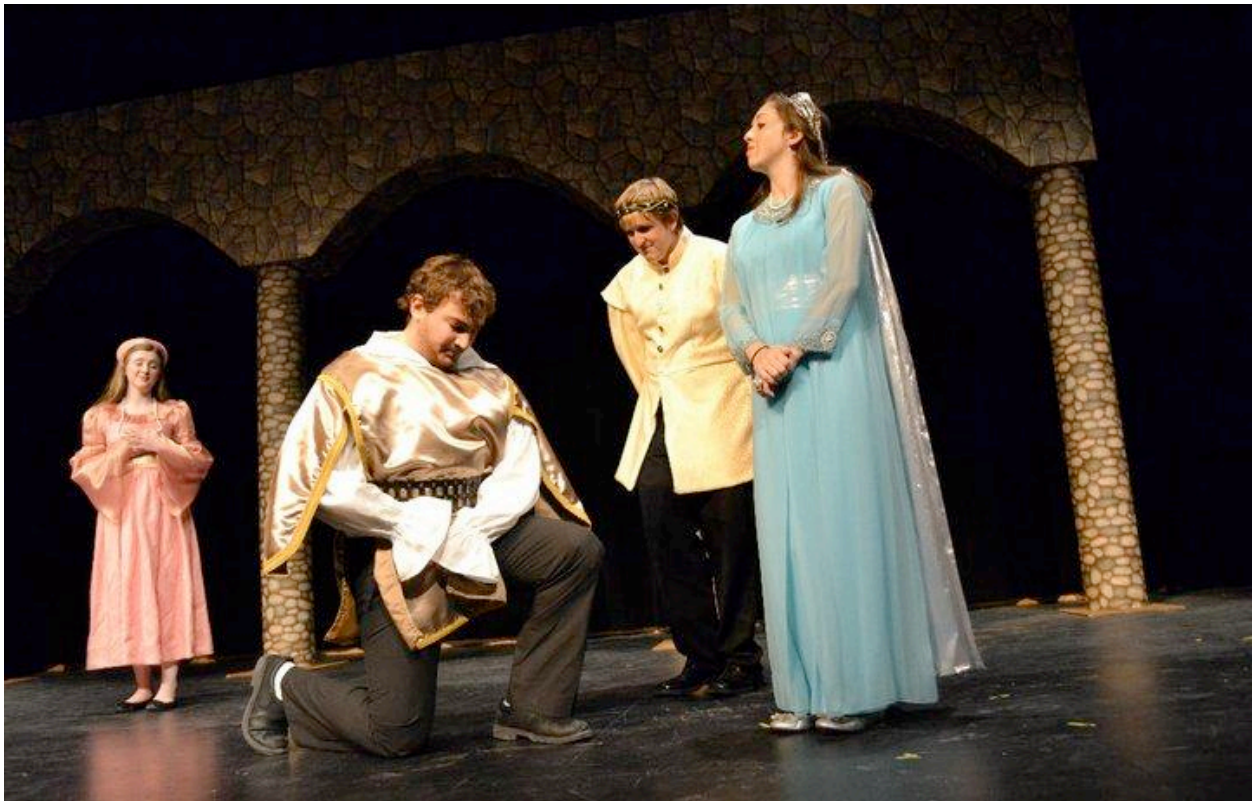


In This Issue	Page 4: Monique Martins Discusses Facebook's Viral Campaigns for Change	Page 6: Laura Trabucco tells you what is in her cupboard	Page 11: A Farewell message from the outgoing Head Soph: Alex Williamson
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Once Upon a Mattress is a Hit



Paul Stonkus
Co-Editor

On Friday January 17th, I had the privilege of attending the King's Players production of *Once upon a Matress: the True Story of the Princess and the Pea*. I had heard great things about the show from friends who had enjoyed the first public performance a day earlier. As expected, I enjoyed the show immensely. Billed as a comedy, the show induced countless bouts of laughter in me and the rest of the audience. The entire casts' comedic delivery was spot-on. Most impressive however, was director John Houghton's ability to balance the show's comedic aspects, with its portrayal of darker themes

surrounding controlling mothers, female timidity, and loving ones partner for who they truly are. Bravo John!

