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U.S. faces active-shooter epidemic

Obama: Americans have 'become numb' to gun violence

By CHRISTINA BRYSON
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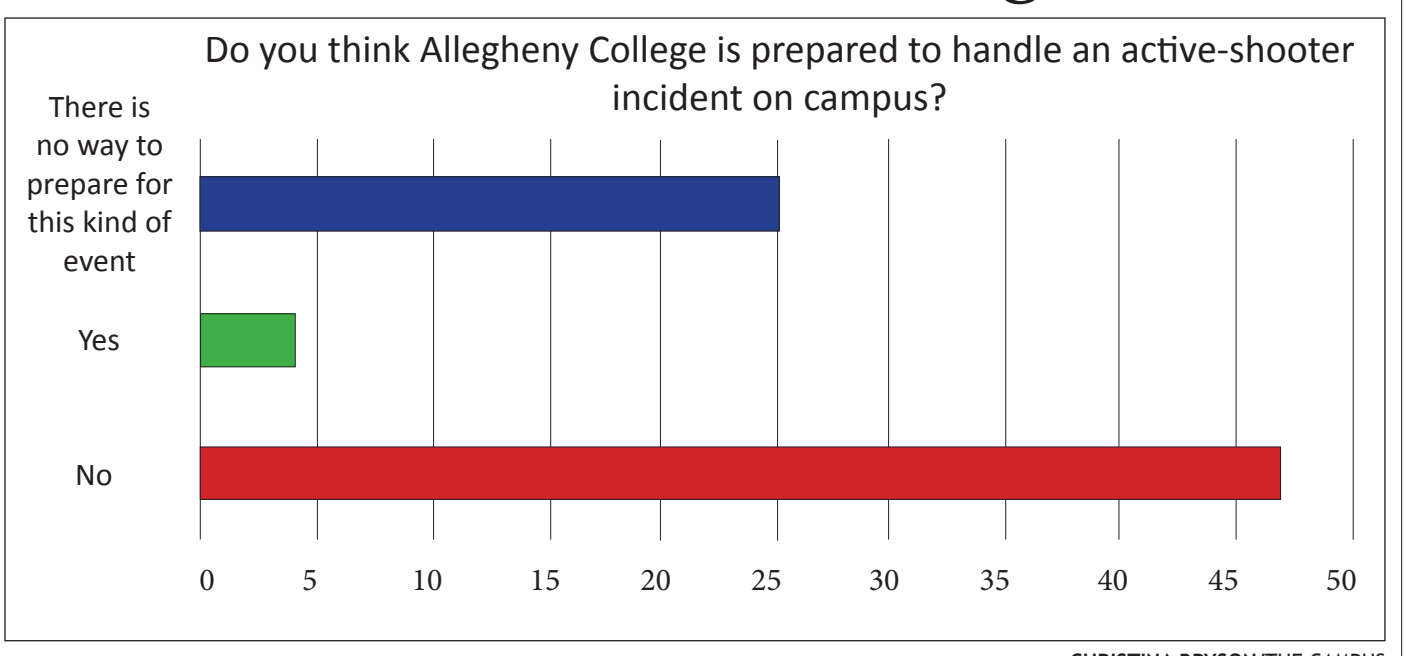

CHRISTINA BRYSON/THE CAMPUS

The Campus released a poll on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 asking the Allegheny community whether or not the college is prepared to handle an active-shooter emergency on campus. It closed at 7 p.m. and received 76 responses.

Since the beginning of October, there have been at least three shootings on college campuses resulting in one or more persons' deaths.

For the United States, mass shootings, especially on school grounds, have become a 'routine,' as President Barack Obama said in a statement released following the Umpqua Community College shooting in Oregon on Oct. 1, 2015. The Umpqua shooting resulted in the death of 10 people, including that of the shooter.

"But as I said just a few months ago, and I said a few months before that, and I said each time we see one of these mass shootings, our thoughts and prayers are not enough," said Obama. "It's not enough. It does not capture the heartache and grief and anger that we should feel. And it does nothing to prevent this carnage from being inflicted someplace else in America—next week, or a couple of months from now.

"Somehow this has become routine. The reporting is routine. My response here at this podium ends up being routine. The conversation in the aftermath of it. We've become numb to this."

In the past years, active-shooter incidents have become more prevalent in the U.S. From 2000 to 2013, there were 160 active-shooter incidents—averaging 11.4 per year—according to a report released by the FBI on Sept. 16, 2013. These data include incidents outside of schools and colleges/universities.

From 2013 to 2015, there have been at least 150 school shootings, averaging approximately one per week according to everytownresearch.org. These data do not include active-shooter incidents occurring outside of schools and colleges/universities.

James Mullen, president of Allegheny College, mentioned the risk of these events becoming a regular occurrence in the country.

"We have a tragedy, a national tragedy, and we all focus on that and then we go back to our routines. I think particularly at a place like Allegheny where it is somewhat understandable that we could say, 'Well, this could never

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Networks of Care panel presentations conclude

By ANGELA MAURONI
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In correlation with the Year of Meadville, the final panel discussion of the Networks of Care Series was held on Oct. 10, 2015, and focused on opportunities for recovery from mental illness and homelessness.

The Networks of Care Series was hosted in the Crawford County Mental Health Awareness Program building on Liberty Street from Sept. 19 to Oct. 24.

According to Autumn Vogel, a Year of Meadville Organizer, the Networks of Care Series is aimed at informing people about what opportunities there are in Meadville and teaching them how to better care for each other.

"It's kind of part of this larger effort to share stories, come together, connect and work together to build a sustainable and just future for Meadville," Vogel said. "Our approach to this year was very much about showcasing and highlighting what's happening in Meadville."

Kerstin Martin, another Year of Meadville organizer, said beyond logistics, she and the other organizers left much of the planning to the Systems of Care group, which is a collaboration between human service organizations and consumers.

"Julie [Wilson] and Terry [Bensel] and I laid the groundwork and tried to hand off as much as we could to other organizations," Martin said.

> It's kind of part of this larger effort to share stories, come together, connect and work together to build a sustainable and just future for Meadville.
>
> Autumn Vogel
> *Year of Meadville Organizer*

The previously scheduled events included presentations about the impact of adversity through life, food security and being an active bystander. To conclude the series, the organizers are encouraging people to participate in Make a Difference Day and the Meadville Time Trade for the last two scheduled Saturdays.



ANGELA MAURONI/THE CAMPUS

Lynn McUmber, executive director of the Crawford County Health Awareness Program, presents on recovery from mental illness with panelists Susan Jageman and Sally Burns on Oct. 10, 2015.

Vogel had high hopes for the events and its potential for success.

"I hope that folks walk away with a better understanding of how to care for their neighbors and themselves, what resources are here in Meadville that people can use when they need them," Vogel said.

Bruce Harlan, the community representative of the Systems of Care group and the executive director at Women's Services, Inc., has been happy with the panels.

"I think they've been quality presentations," he said. "Very informative."

The presentation on the opportunities for recovery fell on Oct. 10, which is also World Mental Health Day. After a brief introduction by Lynn McUmber, the executive director at CHAPS, panel participants Susan Jageman and Sally Burns shared their personal stories about reaching recovery.

Jageman and Burns both previously sought aid from CHAPS and now work there, finding meaning in helping others facing similar challenges.

After finding that much of

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Meadville anti-discrimination petition lies stagnant

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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Of Pennsylvania's 2,561 boroughs, towns and municipalities, 34 have ordinances that prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity. Neither the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or the U.S. government have passed any similar legislation.

"I believe it is both incumbent upon, and the responsibility of our state and federal legislators to enact the laws which relate to human relations," said Meadville Mayor Christopher Soff.

The Meadville City Council received a petition from citizens in May of 2014 calling for the council to consider drafting an ordinance that would prohibit businesses and government services from discriminating on the basis of a person's sexuality or gender identity.

During their radio show on WARC, Allegheny's student radio station, Jolie Wood, visiting assistant professor of political science, and Jackie Gehring, assistant professor of political science, welcomed Meadville community member Randy Herbert-Weed, who spearheaded a discussion on the non-discrimination ordinance. Weed spent much of the show talking about the proposed measure. Despite Weed's outspokenness on the topic, including the creation

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CODE aims to 'scale up' efforts

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
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The co-chairs of Allegheny College's Council on Diversity and Equity attended Allegheny Student Government's weekly meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015 to update the organization on the council's recent activities. Ande Diaz, associate provost for diversity and organizational development and Michael Mehler, associate professor of communication arts and theater, currently chair the committee.

