



THE SCANNER

Student Newspaper of Saskatchewan Polytechnic

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ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Michelle Kot
Student Advocate - South

Have you ever wondered about academic misconduct and your rights and responsibilities as a student? I know this may all sound very boring, but not having a good understanding of this policy could result in getting a zero on an exam, failing a class, or worse, being suspended!

So what exactly is academic misconduct? What can you do as a student when juggling a full course load, as well as work/personal issues and still manage to prevent academic misconduct? First off, I think that it is important to know what falls under academic misconduct. Plagiarism, cheating, misuse of confidential materials, misrepresentation and bribery all fall under the parameters of academic misconduct.

I know that these words all sound scary, but knowing what they mean can be very beneficial. As per Saskatchewan Polytechnic policy, the definitions are:

Plagiarism is representing the words, ideas, work or images of another as one's own.

Cheating is possessing unauthorized materials in exams such as your cell phone, copying another student's work, resubmitting material that has already been graded for credit, providing false or fabricated claims, data or references, altering marks or original content on returned exams and assignments.

Misuse of confidential materials is procuring, distributing or receiving confidential academic materials such as pending examinations or assignments.

Misrepresentation of facts for the purpose of obtaining unfair academic advantage including false statements related to course assignments and examinations and submission of forged transcripts or false statements during the admission, registration, transfer credit or PLAR process.

Bribery is offering or receiving money or other benefits in exchange for an academic advantage.

Engaging in any of the above listed actions can be considered to be academic misconduct. All this information, and further details, can be found in the Student Conduct Policy at <http://saskpolytech.ca/about/about-us/documents/policies/studentconduct1211.pdf>.

Now that you know what academic misconduct is, what can you do as a student? There are some fairly easy ways to ensure that you do not commit academic misconduct. For example: Keep your cell phone in your backpack during class, ensure that all your study notes are either left at home or in your backpack or locker during an examination, and take the time to use proper citations and referencing when writing papers.

If at any time you are unsure of the expectations or what to do, ask. While approaching your instructor or program head may seem scary, it is the fastest and easiest way to get a clear answer. If you feel you need help gaining clarification, the Student Advocate(s) will be happy to help you out and can be contacted via email, phone or in person.

If you have questions our Student Advocate, North is Vanessa Hildebrand, vanessa.hildebrand@spsa.ca, our Advocacy Manager, Tara Pejski, tara.pejski@spsa.ca and myself, Student Advocate, South, Michelle Kot, michelle.kot@spsa.ca. We are always here to help or guide you to additional resources.

Happy studying and best of luck!



**YOU HAVE
RIGHTS
WE HAVE AN
ADVOCATE**

The Student Advocate is a support person who is well versed in Sask Polytech policies and due process. The Advocate can assist, advise and advocate on behalf of students in need.

 SPSA

CONTACT THE ADVOCATE

WHAT MAKES YOUR CAMPUS UNIOQUE?

*Jesse White
VP Prince Albert*

Since July of 2017, the SPSA has officially represented all four Sask Polytech campuses. We provide great services and events across the province. You may have attended one of our paint nights, pub nights, or even recently registered for the ice fishing derby. All the events we put on are to engage with you, our members. Your input helps us make decisions that affect all SPSA members, but what we may not know quite yet are the awesome little differences from campus to campus.

So my question to our readers is this, "What makes your campus special and different from the other campuses?" What are ways we, as your student government, can cater our services to your unique campus? You can let us know by contacting your local VP Campus or campus directors through your local SPSA Office or by their email addresses found on our website at www.spsa.ca. We can't wait to hear all the new ways we can connect with you and make your SPSA experience fit your campus's needs.

WASKIMO WINTER FESTIVAL 2018

*Marissa Owens
Campus Council Director - Regina*

Need something to do this Family Day? Go to the greatest winter festival held right in the Queen's city! Waskimo Winter Festival is Monday February 19th, 2018 (Family Day) and is full of fun events, both inside and outside, for the whole family to enjoy!

