

TRUDEAU TO RESIGN AS PM TO FOCUS ON UOG PRESIDENCY



On Monday, January 6th, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that he will be resigning as Prime Minister. He is slated to remain in the role as the Liberal leader until a new party leader can be selected. Who will take his place? And what are his plans post-office? *Read more on this story on Page 2.*

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Games, gossip,
and more!

Trudeau to Resign as Prime Minister to Focus on University of Guelph Presidency

By Cam Billhorn

After the resignation of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland in December 2024, calls for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to resign have come from Liberals and Conservatives alike. On Monday, January 6th Trudeau held a press conference to announce that he would be resigning from his position as Prime Minister – but not for the reasons most would think. The ex-Prime Minister cited his commitment to the University of Guelph community as his reason for leaving office.

“My fellow Canadians, I know this is a hard time for us all, but a decision had to be made. Late last year it came to my attention that the President of the University of Guelph, Charlotte Yates, had resigned. The University of Guelph needs strong leadership to pull it through this time of economic trouble and I am the man for the job. Therefore, while I am sad to announce that I am resigning as your Prime Minister I am assuming the position of President of the University of Guelph. My successor shall be Charlotte Yates, former President of the University of Guelph.”

Reactions from the public and the student body have been mixed. Liberal party members and University of Guelph staff are reportedly meeting at the end of the week to discuss if this swap of power is even constitutional. O'Snap reached out to both Prime Minister Yates and President Trudeau but did not receive comment from either of them. Updates to be published as this story develops.

THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Megan Davidson

Areeb Zahir

Nola Hinton

Mac Hilborn

Cam Billhorn

Your Pal Bunsen

Bunsen Questioners

And our dedicated supporters!



Happening This Month...

January 6th: Experience Guelph opens for students seeking employment for the S25 and F25 semesters

January 10th: Last day to enroll in courses for the W25 semester

January 10th: Fake New years at Bad Luck Bar (tickets can be purchased from the Engsoc store)

January 17th: Last day for clearance to graduate at the W25 convocation

January 21st: Suggested due date for articles for the next O'Snap issue

January 31st: Last day to apply for international exchange and field school programs occurring in S25, F25, or W26

Keep your eyes peeled for an announcement about the first O'Snap social, to occur this semester!

This issue is brought to you ad-free courtesy of UoG President Trudeau.

Questions to Ask in Interviews

Takeaways from the Professional Engineers

Ontario Student Conference 2024

By Megan Davidson



As students and new graduates, navigating the job market can be overwhelming, especially when trying to find the right company to start your engineering career. With co-op job searches beginning in January and many students looking for postgraduation positions, it's essential to approach interviews and networking events prepared, not only to showcase your skills but also to determine if the employer is the right fit for you.

At the Professional Engineers of Ontario Student Conference (PEOSC), I attended two sessions, *Show Up & Succeed* and *Finding Your Ideal Work Environment*. These sessions provided valuable insights into the job search process and the kinds of questions that can help you assess a workplace. Below are key questions every engineering grad should ask potential employers, along with reasoning and possible responses.

Did you know? You can book appointments with career advisors and peer advisors to practice your interview skills at the Experiential Learning Hub using Experience Guelph.

How Does Your Company Support New Graduates Working Toward Their P.Eng?

For those of us planning to pursue our P.Eng designation, it's important to know whether the company is equipped to support us through the licensing process. You should ask if they offer opportunities for gaining relevant work experience and whether they have programs in place to help recent graduates fulfill the 34 competencies required for licensure. Remember you need 48 months of work experience under a P.Eng licensed engineer to apply for your P.Eng

What Types of Projects Will I Be Involved In?

This question helps you gauge the level of responsibility and hands-on experience you can expect in the role. Are the projects aligned with your interests and long-term career goals? Will you have opportunities to work on challenging and meaningful projects that will help you grow as an engineer?

You can share your enthusiasm for gaining hands-on experience and express how a particular type of project (for example, collaborative design or R&D) aligns with your future goals, or mention projects you have done in the past that are similar.

What Does the Onboarding Process Look Like?

Transitioning from school to work can be challenging. A structured onboarding process with sufficient training can make a big difference in helping new employees settle into their roles and responsibilities, especially in complex work environments. Asking about onboarding shows that you're thinking ahead about how to integrate into the company successfully. You can mention how structured onboarding processes in previous roles, internships, or coop placements helped you quickly become productive and feel comfortable.

What Opportunities for Professional Development Do You Offer?

It's crucial to know whether a company invests in its employees' growth. Professional development can come in many forms, from formal training programs to mentorship opportunities and conferences. By asking this question, you can determine if the company will provide the resources you need to continue building your skills.

You can follow up by sharing examples of how you've taken initiative to develop your skills, like attending workshops, being involved with extracurriculars or pursuing certifications.

What Are the Biggest Challenges the Team is Facing Right Now?

This question shows your interest in understanding the company's current landscape and how you can contribute to solving problems. It also gives you insight into the company's pain points and how they are addressing them.

If the interviewer highlights specific challenges, you could respond by discussing how you've tackled similar challenges in the past or how your problem solving skills could help. For example, you might mention how you navigated a complex project or a difficult technical issue during an internship or school project.

What is the Company Culture Like?