The committee, which is comprised of 13 faculty members and four student representatives responsible for advising on issues of diversity and equity, was the subject of a call for greater transparency from ASG Director of Diversity and Inclusion Connor Racine, '16, at the Sept. 29 meeting. In his weekly report, Racine called for more student involvement in CODE while projects and initiatives are in the developmental stages.

> The work of CODE is to keep issues of diversity on the radar.
>
> Michael Mehler
> *Associate proffesor of communication arts and theater*

"I feel that the public should have input before everything is all hammered out," Racine said at the Sept. 19 meeting.

Diaz said at the Oct. 6 meeting that she feels transparency is something CODE is working on maintaining. She said she hopes by becoming more accessible to students, the council can work to be more transparent.

"I think part of the transparency of the administration is to be available," Diaz said.

Diaz and Mehler outlined current projects and initiatives on which CODE is currently working. Mehler also explained what the purpose of the council is, pointing out that it is an advisory committee so it does not have the power to independently implement changes. Despite its limitations, Mehler stressed the importance of the council's work.

"The work of CODE is to keep issues of diversity and equity on the radar," he said.

Diaz said the council is currently looking into furthering a pilot program to help make textbooks more affordable at Allegheny, making class materials available online.

"Based on the pilot program I would like to see us

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Former CEO speaks at lunch program



JOSEPH TINGLEY/THE CAMPUS

Chris Allison, former CEO and current entrepreneur in residence, gives a presentation in Quigley Auditorium on Oct. 6, 2015 on the importance of networking.

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
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While most students made straight for the dining halls at 12:30 p.m. on Oct. 6, a group of about 30 to 40 gathered in Quigley Auditorium to learn something that might help to give them an insight into the business world from someone who has been there.

Chris Allison, '83, has worked in the business world since he graduated from Allegheny. In 1993, he became the CEO of Tollgrade Communications, a company which works to identify weaknesses and failures in electricity grids and prevent outages. He held this position until 2005.

In 2006, Allison returned to Allegheny as the college's entrepreneur in residence.

The Oct. 6 lunchtime learning program, lead by Allison and entitled "How to Create an Awesome Business Network," was not the first of its kind. Last year, the economics department hosted 14 lunchtime events, according to Tamara Minns, center for business and economics and pre-professional studies program coordinator.

Minns said the purpose of the lunchtime learning programs is to expose students to the different industries and careers of which Allegheny graduates have taken advantage.

"We bring in alumni to talk about different industries and to talk about what makes their companies special," Minns said.

In his presentation, Allison offered students tips on how to successfully network, not just in the business world, but in any profession.

Allison explained networks must be large, that in order to successfully network you must have hundreds of contacts. Therefore, he said making those connections is important and not something to be shy about because you never know which one will be the one to help you.

"Your objective is to get them to introduce you," he said.

Making a connection, Allison said, is also important. Making a personal connection, or knowing something about the individual's work or company can also help to prove to them you have done your research.

"You want to show them that you made the effort to know it," Allison said.

While Allison acknowledged the effectiveness of email and other forms of electronic messaging, he discouraged its use when attempting to arrange a brief meeting with someone. He explained that while emails are easy to send, they are also easy to ignore. He said the phone is still the best way to make a connection with someone.

Above all, Allison said the key to good networking is to act professionally and maturely and to just treat everyone you come into contact with, with respect. He said often being friendly is all it takes to make a good impression.

"If you are friendly, you'll be surprised how many people will want to help you," he said.

Director of Career Education Jim Fitch said what students get out of experiences like the lunchtime learning programs are invaluable. He said learning how to network is especially important in today's job market.

"It's really a vital skill," Fitch said.

Fitch said over the past year he has been happy with the turnout for the lunchtime programs. He said it typically averages around 50 students, with one program last year bringing in 116 students, the maximum capacity for Quigley Auditorium.

"We would love to see 116 at every lunchtime learning," Fitch said.

While the economics department is currently the only department which hosts events throughout the year, Fitch said several other departments, including environmental science and geology, have held a handful of events throughout the year. He said in the future he would love to see the program expand to include more academic disciplines.

"I would like to see this expand so that every major has something to support their career development," Fitch said.

Lunchtime learning programs are usually announced on MyAllegheny and held in Quigley Auditorium. Food is usually provided.

PANELS *from page 1*



ANGELA MAURONI/THE CAMPUS

Meadville residents Jason Elkady and Tammy attend the final Networks of Care panel presentation on mental illness recovery on Oct. 10, 2015.

her recovery from bipolar disorder came from acceptance, Burns began working with the support groups at CHAPS, helping others come to terms with their illnesses as well.

"To me, that's the most important part of a support group—not being alone," she said.

According to McUmber, this is not unusual for CHAPS clients.

"While we're calling this recovery, it doesn't look the same for every person who walks through the door. I often see people come in for service and then see them supporting someone else," McUmber said.

At the presentation, McUmber emphasized the importance of supporting someone who is living with a mental illness. She said living with a mental illness is like having to pick parts of life and give them up, such as family, friends, jobs or physical well-being. According to McUmber, believing in the person, having patience, recognizing their strengths and giving them opportunities for success are all crucial to them reaching recovery.

Upcoming Networks of Care Events:

Make a Difference Day, Saturday, Oct. 17. Volunteers may contact the United Way of Western Crawford County to register.

Meadville Time Trade, Saturday, Oct. 24 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. at CHAPS, 944 Liberty Street.

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scale up our efforts," Diaz said.

Diaz and Mehler also said they would like to see more student input on the work of the committee. Diaz explained the committee is looking for proposals on how to spend a new diversity "seed fund."

The new fund, according to Diaz, is designed to fund some sort of program or initiative which will positively impact diversity or equity at Allegheny in the long term. Diaz said the council is looking for new and exciting ideas that will have a long-lasting impact on the community.

"We are not just looking for the usual suspects," Diaz said.

According to Diaz, the fund will award between $500-3,000. Submissions will be reviewed by CODE. The deadline for the submission of proposals is Oct. 30.

Racine also announced the successful first meeting of Pan-Diversity Allegheny group, which he said seeks to bring together the many student groups on campus devoted to diversity.

Levi Lundell, '17, ASG director of sustainability also announced in his weekly report he will be pushing for the formation of a college committee on sustainability. Lundell said he was surprised to learn that no such committee existed, given the college's commitment to sustainability.

"We basically have a college committee for everything, but not sustainability," Lundell said.

EMERGENCY *from page 1*

happen here,' I think what these situations remind us is 1) it can happen anywhere, sadly and 2) instead of just going back to our routines, we should learn what we can in these moments," said Mullen.

For Allegheny, the closest the college has come to an active-shooter incident was in April 2012, with what is now colloquially known as the Tan-on-Tan Man incident. Meadville Police were in search of a suspected armed and dangerous fugitive near Allegheny's campus. In response, the college went into lockdown.

Jacquie Kondrot, interim dean of students said out of her more than 25 years at Allegheny, the Tan-on-Tan Man was the only incident resulting in lockdown. Both Kondrot and Jen Foxman, assistant dean of students and director of residence life, said they were pleased with how the lockdown was enacted.

"That was an OK run-through," said Foxman. "Fortunately, nothing happened. It allowed us to kind of try out some of those different systems. We were able to figure out pretty quickly how to disperse people to different parts of campus so we had folks in all the major buildings. The communication system worked well."

Throughout the year, Allegheny works both internally and externally to prepare for emergency situations, including hostile people on campus. The college participates in tabletop exercises and drills with the Meadville community, and it is also in contact with the Meadville Police, the Meadville Medical Center and Crawford County Office of Emergency Services.

Mullen said to prepare for an active-shooter scenario, the college needs to constantly be revisiting protocols and communication channels.

"The best that we can do at Allegheny is be prepared in every way that we can imagine for the unforeseen, and we have established protocols that we believe have us prepared," said Mullen. "While you can never guarantee what's going to happen, sadly, in the world. I believe we work hard every day to make sure our systems are effective."

The main communication outlet the college has in place for contacting members of the Allegheny community is the e2Campus system. This alert system allows designated administrators to send texts and emails immediately to students, staff and faculty who have signed up for the alerts.

According to Kondrot, e2Campus is the easiest method to communicate emergencies with the Allegheny community, but only about 38 percent of the college makes use of this service. Approximately 950 people are registered with e2Campus, compared to the 2,452 students, staff and faculty attending or working at the college. That means approximately 62 percent of people on campus would not be notified in the event of an emergency.

While the college lists emergency procedures on its website, there is no information posted concerning active shooters on campus. The emergencies listed are behavioral disturbances, bomb threats, chemical or radiation spill, explosion, fire, severe weather and utility failure.

