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# United Methodist Church votes against inclusion of LGBTQ community in faith

By **SARA HOLTHOUSE**
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After the United Methodist Church held its General Conference a week ago and decided against allowing members of the LGBTQ community to be included in certain church rites, Methodist affiliated schools and universities are left with a decision to make.

The United Methodist General Conference was held from Feb. 24, 2019, to Feb. 26, 2019, with Feb. 23, 2019, scheduled as a day of prayer. After the three-day conference, a vote was held and passed on Feb. 26, that members of the LGBTQ community will not be allowed to get married in a Methodist Church, have a Methodist pastor preside over their wedding or be allowed to be ordained as a pastor.

Two days after the decision was made, Kristin Dukes, dean for institutional diversity, and Jane Ellen Nickell, college chaplain, sent an email to the campus community detailing what this decision means for Allegheny College, as a United Methodist-affiliated school moving forward.

"Many of us watched with deep disappointment this week as the United Methodist Church approved a plan that excludes gays and lesbians from being ordained or married in the church," the email read. "While honoring our long connection with Methodism and our shared commitment to social justice, especially in the areas of global health and education, we cannot condone a plan that violates our own Statement of Community and brings harm to LGBTQ persons."

The email included a statement from the presidents of Methodist affiliated schools calling for the inclusion of all individuals and said students can talk to Dukes or Nickell if they want more information or support.

Nickell attended the conference and explained a good amount of what she witnessed there was hard to portray through news media and had not been included in many reports.

"What I saw at the convention was a lot of passion on all sides of this issue," Nickell said.

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# Fetterman pays campus visit to discuss marijuana legalization in Pennsylvania

By **SARA HOLTHOUSE**
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FETTERMAN

If a member of Crawford County has strong opinions about whether or not recreational marijuana should be legalized, Lt. Gov. John Fetterman is prepared to listen.

Fetterman came to campus as part of his Crawford County Recreational Marijuana Listening Tour from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, in Schultz Banquet Hall. Meadville and Allegheny community members were invited to attend although the audience contained many more townspeople than students of who around 15 were in the audience.

Fetterman began the event by welcoming everyone and asking the audience to remain civil and to listen to what those who spoke wanted to say.

"Let me just say what a complete and utter honor it is to be here, thank you," Fetterman said. "This is my job; I have to be here, but you have a choice. You could be sitting at home eating dinner, watching Netflix — you know, in for the night. But you came out here to engage in an important matter like this, so thank you."

Fetterman explained that this was his 11th or 12th stop on the listening tour and every location so far had been civil and open, expressing that everyone's view was equally important.

"I would ask for no booing or jeering or making someone feel unsafe or uncomfortable voicing their opinion," Fetterman said. "Every voice is equal. There's no agenda except to hear what you in this room think."

Attendees who wanted to express their opinions were allowed to step up to the two microphones on both sides of the room. Fetterman sat up front on the stage and listened.

Meadville residents and students alike explained their reasonings behind why they thought recreational marijuana should or should not be made legal in Pennsylvania.

"I'm rising today in strong support of legalizing marijuana," said Quinn Broussard, '22. "Firstly, many studies show that marijuana is clinically safer than tobacco and alcohol products, which are already legal in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I feel that legalization is within our right as a commonwealth to regulate drug policy."

As the lines of people formed behind each microphone, there was a mixture of people who were for and against the idea, with one man who declared himself neutral.

*See* **FETTERMAN** | *page 2*

# A balancing act

## *Alexander String Quartet 'plays' a campus visit*


**EMILY RICE**/THE CAMPUS
The Alexander String Quartet made up of Zakarias Grafilo, Frederick Lifsitz, Paul Yarbrough and Sandy Wilson, performs in Ford Memorial Chapel Friday March 1, 2019.

By **LAUREN TRIMBER**
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Four players, one sound.

This idea — a notion of four different instruments and four different musicians coming together as one voice —was present in the Alexander String Quartet's week of public and class performances at Allegheny College, according to Megan Kresse, '22.

Kresse, who saw the ASQ perform in her music theory class before its public concert in Ford Memorial Chapel on Friday, March 1, said hearing them talk about the steps they take to practice was awesome.

"My favorite thing is how the four of them are able to sound like one person, how they balance their sound," Kresse said.

The string quartet, comprised of two violin players, a violist and a cellist, became a popular chamber ensemble for classical music, "with most major composers, from the late 18th century onwards, writing string quartets," according to a Lumen Learning Music Appreciation article. "The origins of the string quartet can be traced back to the Baroque trio sonata, in which two solo instruments performed with a continuo section consisting of a bass instrument (such as a cello) and a keyboard."

During the 16th and 17th centuries, Gregorio Allegri was an Italian composer who created the prototype for the string quartet, as his music included parts for a string ensemble, according to Lumen Learning's Music Appreciation. By the time the quartet itself was created, in the 18th century, composers had already begun to replace keyboard sections with the cello, another base instrument.

Franz Josef Haydn, given the nicknames "Father of the String Quartet" and "Papa Haydn," created the string quartet during the mid-18th century seemingly by accident, according to Portland Center Stage. When Haydn was 18, his boss, the Baron Carl von Joseph Edler von Fürnberg, asked for music, but the only available musicians, "the village pastor, the Baron's steward, Hadyn, and another musician named Albrechtsberger," were two violinists, a violist and a cellist, according to Portland Center Stage. To fulfill his boss' demand, Haydn created the quartet.

Today, the string quartet is intrinsically tied with the notion of classical music — and it was in this cultural mindset that the Alexander String Quartet was born.

Formed in 1981 in New York City, the ASQ currently resides in San Francisco, serving as Ensemble in Residence for San Francisco Performances since 1989 and Directors of the Morrison Chamber Music Center in the College of Liberal and Creative Arts at San Francisco State University, according to the quartet's website.

