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Mandatory fee to increase next academic year

ASG and Board of Trustees approve $100 raise to SAF

By CHRISTINA BRYSON
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During the Allegheny Student Government general meeting on Tuesday, Feb. 3, the senate voted in favor of increasing the Student Activities Fee by $100, and on Saturday, Feb. 7, ASG President Larry Hailsham, '15, and ASG Vice President Mary Grace Warren, '15, brought the subject to the Board of Trustees meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., who approved the increase as well. Starting in the 2015-2016 academic year, the mandatory SAF will cost full-time students $250 rather than the previous cost of $150.

Warren explained that the board was required to to approve the price change in order to implement the new fee next fall.

"With the approval of students through ASG, they [the board] approved it [the SAF] as well and they were really excited by it," said Warren.

With the current SAF of $150, money is distributed into the following six categories: club budgets, speaker fund, general fund, surplus fund, the concert and events fund and the ASG van. From approximately 1,960 students enrolled this academic year, the six areas were budgeted from about $293,410 of total ASG funds from the SAF.

Ideally, with 2,100 enrolled students, next year's SAF should generate a budget from $525,00, but if enrollment falls short as it did with the class of 2018, the SAF will generate closer to $490,000 (data based off the current student body of 1,960 students) or less.

Next year, the club budgets will be capped at $260,000, a more than $30,000 increase from the 2014-2015 academic year. With this raise in funds available for clubs, ASG hopes to be able to support broader learning experiences.

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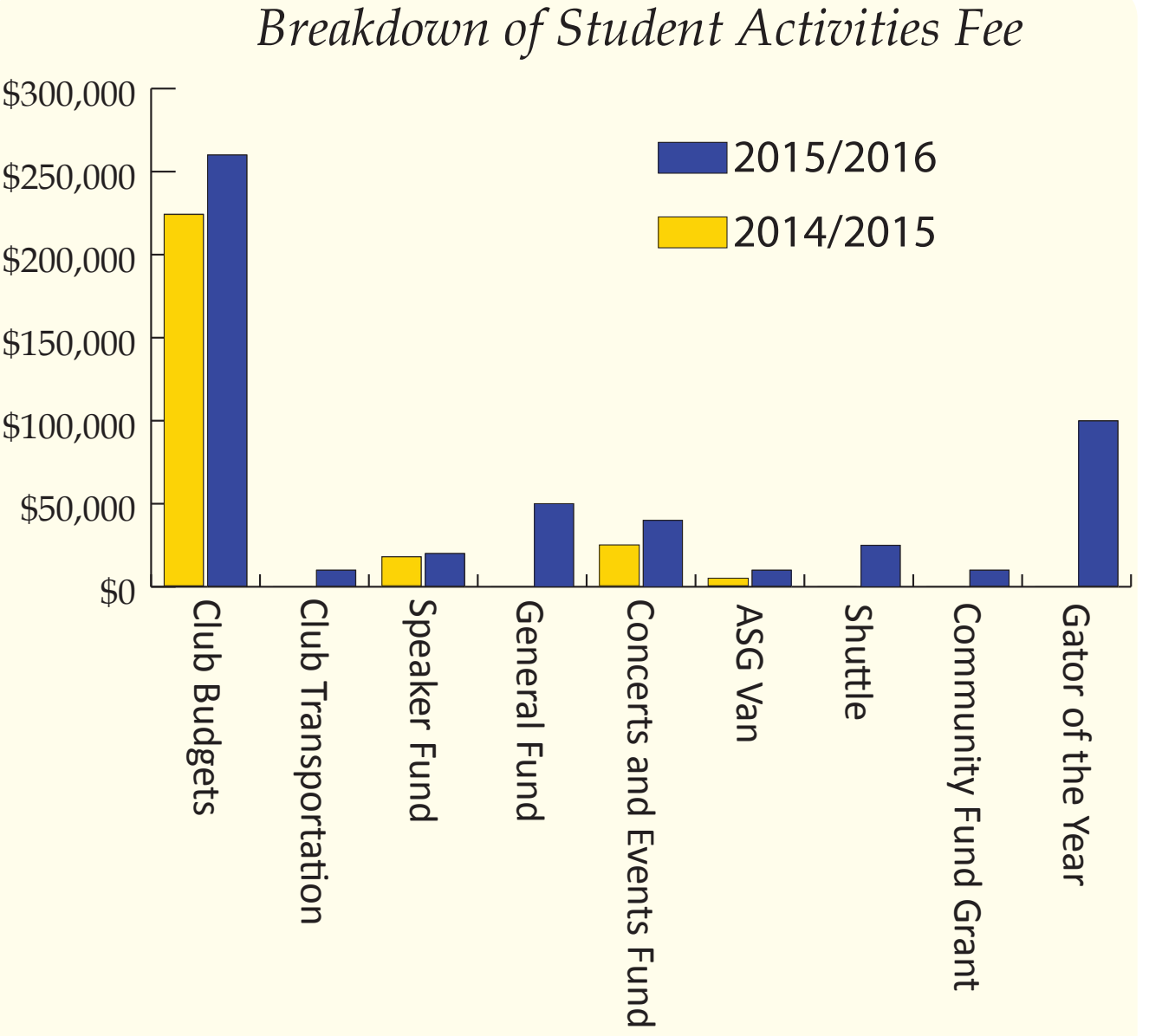
Breakdown of Student Activities Fee



CHRISTINA BRYSON/THE CAMPUS

With the increased Student Activities Fee, ASG established more budgeting categories, including club transportation, the shuttle, community fund grant and Gator of the Year. For exact numbers, visit: www.alleghenycampus.com.



AMASA SMITH/THE CAMPUS

Physical plant continues to clear pathway on Wednesday, Feb. 11 following heavy snowfall the previous week.

Students question winter maintenance procedures

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
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Over a three-day period beginning on Jan. 31, physical plant estimated that Winter Storm Linus dumped approximately 20 inches of snow on Allegheny College's campus.

Allegheny College Physical Plant is responsible for the operations, maintenance, renovations and construction of all buildings, grounds and utilities on campus, with winter maintenance as a top priority. According to the college's webpage, "These services are provided to develop and maintain a functional, attractive and safe environment conducive to conducive to learning and to support the College's tradition of excellence." The department employs 33 staff, including five administrators. With the heavy snowfall, crews were working overtime to clear the snow from campus.

"We had a few of us this past week that logged close to 70 hours," said Cliff Willis, director of the physical plant.

According to Willis, the college's grounds consist of five miles of roads, 20 acres of parking and more than 10 miles of sidewalks with more than 500 steps.

"It's a maintenance and plowing nightmare," said William Geiger, foreman of the grounds department of physical plant.

Willis explained that the plant generally begins work at around 6 a.m., but on days with heavy snow or ice, they will begin work as early as 4 a.m. He said that workers for the physical plant are either operating equipment such as plows or are using shovels to clear walkways.

"Our priority for equipment tasks are perimeter walkways, and when I say 'perimeter walkways,' I'm talking about both sides of North Main [Street], ...Park [Avenue] and Highland [Avenue]," said Willis.

Willis said that once perimeter walkways are cleared, physical plant works on clearing additional parts of campus.

"Perimeter walkways is the first thing we go after, then we work on high traffic buildings: Wise Center, campus center, Brooks," said Willis. "Then we do work around residence halls and parking lots."