"I don't have a good answer for that," said Kondrot as to why the website does not have procedures for an active shooter. "We do have a hostile person protocol. My hope is we'll soon have more information on the website."

Mullen echoed Kondrot's opinion.

"It should be there," he said.

In addition to improving communication channels, the college is also working towards prevention.

"[We can] make sure we're educating people in our community to look out for one another and alert us if they're concerned about...anyone's behavior, if it seems indicative in any way of something that could be concerning to our community," said Kondrot. "Of course we can't control all of the individuals that come into our community from outside, but I think we can do a lot in terms of prevention and education as well. I'm pleased, for example, of our bystander curriculum and the work we're doing there. I think it's increasing awareness about looking out for one another."

Foxman agreed with Kondrot, stating the importance of fostering a safe community.

> "We should feel it. We should feel it's a crisis and it's not acceptable for it to feel routine. You never know what kind of scenario you're going to get."
>
> Jen Foxman
> *Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life*

"I was a little bit struck by President Obama standing up and saying it feels like it's becoming routine, and that we maybe need to stand up as a community and say, 'We shouldn't be blind to it anymore.' We should feel it. We should feel it's a crisis and it's not acceptable for it to feel routine," said Foxman. "You never know what kind of scenario you're going to get. So, the question of feeling prepared is a hard one because you can do everything to feel prepared, but when the situation comes you need to be ready as a community to pull together.

"For us in residence life, a big part of our job is to be aware of the community and...to build an environment where people take mutual responsibility for the community and for each other. That's a goal I think, where we get to a point, a place like Allegheny where we're all being aware, we're all caring for each other."

Despite all the protocols and ideas in place, there is no set way to prepare for an active-shooter incident on campus, considering the variability of such an event.

"I think we all want to believe it couldn't happen here, but it's clear that we all have to be prepared if it could because there are so many unknowns and so many variables."

Mullen agreed.

"The best I think we can do, while we pray it never happens at Allegheny, be as ready as we can if it does and hope some of the stresses in society and some of the things happening in society are addressed," said Mullen.

Call Safety and Security at 814-332-3357 to report any suspicious behavior/ concerns or in the case of an immediate emergency call 911.

THE CAMPUS

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CRIME BLOTTER

Oct. 6-7, 2015
Library Parking Lot
Unknown actor/s threw a black substance on the victim's vehicle while parked in the lot.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Coming Out Ceremony
Friday, Oct. 16, noon, Gator Quad
Queers and Allies invites you to this Coming Out Week event.

Informal Meeting: Dance and Movement Studies Program
Friday, Oct. 16, 3:30 p.m., Montgomery Performance Space
Current DMS minors as well as students who are interested in pursuing a minor in DMS are invited. Topics will include the DMS Minors Concert as well as other dance opportunities and information about the program.

Energy Challenge: Pedal-Powered Smoothies
Friday, Oct. 16, 6-7 p.m., Outside Grounds for Change
Bike Share invites you to enjoy free smoothies made with a bike-mounted blender.

Energy Challenge: Unplugged Open Mic
Friday, Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m., Grounds for Change
Share your talent, listen to others, enjoy a free drink on the Energy Challenge tab—all without electricity!

Sushi Night with A5
Friday, Oct. 16, 10 p.m. to midnight, Campus Center Lobby
Make—and eat—your own sushi at this Late Night event.

Make A Difference Day
Saturday, Oct. 17, Crawford County
This one-day service event involves more than 100 service projects in Meadville and Crawford County. Contact the Office of Civic Engagement for more information.

Faculty Session with Orchesis
Saturday, Oct. 17, 2-4 p.m., Shafer Auditorium
Orchesis Dance Company invites all Allegheny faculty members to participate in the first annual faculty piece, which will be featured in the fall production. Participants will learn simple choreography on Saturday, Oct. 17 and on Saturday, Oct. 24. No experience is necessary.

Energy Challenge: Food and Fire Gathering
Saturday, Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m., Robertson Pavilion
Students for Environmental Action and Edible Allegheny host this Energy Challenge event. Bring a dish to share. Chili and s'mores provided.

Coming Out Week Dance
Saturday, Oct. 17, 8 p.m., Vukovich Center for Communication Arts
Formal/semi-formal attire is not required.

Voice Recital by Carol Niblock and Vicki Jamison
Sunday, Oct. 18, 3:15 p.m., Ford Chapel
Carol Niblock and Vicki Jamison, adjunct instructors in music, will present a recital of soprano duets and solos. They will be accompanied on the piano by Ward Jamison, professor of music emeritus.

Information Session for Sri Lanka 2016 EL Seminar
Tuesday, Oct. 20, 12:15-1:15 p.m., Campus Center 301/302
The 2016 Experiential Learning Seminar to Sri Lanka will be led by Ishita Sinha Roy, associate professor of communication arts and theatre, and Darren Miller, assistant professor of art and gallery director. This 21-day exploration of Sri Lanka will be held May 16 to June 8, 2016. The final information session will be offered on Wednesday, Oct. 28. Check MyAllegheny for details.

Coming Out Talk
Tuesday, Oct. 20, 6 p.m., Grounds for Change
Queers and Allies hosts this Coming Out Week event.

Flu Shot Clinic
Wednesday, Oct. 21, 1-4 p.m., Winslow Health Center
The clinic is open to all Allegheny employees, spouses and students. The cost is $20, payable with cash or a check made payable to Allegheny College.

LGBT+ Sex Ed with ReproCo
Thursday, Oct. 22, 6 p.m., Campus Center 301/302
Queers and Allies and ReproCo host this Coming Out Week event.

Energy Challenge: Yoga in the Dark
Thursday, Oct. 22, 9 p.m., Upper Studio in Montgomery Gym, 9 p.m.
Unwind with the Meditation Club. All are welcome, and no experience is necessary. Yoga mats are provided. Professor Jennifer Hellwarth will lead the practice.

PETITION *from page 1*

of a petition for the measure, the City of Meadville has not voted on the proposed ordinance.

"We support the passage of the ordinance," the petition reads, "because it sends a clear message to residents, workers and visitors that Meadville is a city that is welcoming to all."

In June of 2014, a group of business owners and citizens organized a petition against the ordinance. The petition called for the city council to table the ordinance, claiming that it would have violated their rights under the Constitution of Pennsylvania.

"Such an anti-discrimination law would seek to force citizens, employers and property owners to violate their religious consciences and would be in violation of the religious freedom granted to us in Section 3 of the Pennsylvania Constitution's Declaration of Rights," the petition reads.

Meadville resident Garth Valesky, who declined to comment for this article, organized the petition. His grocery store in Meadville served as a meeting and petition-signing location, according to the Meadville Tribune.

Meadville residents debated the issue through several mediums, although the city council never drafted an ordinance.

"It was clear it was a hot-button issue," said Andrew Walker, Meadville city manager. "[The idea of an ordinance] was discussed in council, there was media outside. It's an issue that drives a lot of interest."

As the debate over the ordinance grew, some believed that this statute would have several unresolvable issues.

"With limited staff and capacity, we are simply not equipped to appropriately address an issue as large as this," Soff said. "A non-discrimination ordinance requires a local human rights commission, with full legal power but no funding."

The city council, as a result of this issue and at Walker's recommendation, tabled the ordinance with the intent of reintroducing the issue in 2015. However, Meadville has not considered action this year.

Both Soff and Miller have expressed a desire for either Pennsylvania or the federal government to pass a law similar to the one which was considered in 2014. Miller said this lack of protection creates concern within the community.

"The problem is that you could now be legally married and now legally fired from your job, because there's no state-wide statute or federal statute that prevents discrimination [due to sexual orientation or identity]," said Miller.

Although the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania does not currently have laws prohibiting discrimination due to sexual orientation or gender identity, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives is currently considering a bill that would prohibit this action. House Bill 1510, with 65 sponsors, currently lies stagnant in the Committee on State Government.

The bill, introduced by State Representative Dan Frankel, was originally brought to the House during the 2013 legislative session. In that year, the bill did not come to a vote in the committee.

While the bill has yet to be voted on by the house, debate over the issue continues.

"There are passionate voices on both sides of this issue, each with valid concerns," said Soff.

ASG UPDATES

ASG will be updating the list of club budgets on its office door monthly for students to reference.

This is also a reminder that each member on the ASG cabinet holds office hours around lunchtime. Hours are posted outside of the ASG office.

