

In a classic seminar, your attention and eyes may start to wander. Posters, awards, maps, a sale tag, a sign reading "Maximum Occupancy 287." As you try to reel your attention back to the seminar at hand, you notice a double take.

What was that number? That can't be right! The natural next step is to come up with an estimate of current seminar attendance - not even close. The entire graduate student seminar attendance are fewer than 60 chairs, and room for another 20 more to stand in the back. I counted 77 at Anna McClaskey's defense - a very full house but - only 52% of the maximum occupancy.

The Touch Tank have heroically taken it to the next level by investigating* this matter, and we've come to equally probable explanations.

The fire marshal was drunk that day. But why so specific a number? Therefore, hypothesis #2:

The 287 doesn't represent a maximum occupancy, but the maximum recorded occupancy. A brilliant PhD student from many cohorts of Graffy, presented a dissertation on a Unified Theory of Oceanography that showed that the human knowledge of the far-reaching inspiration and implications that interested parties were using to business management structures, and basin formation used to explain the East-West coast dip of the Rocky Mountains. Finally, the Redfield Ratio of nutrients in Egyptian hieroglyphics. Unpublished research that showed a for-profit pen that could be used on the International Space Station unlocked the secret of coral adaptation to changing temperatures. Finally, the transfer of energy across scales by turbulent mixing was solved analytically by a dimensionless ocean made of vibrating strings.

The whole project was presented so meticulously that even Eric D'Asaro didn't know what was coming next. Questions from Paul Quay were answered with aplomb. The presentation lasted ten minutes. The presentation inspired a visiting film student from Austin, TX to make an ocean adventure movie.**

Yes, that was the Golden Age. Henry Stommel himself would have shed tears of joy if he'd been one of the lucky 287 in the room that day. Memories fade, but the monument to Dr. O'Shawna Graffy's dissertation attendance is forever.

*speclatechimerically upon
**Despite years of department-funded legal battles, O'Shawna never saw *The Life Aquatic*.

"OLD" OCEANOGRAPHY

The Old Oceanography building: turns out it's more than just a house for the Puget Sound model (see July 2017 ed.) and a rideshare meetup location for UW custodians. Rivaling our own program, this building houses the School of Old Oceanography: they still do things the old way there; they still do things the right way there. The scratching of fountain pens carefully inking density profiles. The clickity-clack of secretaries typing manuscripts from hand-written drafts. Piles of charts with unexplored edges adorned with sea monsters. Peer into any given lab and see a beaker of seawater boiling away. Will this become a lunch or a ticket into the academy? Only time will tell. Mull things over and consider a move to a doctorate in Old Oceanography.

THE DEEP END

RANT: NO ONE IS HERE

RAVE: I HAVE OSB TO MYSELF. I could pretty much walk around naked playing the tuba and no one would be around to care.

RANT: So many good ocean grads are graduating and moving away :(This new wave of first years better be really

phenomenal to fill the gaping hole in my heart left by David, Brett, Earle, Sarah, Anna, Brendan, and Elisa.

RANT: Speaking of holes, why the hell is the Thompson taking an extended vacay at Woods Hole??

RAVE: The RV Sikuliaq has an alt IG account @socoooliaq

RANT: Down with Slate Coffee! ☹️

RAVE: Can't get enough women's soccer?? The Reign FC season is ongoing and the UW women's season starts up mid-August!

Staff positions are filling fast, but we always welcome op-ed pieces! Email us @ touchtankzine@gmail.com

lies behind.

passed beneath our noses for far too long. The only mystery deeper than the door itself is the mystery of what

you'll find MSB 123 has no outlet for it and there's no space for another room to fit. Even curiously, the mystery door is always locked. A very deep mystery is afoot indeed, one that has

propagating mystery. Perhaps the most mysterious of the mystery doors is behind MSB 123. No, not the door used for inconspicuous entrances to seminars where students and professors alike gaze at boats passing by in the

THE MYSTERY DOOR

One door, two doors, Three Doors Down. We rarely

question the doors around us. But mystery doors exist among us, escaping detection and propagating mystery. Perhaps the most mysterious of the mystery doors is behind MSB 123. No, not the door used for inconspicuous entrances to seminars where students and professors alike gaze at



demonstrate your worth by confidently employing the nearest trash can while maintaining eye contact with any observers.

you never stumble upon the BOR during your UW career, don't fret: you can still

allow you to pass through, you'll find a luxurious toilet of white marble and golden trim where your own wormhole can pass sweet relief. But if

intermittently appearing wormhole. If the prophets allow you to pass through, you'll find a luxurious toilet of white marble and golden trim where your own wormhole can pass sweet relief. But if

