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Second North Main traffic study begins

By ANGELA MAURONI
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Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Eileen Petula sent out an email to the college on Sept. 21 announcing the installation of a traffic camera at the crosswalk on North Main Street by the Tippie Alumni Center. At least two more cameras were installed between Tuesday, Sept. 27 and Thursday, Sept. 29.

"The purpose of the study is to come up with possible mitigation-type options of what we can do to improve traffic flow, safety, speed control. I'm not sure what all those options will be," Petula said.

According to Petula's email, the camera was installed by Whitman, Requardt & Associates, a national engineering firm.

Chief Financial Officer Linda Wetsell said the installation is to monitor pedestrian traffic, and the first camera's installation was meant

See **TRAFFIC** | *page 2*



CONTRIBUTED BY WILL EVANS

A team consisting of Laura Allston, '19, Alexandra Grence, '19, Alexia Porche, '19, and Alexandra Metzger, '19, competed in the wing-eating competition on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016, at Wingfest. A costumed chicken looks on.

'Call Her Daddy' wins wing-eating contest

See **WINGS** | *page 7*

Student government redesigns website

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
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The Allegheny Student Government website received extensive renovations during the summer break, and is now fully functional, according to ASG Director of Communications and Press Mark Myers, '19.

Myers, who was responsible for the overhaul of the site, said the goal was to make the site user-friendly and visually pleasing. He said he tried to go with a design scheme similar to Apple, utilizing white space and colorful graphics.

ASG Vice President Sofia Kaufman, '17, said the site has come a long way since Myers assumed his position.

> "Honestly, people use the website more than they expect."
>
> Tess Bracken
> *Class of 2017*

"[Myers] completely rebuilt it this summer, and it's nice to look at now," Kaufman said.

The site now makes accessing ASG forms, scheduling office hours and finding information about upcoming ASG events more intuitive, Myers said.

"Honestly, people use the website more than they expect," said ASG President Tess Bracken, '17.

Myers said the previous site, parts of which were under construction throughout last year, needed to be changed.

"It was just not useable," Myers said.

The new site is built using the WIX platform. Myers said while working with the program over the summer, he discovered that there was more that could be done with the website than had been done in the past.

"The more I would work with it, the more I learned how far you could go with it," Myers said.

The new site also features a calendar with major campus events, as well as ASG events, at the bottom of the home page.

Over the summer, Myers worked to keep ASG's social media presence high, publishing brief bios on each cabinet and senate member so students could put a face to a name of their ASG representatives.

Myers said in addition to the new site, ASG will also send out a newsletter this year every other week, which will include ASG and other campus organizations' announcements. He said this is part of the cabinet's effort to make ASG more accessible to students.

"We are trying to rebrand ASG, make it more transparent," Myers said. "The hope is that people submit things so that I am not just advertising ASG events."

While the college does send a periodic email to alert students and staff about happenings on campus, known as My Allegheny, Myers said an issue with this email is that most students do not bother to read the email.

One feature of the WIX system is that Myers can see what percentage of students open the newsletter and how long, on average, they spend reading it.

According to Myers, over 90 percent of students open the email and spend some time reading it. This, he said, is much higher than the percentage of students opening My Allegheny emails.

"It's coming from a different source, so people might take more notice," Bracken said.

Myers said he does not expect the readership numbers to remain as high as students get used to seeing the newsletter, but said he hopes it will be an alternative source of information for students.

"Our goal is that it's transparent, short, sweet and to the point," Myers said.

Bracken said the hope is that the newsletter will become an important part of how students learn about what is happening on campus.

"It's a more student-focused version of My Allegheny," Bracken said.

According to Myers, a

See **WEBSITE** | *page 2*

Gateway combines conference funds

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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Career Education and the Office of Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activities, which previously had separate funds for students attending conferences, combined those funds into URSCA's budget, according to Director of Career Education Jim Fitch.

Fitch said the goal of consolidating the funds was to make access easier for students. Previously, students had to go to URSCA to fund part of the cost and Career Education to fund the other.

"Students won't be pinballing around as much as they were," Fitch said.

According to Terry Bensel, associate provost and director of the Gateway, URSCA funds covered costs such as conference registration, while Career Education covered the cost of transportation.

"It really didn't make any sense to go to two different offices to get funds for essentially the same thing," Bensel said.

Associate Professor of Psychology and URSCA Director Aimee Knupsky said URSCA received two endowed funds from the provost's office last year. The two funds combined allow the office to distribute approximately $5,000 annually.

Knupsky said those funds were supplemented by a $5,000 donation from an alumnus. Combined with Career Education's funds designated for conferences, the office has approximately $20,000 to support students who wish to attend such events this academic year.

In the past, students had to request reimbursements for costs incurred during conferences, according to Knupsky. Beginning in the summer of 2016, students traveling to conferences receive a "Gateway Award," meaning students would receive funds requested from the office up front.

The application, available on URSCA's website, requires students to submit an estimated budget. Students presenting at professional conferences can receive a maximum of $500, while students attending undergraduate conferences or not presenting at the conference can receive up to $200.

Knupsky said URSCA plans on making half of its funds available for conferences each semester.

Bensel said the movement of conference funds to URSCA is the first step in an attempt to make the Gateway's funds more readily accessible to students.

"It was something that makes life easier for students," Bensel said.

Knupsky said the idea of making the funds accessible through one application was first conceived during the last academic year.

According to Bensel, the Gateway is working on an application students can submit to apply for funding through the Gateway as a whole, rather than through each of its individual offices. Bensel said a "prototype" of that application has been completed, but the office is finalizing internal processes to determine what funds the financial support would come from.

Bensel said a complication of having a program in which the office determines what funds are appropriate for each application is that many sources of funding are constrained by donor requests. The Gateway hopes to have this application finalized by the end of the fall 2016 semester.

Eileen Petula joins administrative staff

By RACHEL BELSON
Contributing Writer
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At the end of the 2015-2016 school year, former Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Sue Stuebner left Allegheny to take a position as president of Colby Sawyer College in New Hampshire. The position has since been filled by Eileen Petula.

The executive vice president is responsible for overseeing the chief financial officer, treasurer, vice president for college relations, director of human resources, director of athletics and recreation, Title IX coordinator, dean of students, vice president for development, Alumni Affairs and vice president for enrollment.

President James Mullen said he chaired the national search committee, which had the assistance of the firm Brill Neumann to help find potential candidates for the position.

The search committee reviews resumes, letters of interests and background material, according to Provost and Dean of the College Ron Cole. Members of the committee contribute their opinions and observations of the candidates, and Mullen and the Board of Trustees make the final decision, Cole said.

Mullen selected the members for the committee, which included Allegheny Student Government President Tess Bracken, '17, and ASG Chief of Staff Hayden Moyer, '17.

When Brill Neumann reached out to Petula about the position, she provided her credentials and a letter of interest to Mullen. After reviewing the candidates, the search committee selected four semi-finalists to visit the campus and give a presentation in June. These semi-finalists met with faculty, staff, students and members of the Board of Trustees.