The myths surrounding Planned Parenthood

Why funding for the health service provider should not be aborted

By EMILY GREENE
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The argument for defunding Planned Parenthood is rooted mainly in misconception and in the pro-life movement. Political debates concerning Planned Parenthood give congressional representatives another way to fight over the issue of abortion. Abortion related services only make up 3 percent of the total services provided by Planned Parenthood. When we discuss Planned Parenthood as a proxy for abortion, we ignore 97 percent of the picture.

Planned Parenthood's mission statement reads: "Planned Parenthood believes in the fundamental right of each individual, throughout the world, to manage his or her fertility, regardless of the individual's income, marital status, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, national origin or residence."

Planned Parenthood wants all people to be able to control what happens to their reproductive organs, regardless of their sex. According to its website, Planned Parenthood serves more than 2,840,000 people in the United States each year and more than 4,665,000 worldwide. Seventy-nine percent of its domestic clients live at or below 150 percent of the poverty line. One in five American women have visited a Planned Parenthood clinic at least once in their lives, and the percentage of men visiting clinics increased by 83 percent from 2002 to 2012.

The treatment and detection of STDs and STIs is the most popular service Planned Parenthood provides according to its website, with 4.5 million STD/STI tests administered each year, of which 700,000 are for HIV. Planned Parenthood clinics also provide screenings for testicular, breast and cervical cancers.

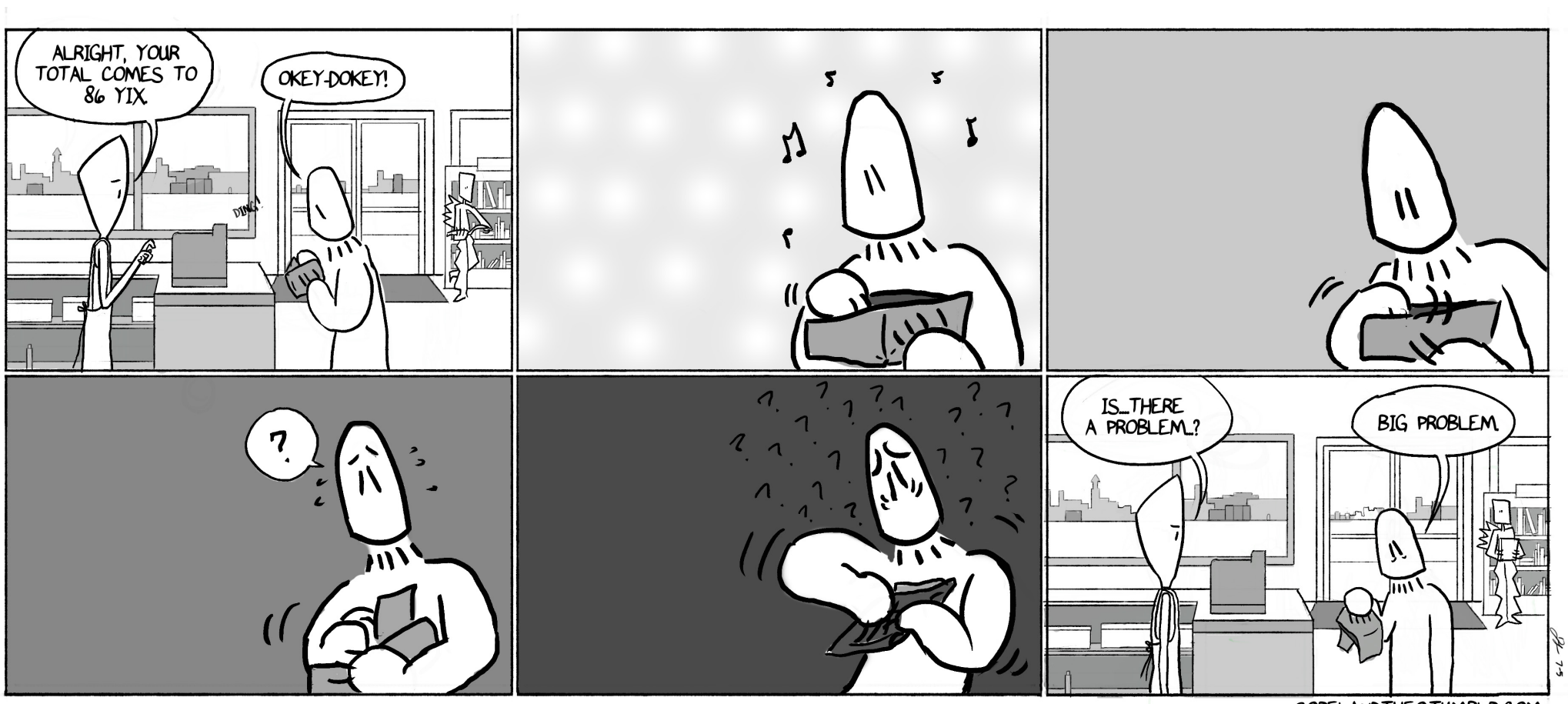
The second most popular service that Planned Parenthood provides is contraceptives. Eighty percent of all of the people who come to Planned Parenthood leave with some form of contraceptive in their hands. It is estimated that the services provided by Planned Parenthood prevent approximately 516,000 unintended pregnancies per year.

If Planned Parenthood's opponents are against the organization because it provides abortions to 3 percent of its clients, then they should consider this: according to the Guttmacher Institute, four in 10 unintended pregnancies end in abortion. While Planned Parenthood does provide abortion services, it also provides people with the tools to prevent unintended pregnancy. The easiest way to make sure that abortion rates decline is to educate people on the circumstances leading to pregnancies.

Confusion also exists around how Planned Parenthood is funded. One misconception is that the organization runs entirely on government funding. The largest portion of Planned Parenthood's revenue does come from Title X, which is a part of the Public Health Service Act that specifically sets aside federal dollars for family planning and contraceptive services. Planned Parenthood receives about 528.4 million dollars in Title X funding. Because of Section 1008 of Title X, federal funding is not, and cannot ever, be used to fund abortion.

Even though Planned Parenthood does receive funding from other sources, if the federal government defunded it, the organization would struggle to survive. Individual states could in theory fill funding gaps for local clinics, but it is more likely that more clinics would shut down entirely. Crippling an organization so instrumental to public health because of propaganda

THE SIMPLE THINGS



Comic by Jonathon Yee

Mental health stigmas silence conversations

By BOLAN MARSHALL-HALLMARK
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The Washington Post reported that as of Oct. 1, there have been 294 mass shootings and 274 days in 2015. Earlier this week, President Barack Obama responded to the latest mass-shooting tragedy in the United States. In his response to the shooting at Umpqua Community College in Roseburg, Oregon, Obama used a chilling tone.

"Somehow," he said, "This has become routine."

And it is true. Each time a person becomes compelled to commit an act like this, we as a nation react in a routine way, from the social media hashtags and news pundit speculations to mayors and college presidents writing letters of consolation to their communities.

There are two obvious factors in cases of mass shootings: mental health issues and easy access to firearms. As far as the contentious firearm debate goes, we have yet to make any significant adjustment to our national behavior despite clear statistics indicating the correlation between firearm access and increased murder, suicide and accidental death by said weapons. The connection is obvious, demonstrable and incredibly upsetting.

But that is not what we are talking about right now. One might argue that it should not be this easy for somebody who wants to inflict harm on other people to obtain a gun. But in making this argument, we are assuming that the desire to inflict harm on others in certain individuals is beyond our control. We are making an assumption that we accept and consequently do nothing to change. Who are these individuals? Why do they just happen to want to inflict harm?

Chris Harper-Mercer, the Umpqua shooter, was not just an aberrant sociopath bent on killing people for the sake of killing people. From his perspective, and from the alleged perspectives of the majority of mass-shooters who make similar claims, he was driven to do this.

Of course, the combination of isolation, alienation, frustration and anger that this individual experienced was exacerbated by his mental health issues.

We agree on this point enough for Obama to simply label Harper-Mercer as having a "sickness of the mind" without doing any further investigating.

But the upsetting and uncomfortable part of this equation that none of us want to acknowledge in the wake of a tragedy is the fact that Harper-Mercer was dealing with mental pain. Whenever a mass shooting occurs, the last thing that we as a nation want to talk about is preventative measures to take against potentially violence-inducing mental health crises. In plain English, people like Harper-Mercer need our compassion and encouragement to seek treatment before their sickness and circumstances override their capacity for rationality and empathy.

This requires a cultural shift. Instead of trending the phrase "Forget Oregon's Gunman" in attempt to focus on the other victims, we need to end our culture of stigma surrounding mental health. We are dealing with a paradox. On one hand, we are willing to write off people like Harper-Mercer as insane and inevitably murderous without looking into intervention possibilities. On the other hand, we are steeped in a politically-correct culture of mandated silence.