The festival is held in Wascana Park in Regina and is the only day of the year the public is allowed onto Wascana Lake ice. Some outdoor events include dog sled races, snow cricket, horse-drawn sleigh rides and skating on the ice. Indoor events are face painting, KAOS dogs, balloon sculpting, and queen city co-splay.

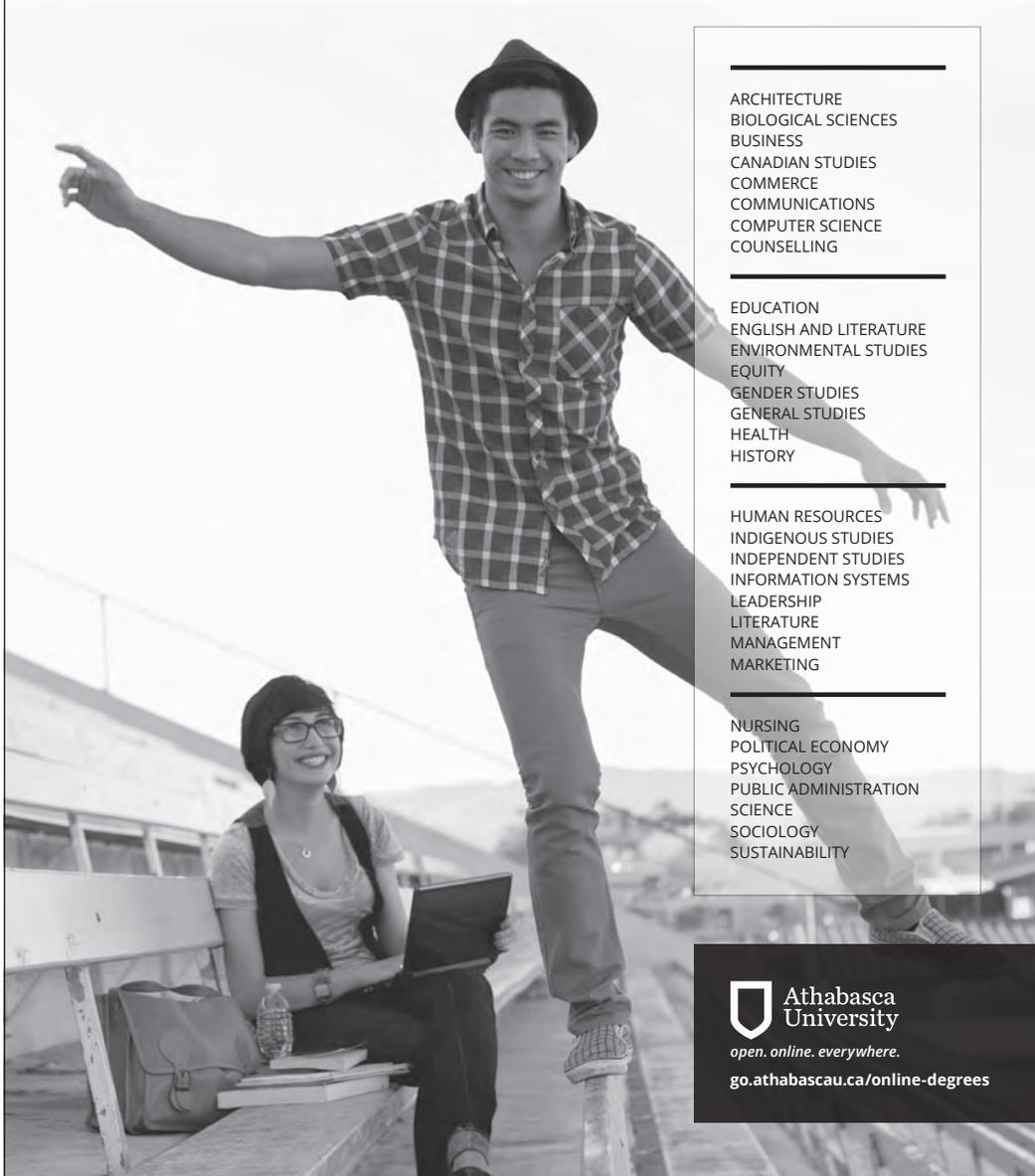
For more information on the festival, check out the website at www.waskimo.com or email waskimo.regina@gmail.com.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF WELCOME WEEK

