

# **STUDENT SEMINAR**

**STEPHEN GRAHAM**

**(PHD CANDIDATE IN  
COMPUTER SCIENCE)**

**MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE**

**Title:** Computational Humour: A Joke or No  
Laughing Matter?

**Abstract:**

The field of computational humour seeks to model a cognitive and visceral behaviour that is observable in many species with intelligence. The breadth and depth of humour has led some researchers to claim it is AI-Complete; if we can solve humour we can solve general AI. It lies at the intersection of philosophy, psychology, pragmatics, and informatics, so it draws great ideas from each. Generation, detection, comprehension, and appreciation are the main components of the sense of humour, with appreciation being the least implemented. My thesis proposes to build multi-modal humour appreciation systems and to evaluate their relevance, competency, and credibility with respect to human-computer interaction. Such a system could be used commercially in the development of conversational interfaces. This research may also lend insight into disambiguation tasks, and into the modeling of other psycho-social phenomena like anxiety.

**WHEN**  
**FRIDAY, MAR 6**  
**12:00—12:50**

**WHERE**  
**D634**

**WHO**  
**ANYONE WHO'S**  
**INTERESTED**

**REFRESHMENTS**  
**DONUTS**



Pacific Institute *for the*  
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MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

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