

# FISHWRAP

Official newspaper of the Engineering Student Society Stream A

Issue C1

CO-OP EDITION: Only online! For added entertainment, the reader can print the fishwrap!

## Fishwrap...on CO-OP!!

That's right. I will continue to write the fishwrap during my co-op. It might not be as frequent as before, but will still be just as awesome. The co-op edition will be distributed via email to every student currently on co-op. It will (hopefully) be available on the ESS website as well.

Now as for content. I want to hear from you guys. What are you doing this term? Any funny, embarrassing, ridiculous stories? Also I need more funny quotes. Our policy has not changed. As long as it is legal, we will print it.



Scan this with your phone, webcam or anything to get the digital copy of the fishwrap. (or go to <http://ess.uvic.ca/publications/fishwrap/>)

## What's Inside:

### What's Inside:

Co-op corner	2
Stories, I need 'em	3
Cost of education	4
Gears	5
Ballmer Peak Proof	6
Engr-scopes	7

## Pic of the Week

Supercow is no longer with us. After donning sundresses and hats for an evening of fun, the University of Calgary delegates earned the return of their mascot... for now.



## WESST EM

Your ESS representatives just got back from visiting the wild lands of Manitoba. The purpose of the Executives Meeting is to exchange ideas between the western engineering student societies with the hope of bettering each society and engineering education as a whole. These ideas range from competition topics to general operational matters. We will be discussing what we have learnt over the summer with the plan to apply our experiences in the Fall and improve the ESS.

*Heard a prof or student say something funny? email quotes to [fishwrap@engr.uvic.ca](mailto:fishwrap@engr.uvic.ca)*

“My ass hurts” - David West (aka Batman)

“Tell someone you love them today, because life is short. But shout it at them in German, because life is also terrifying and confusing.” - wise words from Reddit

## Co-op Corner

- Welcome back to changes for the Summer of 2012. The first big change is the FishWrap in your email. This is a new idea that ESS is trying this term. Here is hoping it works.

- Other changes, could include a brand new job, new living arrangements, new challenges and new experiences for the summer. Part of the goal of the FishWrap is to connect Students with Students while you are on a work term. Keep the Editor in the loop as to where you are this term and



what type of events you might be up to attending. You might be able to start a baseball team or organize a camping trip.

- Even we have changes here. Hmm, where to start? The bigger story is who is new and what are their new roles? Lets start from the top.

- **Meeta Khurana** is our new **Co-op Program Manager**. She will be a good resource to talk to if you have an issue that cannot be resolved at the Coordinator level.

- Covering for Meeta and her Software and Electrical Engineering students is **Robin Ley**, [robinley@uvic.ca](mailto:robinley@uvic.ca). Robin will be working with companies in the Vancouver and Lower Mainland (YVR) as well as the Seattle region and, of course, companies in Victoria. She will support students in the Software and Electrical Engineering group. She is already hard at work--on her first day at work she was helping out a Student with his resume and cover letter. Robin is a **Civil Engineer** and has been involved in the co-op process both as a student and as an employer.

- The next new person is **Sean McConkey**, [mccconkey@uvic.ca](mailto:mccconkey@uvic.ca). Sean will be familiar to

some of you through his connection with ENGR 400, 120 and 110. Sean will be working with companies in YVR, Victoria and Southern Alberta. He will be working closely with Grad Students.

- Now where does that leave the rest of us? This might be better described in a Table. Changes are identified in **bold print**.