Dallas Burnett
VP Saskatoon

There are a variety of definitions for the word welcome. The most common being, “an instance or manner of greeting someone.” Many post-secondary institutions across Canada and the world have welcome days or welcome week to introduce their students to their campus. Here at Saskatchewan Polytechnic the welcome week planning committee works to achieve three major objectives:

- Provide students with practical information related to studying at Saskatchewan Polytechnic including academic, emotional, financial challenges of Post-Secondary Education and how we can help.
- Help students get to know the campus itself, peers, faculty and staff.
- Reinforce students’ decision to choose us and make them feel comfortable.

These objectives are achieved by the institution and the students’ association working together to provide events, activities, and social interaction between students and faculty. The students’ association is mainly responsible for the organization of social activities and social

engagement for students within welcome week and the institution is responsible for the academic and institutional orientation.

One of the biggest challenges that arises during welcome week is finding time for students to engage with each other. Due to classes going on during welcome week, it is difficult to plan events where students have the ability to interact with one another. Unlike many other post-secondary institutions that have welcome week prior to the first day of classes, here at Saskatchewan Polytechnic the first day of fall classes is also the first day of welcome week. In order to create an exciting welcome week that encourages student engagement and campus life; the students need more leisure time to be able to participate.

The importance of welcome week may seem minimal to some. But to many students, welcome week can have an overall effect on their post-secondary experience. Welcome week should be about truly getting to know the opportunities available to you on campus and to be able to meet and interact with others around you. It’s a start to a new life and an opportunity to make everlasting memories right at the beginning of your journey. Being on the welcome week planning committee this year, I look forward to seeing what next year’s welcome

week becomes and I truly believe it will be one of the most memorable ones yet!



SPSA

NOT SO PRO SHINNY TOURNAMENT
2018

TAKE YOUR TALENTS TO THE ICE

FEBRUARY 10TH
CORMAN PARK SPORTS DOME
MAX 8 TEAMS
\$120 PER TEAM
7 PLAYER TEAMS*

*MIN. ONE FEMALE PLAYER PER TEAM ON THE ICE AT ALL TIMES

YOUR SPSA

**IS HOSTING
A SPECIAL**

MEETING

**FOR BYLAW
AMENDMENTS**

FEBRUARY 15 - 12 PM

MOOSE JAW STUDENT LOUNGE RM 2.119

PRINCE ALBERT RM F212 TECH CENTRE

REGINA RM 155 MAIN CAMPUS

SASKATOON RM 129C MAIN CAMPUS

LUNCH PROVIDED

MUST SHOW A VALID STUDENT ID TO ATTEND

SPSA ELECTIONS

Election season is rapidly approaching with the Students' Association. With nominations opening on February 26th, 2018, it opens the door of opportunity for Saskatchewan Polytechnic students.

The main focus of the SPSA is to enhance the educational experience of its membership, the students. This takes shape in an assortment of ways including, but not limited to: representing students not only within the Institution but on a municipal, provincial and federal level, providing a large variety of services and events, while creating a culture of inclusion, acceptance and tolerance.

It all sounds exciting because it truly is! Not only will you still be able to help create positive change for your peers and future students to come, but you will still be in a position to proceed forward with your chosen program. The SPSA represents the students at all four campus locations (Moose Jaw, Prince Albert, Regina and Saskatoon) so you will have the opportunity to meet and work with students across the entire province.

There are a variety of positions that will be open to students depending on the level of involvement that may best suit you, your program de-

mands, and the level of leadership you may wish to pursue. It is important to note that as with any elected position, there will be expectations with each of the positions, but there are also perks involved.

Even though nominations do not open until the end of February, it is never too soon to express your interest and learn more about the positions and our organization. To learn more, please see your respective VP Campus.