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# ASG talks changes to daily schedule grid, new dining initiatives, gender neutral restrooms

By **MARLEY PARISH**
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BINNINGTON

Turn and face the strange because Registrar Ian Binnington and the College Curriculum Committee are looking to make changes to Allegheny's daily schedule grid — the time slots classes are scheduled in throughout the day.

Allegheny Student Government began its general assembly at 7:02 p.m. Tuesday, March 5, in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center. The meeting agenda consisted of a visit from Binnington, a discussion about parking regulations, the approval of two club constitutions and a revival of the initiative to create gender neutral bathrooms throughout campus buildings.

The CCC is working on revising class scheduling in order to create more time slots throughout the school day, enhancing the number of class options available for students and professors. Though student representatives sit on the CCC, Binnington's visit was meant to gauge student opinion on potential changes.

While Allegheny has used the same pattern for "several decades," Binnington said its organization works in some ways but not in others, so there has been an ongoing conversation about how the CCC can reform course scheduling.

Any changes made to the curriculum undergo a revision process and must be voted on by faculty members before they are put into effect. Binnington said no changes were being made for the upcoming academic year.

"Clearly, it would take a number of years to implement," Binnington said. "We're not doing anything next year … I would quit before we did that."

Working out possible revisions would take "a couple of years," Binnington said, adding there is no guarantee anything will happen this year.

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## IN THIS WEEK'S CAMPUS



**PEARLY WHITES**
Allegheny College's Pre-Dental Society hosts it annual dental health fair.

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**'HIDDEN TREASURES'**
Professor Michael Keeley debuts his documentary, "This a Cemetery: Greendale."

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**RECRUITING TALENT**
As spring sports wraps up, Allegheny coaches finish recruiting for teams' upcoming seasons.

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**FRIDAY** H 35° L 14° Precipitation: 20% Sunset: 6:19 p.m.

**SATURDAY** H 45° L 36° Precipitation: 20% Sunrise: 6:42 a.m. Sunset: 6:20 p.m.

**SUNDAY** H 50° L 28° Precipitation: 50% Sunrise: 7:41 a.m. Sunset: 7:21 p.m.

# FETTERMAN

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One woman in attendance, Barbra Semen-Oaks, came from Jamestown, New York, and was strongly against legalizing marijuana because of the amount of young people dying due to opioid and marijuana use.

"I doubt that there isn't a person in this room who hasn't been touched by the opioid crisis in some way," Semen-Oaks said. "When I pick up the paper and see a young man that my son went to school with has died of a drug overdose, that's very sad to me. Legalization seems like a very bad idea to me. We can never legalize a vice because we want to make more money for the commonwealth."

Common themes of the speakers included the idea of money and taxation that would be put on marijuana if it was legalized and the amount of medical problems that marijuana had fixed for many in the audience, or for their family members. Others claimed that those who said marijuana had helped to ease their pain were mixing up medical and recreational marijuana.

Both sides included stories of hardships, some created from people smoking marijuana, and others that some thought could have been prevented if they had legally been allowed to smoke marijuana. Craig Amos, a retired state trooper stood up and described his old job of preventing and apprehending impaired drivers under the influence of drugs, specifically marijuana.

"When you have to go and do a death notification, and you see the looks on those people's faces when they realize that state trooper is standing at their door at three in the morning because someone they love is not coming home again, and you see the reaction that occurs, you know that is why I'm against the legalization of marijuana," Amos said.

A woman in the crowd told her story of being one of those people who received a call like Amos described. Other stories included the death of friends and a woman who had her children taken away because she was caught smoking marijuana once and had no support from her family.

On the legalization side, a common problem that was raised was the discrimination against black men who end up in jail because of marijuana, while rich white men often get away with no jail time after being caught.

"I do admit I don't know much about economics, and I don't fully know what will happen if we legalize marijuana," Peyton Britt, '22, said. "I do know there are white places in Los Angeles that will pay you $100 an hour to smoke weed and do some yoga, while there are black men out there who are in jail and serving time for a dime bag."

As the event came to a close, some in the room spoke on how the legalization of marijuana is a bigger issue than they realized before they came.

"When I came in and filled out the comment card, I circled that I was for the legalization of marijuana," Mark Myers, '19, said. "I'm still kind of for that, but I kind of thought that this was a lot more cut and dry than it's turned out to be. The stories that I've heard tonight made me tear up a bit, and I was not expecting that, to be honest."

Myers told the audience his own personal story where his friend got high on marijuana after a practice and died after crashing on his drive home.

"And I can't say that he would want me to get up here and say that marijuana is an evil thing because I don't believe he would think that," Myers said. "I guess these things just came to my head while I was sitting here."



EMILY RICE/THE CAMPUS

Lt. Gov. John Fetterman speaks to audience members about the legalization of marijuanna in Pennsylvania on a visit to campus. Fetterman spoke in Schultz Banquet Hall Wednesday, Feb. 27, 2019.

One person in the room said she thought it was sad youth these days seem to need drugs to have fun, and that was not happening when they were younger. Others said this was because of the generation gap and what students these days have to deal with.

"Some of the anecdotal evidence I've heard on this has been really moving, so I just wanted to counter with some anecdotal evidence of my own," Dominic Bell, '20, said. "There was a quote earlier, that I'm not going to argue with because (everyone) has the right to their opinion, but I think it was 'I think it's sad that young people just can't have fun anymore.' … We're the most stressed, overworked, underpaid generation of all time, and so the idea of us having fun just doesn't really exist. But I think it's a credit and not a shame to you and your administration that you're going around and talking about this, because it is the will of the people."

