

## LSAT MCAT GMAT GRE Preparation Seminars

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Personalized Professional Instruction
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

**Oxford Seminars**  
780-428-8700 / 1-800-269-6719  
www.oxfordseminars.ca

## Teach English Overseas

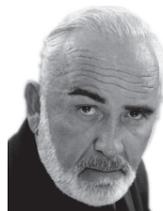


- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

**OXFORD**  
SEMINARS  
780-428-8700 / 1-800-269-6719  
www.oxfordseminars.ca

# Obesity isn't a problem that can be solved just by sitting around

If we keep accommodating larger individuals, they'll have no pressure to change



BEN  
ETTINGER

As the 2012 Olympic Games in London draw nearer, preliminary preparations are underway to accommodate the large influx of both athletes and spectators.

Among these is the widening of seats in stadiums so that larger individuals can fit in them—something that contradicts the Games' celebration of physical fitness.

Seats in Olympic venues can currently box in people with ass-ends 50cm wide—4cm larger than the previous 46. The official reason for this expansion is, of course, the classic one: we must not discriminate against people on the basis of size or stature, and every effort should be made to allow all those who want to enjoy the thrilling events of this historic athletic competition to do so. Which, I think, is a total load of crap.

The last thing that these people

should be doing is sitting down and watching athletic events—they're the ones who should be down there running around the track.

If we want to fight gargantuan girth, making room for it isn't the best way to go about it. I guess you could call it discrimination if you want, but is it really? People are free to live whatever lifestyle they choose. This doesn't mean society should adapt itself in order to prop up unhealthy choices.

**There's something wrong with being overweight: it's bad for your health. Just telling people doesn't seem to be getting the message across; perhaps some societal pressure is in order.**

In essence, this is what we're doing when we increase the seat sizes at stadiums. Moreover, it's this kind of appeasement that allows the problem to go unsolved.

I will grant that people whose weight issues arise out of genetic disorders or other factors beyond their control should perhaps be excused from the debate. But we shouldn't make amends for people who are grossly overweight due to their poor eating habits or a simple lack of will to get rid of their schmeebbs.

We should do nothing to make these people more comfortable—maybe then they'll choose to do something about their ballooning BMIs.

There's something wrong with being overweight: it's bad for your health. Just telling people doesn't seem to be getting the message across; perhaps some societal pressure is in order.

I'm not saying that upping the width of a seat will increase obesity, but I think this is symptomatic of a larger issue. We're telling these people, either directly or indirectly, that it's okay for them to be overweight.

If we stop accommodating them, they'll either have to change or stay on their couch at home and get fatter. I should hope they prefer the former; unfortunately this won't happen until both parties choose to flex their muscles a bit.

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY STUDENTS' UNION ELECTIONS

### DEPUTY RETURNING OFFICERS (3 POSITIONS)

- Assist the Chief Returning Officer in overseeing the Students' Union Elections
- Opportunities to specialize in the areas of Human Resources, Public Relations and Election Logistics.
- Experience is beneficial, but not required.

**Term:** October 2007 to the end of April 2008  
**Honorarium:** \$1250

Applications must be submitted in writing to  
2-900 SUB no later than Tuesday, Oct 2 @ 17:00.

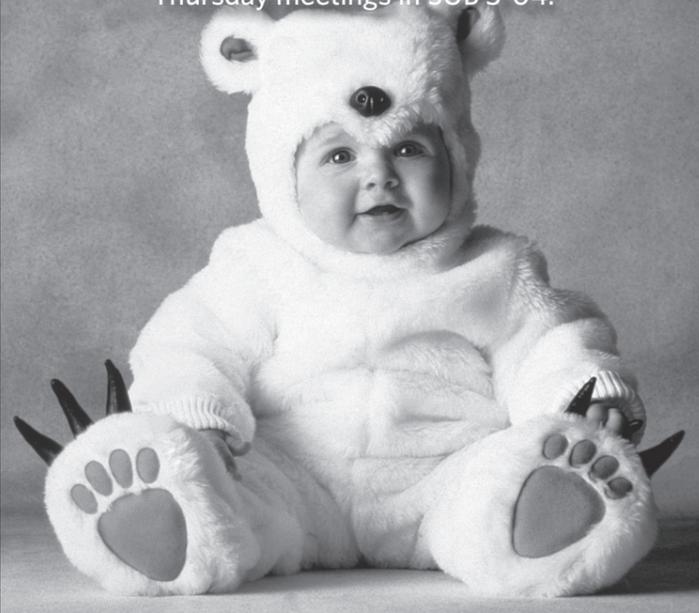
To learn more about the position please visit the  
Students' Union Election Website:  
[WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/VOTE](http://WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA/VOTE)



Some people believe that a child wearing a bear costume is adorable.

