

The Campus

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Shi files EEOC charge



SHI

By **SAMI MIRZA**
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Former Associate Professor of Chinese Xiaoling Shi has filed a “charge of discrimination” against Allegheny College with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for the circumstances of her termination from the college at the end of 2021-22 academic year.

“As everyone knows, Faculty Council recommended maintaining the Chinese program, but then the decision came to cut the Chinese program,” Shi told The Campus this week. “There was no due process. Also, I didn’t have the opportunity to appeal to a faculty committee, which is the procedure recommended by AAUP.”

The American Association of University Professors is an organization of academics focused on advancing principles of shared governance in academia, as well as other best hiring and termination practices. Under Allegheny’s bylaws, Shi’s status as a ten-

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ASG budget larger than thought

Admin estimate sets funds at \$783K, including \$415K in surplus

By **SAMI MIRZA**
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The Allegheny Student Government will be working with a budget twice as large as previously thought, in what will be the body’s second largest amount of available funds since at least the 2016-17 academic year. According to information provided by the college’s administration, which maintains financial records and access for ASG, the estimated budget is \$783,177 for the college’s student groups. “(ASG’s) budget this year, as it is right now, will be close to \$200,000 more than what they spent last year — even with fewer students,” Ellen Johnson, vice president for enrollment management, told The Campus last Friday.

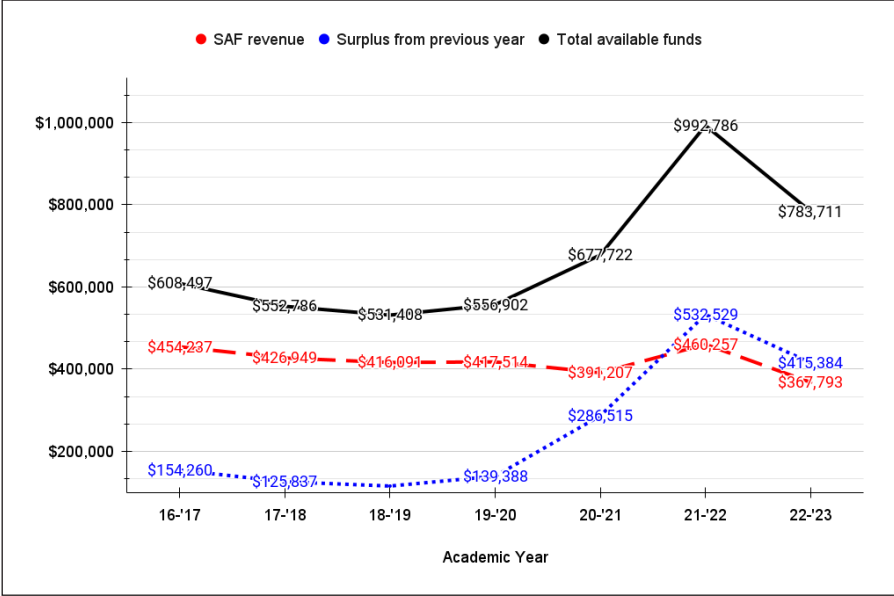
Last year, ASG had a budget of \$992,786, of which \$577,402 was spent. The near-million-dollar fund was fueled by a surplus of \$532,529 from previous years.

Of fees and funds

The body’s spending comes from two main sources. The general fund is funded by the “Student Activity Fee” — a \$290 charge applied to all students enrolled at Allegheny — and provides for clubs’ regular operating costs as well as special finance requests related to those operating costs.

In the 2021-22 academic year, an enrollment of around 1,575 students in the fall semester translated to \$460,257 in SAF revenue. This year, an estimated enrollment of around 1,350 is expected to result in \$368,000 in funding. Despite the drop in enrollment, Johnson said that the college is focused on growing the student body over the next few years, which would similarly raise ASG’s revenues.

“Where we’ve put an immense amount of effort as an institution today, and into the future, is to grow our enrollment back up into that 1,500-1,600 range



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

A graph showing total budget (solid black), the revenue from the Student Activity Fee (dashed red) and the balance of the surplus fund (dotted blue). All data was provided by Allegheny College.

over the next couple of years,” Johnson said. “We’re looking both in terms of new student recruitment, but — I would say even more importantly — retention and the student experience to ensure that students, once they’re here, have a wonderful experience and are retaining to graduation.”

The other main source of ASG’s finances is the surplus fund, which consists of all the unused funds from the previous year’s administration. This fund is used for “capital expenditures” — uniforms, equipment and other long-term club investments.

The surplus fund rolling over from last year to this year will be \$415,384, according to Johnson.

These numbers are far more positive than the tone taken by ASG President Veronica Green, ’23, in an email to club leadership in early August. In the email, which told clubs they would be receiving an average of around 36% of what they requested, Green cited the smaller

enrollment and reduced revenue from the SAF as the reason for a much smaller budget.

At the opening General Assembly of this year on Aug. 31, Green set the budget at \$380,000 from the SAF and said she was still waiting to hear information about the surplus fund from Linda Wet-sell, college’s chief financial officer and vice president for finance and administration.

While Green called the previous year’s administration “secretive” about finances at the body’s first public meeting, the 2021-22 ASG did publicly discuss much of their spending. Based on weekly finance reports, the body’s Office of the Treasury reported \$511,713 in spending last year — around \$60,000 less than the official figure provided by Johnson. Using minutes from past public meetings, enrollment data, and the set SAF, The Campus previously estimated the previous year’s budget to be between

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Haddad begins as provost



HADDAD

By **ROMAN HLADIO**
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Allegheny College’s new provost is settled into her office and already getting to work on projects that require her attention. Her message: acknowledge the troubles of the past academic year, but continue to push Allegheny toward something greater.

“I’m getting the sense from at least the folks I’ve been talking to that they’re ready for something new, and there’s an appetite to really focus on the strengths of Allegheny, to showcase our students, to come up with new ways to tell our story and really strengthen the foundation of the college,” said Provost and Dean of the Faculty Angela Haddad.

Haddad came to Meadville after nine years at Hunter College in New York City, where she served in a number of different roles. For Haddad, Allegheny’s smaller community is a refreshing change of pace after spending so long in the big city.

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Self-study to release to community later this month

Reaccreditation leaders Dearden, Pinnow talk Middle States summer updates

By **HASSAN JAVED**
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Even though the school year has just begun, many administrative projects from the past semesters kept progressing through the summer. One such was Allegheny College’s bid for reaccreditation.

The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is the accrediting agency administering Allegheny’s reaccreditation, examining the college and ensuring that they are offering a quality curriculum and education to the student body.

Last semester, the working groups were in the process of conducting a self-study of different facets of college life. Since then, they have completed their work and presented their findings as respective chapters in the overarching self-study report.

In this week’s Campus...

ARE WE TRULY ‘POST-COVID’?

Isabelle Caramenico, ’26, explores what it’s like to come onto campus as a freshman, and if we are truly in a “post-pandemic” time.

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ALLEGHENY WELCOMES FIVE NEW UKRANIAN STUDENTS

Science/International editor Lottie Mateyak introduces five new students from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv, Ukraine.

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FOOTBALL DROPS HOME OPENER

A second-half rally was not enough for the Gators, who lost 27-42 to the Union Dutchmen.

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FRIDAY

H: 82° L: 61°
Rain: 9%
Sunrise: 6:54 a.m.
Sunset: 7:40 p.m.

SATURDAY

H: 80° L: 63°
Rain: 6%
Sunrise: 6:55 a.m.
Sunset: 7:38 p.m.

SUNDAY

H: 74° L: 63°
Rain: 36%
Sunrise: 6:56 a.m.
Sunset: 7:37 p.m.

HADDAD

from page 1

“I’m living out in the country, which I did not appreciate when I lived in Michigan,” Haddad said. “I thought, ‘Oh, if only there was a big city and things I could do closer.’ But now, having lived in a big city for a long time, it’s nice to go home ... I sit in my yard almost every night and just watch the trees and the birds and the animals. It’s very, very relaxing, and it’s nice to be back in nature.”

