

“The FIB lab is just millions of dollars worth of awesome s***” Grad student in mech 285

“I’m a radian kind of guy... RAD!!” Dr. Sinton in MECH455
FELLOW SPARKIES,

As the electrical student representative it gives me great pleasure to inform you that your department leaders have your interests in mind. Much of their time is devoted to making the electrical program at UVic one of the best in the country. They are progressive and have no fear to act, and the new specialization in Electrical Energy Systems is evidence of that. They are working diligently to put together a new course to provide you with the tools to excel in our world where energy demand is on an ever increasing exponential curve.

Starting January 2010, ELEC 482 and the new course ELEC 4XX (to be determined) will be available to students who wish to partake in this specialization, followed by ELEC 410 in April.

ELEC 482 (Drives)
ELEC 4XX (Electrical Energy Systems Analysis & Design)
ELEC 410 (Power Electronics)

For further information contact myself or the Electrical Engineering student advisors

Cheers for now - Mez
A's in the classroom are not the measure of the greatest of an engineer; the ability to design a solution to a problem is. The University of Victoria’s Engineering Competition, Mini WEC, is the venue for engineers to pit their abilities against each other, the venue from which the greatest engineer will stand ahead of his peers. If you think you might be the greatest of the engineers, now is your chance to prove it. It also has my personal guarantee of being a lot of fun. This is a unique opportunity to share and exchange ideas, apply the knowledge you have worked long and hard to acquire, and further build your skill as an engineer.

There are several different competitions tailored to suit different engineers:

**Senior Design:** Students are confronted with an engineering design problem, they have 12 hours to implement their solution with the materials provided.

**Consulting:** The Consulting Engineering category gives teams of four participants five hours to devise an innovative solution to a real-world problem prescribed by a hypothetical client. Each team is expected to assess the economic and social aspect of the problem and present a proposal to a hypothetical client.

**Debate:** The Impromptu Debate category challenges participants to defend, from a given viewpoint, a topic disclosed just before the debate. Each team is composed of two members and they are expected to present a structured defense of the assigned topic.

**Innovative Design:** This category requires the competitors to present an innovative and commercially viable solution to a problem of their own choosing. They are expected to carry out market research and feasibility studies as well as draft a business proposal for their product. The competitors are also required to promote their product at a booth for the public and other attendees of the competition.

**Communications:** In the Engineering Communication category competitors are asked to describe a technical subject in lay-man’s terms and present a structured analysis of its societal and environmental impacts. The competitors are judged on their presentation and verbal skills.

The Details:

When: Saturday, November 29th, 2008, 10:00am – 5:00pm, lunch will be served
How: Sign up your team in the ESS office
What you need: Your thinking cap
Want to know more? Swing by the ESS or email an exec. and ask.

Winners from each competition will be sent to the Western Engineering Competition in Winnipeg, Manitoba in January 2010.

More details of the competitions can be found at [www.wec2009.ca/the-competitions](http://www.wec2009.ca/the-competitions).
‘Allo again mates! Some Australian Guy ‘ere, back fer anotha round of Campus Safari!

Now before we start, I'd like to address some concerns the viewers 'ave written to us about. Apparently, us 'ere on Campus Safari are perpetuating an unpopular Australian stereotype. Imagine that? Me, Some Australian Guy a stereotype! Well naturally I 'ad a good laugh and threw all those letters on the barbie faster than a dingo could eat a baby!

Today’s episode is particularly excitin’, as we’ll be searching fer one of Mother Nature’s rarest creatures: the female engineer!

As distinguishing between male and female engineers may prove a tad difficult, our boys in the lab devised this genius plan! Basically, I’m gonna run up and deliver a swift kick to the groinular regions of the more androgynous lookin’ ones; if they’re equipped with a ding-dangler, they 'auhta drop faster than consumer confidence in Microsoft after the release of Vista! Else-wise, we’ve got a bonafied female engineer we do! Righty-o, let’s get to it!

Holy f***! Nope. Sweet Jesus! Darn. ''pop''

The cake was a lie! Crickey! This is tiring.

No ladies 'ere.

GAAAAH!

He has a beard you too!

Well billy my bikkie with a bingle! I've never seen sausage saturation of this magnitude 'afore in me life! It's a wonder 'ow these fellas reproduce!

The only things engineering semen ever seems to impregnate are keyboards after an extended image search on Google for "Megan Fox."

