

An Undistinguished History Lecture (A.K.A. The UDLS UDLS)

UDLS UDLS: a meta-UDLS

Adam T. Geller

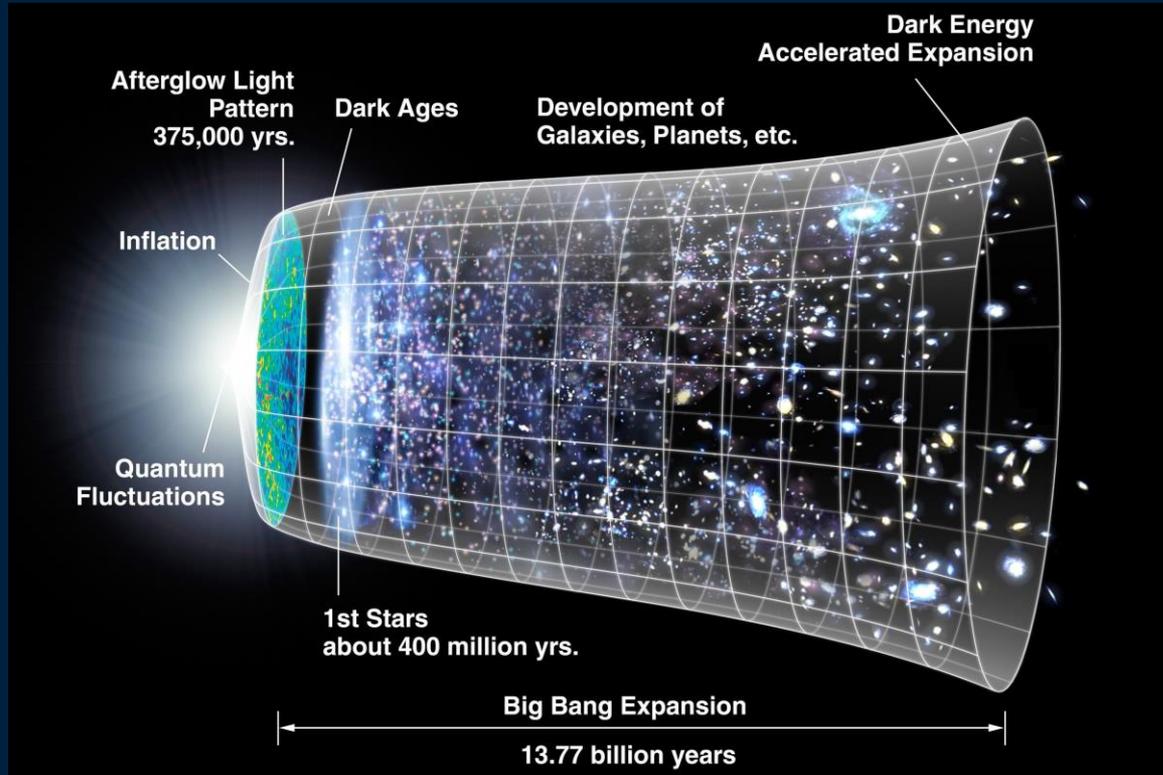
Department of Computer Science, University Of British Columbia



I did say history, so let's start there



13.8 BYA: the Universe Began (Some place it closer to 6,000 YA)



4.5 BYA: Earth was Formed



300 KYA: Homo Sapiens Diverge from Ancestors



8-10 KYA: Vancouver is Originally Settled (Housing Crisis Begins)



112 YA: University of British Columbia is Founded



52 YA: UBC Computer Science Department Founded



14 YA: UDLS Conceptualized



UDLS

The Un-Distinguished Lecture Series

13 YA: First UDLS Given (128 slides!!!)



Communication is Viral

Date January 19, 2007

Speaker Lucas Rizoli

Abstract An exploration of many metaphors applied to the movement of ideas, the idea as the infallible word of a god, as a weapon, as a space, and recently, the idea as a biological force, how they have affected and been affected by history and technology.

