



## Tuvalu and the rising tide: the economics of global warming

Okay, class, here's your first assignment for this semester. You are an advisor to the prime minister of Australia. The government of a small South Pacific island nation, Tuvalu, is asking Australia to make it easier for its citizens to immigrate to your country. The government of Tuvalu is worried that global warming will cause the ocean to rise, resulting in flooding and economic disruption. The entire island might disappear under the waves at some future time, the Tuvalu government claims.

Your assignment is to prepare a briefing note for the prime minister, giving the background information on what is known about global warming, outlining the current situation on Tuvalu, and making recommendations as to how the prime minister should respond.

"It's a real world example, and it's the kind

of thing that's done in government all the time," explains David Hanly. He's a sessional instructor teaching a course on the economics of global warming, a course being offered by the Department of Economics at the University of Regina for the first time this semester.

The course grew out of Hanly's experience as a provincial representative working with other economists as part of a larger federal-provincial process to develop options for Canada to meet its obligations under the Kyoto Protocol, an international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The analysis and modelling group (AMG), of which Hanly was a member, examined the impact of various policies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next 20 years, and their impacts on the national economy.

One of the challenges the group faced was

how to present and summarize analysis. For example, Hanly poses this question to his students: How do you measure the cost effectiveness of a particular action aimed at reducing emissions? How do you measure the benefit of subsidizing energy conservation in the home, compared to subsidizing the development of a renewable energy source?

"It's a good course that touches on all the major fields of economics," says Hanly. "At the same time, the course is open to students who may never have taken an economics course." In fact, fewer than half the students in the course are majoring in economics, which is unusual. Others taking the course are majoring in environmental engineering, administration, computer science, the social sciences and biology.

Paul Maindonald is taking the Monday night course as he works toward a bachelor's

degree in economics. Many of the issues raised relate closely to his daily work.

"The course gives me a broader perspective on the subject of global warming," Maindonald says. "It's giving me a better understanding of all sides of the issues, and I appreciate that Dr. Hanly encourages us to remain open in our thinking. There are lots of theories, but things are not as black and white once you dig a bit deeper into the different aspects of global warming."

Hanly says the course could not possibly cover all aspects of greenhouse gas emissions. There's ample room for discussion and debate about the public policy issues regarding the costs of reducing emissions.

"There are many problems in this area, and many specific examples I can draw on to get the students thinking," says Hanly. "That makes it a good course to teach."

CAMPUS LIFE CALENDAR

Thurs., Feb. 5 – 12:10 p.m.

**Coffee House Controversies**

Informal talks given by Faculty of Arts professors  
"An Epidemic of Eating? Why healthy people complain so much about their health?"

Speaker: Alison Hayford  
Rm. Jack's, 1939 Scarth St.  
Info: 585-4226

Thurs., Feb. 5 – 3 p.m.

**Public Lecture**

"One World, One Capitalism? Path Dependencies and the Evolution of National Political Economies"

Speaker: Richard Deeg  
Rm. 527, Administration-Humanities Bldg.  
Info: 337-2391

Fri., Feb. 6 – 4 p.m.

**Faculty of Fine Arts Lecture Series**

"Temporary Communities"

Speaker: Mark Wihak  
Rm. 050, Riddell Centre  
Info: 585-5557

Fri., Feb. 6 – 4 p.m.

**History colloquium**

"I Walk the Line: Historical-Geographical Reflections of Canadian Borders and Borderlands"

Speaker: Randy Widdis  
Rm. 348, Administration-Humanities Bldg.  
Info: 585-4211

Feb. 6-14

**4th Annual InFringement Festival**

A festival noon and evening performances of student one-act plays  
Shumatcher Open Stage, Riddell Centre  
Info/Tickets: 585-5583

Mon., Feb. 9 – 3:30 p.m.

**Economics/Political Science seminar**

"Gender Differences in the Incidence and Duration of Self-Employment"

Speaker: Kate Rybczynski  
Rm. 410, Classroom Bldg.  
Info: 585-4485

Wed., Feb. 11 – Noon

**Saskatchewan Instructional Development & Research Unit**

"The Hows and Wheres of Publishing"

Speaker: Dianne Common  
Rm. 215, Education Bldg.  
Info: 585-4309

Wed., Feb. 11 – 7 p.m.