There was also a shift in administrative style between Hunter and Allegheny, Haddad said. She explained that bigger schools have a much longer and less personal process when completing projects. Having the option to work more closely with people was one of Allegheny’s

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main selling points for Haddad, and although she acknowledged there are administrative differences between the two colleges, she found the adjustment “surprisingly easy.”

“I thought it would be nice to be able to connect with people again one-on-one, and really get to know almost everybody in the community,” Haddad said.

As Haddad begins her term, she plans to create open lines of communication between herself and the student body, but with limited scale in comparison to the open office hours former Provost and Dean of the College Ron Cole, ’87, held. While her door will always be open, Haddad plans to create an advisory group that meets with her on a

monthly basis to discuss changes students would like to see made.

Haddad hopes this dynamic will allow students to have an active voice, while keeping conversations between the student body and the provost’s office productive and professional.

“Having talked to (Provost and Dean of the College Ron Cole, ’87) about office hours, a lot of times he just sat there unless students were upset, and then students would come and it wouldn’t be a discussion, it would be a lot of angst,” Haddad said. “(Cole) couldn’t really respond in a way that would address their concerns in the long run.”

Haddad said she was aware of the strenuous dynamic between

her predecessor and the campus community following the announcement of the Academic Program Review in February, having both read about it and heard from Cole first hand.

“I know that (hostility toward the office of the provost) exists, but I think we’re at a point where everyone recognizes that things were difficult, and we all need to pull together as a community to do our best to move forward so we can continue the mission of Allegheny College,” Haddad said.

Haddad further explained that to her, something new looks like creating new ways to tell the stories of Allegheny College and its students.

“There’s lots of things in the

pipeline,” Haddad said. “And most of those things are coming from faculty.”

Haddad’s primary example was a new Digital Humanities major which she is currently working with Assistant Professor of History and International Studies Brian Miller and Eila V. Bush Endowed Professor of Art Paula Burleigh to create. She envisions this new area of study to make use of the extra space and resources in the library following the completion of its winnowing project and the shifting of Technology Services to Murray Hall.

Although last semester brought about many changes to the academic programming at Allegheny College, Haddad views now as the time to

strengthen the college’s portfolio rather than prune it.

“I don’t think a lot (of programs) were downsized, just looking at ... how many positions were discontinued and how many people retired mostly voluntarily, and then how many people decided to just leave,” Haddad said. “Looking at that, there was a number of faculty in a number of departments that were merged. I think at the same time, now that (we are) sitting back and looking at that history, going forward what we need to think about is how we maintain and strengthen our existing programs and what new programs might compliment that.”

BUDGET

from page 1

\$964,000 and \$987,000. Subtracting the public spending numbers from that budget yields an estimated surplus of just over \$450,000 — a figure closer to the actual number than ASG’s initial expectation that the surplus would not be available.

When the forecasted size of the budget came up at the most recent public meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 6, ASG Vice President Rudra Schultz-Ray, ’23, gave an estimate of \$580,000, which Green said would be affirmed at a meeting with college administration on Monday, Sept. 12.

“Our general fund is roughly \$380,000, and the surplus fund is \$200,000-something,” Schultz-Ray said.

“We’ll have more confirmation on Monday, but this should be the budget presented,” Green added.

I’d rather be under than over.

Wetsell said that since her promotion to CFO in 2013, she has always communicated ASG’s budget numbers in the fall.

“If I missed something with communication in the summer, a special request, then I guess I apologize for that,” Wetsell said. “But to me routinely we would report to ASG in the fall. There’s not a lot of activity going on in the summer, so for us that would have been unusual.”

Wetsell explained that she normally looks at what remains as last year’s surplus and allocates new funding based on the size of the new student body on “Count Day” — the semester’s 11th day of class. On this day, the year’s enrollment — and thus the size of ASG’s income from the student fee for the year — is formally determined. This year, Count Day will be Tuesday, Sept. 13.

“That is the same process that it has been historically, so nothing has changed this year in the timing,” added Johnson.

Green will be meeting with Wetsell and college President Hilary Link on Monday, Sept. 12, to discuss the budget and other issues.

was a lag in us even knowing the estimated budget, and there’s certainly a very big lag in us knowing the surplus fund budget, simply because we’re still figuring out what happened last year ... We’re working with information that I found on the Google Drive and randomly throughout (the ASG) office because it seems like there’s no center point where previous administrations held their information.”

According to 2019-20 ASG President Jason Ferrante, ’20 — who worked on the body’s budget for three years — much of the transition from administration to administration relies on what he called “institutional knowledge.”

“The budget procedure can be a bit complicated, and it can be ad hoc at times,” Ferrante said. “It’s set up at the discretion of the president and the finance director, and there can be a lack of regularity that can come with that. Information sharing is always going to be a pinch point for student groups.”

During budget hearings last spring, Green said that ASG was expecting to have around \$400,000 to \$500,000 in its budget and learned midway through the break that the number would be much smaller.

Citing the summer estimate of \$380,000, Green noted that the figure was much less than had been expected.

“(\$500,000) is obviously not what we’re working with,” Green said. “We had to do a lot of adjustments mid-summer, when we found out what our estimated budget was going to be — which we didn’t find out until mid-to-end July.

We had to do a lot of adjustments to club budgets to make it so we weren’t spending all of our funding within the first couple weeks.”

Based on the \$380,000 estimate, ASG awarded clubs a little over a third of the amount they requested for their annual operating costs. According to budget information sent out in early August, clubs requested \$382,105 — up from \$324,483 last year — and were allocated \$140,155 — down from \$187,200 last year. Green says the increased budget requests were likely the result of ASG approving most financial requests last year.

“We saw that shift in club budget requests where, two years ago a club might have only requested \$2,000 but this year they requested \$12,000 because they were like, ‘well, we spent \$12,000 last year,’” Green said. “Club programming is great, and it’s very ambitious and people have a lot of great ideas. However, it’s very costly and I think genuinely people just got used to us having the money to say yes. Now we do not (have the money).”

Clubs can use finance requests to ask for more funds than they receive in their budgets, though receiving more funds is not guaranteed.

Due to expectations of a smaller-than-usual budget, ASG passed new financial guidelines at their first GA to limit spending. Those guidelines require that clubs cover 30% of the cost of certain events and trips through fundraising or out-of-pocket contributions from club members. Once a club has raised 30% of the cost, ASG will provide the remaining 70%. This fundraising policy applies to all off-campus trips, conferences and any event over \$4,000.

However, the administration said last year’s funds will not be trimmed in the transfer to this year’s budget.

“I don’t think there’s any intention that that surplus goes away at all,” Johnson said. “The surplus is funding that was already allocated to ASG and they will continue to roll that over. It’s an ASG decision how much of that they want to spend. We as the institution are not dictating how they use that surplus, and that is not going away.”

Johnson did point out that much of the revenue from the SAF was subsidized by the college, as many students pay the fee using Allegheny-funded scholarships.

“Of our total student body, our average discount rate is about 69%,” Johnson said. “69% of that \$290 (fee) is college-supported money. 31% is what the students are actually paying.”

Green said that such a distinction does not matter — in her eyes, the school is still receiving \$290 per student for ASG and those funds are allotted to ASG. She also warned that restricting ASG’s funding would reduce student retention and hamstringing the college financially.

“I think whether or not the administration sees it themselves, ASG and ASG clubs are how they are going to retain students,” Green said. “A lot of students left it during the COVID semesters and never came back because we weren’t doing anything, because we were all stuck in our rooms and we felt very lonely. I personally see a direct correlation between student programming and student retention. I don’t know if the administration sees it the same way but I personally have strong opinions on us keeping that surplus fund in its entirety.”

legheny experience.”