After people had the chance to speak their minds, Fetterman called for people to raise their hands to show whether they were for, against, or in the middle, on whether marijuana should be legal. More members in the crowd raised their hands for legalization than against, and only two or three were undecided. After seeing and hearing the last few thoughts, Fetterman thanked everyone for coming again, and for giving up their time to be heard.

# ASG

*from page 1*

"We have been talking to a number of constituencies, academic departments, conference and events, athletics, and we wanted to make sure that the student voice was included in this," he said.

Binnington said he was mostly interested in hearing opinions about the principles and concerns the CCC should consider while revising the grid.

"We can get into the weeds if you want to get into the weeds, but I think it would be most helpful for the committee, at this point, to think about this at a fairly high level," Binnington said.

Clarifying a question from Class of 2021 President Emma Godel, Binnington said the CCC is mainly focusing on the start and end times of classes. With this, classroom types need to be taken into account. Binnington used studio space and lab availability as examples.

"The goal is to increase student choice," Binnington said, answering a question from Director of Communication and Press David Roach, '21, about whether or not changes would help students who are deciding between major and minor requirements. "Right now, what we have is a situation for a variety of reasons that we are concentrating our classes in the middle of the day — roughly between 10 o'clock and 2 o'clock, and if you look at the pattern of when students are in class, there are obviously students in class late, but there aren't very many doing those two things."

The CCC cannot eliminate choice, Binnington said.

"We are teaching four to five hundred classes a semester in five days," he said. "We cannot eliminate choice. It's always going to be necessary to choose between A, B and C."

The revision process is in a "theoretical realm," according to Binnington. The CCC has come up with and discarded a number of options, and Binnington said that is why he did not come to the meeting with a set proposal in mind. However, he did say the committee is working to see if it can incorporate time for business happening in the evening into other times across the grid. In addition, Binnington said he and committee members have also considered beginning the academic day later than 8 a.m. as well as looking at increasing the number of 75-minute classes.




MARLEY PARISH/THE CAMPUS

Registrar Ian Binnington speaks about changes to Allegheny College's daily grid schedule during Allegheny Student Government's general assembly meeting Tuesday, March 5, 2019, in room 301/302 of the Henderson Campus Center.

"There are some kind of hard barriers that we're up against," Binnington said. "We only have a certain number of rooms. … We have enough, but we don't have a surplus of rooms."

The CCC has to be mindful about creating a grid that balances class times and spaces evenly, he said; avoiding the overlap of labs and other classes is a point of concern for the CCC.

"We want to respect the times that are set aside for important student activities and extracurriculars, particularly music (and) particularly athletics," Binnington said. "We're mindful that you guys have other things that are competing for your time, and we don't want to have a situation where, not only are you having to make choices between one class and another, but now you're suddenly having to make other choices between your music ensemble and your athletic practice."

The balancing act required to effectively revise the scheduling grid requires CCC members to take into account extracurriculars and curriculum requirements while also working within a five-day timeframe.

"We can't invent new days; we can't build new buildings," Binnington said, adding that the "room for maneuver" is not very wide once every factor is taken into account.

Class of 2020 President Elyse Cinquino asked about the varying minors that require a select number of students to take a junior seminar to fulfill their minor requirements. Binnington is also a professor of history and said Allegheny's history department requires history minors to take a junior seminar because it acts as a capstone to the overall educational experience. However, each department decides specific requirements as they are the experts in their academic area of study.

"It's certainly true that anytime … you have required classes it's going to lead to

> "We can't invent new days; we can't build new buildings."
>
> —IAN BINNINGTON
> Registrar,
> Allegheny College

schedule complications," Binnington said. "And that's why we encourage students as much as possible to plan ahead."

Roach asked Binnington about how the new scheduling system will work to alleviate majors that are experiencing a "surge" in popularity among students.

"Those things are to a certain extent cyclical," Binnington said. "And that makes them a little bit difficult to plan for but not impossible."

When planning for scheduling and enrollment, Binnington said he and academic department chairs meet each year to predict how many seats are going to be needed for each class.

Though it is not an "exact science," Binnington said he is able to look at past years enrollment to help him make these decisions.

When comparing Allegheny's grid to other higher educational institutions, Binnington said Allegheny students' extracurricular and academic interests influence the grid's structure.

"It kind of depends on what the particular student body composition and values of the institution are," he said. "In our case, we kind of do a little bit of everything. We have a music program, but we don't have a conservatory. We have a robust and significant athletics program. We have a lot of lab science departments, but we also have a lot of people that are doing humanities and social sciences that don't have labs. So, we're trying to do as much as we possibly can between 8 (a.m.) and 4:30 (p.m.) — accounting for lunch, accounting for this, accounting for that."

Class of 2021 Senator Taylor Marzouca concluded the conversation by thanking Binnington and the CCC for their work and effort to try and piece together this "four-dimensional puzzle."

"The whole reason that we do this is for you," he concluded. "There's no point in doing it otherwise. We're not doing it for ourselves; we're doing it for you guys."

Binnington asked students to send feedback his way, to Jennifer Hellwarth, professor of English, or any student representatives on the CCC.

Echoing similar points made by Binnington, Chief of Staff Jason Ferrante, '20, said the CCC's open meeting went "okay-ish." He added there was not a lot of representation across academic departments in attendance.

ASG's constitutional revision process is "chugging along" with over 180 edits on its constitution, according to Ferrante.

To conclude, Ferrante said he is working with the Office of Public Safety and the general policy working group to see what the office's policy is on ticketing.

"They expressed that they want to be fair to students, but their concern is situations where a student might park in one gold lot, get a ticket, move to another gold lot in the same day and then be surprised that they got a second ticket," Ferrante said. "So, we're going to work on that."

Roach, who was the initial person to raise the concern in a previous meeting, clarified the original issue was about students who received two tickets within 24-hours in the same parking spot.

