

# THE GATEWAY

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RYAN SHIPPELT

## Bear Scat divides SU Exec

RYAN HEISE  
Deputy News Editor

Tuesday evening's Students' Council meeting revealed a clear division in the Students' Union Executive regarding the organization's stance on whether or not to fund Bear Scat.

The contention came from a political policy that Council passed on 12 June regarding the SU's official stance on the supplementary online registration program. In it, the final line of the policy read, "Be it further resolved that support of Bear Scat will not burden students or the Students' Union."

Many councillors felt that this line limited the SU's options for dealing with the issue of supporting Bear Scat and advocating to the University to improve Bear Tracks.

As such, Vice-President (External) Steven Dollansky and Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Eamonn Gamble made a motion to rescind the final line of the political policy.

PLEASE SEE **BEAR SCAT** ♦ PAGE 2

**SURE THEY'RE NOT LA-Z-BOYS** But Students' Council is plagued with 17 vacant seats—they might not be comfy, but the SU needs to fill them. See story page 5.

## First edition of *Pride and Prejudice* found in U of A library

AMANDA ASH  
News Staff

Hidden at the foot of two marble staircases, the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library isn't a place many students venture. For starters, few even know it exists, and those who do have likely approached it with caution, peering over the railings and down into the basement's dim lighting, not knowing what mysterious objects lie behind its plain looking doors.

Inside this curious library, though, it's a totally different story. Finished wood, sparkling glass walls, and gold-plated banisters add a bit of flair and elegance to a place where many precious—not to mention old and expensive—books call home. And for good reason: lining the walls are display cases neatly arranged with worn, tattered, and ultimately sought-after novels and documents that any avid reader would drool over.

As of late, there's been a recent addition to this cherished family of exhibited works that many students, as well as members of the public, will be interested in: an 1818, first-edition copy of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* which was simply found sitting unprotected on one of Special Collections' shelves.

On Wednesday, 12 September, this copy of *Pride and Prejudice*, along with a hand-made preservation case, was dedicated to the memory of Dr Bruce Stovel. Stovel, passed away 12 January 2007, and was a highly influential English and Film Studies professor, as well as a renowned Jane Austen scholar.

**"The University Library purchased a first edition of the three-decker novel *Pride and Prejudice* in the '60s sometime."**

JEANNINE GREEN  
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIAN

With Special Collections Librarians on hand and members of Friends of the University of Alberta in tow, Stovel's wife, Professor Nora Stovel, received the book and its case with gratitude. Now, her own personal "Mr Darcy" will be remembered—and preserved—forever.

Jeannine Green, Special Collections Librarian, said the book's history is nearly as extensive as the late Stovel's

accomplishments, making the dedication that much more appropriate.

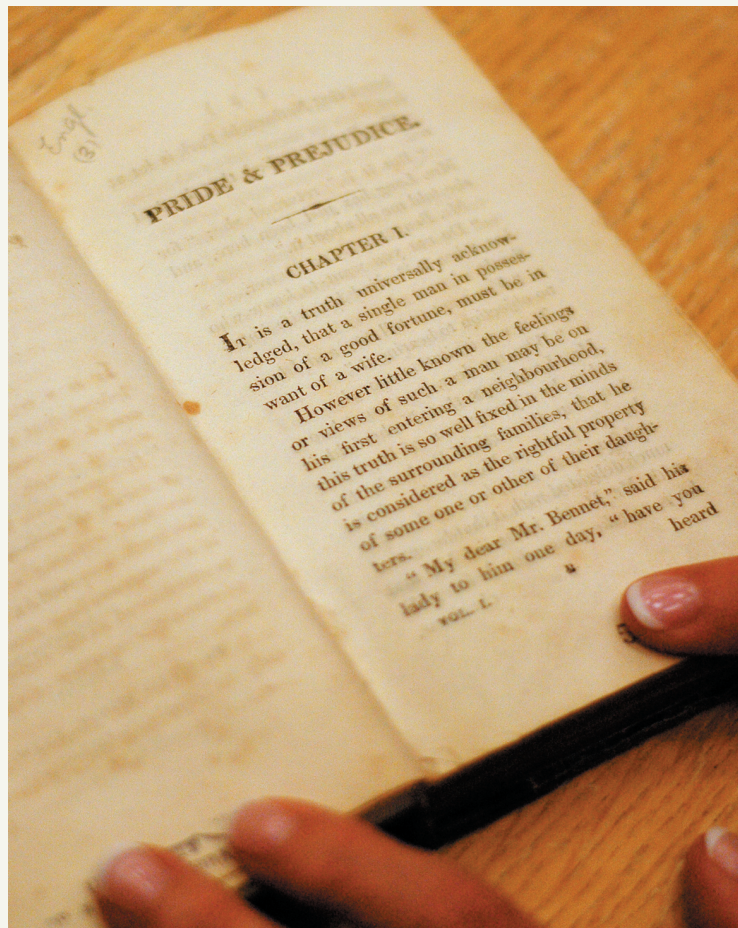
"The University Library purchased a first edition of a three-decker novel *Pride and Prejudice* in the '60s sometime," Green explained. "It's a wonderful copy, complete with a half-title. Many 19th-century binders removed that half-title after the fall-out page, and it doesn't really matter to anybody else except those who care about books."

According to Green, Austen first started writing the novel in 1796, with the working title *First Impressions*. Austen's father submitted it to a publisher in 1797, and it was turned down, but after her success with *Sense and Sensibility*—which was published in 1811—she heavily edited the text and change the title to *Pride and Prejudice*.

No one knows for certain, but according to Green, there were only approximately 1500 copies printed of the first edition, of which this copy is one. It sold out, was the best seller of its day, and went on to be printed in many successive editions.

According to Green, the Friends of the University of Alberta, a not-for-profit organization, commissioned local bookbinder Alex McGuckin to build a specialized preservation case.

PLEASE SEE **AUSTEN** ♦ PAGE 6

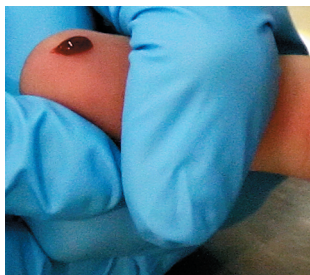


LAUREN STIEGLITZ

**DREAMING OF DARCY** Austen lovers can now get their hands on a classic.

## Inside

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## Give blood ...

Two *Gateway* editors roll up their sleeves and shed some blood to help strangers across Canada.

**FEATURE, PAGE 14-15**



## ... or Die Nasty

These guys and girls want to want to keep you up all night long. Then all day, then all night again. And again.

**A&E, PAGE 16**