“I think that is also sometimes a misconception that students have, that the only money going towards student programming comes out of ASG,” Johnson said. “Student Engagement, Leadership, Student Life in general actually also has an operational budget that supports a lot of student activities and student life things that happen on campus.”

Moving forward

The exact impact this larger budget will have on already-allocated club budgets is unclear. After being presented with the surplus number following the GA on Sept. 6, Green said that reallocating any budgets would require action from the larger ASG body.

“If most of that money is coming from the surplus, the senate would have to vote to move the money from the surplus to our general fund,” Green said. “Then from the general fund, we can reallocate budgets according to how much they vote to move.”

Ferrante cautioned against the idea of the surplus drastically changing the spending situation for student organizations.

“In my time in office, we tried to treat the surplus fund not as a piggy bank, not to bail out the ASG budget, but for ongoing projects and capital funds,” Ferrante said. “We tried not to dip into it, but also tried not letting it get too big, because then we’re not upholding our fiduciary responsibility to the student body.”

He also said that student organizations require good-faith interactions between groups, something made much more difficult by the pandemic.

“These are still students making these decisions,” Ferrante said. “There has to be trust on both sides. Students have to learn how to trust ASG, and ASG has to learn how to trust clubs. There’s a lot of trust in the system, and there’s a multitude of things that can strain that — like COVID — and it can take time to build that back up.”

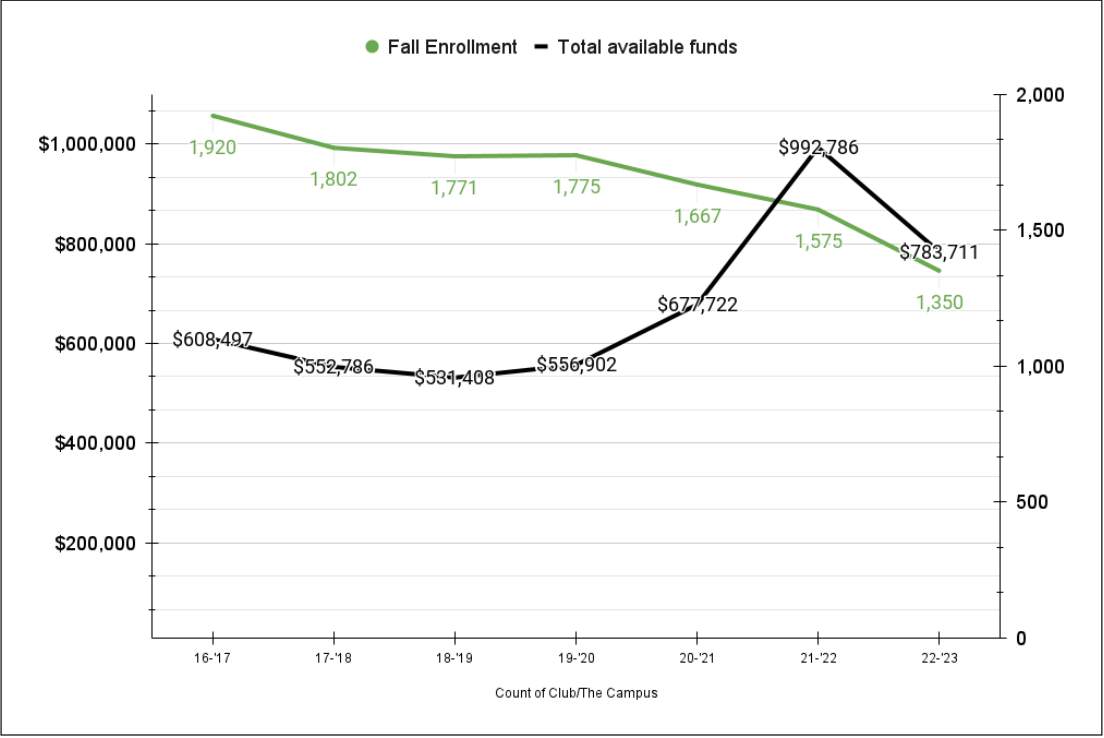
The good news is that ASG will have more than twice as much money as student government officials thought just a month ago. The less good news is that the confusion about the exact size of the surplus leaves uncertainty about whether or not the larger budget will trickle down to student organizations.

After the meeting, Green said the \$200,000 figure came from Interim Dean of Students Trae Yeckley, who confirmed the sourcing in an interview Wednesday.

“I was estimating very, very conservatively, and I own that,” Yeckley said. The numbers that actually were shared with me were closer to the (\$415,384). The numbers I originally gave her on the rough estimate, were not close to what the actual numbers are.”

Yeckley, who is in their second week as ASG’s adviser, was not aware of the actual surplus when they gave Green their estimate.

“I gave it a really low-ball estimate that was not anywhere near (the actual number),” Yeckley said. “I’m glad that she gave the lower-end estimate just because



A graph showing fall enrollment (solid green) and total ASG budget (solid black) since the 2016-2017 school year. All data provided by Allegheny College.

Should there be a cap?

In the Sept. 1 interview, Green also said the college administration was “trying to push policies that we can only take 40% (of the surplus fund) and not the whole thing in the rollover.”

“This is information that was passed on in the transition report, that the (college) administration believes ASG is receiving too much money for how little students we now have on campus,” Green said. “They believe that, if we are not utilizing all of (the surplus fund) within the year, that they should have privy access to that funding.”

Johnson said that finding out what keeps students at Allegheny starts with asking the students themselves.

“We want to know what the general students want,” Johnson said. “Do they feel like they are getting the student experience from ASG-funded activities? To me it’s really more about if the students see that as a good use of their funds and support.”

Johnson also noted that ASG does not hold a monopoly on the student experience, and that other groups within the college community also build the “Al-

ASG fills out cabinet with GA votes

By **SAMI MIRZA**
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At its weekly General Assembly on Tuesday, the Allegheny Student Government welcomed two new senators and approved five new cabinet members, in addition to approving two new clubs for their first round of voting and passing two amendments to the ASG Constitution.

Last week, ASG convened with just seven of its fifteen active seats filled, with five senators from the class of 2025 as well as one senator each from the classes of 2024 and 2023. This week, the classes of 2024 and 2023 added one senator each, bringing the total number of senators to nine. Jasmin Meyer Jaafari, '23, was appointed by Class President Shira Haus, '23, and London Dejarnette, '24, was appointed by Class President Juliana James, '24.

Following the approval of the previous week's minutes, ASG President Veronica Green, '23, swore Jaafari and Dejarnette in as senators for their respective classes, now leaving only three seats open for each class's senate. The senate will expand to include the class of 2026 following first-year senate elections on Sept. 13-15.

The Senate approved five nominees to key cabinet positions, filling gaps left when some of the current administration's nominees were voted down in the final GA of last academic year.

Ankitha Pamula, '24, was unanimously approved for the position of Parliamentarian, the office that advises ASG on proper parliamentary procedure.

Ray Collabowalla, '25, Haley Hersh, '23, and Kori Bower, '23, received all votes except one, with Senator Anh Nguyen, '25, abstaining on those three confirmations. Collabowalla will be the Chief of Staff, Hersh will be Director of Sustainability and Environmental Affairs, and Bower will be the Director of Organizational Development.

Adriana Solis, '23, was confirmed as Director of Treasury by a 7-2 margin, with Nguyen and Senator Nicole Recio Bremer, '25, voting against the appointment.

All five new cabinet members were sworn in at the close of the meeting.

In "New Business," ASG approved a pair of clubs for their first round of voting. According to a representative present at the meeting, the new "Health and Wellness Club" aims to, "motivate and educate individuals on

the importance of mental and physical wellbeing."

The body also heard from Senator Sofia Hassan, '25, who represented the Allegheny "DMAX" club.

"With DMAX at Allegheny, we want to destigmatize conversations around mental health," Hassan told ASG during the meeting. "We'd be meeting about every week, just getting together as a community of students and talking about how we're doing."