During his report, Roach told ASG members to encourage their friends to vote, especially seniors.

"Tell your friends; make sure that they vote," Roach said. "We'd love to get some good voter turnout this year."

After ASG voted to approve constitutions from the Allegheny Mental Health Awareness Club and the Sportsmen's Club, Monessha Jabaylan, '19, attorney general, also reminded ASG members to vote in the election.

Director of Sustainability and Environmental Affairs Cat Lord, '20, reported that the dining committee is working to incorporate more vegetarian options into the main line at Brooks Dining Hall with the hope of cutting down on meat consumption.

The Class of 2020 welcomed a new senator into its ranks with the swearing in of Zach McClarnon, a student who said he was "all about government" and wanted to cause some change from the inside.

During her report, ASG President Camila Gomez, '19, encouraged students to vote in the ASG presidential elections.

In new business, Roach, who is also an admissions tour guide, asked a question about labeling the gender neutral restroom on the first floor of the campus center, located in the art wing. The restroom is not marked as a bathroom and instead has "A 109" on its door.

"When we are doing open houses, there is only one gender neutral bathroom in the campus center," Roach said. "...There's nothing to distinguish it as a bathroom … is there some way to label it or practice what we preach, in a way, so that it is accessible to people who are trying to use it?"

Gomez answered the concern by saying she was sure ASG could get "some signage" for the restroom.

Additional discussion about whether or not an initiative to increase the number of gender neutral restrooms on campus was on ASG's agenda. Ferrante said the matter would be discussed and taken into account as the college prepares to make renovations over the summer.

# CHURCH

*from page 1*

"I saw delegates arguing passionately both for and against the Traditional Plan, which ultimately passed."

The ending vote was to pass or fail the One Church Plan that would have allowed the Methodist Church to remain united on this issue. According to Nickell, when the Plan was defeated by a narrow margin, it became obvious how divided the church is on LGBTQ rights.

"I think the one thing that I saw that a lot of people in the news did not was the resilience and joy of our LGBTQ United Methodists," Nickell said. "Even though they continue to be shut out of the church, they are determined to stay."

What ended up being passed in the vote is a complicated subject and violates the United Methodist Church's constitution, according to Nickell.

"So although it was disappointing to see it be voted in, it is unlikely that it will take effect, and if it does, it will be a much more scaled down version," Nickell said.

The General Conference is a body of delegates that normally meets once every four years, according to Nickell with the last time they met being in 2016. Though the planned four years was not up, the delegates wanted to meet earlier and discuss LGBTQ inclusion.

Nickell expressed her hope when the next official meeting comes in 2020 delegates will go with a clear plan to separate into two different church bodies in order to create a more inclusive Methodist Church in the United States.

As far as what comes next for the schools and universities connected to the United Methodist Church, Nickell said that how each affiliated school moves forward will depend on each school's views.

"My hope is that Allegheny and other Methodist-affiliated schools will wait until (the separation) happens and then align with the more inclusive body that comes out of that separation," Nickell said.

President James Mullen wrote in an email to The Campus how the news of the decision had impacted him and what Allegheny plans to do because of it in the future.

"I am deeply saddened by the recent vote of the United Methodist Church to adopt the 'Traditional Plan,'" Mullen wrote. "The 'Traditional Plan' stands in contradiction to Allegheny's Statement of Community. I am even more saddened because the relationship between Allegheny and the United Methodist Church extends back almost two centuries. As the United Methodist Church comes to a final determination about its future, I will continue to work with the presidents of the more than 118 United Methodist-related colleges and universities, as well as our Board of Trustees and campus community, to evaluate what steps are appropriate for Allegheny."

Specific details of what it means to be a United Methodist-affiliated school are described in the United Methodist Church affiliated handbook.

A petition was started by Maximus Levinsky, '21, after the convention to ask Mullen and the board of trustees to consider discontinuing affiliation with the United Methodist Church.

"I have been following this issue closely and started a petition to request that the college disaffiliate from the UMC," Levinsky said. "...As of right now, we have about 100 signatures from students, faculty and a couple alumni … I'm hoping that the petition will continue to work its way around campus and gain more support."

Members of the campus community who belong to the LGBTQ community agree with the petition and hope Allegheny will choose to unaffiliate themselves from the United Methodist Church, while the majority of the Church refuses to accept them for who they are.

"As a young queer woman who grew up Methodist, I am incredibly saddened by the decision to follow the Traditional Plan," Quinn Broussard, '22, said. "While I no longer affiliate myself with the church, I was always raised to believe that the most important lesson to be found was in Matthew 22:37-39 which states that all that matters is to love God and to love each other. The decision by the United Methodist Church is counterintuitive to these lessons and is one promoting the antithesis of Jesus' teachings. It's disheartening to see that something that brought me such comfort during my teenage years has actively decided that they want to affirm their refusal to accept me and all of my friends' experiences and identities based on mistranslated and misinterpreted verses."

Broussard said she fully supports the petition started by Levinsky and believes disaffiliation is needed in order to be able to uphold the campus's statement of community.

Sarah Daniels Roncolato, reverend of Stone United Methodist Church on South Main Street, held a meeting at the end of the regular Sunday service that a few students attended, detailing what the decision means for the church itself, and what the congregation can do moving forward.

"For right now, we don't have to do anything, we're going to see how this spring unfolds," Roncolato said. "The issue that remains is property, and how the property will be split. This body could walk out the door of this church and meet somewhere else, and this church would still be here. This is Methodism, we didn't just come up with this."

In April, the Traditional Plan passed at the General Conference will move to the United Methodist Judicial Council where it will be decided whether it is in line with the current constitution. If the Plan is passed again, it will officially take effect. Roncolato explained the decision was made based on the United Methodist Book of Discipline, but the book itself has confusing language that helped create the split.

