

Carbon tech may need work

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"Rather than bringing Canada closer to its Kyoto targets, this would only encourage a continued dependence on oil and other fossil fuels," Moorhouse said.

Even Prime Minister Harper admitted carbon capture and storage may present obstacles.

"It is possible that it will become evident that there needs to be more work to advance this [carbon capture transport and storage] technology to a point where it is effective," Harper noted.

And Alberta Environment Minister Rob Renner said it's unlikely that many of the affected companies can even meet the new Albertan standards.

"The fact of the matter is that the vast majority of [affected companies] are going to have to make contributions to the technology fund. I believe technology is key to delivering on Albertans' vision for emission management," Renner said. "By dedicating a technology fund right here in Alberta, we are able to draw on our own renewable resource of innovation."

New version of exam will be more difficult

GRE • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"[They] are the most significant changes to the GRE exam in its 55-year history, and impact pretty much every aspect of the exam," said Susan Kaplan, Director of Graduate Programs for Kaplan Test Prep and Admission. Kaplan offers test preparation programs for entrance exams, and also offers private tutoring and one-on-one admissions guidance.

The GRE, administered by Educational Testing Services (ETS), will be available in its current format until 31 July. It will be reintroduced, starting on 10 September, creating a void for test-taking during the month of August.

Kaplan explained the main reasons for the changes.

"One is they want the GRE exam to be a more accurate predictor of success at graduate school. Along with that they want to reduce the effects of memorization on the exam," she said. "The final [reason] is they want to address some security concerns they've had."

The test provides a general assessment of verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning and analytical writing. It's either accepted or recommended for almost any accredited graduate or professional school.

The GRE as a requirement varies based on department at the University of Alberta. The Graduate Students Association and the Department of Computer Science, one of the faculties

that accepts the GRE, declined comment on the changes.

The GRE exam is currently offered online at computer-based test centres almost every day of the year. However, Kaplan believes that the cutback to 35 set times a year will increase the need for physical test centres in order to accommodate the almost half-a-million students who write the GRE each year. ETS has plans to increase the number of testing centres from 300 to 6000 worldwide.

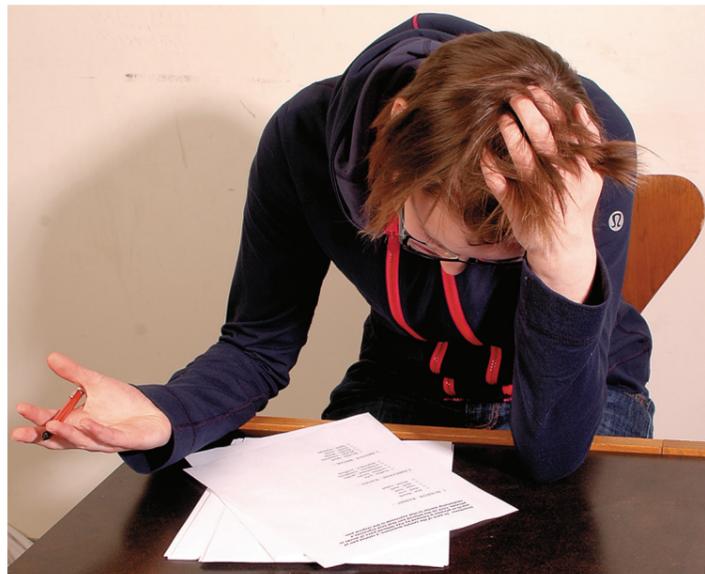
Aside from the test dates, Kaplan explained that the actual format of the exam will change significantly.

"The current GRE exam is in what's called a computer-adaptive format, so it's given on the computer and essentially adapted to your performance. So if you're answering questions correctly, it will serve you up more difficult questions," Kaplan said.

"The new GRE exam will still be on computer, but is not going to have that adaptive format to it. Instead everybody taking the exam will get the exact same questions, so the test maker's going to need to ask more questions at a wider variety of difficulty levels," she said.

These changes are designed to address concerns of unfair advantages over the past number of years, with previous test-takers posting answers on the Internet.

Any changes implemented in the fall



JOSH NAULT

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are confined to the GRE General Test. Unaffected are the eight GRE Subject Tests, which act as more specific indicators of proficiency in fields ranging from biology to literature in English to Mathematics.

Kaplan also stresses that the changes carry some negative implications for potential grad students.

"We're recommending, as long as people have time to prepare, that they do take the current version of the

exam, because the new one is going to be longer, it's going to be more difficult, and it's going to be offered less often," she said.

She recommends spending about three months preparing for the exam, and encourages students to register early.

"People should really be thinking about how this impacts them right now and [start] making their plans," Kaplan reiterated.



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