In addition to the challenges presented by the amount of snow, both Willis and Geiger explained that the geography of the campus makes clearing the

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Possible case of mumps on campus

Winslow warns students to watch for symptoms

By AMANDA SPADARO
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The Winslow Health Center announced to the campus community on Feb. 2 that the possibility of the mumps virus exists on Allegheny's campus. On Feb. 10, the health center updated the community in a campus-wide email that the initial tests of the suspected mumps virus came back negative.

In the latter email, the health center said, "[the Pennsylvania Department of Health] believe[s] this was probably not mumps because two initial types of tests were negative."

Because of the average incubation period of 16 to 18 days, the health center has advised the Allegheny community to be aware of potential cases and to watch for symptoms, which include neck swelling, muscle aches, fever, headache and malaise, until Feb. 21.

While two of the three tests have come back negative, the health center cannot definitely state that the suspected case is not mumps until the end of the testing period according to Sue Plunkett, director of health services.

Once a suspected case presents itself, testing begins. One type of testing is a titer, a blood test to measure an individual's antibodies for and therefore immunity to a disease.

"[Testing] can be a complicated process, especially if people have been vaccinated before," Plunkett said.

However, when a person who has been vaccinated is believed to be infected, the disease can present in unusual ways.

"The incubation period does vary and the disease presents itself in strange ways, especially among someone who we would assume has been vaccinated," said Rebecca Dawson, assistant professor of global health studies.

> "The thought is that if you create a community that has enough immunity, that the virus can't go from person to person."
>
> Rebecca Dawson
> *Assistant professor of global health studies*

Allegheny's vaccination requirement policy, available online, requires two MMR vaccinations, which protect

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AMASA SMITH/THE CAMPUS

Students make their way across campus, walking through unplowed pathways on Jan. 29, days before Winter Storm Linus hit Meadville.

snow more challenging because there are limited places to move snow.

"When the snow is spread out, typically we are able to push it off to the side and it will melt, and we don't lose any parking spaces. When we get hit the way we have this last week we actually have to truck that snow out to behind Robertson to the Ben Avon Street site," said Willis.

Willis also explained that this year the physical plant has started to employ a new strategy in clearing sidewalks.

"What we have tried to do this year is leave a little bit of snow on the sidewalks. My experience has been that it helps improve stability for folks. Traction is better when you have a little bit of snow to step into instead of a fine coating on the walkways," said Willis.

Though the physical plant has access to snow removal equipment like Bobcats, Willis admitted that the plant only possesses one vehicle with a salt spreader. Despite this, Willis maintained that the plant is neither underfunded nor understaffed.

"We don't have the luxury of funding and staff designed to deal with worst case situations, so, the staff is setup to deal with average situations, and I feel we do very well with those," said Willis.

As foreman of the crews working to remove snow, Geiger expressed his belief that they have handled the situation as well as could have been expected.

"It was as fast and hard as we could go with the weather the way it was," said Geiger.

In addition to their snow removal duties, Willis explained that his crews had been doing their best to assist students and faculty stuck because of the snow.

"The other thing...is the guys are on call when someone gets stuck. If somebody has a problem, we stop what we are normally doing and we go deal with that," said Willis.

Willis admitted that multiple parking lots are still clogged with snow and that it may become necessary to work with security to have students move their cars, so that the plant may properly plow the lots.

Despite the efforts of physical plant, its snow removal efforts have come under heavy scrutiny from students.

"It doesn't look like they have done anything," said Emily Christ, '15.

Apart from the snow, many students also have voiced complaints regarding the large amounts of ice that have accumulated on walkways. Monday, Feb. 9 saw many students struggling to get to class as walkways became sheets of ice after warm temperatures the day before caused large amounts of snow melt.

"The ice out there, it's a hazard to people's health," said Katie Mirigliano, '16.

Willis expressed that the physical plant is currently looking into hiring outside help to assist with heavier snow falls.

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Questions?

Marian Sherwood, *Director of Institutional Research, 206 Bentley Hall, 814-332-2983, marian.sherwood@allegheny.edu*
Dr. Ann Kleinschmidt, *Chair of Allegheny's Institutional Review Board, 214 Steffee Hall, 814-332-2366, akleinsc@allegheny.edu*
www.allegheny.edu/nsse

FEE *from page 1*

"Right now there's definitely not enough money to go around to send students to conferences,...and I think we're really missing out on that, not only the experiences students are getting by being there but also making connections with other schools and other people in those organizations," said Warren.

In addition to the six current categories budgeted from the SAF, next year will also see money budgeted to the club transportation fund (including airfare which has not been previously covered by ASG), the shuttle, a community fund grant and Gator of the Year.

"The Allegheny student experience will definitely improve," said ASG Treasurer Miguel Liriano, '16. "We'll have Gator of the Year which we're thinking of getting a high profile speaker to come in. For example, American University has Anderson Cooper coming in this year... We'll definitely have more funds to secure a better, well-known performer for next year. Clubs will definitely receive more funds…We'll also have the community fund grant that is kind of an investment in Meadville as well. Students will be able to come in and request money for service projects that will help the relationships between Meadville and Allegheny in the Year of Meadville [next year's annual theme]."

Hailsham originally introduced the idea to raise the SAF in fall 2014, following a summer internship.

"I was interning in DC and I was speaking with people who were part of the American University student government and the types of things their organizations were able to do were amazing," said Hailsham. "It seemed troubling that we, as an institution, weren't able to do things of that caliber as well."

The original proposal to change the SAF included doubling the current fee to $300 and introducing a campus-wide ball.

"Nobody wants to pay more for anything, understandably, and we [ASG] recognize that this would affect students in different ways," said Hailsham. "...There was a lot of breathing that happened throughout the entire process."

During the process of editing the proposal, ASG took into consideration constituent opinion and revamped the idea to reflect student voices.

"Through speaking with a lot of people and getting the feedback that we were getting, we decided that some things could be taken out of the proposal and ultimately we lowered it down $50," said Hailsham.

Liriano explained that ASG knew proposing a change to the SAF would be a lengthy process involving multiple updates.

"Student and senate opinion was the most important when creating this document. When we proposed it, we knew we would come back and refine it and we rewrote it about three or four times before we came up with the final document that senate passed," said Liriano.

Of the newly proposed budget, the biggest monetary investment besides club funding is Gator of the Year which will be allocated $100,000. Through Gator of the Year, the unofficial title of the program, ASG will have the funds to bring an influential speaker to campus each academic year.

"One of the biggest barriers I think we have with speakers is our location and available funds to offer speakers," said Hailsham.

Warren echoed Hailsham's explanation behind the difficulty and expense in travelling to Meadville.

"It can be hard to get people to come out to Meadville," said Warren. "If you're going to do a country-wide tour, Meadville's not usually a stop on that tour. So that's another kind of an incentive to get some people out here and the national recognition that might come with that and actual attention is definitely something we see as a benefit to Allegheny students."

Overall, Gator of the Year is meant to provide the Allegheny community access to influential and engaging annual speakers.

"The idea behind it is to basically provide the campus with a way to engage with understanding what it means to be an Alleghenian, the idea of being a Gator...We're all Gators, so to be the Gator of the Year means you've embodied some of the characteristics we view as important," said Hailsham.

With more than 100 clubs and organization on campus, a large portion of the student body should experience firsthand the effects of the increase in the SAF.

> "It seemed troubling that we, as an institution, weren't able to do things of that caliber as well.
>
> Larry Hailsham
> *Class of 2015*

"It will help every student organization," said Hailsham. "I think hopefully people will be able to see it through organizations that they are involved in and organizations that they are patrons to. If organizations are putting on events, you can hope to have events that are more planned out, events that don't lack resources."