**International Film Series**

"Farewell My Concubine"  
Chinese with English subtitles  
Riffel Auditorium, Campion College  
Info: 585-4595

Wed., Feb. 11 – Noon

**Social Policy Research Unit seminar**

"Housing, Poverty and Mental Illness: Breaking the Triangle of Disadvantage"

Speaker: Joanne Kowalchuk  
Rm. 438, Education Bldg.  
Info/RSVP: 585-4117

Thurs., Feb. 12 – 7:30 p.m.

**Book launch**

"The Scent of Eucalyptus"

Speaker: Daniel Coleman  
Main floor cafeteria, Campion College  
Info: 359-1244

Feb. 16-20

**Mid-term break**

No classes

Feb. 20

**University holiday**

University closed

For a complete Calendar of Events at the University of Regina visit our Web site at [www.uregina.ca](http://www.uregina.ca)



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## InFringement Festival focuses on students' plays

From the struggles of two clowns stranded in Purgatory to the physics of falling bodies, theatre audiences will be able to enjoy some "outside the box" performances at the U of R, beginning tomorrow. It's the fourth annual InFringement Festival, presented by the University's Department of Theatre, with five shows playing from February 6 to the 14th.

What is an InFringement Festival?

The title, suggested by a student, borrows from the concept of the summertime fringe festivals that have become popular across North America. One difference is that while the fringe events showcase works from around the world, the InFringement Festival focuses on student productions.

"The festival was conceived to inspire students to produce work of their own that is, hopefully, a little out of the ordinary," says Kathryn Bracht, who teaches acting and directing in the Department of Theatre. "It gives students a strong understanding of how much work is involved in the entire process of conceiving, writing, designing, performing and directing a show, and the technical aspects of operating a show."

Four of the five shows being performed this year were written and are being directed by students. Local playwright Dan MacDonald wrote the fifth play, Velocity. He also directs the play.

"University students are eager and open, and willing to take risks," says MacDonald, who taught some of the same students now studying at the U of R in his high school drama classes. "It's fun to be working with a bunch of great people I've worked with before."

The shows will be performed in what's known as the "Shu-box" theatre in the university's Riddell Centre. Students coined

the name by combining the black box performance space with the names of its benefactors, Morris and Jacque Shumatcher. "The Shu-box has flexible seating so the stage can be configured in different ways," Bracht explains. Students also coined the theme for this year's festival, "The Shu Must Go On."

Besides Velocity, the shows in the festival are titled Truck Virgin, The Business of Eating KD (that's macaroni and cheese in non-trademark form), Room 34 and Stuck In the Middle!

Now, about those clowns... these are not your average birthday party entertainers. The three creators of "Stuck In the Middle" – performers Katie Bowes and Trenea Keating, and director Traci Foster – have all studied clowning. Katie, a fourth year student, sought out the other two for the show, which portrays two clowns in a room, waiting for their number to be called so they can proceed to heaven.

"While their world is very true to them," Foster explains, "clowns also relate simultaneously to our world, the world of the audience. So, if someone in the crowd coughs, they may be drawn into the dialogue." Foster describes clown performances as "beautifully unpredictable," and a great metaphor for life.

Keating agrees. "You have a script, but in a clown show, lots can happen. The audience influences how the show goes, and every show will be different because of that."

Each show will be performed five times during the festival. Performances will be held during the noon hour on weekdays, and at 7:00 and 8:30 p.m. each day during the festival run from February 6-14. Single shows are \$2 and a full Festival pass is \$12. More information is available by calling the InFringement Hotline, 585-5500.



A cold beauty: the new residence buildings on the University campus get their first taste of 40-below weather.

U of R photo by A/V Services

We want to hear from you!

Tell us what you think of the U of R Update page.

E-mail your comments to [communications@uregina.ca](mailto:communications@uregina.ca)

U of R Faculty of Fine Arts

## Subscription Series 2003-2004



### The Shu Must Go On ...

We bring you the 4th annual InFringement Festival — a week of theatre events showcasing student-directed and produced one-act plays. In and around the Shu-Box is where you'll see them. Their sole purpose ... your entertainment!

**February 6-14**  
Noon hour and Evening performances

Shumatcher Theatre, U of R  
Festival Pass \$12/5-pak \$5  
Single performance \$2

For Information call the Fine Arts InfoLine at (306) 585-5510



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All performances at the Riddell Centre University of Regina. For tickets call the University Theatre Box Office at 585-5500.