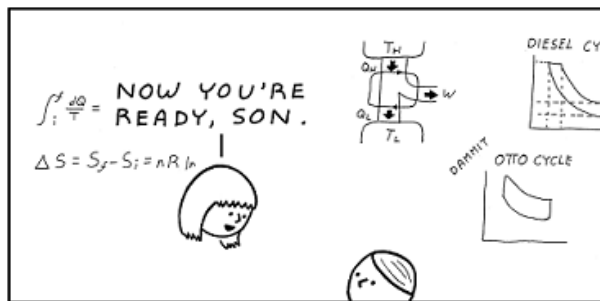
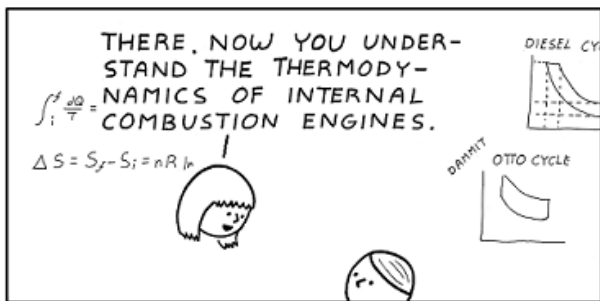
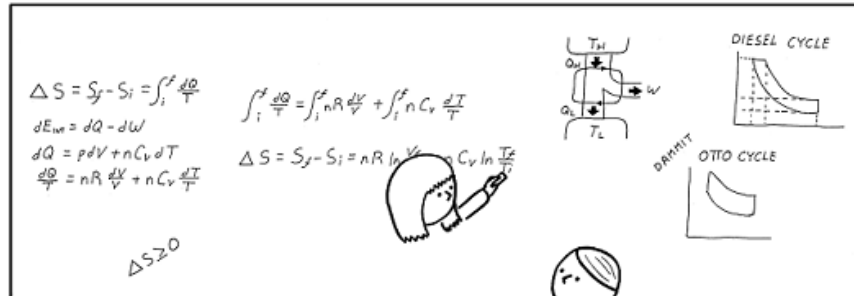
Coordinator	Discipline	Region
Calvin Tripp	Mech	Victoria Northern BC <b>Southern Alberta</b> Saskatchewan and Manitoba
Duncan Hogg	CEng, Stat, Math, CSc, Optional	Victoria Interior BC Ontario
Meeta Khurana <b>Manager</b>	<b>All</b>	Victoria
Pamela Welgan	All	Lower Mainland Vancouver (YVR) California
Rhonda Korol	Elec	Victoria Ontario and East
<b>Robin Ley</b>	<b>Elec, Software</b>	<b>Victoria</b> <b>YVR</b> <b>Seattle</b>
<b>Sean McConkey</b>	<b>Grad</b>	<b>Victoria</b> <b>YVR</b> <b>Southern Alberta</b>
Susan Fiddler	Mech	Victoria Vancouver Island Yukon, NWT and Nunavut <b>Northern Alberta</b>

- Keep an eye on **Moodle** for Co-op assignments and timelines.

- Bottom line is go out and explore and have some fun.

# Co-op Stories

Pretty self explanatory, send in your stories, I print them and then we all laugh. (Assuming its a funny story, it doesn't have to be)



entering the real world after college

it's kinda like this

## Can you put a price on education?

All of this talk about university tuition and student strikes in Quebec over their proposed tuition hike have got me thinking. How much does our degree really cost?

That is a hard number to find. This is because the government subsidizes a significant percentage of our tuition. If we assume that they only subsidize Canadian citizens, then the international tuitions fees would be a good estimate for the cost of our degree.

### Domestic Fees (per 1.5 credits)

-Arts and Science	\$495.87
-Engineering	\$548.68

### International Fees (per 1.5 credits)

-Arts and Science	\$1604.49
-Engineering	\$1731.24

By those numbers, Canadian students pay for about 31% of their undergraduate degree. Presumably, the other 69% is paid for by the government.



Finally, what do you guys think? Do we pay too much? too little? What do you think of the student “strike” in Quebec?

NOTE: You can find the proposed and audited budgets for all of UVic. The amount of money given by government and from tuition is listed there. It’s posted on the site somewhere (just google it). Also, the salaries of every professor can easily be found on the Vancouver Sun public salary database. (also, google it)