"(The book) says that we should be against the LGBTQ community getting married or ordained, and even that if a Methodist minister presides over a wedding, they can (be removed) from the church," Roncolato said. "And yet it also says that all should be accepted and welcome in the church."

Roncolato explained that until everything is sorted out, her church will continue to meet and hold ministry.

"We're going to strive as much as possible (to keep our statement) that everyone is welcome here," Roncolato said.

Nickell said that another part of moving forward is trying to understand the other side and where the resistance comes from.

"In my attempts to understand where their resistance to this comes from, I look back at the resistance to the leadership of African-Americans and women in the Methodist Church," Nickell said. "Unfortunately, what I saw was that those changes only happened in the case of women after about 75 years. In the case of race it was well over a century. What that tells me is that the people who are entrenched and see this as a threat to the institution that they love are unlikely to change their minds."

Nickell said she was in favor of a split between the two sides of the argument to be able to create a more open and inclusive Methodist Church, because she believes people who are against inclusion will take a long time to change their minds and that the Church can not wait that long.

"It is interesting, because there are a number of people who have changed their perspective," Nickell said. "But when people change their mind (it seems) to only go one way. I don't see many stories about people who have accepted homosexuality and then read the Bible and changed their minds."

River Branch, associate professor of communication arts, said she has already witnessed much of the damage the United Methodist Church's decision has caused among members of the LGBTQ community on campus and said she believes if the college continues its affiliation with the United Methodist Church, Allegheny is giving power to the Church's stance.

"My first response to the decision was mixed," Branch said. "I went from despair, to hopelessness to a reckoning that the Allegheny community would understand why it is so critical to engage in these issues. I asked myself whether or not (the community) would understand the concrete damage already being absorbed by the LGBTQ community because of this relationship and the increased damage by our continued affiliation in response to this decision."

Branch described the LGBTQ community as vulnerable with high rates of depression and suicide and lacking support.

"It's a unique community in the fact that primary systems of support are often severed in the coming out process," Branch said. "Students need to be able to trust in the community in which they are currently inhabiting."

Branch enforced her idea that the college should no longer be affiliated with the United Methodist Church. She said though she respects all views and everyone's right to worship, for the college to remain affiliated would mean giving support to the church's stance that everyone in the LGBTQ community should not be welcomed in the church and that belonging to that community is a sin.

"This is, in no way, a benign relationship," Branch said. "There's no way we can uphold the statement of community and remain affiliated. In order to stand behind our statement there is a tough decision to make. I've heard people say we should wait and see. I think that we know what's right, and what justice is. We need to move from the place where we're asking people who have been waiting to continue to wait for full rights. We can't keep asking them to wait for change. As a person raising a child in this community, how do I explain that the college where his mother teaches is affiliated with a place that believes his family is one conceived outside God's love and wouldn't allow his mother to get married?"

Branch added that she wanted the Allegheny community to understand the United Methodist Church is "fairly alone among Protestant denominations," and that she believes Allegheny should take a leadership role and follow some other colleges that are already moving away from the United Methodist Church.

Nickell said that while Allegheny does not agree with the decision made at the convention, overall the connection to the UMC provides certain benefits to those affiliated with the church, including scholarships that students would not be able to receive if they went to other schools.

"The United Methodist Church shares a lot of common values with (Allegheny), specifically on education and global health," Nickell said. "So I think for students who didn't know we were Methodist-affiliated, or knew but didn't know what that meant, it is a good connection for us to have, and we share a lot of common values. I think for those reasons it's good for us to continue the affiliation while the church sorts this out and hopefully comes to a position that's more in line with our statement of community. I also want to make sure that any of our LGBTQ students who are feeling especially hurt and alienated by this know that they can come talk to me or (go) anywhere where they feel they can be supported."

# 'That's my voice'

## *Niblock presents lecture on seeing, hearing sound*



EMILY RICE/THE CAMPUS

Associate Professor of Music James Niblock presents his lecture titled "That's My Voice?"- Seeing and Hearing the Sound of You" at 7 p.m. Wed. March 6, 2019, in the Henderson Campus Center Room 301/302.

## Crime Blotter

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

**March 3, 2019**
**Edwards Hall**
Criminal Mischief.

**March 3, 2019**
**Walker Hall**
Criminal Mischief.

**March 5, 2019**
**North Village II**
Rape.

**March 7, 2019**
**Schultz Hall**
Drug Possession.

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# Allegheny Pre-Dental Society hosts annual fair




HANNAH SCHAFFER/THE CAMPUS

Janet Beers, a representative for UPMC for you, provides materials on dental health to attendees of the Children's Dental Health Fair Saturday, March 2, 2019, at the Lew Davies Community Building.

By **HANNAH SCHAFFER**
Science/International Editor
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Wellness is a hot topic — physically, mentally and socially; however, dental health gets lost in the discussion. Allegheny's Pre-Dental Society's annual Children's Dental Health Fair aims to remedy this gap.

The Pre-Dental society hosted its 5th annual dental fair in partnership with the Meadville Medical Center on Saturday, March 2. The fair took place at the Lew Davies Community Building.

Promoting oral health throughout Crawford County is only one of the Pre-Dental Society's goals. The society also aims to help Allegheny students prepare for the Dental Admissions Test and provide advice for students applying to dental schools.

The Allegheny Pre-Dental Society hosts the Children's Dental Health Fair each year in celebration of February being Children's Dental Health Awareness month.

While the fair was geared towards children 15 and under, information was widely available to people of all ages.

In recent years, dental health has been a controversial topic. Dental health has been especially controversial in Meadville as the city moves forwards with plans for adding fluoride to the city's supply of drinking water.

Since the mid-1940s, fluoride has been added to water supplies throughout the United States to increase overall dental health and decrease tooth decay.