Requirement. What looks like a common broom closet from the outside is actually an

where the emergency bathroom is!" In MSB, this mantra is easy to live by, thanks to this BotW: the MSB Bathroom of Requirement. What looks like a

affirming words of comedian Tig Notaro: "I'll decide where the emergency bathroom is!" In MSB, this mantra is easy to live by, thanks to this BotW: the MSB Bathroom of Requirement. What looks like a

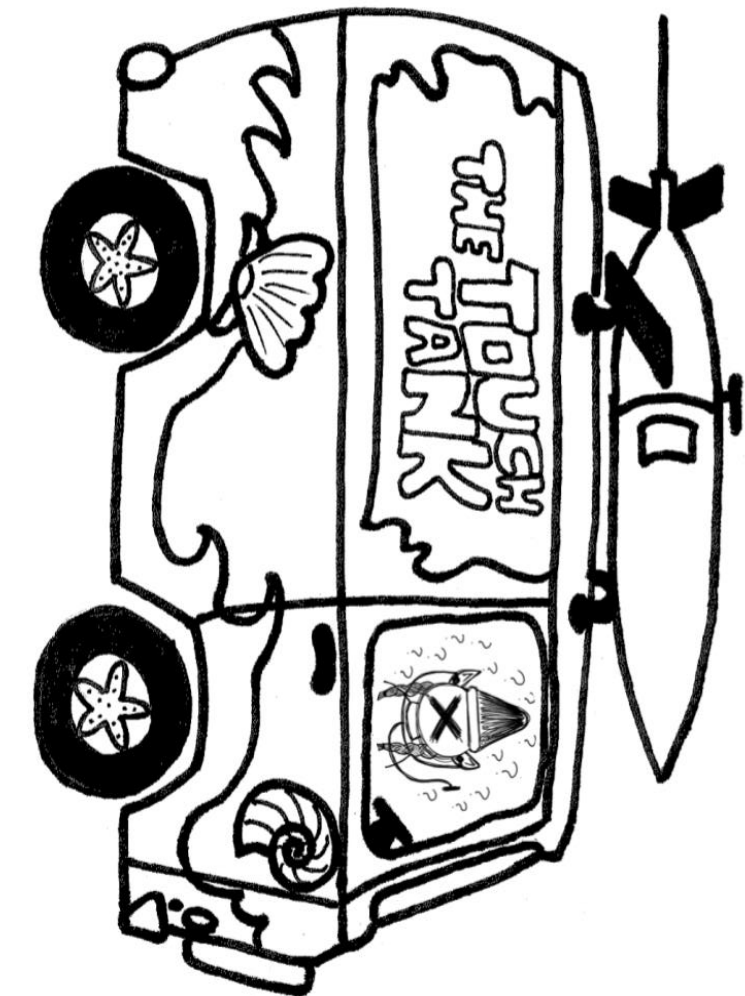
mirror and repeat the affirming words of comedian Tig Notaro: "I'll decide where the emergency bathroom is!" In MSB, this mantra is easy to live by, thanks to this BotW: the MSB Bathroom of Requirement. What looks like a

important to take up space and boldly declare your intentions. This is why, every morning, I look into the mirror and repeat the

BotW – THE BATHROOM OF REQUIREMENT

As a young scientist in a cut-throat academic world, it's important to take up space and boldly declare your intentions. This is why, every morning, I look into the mirror and repeat the

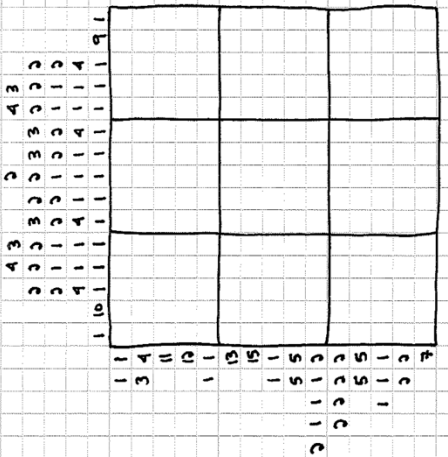
Touch Tank turned Two! In this edition we'll have twice the bathrooms! Twice the contributors! Twice the heartbreak! Join us as we celebrate by exploring some of Oceanography's darkest secrets...



July 2019

Solving department mysteries in...

PICROSS



Solve for the secret picture! Squares are either filled or empty. Numbers indicate the pattern of filled squares in a row or column (\'1 2\' indicates one filled square followed by 2 filled squares). Empty square patterns are not indicated. Google "picross" for details!

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the words! The letters that have numbers beneath them can be placed in the boxes to decode the answer to the following riddle:

How do police detectives solve phytoplankton homicides?

HOUST

ECCILI

HERSO

YRUEB

CIPDET

HOTIS

CRSOS

VENRE

CEUNESI

Answer:

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27