

# THE PROCRASTINATOR Re-mystifying Medicine November 2018 Re-mystifying Medicine

Headline of the Day

# Anatomy Students Consult Dissected Pig Entrails for Bellringer Advice

A small crowd of iBioMeds, engineers, and Health Sciences students were recently captured on film taking a scalpel to a pig's abdomen in a carefully practiced, ritualistic manner.

In an unprecedented and mutually profitable partnership between McMaster students and the Hamilton meat industry, students have independently rediscovered the ancient tradition of haruspicy: divination from dissected animal innards.

"We've endured plenty of BS advice from TA's, from faculty, everyone really. It seems like no one knows what's going on. So we decided to consult something equally helpful," responded one frustrated second-year iBioMed, elbowdeep in her fourth porcine abdominopelvic

cavity of the week. "This pig's spleen is probably going to be on the next bellringer anyway."

Spreading the intestines onto a tray, one engineer offered to walk our Procrastinator correspondents through an after-hours divination session to assess the veracity of dubious supportive platitudes from upper years. "Ok, so I just missed the ileum, and grabbed the colon. That means that they're full of sh\*t."

Remarkably, the practices demonstrated a shocking degree of success, correctly predicting that a question about the Romberg test would appear on the midterm.

Anonymous sources close to the Education

Program in Anatomy believe that if the haruspicy continues to provide accurate advice, the anatomy faculty will consider fully replacing the Teaching Assistants with piles of pig innards. "This may frankly be the most realistic training we can provide for a high-ambiguity future clinical environment." Researchers at the Anatomy department have already undertaken steps to recreate the divination procedure in Virtual Reality, following another ancient tradition of producing inconvenient solutions to problems that never existed.

Students were most recently recorded discussing procuring a virgin sacrifice to further their occult augury practices, although that wasn't too hard to find in the lab.

A Product to Carry Your Groupmates With

#### BHSS Introduces a Backpack Fit for the BHSc Student

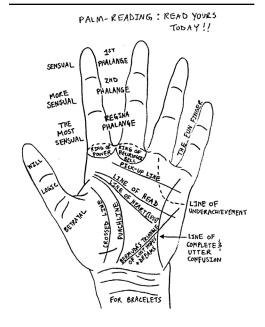
Long envious of the flashy backpacks adorning the posteriors of their medical student counterparts, the BHSS has rolled out a BHSwaggityknapsack. Though the meeting minutes claim that the backpack was, in classic Health Sci banality, "designed to increase community cohesiveness and promote a sense of togetherness", it is more likely that the initiative was in response to years of Health Scis enviously glaring at the OMA backpacks given to med school students.

The backpack contains multiple nifty gizmos and features specifically catered to the BHSc population. The laptop sleeve only fits MacBooks, the only approved laptop for the strenuous web browsing, word processing, and Facebook group-chat-responding that Health Sci coursework requires. The strap contains an on-the-go 12-point to 4-point scale converter, along with the ability to sync with your phone to immediately send a long and vexed email to the professor responsible for any mark inputted lower than an 11.

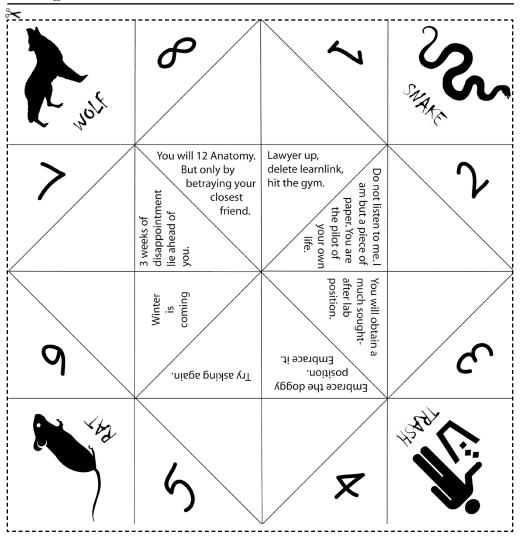
The development of the BHSwaggityknapsack was a saga in itself. After a process of collecting feature requests, the features that eventually made it to the backpack were decided by that paragon of democracy: Facebook polls.

Now that the dust has settled on their development, and the rollout has begun, legions of Health Scis can now feel even more self-important. Already, one 4th year thesis proposal has been submitted to study the effect of the new backpacks on the Health Sci superiority complex.