In 1945, Grand Rapids, Michigan led the movement and was the first community in the United States to add fluoride to its supply of drinking water. The addition provided Grand Rapids with lower levels of tooth decay and cavities.

In fact, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention classified fluoridation of community drinking water as one of its top 10 greatest public health achievements in the 20th century.

It wasn't until the past decade that researchers began to reconsider the benefits of adding fluoride to drinking water.

Harvard University's Chan School of Public Health concluded that dental cavities and tooth decay have been decreasing in countries that add and do not add fluoride to drinking water, making it unclear if adding fluoride to drinking water is in fact the cause of increased dental health.

The lack of evidence supporting fluoridation as the cause of increased dental health is just one reason why people oppose adding fluoride to drinking water.

> (The fair) is just a way to reach out to kids in Meadville and around the area to give them more information on dental health."
>
> —MORGAN RICHIE
> Class of 2019,
> Allegheny College

The Fluoride Action Network released a list of 50 reasons to oppose fluoridation in 2012. The Network explained that when fluoridating drinking water, the dose of fluoride each person receives cannot be controlled because there is no way to monitor each individual's consumption of water.

The fluoride is also being consumed by all people regardless of age or vulnerabilities. This means that infants, who don't need protection against tooth decay, are being served fluoride when drinking water is combined with their formula.

Other reasons to stop fluoridation, according to the Fluoride Action Network, included unhealthy fluoride accumulation in the human body, that tooth decay does not increase when fluoridation is stopped and that fluoridation may potentially be linked to a number of negative health effects including impaired thyroid function and reproductive issues.

In June 2017, the Meadville Area Water Authority voted 3-2 in favor of Meadville adding fluoride to the city's water supply.

However, it wasn't until July 2018 that the Department of Environmental Protection issued Meadville the necessary permit to install the equipment needed for the fluoridation of the city's water supply.

This permit only allows for the installation of the necessary equipment. Once the equipment is installed, the DEP will need to make sure the equipment is installed properly and then issue another permit certifying MAWA to begin fluoridating the water supply.

An official timeline for the fluoridation of the Meadville water supply is not clear.

In the meantime, the Children's Dental Fair provided a number of different ways to promote dental health without fluoride in drinking water.

"(The fair) is just a way to reach out to kids in Meadville and around the area to give them more information on dental health and why it is important," said Morgan Richie, '19. "Hopefully, they will see that (dental health) can be fun for them."

A number of different organizations were represented at the fair, each encouraging kids to stay on top of their dental hygiene. Meadville Medical Center, UPMC, Active Aging and the Crawford County Dental Society were among the organizations represented.

One table at the fair encouraged children to make smart beverage choices, explaining that many beverages contain added sugars that are detrimental to dental health and provide little to no nutrients.

A report by United Concordia Dental concluded that sodas such as Mountain Dew, Pepsi and Dr. Pepper contain over 15 teaspoons of sugar. This is nearly double what the American Heart Association recommends for daily sugar intake. The recommended daily intake of sugar is 9 teaspoons for men and 6 teaspoons for women.

UPMC for you, a medicaid program, was also represented at the dental fair.

"My main goal is to make sure people walk away with some education on dental health," said Janet Beers, a representative for UPMC for you.

Beers encourages people to brush their teeth two or three times a day using a pea size amount of toothpaste. She also recommends drinking lots of water throughout the day and only consuming drinks high in sugar with meals.

"Once we put the sugar in our mouth, that sugar turns to acid and then the acid will lay on our teeth for 20 minutes and then it goes away," Beers said. "Every time you put sugar in your mouth, that attack starts again and again and again, causing cavities."

Beers also warned against drinking milk before bed, explaining that calcium and fluoride cancel each other. She suggests waiting 30 minutes both before and after brushing teeth to consume any product containing calcium.

Other community organizations, not related to dental health, were also represented at the fair. Head Start, a preschool program funded by the federal government for children of low-income households, was one of the community organizations present.

"We also have other organizations here such as Head Start that are part of the Meadville community so they can see what else is in the community to help them with overall health," said Alexandra Metzger, '19.

# CAMPUS ASKS:

## Reducing Allegheny's carbon footprint through dining initatives

During Allegheny Student Government's general assembly Tuesday, March 5, Cat Lord, director of sustainability and environmental affairs, announced she had met with the college's dining committee to discuss reducing meat consumption in Brooks Dining Hall in order to reduce the college's carbon footprint.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization announced that animal agriculture was the leading cause of global greenhouse gas emissions in 2017, producing approximately 14.5 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Animal agriculture contributes to air and water pollution, deforestation and species extinction.

Lord suggested having one meat option and moving some of the vegetarian options to the main line in hopes that this change will encourage students to take advantage of the vegetarian options.

After the announcement, The Campus asked students…

*'How do you feel about the college offering less meat options in Brooks to reduce its carbon footprint?'*



ZEMAITIS

*"Yes. Yes. Yes. I'm vegetarian, and the reason I am vegetarian is because I want to reduce my carbon footprint. Thus, I think the school should do that, and it would just be nice to have more options."*
*-Katherine Zemaitis, '21*



GALLAGHER

*"I am not a vegetarian. I like eating meat. I would prefer not to, so I think vegetarian options would help because I think that a lot of times if I don't want to eat meat, I just end up eating rice or pasta. I am a fan."*
*-Samantha Gallagher, '21*



JOSEPH

*"I would love that. I don't eat meat, so the more options that I could have that aren't steamed vegetables and crunchy rice would be nice."*
*-Brittany Joseph, '21*

# Strong and empowered: Celebrating Allegheny women

By **WILLY WALKER**
Sports Editor
walkerw@allegheny.edu



**LOHR**



**HEPLER**



**DECKERT**

This International Women's Day, March 8, 2019, will be the last International Women's Day and March will be the last Women's History Month without a woman holding Allegheny College's highest office. When President-elect Hilary Link is sworn in July 1, 2019, history will be made.