Ron Mumme, professor of biology, was also on the search committee. He said he believes that he was chosen to be on the search committee because he had served on the committee that hired Stuebner.

Mumme said the search for Stuebner was more extensive. This recent search was "expedited," and Brill Neumann assumed a larger role than usual in the process.

"The search was a little out of the ordinary," Mumme said.

Mumme said the search was put together in April, and they received a small, strong pool of candidates.

"We're really delighted that we wound up hiring Eileen as

See **PETULA** | *page 3*

TRAFFIC

from page 1



ANGELA MAURONI/THE CAMPUS

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According to Petula, the college does not know if the installation of more cameras will be necessary, and it depends on the findings of the current ones. She said the college would be supportive if WRA did install more.

"I think we'd be open to that because ultimately this data collection is going to lead us to a better result as far as solutions, so if we needed to, we'd entertain that," Petula said.

Petula also said the cameras will help the college determine what days of the week and times of the day have greater pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

According to Wetsell, there are long-term steps the college is taking, such as the traffic study, but the college has been making more efforts as well.

"We have two efforts that are going on: we have a short-term effort, which is looking at the lighting, the crosswalks, some different things like that," Wetsell said. "So we worked with the city earlier on to try and identify or emphasize our crosswalks more, thus we did some work with them. So our short-term efforts were a little bit more with the city, and then the long-term effort has been with PennDOT to do a longer term study."

The study is expected to continue until Jan. 1, 2017, according to Wetsell. The college has also ordered new street lights for the west side of North Main Street in front of North Village II, which the college owns, and is expecting to have them delivered by Nov. 1.

"The goal is to try and have them up immediately," Wetsell said. "And then the lights will light not only the street, but are designed to light the sidewalks on both sides of the street so that the flow of light will cover sidewalk-to-sidewalk."

Wetsell said this project is part of a long-term collaboration that has been going on with the City of Meadville and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for almost a year. In that time, the college has changed several crosswalks to brick with reflective white stripes around them. They have also installed several signs indicating where the crosswalks are.

"PennDOT is facilitating the longer study, so they're paying for that one," Wetsell said. "But the effort for the lights—we're paying for that. The crosswalks—the college paid for those too. Some of the signs the city paid for. I think it's been a good collaborative effort."

The lighting on campus, and particularly that on North Main Street, came under scrutiny last year after Hannah Morris, a student in the class of 2017, was struck by a car and died hours later from her injuries on Oct. 29, 2015, on North Main Street in front of North Village II.

Morris's accident was the second in three years on the street involving a student. After the 2015 accident, Allegheny Student Government formed an ad hoc committee to address campus traffic. According to Chief of Staff Hayden Moyer, '17, the ad hoc committee was not reinstated for the new academic year.

"It ended at the end of last year and we have not created a new one," Moyer said.

According to Moyer, ASG would be willing to create another ad hoc committee if there was student interest for one.

Any changes to east side of North Main Street by Oddfellows would have to be approved by PennDOT, said Pennsylvania State Representative Brad Roae in November of 2015. Roae said he wanted to be a part of the discussions following PennDOT's studies on campus, but Wetsell said she is not aware of him having any involvement since then.

Brian Williams, the office manager for Roae's Meadville office, said he has opinions about the decisions going forward and can make suggestions about how to improve the traffic situation, but does not have authority over the final decisions.

"No, he's not been in office meetings on this subject. … Brad can offer suggestions, but certainly not more than anyone else," Williams said.

The first study conducted by PennDOT surveyed the speed of vehicles on North Main Street, and found that 85 percent of vehicles drove at or below the speed limit, according to Jim Carroll, a spokesperson for PennDOT. Due to these findings, PennDOT denied the college's request to have the speed limit lowered.

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Brian Smith, traffic engineer for PennDOT said this is usually how the department determines whether or not to lower the speed.

"Studies have shown it's actually safer if you post the speed at what drivers are actually going," Smith said. "Eighty-five percent of people are driving safely. Basically, they're not going to [slow down] because it doesn't make sense."

Carroll said some results of the traffic study could be things like narrowing the roadway.

"It makes people feel confined, so they go slower," Carroll said.

Wetsell said since last year, she has met or communicated with Meadville City Manager Andy Walker, '00, and representatives from PennDOT several times. According to Petula, the most recent meeting was on Sept. 7, Petula's first day at the college.

WEBSITE

from page 1

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Bracken and Kaufman said this fits in with their larger goal to be more visible to students on campus. They said it is a good practice to always have a representative available to speak to students with questions.

"It's nice to have someone in the office at all times," Kaufman said.

Gator Connect to launch in October

By JONATHAN GOODMAN
Web Manager
goodmanj@allegheny.edu

Gator Connect, a new tool created by Career Education and Alumni Affairs, will replace and combine the functions of Gator Locator and the ACCEL Job Database. The database will be released in mid-October, according to Director of Alumni Engagement Keri Fadden.

Both the ACCEL database and Gator Locator stopped functioning during the summer of 2015 when servers malfunctioned. Allegheny College decided to use the Salesforce platform, a customer management system, to replace them. They hired ACF Solutions, a business management consultant, to help create Gator Connect.

"The only downside to creating a completely new platform was that there was no stopgap to fill the roles of Gator Locator and the ACCEL database," said Associate Director of Career Education Christina Moreschi, '12.

Gator Connect allows Allegheny students to view job and internship postings and to immediately submit an application. Job postings are marked with a gator symbol if the poster is an Allegheny graduate.

Gator Connect is also available to faculty and staff to post research or on-campus job opportunities for students.

In addition, Gator Connect allows students to search the alumni database and connect to alumni in certain companies or fields. The site provides tools to graduates as well.

"Alumni want a way to find other alumni," Fadden said.

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Gator Connect will also allow alumni to volunteer for the college in a variety of ways. This includes working with admissions at college fairs all over the country, providing students opportunities to job shadow or coming back to Allegheny to speak.

Gator Connect allows alumni to connect back to Allegheny unlike past tools, according to Fadden.

"We want to remove the lines between students and alumni. From your first day at Allegheny, you become a part of this community," Fadden said.

Jason Ramsey, associate director of Information Technology Services, hopes Gator Connect will improve Allegheny students' experiences and make things simpler.

"It's time to start interconnecting student [information]. Students should not have to input their name and box number every single time they fill out a form," Ramsey said.

Career Education and Alumni Affairs co-hosted a Gator Day presentation on April 5, 2016, about Gator Connect. Students who attended were given a brief introduction to the website and received full access. These students were asked to give feedback and report any issues with the program.

Attendees found several minor issues with the site. For example, the keyword search function on the job and internship page was broken, meaning it is only possible to search from drop-down menus.

"Gator Connect was not mobile or tablet friendly, and we believe that many students rely on those platforms," Moreschi said.

After the Gator Day presentation, Alumni Affairs and Career Education decided that Gator Connect's release would be pushed back from its original release date in May to solve these issues.

"We only get one shot at user adoption, so it was worth the wait," Fadden said.

Allegheny decided to work with a new company, Vertiba, to fix these issues. Jim Hotton, '81, works at Vertiba and reached out to the college to offer assistance.