Despite raising the fee to $250, Allegheny still ranks lower than other competitor and Great Lakes Colleges Association schools. Liriano noted that student opinion will ultimately control whether or not the SAF will continue to increase in the upcoming years, but that ASG is excited nonetheless about the changes that will take place next year.

"Overall, the SAF will increase the Allegheny experience and is definitely an investment in the college which will all benefit us in the years to come," said Liriano.

Hailsham and Warren also voiced ASG's enthusiasm about the change.

"It's going to require a lot of planning on our end, but I think we're up for that challenge and we're super excited about it," said Hailsham "We know that ASG is something that serves an important role on campus and don't expect for the raising of the Student Activities Fee to remedy any existing problems within the campus community and ASG itself. We are actively trying to revamp and redo our governing structure through looking at our constitution and developing a set of procedures that will go hand in hand with the raising of the Student Activities Fee. ASG recognizes we have room to improve as well and with this passing its more of a reason for us to improve, too."

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EVENTS CALENDAR

Taste for Change: Democratic Republic of Congo
Friday, Feb. 13, 5-7 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
Enjoy a traditional Congolese dish while learning about the UNICEF initiative to prevent the enlisting of child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Tickets are $3, with all proceeds going to the cause.

S.E.T. Performances of "Caged"
Friday and Saturday, Feb.13 and 14, 8 p.m., Vukovich 107
"Caged," a compilation of original pieces created by female-identifying students and community members, features poems, monologues, song and dance pieces around what cages women today. This is part of a Senior Project in psychology by Autumn Vogel. Child care will be provided.

Super Smash Bros. Brawl Tournament
Friday, Feb. 13, 9 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
Legion of Allegheny Gamers hosts this Late Night event. Signups start at 8:30 p.m. Prizes will be given for third, second and first place.

Sex(ed) Fest
Saturday, Feb. 14, 10 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
ReproCo hosts its annual Sex(ed) Fest, with sex-positive themed games.

Benefit Pageant
Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
Alpha Phi Omega and the brothers of FIJI host this pageant, with contestants performing two-minute talent spots. All proceeds will be donated to Bethesda Children's Center and the United Service Officers (USO).

Screening of "Cesar's Last Fast" with Director Richard Ray Perez
Thursday, Feb. 19, 5:30 p.m., Tillotson Room of the Tippie Alumni Center
Director Richard Ray Perez will give a talk following the screening of "Cesar's Last Fast," a multi-platform feature documentary about the private sacrifice and spiritual conviction behind Cesar Chavez's struggle for the humane treatment of America's farm workers, and the impact Chavez's legacy has on today's generation of organizers fighting for farm worker rights.

Spring Festival Celebration
Thursday, Feb. 19, 6-8 p.m., Schultz Banquet Hall
Chinese, Korean and Vietnamese students will demonstrate how their home countries celebrate the holidays, with music, food, games and prizes.

International Film Festival: "Omar"
Thursday, Feb. 19, 7 p.m., The Movies, 11155 Highline Drive, Meadville
The International Film Festival continues with the Palestinean film "Omar" (in Arabic and Hebrew with subtitles). Admission is free with an Allegheny ID. General admission is $7. Free van shuttle service departs from North Main Street at Brooks Walk at 6:10 and 6:30 p.m.

CRIME BLOTTER

Feb. 7-8, 2015
Brooks Hall
Unknown actor/s damaged a vase, a television and glass panel to a door.

Jan. 24 - Feb. 10, 2015
Campus Center
Unknown actor/s stole textbooks from the bookstore.

CORRECTIONS

In last week's issue, we misspelled Nick Tortorici's name in the story "ASG experiences internal restructuring."

MUMPS *from page 1*

against mumps, measles and rubella.

The policy also states: "All injections are required prior to matriculation. Sanctions are in place to encourage students to comply with these requirements, as these vaccinations help protect our community…In the event that a new student has difficulty obtaining any of the vaccinations, every effort is made to assist the student in meeting the vaccination requirements."

Despite this, some medical conditions make vaccination unsafe. Individuals who are immunocompromised, such as individuals with HIV/AIDS or undergoing chemotherapy, cannot have vaccinations as their immune system cannot work towards developing antibodies for the disease. Individuals with severe allergies, specifically to eggs, and those born with certain genetic diseases cannot be vaccinated either.

In these circumstances, the health center is willing to work with individuals who have not been vaccinated, as long as a potential student's reasons for not vaccinating are supported and valid, according to Plunkett.

"We do reserve the right to do titers on them to see if they're immune or not," she said, referring to students who opt out of being vaccinated.

A similar situation occurs with international or transfer students as vaccination policies can vary between state and especially by country. Japan, for instance, has not had a requirement for the MMR vaccine since 1994.

"We work with them to get the vaccines to get them when they arrive here if they can't get them in their country," Plunkett said. "Some international students do titers to see what their immunity level is and very often they are immune."

Individuals also opt out based on ethical or religious reasons including the use of placental tissue or animal materials in the creating the vaccines.

"For example, some vaccines are made from material that is made from a fetus and for some people, that is not compatible with their religious beliefs," said Sasha Adkins, visiting assistant professor of global health studies. "Until we can come up with alternatives that are manufactured by a different process, that's going to put those folks in a difficult position."

While some individuals may opt out of being vaccinated, herd immunity, which depends on the large majority of a population being vaccinated, is the reason that vaccinations work.

"The science behind herd immunity is that you get enough people who can't get the disease. It's sort of like a pinball machine: the disease is going to bounce off of people, trying to find a host that will allow it to infect, replicate, and spread further," said Dawson. "The thought is that if you create a community that has enough immunity, that the virus can't go from person to person, that it actually will protect a person who doesn't have immunity because the virus won't transmit into that community at all."

With this in mind, the health of the larger community rests with the immunity of the group.

"I think that we do have a responsibility to each other," said Adkins. "I think how we go about reducing our risk of exposing others to a pathogen, there are many ways to do that."

The Center for Political Participation is sponsoring a Quigley Town Hall event concerning the topic of vaccinations on Thursday, Feb. 19 at 12:15 p.m.

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Students struggle due to lack of campus snow removal

By LUCAS PROPER
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On Feb. 1, 2015 winter-storm Linus passed through Meadville, Pennsylvania leaving behind immense amounts of snow and frigid air. Not the best way to kick off the first week of February, if you ask me, even though I love snow.

The snow is a pretty sight and fun to walk under, however it is not fun for a student who must trudge through it in his or her heavy snow boots while heading to morning classes or to Brooks for lunch.

It sure would be a lot easier if the sidewalks and pathways were cleared of the snow throughout the day. Why is the snow not being removed for Allegheny students?

My first encounter with the snow was when I returned to Allegheny College at 11:00 p.m. on Feb. 1, 2015. For a half-an-hour, I drove through a blizzard in which I could only see about a car's length ahead of me. Once I made it to Meadville, I thought I had it in the bag; nothing could go wrong from there. I was wrong.

As I was turning into the parking lot behind Oddfellows, my vehicle got stuck in a foot-and-a-half of snow. I attempted to clear the way by kicking snow out of the way with my boots, but the ice underneath from a lack of salting, caused my tires to spin out.

I called safety and security. Fortunately, after they just got their vehicles unstuck, they came up and helped me move my vehicle into a parking space.

What bothered me the most was that this could have been avoided.