~D Fresh



# LOOK HERE

---

## Coop To do list

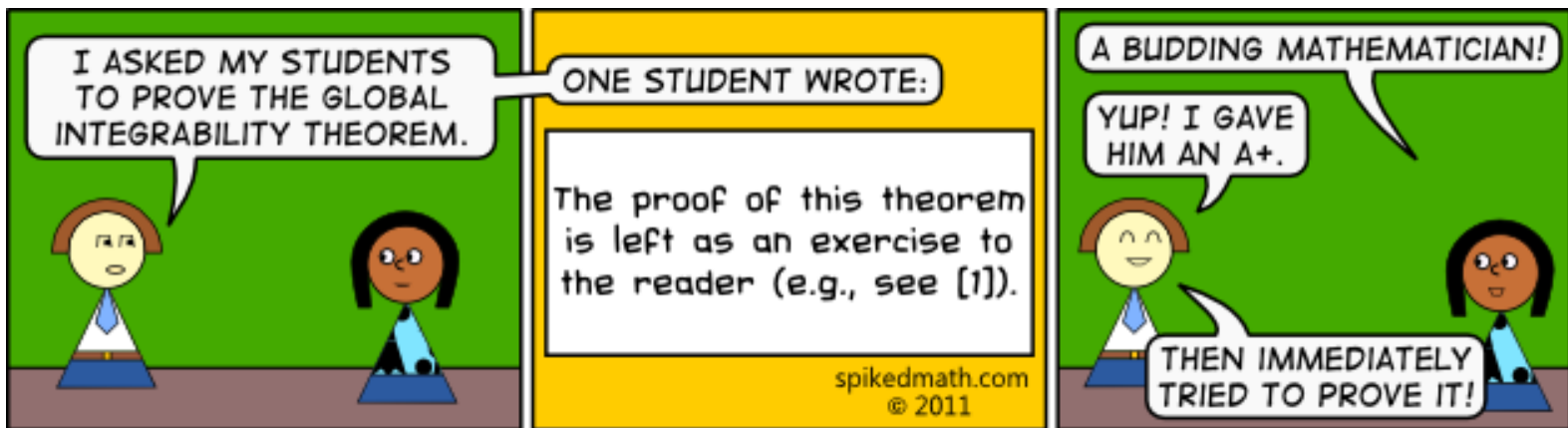
Update your location on the Learning in Motion website. Ideally, this information would be used to create a map or list depicting where UVic students are on co-op this term. I’ll keep you posted regarding that.

## You know what grinds my gears...

“This is left as an exercise for the reader”

It's 1 in morning. I'm reading the textbook, trying to learn some last minute solid mechanics. I come across a section I don't really understand. The author then gives an example problem. But instead of solving the problem, they just write “This is left as an exercise for the reader”. #S%&\*!! I did not buy a \$150 textbook in order to do exercises. I wanted to learn stuff...or something. I think the author is just being lazy. He/she was just too lazy to actually solve the problem and properly convey knowledge to the reader.

~D Fresh



### More quotes

“Angus said something about doing a gateway co-op, as though it was a drug”  
- Nigel via a voice memo that he left on my phone. Thanks.

“No man should escape our universities without knowing how little he knows” - Oppenheimer

“Now, I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.”-Oppenheimer,  
after seeing the first atomic bomb detonation.

# Ballmer Peak: Fact or Fiction?

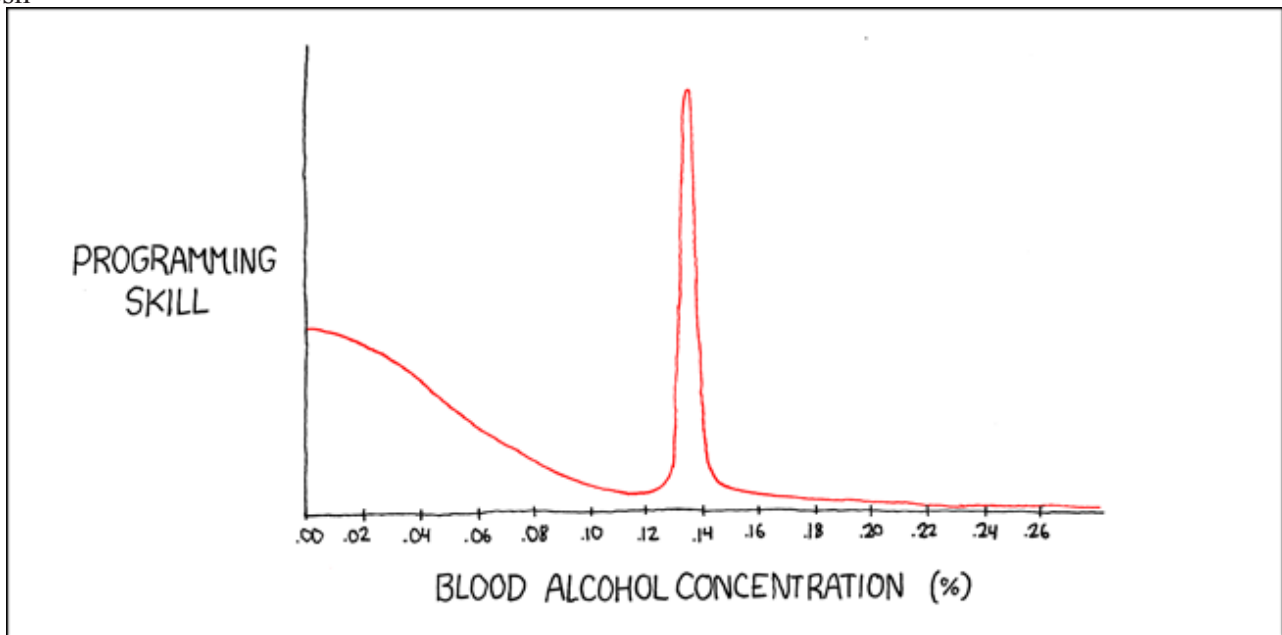
A recent study at the University of Illinois at Chicago has confirmed what many a first year have claimed: “This problem set will be much easier after a few brews”. Famous last words? or is it true?