Allegheny has recently received an updated build of the site and is currently doing internal testing, according to Fadden. The expected release date is some time in mid-October.

"We wanted something that is just Allegheny. Salesforce is a very flexible programming tool," Ramsey said.

Even after Gator Connect launches, the college will still work to improve it, according to Ramsey.

"This is just the beginning, Gator Connect will constantly be updated and adapted to students' needs," Ramsey said.

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from page 1



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First debate suggests candidates are entertainers, not leaders

Trump and Clinton trade shots as comedic arguing overshadows agenda

By JAMES SIRIO
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Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump, on one stage. What a way to spend a Monday night. Trump, wearing more makeup than his female counterpart, standing in the left corner. Clinton, or Clifford the Big Red Dog, in the right corner. Where, oh where, should I start?

First of all, Lester Holt; the guy shouldn't be criticized for his poor moderation skills. I mean, come on, it was a total lose-lose situation. We all know that once round one started, no one was containing the fight. His silence and lack of moderation allowed the candidates to voice some policies. If he did add more of his voice and interrupt, we all would have complained that he didn't allow for a free flowing debate. Let him be.

Secondly, I propose that these debates should be taped and released with a 20 minute delay. Fact-checking has become so essential that it should be scrolling across the bottom of the screen like a New York Stock Exchange ticker.

Third, Lester, that last question? Really? I am going to criticize that. Did you just ask them if they would be okay if they lost? Sorry to inform you, but the presidential runner-up doesn't get a badge for participation. Do you expect the loser to start a Civil War? And then Trump's answer. All he really said coherently was, "I want to make America Great Again."

Oh, speaking of Trump. Please blow your nose. Sorry, but I had to say it. And please stop rolling your eyes when Hillary says something. And would you stop interrupting? Thanks.

You see, it is hard to write an opinion piece on a debate when what you're actually watching is two grown adults bickering back and forth as if it were recess on the playground and Tommy took the tire swing. That debate can't even be classified as such. In fact, I am going to go so far as to say that what millions of citizens saw Monday night shouldn't even be remembered.

The presidential debates are held solely because it is an opportunity for the American people to judge the character, charisma and nonsense that gets thrown at us by Presidential hopefuls. We watch in hopes to see that one candidate says that one thing, or reacts that one way or do that hand motion that simply looks presidential. Because when we find the "that," well then, we have found our vote.

Now, that isn't exactly groundbreaking news. We, the American people, want to see everything that we think embodies a president on that stage. Part of that comes with their appearance. It is a natural fact of human existence to judge people on what they say, what they do and how they look doing it, especially when we are trying to elect someone for this position. I don't have a problem with that. I do, however, have a problem when that takes center stage.

The facts of the debate are completely ignored and all we focus on are the debating skills and how an individual looks in front of a camera, character traits that hardly embody a successful president.

President Kennedy has long been regarded as one of the best debaters. Why? Because he was a fantastic speaker, but also because he wore a fancy suit, had an awesome hairstyle and a penetratingly bright smile. His appearance held more weight than his policy during the debates, and that appearance helped carry him to the Oval Office. Since then, the American public has put more value in the presidential debates than it should.

Prior to the debate on Monday, I did some research on past debates and found something astonishing that is rarely, if ever, discussed. Remember four years ago when it was Romney verses Obama? Romney was declared the winner of almost every debate, Obama is our current president though. Four years before that, with McCain and Obama, the overwhelming majority of major news outlets had declared McCain the better debater. Going back further, the same held true for the Bush campaign where his opponent had won the debates and subsequently lost the election.

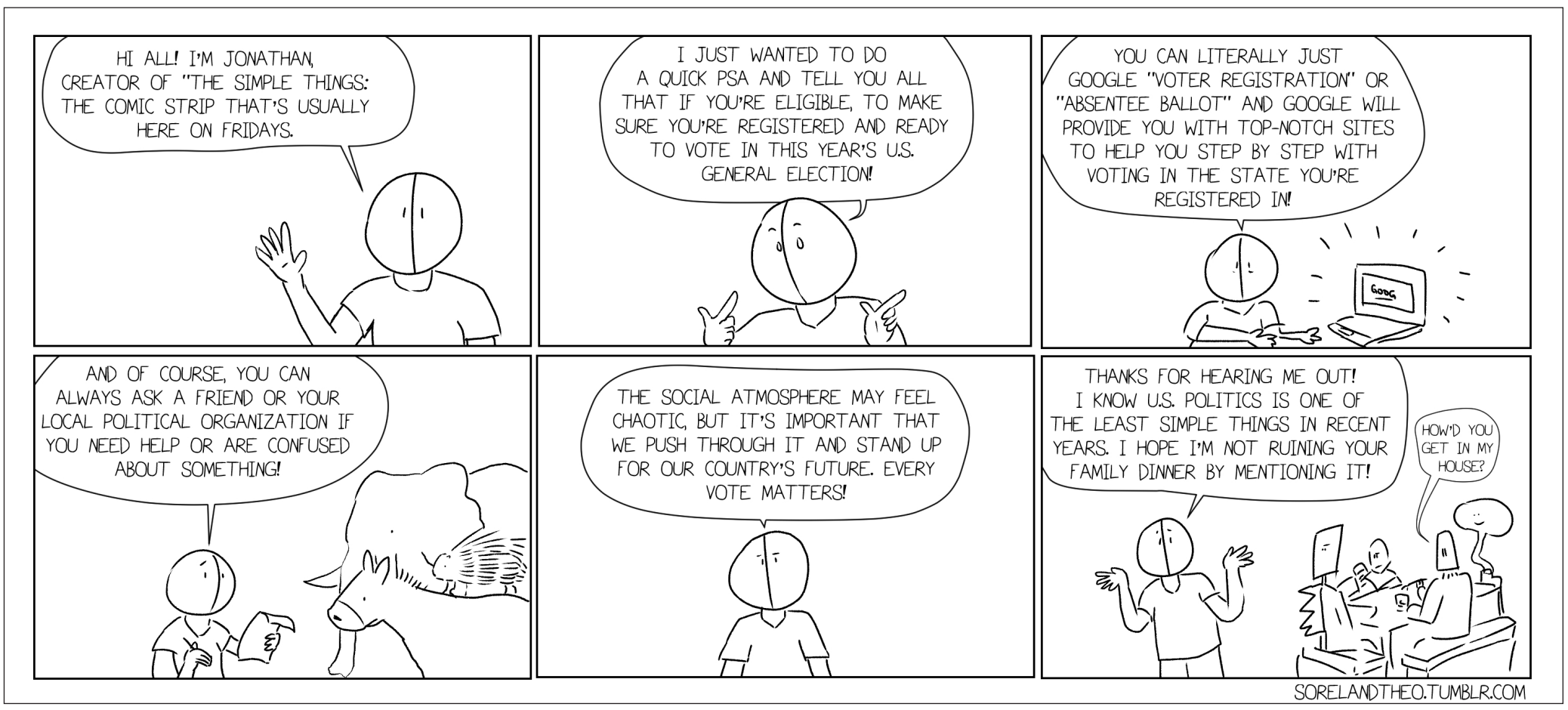
Furthermore, my idea of a debate includes hearing multiple arguments both for and against certain issues. That includes supporting arguments and statements. That didn't happen. All we saw was Trump leaning into a microphone saying, "Wrong!" and Hillary smiling at the camera in a great attempt not to do the same thing. It wasn't a presidential debate. Rather, it was a presidential debacle.