Rather than waiting until morning, Allegheny's staff could have been plowing and salting for the incoming storm. The parking lot was not plowed nor salted when I arrived as it should have been. Granted, I would not want to work at midnight, but someone should in order to protect Allegheny students. I know I was not the only one who had his or her car stuck. I saw at least five posts on Yik Yak asking for assistance in moving a car from various parking lots around campus.

Cars are not the only problem though. Getting to class on time and alive is another one. Many referred to it as the #AlleghenyStruggle when having to walk through all of this snow.

"I've fallen like five times on my way to football practice in the mornings," said Justin Mcclain, '18.

Just the simple act of walking is a dangerous task to accomplish this month. Snow, slush, and ice was all over campus. For the past week, all I have been doing is slipping and, luckily, not falling yet. But, I have seen people fall and it does not look enjoyable.

The sidewalks seem to have only gotten worse, too. Especially, on Feb. 9, 2015. Because of freezing rain the night before, most of the walkways and stairs froze over with slippery ice.

Students everywhere were cautious while walking over the ice patches. What used to take five minutes to walk to Brooks, turned into ten minutes.

Jonn Alcantara, '18, posted on Facebook, "Quote of the day at Gheny: What the f*ck, where's the salt?"

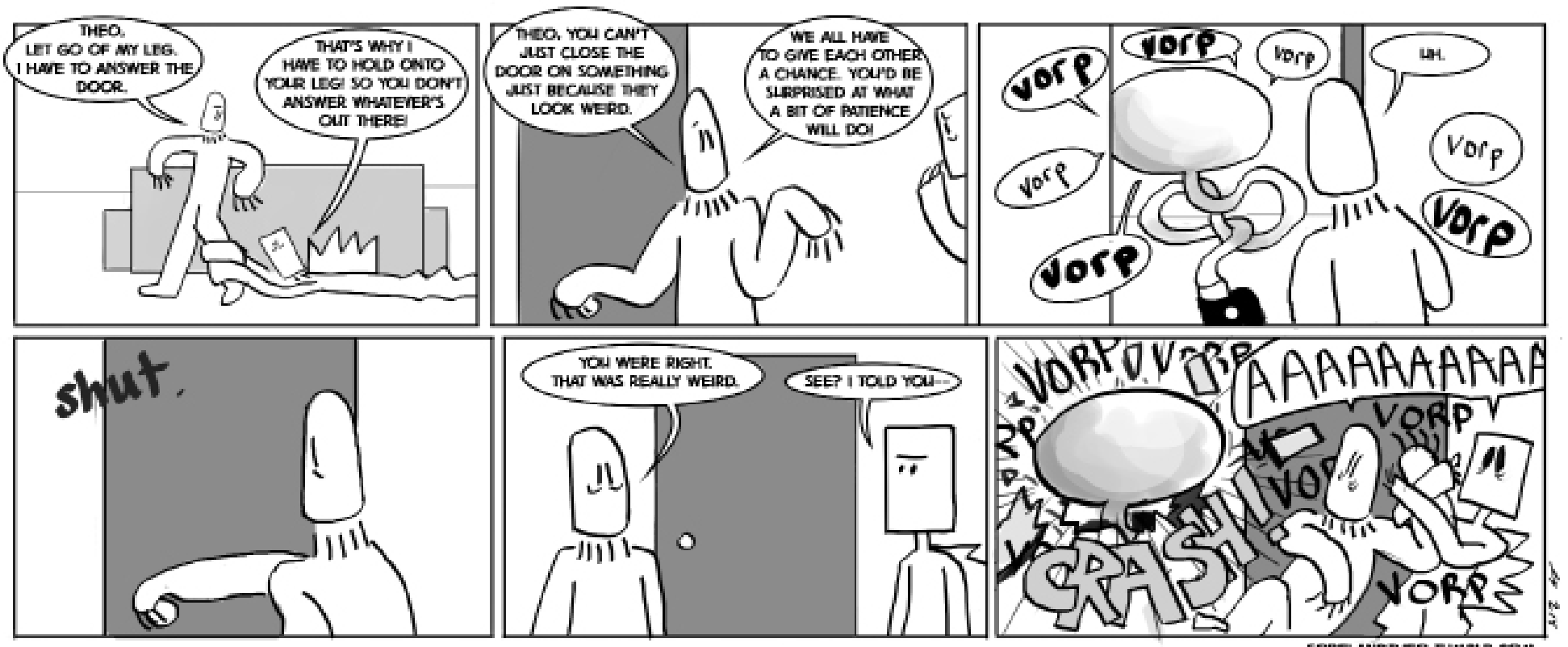
With the icy paths which lasted all day, despite a couple that cleared up enough to safely walk through after all the ice was trampled away by previous passerbyers, his post became the common question. Along with, why?

"The fact that they… do nothing is irritating," said Jordan Drexler, '15.

Granted, staff did venture out about halfway through the day to begin spreading salt in some areas, but that was not helpful when students most needed it in the morning.

With the weather only getting worse, there are still huge patches of ice around campus that pose threats to those who cross them. When will those go away?

THE SIMPLE THINGS



Comic by Jonathon Yee

Social Justice Corner: The politics of respectability

Black women's lack of social media coverage reinforce an existing hierarchy throughout society

By NIA BURNETT
Contributing Writer
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If you have basic access to social media, a television or a news station, you have probably heard of all the tense situations occurring across the country. Police brutality against people of color, specifically black men, has heated the country up and brought up conversations about the politics of respectability.

The politics of respectability stems way back in our history and originated as cultural, sexual, domestic, employment and artistic 'guidelines' or 'rules.' According to gradientlair.com, they are for racially marginalized groups to follow in the effort to be viewed as 'human' in a White supremacist society and by individual Whites."

However, despite whether a black individual follows these guidelines, or assimilates to "act white", they are still deemed as a threat in this country by the police force.

Take for example the recent incident with the young black Yale student who was held at gunpoint and arrested by police officers while he was leaving the library because they believed he was a criminal instead of a student.

With the recent cases of Mike Brown and Eric Garner, Jordan Davis and Trayvon Martin, there seems to be one group of people left out of the grieving and discussion: black women. Many black women suffer from police brutality, racial profiling and also having their lives taken by the police. But where is their hashtag? Where is their media discussion? Why do our lives matter less?

Women of color are forgotten by social media if they are killed by the police because the life of a woman of color, and in this article specifically a black woman or girl, is deemed as less than her male counterpart. In this country, at least after the Europeans arrived, men have always been placed above women.

Now let's take a look at history. Beginning in the late 1700's, states questioned how they would count their slaves as part of their overall population. In this case, the Three Fifths Compromise was formed during the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

It stated that the slaves, specifically male slaves, were of a white man. The women were mainly forgotten and left out the compromise. If the black man was of the white man, than what was the value of a black woman's life? The answer is nonexistent, hence why those carried over and modern day practices of institutionalized oppression deem black women's lives as having little to no value.

Although black women have had substantial contributions to the Women's Rights Movement, and began their movement for women's rights as soon as the Civil War concluded by attempting to sue the white men and masters that assaulted them, their life values have always been placed as unbelievably low in the United States.

This is evident today while we have the #HandsUpDontShoot hashtag and stream that focuses on police brutality against black men and men of color, but leaves out black girls, black women and women of color whose lives are being taken by the police everyday.

The hashtags #EricGarner, #MikeBrown, #TrayvonMartin, #JordanDavis exist, but where is the hashtag for Jessie Hernandez, Renisha McBride, Tarika Wilson and the 7-year-old Aiyana Jones? All of these black women and the little girl Aiyana were unarmed.