The truth is that most, if not all, future mass shootings have the potential to be stopped long before the ideation takes root in the perpetrator's mind. By choosing to forget Harper-Mercer instead of reaching out to those who might one day feel the way he did, we are not attempting any change of strategy or reaction aimed at solving this problem.

When you extinguish a fire, you must aim at the base of the flames. If you aim at the chaotic top of the flame in a panic, you fail to address the source of the problem.

Bernie Sanders still stands a chance

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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Presidential candidate Bernie Sanders has pulled even with Hillary Clinton, the presumed Democratic nominee for President, in several primary states, according to a Quinnipiac University poll. Many supporters of Sanders who were not convinced that a self-proclaimed socialist could receive the Democratic nomination are surprised at Sanders's recent surge. His rise in recent polls, while shocking, is a result of careful media relations by the presidential candidate. However, Sanders may fail to receive the nomination. This is not due to Sanders's beliefs, but rather the belief that his role in the elections is to provoke debate, rather than to receive the Democratic nomination for President.

The Vermont Senator openly admits that his economic policies are socialist. Sanders' openness protects him from the kinds of attacks that have been leveled against President Barack Obama, many of which claim that Obama's domestic policies are economically socialist. Furthermore, many younger Democrats are far more liberal than their older counterparts, giving Sanders a well of support during the primaries.

Younger, liberal Democrats favor Sanders because of his boldness when decrying financial institutions. In this sense, Sanders's popularity is the political product of the Occupy Wall Street movement, which turned income equality into a mainstream political topic. His use of grassroots campaign donations, rather than PACs and corporate donors, resonates with the younger sect of liberals, who oppose campaign finance laws in the wake of the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision.

However, Sanders faces one main roadblock in his primary campaign. He cannot win the Democratic nomination while political pundits still claim that his policies, such as single-payer healthcare, are too liberal for the country.

The most damaging prospect to Sanders is the pessimism surrounding his nomination. If Democrats held his nomination as a true possibility rather than a pipe dream, Sanders's nomination is not only possible, but likely.

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Scientists discover new species of human

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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Deep in a South African cave, scientists discovered 15 partial skeletons of a new species of human, Homo naledi. According to the British Broadcasting Corperation, the new species, which lived as long as three million years ago, has a smaller head than Homo sapiens, but more modern teeth, feet and hands, bridging a gap between primitive and modern humans.

Discovered in a tunnel eight inches wide, called Superman's Crawl, the skeletons were found arranged in a manner consistent with a burial, a modern, human-like ritual. Burial was formerly thought to be limited to modern humans.

"Not only did they have 15 individuals, but when you put them all together you get almost a complete skeleton," says Lisa Whitenack, assistant professor of biology.

It is unknown how the skeletons ended up in Superman's Crawl, given the size of the tunnel. Researchers did not find bite marks on the bones, which would indicate predators dragging the dead into the den.

"They think it's a burial site. It doesn't look like a predator den, which was a very viable possibility," Whitenack says.

Naledi's apparent burial is significant in the evolutionary development of Homo.

"It's a cultural shift—burial—that defines them as another species, in my opinion," said Lacey Rzodkiewicz, '17, a biology major.

While the manner in which naledi handled their dead signifies a significant change in culture, there are major morphological differences between them and other Homo species.

"The discovery is a mix of features from our genus, Homo, and Australopithecus, which came before Homo," says Whitenack. "I never would have guessed that as a logical development in evolution."

Naledi has hands that are identical, or at least similar, to humans. Its fingers, however, are far more curved, suggesting the species was capable of using tools and climbing.

While its fingers are somewhat different, naledi's feet are identical to those of humans. This suggests that it was capable of walking long distances.

"Its skull is definitely more similar to some of the older specimens," Whitenack says.

The BBC reports that naledi's braincase is about the size of an orange, about half the size of a modern human's. This is a change from evolutionary trends, as Homo habilis, which lived about as long ago as some researchers estimate naledi, had a much larger brain. In fact, naledi's brain is similar to that of a gorilla.

If naledi's braincase makes the species differ from the rest of Homo, then its jaw highlights its similarities. Naledi's teeth, which are nearly identical to humans, are smaller than its supposed ancestors.

"This seems like an interesting development," says Heather Bosau, '17. "It's a step forward and backwards at the same time."

While evolution, and especially human evolution, is not a straight line but a process with progress and setbacks, naledi adds an aspect of confusion into the equation. With naledi's morphological and cultural features that are similar to those of modern humans, the newly discovered species epitomizes, rather than contradicts, evolution.

Water on Mars, could there be life?

By EMILY GREENE
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Scientists recently discovered evidence of liquid water on Mars. It has long been suspected that Mars was once home to large bodies of standing water, however, it was recently found that Mars is home to more than just the frozen water found in the planet's polar ice caps. There is now evidence that indicates the presence of liquid water in the Garni Crater.

The evidence appears in the form of "recurring slope linea" or, dark streaks on the walls of the crater. The recurring slope linea were first spotted in 2011, but scientists were unsure at the time of what they were. Only recently did they turn to spectroscopy to investigate the chemical composition of the RSLs. NASA scientists tested four different locations and found that the RSLs were made up of hydrated salts, a mix of chlorates and perchlorates. According to the space agency, hydrated salts are a big indicator of liquid water. The streaks only begin to appear during the martian summer, or when the temperature on the surface of the planet exceeds -32 degrees Celsius.

The presence of flowing water has planetary scientists everywhere asking the same question: does this mean that there could be life currently on Mars?

"It's a big leap to say that there is life there. But the reason that astronomers look for water is because in large part they want to look for life," Jamie Lombardi, associate professor of physics, said. "We don't know, there could be life there. That's now a much larger possibility than it was previously. But it could also just be salty water without the presence of life in it. And so, it does turn up the heat on astronomers to send additional missions there to try and search for microbial life in that water."

In order to search for life within the water, NASA and other space agencies will have to treat the samples with the utmost caution. None of the rovers currently on Mars are sterile enough to go investigate the craters containing the RSL's.

According to the 1967 Outer Space Treaty, all nations are forbidden from sending any human, robot or mission to a site with water if there is any possibility of contaminating the site. The two active rovers on Mars, Opportunity and Curiosity, were both sterilized before launch, but not to such a degree that NASA can be sure they were entirely purified of all earth microbes. As well as this, on their journey to Mars, it is possible that they may have picked up some sort of other microbial life. In order to investigate this phenomena further, NASA will have to invent a solution.

"You would have to send a new mission. It could be a robotic mission or a manned mission.There have been talks of a manned mission as early as 2030. One of the ways you might do something like this would be to send up robots that could build other robots. So the robots that go up there themselves are not completely sterilized, but they have the capability of building things that are completely sterilized," Lombardi said.

The possibility of aliens has always captivated the public interest, movies like "Star Wars" and "E.T". are some of the highest grossing of all time. Some groups, like the Ancient Astronauts, believe that there is sufficient evidence to prove that there is currently life beyond Earth. But official organizations like NASA have remained ambivalent on the topic of extra terrestrials, often downplaying the possibility that microbial life could exist on Mars today.

"We haven't been able to answer the question, 'Does life exist beyond Earth?' But following the water is a critical element of that. We now have, I think, great opportunities in the right locations on Mars to thoroughly investigate that," said James L. Green, the director of NASA's planetary science division, said to the New York Times.

Finding life in our own solar system would be a huge milestone in the field of astronomy, and for humanity itself. If the scientists were to find life on Mars, it would mean that life could exist anywhere, in any form.

"Humans have a very small scope. I do believe that there is bacterial life outside of the Earth, and it's very possible that there is intelligent life elsewhere," Maeve Brownell, '19, said. "We only exist in this galaxy, on our own planet, we don't really know what's happening out there is the universe."