Just think—when you were talking to friends about watching the debate, what did at least one person say? "I'll watch because it is going to be entertaining." I know someone who said this, and you'd be lying to yourself if you didn't believe others thought it too. That is a problem.

People, this isn't entertainment. This election is to find the next leader of our country. One of them is going to win regardless of whether you like it or not. It is time to push past the shock and awe of how we got to this point. Yeah, some will say it is the system, but again, it doesn't matter. We have two candidates in front of us and we have to choose one.

So I ask, I urge, I beg you all to take yourself out of the entertainment we all find ourselves wrapped up in and make a conscious, educated choice. A choice that is backed up by thought and reasoning and not laughs and puns, because that is really all that is required of us.

THE SIMPLE THINGS



Comic by Jonathon Yee

Homegrown extremists cause imminent threat

Islamic State supporters continue to increase throughout the world

By CHRIS BRINDLE
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Since 9/11, the U.S. has not suffered a large-scale terrorist attack, but over the past several months, attacks have been carried out domestically at a high rate that is only increasing. The lack of mass casualty events, but the consistency of headlines about small or foiled attacks can lead one to wonder, are we safe? What is the current nature of the threat posed by Islamic extremists?

I could begin by listing all of the attacks that have taken place over the past year—in the U.S. and Europe—at the hands of 'lone wolf' radical jihadists, but such a list is unnecessary. Even the most infrequent consumer of news understands that this is the new normal, and moving forward, things will only get worse.

On Feb. 9, 2016, the U.S. intelligence community delivered a threat assessment to the Senate Armed Services Committee that confirms the growth of this threat. It states that in 2014, the FBI arrested approximately one dozen Islamic State supporters in the U.S., and in 2015, the number increased to five dozen. They then assessed how attacks such as the one in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and San Bernadino, California, would motivate more homegrown radicals to attack, and that intuition was confirmed with attacks such as the one in Orlando in June.

> "There are more people like him living in the US right now. There will be more tomorrow, and more the next day."
>
> Chris Brindle
> *Class of 2018*

The nature of the threat posed by homegrown radicals is important to understand. In Orlando, a man walked into a packed nightclub and killed as many people as he pleased. This was not the work of someone who was mentally ill, but rather a fully functioning person who subscribed to the lure of the Islamic State's narrative.

I am focusing on the obvious here because it is significant. The fact that he was simply the next person who bought into this perverted brand of Islam, and he was not suffering from some psychological abnormality, means he is not particularly unique. There are more people like him living in the U.S. right now. There will be more tomorrow, and more the next day.

The most recent string of bombings and planned attacks in New York and New Jersey prove that one can act legally when buying all necessary supplies, then produce explosives and walk down the street to become a martyr. This should be a cause of great concern. There is no metal detector at the local bar, which students pack densely night after night. There is no pat-down before entering the stands at a DIII college football game. This is what makes this form of terrorism so terrifying, even though it will never yield as many casualties as a 9/11 type attack.

As it stands, Europe is at more of a risk than the U.S. They are geographically closer to the region that expounds this ideology, and more susceptible to jihadists crossing into their borders. France, for example, has disproportionately shouldered the burden of this threat. Europe additionally has accepted more refugees, although it is too early to tell how many extremists will emerge out of those masses. Who is most at risk are people in the Middle East, Africa and Western Asia. Since 9/11, the U.S. has been successful in avoiding mass casualty attacks, but the international community has not been as fortunate.

"When the final accounting is done, 2014 will have been the most lethal year for global terrorism in the 45 years such data has been compiled," said the Director of National Intelligence in a conversation with Congress in July of 2015.

As far as how the Islamic State fits into the picture, they are extremely successful at recruiting, training and deploying individuals over the internet. This means that they can train jihadists who never have to risk leaving the U.S., or even their own homes. One look at the Islamic State's publication, "Dabiq," makes it obvious why. They produce propaganda that is unrivaled in effectiveness. This magazine rivals "Time" and "Vogue" in format and quality. The photos of heads being severed, and slain bodies strewn across residential streets are high resolution. The rhetoric is medieval, referring to the secular west as crusaders. They aim to grow jihadists domestically, and Orlando was the perfection of this strategy. Although this strategy has not yet produced the sort of success that 9/11 and other analogous organized terrorist attacks have, as of April 2016, the FBI has about 1,000 open investigations into homegrown extremists.

That is how it stands. The threat exists and has the potential to metastasize and deliver damage to the U.S. Internationally, the situation is as complex as it has ever been, and is getting more complex every day. This will be a multi-generational conflict, and cannot be solved by a single piece of legislation or any particular administration. Mike Morell, former Deputy Director of the CIA, suggests that only promoting a robust counter-narrative will extinguish the threat long-term.

"The messages are essentially two—that extremist interpretation of Islam is not consistent with the Koran, and that there is great value in tolerance," Morrell said.

Math professor gives back-to-back talks

David Kung discusses diversity, music and math in lectures

By JACK GOODMAN
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David Kung, professor of mathematics at St. Mary's College of Maryland, gave two separate talks to students, staff and faculty on Monday, Sept. 26, one in the Pelletier Library and one in Quigley Auditorium.

Kung was invited by Rachel Weir, associate professor of mathematics at Allegheny.

"We bring in one speaker every semester, to give a broad math talk aimed at students," Weir said. "The program has been running for around thirty years now. "

Kung engaged an audience of mostly faculty and staff in the Pelletier Collaboratory room in his first talk, "Rising to the Challenge of Diversifying STEM Communities." The talk focused on an achievement gap between men and women and that between minority and white students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields at the post-secondary education level.

Caryn Werner, professor of mathematics and department chair of women's, gender, and sexuality studies at Allegheny, formally introduced Kung to the audience, though Kung had already introduced himself personally to each audience member as they came in.

Though billed as a lecture, Kung opened up the topic to discussion at various points during the talk, with a bit of added humor.

I am going to ask you at various points to turn to the people around you and discuss things," Kung said. "This is part of my personal pledge. I refuse to stand up in front of an audience and drone on for an hour about interactive pedagogies. I can't stand the irony of it."

Kung began by presenting data gathered by the National Science Foundation on undergraduate degrees distributed in all STEM topics. According to the NSF reports, just over 50 percent of all undergraduate degrees given in the United States in 2012 went to women.

Beyond this statistic, the numbers shrink for women. Less than 20 percent of physics, engineering and computer science degrees go to women; in mathematics, that number is 33 percent.

Kung then engaged his audience with what he presented as a "challenge scenario." He posed the audience with a hypothetical—a calculus class where students work in groups of threes, and in one group comprised of two men and one woman, the female participant is less active than usual—and then asked them to discuss what they would do given the circumstances.