According to The Huffington Post, Aiyana was sleeping on her couch when the police raided her home and shot her in the head. The police officer her shot her of course was not indicted, because if police officers who kill black men and boys go unindicted, police officers who kill black women and girls will definitely go unindicted.

The politics of respectability seem to not apply to black women as much as they do to black men. Studies show that black men are more accepted in a predominantly white environment, specifically in school environments while their women counterparts seem to struggle because of the stereotypes that are held against them.

Despite how polite, how well one speaks,, or how 'white' one acts, a black woman in this country will seem to mostly be received as the belligerent, uneducated, loud, ultra-sassy and an unbelievably sexualized individual. The respect for black men in this country is low, so the respect for their women counterparts and the value of their life is even lower.

The standard that men are above women applies to many groups of people globally, but that is multiplied in force when you are a woman of color.

Chinese students share opinions on how to create a more multicultural atmosphere on campus

By ARIANNA O'CONNELL
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YUTONG WANG/THE CAMPUS

Recently moved to the Pelletier Library, the Allegheny Gateway provides various resources to help international students adjust to American life, such as an orientation, English as a second language classes, and more.

The Chinese and greater international community at Allegheny is diverse in its combination of people from multiple countries, backgrounds, religious beliefs and lifestyles. These students transcend cultural and linguistic barriers every day to experience and learn in a new country. Some students, however, choose to transfer due to personal reasons or because of the great shock that comes with moving from a large city, such as Beijing, to Meadville.

At the Community at Allegheny meeting on Dec. 8, Xiaoling Shi, assistant professor of modern and classical languages mentioned that she was concerned that Chinese students were not being provided with an apt or welcoming environment.

She later added, "I was directly involved [in] three cases of leave of absence which made me think a lot."

Her concern, however, has not been entirely supported by many Chinese students who have found refuge in their own interest in learning and with the help of programs provided by the learning commons at the Pelletier Library.

International students are provided with a network of resources and opportunities when they step on campus, which is funneled primarily through the Learning Commons. The network it provides is expansive and includes a multitude of resources, specifically through the Gateway program.

According to the Allegheny website, "Gateway programs foster intellectual enrichment, cross cultural and global engagement, civic and social responsibility, ethical development, career exploration and personal growth."

Led primarily by Rebecca Dickinson, director of the learning commons, Jenny Kawata, director of international education and Lenee McCandless, international student and scholar adviser, this board provides international students with English as a Second Language classes, an orientation before school starts specialized in introducing students to cultural norms, check-in meetings, food over breaks when students cannot go home and help for students with individual issues.

The Gateway provides a close-knit community which helps students acclimatize to America's individualistic culture after coming from more community-focused societies.

With the international students being so far from home, Kawata attempts to provide familial support.

"We are often their only family members here...I am the first person they call [if they need help]...It is a very personal style of advising," Kawata said.

Aleäa Reyes, '18, is an American-born student who grew up in Hong Kong, finds these attempts successful. She feels that the people working in international student services make sure she is taken care of.

"Jenny and Lenee are really helpful," Reyes said, adding. "For us that can't go home for break, they make sure we have meals... They are basically on call for almost anything."

The Gateway works beyond the acclimation of international students and encourages multicultural learning for American students as well.

"The Gateway is focused on expanding opportunities for students for study abroad, civic engagement, intercultural learning," said Kawata, and shared that the Gateway motto is "Expand, Integrate and Apply."

Dickinson co-taught ESL classes with Kawata up until fall of 2014.

"It means doing more for them than a writing consultant would do," Dickinson said. "Focusing on the transition to America and providing a place for these students to practice English and feel comfortable."

Dickinson believes that the transition of cultures and town sizes often accounts for a great deal of stress for international students.

"The most difficult thing for Chinese students is coming from a big city and expecting New York City," Dickinson explained.

Once the students arrive and find what a small town Meadville is, they have to readjust from what they are used to.

Other issues international students face relate to understanding social contracts and the ways Americans form friendships.

"People tend to form friendships really fast...Sometimes coming from another country slows that process down," Reyes said. "By the time you are ready to approach people, people have already formed their groups."

Ye Yuan, '18, finds that the biggest challenge is in reaching out and finding what to talk about with American students.

"I find difficulty in how to talk to other people," said Yuan. "How to say 'Hi' and how to hold a conversation."

Much like Yuan, Xiao Yuzhu, '18, often feels like she has not been able to immerse herself completely into American culture.

"I sometimes feel like a foreigner and I can't get into the culture," she said.

However, Yuzhu does not feel that it is impossible for her to acclimate eventually.

"Just the living habits are different and I don't believe it is very hard to overcome this difference," Yuzhu explained.

According to Kawata, Chief Diversity Officer Dr. Lawrence T. Potter is working on creating new intercultural training opportunities among students, faculty and administration. These intercultural education workshops will take place in the near future with the hope of bringing new opportunities to learn about each other's cultures.

Regardless of these issues, many of these students share a fundamental passion for learning both within their classes and the American culture and believe that the best way to combat insecurities among international students is by combining the multitude of cultures which exist on campus.

French EL Seminar canceled due to lack of interest

Students said that cost is a deciding factor in whether or not to attend

By MADISON SIEBER
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The French Experiential Learning Seminar proposed to take place this summer, which focused on French culture and food, has not had enough interest to take place.

With an expense of $5,665.75 to attend, the EL is far more expensive than the Central Europe EL or the Turkey EL. The high cost would cover the student's meals and tours to various farms and factories as well as expose them to the culture of France.

Madison Meehan, '17, who will be attending the Central Europe EL this summer, named the price tag as one of the reasons why she decided not to apply to go to France. Meehan was also wary of applying for the French EL because of the unrest in Paris the last couple of months.

"The conflict going on recently in Paris deterred me from applying," said Meehan.

Jenny Kawata, the director of international education at the Allegheny Gateway agreed that a region's political issues can be a reason that students do not apply to certain EL Seminars.

"The reason that students chose to apply or not to apply to one seminar over another depends a lot on the variables: the EL Seminar topic or focal point, seminar activities, seminar housing options cost, seminar location and of course world events happening during the application period," said Kawata.

Kawata also recalled that there were supposed to be three other ELs offered, but the trips to Ukraine and Kenya were canceled. Of the seminars approved of for the summer of 2014, two were canceled for safety concerns based on regional events. Following these, another was canceled due to a conflict with the potential instructor's schedule. Kawata suggests picking a program that is based on individual's interests.

"It's important to choose a program that fits individual goals," said Kawata. "The experience should be able to integrate into whatever they do in the future."

Emily Lunz, '17, is an example of someone who chose a program that fits their individual interest. Lunz is a global health major and is attending the Central Europe EL this summer. Because of her passion for global health, she wants to be able to travel as much as she can. She has already traveled to Paris and wanted to be exposed to somewhere she has never been.

"I think it's important to travel to see different cultures and views throughout the world," Lunz said.

Elizabeth Sever, '17, decided against an EL completely and made the choice to instead study abroad in Lancaster, England in the spring of 2016. Sever was interested in the France EL but hopes to visit more than one country when studying abroad.

"When the opportunity presented itself to apply, I considered it," Sever said. "But the more I thought about it, the more I knew I wanted to be in Europe longer. I'd rather spend almost six months in Europe instead of paying extra tuition for a few weeks in France."

Kawata said that almost every year they cancel at least one EL due to lack of interest, which is almost always based the location, politics, price and the variance of interests in the student body.