Your Upper Limb Cheatsheet



The Etiology of Cooties



Dear Dendrites

#### The Procrastinator Interprets Your Dreams

Welcome to Dear Dendrites, BHSc's most popular source of advice—at least on the days when your first year Inquiry facilitator refuses to meet with you because "I have other students, too, Jeff" and "please stop calling me on my home phone."

For this very special issue, we asked you to send in your recent dreams so we could interpret them and give you insight on the dumpster fire you call your future.

#### Dear Dendrites,

I had a dream where all my teeth fall out. What does this mean?

-Too Far Behind on Anatomy To Know

#### Dear Behind,

Gargle preservative cadaver moistening fluid every night before bed to ensure good dental hygiene and prevent gingivitis. 60% of the time it works every time, according to 5/12 dental students.

#### Dear Dendrites,

I've always been a lucid dreamer, and ever since I started 2nd year, I've purposefully started

dreaming about getting a 12 in anatomy. It's wonderful! But now I can't stop sleeping because it's such an ideal dream I don't want to wake up, and I am now, in fact, failing anatomy because all I'm doing is sleeping all day. My lifesci housemates are judging me more than ever. What do I do?

-Living The Nightmare

#### Dear Nightmare,

At this point, your dream life is better than your real life, so you might as well stick with it and just sleep forever.

#### Dear Dendrites,

I dreamt that I would get into med school. Does this mean that I'll get—

-Every 3rd Year Healthsci You Know

Dear Every Healthsci, No.

To be featured in future iterations of our advice column, send your questions in to The Procrastinator by messaging us on our Facebook page. Yes, we're serious.



Spotted in Several Biochem Group Pictures This Week

## MDCL doorway to another dimension – the Great Oracle of Healthphi speaks wonders

13 BHSc students have reported peculiar sightings of what they refer to as the Great Oracle of Healthphi, who communicates with the living world at 11:59 pm through a secret dimension hidden in the MDCL atrium.

In an exclusive interview with Procrastinator reporters, one of the students, Iama Keener, claimed, "I was taking my group photo after my final biochem presentation when I heard a faint whisper coming from behind the waterfall. As I raised my hand to feel the water, I was pulled into a black void and taken into another dimension, back to ancient Greece in the year 400 BC. An illuminated spirit walked in, claiming to be a messenger of Apollo himself."

At this point in the interview, the student went into a possessed trance, reciting strange rituals which she later claimed were the proclamations of this messenger:

"Love of twelves and nothing else will ruin Sparta"

"I only love my bed and my momma, I'm sorry"

"Hear your fate, O dwellers in HSL; Either your famed, great GPA must be sacked by

Anatomy's sons,

Or, if that be not, the whole land of MDCL

Shall mourn the fall of a pathogen of the house of Wolfpack,

For not the strength of wolves or of marauders shall hold him,

Strength against strength; for he has the power of Inquiry,

And will not be checked until one of these two he has consumed."

And,

"The answers to the Fall 2018 2F03 final are AAANOBBBPAINCCCNODDDGAIN"

The Only Kind of Family BHSc Will Ever Be

#### First Year Inquiry Mafia Turns Violent

Mafia, a classic party game enjoyed by millions worldwide - including BHSc students in a university class setting - has taken over a first year Inquiry class. What started as an exercise in classic Inquiry-style learning and teambuilding quickly devolved into something much more dangerous.

Allegedly, the trouble started when students got into a kerfuffle regarding who would be the doctor in-game. Desperate for any sort of real-world experience to put on their CVs, more than 80% of players put "doctor" as their preferred role. Eventually, a large cohort of doctors (n=8) was chosen through completely random means, much like the BHSc application process. However, despite the unusually large size of the medical cohort, no players were ever actually saved from the mafia, presumably due to general incompetence.

As the weeks progressed, however, it was clear just how far some students were willing to take the activity. An increasing amount of players became concerned for their real-life safety, or more importantly, the security of their club executive positions. "It's terrifying!," relays one frightened student. "I've been receiving anonymous death threats in my LearnLink inbox for weeks by now! I've tried contacting peer tutors about this, but they've been less than useful - all they've been doing is asking me "who do you think the murderers are?"" Students later justified the aforementioned death threats as a form of "professional communication." Reportedly, the final surviving player was caught saying the phrase "Now that's an Epic Victory Royale™ 😂 ," keeping in the health sci tradition of bragging about achievements that no one cares about.