Everyone's performance was truly great and exceeded my expectations, however I must commend fourth-year English student Lauren O'Hare in particular, for her portrayal of Queen Aggravaine. Given one of the show's central roles, Ms. O'Hare completely nailed it. As her mute husband, Jeremiah Greville displayed excellent timing and was able to showcase his talent as a physical comedian, to the audience's great pleasure.

Evident to anyone in the audience, was how absolutely perfect the casting was. Each and every actor seemed perfectly suited for their role. Though relatively light on lines, Sean Previl melded seamlessly into his character, Prince Dauntless the Drab. His portrayal of The Prince as an over-grown child who eventually overcomes his mother's control was right-on. The long-limbed Stephanie Brannigan was great for the role of The Jester. I was surprised to find out after the show that such a gutsy performance came from a first year student. The same can be said of first-year student Dylan Rock in his role as The Wizard. Great job guys!

What really made the show for me were the contrasting performances of Jennifer Bishop as Princess Winifred, and the female members of the ensemble cast. The female ensemble was able to project an air of reserved femininity which provided the perfect background for Bishop's portrayal of Princess Winifred a rebellious and free-thinking woman, dropped into a new Kingdom seemingly unaware of the norms which prevent most ladies from acting so boldly. Ms. Bishop played her role to an absolute T. She was able to display her character's traits through nearly all of her actions, including the way she marched across the stage defiantly.

As I mentioned, each performance exceeded my expectations, including those delivered by Maude Sheppard as Lady Larken and Matt Masciotra as Sir Harry. The two complemented each other well, combining to portray a very believable pair of lovers fallen victim to circumstance. The best surprise of the night came when my friend, the beautiful Michiko Brown-Kai, unexpectedly entered the stage to perform a light-hearted but well executed bit of ballet as The Nightingale.

Overall, viewing the show made for a great experience and left me with a feeling of satisfaction in knowing that a group of students, under their own direction, were capable of undertaking such a complex venture and executing it so well. Finally, I urge you not to make the same mistake I did and wait until your final year at Western to take in a production by the King's Players.



Letter From the Editor

What's Next for King's

Steven Suntres
Editor-in-Chief

I hope the events of 2011 have been unfolding well for everyone thus far, and furthermore, I hope that everyone has been enjoying the programming put on by the KUCSC as well. We are excited to bring you the third issue of The King's Regis. With a fresh new logo, and design put together by the wonderful first year King's student Cindy Liang who has dedicated much of her time to this paper over the past couple of weeks.

In this issue of The Regis, readers may notice at first glance that the topics of this issue vary greatly from one article to the next. However, if you are to read closely and think about what each writer is saying, I feel that this issue as a whole is not only promoting a sense of unity between students, but promoting the idea of students working together for a better future. Whether it be Monique Martins talking about Facebook as a medium for social change, Luke Preston talking about living with his friends in this edition of King's Cribz, Laura Trabucco's thoughts on the apathy of student cooking, your VP operation Justin Brown giving his opinion on how consumerism needs to change, Nick Dagostino talking about Network Neutrality, and much more, it seems like all writers are talking about an aspect of the way we live that is not only wrong, but is in need of a change. It has been a delight for me to not only see a growing interest in writing for The Regis, but to see a group of students so passionate about the world we live in. As always, we are looking for more writers for The Regis. If you are interested, please e-mail us at theregis@kucsc.com.

Now, what is next for King's?

On January 20th, The KUCSC presents Craig Kielberger, founder of Free the Children, will be speaking at King's. Tickets are \$10 for UWO students, and \$20 for non-students; they are available at the King's Pro-shop, and at Infosource at the UCC.

On January 25th, the KUCSC will be hosting a "Learn How to DJ event" where all students are welcomed to come out to learn the skill of Djing. For more information e-mail events@kucsc.com

On January 28th, the KUCSC will be hosting "King's Goes to Court", where for \$45 dollars you get a bus-ride to Toronto to see the Toronto Raptors take on the Milwaukee Bucks. But hurry! Wednesday, January 19th is the last day to grab a ticket! E-mail your VP Events, Brian Rodrigues at events@kucsc.com for details.

Soph Applications are up!! Check them out at www.usc.uwo.ca/sophapps in order to apply to be a King's Soph.

That is all for this issue, I hope to see you out at some of these great events, but for now, enjoy the issue ☺.