The Health and Wellness Club received unanimous support, while DMAX received every vote save for Hassan's, who abstained. Both clubs will be up for a vote again at the next GA. If they are approved a second time, they will be considered ASG-recognized clubs and eligible to apply for ASG funding.

Funding requests for the week totalled \$785. Green, speaking as the Director of Treasury prior to Solis' confirmation and swearing-in, said that Skate Club had requested \$380 from the surplus fund and \$120 from the general fund, and the Association for Asian and Asian-American Awareness had requested \$285 from the Culture, Identity and Leadership Coalition fund.

The body also approved two amendments to the ASG Constitution in the second round

of voting for the changes. One amendment concerned regulations for how ASG President and Vice-President-elects still sitting in the Senate can vote on their own nominees, while the other granted the Senate the ability to revive failed motions made by ASG in previous years.

The first amendment — dubbed "Amendment 22-02/3" — comes after questions were raised in the final GA of last year as to whether Green and Vice-President Rudra Schultz-Ray, '23, then sitting Senators, should be allowed to vote for their own nominees to cabinet positions. The new amendment allows the President and Vice-President-elects to vote on nominees, while also providing an option for another senator to request a proxy vote in their place. That proxy would be selected by other Senators of the same class and would have to come from the same class as the officer-elect.

The second amendment — "Amendment 22-01" — allows the Senate to re-try any failed motions made by previous iterations of ASG, though failed motions from the same academic year cannot be retried.

The next GA will be held next Tuesday, September 11, at 7:30 p.m. in CC 301/302.

SHI *from page 1*

ured professor granted her the right to appeal to the Board of Trustees, who would have final say on the termination.

Shi — the head of the Chinese minor program at Allegheny — was fired as a part of an academic restructuring at the college that cut the Chinese minor along with the film and digital storytelling, geology, and religious studies majors. The changes, initiated by the college's Board of Trustees, called for an elimination of \$1.5 million in faculty salaries to ease a structural deficit, and eliminated 25 faculty positions.

The restructuring, which faced strong opposition by students, began with the creation of a faculty-led academic program review task force. In their report, the task force identified several "programs with challenges to long-term stability," though the Chinese minor was not among them. Then-Provost and Dean of the College Ron Cole, '87, used the report to create his staffing plan, which eliminated the Chinese minor among the other programs.

When his staffing plan was announced, Cole said that the termination of the Chinese minor was due to under-enrollment within the program.

"Students were not taking Chinese consistently, particularly at upper levels," Cole said in a February interview with The Campus. "The (Task Force) report didn't have details about

the number of courses that were under-enrolled or canceled. It didn't have that fine of detail, only the total enrollments in each major or minor."

Shi appealed her termination to the Board of Trustees, submitting analyses arguing that the numbers did not support eliminating the Chinese minor. When that appeal was voted down by the Board in late March, Shi filed a charge with the EEOC.

"I firmly, firmly believe that student numbers do not support the decision," Shi said. "I have to wonder, what is the reason for the termination? I cannot find any other reason than discrimination."

The EEOC is the federal agency responsible for enforcing the nation's anti-employment discrimination laws.

After Shi filed her charge in late March, the college had a chance to respond to her charge. Shi recently received that response, and has until Sept. 22 to submit a rebuttal. Once that rebuttal is submitted, the EEOC will step in and attempt to mediate the situation, Shi said. If the charge is not resolved within 180 days, Shi will be able to request a "Right-to-Sue" letter from the EEOC allowing her to file a lawsuit against the college on the basis of discrimination.

Allegheny College did not respond to requests for comments.



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

ASG President Veronica Green, '23, swears in five new members of the cabinet at the close of the weekly ASG General Assembly on Tuesday, Sept. 6. The apponts are, from left to right: Director of Treasury Adriana Solis, '23, Director of Sustainability Haley Hersh, '23, Chief of Staff Ray Colabowalla, '25, Parliamentarian Ankitha Pamula, '24, and Director of Organizational Development Kori Bower, '23.

VISIT *from page 1*

Pinnow added that students can be considered the most elemental resource of the college and that allowing them ample representation in the reaccreditation process is a target of the school.

Joshua Heiser, '23, is one of the two students selected by the steering committee to represent the student body on the committee.

"I was asked by some professors I have worked closely with to represent the study body on the steering committee last fall," Heiser said. "I was told that my name came up several times during initial discussions in the reaccreditation process and felt privileged to act as a voice for the student body."

Heiser added that, in his role on the steering committee, he and Ashlyn Peachey, '23, the other student representative, have had the opportunity of being involved in each step of the

process.

"I'm very happy with the school's initiative to be transparent in this process," Heiser said. "(Peachey) and I have been asked our opinions and critiques at every discussion."

Heiser mentioned, however, that he spent last semester studying abroad and was not kept up to date with proceedings on campus as well as he expected.

"Coming back to campus this semester, there were a lot of things I was unaware of and unclear on," Heiser said. "I think there could have been more communication from the steering committee or maybe they should have invited someone to take my place in my absence to make sure that enough student body voice was present at the table."

Dearden said that student involvement and success are atop the list of administration

priorities not just regarding the reaccreditation process but in general.

"We learn from trial and error and we have learned a lot over the last three semesters about making sure everyone is involved and on the same page," Dearden said. "We created student working groups for the reason that everyone should know more about their institution."

Pinnow added that many other challenges were overcome by the steering committee and all those involved in the reaccreditation process.

"All the recent changes such as dining services and student pay rates along with larger changes caused by COVID-19 have made this process unique to the past," Pinnow said. "We have worked diligently to paint the truest and most detailed picture of Allegheny, but we have to concede that every single change cannot be accounted for."

Dearden and Pinnow both agreed that they learned a lot in leading the reaccreditation process.

"I think the most impactful thing I took from the report is being able to see proof of Allegheny fulfilling its mission statement," Dearden said.

"For me, the thing that stood out the most is the amount of time and resources that Allegheny invests into its students," Pinnow said. "I'm a professor here, yet I still learned about new resources that are available to students at Allegheny."

Dearden and Pinnow reinforced the importance of reaccreditation.

"Without reaccreditation, there is no Allegheny as we know it," Dearden said. "It is only through accreditation that we are able to be recognized as an institute of higher learning by the federal government."

CRIME BLOTTER

Editor's Note: The weekly Crime Blotter is compiled using the Daily Crime Log available on the Office of Public Safety's web page. Crimes reported may still be under investigation. Crimes listed below are collected the Thursday before publication.

September 1, 2022

Theft
Parking Lot 25

September 6, 2022

Theft
North Village B

THE CAMPUS

Since 1876

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A successful summer is more than just internships

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Opinion Editor

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I’ve always loved the beginning of the school year: a fresh start, the anticipation in the air, the comfort of a routine and the promise of fall on the horizon. It’s almost perfect — and then the dreaded question begins plaguing me once more.

"What did you do over the summer?"

As a child, the answer was simple: I ran around in my backyard, got covered in dirt, drank some water from the hose and watched TV before bed. Easy. But as time passes, life becomes more complex. Maybe you spent all summer life-guarding or at a summer camp. Maybe you went on a ceaseless road trip with your family. Maybe you were in marching band and your summer was woefully truncated by band camp.

College is an entirely different ballgame. Everybody did the same thing in the summer of 2020 — nothing. The

summer of 2021 rolled around and I had two internships. That’s a good, respectable answer. I felt a sense of pride last fall informing everybody who asked that I had been a marketing and communications intern in Cleveland. When the time came to start planning for the summer of 2022, I knew that it would not be the same.

What did I do over the summer?

I worked. I waitressed at a pizza place and regularly came home smelling like an Italian deep-fryer. I went on some hikes and read some books, I sat in the woods and drove the backroads of McKean County. I don’t know how to tell people this.