"In early studies on physics in Minnesota, studies were done on student groups of three," Kung said. "They found that every time a group included two men and one woman, the woman was statistically less likely to move on and do well in the class."

The typical solution, according to Kung, was simply to never arrange student groups in such a manner.

"But that only fixes part of the problem," Kung said.

Kung displayed a different NSF graph, detailing Ph.D. recipients in STEM fields. According to the data, men earned more Ph.D.s than women in all STEM fields except biology in 2012. In the same year, just under 30 percent of Ph.D.s in mathematics went to women.

> "Even before I had my own classroom, I had seen the power of interactive teaching."
>
> David Kung
> *Professor of Mathematics at St. Mary's College of Maryland*

"This is what systematic sexism looks like," Kung said. "This is what institutional barriers look like."

Kung continued with data on minority students. According to the NSF, less than 20 percent of all undergraduate degrees in 2012 were awarded to minorities, even though minorities make up more than 30 percent of the U.S. population. In mathematics and engineering, minorities received less than 15 percent of degrees; in physics, less than ten.

According to the same data, black, non-Hispanic students made up about six percent of all mathematics college graduates, even though about 12.3 percent of the U.S. population identifies as non-Hispanic black. Hispanics represented a little more than six percent of all math college graduates, and represent about 16.9 percent of the U.S. population.

To illustrate the classroom reality behind these data, Kung posed another challenge scenario: audience members envisioned themselves as overseeing a classroom activity where students paired up. While most students quickly found partners, according to the scenario, the only two non-white students in the class paired up.



PHOTOS BY JACK GOODMAN/THE CAMPUS

David Kung, professor of mathematics at St. Mary's College of Maryland, demonstrates mathematical principles with a violin melody in Quigley Auditorium on Monday, Sept. 26, 2016.



David Kung addresses an audience in Quigley Auditorium with a tubular musical device on Monday, Sept. 26, 2016.

"Asking everyone to pair up is treating the students equally, but not fairly," Kung said. "Doing so does not give equal opportunity for everybody to have equal treatment in that course."

Kung later explained that minority students might come from poorer neighborhoods, and since public schools are funded by property taxes, poorer educational systems. Even minority students who come from middle- or upper-class backgrounds may still experience in-class discrimination, as illustrated in the hypothetical scenario.

In another hypothetical, a student named Ashanti walks into a classroom wearing a "#BlackLivesMatter" shirt. A white student, clearly annoyed, asks, "Don't you mean all lives matter?" Kung posed the question: what, if anything, do you do as a teacher?

Kung offered from his own experience that in similar situations he has used what he calls "microaffirmations," the positive analog to microaggressions.

"These are little things that you can do to affirm something, like making sure you communicate to the offended person that you understand the problem," Kung said. "This is incredibly important in these situations."

To shift the focus of the talk from student to teacher, Kung transitioned to the history of minority disparity inside the classroom.

According to Kung, the first black students to attend calculus courses at the University of California, Berkeley failed out of those courses at a much higher rate than their white peers. Popular theories as to why this was included poor preparation, lack of motivation, lack of family support and socio-economic forces.

"But the first black students in Berkeley were coming from upper-middle class families," Kung said. "None of these issues fit."

Instead, according to Kung, the disparity resulted from social forces playing out inside the classroom.

Kung then cited a mass survey conducted in 1997 covering the main reasons why undergraduate students choose to leave STEM fields. Of all students surveyed, only 27 percent cited conceptual difficulties with the topic as a reason for leaving; in contrast, 75 percent cited inadequate advising and help, and 90 percent cited poor teaching by STEM faculty.

"[Teachers] have this feeling in STEM fields that we are weeding students out, along with this idea that we are master gardeners," Kung said. "The truth is, the students who are leaving have about the same GPAs as the students who are staying. The truth is, we are not master gardeners."

The best way to prevent more students from marginalized backgrounds—whether women or minorities—is for teachers to shift from thinking that the problem stems from the students, to thinking that the problem stems from teaching.

Kung posed another hypothetical: a student named Tyrese is not coming to his teacher for help, and he is not reaching out to his classmates. Kung then challenged the audience to invert the statement to focus less on Tyrese and more on the institution in which he finds himself.

"In this case, we, as teachers, are not doing a good enough job of articulating the rules of college," Kung said, in answer to the hypothetical. "We need to articulate what office hours are and when you should come for help."

Kung admitted that oftentimes students themselves may be unequipped to take advantage of everything that a teacher has to offer.

"But even if the problem is [the student], "we are much better off assuming the problem is us [the teacher]," Kung said. "It starts more healing. It starts a better conversation. It starts more inclusion."

For converting a statement which on its surface is about a student into a deeper-rooted problem with the institution, Kung recommended adopting a certain mindset toward modes of education.

"I think there is a continuum along which most people who teach fall," Kung said. "When you ask someone, 'what do you teach,' they can either say, 'I teach math' or 'I teach students.' The people who teach 'math' simply stand up and speak the content."

Teachers whose attitudes focus on the students will tailor their classroom experiences toward their learners, with the goals of the latter walking away better masters of the subject, said Kung. Teachers who focus on the subject itself will ignore individual student needs, potentially precluding many students from achieving to their fullest potential.

Along this continuum, more classroom interaction signals a teaching style closer to the "teaching students" end, which Kung referred to as the hypothetical left. According to Kung, the further toward this end of the continuum one goes, the lower the drop/fail rate is among all students.

"On this continuum, you should ask, 'Where am I? Where are my colleagues? And where would I like to be?'" Kung said.

According to a National Academy of Science review, most passive lecture classrooms—those that would fall on the hypothetical right of the continuum—have a drop/fail rate of 50 percent, said Kung. The National Academy of Science responded to the results: "If this were a medical study, we would be forced by ethical considerations to cut the study short and provide the experimental group with the control treatment."

Kung agreed with the sentiment.

"It is malpractice to continue with this model," Kung said. "The worst way to teach, according to all evidence, is to talk the material. The more interactive a physics class is, the smaller the gap will be between men and women, minorities and whites in the classroom."

Kung asked the audience to think about why teacher-to-student interaction would help close the achievement gaps in the classroom.

"As you move toward teaching students, it affirms a growth mindset," Kung said. "If you move toward teaching the subject, you are working toward this idea that some students are just talented."

> "The more interactive a class is, the smaller the gap will be between men and women, minorities and whites in the classroom."
>
> David Kung
> *Professor of Mathematics at St. Mary's College of Maryland*

Kung said the key difference between the two teaching models is the publicity that student's abilities get from having an interactive model. In an interactive classroom, students are more like to become aware of each other's true strengths and weaknesses, rather than perceived differences based on implicit biases on gender or race.

"If you're teaching in a mixed setting, your students' biases are not your fault, but they are your responsibilities," Kung said. "Your students' biases are controlling who does well in your class."

Kung ended the interactive talk asking the audience to brainstorm how to shift classroom atmosphere to the left of the teaching continuum.