Facebook's Viral Campaigns for Change: *Cartoon Characters, the Colour of Your Bra, and Where you Like it*

Monique Martins

Student at King's studying Social Justice and Peace and Women Studies



Today I logged into Facebook and noticed a curious pattern appearing on my newsfeed: 28 of my Facebook friends had changed their profile pictures to cartoon characters. With a bit of searching I found that this fad claimed to promote the user's opposition to violence against children. I'm alluding, of course, to one of Facebook's many viral campaigns for change. You may remember last year's 'post the colour of your bra in your status to create awareness for breast cancer,' or this past October's "I like it on the..." and now, the most recent meme, which surfaced in early November: changing your profile picture to your favourite childhood cartoon character.

Upon further investigation I found a corresponding status update which read: "Change your Facebook profile picture to a cartoon character from your childhood and invite your friends to do the same. Until Monday (December 6), there should be no human faces on Facebook, but an invasion of memories. This is a campaign to stop violence against children." My issue with these campaigns is the fact that they make no substantial change to the issue they claim to support. With the most recent, and those in the past there is almost no direct link to the problem being addressed. Let me expand:

With both of the breast cancer awareness memes, female Facebook users were encouraged by friends to post ambiguous statuses such as a colour or pattern, alluding to the colour of their bra on the sly. This October it was a variation of "I like it on..." coupled with a location usually around the home, for instance "I like it on the chair." These were used as an attempt to evoke curiosity from those Facebook users who were out of the loop, prompting an inquiry (which, in my experience, was almost never met with an explanation to make the

curious friend more aware, but instead, a playful response from the female user). These both somehow claimed to increase breast cancer awareness, the former by alluding to the colour of the poster's bra, and in this year's, where you like to keep your purse.

In my opinion, these campaigns do more harm than good, or at least make no substantial contribution to helping the issue in question. With the breast cancer awareness campaigns, both sexualized women as a tactic to make change, communicating that women should use their sexuality to show support and promote these issues. The first at the very least mentioned breasts, which I suppose deserves some credit, but still promoted not the awareness of breast cancer, but instead women's choice in lingerie.

October's was especially detrimental. First off, it didn't make mention to breast cancer, or even breasts. It promoted women's use of a sexual innuendo to make a point that had nothing even remotely to do with awareness. The meme was purposely phrased to insinuate a sexual message and, with the reference to purses, exclude men (who, contrary to popular belief, can also develop breast cancer). Defendants of this campaign claimed it was for awareness, or even just for fun. But it didn't increase awareness apart from the fact that the confusion led some to realize October was breast cancer awareness month, but the campaign was still lacking in the sense that it didn't attempt to inspire anyone to actually do anything about it.

The most recent campaign is a bit better as it at least mentions its cause. But still it lacks the call to action. In addition, I'm sad to report that it might not be 'just for fun.' As the meme grows in popularity, online rumours are surfacing that the campaign may have initially been started by a group of pedophiles to coerce Facebook's younger users to accept strangers' friend requests upon seeing a character they recognize. The campaign which tries to stop violence against children *may* actually be encouraging it.

This article is not an attempt to knock those who show their support for relevant issues. I recognize that these are important issues that deserve support. Facebook is a great medium to communicate that, and it's fine to reminisce about your favourite childhood cartoon characters among friends. But don't claim it's helping the children who face abuse, and don't use it to kill your guilt.

It seems these campaigns are next to ineffective in creating actual change. I encourage Facebook users to think before they jump on the next bandwagon that pops up on their newsfeed. Perhaps next year, the masses could post relevant statistics regarding these issues, because sexual innuendos and cute profile pictures just aren't cutting it. In a comment from fellow student Michiko Bown-Kai: "I think it would be just as effective to have everyone change their status to a number and then later reveal it is the number of women who die of breast cancer every year." This is a great suggestion; Michiko is right, it would in fact be much more effective. It would be great to see our generation utilizing the social media which we spend countless hours on to actually do something constructive.

What's In the Cupboard?

Peanut M&Ms and Eggo Waffles, That's What

Laura Trabucco

Student at King's studying English and Philosophy



Last year, countless family friends and relatives felt the need to begin most conversations with various versions of 'how's your first year going?', and when answering the proverbial question, I was happy to assure them it was going wonderfully. Yes, my roommate was great. Yes, I was doing my homework. But slowly, that inevitable 'but' crept in, and by the end of the year, one small complaint had grown into a full-fledged whine. I was quick to declare my hatred for all things related to the cafeteria. I was sick of the food, the portion sizes, the excessive number of times they ran out of clean cutlery and I was forced to use cheap plastic utensils instead (the horror). I couldn't wait for

when I had my own kitchen again. I told anyone who would listen about the beautiful homemade meals I would cook. I had big plans, and an impressive repertoire to back them up. I genuinely loved to cook. I couldn't wait to be free from that awful cafeteria food.