Though women have made great strides toward equality in recent history, women are still subjected to discrimination and gender stereotypes.

Professor of Chemistry Alice Deckert knew she wanted to teach at a liberal arts institution and applied to Allegheny when there was a job posting for a physical chemist. She thought she wanted to teach English, but was ultimately drawn to chemistry, despite the field being male-dominated.

"I think that there are definitely some challenges that come along with it; personally, I don't feel like I've no big, huge moment of 'wow I'm really getting discriminated against,'" Deckert said.

Deckert pointed out the lack of women in the physics and computer science fields compared to chemistry, and the lack of female chemists compared to the number of female biologists. She described the situation as being parity at the college level.

"If I look at my classes, probably more than half of them are women a lot of the times," Deckert said. "We've got the women taking chemistry at the college level, but then if you look at the graduate school level, there's not parity."

Deckert emphasized the lack of women at the graduate school level, which means the number of women with doctorates is low.

Deckert described the need for female chemists to have tough skin as they face a mostly-male field of study.

"I think that you have to recognize all of the little things that are not fair but not let it hold you back," Deckert said. "Have that be something that pushes you forward rather than have it being something that holds you back."

Deckert stated how having women in upper management positions is a step in the right direction. She does not believe having more people in the field is the only answer.

"The fact that more and more women are beginning to show up at the higher administrative levels, not just in higher education but also in industry, can only help things," Deckert said. "I think there's lots of ways that we have to attack gender parity in STEM fields and other fields as well."

Although the STEM field is still victim to gender stereotypes, the world of athletics has remained mostly impartial to gender roles in comparison.

Head Women's Field Hockey Coach Valerie Lohr, who started several athletic programs in the past, was first introduced to field hockey because her sisters played the sport. She ended up at Allegheny because it felt like home.

"It's such a wonderful place to be everything that you could possibly be, and everyone here whether it's in athletics, academics, advising, staff, faculty, everything, they're all just conspiring to help each other reach the best possible versions of themselves," Lohr said.

She described how honored she is to be the first coach for women's field hockey at Allegheny, noting how it is not just the women on the field who make the team, but everyone who impacts them.

Lohr discussed the importance for young women to try something new. She said you will never regret trying, but always regret not trying. She also pointed out the importance of accidents and that it is okay to misstep.

"Keep asking for help and don't be afraid to be bold; be kind and be bold," Lohr said. "Being bold doesn't mean being too directive or mean, but there's nothing wrong with saying what you want and going for it. People will respect you for your honesty, and they'll know your trajectory if you're just honest about it, and there's no shame in going for it."

Lohr hopes to impact her students as a role model both by her words and her actions.

"We want to give them the confidence that they can walk into any room and know that not only should they be there, they deserve to be there because they worked really hard and that the only thing holding them back will be themselves," Lohr said. "We want to break those barriers down for them and have them walk away as confident, well spoken and driven young women."

Lohr expressed her excitement for Link's arrival in July.

"I think that it's inspiring to be able to say that we are here at Allegheny creating this new team, this new era, and Allegheny's all for it," Lohr said. "President Mullen's fully behind it. President Link, I'm sure she's fully behind it. No one wants to see anyone do anything except succeed, and that has got to get (the students) jazzed for sure."

Professor of Music Julie Hepler was drawn to Allegheny mostly because of her husband, Lowell Hepler, director of bands, who she met before applying for the job. Originally starting on flute because it was "a girl thing," she eventually found clarinet and bassoon.

"I love it at Allegheny," Julie said. "I wasn't sure because I'm a product of extremely large music schools, and I couldn't figure out what a small place like this had to offer, but in this climate today, this is the way to go."

One noticeable challenge Julie faced was her father's objections. She said he believed music was an avocation rather than a vocation.

She spoke about facing chauvinism in her years of playing in orchestras because she was one of the few women who played her instrument. She attributes this to the time period, when a male could make comments about a woman's appearance and it was not as big deal of a deal as it is now.

"It was just what happened; men made creepy comments to women and we're just supposed to shrug it off so that's how it was," Julie said.

Julie said she is delighted to see times changing, but urged younger women to be more patient with older people because of the generational disconnect.

When discussing her dealings with chauvinism, Julie said she does not get offended easily.

"I can't control other people, but I can control my own reactions to it," Julie said. "It taught me patience with others, trying to see situations from other people's points of view and if I wanted to work I had to get along with these people.

Julie prefers taking a gentler route to handling chauvinism, believing gentle change leaves a more powerful impact on people.

An additional challenge Julie continues to battle is her health. She recently underwent chemotherapy, missing a majority of the fall semester and being unable to play at the professional level or being able to teach her students. She completed her last chemotherapy session before winter break and has recently been declared N.E.D., or No Evidence of Disease.

"I've had to figure out different ways of teaching and just different ways of being, because when you're a musician, you have to totally rethink who you are in this world when you can no longer do things at the level that you're used to," Julie said.

Julie emphasized the need for women to not sacrifice their natural femininity.

"You can be feminine and be strong and be a leader at the same time," Julie said. "Don't feel like you have to totally shut yourself off from that in order to be successful in the arts."

As Allegheny prepares to make history this summer, the college will see a woman take the highest office for the first time.

"I think it's high time that Allegheny has a woman in a position at the presidency level," Deckert said. "We've never had a woman president, and I think we're lagging behind the times in that."

Julie and Lohr shared similar excitement, with Lohr stating how wonderful it will be for her students.

"I think I'm just really excited to be at Allegheny," Lohr said. "It's a perfect time to start writing history, breaking records, and I have (been) met with nothing but support from everyone that's here, so I can't imagine this not being an incredible journey coming forward."