Although the French EL did not have enough interested parties to continue, the other EL Seminars will continue, including a departmental EL in the history department to see the Flagship Niagara and the Great Lakes.

Cost of 2015 Experiential Learning Seminars:

Destination and subject	Cost
France: Around the Table *(Canceled)* Instructors: Douglas Frank & Ann Areson	$5665.75 *Additional $300 recommended*
The Politics of Immigration and Urban Space in Central Europe (Berlin, Dresden, Prague) Instructors: Zac Callen & Jackie Gehring	$3,802.00 *Additional $920 recommended*
La Bella Figura: Italy Then and Now Instructors: Mark Cosdon & David Miller	$6062.00 *Additional $470 recommended*
Turkey: Meeting Place of East and West Instructors: Eric Boynton & Ron Cole	$4990.00 *Additional $400 recommended*

Recommended costs are for personal spending, passports and visas if necessary and some to all meals.



Yara Rodrigues, '15, sleds down a hill in front of Bentley Hall with an audience. Students made a ramp out of the snow to jump off.

Students make the most of winter weather

Photo and story by Rodolpho Camargo

Allegheny's Campus has experienced heavy snowfall in the weeks following winter break.

Students around campus have found ways to take advantage of the high piles of snow that cover the lawn in front of Brooks Hall.

Yara Rodrigues, '15, went sledding last week for the first time.

"I wasn't expecting it... I just saw some people there and joined them," Rodrigues said.

Rodrigues is an exchange student from Brazil and was part of the group that went sledding during an event organized by the North Village Residence Life staff.

Kathryn Goodman, '15, explains she tries to hold one programming event a month but this was the first time sledding.

Goodman is a Community Advisor at Allegheny College. According to her, the Residential Advisors advertised the event all over the North Village buildings, but she thinks they also need some Facebook page events.

Besides the sleds, the Residence Life RAs also offered donuts and hot chocolate.

"It is something we are thinking we want to do for the future to get more people to notice what's going on", Goodman said.

Emily Kluck, '15, has also taken part in taking advantage of the winter weather although she did not go sledding.

"I wasn't planning on going outside in the snow that day, but then Matt [a friend] sent me a message and said, come home, we'll build a snowman, and I said okay. So Matt had already built the snowman when I got there, I just finished the details," Kluck said.

Residence Life offered different options, which attracted a diversified public.

"If people don't go sledding, we try to have two options. We try to be accommodating to people. And it was really cool, we had people from different places," Goodman said.

Rodrigues said sledding was an experience she will never forget.

"As a person whose country doesn't have snow, I thought, I'll just have to do it right now because when I get back to Brazil I won't have that anymore," Rodrigues said.

Her city, Belém, has temperatures around 109 degrees throughout the year.

What are your Valentine's Day plans this year?

The Campus asked some students and faculty what they had planned for the holiday weekend

Reporting and photos by Yutong Wang and Amasa Smith



CHRIS MICUCCI, '18
"Me and my friends are planning on going to Erie. We want to see the frozen over lake."



WINONA VAITEKUNAS, '16

"My date said he's going to take me to heaven."

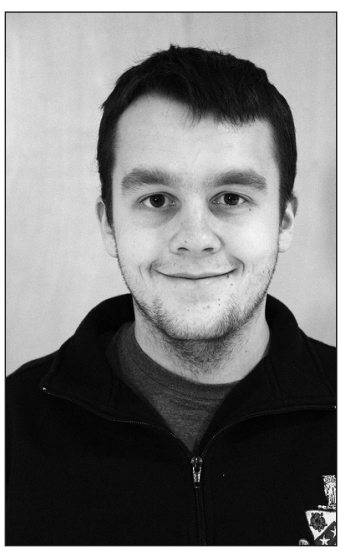


BOLAN MARSHALL-HALLMARK '17

"This Valentine's Day, myself and the hellbenders, which is the ultimate frisbee team, are going to a tournament in Erie, Pennsylvania."

ANDREW SKELLY, '17

"I'm going home and going to an Otters game with my girlfriend, and getting dinner before that."



SHANNAN MATTICE, Professor of Political Science

"My husband, Tom Nonnenmacher, and I are going to Pittsburgh Friday and having dinner and staying at the Renaissance Hotel."



LYNNAE WILLIAMS-FLOOD, '15

"Me and my housemates, we are all best friends, and we are gonna take a trip to Erie. We are gonna go shopping, go out to dinner, and see a movie and just spend some quality time."



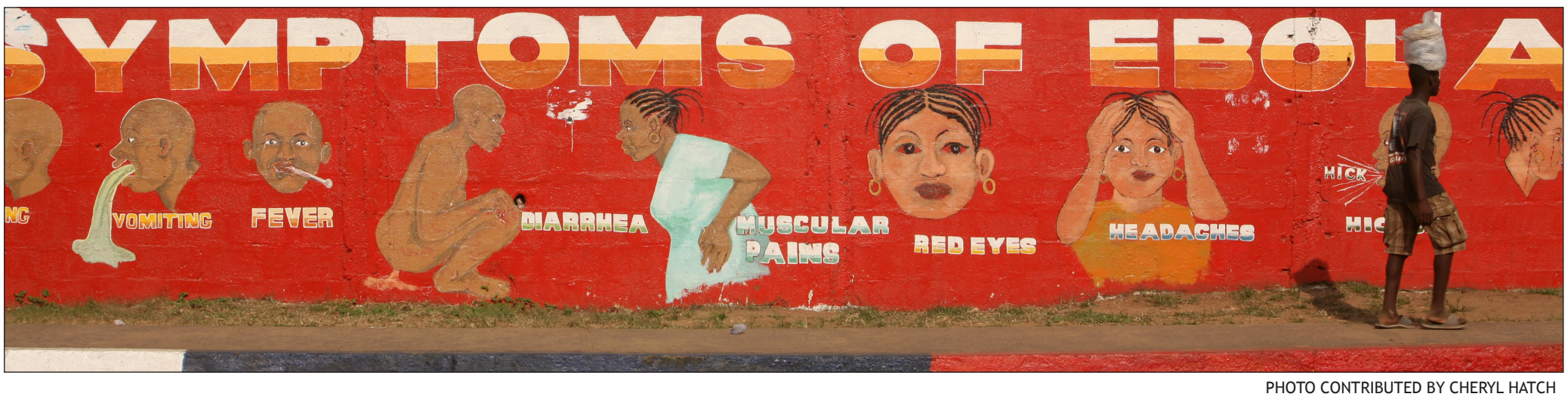


PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHERYL HATCH

A man walks by a mural that illustrates the symptoms of Ebola on the side of SKD Boulevard in Monrovia on Dec. 30, 2014.

Allegheny professor covers Liberia's Ebola crisis

Journalist goes to cover military efforts, finds hope instead

By CLAIRE TEAGUE
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After a long semester, most of Allegheny's professors and students look forward to winter break as a time of rest. Visiting assistant professor of journalism in the public interest, Cheryl Hatch spent her four weeks off not with family and friends but with her camera and soldiers.

In December 2014, Hatch travelled to Liberia with writer and U.S. Air Force veteran, Brian Castner, to cover the U.S. military's collaboration with the Liberian government and their collective effort to fight Ebola.

Hatch and Castner met in September 2014 at the Combat Paper Project, a conference Allegheny hosted on campus.