While technical skills are important, the culture of the company can make or break your experience in a workplace. This question can help you understand whether the company prioritizes collaboration, innovation, work-life balance, or inclusivity. It can also give you insight into how the company handles team dynamics and employee wellbeing.



How Does the Company Foster Diversity and Inclusion?

Engineering workplaces should reflect the diversity of the world we live in. By asking how a company fosters diversity and inclusion, you can get a sense of their commitment to creating a supportive environment for employees from all backgrounds. This question is especially important if you value working in a space where different perspectives are encouraged and respected.

What Are the Typical Career Paths for Someone in This Role?

Asking about typical career paths allows you to understand the potential for advancement within the company. In Finding Your Ideal Work Environment, career progression was a critical factor in choosing a company. This question also helps you gauge how much room there is for growth in your desired role.

What is the Management Style Like Here?

Some companies operate with a hierarchical management style, where decisions come from the top, while others use a more flat or collaborative approach, giving employees more autonomy. Asking this question helps you determine if the leadership style matches your working preferences. For example, if you thrive in environments where managers provide structured guidance, a more hierarchical setup might suit you. On the other hand, if you prefer independence and quick decision-making, a flat organization could be a better fit.

Some managers are hands-on, while others allow more autonomy. Asking this question helps you determine if the leadership style matches your working preferences, whether you need more guidance or prefer more independence. It also helps you understand the overall structure of the company and what the opportunities for growth would be like.

You can discuss your experience with different management styles and how they impacted your productivity or motivation. For example, you might mention how you thrived under a mentor who gave you autonomy or benefited from more structured guidance in a previous role.

How Does Your Company Handle Performance Reviews and Feedback?

Feedback in the workplace can be very different from what you're used to in school. It may be infrequent, in a different format, difficult to ask for, etc. Understanding the company's approach to performance reviews and feedback will help you set expectations for your growth and development in the role. You could mention how constructive feedback has helped you improve in past experiences, or ask if the company encourages continuous feedback or more formal review cycles.

As you prepare for coop job searches or postgraduation positions, remember that asking thoughtful questions during interviews is just as important as answering them. These questions not only help you assess whether the company is the right fit for you but also show potential employers that you're serious about your career development. By being proactive in your job search and focusing on finding a workplace that supports your growth, you'll set yourself up for long-term success.



The Spark In Engineering That Excites You ✨

By Areeb Zahir

There are many reasons why people choose Engineering; whether you are someone who has been doing this as a passion ever since you were young and are striving to achieve a goal, whether you are someone who grew up to like engineering and is trying to find your place, or someone who choose Engineering because you were good at your Engineering related high school courses or even those who choose engineering because it was what stood out the most to you. Through these many different viewpoints, the thing that's common among all of us is that none of us have fully sealed our future or placed a definitive stamp on what we want.

As Engineering students, we are still seen as empty canvases, experimenting with different colors to find the right fit. So, if someone doesn't enjoy their jobs/co-op position, or wishes to switch roles, they should experiment until they find the right fit. Whether it's diving into research roles if that excites you, pursuing graduate studies to learn, research more, or whatever it is do it! It is far better to find the right path in engineering that excites you than to remain stuck in a position you wish to leave. If you still have doubts about what excites you, keep experimenting with things because as Engineering students, we have the amazing opportunity to turn our blank canvas filled with the things that stand out to us.

Embracing Discomfort In Engineering



Innovation requires discomfort. Never be intimidated by not knowing the right answer when walking into a challenge. Go at it, have fun, and see failure as a stepping stone that provides valuable insights. Instead of getting stuck when things go wrong or answers aren't perfect, use these moments to think differently and grow. In these situations curiosity is key, be curious and always ask why and why not, rather than accepting that there is just one right way. Lastly, no one can solve the world's biggest problems alone. That is why they work in teams and in that team, they encourage diversity of thought and fresh ideas from everyone.

“Embrace uncertainty as an opportunity. Be bold in questioning norms, approach challenges with courage, and remember—collaboration and diverse viewpoints fuel creativity. Your unique contributions hold the power to ignite change.” Karen Freund

Undergraduate Summer Research Award (USRA)

Information

This Program provides students with the opportunity to gain invaluable research experience in engineering and working under the direction of U of G faculty or staff to expand their knowledge and understanding of their current field of study

Eligibility Criteria

- Must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada
- Registered in an undergraduate degree program (including DVM programs)
- Cumulative average of at least 70%
- Registered in at least one of the two terms immediately before holding the award in a bachelor's degree program at an eligible university
- Completed all course requirements of at least the first year of study
- Engaged in full-time research in natural or engineering sciences during the position



Building Connection



- Use professional word choice and tone in all interactions.
- Address them appropriately, using "Dr." or "Professor" unless instructed otherwise. Avoid informal salutations like "Hey Alex."
- Visit their office hours or stay after class to ask questions about their research.
- Stay positive and professional throughout the process.
- Follow up politely but avoid being pushy.

The key to landing a research position is interacting with professors even though that might seem a bit scary at times, networking with upper years, you never know when someone might be looking for an undergraduate researcher.

Additional info

- Funded through NSERC + departments
- ~75 jobs available across STEM departments
- Can count as a Co-op term (requires notifying the Co-op Coordinator)
- Additional USRA+ positions available for Indigenous and/or Black students

Approaching a Professor



1. Research the professor and their areas of interest.
2. Check out faculty department profiles to learn more about the professor's research.
3. Engage in their class (if you are taking it).
4. Tailor your communication to align your interests with the professor's research focus.
5. Be prepared to provide an updated resume or CV.