When some kids move out, their parents buy them cars. Some parents get their kids flashlights in case the hydro goes out. My father bought for me a seven-inch Santoku knife, perfect for chopping garlic and other vegetables. I was going to make him proud. I moved into my new house, armed with a Panini press and a slow cooker. My mum bought me a recipe book chock full of simple, no nonsense recipes. My intentions were good and my ambition was high. Which perhaps explains why, as I reached mid-November, I was utterly bewildered when I realized I'd been surviving on peanut M&Ms and Eggo waffles.

In a moment of deepest procrastination, I accidentally picked up my long forgotten cookbook and started leafing through the pages. I was astounded. FOOD. Beautiful, home cooked, carefully prepared, nutritious food. How had this happened? What had I become?

In particular, I realized I had developed a general aversion to preparing meat. I could (and did, for a while) blame my malnutrition on my two vegetarian roommates, insisting that their non-meat eating ways had scarred me psychologically, leaving me feeling too guilty to cook my own meat. Then for a while, I tried to blame my lack of a grocery budget, fear of food poisoning, the size of our kitchen, the inadequacy of my spice rack. There was no time to cook

“Some parents get their kids flashlights in case the hydro goes out. My father bought for me a seven-inch Santoku knife...”

proper meals, I insisted. My life was far too busy. At the end of the day, however, I can't really chock my poor eating habits to anything but laziness. Well, laziness and a fear of failing. Cooking for one person, I've since realized, is not quite like cooking for a family, especially when the latter is a group effort. I wasn't sure how to proceed and, to be honest, I was intimidated. It was easier, if not necessarily healthier, to make a can of beans and call it a day.

As part of my New Years resolutions, I promised myself that my poor eating habits would be a thing of the past. I would re-discover the kitchen. I would cover all my food groups! I would learn to cook! For real, this time.

For a push in the right direction I went to my good friend, who is known to be a goddess in the kitchen and an all-around beautiful person. We've spent many a conversation gushing about our mutual love for food and all things food related, during which I guiltily pushed the can of lentils I was subsiding on to the back of my mind and remembered better days of steak and eggplant parmesan. She promised to help me.

We set up a plan. I am going to learn, or perhaps re-learn, what to do in the kitchen. At some point, this mission became about more than just eating a well-balanced diet. It became more about my own self-worth, a sudden need to know that I could be independent, without the help of take-out food or frozen dinners.

I'll be back, and when I return I won't be malnourished or depressed, and I'm inviting you, King's readers, to join me in my quest to rediscover the beauty of a home cooked meal. I will be happy, confident, on my way to self-actualization with my newly found sense of self. Or, you know, something like that.





The Dorchester

Luke Preston

Student at King's studying Psychology

I knew that as soon as I walked in the Dorchester that I had to live here. A sign that read "come live where the cool people live" gave me no other option, as I'm sure it did to every other potential "cool resident" who was lucky enough to get an apartment in the Richmond street apartment building.

A healthy contingent of King's students reside in the Dorchester in what has become known as "the big D". A party hard group of Chris Antony, Paul Irish, Paul Stonkus, Mike Saxton, Chris Bednarz, Dom Schirripa, Dan Vervaecke and myself usually connected through a big D BBM group, meet up for pre-drinks and for the big d's own midnight chillables (see tenants). Rarely is work ever accomplished easily because someone is always down for a movie,



a night out raging, or chillables. The big D is fortunate enough to have its own in-house DJ Paul Irish; whereby although rare, has been known to throw some house sets down from time to time.

From our balcony we have a great view of Somerset apartments and Elgin hall, obviously two very attractive buildings. The big D is very convenient in its close location to King's, main campus and Christina's restaurant. There is a variety store in the basement which is ideal for hangovers, however it does not have the most helpful hours when in need. The laundry room would be nice if they did not charge close to three dollars for every load, and if in the summertime the managers could clean the constant algae infested pool so that the walls are blue as opposed to green, that would be great. Thankfully management has recently decided to renew the elevator license that was six months

overdue. If only they could find a way to make it faster, tenants would be much happier.