"I met Cheryl while she was on her way to yoga that morning, but we just started talking. We hit it off in that we had a lot of similar backgrounds," said Castner. "She had embedded with the U.S. military in Afghanistan, I was a veteran. She had grown up a military brat. We had been to a lot of the same places."

Castner served in the U.S. Air Force as a commander of bomb disposal squads during his tours in Iraq.

In 1990 Hatch went to Liberia alone to cover the country's civil war. It was her first independent journalism project. "It was a brutal and horrible story to cover the first time. I questioned going back [to Liberia]. But this was a great story," Hatch said.

Their conversation shifted to Ebola and the media's coverage of the outbreak.

"We talked about that and how large parts of the story were not being covered, including what the U.S. military was going to do.

They had recently announced the 101st Airborne would deploy. The 101 was my last unit that I supported in Iraq so I had a personal connection," said Castner.

Eventually they began talking about traveling to Liberia to cover the story and Castner asked Hatch for some logistic advice on organizing a reporting trip abroad.

"As we got talking about her offering me advice on how to do my own trip, it turned into 'hey why don't we just go together?'" said Castner. "I remember saying to her, 'you gotta be careful' because when I get an idea in my head I have trouble letting it go. It turns out she's the same way. We said at the time wouldn't it be funny if this chat in the Oddfellows parking lot turned into something and of course, it did."

The original story they went to cover was the work of the U.S. military which had set out to build 15 Ebola Treatment Units and to train healthcare workers. When Hatch and Castner arrived in Liberia, the story they went to cover had been completed.

Initially, the story was focused on covering what it meant to have an infantry unit fight Ebola. But when they arrived, the troops had successfully built all of the ETUs and completed the health care training.

"It is part of the natural journalism process. The story that you pitch to an editor is not always what you discover, which is why you do the reporting," said Castner.

This proved to be a challenge for Hatch because there was no longer anything to photograph.

"Visually for me, it was incredibly challenging," said Hatch.

After realizing their initial story was winding down, their natural curiosity took over and they began to look for another story. The story shifted and they looked to the Liberian Red Cross and the actions they were taking. Hatch and Castner traveled with the Red Cross for two days as they picked up bodies.

Despite the death and disease control that Hatch and Castner were covering, both said they were struck by the hope and positivity of the Liberian people.

"It's not like life stopped over there. Things got bad, people were afraid, are afraid, they're still afraid," said Castner. "But life goes on and there's still joy and theres still worshipping at church and hanging out on the beach and all the things of life still continue, despite this terrible disease."

Hatch and Castner were in Liberia on Watch Night or New Year's Eve, which is an important holiday in Liberia.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHERYL HATCH



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY BRIAN CASTNER

Top: A woman worships in the Pillars of Fire Church in Harbel, Liberia during the Watch Day service. Below: Cheryl Hatch follows the Liberian Red Cross as they picked up dead bodies for transportation to cemetery.

The president of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, lifted the curfew that had been in place since the outbreak to allow people to go to church and celebrate.

Traditionally, Watch Night is a huge night of celebration and it is filled with singing, dancing and praising. At midnight, in past years people in the churches would stop and hug and kiss each other but this year they opted to instead stand in place and clap for precautionary reasons.

"This year in the church it was really clear we don't hug, we don't kiss, you stand in place. You jump up and down but you don't touch anyone," said Hatch.

However, despite the differences of this year's celebration Hatch said that there was an overwhelming feeling of hope.

"The people in the church were so grateful, thanking God for bringing them to a new year and protecting their family," said Hatch. "So even in the middle of all this loss, and lots of people had lost people, there was still an affirmation of what was good and looking forward with hope."

Editor's Note: Cheryl Hatch is the faculty adviser for The Campus.

> *"So even in the middle of all this loss, and lots of people had lost people, there was still an affirmation of what was good and looking forward with hope."*
>
> *Cheryl Hatch*
> *Journalism professor, photojournalist*

Faculty organize annual voice recital in Ford Chapel

By MADISON SIEBER
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On Feb. 8, 2015, Allegheny College held the annual faculty recital in Ford Chapel.

The performers included three professors from the music department, Carol Niblock, Diane Kalinowski and Vicki Jamison. Accompanying them on piano was Dr. Ward Jamison.

All three professors are sopranos and organized the concert featuring various duets and trios from a selection of operas. According to V. Jamison this was the first time they had all performed in a recital together.

"The three of us made plans last March to perform a program of duets and trios," V. Jamison said.

Niblock said deciding what songs to perform was a difficult process.

"Although Vicki, Diane and I are all sopranos, the three of us have very different voice types. It took a while to find the right pieces that would allow each of us to show off our strengths," Niblock said.

Ultimately they decided on a variety of songs including work written by Mozart, Purcell and Bizet.

All three of them learned the material for the performance on their own time before coming together for a few rehearsals in the fall.

V. Jamison enjoyed the preparation leading up to the performance. Kalinowki said she enjoys the entire production process.

"I love everything from the preparation work to the performance itself," said Kalinowki. "Especially on those special moments when I can feel a wave of calm wash over me during the performance which allows me to just focus my energy on communicating."

Louis Fehér-Peiker '17, attended the concert and said he really enjoyed the performance. A voice student himself, Fehér-Peiker came to see his professors and their spouses perform. Fehér-Peiker is a member of the chorus on campus and enjoys music.

"I always enjoy live, free music," Fehér-Peiker said.

Later this spring Kalinowski will be performing solo at a recital at Saegertown Methodist Church on March 14 at 8:00 p.m.

The performance will be sponsored by a grant from Erie Arts. For this type of recital, Kalinowki has more room to pick songs to perform because it is a solo recital.

"As far as choosing music to perform in a recital, for this particular recital I did not choose the music," Kalinowki said. "But normally I have a running list of dream works that I am wanting to perform so I usually just choose one off of the bucket list and then fill in the rest of the recital with works that I think will go well in the particular venue and with whatever dream work I have chosen."



AMASA SMITH/THE CAMPUS

Jessica Mrdjenovich, '16, works to defend against Wittenberg on Saturday, Feb. 7. The Gators fell 70-59 to the Tigers. The women will take on Ohio Wesleyan University on Saturday Feb. 14 in the Wise Center.

Allegheny women's basketball falls in back to back games in NCAC play

By EMERALD WRIGHTCOLLIE
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The Wittenberg Tigers came to visit the Allegheny women's basketball team last Saturday. Wittenberg, ranked second in the NCAC, claimed victory against the Gators after a late rally in the second half. The Gators had two players in double figures. Jessica Mrdjenovich, '16, led the team with 16 points. Mrdjenovich was 4-of-10 from the field, while also spreading the wealth offensively by bringing in assists during the game. Marina Scarantino, '15, followed Mrdjenovich in points with a total of 12 points in the game.

The Tigers gave Allegheny easy points with 21 turnovers in the game. This opened the door for the Allegheny offense as they scored a total of 18 points in the paint. The first half of the game consisted of both teams exchanging leads and buckets.

"We played really well the first half of the game, everything was really clicking offensively and defensively," Mrdjenovich said. "We were all playing really well as a team to work the ball around and find the open shots for one another."

The Gators took charge by going on a 10-4 run during the first half. Kendall Hoffman, '15, sealed the 10-4 run with a free throw followed by a jumper from Scarantino which made the score 26-23 with eight minutes left in the half.

"We were using each others strengths to find shots in the first half," Emma Pellicano, '16, said.

Allegheny scored easily off of turnovers from the Tigers allowing them to command the game and take a six point lead with five minutes left. The Gators maintained the lead eventually gaining a 10 point lead over the Tigers going into the second half.