Important Dates

- Jan 27 – Feb 27: Apply to postings in Experience Guelph
- Jan 27 – Mar 20: Interviews may be conducted as applications are received or after the close of applications
- Mar 3: First day job offers to any program can be made
- Mar 21: Deadline to confirm USRA hires to ORS (see site for directions)

THRN Atrium to be Converted to First Year Residence

By Cam Billhorn

In a move that will undoubtedly be met with backlash by the UoG Engineering community, on January 1st the University of Guelph announced that the Atrium in the Albert A. Thornbrough building is to be renovated into a residence hall. A spokesperson for the University said,

“Look at all of the space that is wasted in there with the high ceilings. While aesthetically pleasing, it serves no practical purpose. And with the projected admission rates for fall 2025 and onwards it only makes sense to use what space we already have.”



This proposed change would support the University's goal to expand the reputation of the Guelph Engineering program. Whether or not that means a good reputation or not remains to be seen.



The addition of a residence hall in the THRN Atrium also threatens access to several rooms attached to it, including the Engsoc office. O'Snap's unbiased opinion is that this is unjust and must not be allowed to happen.

Some students have some concerns about how this renovation will impact their academic performance.

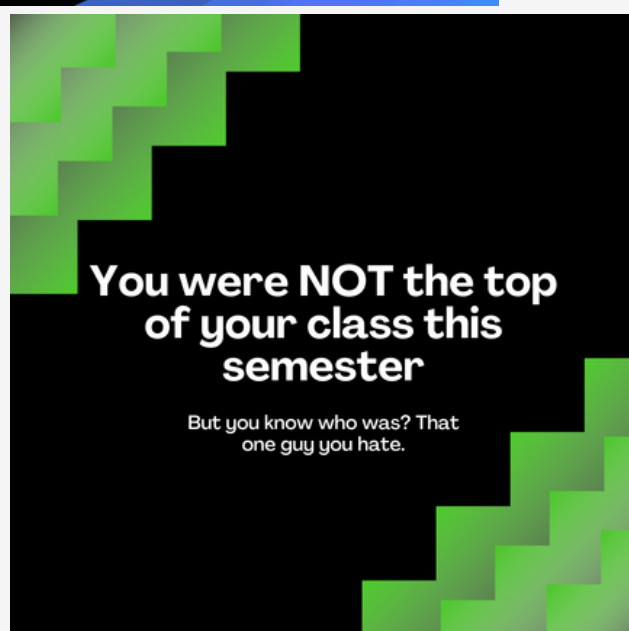
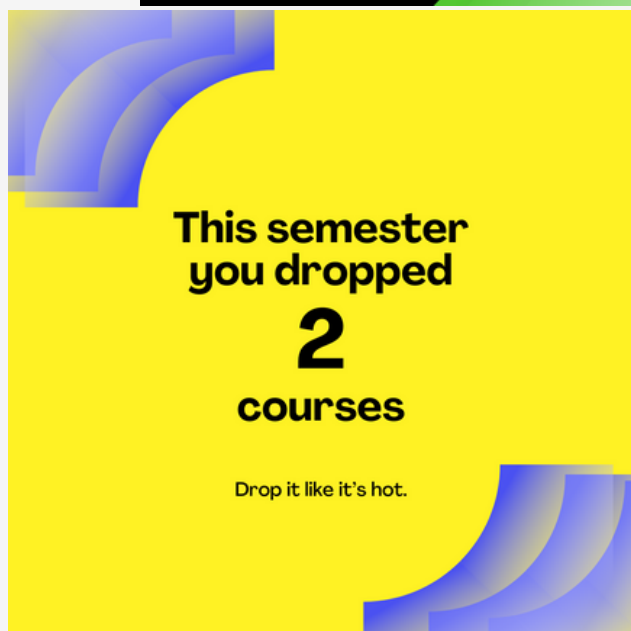
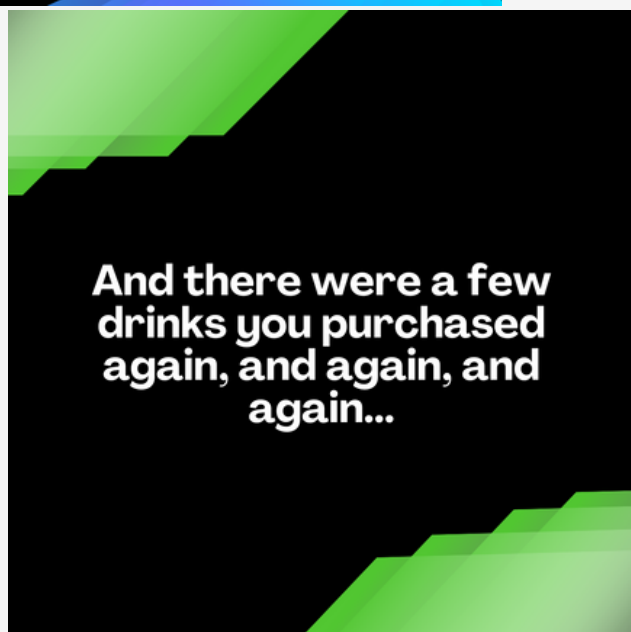
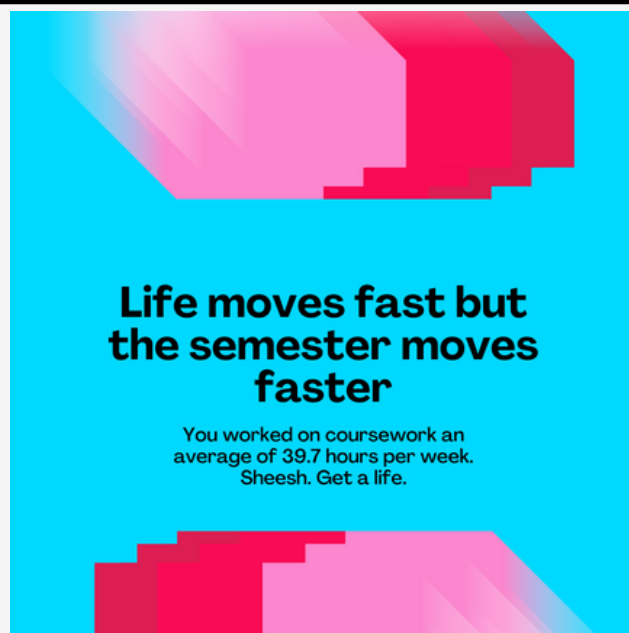
“I am usually working in the systems lab on the second floor. And it's fun to stare down at the people working in the Atrium but what is going to happen when construction starts? I can't imagine the noise and the dust... and what about when the residence is built? Will the windows of the systems lab now look directly into someone's room?”