I’ve heard some pretty interesting answers to the summer question. Peers have traveled abroad and conducted research and participated in fellowships. That’s fantastic; I’m continually amazed by the adventurous spirit and academic drive of Alleghenians. If I wanted to, I could’ve followed a similar path. I in-

terviewed for internships and cobbled together applications for writing workshops, but something was not right. I was not right.

I hate the question because when I give my answer — “I worked” — nobody knows how to react. Some people say they’re sorry, as if I was punished for three months. Others respond with a mix of pity and boredom. It’s not a very interesting answer, after all. A select few have no reaction — those are my favorites. We accept that I did what the majority of the population does with their summer months and move on to far better topics of discussion.

Here’s the thing: I didn’t see my summer as a punishment or a burden. At the end of the spring semester, I felt like I was dangling off of a cliff by one finger, like I was held together with duct tape and safety pins. I needed quiet and a routine. I needed money. The obvious answer was to go home, do some work and use my free time to put myself back together — so that was exactly what I did.

I know, I know: every college summer is a precious time to build your resume, to show that you have drive and ambition and a good work ethic to boot. I was paralyzed with anxiety in May that choosing to slow down over the summer would somehow irrevoc-

ably ruin my future prospects forever. There’s such an emphasis in our academic culture of demonstrable success — awards, money, acclaim and all those other bright, shiny things — that we often forget about the quieter, smaller ways to define success. Success for me right now is a week without paralyzing anxiety. It’s actually wanting to wake up in the morning. It’s baking bread and tending the garden and reading poems and making a mess of watercolors while watching "Murder, She Wrote." These were, until June, things that were sorely missing from my life, sacrificed to the God of Ambition.

Let me be clear: I think ambitious people are great. Generally, I am one. But I’ve come to learn that if you do not pick a time to rest, the universe and your body will conspire and pick a time for you. As is true for most facets of life, balance is necessary. “Extraordinary” is not sustainable; nobody can operate at one hundred percent every day. My summer — my ordinary summer —

was one of the best I’ve had in a long time. I came out of it knowing myself better than before, rested and ready to face senior year as bravely as possible.

Perhaps most importantly, though I did not spend my summer learning how to run a political campaign or design software, I learned how to take care of myself. It’s a precious skill that few develop, and more and more, I encounter students on this campus who are worn down to shells of their former selves pursuing what they believe is the best path — the only path. Our culture does not value rest. It is fast-paced and relentless. I always thought that slowing down was a sign of weakness and taking a break was tantamount to murder. You can rest when you’re successful. Until then, keep your nose to the grindstone and complaints to a minimum.

Pragmatically, success is whatever you want it to be. I, for one, had a pretty successful summer — even if my answer to the fabled back-to-school question is uninteresting.

Send Letters to the Editors and Op-Eds to newspaper@allegheny.edu

Must include name, class year or faculty/staff position.

Letters to the editors should be 500 words or less.

Op-eds should be at least 750 words, no more than 1200 words.

All submissions subject to approval and edits by The Campus staff.

• • • • • Are we living in a 'post-COVID world'? • • • • • *A first-year's perspective on the pandemic*

By **ISABELLE CARAMENICO**

Contributing Writer

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“We are living in a post-COVID society.” This phrase is often used now that the height of the COVID-19 pandemic has passed and the world has mostly moved on from the tragedies and difficulties of a global pandemic. While everyone has been focusing on the relief that has come from the decline in cases and release from quarantine, should people really stop participating in proper COVID-19 protocols?

According to the CDC, the world reached its highest amount of total COVID — over 500,000 — in April of 2020. Now, in our “post-COVID world,” the daily number of documented cases reaches around 60,000 on average, which is a significant drop in comparison to the numbers reached during the height of the pandemic. Despite the evident drop and slow decline of cases, it is still important that people take precautions, even in the smallest ways.

When touring Allegheny last fall, numerous times during the tour it was made apparent that the campus has made a great effort to make a change in the number of documented cases of COVID-19, having enforced masks, social distancing and remote learning during the height of the pandemic. Now that things have returned to “normal,” the campus has become laxer, making

certain protocols like masks optional for students and faculty. While the world has had a slow decline in cases, COVID is still very prevalent and has not been eradicated, so it is important for students and faculty on campus to take precautions to prevent the excessive spreading of the virus. Each individual has the opportunity to decide how they handle life on campus now, which has its freedoms and risks.

But are we living in this “post-COVID” society the media talks so much about? Technically, yes, we are. The height of the pandemic has passed and the CDC guidelines have lax. But COVID is still prevalent in society, and there still being cases and deaths as a result of the virus. Really, COVID will never be entirely left behind, and it will always be prevalent; it’s just a matter of how we handle it now and well into the future.

Allegheny is a small campus, having an enrollment of about 1,400, as opposed to a large campus such as the University of Pittsburgh with its 34,000 students. This means the likelihood of a mass outbreak of COVID here is smaller than it is on a bigger campus. Nevertheless, any sort of COVID outbreak at Allegheny would still affect a vast number of students and faculty. The COVID protocol on Allegheny’s campus is and should be different from a college with a larger student population. However, this does not mean the community

should completely neglect all forms of COVID-19 prevention. Masks are wonderful protectors from spreading and contracting COVID-19, as well as other illnesses, but many people prefer life without them, and what’s the harm in having a personal opinion?

As an incoming first-year, the abrupt change from a small private high school to a much larger private college is very overwhelming, especially given that the past three years of high school were anything but normal. COVID changed people’s lives: the social aspect, their working environment, and in my case, my education. COVID made high school a breeze, which wasn’t necessarily a good thing. Virtual classes were made easy by answering a few questions for attendance and then having the rest of the day to do nothing. Returning to school with the mask mandate made classes less active and interactive. How are incoming first-years supposed to adjust to a fully interactive school year when the last three have been anything but, and we’ve been deprived of a challenging high school experience that should have prepared us for the change into high school?

Alongside the rest of the incoming class of 2026, we have to endure an abrupt change from lax online high school classes and adjusted in-person classes this past school year, and now face an entirely new setting and learning environment.

As an incoming first-year, the abrupt change from a small private high school to a much larger private college is very overwhelming, especially given that the past three years of high school were anything but normal."

—ISABELLE CARAMENICO
Class of 2026

The community has been very welcoming these past few weeks and has made an environment in which people can feel comfortable making the decision of wearing a mask or not. People are not shamed or given looks because they choose to wear or mask or not wear a mask. Everyone seems comfortable co-existing with other people, despite their personal preferences. I have found that this is simply a part of the nature of Allegheny, acceptance regardless of differing opinions, beliefs or ideals, as opposed to the environment of the high school I attended previously.

I personally don’t wear a mask because I feel comfortable on this campus and confident that the school will know how to handle any positive cases — also because it is still incredibly hot and masks seem very uncomfortable in this weather. However, I don’t believe that people should revert entirely back to life before the pandemic. Hand washing is vital. I carry hand sanitizer with me everywhere because who knows what and who has touched those door han-

dles and hand railings? It’s better to slap on some extra hand sanitizer or stop to wash your hands quickly than to head to McKinley to eat lunch with half the student population’s germs getting on your mac and cheese bites.

In short, hand sanitizer and hand washing are something we should all adapt into our daily lives tenfold from how we did before the pandemic. None of us know who in our dorm hall or history class is at high risk, and it’s easier and smarter to apply hand sanitizer after touching a few door knobs than to put someone’s life — even a stranger’s — at risk.

Yes, we are living in a “post-COVID society,” but this does not mean COVID has disappeared, nor does this mean we should revert back to neglecting our health and the health of others for convenience’s sake. Wash your hands, use hand sanitizer and enjoy your mac and cheese with a minimal amount of classmate germ seasoning, and some ketchup instead.

Students from Ukraine live and learn in Meadville

By **LOTTIE MATEYAK**
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This academic year, Allegheny College welcomed five new international students from the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv, Ukraine.