Slides <http://www.slideshare.net/lrizoli/communication-is-viral/>

12 YA: UDLS Adopted by CSGSA



Paulette Koronkevich

Adam Geller

Nico Ritschel & Joe Wonsil

President

VP Finance

VP Social



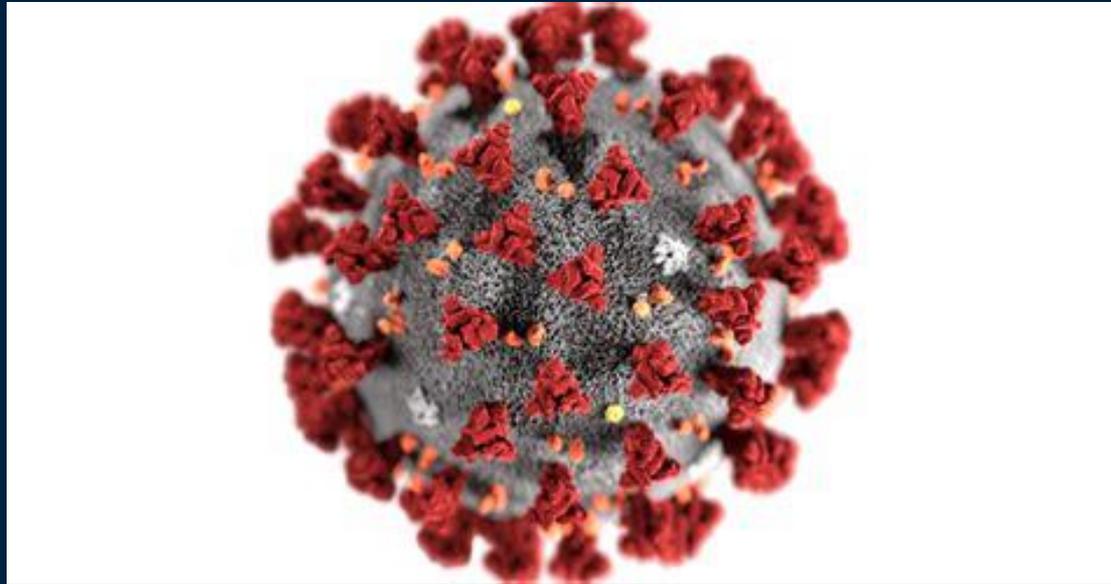
6 YA: Seahawks Win the Super Bowl



2 YA: I Become the UDLS Czar



0.5 YA: UDLS Moved to a Virtual Format Due to Pandemic



0 YA: I Give this UDLS



15

15

15

-0.000002 YA: I Move On from History to UDLS Stats

UDLS Stats



UDLS Stats



A Lot of Talks

411 lectures (including “specials”)

Impromptu UDLSes

Puzzle hunt

UDLS Karaoke/Roulette

300th UDLS

At one point they just watched a VICE documentary???

~ 177 Different Speakers



A Lot of Talks By a lot of People

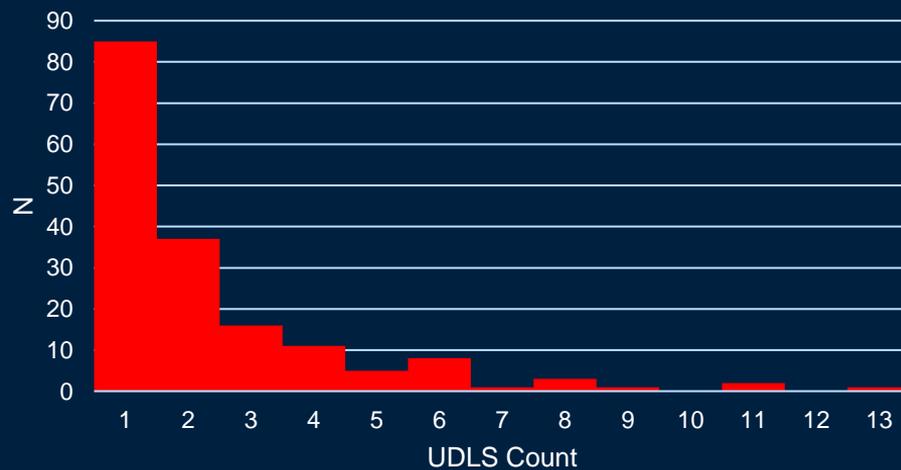
~ 177 Different Speakers (not including group UDLSes/karaoke)