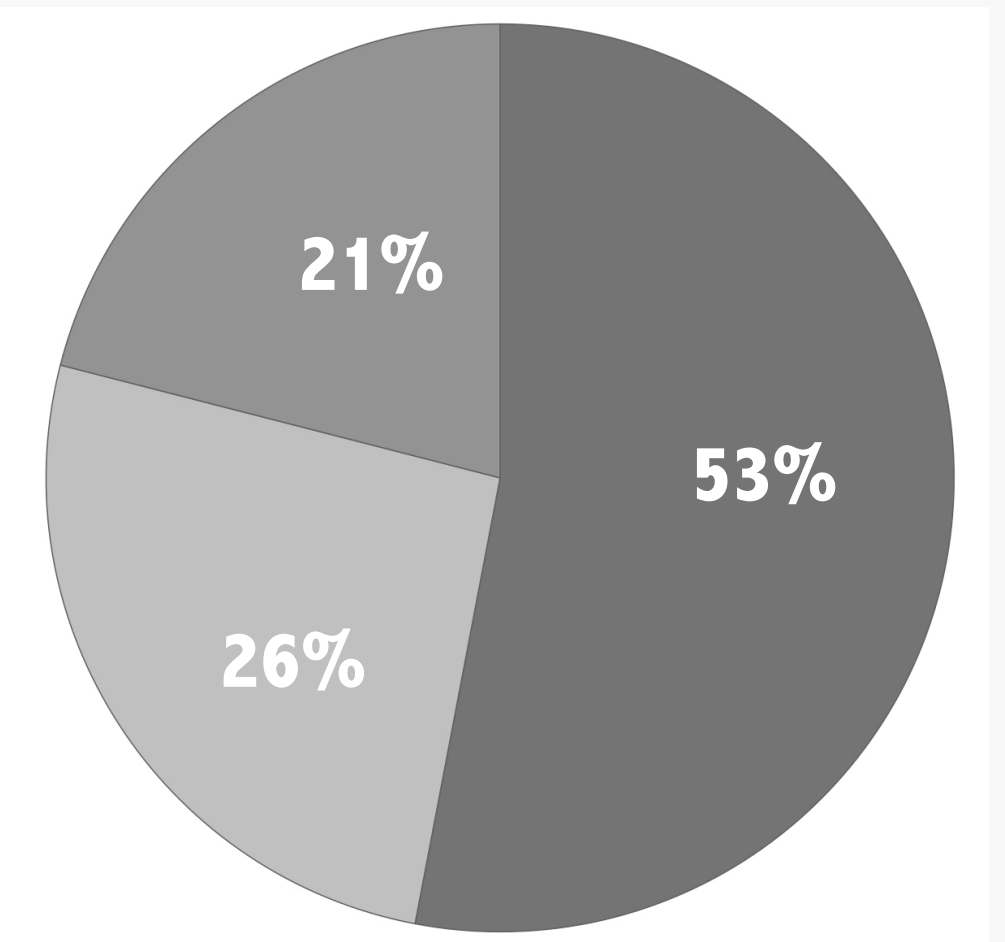
Abby Remis, '18, said the discovery of evidence for water on Mars was exciting but she believes it's important for people to stay grounded on earth for now.

"I guess [the discovery of water] might support the theory that life could exist on Mars, but there's probably other factors that play a role too. Plus, it seems like we're a long way away from sending people there and just saying, 'live'," Remis said. "It's interesting to speculate about living on Mars and sending people up there. But I think we should also take care of our own planet first."

NASA unveils plan to send people to Mars. Would you go?

In a press release on Oct. 8, NASA revealed a 36 page report detailing its plan to permanently send humans to Mars. The report is titled 'NASA's Journey to Mars: Pioneering Next Steps in Space Exploration" and can be found on the official NASA website.

The Campus asked students on Allegheny campus what they thought about moving to Mars on an online poll.



Professors disprove original hypothesis in math research

By ALEX HASAPIS
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Allegheny College conducts research across every department at all times of the year. The mathematics department is no different as Harald Ellers, professor of mathematics, and Craig J. Dodge, assistant professor of mathematics, carried out research with students over the summer of 2015.

The field of mathematics that the research focuses on deals with abstract algebra, which solely centralizes around how algebra behaves and works.

"What we are interested in, the kind of research we do, the problems we investigate are motivated by trying to understand the principles that govern the behavior of algebraic structures," Ellers said. "[The questions] are not motivated by [the immediate needs of] scientists or engineers...I am thinking about just the algebra and how does it behave and how does it work."

Specific to this research, Ellers and Dodge are investigating the algebraic analysis of symmetry. Essentially, thinking of every possible way of picking up a equilateral triangle and putting it down on itself, according to Ellers.

"Imagine a structure that has some symmetry, like an equilateral triangle," Ellers said. "If I had a model, I could pick it up and turn it 120 degrees [a third of the way around] and if you didn't see me do that, you wouldn't know that I'd done it because the triangle looks the same from several points of view."

The research Ellers and Dodge conducted delved deeper into this analysis of symmetry. The research focused on multiplication rules, which give a precise view of the symmetry.

"If you perform a rotation of a triangle through 120 degrees clockwise, represented by A, and follow it by a reflection in the vertical line of symmetry, represented by B, the result is the same as a single reflection in a different line of symmetry, represented by C; this fact is expressed algebraically by the equation AB=C," Ellers said.

Each of these different multiplications are called groups. Groups measure symmetry much in the same way that numbers measure the size of something. Ellers and Dodge turned this problem around in their research. They would start with an algebraic model divorced from any type of symmetry, just the rules of the algebra. The point is to try to construct all the things in the world that have that kind of symmetry. The whole research idea is called representation theory, according to Ellers.

Ellers and Dodge enlisted the help of Kelly Pohland, '16, and Yuki Nakada, '16, to further this research over the past summer.

Pohland and Nakada tested a construction, much like an algorithm, developed by Ellers and Dodge, which would break down an important class of representations into the smallest possible pieces. This is analogous to breaking a large molecule into atoms. The construction would break down the centralizer representations into simple representations. A simple representation is a mathematical structure that has nice, clean properties, much like a single element from the periodic table of the elements, according to Pohland.

Before working with Pohland and Nakada, Ellers and Dodge conjectured that, the construction was able to fully break down every representation. In their work, Pohland and Nakada uncovered that sometimes the construction does fail.

"We started off over the summer testing simple cases," Pohland said. "In the first couple cases, it did work, but very quickly we found the counter example. We showed explicitly in general a whole class of cases didn't work. Even though we disproved what they wanted, we still found patterns that could lead us into a different direction to find different results."

Since conducting the research the four researchers submitted a journal article to the Involve Undergraduate Journal of Mathematics. They also plan to attend the Joint Mathematics Meetings in Seattle, Washington in January 2016 if approved.

"[The students] will present in the student poster session," Dodge said. "We will be going to tons of presentations, I will be introducing them to a number of colleagues in different fields...There is a number of different people from various colleges that they will be able to meet and talk to them about their various schools and programs."

Although the construction does not break down every representation they were investigating at this point in time, Ellers, Dodge and the students involved in the research plan to find out a way to split those representations into simple representations.

WARC provides outlet for faculty radio presence

Political science professors host weekly talk show, links college and community

By ALEX HASAPIS
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Two Allegheny professors in the political science department step out of the classroom for two hours every Tuesday at noon and take on the role of DJ at WARC 90.3FM, the college's radio station.

Jackie Gehring, assistant professor of political science, and Jolie Wood, visiting professor of political science, were talking about the idea of having their own political science radio show and ran with it earlier in the year, Gehring said.

WARC is a non-commercial, student-run college radio station which allows students and professors to explore the vast world of radio, according to Allegheny's website.

"The mission of WARC 90.3FM Meadville, Pennsylvania is to operate and promote a professional alternative radio station and serve as an educational tool for listeners and disc jockeys alike," the website says.

Gehring and Wood wanted to do exactly this: serve as an educational tool but keep the conversation informal.

"We want people to think about what are the issues in the community and how you can get involved," Gehring said. "We also want people who care about problems in the community to have a place to come to talk about what is happening."

They believe the radio station is a great forum which is underutilized at the college.

"I am really excited about this show because it has long been my view that the radio station we have here is one of the most obvious ways we can link the campus and community; it is really under utilized in that regard," Wood said as Gehring agreed.

Since the inception of Gehring and Wood's show on Sept. 8, 2015, they have talked about topics ranging from the Civil War in Syria to the nuclear deal with Iran to a local art gallery in Meadville to the Meadville High School running back, Journey Brown, who rushed for more than 700 yards and scored 10 touchdowns.

Gehring and Wood, before becoming involved with WARC, had no experience when it came to radio broadcasting or organizing a show in general. They both agreed that with the tremendous amount of help from the WARC staff and a fellow colleague in the math department, Chris Lundberg, getting into the swing of radio broadcast became easy.

"You should've seen us our first couple weeks at the soundboard," Wood jokingly said.

Even though they had initial problems at the soundboard, that did not deter Wood or Gehring from continuing to learn how to use the equipment and produce a radio show.

"There was a little bit of dead air now and then," Gehring said while laughing.

