

March 2012

## The Director's Desk

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Back to the basics. We are putting together the fall 2012 schedule, and there are some wonderful course offerings on the agenda—many for the first time. It looks like we will have new courses being offered as CV sections in Physics II and Chem I along with a junior level course in Nanobiology. Dr. Montgomery is planning to offer a new NATS course entitled Science and Society. I also will be offering a one-credit reading tutorial section of UNIV 2v99 called "Medicine, Politics and Philosophy III."

This will be the third in my sequence of reading tutorials on this subject. I will begin the sequence again in the spring. I am looking into a Literary Studies course on Science Fiction, and, perhaps, another readings tutorial course. Many of our traditional courses will also be offered again.

We are hoping to launch a series of breakfasts and luncheons in the spring where honors students can meet with faculty from a variety of disciplines across campus on an informal basis. Since there are no longer CV sections of RHET1101 or UNIV 1010, we also will likely be having an orientation day just before the semester starts for new freshman. We will be seeking volunteers to help us pull this off later in the semester.

The new residence hall is ahead of schedule and will be filled in September. A fourth residence hall that will house 600 students will be . This will lead to a significant boost in enrollment at UTD in the fall, meaning that CV will continue to grow as well.

-Dr. H



Dr. Edward Harpham  
Director of Collegium V

# Announcements

Seniors: be sure to sign up for a day in April to present your senior projects!

## Lounge Printing

Our CV Lounge network is operational, and as part of the improvements to the network (like Windows 7), we have implemented a new print quota system. Here are the important details:

1. Every user has a 15 page quota at the beginning of the semester
2. Once you bring in a ream of paper (to Valerie), you will be given a coupon that gives you 500 pages of print credit. You can then click on Details under your print quota, login, then go to Redeem Card to redeem your print card

If you have already brought in a ream of paper, please see Valerie

Keep bringing in reams and trading them for print cards

Let us know if you have any questions!

-Jacob  
CV Network Admin

# Interview with Sam Ding

Husain Mogri



Have you ever played for any of the CV intramural sports teams? If so, you've probably bumped into Sam Ding, the CV Coordinator for Intramural sports. I recently had the opportunity to speak with him to get his perspective on sports:

## **What motivated you to become the coordinator for CV Intramurals?**

I was already involved with CV sports to begin with. Bardiya, a fellow student on the CV Council, asked me whether I wanted to coordinate with Zaki, another CV intramurals coordinator. The scheme worked out because I could fill up half of the teams with people I knew and the other half with other CVers.

## **What is your favorite sport and why?**

I don't really have a favorite sport. I picked up basketball and table tennis during my freshman year on campus and I recently made the UTD table tennis club team, which is really working out for me.

## **What qualities do you think are most important in making a player a successful teammate?**

I emphasize three qualities. The first is knowing your capabilities. A player needs to understand what he or she can or cannot do. Trying to perform way outside your capabilities can do more harm than good. The second is trusting your teammates. Players need to be able to work in a team environment. One person cannot take on the entire burden of a game. Plus, who likes a ball-hogger? Finally, players need to be able to acknowledge weaknesses and accept criticism. We all make mistakes, and the

first step to improvement is knowing what those mistakes are.

**Your team has a losing streak, and it's the last game of the season. What do you do to prepare?**

Give it your all! Play for the experience! I recall an earlier basketball season when my team was up against the first seed team towards the end of the tournament. Although my team lost, they struggled and performed better than usual. Because of that, the game became a memorable one.

**Are there any sports that you would like for people to become more involved in, or new sports that you would want added to the IM leagues?**

I would love to see more involvement in innertube waterpolo and innertube basketball. These games are played in the Activity Center pool with players floating on lifesavers. Innertube basketball's season began on January 27.



# Where's the Sense In That?

Katelyn McWilliams

We CV students pride ourselves on our pragmatic senses of reason. And yet, every February a significant portion of us storm retail centers to purchase unfathomable amounts of flowers, clothing, confections, and stationary items. You've guessed it; Valentine's Day is here again. This frivolous holiday, festooned in slavish pink and red, requires Americans to ostentatiously vocalize their love to the object of their affection. Yet a mere declaration is not enough. Oh no! Love isn't love without a big stuffed teddy bear, two dozen long stemmed roses, and enough chocolate to throw even non-diabetics into a coma. Yet what prompts us to go to such seemingly unreasonable lengths on Valentine's Day?

Most individuals operate under the assumption that Valentine's Day is celebrated to honor Saint Valentine, a martyr of the early Catholic Church. However, the vast majority are unaware that the holiday takes its roots in the ancient pagan festival of Lupercalia. In this primitive ceremony, half-naked young men ran through the streets striking individuals (particularly young women) with strips of animal hide to encourage fertility. Now I ask, where's the romance in that? As years progressed, Christians sought to assimilate pagans to the religion by tying Lupercalia to a Christian feast day. The St. Valentine from which the modern holiday draws its name could actually be one of three early Christian martyrs. Subsequently, when we celebrated Valentine's Day, we are commemorating either brutal death or fertility whipping. Hmmm...