All in all it's a fairly easy place to live in, the rent is reasonable, and the location is prime, but the walls are paper thin, so if you have a roommate be prepared to hear their partners scream, and during late nights studying don't be surprised if you hear the neighbour crying to her boyfriend about him not loving her or something, I couldn't really make it out. Would I recommend living in the big D? Only if you have a solid crew to get you through the grind.

***Editor's Note: This piece, as always, was published unedited in order to retain its comic value**

THE WAY ZORBA SEES IT

Steven Suntres
Editor-in-Chief



As university students, we find ourselves trapped within the target demographic for many of the world's major industries trying to label themselves as being a service toward a better life for students. Although each aspect of student life plays an integral role in contributing to the overall image of University students, few things are more influential toward the cultural significance of university than the music industry.

No matter which one of the grossly generalized, and at times, caustically inaccurate student stereotypes you identify yourself with throughout your academic career, there is no denying that at times you will need an escape; whether it be from the rough day you had at work, the fight you just had with a loved one, or the looming deadline of that 10-page paper you are so apathetically stressing about, everyone needs a sanctuary to calm themselves in order to think about whatever is on their mind. Now I am confident in the fact that any one of us, no matter how our preferences may differ, use music as a vessel for this very escape.

In the last issue of the Regis, students had a chance to read about the views of the up and coming electronic music scene that is emerging in London through the eyes of my fellow editor Paul Stonkus. Paul raised several great points about the music scene and poses a great question as to how far the popularity of this music may go. Although the thought of this scene growing in popularity is important, I would like to shift focus and pose a new question: How exactly is music such as this seeping into the mainstream conscious? Where is it taking us? And ultimately, what does this say about society as a whole?

When looking at the themes in music throughout the scope of the mainstream over the past two decades, the thoughts that seem to dominate the airwaves are not only redundant, but also deteriorating in meaning. When looking at any genre in mainstream music, the prevalent themes seem to encapsulate one feeling that someone may be experiencing at any instantaneous moment in their life, whether that is a feeling of happiness, despair, confusion, heartbreak, or a mixture of the four. Take the re-emergence of the singer/songwriter over the past ten years for example. We have seen artists such as John Mayer, Dallas Green, Damien rice etc (this list is endless), talk about a sweeping generalization of feelings that an entire demographic can not only listen to, but also relate to. And just like that, there is a massive piece of society that become a collection of short-sighted, and complacent individuals, only caring for how they are feeling instantaneously in any given moment. Just like that, the politically charged lyrics sung by singer/songwriters such as Bob Dylan, Joni Mitchell, Cat Stevens etc (this list used to be endless), lose all of their meaning, and simply become a distant

memory of a time where people still cared about each other. So, for the past twenty years, we have been provided with popular music that has given us a brief escape into an instantaneous moment of complacency where your feelings, and only **your** feelings are of importance.

It is simply human nature to grow tired of these redundancies, and to search for something new; who can blame anyone willing to do so? In this issue of the Regis, we find KUCSC Vice-President of Operations, Justin Brown, talking about the economic collapse of 2008, what it “should have marked, was a time of massive structural change”. In order to have a massive structural change, a massive change in the consciousness of society is needed, and nothing is a better narration of the mainstream conscious in society than music itself.

Now, over the past 5 years, we have witnessed a massive climb in the popularity of electronic music, as Paul covered well in our last issue. In Paul’s article, when talking about rave culture, he went on to explain that “at a rave, everyone is equal, everyone is accepted, and everyone is dancing to the same beat. You can’t tell me the world couldn’t use a better dose of that”. It is important to fully understand what Paul is saying here in order to fully understand the kind of escape that electronic music presents to us. In my mind, this is an escape into nothingness. As Paul explained, the beat of electronic music gives everyone a chance to be equal, which almost seems like it is leading us to a place where there is a clean slate in our own minds; a place where we have a new beginning to work with; a place where we can change some minds. I truly hope that this is true, for it could be the remedy that society so desperately needs at this given time.