> "We want people to think about what are the issues in the community and how you can get involved."
>
> Jackie Gehring
> *Assistant Professor of Political Science*

The initial inspiration for the show for Gehring came when listening to podcasts she follows. She wanted to have those conversations like she heard on the podcasts. Gehring highlighted that they both (Gehring and Wood) know many smart people which they can engage in interesting conversations about topics in today's society without making it like a classroom.

The most recent show featured Ryan Pickering, assistant professor of psychology, and Aline Lo, assistant professor of english, speaking about first-generation and low-income college students utilizing their own experiences to add to the conversation.

Pickering believes the radio station allows for students to delve into other departments with which they may not be familiar.

"Not everyone is going to take a class in every department while they are here, so the radio show allows people from all over to get a sense of who is here and what sort of things they do here," Pickering said. "It is also a way to get to know faculty in a different sort of professional setting."

As the show formulates, Gehring and Wood hope to expand their show and continue to talk about different topics relevant to today's society both in the world and in the local Meadville area. One day, Gehring said, they would like to form the show into a possible podcast where people can listen at their leisure and not have to worry about it airing just one time.

The next show will air on Tuesday, Oct. 20 from 12-2 p.m. The plan for the show is to talk about the values of bi and multilingualism concerning the brain. Gehring and Wood hope to bring Aimee Knupsky, associate professor of psychology, onto the show to add to the conversation.

Other information for the radio show can be found by liking their Facebook page, "Political Scientists in Your Ears" or following them on Twitter @PoliSciEars.

For more information on WARC visit its website through allegheny.edu.

Counseling center offers array of services

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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On the first Monday of each month, the Allegheny College Counseling Center hosts therapy dogs, one of its most popular programs. While many students are aware of this program, many others do not utilize several other services the Counseling Center offers free of charge to all students.

Anxiety, depression, stress and academic concerns are some of the main issues about which counselors assist students. However, Allegheny students can visit the center for help with any personal, academic or social problem that may arise.

"We also work with students about substance abuse, trauma, sexuality, gender identity and eating disorders," said counselor Michelle Miller.

According to Miller, approximately 46 percent of the class of 2015 visited the Counseling Center before graduation. In the 2014 calendar year, 586 students utilized services offered by the counselors.

Students can visit the center, located on the third floor of Reis Hall, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. No appointment is necessary to talk with a counselor, allowing students to visit freely and without a long-term commitment. If the Counseling Center is not available, students can call Stairways in Meadville. After hours, students can also contact Safety and Security if they believe a student is in danger of harming themselves or others.

In a survey from spring 2015, 95 percent of students who used the Counseling Center rated their counseling experience as positive and 99 percent would recommend the services to a friend. The counselors individually receive excellent reviews, with 98 percent of students calling their assistance "very helpful," a four or a five on a one-to-five scale.

As a college counseling center, however, there are services Allegheny College cannot provide. If a student expresses a concern that requires frequent counseling sessions or specialized care, then the Counseling Center will refer the student to a counselor off campus.

"If a practitioner has a certain skill within a particular area and we think a student is best fit for them, we will refer the student off campus," said Miller.

Although the Counseling Center does not have the resources necessary to deal with every student concern, Miller believes that the center is beneficial to almost every Allegheny student.

"With four full-time counselors, I think we're really able to cover the campus," said Miller.

While the services the center offers are well-received, students still believe that the center can improve through better communication. Allegheny's Counseling Center advertises its services in the dorms, on Gator Day and during freshman orientation, according to Miller. Despite different means the center uses to communicate with the student body, the number one recommendation for how the center can improve its services is better public relations, according to a survey from spring 2015.

"I don't even know where the Counseling Center is," Sam Zucker, '19, said. "Passive advertising, like posters, things that aren't intrusive, are good, but I feel like there are students who need it who won't be able to find it."

If students feel uncomfortable visiting the counselors in person, the Allegheny College website has an online mental health screening section, allowing students to screen themselves for depression, anxiety and bipolar disorders, among several others.

Although she has never visited the center herself, Abby Remis, '18, hopes students take advantage of its services.

"I hope that even if [students] don't find an immediate solution to their problems, maybe the Counseling Center can provide them with someone to talk to, or resources they can reach out to," said Remis.

SEMESTER BLUES AND THE MIDTERM EFFECT TAKE ITS TOLL



ALEÄA REYES/THE CAMPUS

Students' eyes wander toward a table in front of the Learning Commons where Tyler McLaughlin, '17, lies down for a brief evening rest in Pelletier Library on Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015.

"I'm tired. And stressed," said McLaughlin.

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Your Life is at Risk
What Your Teachers Will Not Tell you
Dr. George A. Kuck
Class of 1962 (galbertk@aol.com)

Threats to a country are based upon capabilities, not intents. If signed, the current "treaty" being considered by the House and Senate will threaten the very existence of the United States by allowing Iran both nuclear and satellite capabilities. The threat is a single high altitude nuclear detonation above the U.S. which will cause an electromagnetic pulse to blanket the nation and burn out the electrical grid and unshielded electronics. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_electromagnetic_pulse) All your electronics are unshielded so you will be immediately tossed back into the 1800's. Where will you get your food when trucks cannot run? Where will you get your water when the pumps cannot operate? How bad do you think the riots in the city will be when people are starving? I believe that President Obama's statement about the Iranians not being able to build nuclear weapons is without factual basis and is "magical" thinking. The last time we had this type of threat was in the 1930's when Adolf Hitler signed a treaty with British Prime Chamberlain and then Chamberlain said there would be "Peace in Our Time." Hitler's Mein Kompf clearly stated Hitler's objective to dominate the world and the west did not believe him. The Iranians shout "Death to America" and we do not believe them either. Do you wish to trust the Iranians with your lives since they have cheated on their nuclear agreements in the past? Would you trust them for self-inspection as agreed to with the U.N.'s IAEA? Write your Democratic senators and congressmen and have them vote NO. Save U.S. lives.

THE SOUNDS OF MEADVILLE: Civic Symphony prepares for classical concert

By KYLE MURPHY
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The Civic Symphony is a unique ensemble of students, faculty and community members performing a concert with music that spans centuries and explores cultural boundaries. The group will take the stage on Saturday, Nov. 21 at 3:15 p.m. in Shafer Auditorium.

According to the roster provided by the music department, the group is comprised of 43 students, six members of the community and two faculty members. It encompasses a small wind section, a full group of strings and a guest faculty vocalist, making it a diverse group on campus.

Associate Professor and Brass Area Coordinator Jennifer Dearden is the conductor of the Civic Symphony, making this her third year leading the group.

The group will program eight pieces this fall, which Dearden selected following a strict criteria based on playability, instrumentation, and variety.

The ability of the individual players to play the pieces is Dearden's first concern.

"There is a big spread of ability levels within the group. I have to account for new students and veteran community members at the same time," said Dearden.

Dearden said that it is important to be welcoming to all. The group is always interested in new members and Dearden must be cognizant of that when picking the music that will be played each semester.

Keighley Harr, '18, joined the Civic Symphony this semester, citing the fact that she had never played in a group with strings before.

"It's a beautiful and unique sound, and I urge everyone to come to the concert," said Harr.

Instrumentation is another important consideration. Dearden points out that the instruments used in a particular piece need to fit the needs of the unique group. For example, the group will be playing an aria from Mozart's "Magic Flute". Each year the group highlights a soloist, and the piece was selected with guest faculty vocal soloist Carol Niblock in mind.

Kelly Pohland, '16, has been playing in the group for two years now. Pohland makes one of two clarinets in her section and she says that the group has a unique atmosphere compared to other ensembles. Pohland said that she loves the clarinet parts, they are always fun to play.

Variety is the last criteria given by Dearden. Variety is important for a good concert not just for the audience as listeners but also for the students as learners, says Dearden. Among the Mozart aria and other classical repertoire is "From San Domingo", a piece that invokes a picturesque caribbean scene conjured by Australian composer Arthur Benjamin. Also included in the program is "Kamarinskaya" a traditional Russian folk tune by prominent Russian composer Mikhail Glinka; yet another example of the variety of music presented by the group.

Traci Balsamo is one of the community members involved in Civic Symphony that demonstrates the variety of performers in the group. Having performed with the group intermittently since high school at Meadville Area Senior High, Balsamo can claim a veteran status unlike most other members. Professional performer, music teacher, private teacher, and singer are just a few example of the many hats worn by Balsamo.

Besides the enjoyment of playing, Balsamo said that playing keeps her sharp and its great to be able to pass on her experience to students.

"I know all about the importance of music in the public schools and music with young children, but I think that people forget about the college-aged students. It's important for them to keep music in their lives," said Balsamo.

Dearden explained the challenges of classical music for both listeners and performers.