Coming into the second half, the Tigers came out of the locker room with a tight defense. Wittenberg eventually trimmed the lead, going on a 15-5 run. The Tigers robbed the Gators of the lead putting the score at 47-46 early in the half.

"In the second half, Witt began hitting us with a press that we had a lot of trouble breaking. Basketball's a game of momentum and they maintained the momentum throughout the second half," Mrdjenovich said.

Wittenberg continued to play strong defense throughout the game forcing Allegheny turnovers. The 22 percent second half field goal percentage the Gators had is a testament to the Tigers' tight defense Wittenberg took a 8 point lead over Allegheny with just eight minutes left in the game.

"Our team had great chemistry in the first half. Wittenberg played really hard in the second we were unable to penetrate their defense," Iffie Uwazie, '16, said.

In an attempt to make a comeback, the Gators posted their best offense late in the second half. Allegheny was down by 8 points before a three point shot from Scarantino began to cut the lead down. Kaitlyn Fromknecht, '16, scored back-to-back jumpers closing the gap down to just four points with four minutes left in the game.

"They went on a run and we had no counter," Pellicano said.

Wittenberg tightened up their defense shutting down Allegheny. The Gators only scored one point in the remaining four minutes of the game, finishing the game out with a final score of 70-59 and a Wittenberg win.

"We're forgetting about all the past games and focusing on each game as it comes," Mrdjenovich said. "The next four games are each extremely important as they will determine our ranking in the conference tournament. So we're going into Oberlin looking to play lockdown defense and come out with the win."

The Gators fell 75-72 to the Oberlin Yeowomen on Wed. Feb.11th, although all of the Allegheny starters finished in double figures. These two back-to-back losses caused Allegheny to fall to 6th place in the NCAC conference.

The Gators are scheduled to play Ohio Wesleyan University here in Meadville on Saturday Feb. 14.

Men's and women's track performs well at Case Western invite

By ALEX HOLMES
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The Allegheny men's and women's track teams showed strong performances at the Mount Union Jim Wuske Invitational.

On the men's side, John Hughes, '18, ran a season best in the mile and placed fifth of 30 in the event. Then Carter Smith, '18, finished in third in the 5000m at 16:05.08. In the field events, Andre Bryan, '18, took second in long jump and Michael Petro, '15, placed fifth in weight throw. Bryan continued to finals, and placed second out of 33 jumpers. Petro broke the Allegheny record for the second time this season with a career performance of 17.20m.

Following the performances at Mount Union, Bryan was named Allegheny Athlete of the Week.

"It's a good feeling," Bryan said. "I am blessed for it and thankful for the team and coaches who pushed me to where I am."

The women also competed well at Mount Union. Ashley Krause, '15, qualified for finals in long and triple jumps following a season off due to injuries. Lexie Mochan, '15, took fifth in the weight throw with 14.37m. Emma Loniewski, '15, and Alexis Preston, '16, took first and second, respectively, in the 1000m and Melissa McCann, '18, came in second in the 800m with a season best of 2:27.11. Amanda Balzer, '17, set a career mark in the 60m hurdles with a time of 9.69 seconds. Balzer moved on to finals and placed ninth.

"I have been working on being solid start to finish and seeing the most success," Balzer said.

The track team members are using their races at Mount Union to practice techniques and prepare for the upcoming weekend of races.

"Each meet is a stepping stone," Head coach Brent Wilkerson said. "When you run the same event four or five times, you can experiment with techniques. Each person has their own things to work on and a short list to keep in the front of their mind during meets."

Wilkerson said the team has been working on putting solid relays together and practicing well.

"We want both [men's and women's] to finish top three in the conference," Wilkerson said. "Indoor is difficult because we are not on par with the other teams in our conference."

Bryan is hoping to work on his long jump and get a school record.

"I like to see how we grow and progress through the season," Balzer said. "We are looking forward to records falling and stellar performances at conferences. We are on track to peak when we need to."

This weekend the men's and women's teams will compete at the Baldwin Wallace Invitational on Friday Feb. 13 and the Boston University Valentine Invitational on Saturday Feb. 14.

Women's tennis starts spring play

By ALEX HOLMES
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The Allegheny women's tennis team opened its spring season with a loss to Case Western Reserve on Feb. 7. Case, currently ranked 23rd in the nation, put up a tough fight for the Gators.

"They are nationally ranked number 23, so you can't make mistakes. You have to be consistent and we played well," Head Coach Jared Luteran said. "Our team scores do not look as good as our individual competition was."

Andrea Brush, '16, and Mikaela Pope, '16, fell 8-5 in doubles, followed by Brush playing singles and falling 7-5, 6-2. Other singles competitors, Sun Mo Koo, '16, and Sloane Prince, '16, lost 6-0, 6-2 and 6-3, 6-3 respectively.

"It was a mental game," Prince said. "They were playing University of Chicago before us, so we had to watch them. It's good to be able to figure out how they play, but they brought the momentum from the previous match."

Though the match ended in a loss, the women are using their experience to prepare for the next match.

"We know specifically which shots to work on and how to make our response stronger," Prince said. "It was good to have a challenging match to start the season, at practice we will have it in our minds and use it to motivate us."

The team is also watching video from the match to see where improvements can be made.

"There is always something to learn," Luteran said.

With spring season comes additional challenges of practicing on a different surface inside the Wise Center than an actual tennis court.

"It's tough transitioning to other courts," Abbey Turner, '16, said. "Ours are fast and we tried to turn that into a positive against Case."

Through the spring season, the Gators are training in different ways to mix up being indoors for so long.

"The spring season is longer and we have six practices a week," Turner said. "It's a bigger commitment and we are doing more hitting, along with swimming and other training."

> "A lot of their goals have nothing to do with winning, rather on community service and the academic award. They realize there is more to it than winning."
>
> Jared Luteran
> Head Coach

Luteran said the spring season can being mentally gruelling due to being inside on the blue courts for a long time.

"They set their own goals and they are different than mine," Luteran said. "A lot of their goals have nothing to do with winning, rather on community service and the academic award. They realize that there is more to it than winning."

The Gators are working to improve spirit and a strong team network.

"One focus is team chemistry," Luteran said. "We want everyone on the same page and remain a family."

The team is currently reading and discussing a book to bring them closer.

"We are reading 'The Energy Bus' together, and thinking about being positive and working cohesively," Turner said. "We are all going through the same thing but we leave it all behind at practice and use tennis as an outlet."

The team is looking forward to getting outside and competing at a high level.

"Spring break is our first chance outdoors," Luteran said. "The regular courts are different so we can get out and see how we really play."

In addition to getting outside, the team is hoping to improve in their playing against competitive teams in the conference.

"I have had a few injuries so I'm looking forward to being able to play hopefully the whole season without being held back," Prince said. "Seeing how much I can add to my game without having to take breaks or do physical therapy."

The Gators will face Westminster College on Feb. 22 in Erie, Pa.

Upcoming Events

Fri. 2/13
Men's & Women's Swim & Dive
NCAC Championships
@ Denison University

Men's & Women's Track & Field
Baldwin Wallace Invitational
@ Baldwin Wallace University

Sat. 2/14
Women's Basketball
vs. Ohio Wesleyan University
@ 1 p.m.

Men's Basketball
vs. Ohio Wesleyan University
@ 3 p.m.

Men's & Women's Swim & Dive
NCAC Championships
@ Denison University

Women's Track & Field
Boston University Valentine Invitational
@ Boston Uniersity