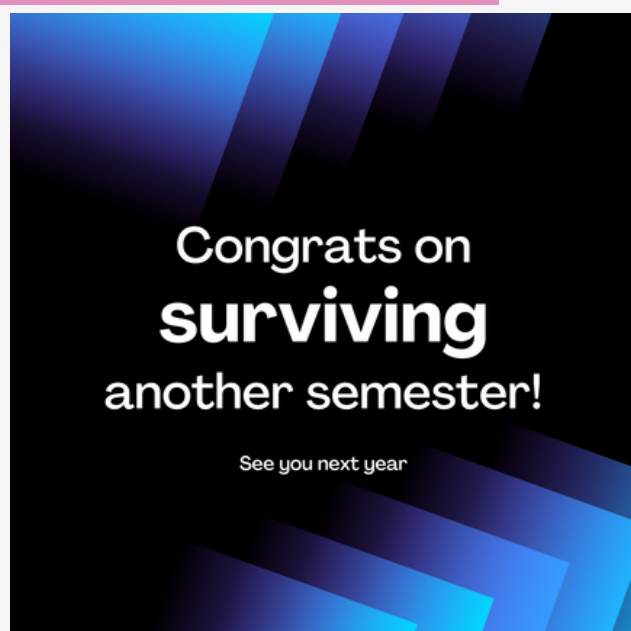
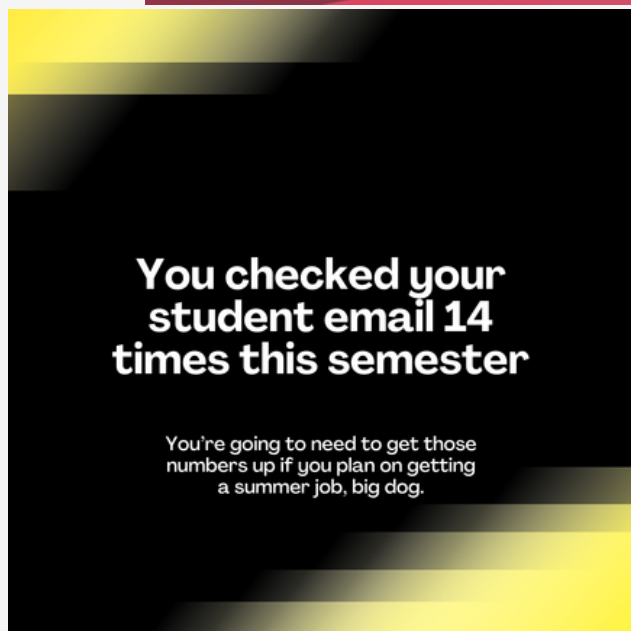
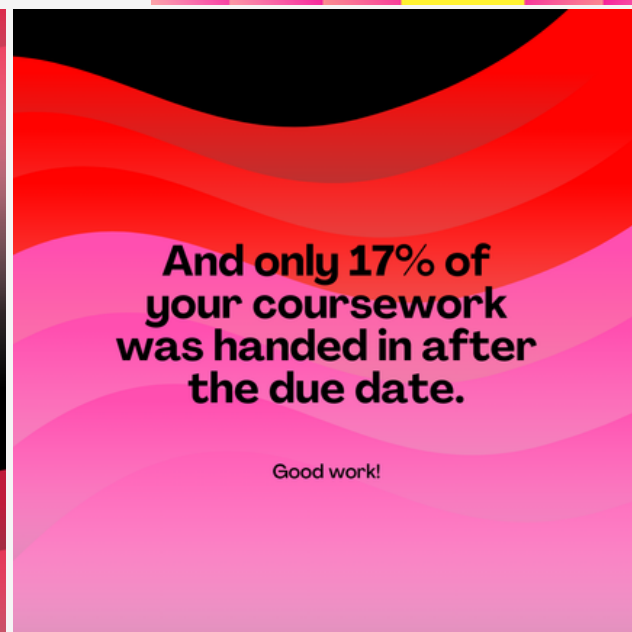
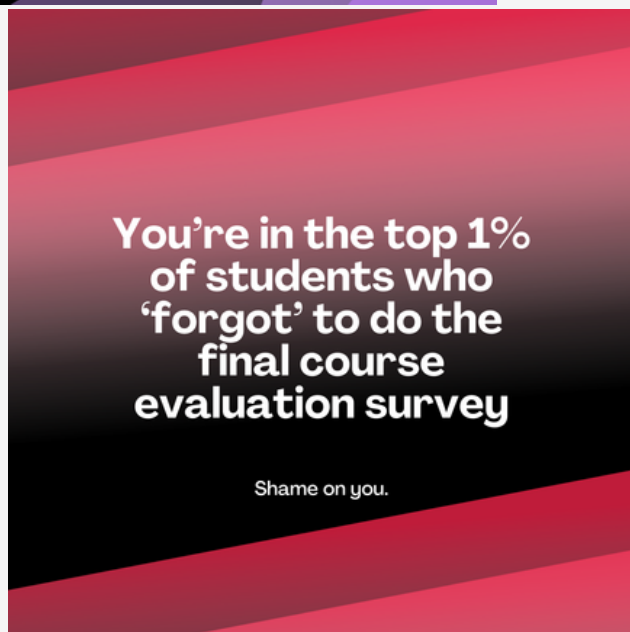
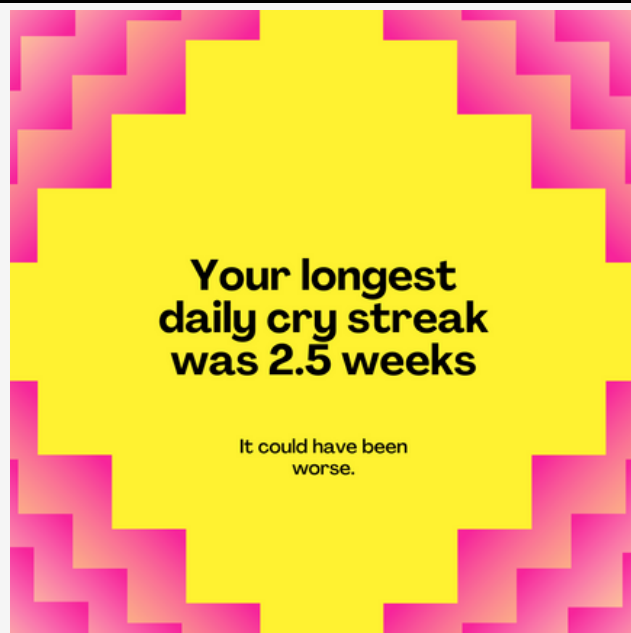
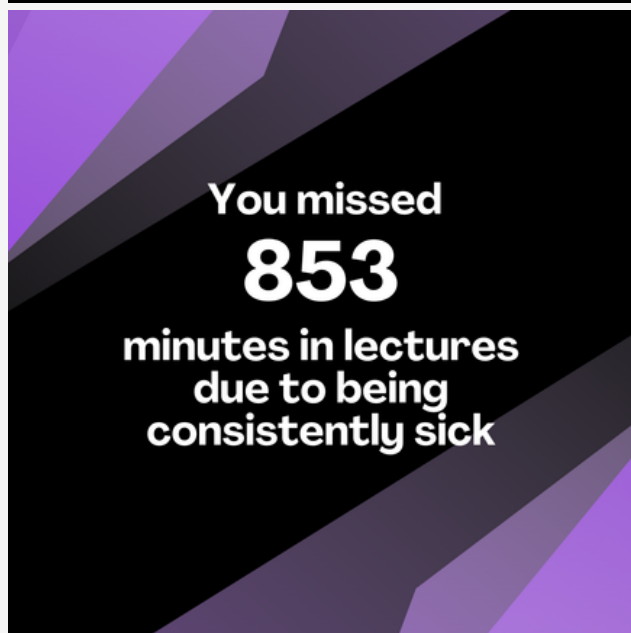
This concern for privacy was echoed by a group of professors with Atrium-facing office windows. Most have since installed black-out curtains and are reportedly haggling with their colleagues in the Richards building to trade office spaces. The only notable supporter of this change is Stephen Mattucci, who is a favourite professor between first years and upper years alike. He believes that this change will allow for better connections between first years and their professors. His only concern is the noise from parties and other gatherings disrupting professors in their offices. The O'Snap team has identified an easy solution to this potential problem: just house a biomed cluster in the new residence. It's not like they will have time to party anyways.