### THESE PEOPLE ARE TRAITORS TO OUR CAUSE.

If you want to discuss the growing problem of bear sympathizers, drop by one of our Four O'clock Thursday meetings in SUB 3-04.



**GATEWAY OPINION**  
Watching out for bear spies since 1910

### LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

If educated University women aren't willing to speak out, who will? I'm not saying you have to burn bras, stop shaving, and support abortion, but at least write a fucking angry letter. Jeez.

M SNIDER  
Education V

### SU not servicing students

There's one thing that escapes me in all this debate about Bear Scat: where do some SU executives get the idea that the sole function of the SU is lobbying?

Part of the SU's mandate—the most important part, I would argue—is to provide services for students. Students certainly don't give the SU \$65.75 per term just to lobby—that money is supposed to go towards providing useful services.

Perhaps some executives, particularly Bobby Samuel, need to be reminded that the precious SU funds that they don't want going toward Bear Scat only exist because students pay SU fees each term, expecting services in return.

Forget all this Dedicated Fee Unit garbage. We're already paying the SU for services, and I, for one, feel we're not getting much value for our money.

I'd wager that Bear Scat is used by more students than any other SU service, and thus it is entirely reasonable, and should be expected, that the SU fund it out of the money we give them to provide services.

SU executives: lobby all you like, feel righteous about it, but don't forget what we're paying you for.

ADAM WOLFE GORDON  
Computing Science IV

### Let's trade notes, not germs

Everybody stays up late cramming for exams and getting projects done, leaving us all on edge and run down. Although everybody loves university students, germs especially love us. We catch and amass diseases like they're Pokémon.

I know while in the Tory bathroom holding your nose from the stink and thinking about the hot boy/girl you just boinked there last week, the last thing on your mind is to be washing those little extremities or yours. However, doing more than the usual rise—even an extra 45 seconds—can go a long way to stopping the spread of germs. 80 per cent of germs could be killed if we all just washed our hands. Everybody thinks toilet seats and public restroom knobs have a ton of germs on them; however, most people don't realize that ATM machines and doorways have more.

While sitting in a lecture theatre, the professor is muffled by coughing, right? Cover your mouth. Just because you're plugging away, it doesn't give you points of valour; you're making it hard to hear.

Yesterday, while answering somebody's question, they coughed openly into my face, and when I stopped talking, they asked me why? Are you retarded? You just coughed into my face.

I don't want your germs going into my mouth; I don't even want your germs on my clothing. I'm sorry, but if you're sick, stay home. And please cover your mouth if you must be on campus, and stop blowing your load everywhere like a groom on his wedding night.

RYAN PAYE  
Business Communications IV

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to [letters@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:letters@gateway.ualberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature—especially if it's typed with caps lock on. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's full name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

## THE BURLAP SACK

Maybe it's just me, but it seems as though campus is especially rich with ignorant troglodytes blessed with a bonus chromosome, to whom nothing in the world is more important than rocking out to some sweet tunes.

While riding my bike through the bus loop yesterday, I encountered no fewer than five individuals who, for some counter-evolutionary motivation, seemed to prefer being hit by a speeding cyclist than to take a few seconds away from Kanye's new album and look both ways before crossing the street.

I even went out and installed a shiny new bell on my ride this weekend for the expressed purpose of preserving the safety and well being of my fellow pavement-dwellers—but alas, my efforts have fallen upon deaf ears. At least, deaf to the world as it happens anywhere outside the musical radius of those irritatingly trendy white earbuds.

I'm not sure if I'm more saddened by useless parents of these clueless wonders, who apparently forgot to instill the importance of road safety in their crotch droppings at an early age; or the shit-mongers themselves, who not only provided me with an apt test of my brakes and navigational skills, but solidified my seething hatred for them with their looks of disdain, as if it's my fault for clipping them.

While you're lying in the sack, being beaten with bicycle tires, I hope you realize that you've no one but yourselves to blame.

MIKE KENDRICK

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.