Moose Jaw – Room 1202
Suketu Ramsnehi
vpmoosejaw@spsa.ca

Prince Albert – Room F206B
Jesse White
vppa@spsa.ca

Regina- Room 145

Saskatoon – Room 119
Dallas Burnett
vpsaskatoon@spsa.ca

Nominations will be open from February 26th – March 9th and voting will be held on March 14th.

Keep your eyes open for information on upcoming elections!

Stop by the SPSA Office to speak with a Council member for more information.

SLEEPING TIPS

Brooke Field
Campus Council Director - Prince Albert

Sleep. A vital part of any student's life. So why are there so many people that struggle with a basic need? I would like to share seven tips on how to get the shut-eye you deserve:

1. It is recommended to keep your room neat and tidy and make sure that it is welcoming and cozy.
2. Avoid excessive use of technology while you are in bed and try to have a separate area to study and do homework.
3. If you do like to spend a bit of time on your phone in bed before falling asleep, on iPhones, there is an option for "Night Shift" or "Screen Dimmer" for non-apple products. This dims your screen to make it easier on your eyes because it removes the bright blue colors on your screen.
4. A nightly routine is a great way to wind down and to both mentally and physically prepare to go to sleep.
5. If you're a light sleeper, try and wear earplugs, have a fan blowing for white noise or talk to your roommates about "quiet time" hours.
6. A cooler temperature is said to make you fall asleep faster and stay asleep. Plus it is great for your heating bill.
7. There are many natural ways to aid in sleep.
 - Plants such as Aloe Vera and Snake Plant are great to help you sleep because of the added oxygen.
 - Himalayan Salt rocks - a 5-7 pound Himalayan salt rock is said to cleanse a small bedroom (~10x10 sq feet).
 - Essential oils like lavender

STUDENT SUPPORT COUNCIL BE HEARD

JOIN THE STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

BE THE VOICE FOR YOUR PROGRAM
PROMOTE CHANGE
DISCUSS STUDENT CONCERNS

NEXT MEETING FEB. 27

MOOSE JAW - SARAH'S - 12PM
PRINCE ALBERT - RM 236AC - 4PM
REGINA - RM 140.1 - 4PM
SASKATOON - RM 128 - 4PM

SASKATOON CAMPUS REC INTRAMURALS



FLOOR HOCKEY

GAMES BEGIN
MAR. 12

SIGN UP BY
MAR. 9

SIGN UP AT THE SPSA OFFICE RM 119



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SPSA

**KEEPIN' IT
REEL**

ICE FISHING DERBY

SATURDAY MARCH 3RD
10:00AM - 2:30PM

LIMITED TO FIRST 50 ENTRANTS

SIGN UP DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 23, 2018

SEE THE SPSA OFFICE

HOW TO APPLY FOR STUDENT AWARDS

Arushi Joshi
Campus Council Director - Saskatoon

Being a Sask Polytech student is not an easy job. We all know how many assignments we need to do with exams already shadowing us. We are all excited to graduate in May or to successfully complete year one. We are usually so busy with academics that we hardly focus on the opportunities that knock upon our door. Here, I am talking about student awards.

Saskatchewan Polytechnic provides approximately \$2,000,000 in student awards every academic year.

Not all students are financially capable to pay their tuition. I am sure most of you must also be working while studying. I am writing this article to provide some insight on how to apply for student awards.

With each passing day, we come closer to the month of May. Whether you are graduating this year or returning in the fall, you can apply

for awards that can help you to pay your tuition. You can browse all the available awards on <http://saskpolytech.ca/admissions/resources/scholarships-and-awards.aspx>.

The deadline to apply is February 28th, 2018.

The process to apply is very simple. First, you must fill out the form and provide a bunch of details including your recent cumulative academic GPA, information about your finances, etc.

The main part of the application process is where you write an essay that describes yourself and why you want the award. In fact, this is the most important opportunity to explain your dedication and goals and how the award can further help you in achieving your goals.

Here is a list of useful tips to consider while writing a scholarship essay:

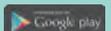
1. Use proper format. If not specified, use 12-pt, Times New Roman font, double spaced.