We asked our readers where they think the next residence building should be located. Here are some of the responses we received:

1. “How about the basement of Massey Hall? No one goes down there anyways, unless they are stealing something.”
2. “There is plenty of space between the diamonds that South is made of. Sorry to people who don't get an outside facing window though.”
3. “Don't know. Don't care. How about the University pays for my \$1100/month rent instead?”

Have an opinion on this article? Write it down on a piece of paper and eat it.







I (STILL) WANT YOU TO WRITE FOR O'SNAP

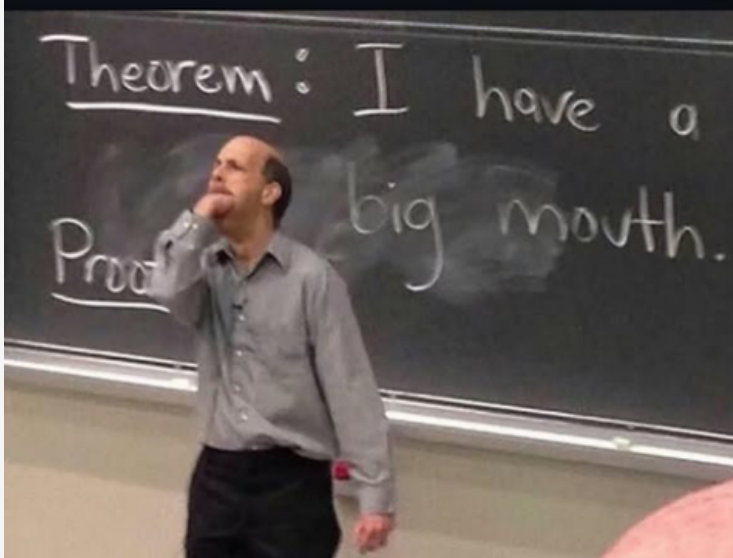
O'Snap is running a (still) contest for our January 2025 Issue(s)! Anyone who enters an article will be placed in a draw to win 3 assorted patches of their choosing. All submissions will be printed in the January 2025 issues and O'Snap readers will vote for their favourite submission - this winner will also win 3 assorted patches of their choosing and a front-page feature in the next issue. Opinion pieces, advice columns, personal stories, satirical articles, and short stories are all welcome. Submissions must be emailed to mhilbo02@uoguelph.ca by January 21st to be considered. Submissions published in this issue are already entered in the draw. Now get writing!

Please vote for one of the following submissions by emailing mhilbo02@uoguelph.ca with the subject line 'OSNAP VOTE' and the name of the submission in the body:

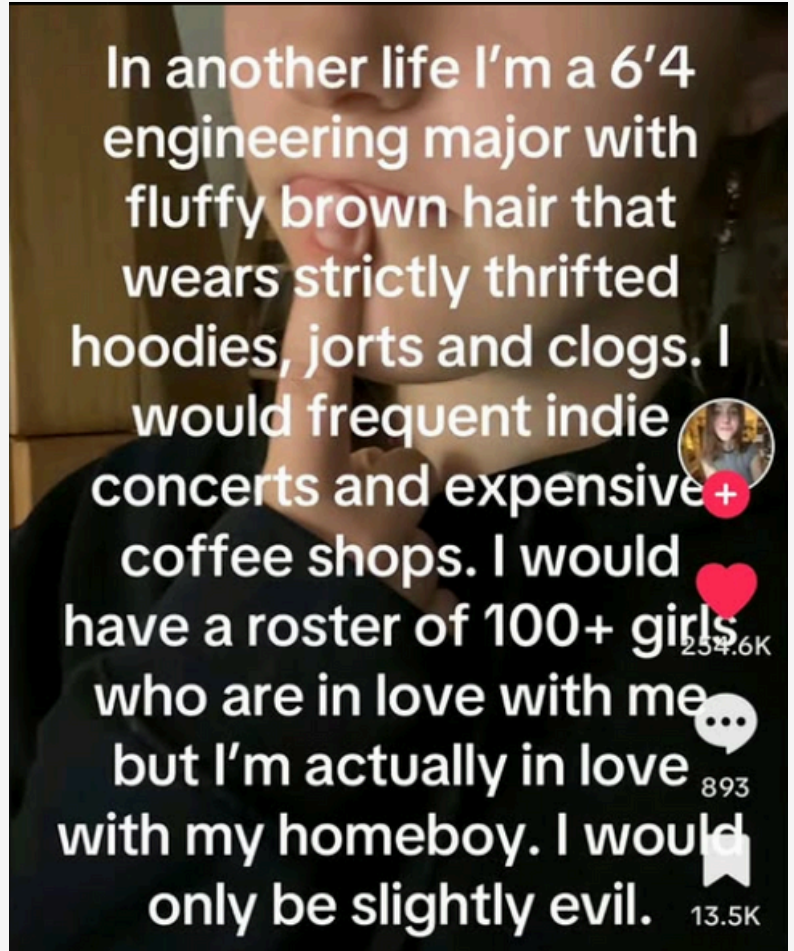
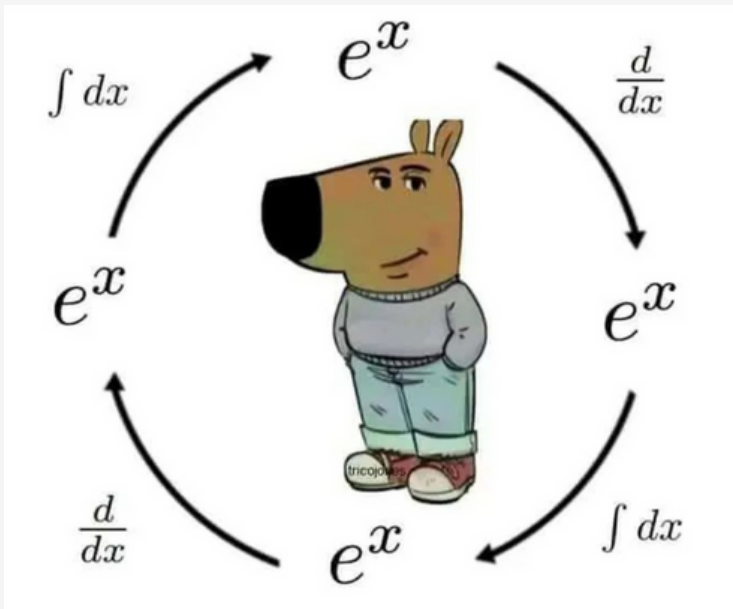
- Questions to Ask in Interviews
- The Spark in Engineering that Excites You
- Crossword

