Engineering Birthstones

January
A loose cluster of wires

February
A single dynamic potato

March
Broken Robot

April
A 141 final

May
A hardhat that only fits right when tilted 5.67° to the left

June
Tears of the 120 project

July
A free body diagram of a pin

August
A slowly approaching iron ring

September
Overpriced Textbooks Galore!

October
A mechanical pumpkin

November
\[ \int C = C++ + C \]

December
3am ramen, energy drinks and tears
finally found the square root!

Friend: “So what are you going to do with your engineering degree?”
Me:

I've been studying for 14,000,605 hours this week

How many were productive?

One.
I thought my life changed one day in the summer of 2014 when an article popped up on my Facebook newsfeed entitled “The Confidence Gap”. The Atlantic article, a summary of the book by the same name professed that “confidence matters as much as competence”, supporting an already well known law: that what you say isn’t as important as how loudly you say it.

The article used research findings to explain how even when qualified equally, women undervalued and downplayed their experience, while men overestimated their ability, and were more likely to apply for higher position when less qualified. Women feel more responsible for their actions and failures and are prone to perfectionism, while men were more likely to attribute the positives to themselves.

The article touched on psychological aspects such as impostor syndrome and self-confidence, and then attributed the underrepresentation of women in STEM to these factors: not intrinsic ability, but self-belief and confidence.

All of a sudden, my life made sense. Any trouble with discrimination I was having could be fixed easily if only I could learn to speak up, ooze confidence, and advocate for myself. After all, if the men around me didn't feel the need to double-check or curate their impressions, why should I? Even the guys who showed almost no social skills at all, like Sheldon and Sherlock, still seemed to thrive, even be worshiped.

But, needless to say, my theory of life became “fake it til you make it”. I thought if I molded myself into a go-getter with a great attitude, success would follow. I began to jump into as many opportunities as I could and think later.

In an effort to not let myself be patronized, I decided never again to nicely agree with someone when they lectured on a subject I was already knowledgeable in. Instead of being interrupted, I learned to interrupt. Instead of being ignored, I learned to explain and interject as many sentences as I can. Instead of speaking daintily and seldomly as women are expected to, I forced myself to sound stern and commanding and speak half of the time. Over four years, I used the profound understanding from that day to shape myself in a way that would command respect and inspire confidence from those around me, at least outwardly.

Four years of concerted effort later, I have come to the realization that perhaps no amount of acting, volunteering, or trying can change a fundamental rule of life: that for women, what is given to men must be earned.

I did everything right. I had volunteered and signed up and put hours of work into every opportunity. I showed up and made connections and had striven to attain the perfect balance of standing up for myself and making a good impression to the people who needed to like me.

My efforts had taken me around the world and given me great opportunities. And yet I still felt disadvantaged. I found even when I sought people out, I was the last to be contacted with information. My supervisors didn't look at me or seem to trust me. I found myself still being judged differently, and I started judging myself as well, holding myself to unnecessarily strict standards without being rewarded for the same actions my male coworkers could do easily. I still had to get used to being talked over and being ignored unless it's the last resort.
For all my effort, nothing changed. My female colleagues understand and accept this: we just must get used to being looked over until we prove to male superiors that we are worthy of the respect they so easily give to others. We find ways to hide, justify, and choke down the equality, but for everything we try it's still there. Turns out it's hard to progress in the world when what your professors and supervisors want is compliance, silence, and the ability to laugh at a stereotype made in your own expense if they think it's funny.

The most frustrating part of all of this is how much I want to be able to un-notice all of the sleights. I wish we could live in a world where I don't count the number of times I don't get to fit a sentence in, or how long the men in the room talk without giving a thought to my opinion. I wish it was possible to believe that the way I come into contact with the world was shaped purely by things I can change with determination. And I wish it was possible, just like I thought it was four years ago, to change the way the world sees me by changing the way I see myself.
Fun Baking idea

PI shaped Pie!
Make a robot to bake for you
Code a digital pie
Get some food colouring and make a circuit cookie art! Or give up half way and call it a loose pile of wires!
Build a tower of cake using statics knowledge, and watch it fall down via dynamics
Put a VEX kit in the oven and watch what happen.

STRUGGLE STICK: HEAT WAVE

30°C
Ah, finally finished all my homework for once. Time for a nice 8 hours of sleep YAY!

29°C
WHY!
Get your tickets in the ESS office!

2 | 6
7 | 49
0 | 0
## EVENTS CALENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location TBA</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EEE</td>
<td>Friday June 22</td>
<td>4:00pm - 11:00pm</td>
<td>Location TBA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LASER TAG</td>
<td>Wednesday June 27</td>
<td>7:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Location TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESS MOVIE NIGHT</td>
<td>Thursday July 5</td>
<td>7:30pm - 10:00pm</td>
<td>Location TBA</td>
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### Weekly Stuff!

**ESS SOCCER:** Mondays: Check UVIC ESS on facebook for information  
https://www.facebook.com/groups/uvicess/  

**ESS meetings:** Tuesdays at 6:30pm  

**Slushies:** Fridays in ESS office
Past Events

SIEGE DAY
Was on Friday June 15

Twas a grand day of launching things majestically. Thanks to everyone who helped out! Overall, around $200 was raised for charity.

UVEC (Engineering Competition)
Was on Saturday June 9

It was super fun! Congrats to all winners, and thanks to everyone who competed!

Missed it this semester? Tried but didn't quite win? Have no worries, UVEC is back in the fall, and is your 2nd chance to qualify for the January 2019 Western Engineering Competition!

Evil Jellyfish

The people of Victoria had no way to know danger lurking in their waters...

The threat to them is 1! Bob the evil jellyfish, here to rise upon the land and end humanity!

I didn't think this through

By H. Spry
Engrscopes

**Mechanical:** The software students are upset about the goblins you sent after them. You might need to be sneakier next time to stop them from catching on.

**Software:** You feel that there is someone stalking you and filling your code with bugs. Don't worry, we've called in someone to catch all the goblins.

**Computer:**

01101100
01101111 01110110 01100101

**Civil:** You are fortunate that goblins will pay bridge tolls instead of demand them. However, that troll has down a number on the spaghetti bridge construction worker morale.

**Biomedical:** You will at some point in the future possess something you like and it will make your life better.

**Electrical:** You will find great peace in the simple harmonic motions of electrical waves.

**Undeclared:** Haven't picked your program yet? Why not go with your favorite engrscope? Honestly not the worst way to pick.
“I reverse snorted something... That's what I’m saying“ - anonymous

“Did you know that booby trap is party boob backwards?” - Derek

“oh it's almost 4:30”. “4 minutes past blaze” - anonymous

“Nothing hypes me more today than oatmeal.” - Cord

“Oatmeal and math? This is the best day!” - Cord

Got any feedback, suggestions, or content you’d like to submit?
Get in touch with us at essbnws@uvic.ca!
or with our VP Coms at essbcom@uvic.ca!