Title-holder: Sancho McCann – 13

Runners up: Giovanni Viviani (active), Matt Brehmer



UDLS Speakers (approximate)



A Lot of Talks About a Lot of Different Topics



This is Not the First UDLS UDLS



Of undistinguished Tuesday Teas & Beer Calls

Date March 10, 2017

Speaker Jolande Fooker

Abstract History wasn't your favourite subject in high school? Well then you should definitely stay away from tonight's UDLS. We will take an excessive journey through the modern history of the department's UDLS, Tuesday Tea, and Beer Call emails. These emails may make you chuckle once a week, but has it always been this way? Be prepared to be bored out of your mind with dustily archived emails and stories. This UDLS can probably only be survived by bringing large amounts of drinks and/or rotten tomatoes to throw at the speaker (be careful not to hit the belly, please). "Wow, this isn't really an encouraging abstract", you're thinking? Well history has shown that sending kind and motivating words to fellow CS grad students doesn't seem to mobilize the crowds. Don't believe me? Well you better come to UDLS to see for yourself.

Slides [slides/udls-joli-past.pdf](#)

<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~udls/showTalk.php/2017-03-10>

UDLS Czars

2020-2021 – Adam Geller
2019-2020 – Adam Geller
2018-2019 – Nico Ritschel
2017-2018 – Amon Ge
2016-2017 – Giovanni Viviani
2015-2016 – Sampoorna Biswas
2014-2015 – Daniel Rozenberg
2013-2014 – Prashant Sachdeva
...
2008-2009 – Kevin Swersky and Elan Dubrofsky
2007-2008 – Lucas and Emti

*That doesn't
make any sense!*



Tips for a Successful UDLS



Choosing a Topic

Light and easy to digest

Flashier is better

Shock and awe



Content

Memes, memes, and more memes

Lots of visuals

No walls of text



Inside the UDLS Factory (time permitting)



A UDLS, from Start to Finish

1. Someone signs up for a UDLS (usually after a bit of prodding)
2. Early in the week, I ask the person who signed up for metadata
3. ~~I handcraft an artisanal email to broadcast~~
4. People see the announcement and show up to the UDLS
5. The UDLS is given
6. We celebrate with a social event
7. Afterwards, I ask the speaker for their slides
8. I upload the slides to the UDLS cs.ubc.ca account
9. I update the UDLS cs.ubc.ca website

Too busy

We are here

Mysterious



An Example UDLS Artisanal Email



Dear UBC CS Graduate Students,

You are cordially invited to an Undistinguished Lecture this 22nd of March, 2019.

UDLS

This Friday, we will gather at **5:15pm in ICICS x836** to witness **Puneet Mehrotra** present: **Indian Weddings**

*They say marriages are made in heaven. While that might be true of a serendipitous search for a partner, Indian marriages are ***WILDLY*** different. What begins with a parent-assisted search for a spouse culminates in a multi-day party that is as intriguing as it is funny. In this talk - which shall be peppered with the choicest memes - we look at the stages in a typical Indian wedding and how its scale defies logic and reason. To illustrate, we shall look at some insanely exorbitant weddings and poke fun at the bourgeoisie.*

DISCLAIMERS:

- *I am Indian and therefore allowed to make these jokes. Please refrain from cackling too gleefully at said jokes if you don't want to be targeted by an Indian at a later date.*
- *There will be no demonstrations a la Coffee House 2019.*
- *No animals are (usually) harmed in the making of an Indian wedding.*

Beer Call

You are also invited to a reception following the Undistinguished Lecture. This week we will be going to [Yaggers in Kitsilano](#) for beer call (make sure not to go to the one in downtown).

We will meet at the **x1 elevators at 6:00pm**, or you can join us **at the restaurant around 6:30pm**.

Enjoy the sunny weather!

Adam

Live Demo: Adding a UDLS (Time Permitting)



Thanks! Questions?