Voting will close February 7th at 11:59 pm.

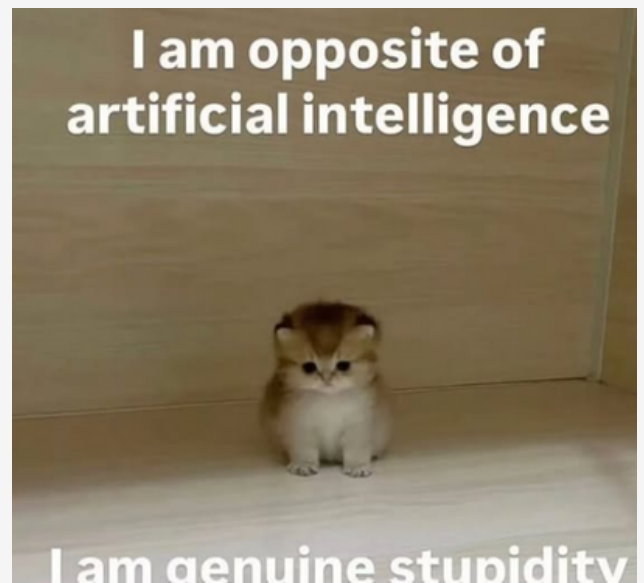
New Memes for the New Year



Did you know? The average daily screen time for an engineering student during the winter break was 13.3 hours. Now that the semester is back in swing, engineering students of all years will have to get their memes organically in the form of print media, or give up on internet culture once and for all.



Disclaimer: O'Snap memes are not a substitute for a professional detox for the chronically online. Please consult your doctor before consuming O'Snap memes and articles.



O'SNAP QUICK FACTS

Did you know? Studies suggest that the side effects of reading O'Snap include:

- Increased social standing
- Improved academic performance
- Increased appetite for whimsy
- Incontinence



Check out these O'Snap readers! You too could be as cool... if only you pick up a copy of O'Snap.

No engineering students were harmed in the making of these photos. The jello shots however did not go unscathed.

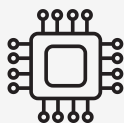
Did you know? O'Snap is part of a healthy and balanced rabbit diet. Just leave it within a 5ft radius of a rabbit... they'll know what to do.



January Engineering Horoscopes



Be on guard this month, Biological. Your NYE vomit was a weird shade of pink, wasn't it? That was just the vodka crans though, right? And about that cough you've had for a few weeks...



Practice self-care this month Computer. But remember that self-care looks different for everyone: maybe a face mask won't do you as good as an exorbitant purchase the day before tuition is due.



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00101110 00100000 01001110 01100101
01110010 01100100 00101110



Environmental, I hate to say it, but ESW and EWB aren't a personality trait. Try finding some new hobbies that don't tie back to academics this month. I.e. get a fucking life.



Be careful walking across uneven ground this month Water Resources, especially on Wineguard Walk, lest you become a dry joke in a class with Andy Binns.



Congrats on surviving another year, Mechanical! Expect to be rewarded for your efforts this month. Everything you put out will come back to you threefold. You reap what you sow, or whatever the aggies say.



Whatever you do, do not work in the library after 8pm this semester, Biomed. You're better than that, and you know it. Besides, the energy vampires from the College of Biological Sciences come out to play when the sun has set. They want what you have. And they want it bad.



Expect an increase in fake phishing emails this month. Don't worry, I have a friend in the IT department for the University and they said January is when they run most of the phishing tests. Get a one-up on them by clicking every link you receive, just to see what happens.

In and Out for 2025

By Cam Billhorn

IN

- FIREBALL WHISKY
- The unification of Ireland
- Listening to yourself
- New dog models
- Class war



OUT

- Lowercase letters
- Excretions
- The mayor of Guelph
- Not drinking on school nights
- Culture war



dear BUNSEN...

Have a question you're too scared to ask your professors, classmates, housemates, or parents? Ask your friend Bunsen - rich in experience (and wit). No question is too unusual or outlandish. Just don't come running back crying if the answer isn't what you expected. The truth can be a hard pill to swallow.

Dear Bunsen,

I am supposed to start looking for a summer job but I am completely uninspired. My previous job history includes working at Zehrs, being a CAD monkey for a consulting firm, and selling weed at a premium to my still underage housemates. What do you suggest I try out this year?