"Classical music requires work. It doesn't provide instant gratification the way popular music today does," said Dearden.

Despite its relative unpopularity, Dearden said that anyone can get into classical music and take advantage of free concerts.

The school and the community at large do a lot of outreach for the classical music community and there are a lot of opportunities available. There are music classes available to students of any major or minor, regardless of musical ability said Dearden. She believes it is never too late to pick your instrument back up or start playing an instrument for the first time.

"Most of the students in the musical ensembles aren't music majors or even minors," said Dearden.

"The thing about fall is that we have three to four months of heat and then all of the sudden it's fall. I feel like it creates a certain cool in people, like a certain intimacy that gives people the excuse to be closer."

Madeleine Zimmermann
Class of 2018





CHRISTINA BRYSON/THE CAMPUS
Members of the Allegheny community walk across campus on Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015, enjoying a fall day.

The Campus Asks:

What is your favorite thing about fall and why?

Compiled by CASSIE BACHIK and ALEÄA REYES



"Well, fall's the best time for fashion and everything. You get to wear sweaters and boots and long pants. You start to wear scarves and everybody loves scarves."

Ian Dempsey
Class of 2016



"The leaves changing as well as the atmosphere of fall, and doing fall things like football and campfires."

Ben Thomas
Class of 2017

"My favorite thing about fall is the color palette and the cool air. Everything should be those colors all the time."

Emily Cancilla
Class of 2016



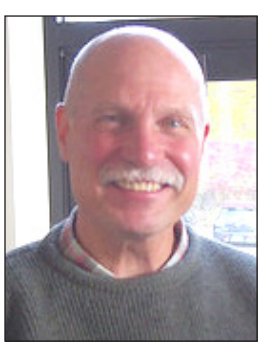
"I like the cooler weather and how it encourages me to bundle up-to get into a bunch of blankets and snuggle down. And no snow."

Alexis Hart
Associate Professor and Director of Writing



"Seeing different colors."

Agatha Crowley
Alexis Hart's daughter



"Well, as you can see, I like wearing sweaters and when fall comes, I get to wear my sweaters. And that's probably a relatively honest answer."

Terry Bensel
Director of the Gateway

Women's basketball prepares for upcoming season



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY THE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TWITTER ACCOUNT

The Allegheny women's basketball team participated in the Student Athlete Advisory Committee kick-off event on August 31, 2015. The team opened its 2015-16 season on Thursday Oct. 15, 2015 and will begin competition on Nov. 13, 2015.

Faculty mentor helps build connections between academics and athletics

By ALEX HOLMES
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The women's basketball team is building relationships with Allegheny faculty through its faculty mentor, Kristen Webb.

In addition to her role as a faculty mentor, Webb is an assistant professor of biology. Webb meets with each player one-on-one to get to know each athletes' academic interests. Webb also attends two practices a month, attends the majority of home games, sitting behind the bench and will be travelling to one away game to experience what that is like for Allegheny student athletes.

"[She] acts basically like an academic adviser for the team. As a former collegiate athlete she understands what it's like to be in our shoes. She also helps out during some practices throughout our season," said Iffie Uwazie, '16.

Head Coach Kate Costanzo said it shows the team the importance of academics and perception of co-mingling academics and athletics, bringing a professor to the sidelines like you can bring an athlete into the classroom.

"I think that it sets a standard for our team that we not only work hard on the court, but we work hard off of it as well," said Morgan Dillon, '17. "It places importance on succeeding academically by providing us with both basketball coaches and an academic coach."

Dillon chose Webb to be her academic adviser as well.

"I think it makes our relationship stronger because we both share an interest in basketball and we both want our team to succeed," Dillon said. "Not only can we talk about academics in our meetings, but we can talk about basketball as well since those are two major parts of my life. In addition, she understands the demands that basketball places upon our team."

Dillon added that Webb is a resource the women can go to if they have any academic questions or concerns.

"Since she is a professor in the biology department and many members of our team are biology majors or on the pre-health track, we can ask her major-related questions and some of us, like myself, may even have her for a biology class," Dillon said.

Webb also meets with the team's recruits, has them sit in on her classes, and shares what it is like to balance academics and athletics.

Costanzo said she got the idea to have a faculty mentor for the team from her brother, who is a professor at Mount Aloysius College.



Kristen Webb

"He got interested in it, as an English professor and mentor for the cross country team. The teams have a professor that is interested in getting outside the normal classroom. He has done research on faculty mentors in DIII athletics and hopes to write an article, and he motivated me to get a faculty mentor for my team," Costanzo said.

Costanzo added that the basketball team is not alone in having faculty involved. Other teams have faculty involvement but without a title or commitment.

"She helps keep us on top of academics and is a valued fan in the stands. We all get some encouragement to keep working hard when we have people checking in on our progress and [she] provides that. As a professor she cares about our academic success and from the position of women's basketball faculty mentor she's always there for us," Uwazie said.

The women are looking forward to the 2015-16 season, and began offical practices Thursday, Oct. 15.

"I am looking forward to playing with my teammates and seeing how we can improve as basketball players, both individually and as a team. We have 10 new members of our team this year, so I think the addition of the new team members will really help us," Dillon said.

Uwazie said she is excited about playing with so many great teammates this year.

"I'm lucky to have 18 extremely talented and all-around great ladies on the team with me and I'm looking forward to seeing us all work together towards a successful season," Uwazie said.

The team is hoping to compete in the conference championship this year.

"We want to win more games than the past few years, and while I say that, our theme for the year is the year of positivity. We are hoping to be surrounded by positive culture, we have a great group of women buying into positive outlook and we are looking forward to seeing more results with a good outlook in a long season," Costanzo said.

The team's first game will be November 13 at 7 p.m. at Saint Vincent College.

Winter sports bring in new coaching staff

By ALEX HASAPIS
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The men's basketball and swimming and diving teams hired new assistant coaches for the 2015-16 season.



Justin Hill
Swimming & Diving

Campus: What is your favorite part of coaching?

Hill: Seeing the athletes faces when their hard work has paid off. Also, I love when they have that "eureka" moment when a new concept finally clicks.

Campus: What are your goals for the season?

Hill: To help the team build in all aspects. I want the student-athletes to get closer to reaching their full potentials. I want them to learn by becoming a student of the sport. Lastly, I want them to continue loving what they are doing.

Campus: Where were you before you came to Allegheny?

Hill: I was back in Cleveland, coaching a high school and USA swim team while doing home renovation work on the side.

Campus: What made you want to coach?

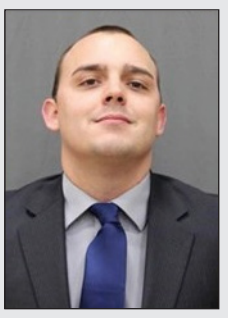
Hill: I wanted to give the athletes a better experience than I had as a collegiate athlete. I do not want the athletes to go on wondering "what if" and so I want to push them in and out of the classroom until they reach their full potential.

Campus: What do you think the benefits are of playing DIII athletics?

Hill: You get to grow in a completely different way than in other divisions. You do not get athletic scholarships and this means you are playing your sport out of pure enjoyment while still being a full time student. There is just something about the commitment that is so much more admirable than getting paid to play.

Campus: How many years did you play your sport?

Hill: I have been swimming for about 10 years. I plan on retiring after Olympic Trials in June.



Michael Kenney
Men's Basketball

Campus: Why did you decide to come to Allegheny College?

Kenney: I came to Allegheny College because of the vision that Coach Simmons has for the men's basketball program here. The ability to learn from a coach that has been doing it for over 20 years, along with the ability to grow further as a person.

Campus: What is your favorite part of coaching?
Kenney: My favorite part of coaching is seeing the development of student athletes. The most rewarding thing is for a student athlete to get a great degree here from Allegheny College and better themselves in the process.

The relationships with the players is something I have valued in my past coaching careers and look forward to developing relationships that last a lifetime with current and future Allegheny men's basketball players.

Campus: Where were you before you came to Allegheny?

Kenney: I am coming to Allegheny College from Marietta College in Ohio. I was an assistant coach there for four years. In my four years at Marietta, I was a part of the most successful run in school history.

Campus: What made you want to coach?

Kenney: I always wanted to be involved in sports when I was younger. I idolized my grade school coach because he taught me so many more lessons than just winning basketball games.

So, when I got the opportunity to be a student assistant at the University of Dayton, I jumped at it with open arms. I attacked everyday with a hard working mentality and wanted to learn how to be a great coach like my grade school coach.

Campus: What do you think the benefits are of playing DIII athletics?

Kenney: The benefits of being a DIII athlete is being true to the definition of student athlete.