Well, I best be speaking with the Wildlife Bureau; looks like we'll 'ave another endangered species on our hands quite shortly. Until next time, I'm Some Australian Guy, and this has been Campus Safari!
NOSTALGIC REFLECTIONS

I was having one of those procrastination sessions where I organized and consolidated my email inbox. You know, those times when you’ve finally managed to get yourself in front of a computer to do work and you’ve found another thing to do which, you’re not kidding me, pays off in the long run, but doesn’t get that assignment due tomorrow finished. So I found an email from first year when I was complaining about being stressed out. I was stressed out in first year?? Golly... I wish I could remember what that feels like. It must have been dreamy. Those truly were the days...

ACTIONS LOUDER THAN WORDS

Lecture (‘lek-ch*r*’): a discourse given before an audience or class especially for instruction

Where has all the respect gone for our professors and peers? Why is it so hard to go 50 minutes without the continuous background hum of conversations while someone else is giving you their time and effort to present important information?

Lectures are for listening with the added advantage of being able to ask this expert for clarity on what they are presenting. If you do not get what was just presented, it is your obligation to yourself to swallow your pride and ask the professor for clarity. Even if others have a slight understanding of what was just said, the presenter may give another viewpoint helping you and as well as making it more clear for others as well.

Whispering and mumbling to your neighbour is very distracting and rude to both your peers and especially the presenter.

Rude (‘rüd’): lacking refinement or delicacy: a: ign- norant, unlearned b: inelegant, uncouth c: offensive in manner or action : discourteous d: uncivilized, sav- age e: coarse, vulgar

Actions define who we are. So please show the respect to others that you believe should be given to you when you speak.

Thank you for your consideration,

-The Silent Type

LIVIN’ WITH THE PREZ

Just a short anecdote for now... Mr. President brought his N64 from home after reading break. Ever since then, Mario Kart has been played about two hundred times. The tallies are racking up and somehow, the President manages to wield those red shells in such a way it has driven the Director of Communications to shear insanity. Seriously, the President beat him 14-3 last week and D.Comm was frothing at the mouth. He was later found curled up in his room in the fetal position consuming an entire bag of cookies. Will he survive? Find out next week.

Foosball Raffle

Attention Foosballers: You know who you are. The table in the ESS will soon be no more. On July 24th, the table that many of you spend your life on, will be raffled off so we can get a new one.

That’s right. You’re eyes don’t decieve you. This Friday, the Foosball table WILL BE GONE!!

$5 gets you 7 raffle tickets while $10 gets you a whoppin’ 20 tickets.

Date of the Raffle: Friday July 24th
(second last Friday of school)

Buy tickets online or in ESS office.
It was interesting to see the reaction to the first installment of Ramblings of an Outgoing President. In general the feedback was good; students and faculty alike commented on both the accuracy and honesty of the article. Last week I authored the Ledo Vobis article on tuition. Because of the good feedback from the Ramblings article, I decided to focus on this installment rather than authoring another conservative article. That was most of the feedback; one student however challenged me on the article. Doug De La Mare, a 2nd year Elec student, admitted the article was a precise representation of the truth, but he challenged that the article was detrimental to engineering community, and therefore was a poor choice for publication.

I am well aware that in my year and a half as President, and even in my personal life, I have a reputation of a hard-ass. Several executives have left the executive because they did not enjoy working with me. I stand by the reason for my obduracy, there are two things I request from both the ESS executive and people in general, hard work and thoughtfulness. During my time I have not required things be done “my way”, instead I encourage executives to take their own initiatives and I try to provide guidance along the way. If an executive fails to work and to think, that’s when the conflict occurs. I expect from students no different than that which I expect from the executive.

Doug was not uniformed or under thought, he recognized that he doesn’t know everything about the ESS, and his challenge was valid. Doug described to me one of my failures that I was already aware of, my failure to reach Elecs. The ESS ‘A’ is very Mech focused, and admittedly communication is poor. By no means does the ESS wish to exclude Elecs, it’s just much easier to engage the people you see everyday. The ESS executive as mentioned, is made of students who work at least as hard as you, and can

with closed minds, over the years I’ve received, often second hand, similar criticisms. Needless to say I’m a little jaded. Doug made mention that writing these articles isn’t something President Obama would do. True, Mr. Obama is after all a politician playing a politician’s game. To think however, that he would take advice from average-citizen-joe on how to run his administration however, is an indication you’re living in the dream world.