However, ludicrous and inexplicable Valentine's Day customs are not strictly confined to the past; bizarre traditions are alive and well in today's society. Take, for example, UTD's infamous Love Jack. Campus legend has it that if you walk underneath this mystical structure on February 14, you will be forever united with your sweetheart. Likewise, one can be tricked into eternal bondage by unintentionally passing under the giant red structure with another. Therefore, one must at all cost avoid

the tragedy of being “lovejacked”; the magic red sculpture pays no heed to intent. Willing or not, if you are forced beneath the Love Jack on Valentine’s Day, you will forever be yoked to your partner! Beware all!

Candy, cards, whipping, lovejacking...where, I ask, is the sense in any of it? Then again, maybe Valentine’s Day doesn’t need to make sense. On this one day of the year, perhaps students and nonstudents alike should just relax and revel in the power of love, superstition, and good old-fashioned mischief. Happy Valentine’s Day everyone!





## **Focus on: Basel Musharbash & Andrew Previc**

Travis McDonald

Every month this section focuses on CV students that are getting involved around campus, both pursuing their passions and making a difference in the community around them. This month the spotlight focuses on two CV students, Basel Musharbash and Andrew Previc, and their dedication in fighting against the state budget cuts towards higher education.

The two joined together along with the help of many others to form a group called the North Texas Student Campaign (NTSC) early last semester. The group's mission is to "preserve funding for financial aid through awareness, activism, and mobilizing students". Everybody within NTSC is working hard to ensure that the students learn about the budget cuts that were made and that the politicians understand the effect that these cuts has had on students. Often times this is in the form of events on campus in which students can come register to vote and have a voice in the political process, local politicians come to speak, and students who have been affected by the cuts can tell their real stories. Not only are efforts being made here to raise awareness about the financial aid cuts, but NTSC is also working to try to get other local schools involved, so that even more students will become aware of the issue at hand and reach out to their local representative.

It is very easy to get involved in NTSC, and they could use anyone who is willing to help! If you have a passion for preserving financial aid funding, be sure to contact either Basel or Andrew at [ntsc2012@gmail.com](mailto:ntsc2012@gmail.com).

## Seen and Heard in the CV Lounge

Mikaela McMurtry

Spend one day in our beloved CV Lounge, and here is what you will observe:

A UT Dallas decal

The surreptitious pad of bare feet as they go swipe another cookie from the oh-so-seeable center table

Abandoned Items: two draped jackets, two stranded backpacks, one stack of notebooks, one castoff copy of Biology as Ideology poised on its pages; Of Hospitality sitting sweetly atop its stack of notebooks

Chris McClurre, curled cozily and sleeping sweetly on a CV sofa, catching ZZZs before his next class

The soft hums of computer fans constantly cooling the constantly used computers.

“—where are you?” Bardiya

“He’s dead.” Matt

“Oh. I missed that.” Bardiya

~Playing Defense of the Ancients

The eternal query: Which printer is printing? Is Franklin up? –No. What happened to Koster? – Toner/Ink Low...Should I use Guttenberg? –I have to ☺.

Dr. Harpham complimenting Sabin Kshattri: “Don’t be nervous. You’re as smart as anyone.”

Dr. Harpham sharing an easy smile as he engages awe-stricken freshmen at Java Friday



The Socratic thought of an overachiever, but funnily enough doesn't apply to just physics majors: "I was originally a physics major and then I switched out and I'm thinking of switching back in. Or doubling." Mudrekh

"Oh yeah, you go to a game and ask for a ticket," says Matt Martin, acting in the way of administrators: supervising his domain and calling out answers from his seat at the head of the table

Allan Hu proudly setting up a CV account, and his girlfriend being properly impressed at his unending computer skills

Annie Liu duly impressed by the side-by-side stacks of "The Economist" and "People" in the CV library.

Tupperware with a red lid—presumably from Walmart—with a fork, and yellow gelatinous remains.

A fuzzy pink top hat tied with a green bandana—worn by Pink Hat Bryan

Piles of outdated—but thoroughly trendy—freshman convocation t-shirts

A bouncy knock on the door, as someone forgot their ID card—hey, it happens to the best of us

Good Will Hunting playing in the T.V. Room

The math majors have their own part of the board; at any given time, you might see: A bubble diagram depicting the fact that NWZQ all compose countable infinities, and that  $\mathbb{R}$  is uncountably infinite—plus shnazzy diagrams depicting the methods for deducing these abstract mathematical concepts  
15 people in the main lounge at 2pm on a Tuesday

The heinous squeal of my writer's chair as I swivel in it.

# Feb/March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Feb. 19	20	21 WP/WF begins	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	Mar. 1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 SP	13 RI	14 NG	15 BR	16 EAK!	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24

**Feb. 17** (before 5 pm)- Archer Program application deadline  
(<http://www.utexas.edu/ugs/archer/applying>)

**Feb. 17** (8 pm)- LAN Party

**April 8** (5 pm)- CV BBQ at Harpham's house

# CV NEWSLETTER STAFF

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## Interested in Contributing?

If you are interested in contributing to the monthly newsletter or have suggestions/comments, please email the CV Newsletter at [newsletter@collegiumv.org](mailto:newsletter@collegiumv.org). Contributions are welcome!

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\* The CV Lounge (GC 1.202) is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Green Center between the McDermott Library and Green Hall