

Tiles hazardous

Re: HUB mall construction
It was a warm day in October when I decided to step into HUB mall for a well-deserved cup of Java. As a busy student who doesn't have much time for idle pursuits, I had not previously seen the "improvements" to HUB mall. Imagine my surprise when, juggling coffee, briefcase and the latest edition of *The Gateway*, I approached the "artistic" tiled sections of the mall and almost did irreversible damage to my already-abused body by slipping on the sleek surface. What do the construction planners have in mind? Do they want to further cut university enrollment by introducing bodily hazards on campus? The tiles are incredibly slippery and if people find that walking on them is difficult now, the problem could potentially become very serious in the winter when students enter the mall from outside with wet shoes/ boots. I feel that this problem should be promptly addressed by the planners to prevent accidents from happening in the future.

C.G. Petrikowski, D.D.S.
Faculty of Graduate Studies

Belugas dwindling

It's great to see a more heightened consciousness among Canadians and especially among our elected politicians in regards to our environment, but will this "heightened consciousness" still exist after the coming election? 14,000 Canadian lakes are considered dead and another 150,000 are on the danger list mostly due

to the pollutants we continue to release into the environment. Some people still believe more studies must be done (i.e. Reagan). Still others deny they are polluting our rivers and oceans (i.e. Alcan), but we only need look to nature to see the damage we are doing. For example, the seal epidemic in the North Sea this summer wiped out more than half the seals in that region. The source was linked to chemical pollutants. Closer to home the spotlight was recently focussed on the remaining beluga whales in the St. Lawrence river. Less than 100 years ago there were approximately 5,000 beluga whales still surviving in the St. Lawrence river. Today they number less than 500 and their numbers continue to dwindle. The bodies that wash up on our shores are so littered with pollutants that they have been labelled "toxic garbage cans." We must heed this warning from nature, for we too are part of the natural system and what is happening to the whales could happen to us.

Darcy Schnepf
Science II

Smug attitude destructive

I dislike adding to the supposedly religious debates in *The Gateway*, but feel that some response should be made to Ward Antoniuk's astounding statement that "logically, there can only be one truth about God and His purpose for mankind and, frankly, we have it." (*Gateway*, October 20)

I could respond in a number of ways — criticize his faulty "logic",

or question the "we" that he feels has a patent on Truth (All Christians? Some Christians? The Outerlimits Club? Mr. Antoniuk and a few friends?). Perhaps I could patiently explain to him that the truth of God can be found in all religions, and wherever there is love. It is also tempting to ignore such blind arrogance, and hope that it will gradually fade away as Mr. Antoniuk learns a little more about the world and its peoples.

It seems to me, however, that these approaches would not address the underlying attitude of "we are right and everyone else is wrong" which is contrary to the very purpose of a university — to acquire both knowledge and a broader appreciation of humanity.

Even the most superficial examination of history reveals the vast amounts of pain, misery and death that humans have inflicted upon each other because of this smug attitude of superiority. It is not religion, as many think, that is the cause of crusades and inquisitions, but a greedy attempt by some individuals and groups to claim "The Truth" for themselves.

I am sure Mr. Antoniuk is sincere in his beliefs and in his desire to share them with others, but the world has suffered too long from his "Gott Mit Uns" attitude.

The goal of an Arts degree, Mr. Antoniuk, is not a piece of paper, or even a "radical image", but an open and engaged mind. I am disappointed that you seem to have learned so little in the years you have spent here.

Andrew Pemberton-Pigott
Arts IV



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