2. Read the eligibility criteria carefully before you start the application (remember you can apply for more than one).
3. Make an outline of your content; organize in an order.
4. Use simple and clear language. Do not make it too wordy.
5. You can also check out good reference books for writing essays in the Saskatchewan Polytechnic Library.
6. Proofread the essay after finishing and check if it matches with the eligibility criteria.
7. Have someone else read your essay. You can book an appointment with Learning Services to receive extra help with your essay.

These tips will be helpful to you not just for Saskatchewan Polytechnic awards but also in general and to apply for outside scholarships.



THE INFO YOU NEED. THE PRIZES YOU WANT. THE APP THAT HAS BOTH.
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SPSA/HILLBERG AND BERK EVENT STILL IMPACTING STUDENTS

At the end of November the SPSA in partnership with the Hillberg and Berk jewelry company held a surprise all-female event in Regina (100 students) and Saskatoon (150 students). In the months leading up to the event, students were randomly selected to receive an invitation to this “top secret” event and were given little details except for the date and location.

On the day of the event, as the unsuspecting guest flooded into the Regina and Saskatoon venues, Hillberg and Berk staff were amongst the crowd, waiting to reveal their “Making Spirits Bright” surprise. During the luncheon, the former VP Regina, Pamela MacArthur and former Saskatoon Campus Council Director, Ankita Rastogi gave a brief speech touching on the value of women in education, the strides that have been made and the accomplishments our Sask Polytech students have achieved.

Next, Hillberg and Berk representatives

provided a brief history on the company and its mission, followed by a short video that unveiled an incredible surprise. Hillberg and Berk’s “Making Spirits Bright” campaign, was created to help women share their sparkle with others. In order to do that, H&B handed out not one, but two pairs of sparkle ball earrings to each guest in attendance – one to keep and one to give away to someone of their choosing.

The surprise was met with a range of emotions, from excitement to shock, with both smiles and tears. For many in attendance, this was their first pair of sparkle ball earrings, and following that up with a second pair to gift to someone that makes their world better, was the icing on the cake.

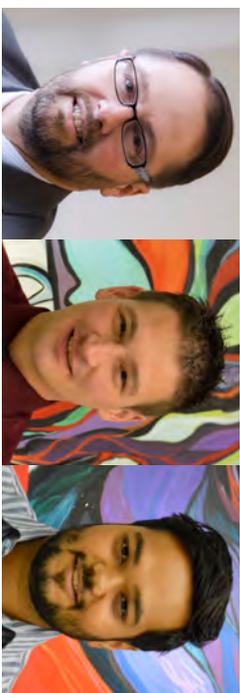
One story that touched us was from a Regina student, Markie Senko who wrote, “I gave my second pair to my little sister. When she was 10 years old her best friend passed away from

cancer, this was very difficult for her and all of us because she was such an amazing strong girl. The event took place on what would have been her 15th birthday and the earrings were her favourite colour. My sister wears them proud and was able to have that nice reminder that she is still empowering her even though she is gone.”

Throughout the past few months, the effects of the event still ripple throughout the campus. The SPSA staff continues to hear incredible feedback from students as well as the stories of how they shared their sparkle with those closest to them.

The SPSA would like to once again thank Hillberg and Berk for partnering on this event and we hope all those who were in attendance continue to share their sparkle.

**I SPY TO FLY!
PLAY ALONG TO BE ENTERED TO WIN A \$250 AIR CANADA TRAVEL VOUCHER FROM THE SPSA!**



Cheer on the Canadian teams in the 2018 Winter Olympics with VP Dennis Johnson (far left), VP Finance, Justin Skwawk (middle), and VP Moose Jaw, Sukeetu Ramsnehi (right). Find all three of them in the picture above, circle them, and return your entry to the SPSA Office on your campus. Watch for next month's edition of the Scanner for another chance to play! We will draw a winner for a \$250 Air Canada voucher at the end of the academic year.

Sask Polytech Students only.

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Program: _____