Help,
Career Un-employee

Dear Bunsen,

Several times I have written to you requesting studentxprof fan fiction page. Since you have never granted it, I would like to know HYPOTHETICALLY how one might overthrow a certain a snap president? Preferably ASAP and by means of force (there's no way I'd win a fair election). Thx!

Sincerely,
Your usurper

*Have a question for Bunsen?
Email submissions to the editor
or leave a note titled "Dear
Bunsen..." at the Engsoc office.*

Dear Bunsen,

I am in my fourth year and half of my friends are graduating but I am not (thanks co-op). How do I convince them to stay another year so I don't have to suffer through the embarrassment of being a fifth year all by myself?

Best,
Iron (ring) deficient 4th year

Dear dork,

Like many, you have made the mistake that our dearest O'Snap Coordinator Mac Hilborn is Bunsen. However, Bunsen is Bunsen and Mac is Mac. To answer your question though, HYPOTHETICALLY, if you could give me a paid position, I'll overthrow Mac myself.

Love, Bunsen

Dear Un-Employee

Have you considered working abroad? I've heard the engineering firms in Paraguay have good dental benefits. Whatever you do, don't try getting a job anywhere near Ontario this summer.

Sincerely, Bunsen (Actively accepting offers for 2025 summer positions)

Dear loner,

The time must come for all co-op students to realize they traded early freedom for work experience. Luckily you don't need to convince your friends to stay, just convince them to come drinking during exams! Nothing traps students for a 5th year like a missing credit.

Regards, Bunsen

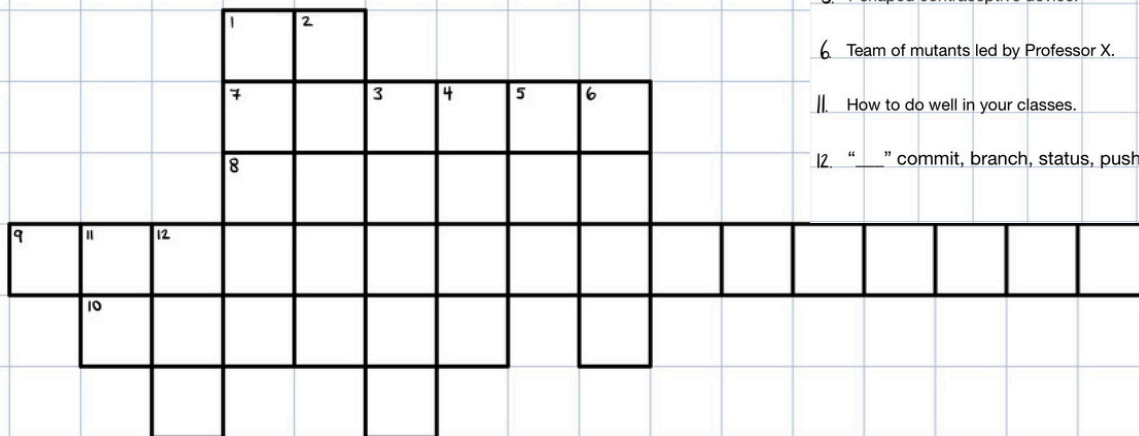
SUDOKU

By Mac Hilborn

	5			4	6		7	
8	9		1	3		2		6
2	6	4	8			1		5
				1	2	5		3
4							9	8
5		6	7	9				
9		8	3				5	
			9		7	3	2	1
	1	2	6	5	4	9		7

Solutions to all puzzles to be published in the next issue of O'Snap! If you are impatient, find the editor on campus and bribe him.
By Nola Hinton

CROSSWORD



LAST ISSUE'S SOLUTION

6	9	5	4	8	3	7	2	1
7	2	3	9	6	1	4	5	8
4	1	8	7	5	2	9	6	3
9	3	6	2	1	7	8	4	5
2	4	7	8	3	5	6	1	9
5	8	1	6	9	4	3	7	2
8	5	9	1	7	6	2	3	4
1	6	2	3	4	9	5	8	7
3	7	4	5	2	8	1	9	6

Special thanks to AK (again) for noticing that I had not been generating puzzles with unique solutions. So here is ONE of the possible solutions and I promise this time there is only ONE solution!

ACROSS

1. A reasonable reaction to the smell of your comp sci lecture hall.
7. Has rows and columns & is no fun to solve.
8. Thorn study spot.
9. The name of last years eng musical. "The _____ the _____".
10. Mechanical device used to extract black gold.

DOWN

1. @uoguelph.ca
2. Worst engineering discipline.
3. A mode of transportation engineers are stereotypically OBSESSED with.
4. Something engineers and Gollum have in common.
5. T-shaped contraceptive device.
6. Team of mutants led by Professor X.
11. How to do well in your classes.
12. "_____" commit, branch, status, push, etc.

Calling all students (especially you, engineers!) - can you read, write, or use a camera? Have some opinions you think the entire SoE should know about? Okay with working for free on top of paying thousands of dollars to do school work that will never help you in your day-to-day life? If you think you have what it takes, email submissions to mhilbo02@uoguelph.ca. Opinion pieces, conference reflections, advice, memes, comics, and more are all welcome*. Submissions for the next edition are due on January 21st. Submissions can be published anonymously or under a pseudonym (For the mechs, that means a fake name).

*Subject to reasonable limits. No eroticas please!