The National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy is one of 13 research universities in Ukraine, and is one of the few institutions in Ukraine that award internationally-recognized diplomas, according to Top Universities. It is also one of the smallest universities in Ukraine, with a student population of around 4,000.

Students visiting from Ukraine will attend Allegheny College for one academic year, living and learning on campus while earning credits for their own institution. Students were given the opportunity to travel to one of five other institutions abroad, and had to apply to be accepted into the program.

The COVID-19 pandemic affected academics around the world, and many institutions, including the University of Kyiv-Mohyla and Allegheny



My goal is to collect the best experience in the world and to become the best version of myself, and then use this best version to make my country better.”

—MYKYTA KOVBASA
Class of 2024

College, were forced to switch to online learning.

While students in Ukraine briefly resumed in-person instruction in January 2022, the escalation of the Russo-Ukrainian War in February forced a return to online learning.

“Studying online for three years is not that fun,” Arina Otbliesk, ’24, said.

Otbliesk said that she had always wanted the experience of studying in the U.S., but the beginning of the war and return to online learning reinvigorated her efforts.

Instead of continuing remote learning in Ukraine, students were able to apply for the study abroad program and continue their education elsewhere.

“My story with Allegheny was really interesting,” Mykylta Kovbasa, ’24, said. “I was checking this program ev-

eryday if like something new ... there was nothing from the U.S.A. It was really like a sign, because I was looking for something in the United States and then (found) Allegheny. Now I’m here.”

While the University of Kyiv-Mohyla and Allegheny College are both considered small in size, there are many other differences that the international students have noticed in their short time in Meadville. Living on campus, as opposed to commuting, is a new experience for many of them.

“For me, living on campus is very comfortable,” Kovbasa said. “Here, it is much easier. All you need is five minutes for me to get from Walker to Quigely. In Ukraine, (the drive to school) takes two hours.”

With cars generally used for more long distance traveling in Ukraine, Kovbasa ex-

pressed confusion concerning the amount of students who own a personal car on a pedestrian campus.

“My question is: for what?” he asked.

The students note that Allegheny’s academic programs are a bit different as well.

“In Ukraine, we don’t have minor or major, we have just one,” Kovbasa said. “You have your major and that’s it, but, it’s cool that you guys have (both).”

Despite all of the differences, however, the international students are settling in well.

“I really do like (Allegheny),” Otbliesk said. “It is a beautiful campus, and so nice people here. It’s a culture shock for me, like people who are just saying ‘hi’ to everyone. The American culture is so different from Ukrainian culture. You are too friendly.”

The war in Ukraine has had an obvious impact, not only on academic life but on everyday life as a whole.

“It was like really similar to being depersonalized,” said Sasha Shafran, ’25, about returning to Ukraine this summer. Shafran is attend-

ing Allegheny as a full-time international student from Ukraine.

“From the one side, you see the cafes and every table is booked and people are drinking wine in the streets,” Shafran continued. “People are so, so happy, I’ve never seen people as happy as I’ve seen these people. But then the silver goes off.”

Being away from their families and country has been difficult for the students. Though they can learn here in peace, the war in Ukraine is still ongoing.

“I feel safer here,” Kovbasa said. “When I stay with myself in my room, the first thought coming to my mind is, ‘How is my family right now?’ It’s hard to be separate (from your family) always. When it is war, of course, it’s harder.”

However, being overseas and away from their country has done nothing to dampen their Ukrainian pride. Kovbasa ultimately wants his time exploring the world outside Ukraine’s borders to be a catalyst for improving his home.

“My goal is to collect the best experience in the world

and to become the best version of myself, and then use this best version to make my country better,” Kovbasa said.

The international students’ love for their country and people is evident in their response to the war at home. The effort to help their country is widespread and heartfelt.

“I opened up a school for children to help manage their panic attacks,” Shafran said. “They didn’t have school the first week of war, and they really needed to be doing something.”

Kovbasa explained how, in a country as small as Ukraine, many feel an extreme sense of pride and patriotism for their country. Especially in a time of such destruction, the youth of Ukraine feel a call to rebuild and improve their homeland.

“A lot of young students going abroad don’t want to stay (abroad). They want to get a degree, a job, get money, get something, and with a new version of themselves, come back to Ukraine,” Kovbasa said. “I want to be a part of this time when everyone will be back in Ukraine. We can share with each other.”

Study away showcase Allegheny students talk summer travel experiences

By **EVE ZAVALA**
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Allegheny College study abroad opportunities are a way for students to delve deeper into their studies while also learning about a new culture. This past summer, many students chose to study abroad to connect more with their major and become more familiar with a new culture.

According to the Global Education page of Allegheny College’s website, “students from 22 countries study and work at Allegheny and more than 190 Allegheny students and faculty participate in 40 programs in 20 countries.”

Hayley Simon, ’23, sought to improve her writing by studying abroad in Greece. Simon is an English major with an emphasis in creative writing. The program gave students the chance to work with different creative writing faculty away from home.

“It was both eye opening, because I haven’t done a lot of travel before, but also beyond the location, it was just having the opportunity to go out and meet other people in my field,” Simon said. “The island we were on, Crete, was a very secluded and peaceful environment where we could channel our focus into our writing.”

Being able to experience a place with a rich culture, learning about new people and trying new activities created a great environment for writing, according to Simon. She felt pressure to hone her skill as much as she could in the given time.

“You just kind of feel time ticking, because you want to balance out making the most of the experience and socializing with other writers and sometimes the pressure turns into writer’s block,” Simon said. “But you work past that by just throwing words on a page and worrying about whether it is good or not later.”

In some study abroad experiences, students were able to be more immersed in the culture through living with a host family.

Sarah Pillittieri, ’23, chose Italy as the destination for her study abroad program. She had the opportunity to stay with a host family and learn more about Italian culture.

“They certainly like their free time,” Pillittieri said. “Dinner every night was a good three hours long. In Italy it is more relaxed.”

Pillittieri explained that while they did not stay with their host families the whole trip, her host family treated her like a real member of the family.

“We went to the grandparents’ house and it just felt like being a part of their family even though there was such a big language barrier,” Pillittieri said. “It was kind of a shock at first but they welcomed us right into their home.”

Jillian Bradley, ’23, who also went to Italy, found comfort in the relatability of everyday interaction in the foreign country.

“Most similar was the conversations that people would have on the street and you realize that they are having the same daily conversations we have in their native language,” Bradley said. “It was kind of comforting to have that similar feeling.”

Pillittieri shared that despite being in Italy, she was not confronted with a language barrier in many situations outside her host family, because many of the places she visited were familiar with the English language. However, she relied on technology to communicate for the first few days with her host family. Later on, she picked up on many phrases.

“It was very scary the first day we were sitting at the table and were Google translating,” Pillittieri said. “I can’t tell you I was fluent after three days,



It was both eye opening, because I haven’t done a lot of travel before, but also beyond the location it was just having the opportunity to go out and meet other people in my field.”

—HAYLEY SIMON
Class of 2023

but they were able to pick up enough English to talk to us and we were able to speak enough Italian to get by with them.”

Simon experienced some cultural differences during her trip — especially around gender — that led to some uncomfortable and unfamiliar experiences.

“There were some times when we would feel a little tension because American women don’t behave as Greek women are expected to,” Simon said. “The men would go off and sit in their own corner and talk about philosophy and politics and when we would try to join the conversation we would get passive aggressive remarks. Their body language indicated that women were not supposed to be a part of those conversations.”

As a result of the experience, Simon said that many women wrote metaphorical pieces that had to do with gender role restraints and they were able to get their point across.

“We definitely did not want to just accept what was happening,” Simon said. “I think we produced some really strong writing about the subject and were able to read it out loud to the whole group.”

Despite the challenges she faced, Simon encourages people to study abroad and to choose Greece as their destination.