"Knowledge of teaching methods is important, but it is not enough," Kung said. "Knowing methods of interactive, engaged teaching is important, but most of the time [teachers] revert back to lecturing, because engaging with students in hard, and requires support and time and training."

Kung's attention was brought to the subject of equity in STEM fields during his undergraduate education. He worked in an emerging scholars program that aimed to increase the success of underrepresented students.

"Even before I had my own classroom, I had seen the power of engaged, interactive teaching," Kung said.

Jim Fitch, director of career education, was one of the Allegheny staff members in attendance.

"This workshop reinforced that individual instruction is more important than the group," Fitch said. "It reinforced the need to connect to students on an individual basis when Professor Kung showed how STEM is a leaky pipeline."

In the afternoon, Kung gave a second talk entitled "Harmonious Equations: A Mathematical Exploration of Music."

The talk had three distinct sections, or as Kung called them "movements." During the first, Kung explained how mathematics helps us understand music and how music can help us understand math.

According to Kung, each string on a violin creates multiple overtones when played. Kung demonstrated this principle by recording himself on the computer program Audacity and using the sound it captured to plot the spectrum of a sound wave.

Kung then used a branch of mathematics called differential equations—mathematical functions that relate an equation to its derivative—to show that each solution of the equation created by the sound spectrum represented a different overtone.

During the second "movement," Kung discussed resonance: the sound or vibration of one object produced by the vibration of another. According to Kung, the resonance of a violin is the vibration of the violin's physical body created by the vibration of the string.

Kung used the example of the Millennium Bridge in London, England, to show resonance in action. The bridge's opening was delayed for a few months because the resonance of the bridge matched the resonance of pedestrians walking. According to Kung, this caused the bridge to sway laterally.

The final "movement" covered how the German composer Johann Sebastian Bach used a field of math called group theory in order to create music. According to Kung, Bach used group theory long before the field was discovered.

Bach's piece, the "14th Canon on Goldberg Ground," contains multiple inversions, or rearrangements of notes within chords, and retrogrades, or reversions of pitches, Kung said. When each variation of the same few notes played at the same time, the effect is to create a beautiful melody.

Jones loses her spunk

By SYDNEY FERNANDEZ
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The beloved Bridget Jones has returned to the screen in the third installment of the Bridget Jones franchise, "Bridget Jones's Baby." Don't get too excited because the endearing spirit of the other films did not transfer to this one.

We first encounter Bridget drunkenly dancing and singing in her apartment before she blows out a lone candle in her birthday cupcake. The audience soon comes to the realization that Bridget sadly never did get to secure her happily ever after with Mr. Darcy.

While Bridget's love life is in jeopardy, she has achieved great success in her career. However, the film detracts from this success and focuses more on the distressing reminder that Bridget is forty, unmarried and childless.

Lucky for Bridget, this reality is soon altered within 20 minutes of the movie. Bridget's life morphs into a soap opera, as she finds herself pregnant and questioning the identity of the father. Could it be Jack, the handsome American mogul, or Mark Darcy, the man that Bridget can never seem to escape? The plot of the movie becomes consumed in the quest to figure out not only who the father is, but whose heart Bridget belongs to.

"Bridget Jones's Baby" offers laughs and enjoyable moments. It was missing the heart that the previous movies had. I loved "Bridget Jones's Diary" when I was younger, not only because it was rated R and I was ten, but because Bridget was me.

I am awkward and constantly find myself in humiliating situations, and that's Bridget. You watch her and wonder to yourself, "When did I sign the rights over to make my life into a movie?"

I love the original Bridget Jones for not being a typical rom-com heroine. She is unapologetically herself, accepts that she will never achieve the perfect body or be as elegant or poised as other women. She doesn't accept these things in a self-pitying way, but embraces them with confidence. She is awkward, endearing, beautiful and funny rather than the bland and static, perfect woman presented in every rom-com.

I went into this movie expecting to be reunited with this Bridget, but she disappeared. I saw traces of the old Bridget in a few scenes, such as one where she lands in a puddle of mud in an all-white outfit. The old Bridget tries to re-emerge, but her spark is dimmed by reminders that she is aging and childless.

Another irritating aspect of the film is the film's obsession with Bridget's weight. Bridget Jones always had "wobbly bits," but those bits disappeared. Don't get me wrong, it is completely fine that Bridget Jones has lost weight, but I do not need to constantly be reminded of that fact throughout the whole film. Bridget Jones, like all woman, is more than her weight.

Only near the end of the film do we really see Bridget's spark reignited, as she finds her independence and treks through the majority of her pregnancy alone. The film ends with a reveal of the father as well as the revelation that Bridget's heart belongs to one of her suitors. Although I won't ruin the ending, it does conclude with a wedding. Did you expect anything less?



ALEX WEIDENHOF/THE CAMPUS
Noah Dawgiello, '19, and Natali Salaytah, '19, dance during the celebration of Eid al-Adha in the campus center lobby on Sunday, Sept. 25, 2016.

Students bring a slice of Islam to campus

Communities come together to celebrate Eid al-Adha

By MEAGHAN WILBY
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The lobby of the Henderson Campus Center filled with Arabic music, dancing, food and culture as Allegheny and Meadville community members joined Project Nur, Allegheny's Muslim awareness group, for its annual Eid al-Adha celebration on Sunday, Sept. 25.

Eid al-Adha is one of two major feasts in the Islamic calendar and is commonly known as the feast of sacrifice.

Sunday's event showcased Arabic culture with Arabic-style food catered by Parkhurst, traditional music, dancing, henna and Arabic tea. Mariam Nashaat, the Fulbright foreign teaching assistant for Arabic said the event was comforting for members of the Arabic community and educational for others.

"Usually we celebrate with food. Usually we meet with our family [on] this day," said Nashaat. "Because we are here, we decided to celebrate with our friends … and we try to mix it with the Arabic tradition … and parts of [the] culture."

According to Nashaat, many of the Arabic community members said they felt more at home because of the event. She said she believes the event was educational for community members outside of the Arabic community.

"[People] don't know a lot of the Arabic world," said Nashaat. "I think these type of events help them to know more about another culture, more than the political and the economic. To be open to the world is something I think [is] good for your mind and for your character."

Hayley Eckhardt, '18, attended the event on Sunday and said that she enjoyed learning about another culture.

"It was not what I expected, I didn't realize it was such a big event," said Eckhardt. "There were a lot of different things going on, I thought that was really cool."

Adrienne Krone, director of Jewish life, saw the event as a good way to learn about the people who make up the Allegheny community.

"I think it's important to celebrate the holidays that are important to our students," said Krone. "We have muslim students here who wanted to share their celebration of eid with the campus.

"I think it was a really practical way for people to engage with Islam and see some things that they don't see on the news and that maybe aren't part of discussions about Islam in the media, which are basically the holidays and the everyday experience of being a muslim."

Allegheny gives back on Service Saturday

By KIMBERLY CHAVEZ
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Volunteers gathered in Pelletier Library to help with 18 projects in the Meadville Area on Saturday, Sept. 24, at 8:30 a.m, as part of the monthly Service Saturday event.