Now my intent is not to seem like a shameless promoter for electronic music, because I am still unsure as to how long this genre can sustain its popularity. I don’t feel like this music is taking hold of its listeners, but rather that it provides the uniqueness that its listeners have been craving in order to break away from the ailing ability in society to create individual thought. In no way am I saying that electronic music will be the spearhead towards a better way of thinking, but it is definitely an indication of how people are beginning to think. For centuries there has been beliefs about how powerful music can be in controlling one’s mind, and lets just hope a time comes where that power can be used for some good again, rather than inflating a bank account. Let’s hope this surge in electronic music is a cultural stepping stone towards the people that inhabit this planet caring about each other with the passion to strive for a better future; a future that does not promote complacency, but an ambitious urge to do better.

Above all, I hope that someday I can turn on the radio and hear a song that actually means something; when that day comes, the world will be a better place.

...but that’s just the way Zorba sees it.

A Farewell From the Outgoing Head Soph



Four Orientation Weeks, three years of sopping and one year of leading the program at King's – and now I am moving on. I am experiencing feelings of nostalgia, gratitude and depression as I walk away from a livelihood that has defined who I am and what I stand for. Many people don't understand why this program exists and why people strive to rock a dirty green polo and get no sleep for a week – and undoubtedly the program means different things to different people. I want to explore, and try to articulate what sopping has meant to me.

The soph program for me has allowed me to surround myself with people, different types of people, who have become my mentors, friends and soul mates. The people that compose the King's soph team represent the core values of the program and the different characters and faces of the King's community. However, it isn't the team itself that makes sopping so important- it is the love.

Creating a sense of community and welcoming the first year students to King's campus is important, but what I think, the program really boils down to is love. The soph team and program is about love. It is about love for each other, frosh and new friends. It is about love for this university, your program, your residence and your community. The program is about empowering people to be themselves, to find themselves, push boundaries and recognize their full potential.

When I look back and reflect on the past four years, I can confidently state that the Orientation program has defined my university experience. Being Head soph and leading the team this past year has been one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of my life, and I am so grateful to have had the opportunity.

I now place the program in the strong and capable hands of Steven Suntres, the new King's Head Soph. He understands this program and love in a way not many people do. I have all the faith in the world in him, his capacity as leader and his ability to continue to improve this program that means so much to so many people.

Well, King's – it has been fun. I love this program. I love my team. I love the frosh.

Peace out,

Alexandra Williamson
Seven Months/ Right Clicked/ GPS

NET NEUTRALITY

Affecting us all, yet strangely...no one cares

Nick Dagostino

King's Student Studying Political Science

Do you use the Internet? I'm going to make the speculative assumption that you do, and probably a considerable amount at that. Are you aware that Internet access providers, companies like Rogers who connect you to the Internet, have attempted to vastly alter how the Internet works? It is all based around what is called "Net Neutrality", and is important to every person who goes online. Sure, it sounds boring as hell, but by being informed, you're able to better understand the utility that you use every day.

History of Network Neutrality

The term 'Network Neutrality' refers to the framework for how the Internet operates at the present moment. The Internet is unrestricted, meaning that when one logs onto the Internet, they are free to access whichever website they choose at the same speed as any other site, as well as utilizing other aspects of the Internet at equal speeds, like: voice over internet protocol services (like Skype), E-mail, or streaming video.

The Internet was designed this way: as an open medium that allows for every feature and every service to be treated without prejudice. In fact, telecommunications companies operating as regulated public utilities initially provided the physical infrastructure that enables Internet access. These companies had to adhere to the traditional principles of "common carriage", meaning the non-discriminatory treatment of messages.

The history of the common carrier with regards to the transportation of information dates back to when the telephone industry was developing. Since inception, the phone industry adhered to a policy based on "separation of content and carriage." This meant that in order to ensure that the telephone companies would have no incentive to discriminate against messages for economic gain, their operations were limited strictly to the business of basic common carriage, nor were they allowed to own newspapers, publishers, broadcasters or other producers of content.

Cable Companies

This is unfortunately starting to change. Cable Internet access providers were relieved of their common carriage obligations during a landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling in 2005. *Telecommunications Assn. v. Brand X Internet Services (2005)* ruled broadband cable modem service as an "information service" instead of a "telecommunications service" therefore it was not subject to common carrier regulation.

The Supreme Court ruling had an immediate impact on how access providers viewed their role. Internet access provider AT&T (then known as Southwestern Bell) proposed to implement a "new Internet" where they could discriminate between Internet applications and charge service providers a premium to access subscribers via their last-mile technology.