I have been hard to approach because I don’t want people to waste my time. During my first two semesters I spent an enormous amount of time working on ESS, coupled with school I was left with little sleep and little to no spare time. It is no stretch of the imaginations therefore to understand why to the executive time is precious. As Doug found out, if you approach me with a well thought out argument I’m all ears, otherwise I am far from a big, friendly, cuddly bear.

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Our generation has been grown on terrible television such as The Simpson and Family Guy. While funny, these shows have made us believe that it is our right to criticize without knowing and without thinking. People, who have never organized an event, criticize ESS events passionately. People, who have never managed a project, try to tell the ESS how to operate. Just as the aforementioned television programs criticize what they don’t understand, criticizing it
only do so much to engage students, the rest has to come from the initiative of students. And so \( \frac{1}{2} \) the fault resides with myself and the executive, the other \( \frac{1}{2} \) resides with Elec students. This was part of the reason for these articles. These articles admit the truths that I have realized during my time in the ESS and also tries to inform and engage students. I hope some of the information described might inspire students to look at their participation in the engineering community differently. As a student it is your responsibility to remain informed. I recognize that currently the events are primarily attended by Mech students, but Elecs must encourage their peers to join them in attending these events. If the current events don’t cater to your fancy, please provide alternatives, but provide thoughtful alternatives.

Dr. Tidje, your Dean, described to me a meeting he had with a couple of students. He told me what I already knew, the ESS draws heavy criticism. Some of these criticisms I’ll address many of these commons concerns in my third and final installment. Dr. Tiedje described however, in his meeting that the students who he was discussing with, seemed to not understand what the ESS did. I guess as I draw this entry to a close I have this message for students. You are in a degree program that has been built on tradition, camaraderie and pride. It is composed mostly of reliable, friendly & smart individuals. Many, if not all the faculties envy the community of engineering. The ESS exists to support and build that community. All engineering schools in Canada have an ESS, it has bearing on a school’s accreditation. The ESS would like to cater to as many students and deliver high quality services to those students whenever possible. The ESS is constantly looking to improve; very shorty we are going to install a feedback forum on the website so we might be able to reach more students. At this point I have three choices for students who are not currently involved:

1. Get involved,
2. Make a well thought out suggestion. Rest assured poorly founded criticisms will be rejected.
3. If you don’t like the above choices, learn to deal with it. The ESS does a good job of its current services, its not going anywhere.

To close this installment, thank you to all the students like Doug, who have been involved, taken advantage of and built engineering community, not necessarily through the ESS, possibly by helping their peers with their assignments or being proud to own a TI-89. Thank you and keep up the good work, I’m proud to call you my fellow students. To everyone else, a man is measured by how well he can fill an unforgiving minute with sixty seconds worth of distance run. I hope you work to improve the ESS and engineering in the future.

-Sean Walsh
Editorial
Alright... this is just planing the seed, but since I am in 4B next term, I won’t be doing the Fishwrap again. So that means one of you happy readers is going to be stepping up to the plate and writing this thing.

In other news, look for some ESS representation in the world of cycling this Saturday in Sidney. Racing starts at 4pm so come up to downtown Sidney for some coffee and some quality racing.

And... last Friday I ran into an old friend. This rabbit is still kickin it in his usual stompin’ grounds behind the centre-cafe. He doesn’t have a tire track on his hind-side, but THE BRAIN is still there, reminiscent of some bike accident...

If you’d like to add something to the Fishwrap, or submit something utterly ridiculous, or even have your own column for complaining or ranting, hunt me down in the ESS or email at essa-com@engr.uvic.ca. Also, if you have any questions, complaints, or comments regarding Fishwrap content, keep it to yourself because I don’t want to hear it.

Of course I’m kidding... (or am I?) Seriously, try it, send me in something. You’ll see what happens...

STUFF FROM THE PAST

FEW WEEKS

- THE ISSUE OF SPACE FOR ESS AND STUDY HAS MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS
- SLURPEES HAVE BEEN FLOWING REGULARLY
- KEGGER THOUGHTS ARE THINKING
- FINAL REPORTS ARE BEING STARTED
- ESS SUMMER BUDGET IS ON IT’S WAY
- SEAN UNKNOWINGLY IS ABOUT TO BE SPANKED IN MARIO KART 64
- OH YEAH, TWO WEEKS LEFT OF SCHOOL NO BIG DEAL...