"We had a lot of different projects for students to do depending on their interests," said Gabrielle Bradshaw, a Lake Effect Leader.

> "Escape your bubble and get to know your neighbor. They don't bite, I promise."
>
> Manuel Marquez
> *Class of 2017*

Lake Effect Leaders is an Americorps VISTA project where various colleges work together to focus on community empowerment. Students signed up individually or in groups for Service Saturday beforehand, and arrived to join any open group project led by assigned group leaders.

One of those projects was to help the Meadville Community Theatre. Students helped set up a haunted house for the month of October and signed up to participate in it. Other students collected apples for the horses in Mystic Mountain, a training center in Cambridge Springs, while others made apple cider.

Emily Evans, '19, volunteers on a weekly basis at Hog Heaven. To her, Service Saturday is both an outlet and a doorway to understand, cooperate and create friendships between the Allegheny and Meadville communities. On Service Saturday, Evans participated in a wood-staining project with members of the Union Latinx club.

"Meadville is an amazing place; you just have to give it the chance," said Evans. "I think that by selflessly serving with the people who live in town is the best way to see things from their perspective. We did, after all, come into their town. Not the other way around."

Bradshaw said involvement in Service Saturday not only creates a connection with the Meadville community but can teach people a lot about themselves.

"You have the possibility of finding something you might be passionate about and there is a lot to gain from service events intrinsically," said Bradshaw. "It is about reciprocation in terms of helping the community, and, by that, you can learn to be civic-minded."

Manuel Marquez, '17, works primarily at the Martin Luther King Mentoring Program and has done more than seven Service Saturday projects in previous years. He was assigned to the project led by Evans.

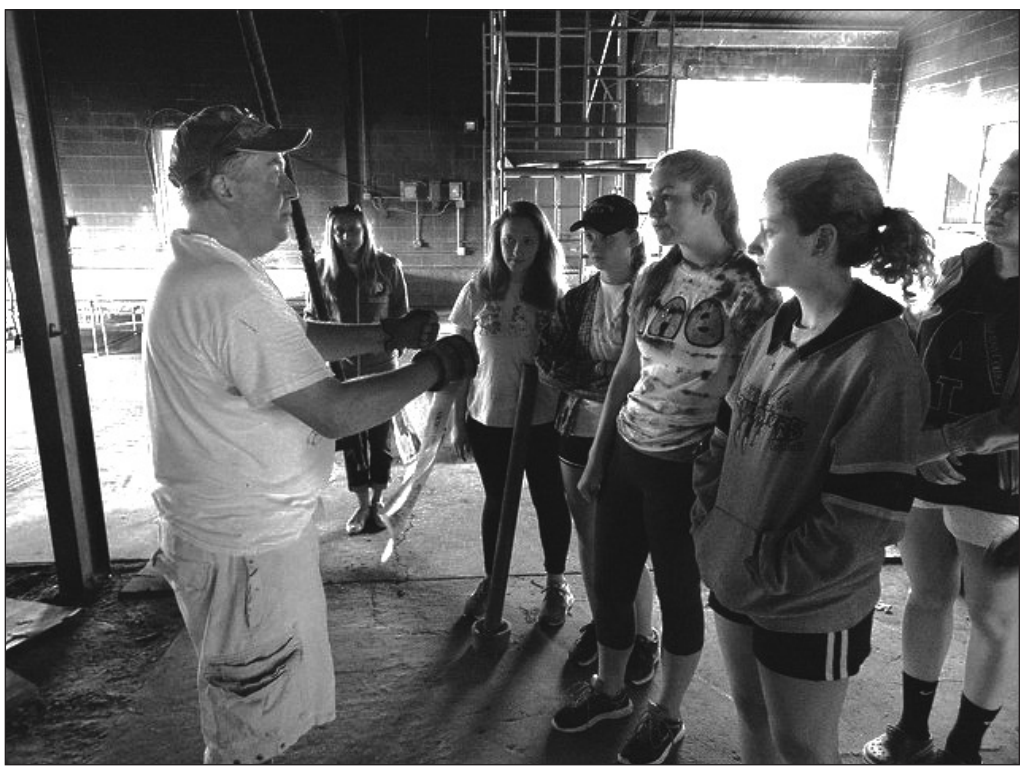

PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY CHRISTIAN CLARK
Allegheny students participate in Service Saturday on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016.

"I think that events like Service Saturday are essential for Allegheny students to really get to know the community around," said Marquez. "Escape your bubble and get to know your neighbor. They don't bite, I promise."

Preparations for Make a Difference Day are already underway. Make a Difference Day is a Meadville-wide day of service.

"This is your home for the next four years, and it's really easy to get caught up in the college bubble," said Bradshaw. "When you come to a school like Allegheny that places such an emphasis on service work, what a better way for the students to learn about Meadville then have them go out there and complete a service project. Meadville is not a college town. It's a town with a college in it."

CORRECTION

In the Sept. 15 issue of The Campus, a story on Rejoice! wrote that Dan Crozier's title was associate professor of theatre. Dan Crozier is a professor of theatre.



PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED BY WILL EVANS

The winning Alpha Chi Omega team, "Call Her Daddy," constisting of Griffin Sullivan, '19, Julia Foltz, '19, Allison Cosgrove, '18, and Sarah Basden, '19, compete in the wing eating competition at Wingfest on the Gator Quad on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016. "Call her Daddy" won the competition and chose to donate the $124 collected from the event to Women's Services, Inc. in Meadville.

Make wings, not war

By ZACHARY BLANK
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While most Allegheny College students study or gear up for weekend festivities on a Friday evening, Co-Vice President of the Gator Activities Programing Board Cecily Milligan, '18, was hard at work making the final preparations for this year's Wingfest celebration, which took place on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 12 p.m. on the Gator Quad.

Wingfest is an annual celebration in which students partake in sampling chicken wings from various restaurants, bars and food vendors, such as Timbercreek Tap and Table and Chipper's Pub.

"We used to buy wings from places like Costco or Sam's Club, but since it's a smaller community, we want to let students know there are things to do around town," said Milligan.

Other venues that provided wings for the event were Mickey's Firehouse, Hunters Inn, Julian's and The Penny Bar. The infamous "Lickers" from Chipper's Pub were a sweet twist on honey barbeque. The flavors offered included mild, hot, honey barbeque, honey mustard, sweet chili and Maui Wawi. The Maui Wawi are a crisp, double-baked, Hawaiian-style wing. The event also featured a vegan option, called a veggie tempura, that was provided by Parkhurst Dining Services.

"Wingfest was one of the things that got me excited about GAP my freshman year," said Milligan.

The theme of this year's event was Woodstock, dubbed "Wingstock" by GAP. The event was held outside, and students enjoyed music from the '60s and '70s as hungry Gators celebrated hippie-style.

> "Since it's a small community, we want to let students know there are things to do around town."
>
> Cecily Milligan
> *Class of 2018*

Students were required to show their student ID in return for a bowl that they could fill with six wings of their choice, as well as a T-shirt. The T-shirts were given out on a first-come-first-serve basis. Students could also purchase another bowl of wings for $3.