The Importance of Neutrality

This topic of whether or not to control the principle of net neutrality is not simply a "regulatory" or a "telecom" issue; Internet policy can have a considerable role in the general economy as well, since the Internet is a key element of the information and communication technology sector. The promotion of network neutrality is the same as the promotion of fair evolutionary competition in any privately owned

environment, whether it's a telephone network or a retail store. In addition, there are concerns that network operators will discriminate against certain types of content and political opinions.

Argument for Deregulation

Advocates of the market driven approach, typically the telecom and cable company industry, have argued that the future of the Internet will only be successful if substantial upgrades are made to its infrastructure. Some industry groups called backed by corporate interests argue that today's Internet is "creaky" and in desperate need of improvement. According to his group, telecoms are looking to gain enough capital to be able to make these necessary improvements, and that there is no indication that content is being discriminated against.

Examples of Online Discrimination

Even though the telecoms claim that they're not ones to discriminate against online content, there are examples of most Canadian Internet access providers engaged in content discrimination.

Telus – In 2005, Telus actively blocked access to Voices for Change, a Telecommunications Workers' Union website. Telus was involved in a controversial labour dispute with the union, but its decision to block access to the site was unprecedented.

Shaw – They introduced a premium VoIP service in 2005 that promised to prioritize Internet telephony traffic for a monthly fee. What that meant was that the use of competing services (like Skype) would require a supplemental fee, while Shaw would waive the charge for customers using their own service.

Rogers – They started actively engaging in "traffic shaping," a process that limits the amount of bandwidth to peer-to-peer file-sharing applications. After first denying such allegations, the company effectively acknowledged it in 2005. These actions have raised concerns that the company could limit bandwidth to competing content or services of the one's that they provide. Simply put, the claims made by access providers that they themselves would actively engage in the non-discriminatory treatment of content, if the government decided against regulation of common carrier principles, is not backed up by historical examples.

Regulation of 'Net Neutrality

Canada unfortunately lacks the proper legislation to properly maintain the principles of net neutrality. While we as Canadians are lacking in support, Americans are getting results.

The Internet Freedom Preservation Act of 2009 is a strong push for U.S. regulation. The main points of the bill are to guard against discrimination or degradation of lawful content, and preserve the freedom of independent Internet content.

Conclusion and Recommendation

This problem is as equally complex as it is vital to the future of the Internet. Without regulation, companies could potentially create a "tiered service", where you're forced to pay extra to access certain content, like media, sports, or independent sites. Lets allow that the Internet to stay in the hands of the people and ensure that proper regulation, not market driven discrimination, guides its growth. You can get more information on the net neutrality in Canada from multiple sites, including SaveOurNet.ca.



Erynne Gilpin

President of the Social Justice and Peace Club

Collaboration between student groups is vital, but how can it come about? An incredible example of student movement, commitment and collaboration is with Cinema Politica based in Concordia University in Montreal. This student run group has now become an international project and inspires students all over Canada to get involved, get collaborating and get moving! Ryan Craven is a masters student from Concordia who is currently running the Cinema Politica chapter here in London Ontario. We would love to get the King's community involved with this incredible project! But first, What is Cinema Politica? Here's what Ryan has to say

Cinema Politica

Cinema Politica started in Montreal at Concordia University by a group of committed students who wanted to screen political documentary films on their campus. This simple idea has grown into a network of local film exhibition sites, series, and festivals across North and South America, Europe, Asia and Oceania. Canada alone has over 30 local chapters, including Cinema Politica London. Cinema Politica is a volunteer run organization and all screenings are pay what you can.

The objective of Cinema Politica is to promote the discussion of political cinema by independent artists, with an emphasis on Canadian works. We program works that challenge conventional fiction and documentary narratives, as well as films that explore under-represented stories and characters.

London's local chapter has been around for a few years. We started by screening films in the Wimple Lounge at Kings University College and last year we moved our screenings to the Central Library on Dundas Street in downtown London with the hopes of attracting a broader and larger audience. The move was successful and the growth continues with this year's monthly series being screened in the beautiful Wolf Performance Hall with a capacity of over 350, also in the Central Library.