“If I can have experienced that negative little section of things and still come back and say it was one of the best experiences in my life then I would definitely encourage people to study abroad,” Simon said.

It’s Virgo season!

New horoscopes for a new semester

By ANNALIESE STONE
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Virgo (Aug. 23–Sept. 22)

The planets are on your side this month. Venus entered Virgo on Sept. 5, starting to bring positive changes in your life, and the sun enters Virgo on Sept. 17 to offer you new opportunity. Pressure is a difficult thing, but the results will shine like diamonds. You want to be a purified element but the lack of control you have on the world around you makes it difficult. Allow Venus’ harmony and balance to enter your life through the choices you make each day. Make your own world and allow imperfections to relieve stress on yourself and your relationships.

Libra (Sept. 23–Oct. 23)

Uh oh besties. Guess who’s in retrograde once again? It’s Mercury. Who happens to be in Libra this month. Though your life may seem like it’s in shambles right now, this is a great time to reevaluate the connections in your life, as well as the ways you’re approaching and coping with difficult situations. Look both inwards and outwards to see what you’re giving and taking from those interactions. Is it what you need? What you want? Venus will be back in your sign at the end of the month to check on you.

Scorpio (Oct. 24–Nov. 21)

My guy ... Please give yourself a break. You’ve earned it. The planets aren’t trying to take you out this month, so use it as a chance to recharge. Keep to your goals and you’ll get through. And if you miss a day, that’s okay! I promise the sky won’t collapse because you asked for an extension. Missing an assignment won’t break the bank. You’ve got this!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22–Dec. 21)

Similar to Scorpio, now is your time to remember to breathe. You can’t help anyone else without helping yourself first. You have an arsenal of skills at the ready and clear goals you’re already making progress towards. Nothing worth doing is ever easy. Right now, you have some cosmic wiggle-room and you can’t complete all your work if you make yourself sick worrying about it. You’ll get it done. Now go kick some butt.

Capricorn (Dec. 22–Jan. 19)

You’re back on the grind and at the height of your element. Allow yourself time to rest up a little in between projects. Take some time to get to know yourself a little better this semester. Buy that cute journal and a nice pen to actually write in it. But don’t fall into the trap of wanting everything to be perfect. Pinterest doesn’t need to see every page of notes you take for class. Right now you’ve got nothing to lose. Use that time for self exploration. Future you will thank you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20–Feb. 18)

Your ability to float untouched above everyone else’s vibes is mesmerizing to watch. But also, terrifying. Open yourself up to someone new this month. Their energy probably isn’t as toxic as you’ve been made to believe. Plus, it’ll be good for the plot.

Pisces (Feb. 19–March 20)

A full moon in Pisces is due this month. Jupiter — your dominant planet — will also be in conjunction with Mars in Gemini. Which is all a very convoluted way of saying that your world might be getting rocked a little bit. Full moons are a time to recharge what you need to keep in your life and release what you don’t. The things in your life that are holding you back will be brought to light this month, so recognize the sign when you see it. Keep going with the flow. Even if it feels like you’re going backwards, it’s better than being dead in the water.

Aries (March 21–April 19)

You got a bit of a shake up last week with Jupiter going retrograde in your sign. It’s going to be okay though! Pick yourself up, brush yourself off and get back out there, kid! Keep an eye on your own rushed anger and assumptions about others. Don’t let conflict consume you. Turn that energy into yourself and push forward!

Taurus (April 20–May 20)

The start of the semester is always hard. If you’ve overbooked yourself, don’t be afraid to take a step back and reorganize the load you have. You’ve got strong shoulders to carry a lot with, but baby steps and breaks are the key to getting started and continuing without stumbling. Stay strong. Stay sexy. You got this.

Gemini (May 21–June 21)

Unlike your buddy Virgo, the planets are not on your side this month. You’re going to have to do some serious reflecting and realigning to meet the challenges facing you. Where Virgo is being introspective to align with the planets in harmony, you’re going to have to get introspective to keep from clashing with yourself and others. You have to fight against your own perceived perfection for this one.

Cancer (June 22–July 22)

Fall playlist time baby! Allow yourself to listen to The Smiths. As a treat. It’s okay to feel a little nostalgic and sad as things start to cool down and the days get shorter. However, if you find yourself adding rain sounds in the background of any of your study-soundtracks, that’s your sign to reign it back in and go talk to your friends.

Leo (July 23–Aug. 22)

You should call home. Nothing’s wrong, but I’m sure somebody would like to hear from you. Could be family, could be a friend, could be your dog. Schedule in a little time this month to reach out to someone you miss. They probably miss you a whole lot too.

FJI hosts blood drive in association with Red Cross

By SAMI MIRZA
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Schultz Banquet Hall hosted an unusual sight on the afternoon of Tuesday, Sept. 6. In the middle of the hall, comfortable-looking leather beds were surrounded by medical equipment and defended with privacy screens. Directly in front of them were brothers from Allegheny’s chapter of the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, who were taking down patron details and information and handing out informational pamphlets on how to make a donation.

This tableau was FIJI’s first blood drive of the year, hosted in coordination with the American Red Cross. The fraternity is planning to hold three more drives throughout this academic year.

“This is an event we host twice a semester to help keep up with (the Red Cross’) demand (for) blood and our interaction with the Red Cross as well,” said FIJI brother Andreas Vukas, ’24, as he welcomed prospective donors toward the end of the drive. “We also have one coming up on Nov. 15, and then we will do two more within a month of each other in the spring semester.”

The demand for blood is high, and near insatiable. In January of this year, the Red Cross declared a “National Blood Crisis” as donations were squeezed by the Omicron wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. Though the Red Cross of Western New York has recently said the crisis is over, blood donations are still very much needed.

Asaad Bell, ’25, was among the students who gave blood during the drive. He sees giving blood as a logical way to share something his body will naturally replenish.

“I know it can save a life and I know that my blood is valuable,” Bell said. “I can always make more (blood), but just having it wait for somebody who needs it right then and there — that’s very useful.”

Not everyone can give blood, according to the Red Cross. Medical conditions



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

The Red Cross’ van was parked outside of Schultz Banquet hall for FIJI’s first blood drive on Tuesday, Sept. 6.

from high blood pressure and heart disease to tuberculosis and the human variant of mad cow disease can disqualify a donor. Some restrictions are temporary. For example, suffering a heart attack disqualifies a donor for six months, after which they can donate blood after consulting a physician.

The average student who wanted to give blood on campus need not have memorized the restrictions or screened themselves. Medical professionals drawing the blood screened walk-in donors to ensure their eligibility.

“When the Red Cross comes here, they have all the materials, all the equipment to make sure that the people are eligible to give blood,” Vukas said. “If they’re not (eligible), (the Red Cross) unfortunately has to turn them away due to what they have.”

Once a donor was screened, they were led to a bed where the blood is drawn. Abby Hardin, ’24, who gave blood on Tuesday, described the process as uncomfortable but not overwhelmingly so.

“It’s a little bit of a prick at the very beginning,” Hardin said. “You squeeze (something) while you’re giving the blood, so it honestly just kind of feels like you’re squeezing to keep your arm from going to sleep but that’s about it. It gets kinda itchy at the very end, but nothing really bad at all.”

Part of the uncomfortability may come from the visual of seeing blood drawn, so Hardin says she uses a simple trick to take her mind off the needle.

“Personally, whenever I get blood I just don’t look,” Hardin said. “That’s it. I just look away. Same thing as if you were getting a shot or if you

were getting piercings or tattoos or whatever. Just kind of look to the side a little bit for the initial poke and then that’s about it.”

Giving blood also takes a physical toll on a donor’s body, as giving any amount of blood limits the circulatory system’s ability to spread oxygen and other nutrients around the body.

“I remember my first time giving blood, I thought I would have to go in and just give blood,” Bell said. “It turns out, I didn’t eat breakfast that day, so I got really dizzy. I was really fatigued for the next few days.”