"Honestly, I came for the shirt," said Dillin Gadley, '18.

Allegheny Student Government President Tess Bracken, '17, said Wingest is a casual event.

"You get free wings and a T-shirt. Plus, I really liked the Maui Wawi wings from Chipper's," said Bracken.

There was a wing-eating competition in which teams of four competed against each other in order to finish a boat of six wings each. Each participating team paid $20 to compete and the winning team chose a charity to donate all the proceeds to.

Students were given the option to sabotage the teams with hot sauce or save them with ranch for an extra dollar.

"Call Her Daddy," a team of Alpha Chi Omega sorority sisters, included Sarah Basden, '19, Allison Cosgrove, '18, Julia Foltz, '19, and Griffin Sullivan, '19. They took home the flower crown, and won $124, which will be donated to Women's Services, Inc. in Meadville.

Students can look forward to other events hosted by GAP, such as hypnotist Chris Jones, who will be performing in the campus center lobby on Nov. 5.





Left: Student volunteers helped to serve Allegheny students six different kinds of wings at Gator Activity Programing's yearly event, Wingfest, on the Gator Quad. Students could choose from mild, hot, honey barbeque, honey mustard, sweet chili, Maui Wawi, Lickers and a vegetarian option. The wings were provided by various local food providers. The vegetarian option was provided by Parkhurst Dining.

Right: The wing eating team of Laura Allston, '19, Alexandra Grence, '19, Alexia Porche, '19, and Alexandra Metzger, '19, competed in the wing eating competition on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2016, on the Gator Quad.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL FALLS TO WOOSTER



Leah Franzluebbers, '18, hits the ball over the net in the home volleyball game against the College of Wooster on Wednesday, Sept. 28, 2016. The Gators lost 3-0 to the Scots in their third NCAC matchup of the season.

BRITTANY ADAMS/THE CAMPUS

Gator football looks to find success in Homecoming game

By EYLIE BUEHLER
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The Gator football team fell to Kenyon College on Saturday, Sept. 24 with a final score of 31-7.

Head Coach B.J. Hammer said the team has a lot of room for improvement based on their recent game day play. He said their main focus is execution of plays and improving team strength in the weightroom.

Marcus Davenport, '19, team captain and defensive end and tackle, said the team was not coming together to work toward one common goal.

"Our defense gave up too many big plays and our offense wasn't clicking," Davenport said.

Kenyon started off strong with a touchdown in the first quarter that was answered with a touchdown from the Gators shortly after. However, defensive lineman Matt Ledesma, '20, said the rest of the game proved to be a challenge. He said the team needs to pull it together on both sides of the ball and try to be more consistent.

"We need to improve as a team on the field … to be successful," Ledesma said. "The team can do something special if we all do our jobs."

Ledesma completed his first two quarterback tackles of his career in the game, leading the team in tackles that helped to slow Keyon's momentum.

Davenport said the lack of communication and cohesion is due to the majority of the team being made up of first-year students.

"Our team is very young, so we can always improve on all aspects of our game," Davenport said.

Coach Hammer agreed, and said a majority of the starters for the team are new and fresh talent.

"We are starting 16 freshmen and sophomores out of 22 starters, so we are looking for improvement in all phases every week," Hammer said.

Ledesma said the past four games have been a wake-up call for the team as a whole. He said they have not been playing to their full potential and the team is beginning to learn what it takes to secure a win.

"Nothing in football is ever going to be handed to you," Ledesma said. "You have to take it, and win every play on the field."

This coming weekend the Homecoming game against Oberlin College will be a test of the team's improvement since last week.

"I'm looking forward to coming home after three weeks on the road and showing our followers what we can do even though we haven't won any games," Davenport said. "We have been steadily improving, but everything is a process."

Hammer said the team is excited to be playing at home this weekend and thinks it will change the team's morale and strengthen their focus.

Davenport said the goal of the team is to walk off the field with a win. Ledesma agreed, saying the team wants to bring home Allegheny's first win in two years, especially during Homecoming weekend.

"This weekend, I think we will execute and shock a lot of people with what is going to happen," Ledesma said. "Our expectations are high this week and everyone is accountable. We need to win this week going into a bye week."

The Homecoming game will take place at Robertson Field on Saturday, Oct. 1 at 1:30 p.m.

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Men's tennis sends four athletes to ITA Regionals

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The men's tennis team sent four athletes to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Central Region Championship in Kalamazoo, Michigan, on Sept. 24 and 25.

"As a whole, our team did well with complementing each other and motivating each other to do well, and really having each other's backs through the tournament," said Mike Siegel, '19. "I think all of us really worked hard and had personal success. Even if we didn't win, we at least tried our best and represented our school well and with respect."

Siegel competed in singles over the weekend, closing out the weekend with a 2-1 personal record.

Captain Jai Redkar, '18, competed in doubles with Cooper Miller, '20, and singles, advancing three rounds in singles play.

"I think in terms of my personal game, I definitely played at a high level for the first couple of matches, which was good to see," said Redkar. "All of our hard work that we've been putting in was paying off, and the other guys—even if they lost the matches—there were a lot of positive things in each match."

Head Coach Jared Luteran said Redkar's performance was a highlight of the weekend.

"It was his first time at an ITA tournament, so I'm sure he was a bit nervous. He won his first match and went on to win his next, so he won two rounds in the main draw, and was a bright spot of the weekend," Luteran said.

Though the players did well at the tournament, each saw areas to improve upon for future matches.

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>
> Mike Siegel
> *Class of 2019*

"Since none of us won the tournament, we want to improve on our skills," Siegel said. "We all need to work on different things to make us better in the spring season and finishing out the fall season on Friday."

Redkar added that staying positive and patient on the court is another thing to improve on in the spring season.

"The biggest challenge of the weekend was keeping focus through the entire process," Redkar said. "There was a lot of rain delays and downtime where we were sitting around and waiting to play. It was very drawn out so staying loose and staying focused throughout was definitely a big challenge."

Luteran said the schedule for the first day was full and there were many matches to complete before the advancing rounds can begin. Due to the rain delays, the team was spread across different locations for the matches.

"We're used to all being together and supporting each other, and the first day we were at different sites within the Kalamazoo area. We had to be independent and rely on ourselves to make sure we had the schedule in order and weren't missing anything," Siegel said.

Athletes are chosen to go to the ITA Central Region tournament through a nomination process of top athletes from each team, then the tournament committee chooses how many players from each team can attend based on ranking and previous season record.

This year, Luteran said he chose to bring four athletes to the tournament, each playing only singles or doubles to maximize the number of attendees from Allegheny.

"The ITA Regionals is a huge honor to even be invited [to]. I was lucky I got to go," Siegel said. "To compete at that level was eye-opening because it's so much better competition than the matches we play here. Even though we play good schools, it's a different feeling and it was motivating for me to become better as a player."

Redkar added that the competition at the tournament was more intense than other matches.

"All the best players of the region are there and you have to play your best level of tennis to do well," Redkar said. "Other matches are more team-oriented, and this is more individual because you are representing your team, but playing for yourself."