Bribery for Good Group Evals



Performative Allyship 1A03

#### **#OccupyAnatomy Protestors** Confused What They're **Protesting About**

Protestors have recently obstructed the anatomy lab entrance, preventing Health Scis from showing off to each other while studying anatomy. "For some reason, when I went to the anatomy lab today to do a thorough review of cranial nerve XIII, a bunch of students were crowding the hallway," reported one BHSc student. "I just thought the keypad to the door was broken again, but when I got back they were all chanting, 'What do we want? Change! When do we want it? Before OMSAS is due!" The student then listed every nerve that they felt was impinged by this inconvenience and only made two mistakes (which were quickly pointed out by their friend).

The #OccupyAnatomy movement was first started as a 4X03 initiative by a group of students who yearned to be a bit unconventional. "We thought that bringing attention to the lack of non-grey cadavers in the lab would get us a lot of likes on Instagram and be something unique to add to our OMSAS applications," said Anna Tomi. The movement quickly picked up steam with students who went to one (1) Diversity Services workshop and wanted to immediately flex their knowledge through a flashy and interdisciplinary approach.

We Love Dead Horses

Tarot Card of the Day

In Other News

The outside temperature is now as cold as your TA's heart.

BHSc student receives Humanitarian Award for the degree of compassion she displayed towards her Standardized Patient, dolling out advice like, "hang in there" and "oof, that sounds rough. Be less sad?"

Still Better Than the New Harry Potter Movie

#### The Rise of Witchcraft at McMaster

There has been an alarming rise of witchcraft on our very own McMaster campus as finals approach. Dark pacts are being made between struggling students and Mephistopheles himself for GPA boosts, additional MSAFs, successful med interviews, and the chance to get cuffed. Mass moral panic has erupted amongst McMaster students, leading to a barrage of accusations of sorcery. Screams of "I saw Goody Proctor with the Devil!", and "Burn the Witch!" have become commonplace, along with rather crude Harry Potter graffiti in bathroom stalls. With accusations (and students) flying, Facebook event pages are being organized for witch-hunts. The PSA (Puritan Student's Association) has risen above the noise to combat the mass hysteria with the publication of the Official Witch Diagnostic Checklist (the current gold standard diagnosis, sensitivity of 0.66 and specificity of 0.34). Should you have reason to believe a loved one has made an unlawful covenant with the devil, the PSA recommends the completion of the OWDC before pressing serious charges of sorcery. Checklist items include greenish appearance of the skin, the presence of >4 warts on the nose and/or face, the ability to float in water with limbs immobilized, a positive broomstick flying test, the ability to sing Defying Gravity, and a weight of less than one (1) duck. For a positive diagnosis of a Satanic connection, potential candidates must meet at least 4/6 of the criteria. The Procrastinator hopes that readers may use the OWD Checklist on the suspected and accused prior to picking up their pitchforks and joining witch hunts in the future.

Experiential Learning

#### Introduction of 30-credit Thesis Option Makes Waves

With the introduction of the brand new 30-credit thesis course, 4B30, a number of students have capitalized by spending the year abroad. One such student is Anita Vacay, a fourthyear BHSc student spending the year in the Dominican Republic undertaking a complex and multi-faceted thesis investigation. Her studies will tackle the long-term effects of alcohol consumption on the liver; potentially damaging sun-beams and their effect on the skin; which seafood is tastiest; and whether cocaine is, in fact, the most fun drug (it was only once and her new friend Rebecca assured her that she'd make sure Vacay didn't do any, "stupid sh\*t"). Vacay has specifically expressed her gratitude to her thesis advisor, a 28-year old scuba instructor with dubious scientific credentials, who gave her this opportunity, "I wouldn't have been able to undertake this project without the help of Fernandez. He's been so helpful in getting me set up and training me for my project. And there was a lot of training. Sometimes we trained for hours at a time. I've really never been trained like that before. Let's just say the lab was anything but dry." When asked if she faced any difficulties in getting approval for her thesis, Vacay had this to say, "Ya the ethics forms were a bit hard, but you'd be surprised what you can get away with in the name of science."

As of now, Vacay has made significant headway in her research and is grateful for the BHSc for providing her with the opportunity to commit fully to such an intriguing topic of study, free from distractions like electives, grades, and an inflexible national policy on drug trafficking.

I Didn't Need A Psychic To Know This



Now that you've taken a breather,

### OUREDITORS AND CONTRIBUTORS REMIND YOUTO

## PLEASE GET BACK TO WORK

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