A couple scientists seem to think it’s true and have evidence to back this up. They reason that a bit of alcohol (~2 drinks) allows you to relax and focus on the broad applications in a given problem. That is, it removes tunnel vision which can inhibit innovation and problem solving. Of course, too much alcohol and you won’t be solving anything.

A summary of the results can found here: <http://medicaldaily.com/news/20120411/9496/alcohol-solving-skills-analytical-thinking-creativity-study.htm>

This of course brings us to the famous Ballmer Peak, as shown below.

~D Fresh

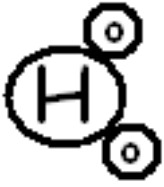


CALLLED THE BALLMER PEAK, IT WAS DISCOVERED BY MICROSOFT IN THE LATE 80's. THE CAUSE IS UNKNOWN, BUT SOMEHOW A B.A.C. BETWEEN 0.129% AND 0.138% CONFERS SUPERHUMAN PROGRAMMING ABILITY.

HOWEVER, IT'S A DELICATE EFFECT REQUIRING CAREFUL CALIBRATION—YOU CAN'T JUST GIVE A TEAM OF CODERS A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF WHISKEY AND TELL THEM TO GET CRACKING.

...HAS THAT EVER HAPPENED?  
REMEMBER WINDOWS ME?  
I KNEW IT!

## Engr Scopes



**Aquarius** (Jan 20 - Feb 18)  
Gravity is constant...some-times. You should be careful.



**Leo** (Jul 23 - Aug 22)  
Fresh.

**Pisces** (Feb 19 - Mar 20)  
A rogue ewok might cross your path today. Make friends with him.



**Virgo** (Aug 23 - Sep 22)  
Busy times, busy lives.



**Aries** (Mar 21 - Apr 19)  
Learn something in your spare time. or don't.



**Libra** (Sep 23 - Oct 22)  
Balance your priorities. Judging by your picture, you're a little unbalanced.

**Taurus** (Apr 20 - May 20)  
There comes a point when sleep is optional.



**Scorpio** (Oct 23 - Nov 21)  
Summer is a happy busy time. Enjoy. (Sorry if you're in classes)



**Gemini** (May 21 - Jun 20)  
You might lose something valuable this week (like a laptop)



**Sagittarius** (Nov 22 - Dec 21)  
Running and running and running. Slow down and take in life.

**Cancer** (Jun 21 - Jul 22)  
A hot day on the beach is nice. Strive for that.



**Capricorn** (Dec 22 - Jan 19)  
You will find a laptop. That's theft.



Drawings courtesy of P. Gordon

## From the Editor

There you have it. The inaugural co-op edition of the fishwrap. What did you think? I could really use some articles from you guys. Nothing fancy. What are you doing this term? Where? Any funny travel stories? Job stories? As always, send it to [fishwrap@engr.uvic.ca](mailto:fishwrap@engr.uvic.ca).

~D Fresh

Thanks to all who contributed:  
Calvin Tripp  
Capricorn from the engr-scopes