Bell is an old hand at giving blood — he has done so 10 times since he first started donating two years ago. When he gave blood in Schultz, he knew he would have to sacrifice time with the Fencing Club.

“I usually would be going to practice today, to just go fence, but I can’t do that today because it would make me get fatigued a lot faster,” Bell said. “I could pass out because my body isn’t used to having a lower standard of blood in my body. My volume will go back up by tomorrow, but it’ll take maybe two or three days for me to get back to optimal levels.”

Despite the physical cost of donating, Bell said he will keep giving blood at every chance he can.

“You never know where you can save a life,” Bell said. “It’s just a little bit out of your day. It’s not even you actively going to save a life: you don’t have to run into a burning building or anything. You can just come, give a little bit of your blood and that blood is going to be on ice, and when somebody really needs it, it’ll go to them.”

Follow the money... (or “Thank you Papa Biden!”)

Our editorial cartoons have peaked, it only gets worse from here

By KAI MARIES
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September Showers

*Will they bring October flowers?
Not very likely...*

By **SOFIA HASSAN**
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On Tuesday, many of those walking outside opted for an umbrella or a hood.



Umbrellas proved to be popular accessories leading into Wednesday as well.



Adirondack chairs sit empty across from the Prayer and Meditation House.



Marigolds growing in the Carr Hall garden glisten with fresh rain.



Raindrops cling to a crabapple tree's fruit in the Ravine parking lot.



Chalkwork on the rain-darkened path leading up to Ravine-Narvik Hall greets students more vibrantly than ever.

Football falls short of comeback on Community Day

By **ELANOR BONTA**
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On a sizzling Saturday, most people would prefer to linger indoors and relax, but not when the first football game of the season is on. The crowd was roaring with excitement and the cheerleaders were giving it their all, but it was in vain when the Allegheny Gators lost to the Union Dutchmen 27-42 at the Frank B. Fuhrer Field.

“It’s nice to see that they didn’t quit, especially in the second half, even with all the freshmen starting this semester,” said Steven G. Folmar, the color analyst for Allegheny’s sports broadcasts.

Despite the loss, the Gators still buzzed with action. On the first drive of the game, Garrett Paxton, ’25, managed to score a field goal for the Gators.

For the following two quarters, the Dutchmen scored frequently, despite a valiant effort from the Gator defense. Several times, the Gators reached the backfield and piled up tackles for a loss, and one interception was achieved by Maxwell Ham-

mond, ’23. During the second quarter, the Gator defense struggled as the Dutchmen scored multiple times, shaking off and avoiding tacklers on their way to the end zone.

“We played inconsistently,” Head Coach Rich Nagy said. By the end of the first half, the Gators had fallen well behind on the scoreboard, heading to the locker room facing a 21-6 deficit.

The defense came to life during the second half. Shane Cafardi, ’23, made plenty of big plays throughout the game, including a tackle for loss on the Dutchmen’s Joseph Ferreira, and the trend was followed by other members of the defense. However, it was not enough to prevent another score from the Dutchmen, as they added to their total and widened the gap for the Gators.

On their next offensive possession, the Dutchmen marched 70 yards down the field on five plays, yet again punching in another score. As the lead kept growing, the Gators chances of making a comeback became slimmer. That only seemed to fuel the Gators further, as on the

next offensive series, Declan O’Brien, ’24, caught a 17-yard pass from quarterback Jack Johnson, ’24, and found the endzone for the teams first touchdown of the season.

However, the Dutchmen fired right back with a touchdown of their own to open the fourth quarter, as Nicholas Dunneman, ’26, punched another one across the goal line on a 21-yard catch and run. Hammond recorded his interception for the Gators during the fourth quarter, and had a big return, as the defensive lineman ran it back to the Dutchmen 15-yard line. The crowd and his teammates went ballistic as Hammond delivered a much-needed blow to a high-scoring Union offense.

“It didn’t go the way we expected,” Hammond said. “It’s the first game, just gotta get better. We left a lot out on the field — I think it just comes down to game plan and we only had one game footage from Union.”

Following the interception, the fourth quarter clock slowly ticked down, and the Gators made one more statement with a touchdown from Hunter Lohr, ’23, on a 25-yard



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

Running back Tre Worship, ’23, punches through the line of scrimmage after receiving a handoff from quarterback Jack Johnson, ’24. Worship finished the game with 59 yards on the ground.



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

Garrett Paxton, ’25, kicks a field goal for the Gators. His three points on the opening drive of the game were the first on the board for either team.



SAMI MIRZA/THE CAMPUS

Elijah Roberson, 13, son of Dean of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Heather Moore Roberson, high-fives David Babb, ’25, as the team runs out of the locker room for the second half.

Field hockey opens with four-win hot streak

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The Allegheny Women’s Field Hockey team are in the process of making history, as they have gotten off to their hottest start since the beginning of the program, seizing 19 goals and three shutouts en route to a perfect 4-0 start.

“The past couple of games we have three words we use before going in,” Francisco said. “Intention, grit and unit.”

Leading the scoring department for Allegheny is Maya Francisco, ’24, who has found the net four times while also picking up a pair of assists in the early going.

Her most notable game came against the Washington & Jefferson Presidents, scoring two goals off the bench in a double overtime victory to give the Gators a 4-3 win to start the season. Francisco has been performing with the best of her conference, as her name is on the leaderboard of multiple categories including goals, assists, points and shots on goal.

Francisco gives all the credit to her teammates, as the Gators have come together as one this year, working on communicating and playing as a single unit. Midfielder Kinsley Greenlaw, ’23, echoed that sentiment — especially in regards to the opening game against Washington & Jefferson.

“The energy after that game was amazing because it

really felt like we were coming together as a team and that was a full team win,” Greenlaw said.

After defeating the Presidents, the Gators took a weekend trip to Virginia, taking down Meredith College and Ferrum College in a pair of weekend games on Sept. 3 and 4. In those two games, the Gators outscored their opponents 13-0. This past Wednesday, Sept. 7, the Gators won their home opener against Juniata College, 2-0.

It is no question that the defense for the Gators has been just as stellar as the offense. Only giving up three goals over 16 quarters of action, goalkeeper Hallie Reiger, ’23, and company have keyed in on what they need to do to find success, and keep the ball out of their own net.

Reiger put countless hours into her craft this summer, living abroad and running through the Italian countryside and mountains, completing arduous altitude workouts. Although the team was apart from each other, they never faltered from the work they knew was necessary thanks to a group chat players would use to message teammates, holding them accountable and keeping them on track for the season. It seems to have paid off, as Reiger and the defense has given up less than a goal a game.

“The defense trusting each other is super important, just playing and working off each other,” Reiger said. “We’re always talking and communicating to each other, so when I do something, when I react to something, they know how

I’m going to react.” The “team first” mantra Head Coach Valerie Lohr implemented this year has hit the hearts of her players, and the team has worked well together to their current standing atop of the North Coast Athletic Conference.

Field hockey is the only team to remain in the NCAC after the college decided to rejoin the Presidents Athletic Conference over the summer. The PAC does not sponsor field hockey.

“Our goal was to win an NCAC Championship,” Greenlaw said. “To have the ability to still do that feels really special.”

Taking a conference championship would be a big step up for the field hockey team which is playing only its third season. The team has already

won more games in the last two weeks than it has since 2019. The key? Genuine passion for grabbing a stick and hitting the turf.

“What’s helped us grow is just putting our all and buying into the program, buying into this team itself” Francisco said. “And not just playing for ourselves — I think that’s the most important thing, that we’ve come together and been like, ‘we’re playing for each other, we’re playing for our familie, and we’re playing for the love of the game.”

The team is looking to extend their winning streak Sunday, Sept. 11, at Kenyon College, with the game time set for noon. Their next home game will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14, against the College of Wooster at Robertson Athletic Complex.