Cinema Politica is more than a film series. It has the real potential to be the nucleus of a progressive community in a city or on a campus. Concordia University in Montreal is the network's biggest series where audiences regularly range from 300 to 600 at their weekly screenings. In the student life section of the 2004 special university issue of Macleans magazine, Cinema Politica Concordia was listed as one of the three main reasons for students to attend the University. Concordia is one of Canada's most politically active campuses and Cinema Politica has played a major role in cultivating that progressive community. At each screening, political groups are able to promote their events or activities and connect with like-minded individuals and groups in a unique and powerful way. It has become an integral force of the progressive movement at Concordia University and it is my hope to make Cinema Politica London the same kind of force.

If you are interested in learning more, check out Cinema Politica on the Web or contact the SJP CLUB at sjpclub@kucsc.com

A Final Message from Your VP Operations, Justin Brown...

So I was thinking about how society's focus on recovering from the financial collapse of 2008. All the talk has been about stimulating the economy and bringing the "consumer" back. The liberal economic capitalist system that we have been living under has been, and is still in many parts of the world, on the verge of collapse; take the EU for example. This made me think if the recovery relies on the return of the consumer that WE, society as a whole, have the power to choose whether or not this is indeed the best system for us.

If WE, the consumer, choose that needlessly over consuming everything from food, water, electricity, etc is NOT what is best for us or our planet, than WE CAN have an impact. This has been societies opportunity to take a stance against the greed, corruption, and exploitation that has gotten us to this point. The corporate elites received their bailouts, while the remainder of the world was forced to sit back and watch their life savings, jobs, and homes disappear; they will be fine, but will we?

It has been ingrained into our minds that consumption is the only way and by needlessly spending all of our money we will somehow fix our financial problems. Somehow we have been convinced that no real structural change to the system is needed and that going back to our old ways of overconsumption in an economy built on debt will make everything better.

The best thing that the general population could have done during these troubled times was save their money and stop consuming. Yes, of course we would hear from the talking heads on CNN, CNBC, and FOX that consumption is the only way to bring our economy back. Would you expect any less? Is this what we really want? They of course rely on our willingness to blindly and needlessly consume to make them rich, and that is the argument that will dominate mainstream media.

What the Financial Crisis of 2008 should have marked, was a time of massive structural change from our current capitalist system. Capitalism is based on successes and failures and in this case it has clearly FAILED. The lower and middle class have suffered while the upper elites have become even richer and more powerful. Yet it is US who are expected to revive our economies by needlessly spending OUR hard earned money, while unemployment remains at record highs and economies around the world continue to collapse.

I am not saying that making this change would be easy, but we cannot continue to be so close-minded. We should be thinking long term, NOT short term. That is again the problem with a consumer society; it brainwashes populations into thinking short term. Instead of planning for our futures and the futures of those to come, we are more concerned with going to work, getting our paycheck and deciding on what it is we will go out and consume next to make us feel that all our hard work was worth it.

This is exactly what those in power want. A society distracted by needless consuming rather than one that is actively involved in its political system. If we focused more on what our politicians were doing then maybe the choices they make would actually represent our interests as a whole. Consumerism disengages populations from their political system by distracting them with needless and mindless activities. It is no wonder that voter turnout in democratic countries around the world has been on a decline as society has become so disconnected with reality.

In short, it is in times of economic crisis such as the one we have been going through when we should be sitting back and reflecting on the path that we have been going down. We should be critically discussing the system which got us to this point and making fundamental structural changes to the way we live to ensure that it does not happen again. Instead, what we have been hearing from our leaders is that the best way to fix this financial crisis is to go back to our old ways of accumulating debt and over consuming. Programs such as TARP and Quantitative Easing have simply propped up a failed economic system and have falsely led us to believe that by going back to our old ways everything will be okay.

KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE STUDENTS' COUNCIL
PROUDLY PRESENTS

CRAIG KIELBURGER

THURSDAY JANUARY 20TH 2011

THE FOUNDER AND CHAIR OF FREE THE CHILDREN AND ME TO WE

HIS SPEECH IS GOING TO BE

ME TO WE

HOW ONE PERSON CAN MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE.

VENUE/TIME - KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LABATT HALL
266 EPWORTH AVENUE • GATES OPEN AT 6:30PM • OPEN TO ALL AGES

TICKETS \$10
FOR UWO STUDENTS
\$20 FOR NON-STUDENTS
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO
ME TO WE

TICKETS AVAILABLE
KINGS PROSHOP & INFOSOURCE AT THE UCC