# A balancing act

*from page 1*



**EMILY RICE**/THE CAMPUS

The Alexander String Quartet, comprised of first violinist Zakarias Grafilo, second violinist Frederick Lifsitz, violist Paul Yarbrough and cellist Sandy Wilson, is accompanied by Allegheny's Jennifer Dearden on trumpet, Douglas Jurs on piano and guest artist Tracy Rowell on double bass Friday, March 1, 2019, in Ford Memorial Chapel.

Since its creation, the ASQ has performed in international music capitals and has "established itself as an important advocate of new music through over 30 commissions from such composers as Jake Heggie, Cindy Cox and … Pulitzer Prize-winner Wayne Peterson," according to the ASQ website. "The quartet has also established itself as an important advocate of new music through over 30 commissions."

The ASQ has received numerous accolades for its performances and work in the industry, including honorary degrees from Allegheny and St. Lawrence University, and in 1985, the ASQ became the "first American quartet to win the London International String Quartet Competition," according to its website.

Zakarias Grafilo, Frederick Lifsitz, Paul Yarbrough and Sandy Wilson, the ASQ's four members, joined the quartet at different times. When Lifsitz, the quartet's second violinist, was asked to play with the ASQ before he officially became a member, he described the feeling as "lightning struck."

With its honorary degree from Allegheny, the quartet has been visiting the college since 1991, playing music and providing history lessons to contextualize each piece for students.

Lifsitz said that visiting college campuses keeps the ASQ from jumping from airplane to airplane, city to city.

"We're really delighted to be here," Lifsitz said.

Speaking with a group of students allowed to listen to a private session, cellist Wilson explained the way he felt about playing music for an audience, especially one comprised almost entirely of young people.

"I think it's interesting to contemplate what we've done," Wilson said. "We've played music for you, and you've listened. I've got to respect that convention. So often, we experience music through our earphones in a particularly passive way."

A majority of the ASQ's interaction with Allegheny students occurs in the various classes they visit, some music-based and others not. Prefacing the music they choose to play as "boisterous movements," Lifsitz discussed his and the quartet's love for showing students this side of music.

"Another thing we love (is) certain classes where students listen so extraordinarily," Lifsitz said. "That's one of the highlights of my career."

Professor of Biology and Neuroscience Lauren French echoed Lifsitz's love for seeing the way music affects students. Through a Gateway 100 course, French and Director of Pre-Professional studies Kirsten Peterson organized a private session for Honors Program students to meet with the ASQ in Ford Chapel.

"I've always been looking for ways to bring students to them," French said. "(I wanted to) give a chance to have an education experience in a completely different setting and just enjoy it."

French's desire was to see the type of music the quartet played to be accessible to students from multiple disciplines at Allegheny.

"I have some students who have a music background and others who don't … it's inaccessible," French said. "It strikes students differently. For some, it's the unfamiliarity that feels more inaccessible … I do think it's a wholly unique experience."

The unique experience French finds in music is applicable to the ASQ, especially in the way they travel, according to Wilson. Meeting new people and experiencing new cultures and areas of the world is one of the job's greatest perks, Wilson said.

"We're there because we have a thing to do, we have music — the universal language," Wilson said.

Playing the cello since he was about eight, Wilson began to seriously consider music as a career when he was about 13 because "all other things seemed too hard," he joked.

Similarly, first violinist Grafilo and violist Yarbrough did not anticipate a career in music when they first began performing. When Yarbrough realized he wanted to play music professionally, he pursued his dream despite disapproval from his mother.

"It wasn't her life I was living; it was mine," Yarbrough said. "I haven't looked back."

Once he decided to pursue music professionally, Yarbrough joined the ASQ, adding that finding like-minded friends "who want to do what you want to do, it's such a great thing."

Since joining the ASQ, Yarbrough has experienced success in his field.

"The fact that I've been able to support myself and a family of four in this career has been a great source of pride," Yarbrough said.

Grafilo experienced similar doubts about becoming a professional musician.

"When I was in college, I was doing my best not to go the music route — I was trying to discover other things — until I met the (quartet)," Grafilo said.

Lifsitz described the way he saw his job, and his ideas reflected the rest of the quartet's love and pride for their career.

"It's not just a job — it's an adventure," Lifsitz said.

Staying true to its method of supporting young composers while paying respect to well-established pieces, the ASQ offered a "balanced meal" of music during its week at Allegheny that challenged audiences "by giving them widely accepted music and less accepted edgier music," Lifsitz said.

The quartet performed music from Robert Schumann, Krzysztof Penderecki and Camille Saint-Saëns during its public performance and invited Allegheny faculty on stage during the second half of the concert. Associate Professor Jennifer Dearden played trumpet, Assistant Professor of Music Douglas Jurs played piano and guest artist Tracy Rowell played double bass.

After a week of playing at Allegheny, both for students and community members, Lifsitz summarized the ASQ's experience on campus.

"Coming to Allegheny is always like coming home," Lifsitz said.

# LOCAL STORYTELLING

## Keeley shares life, work of Vogans in new documentary, 'This is a Cemetery: Greendale'

By **ELLIS GIACOMELLI**
Features Editor
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With quiet excitement, Mary Vogan gently moved a veil of rhododendron branches, revealing a small stone statue hidden beneath.

"There's so many hidden treasures here," Michael Keeley remarked to Mary as he stood behind a video camera capturing the essence of Greendale Cemetery on Randolph Street last year.

Mary and her husband, Jim Vogan, have cared for Greendale's 200 acres for more than three decades. Jim plans to retire in December 2019 after serving as Greendale's superintendent for 38 years.

The Vogans and Greendale caught the attention of Keeley, Allegheny College professor of communication arts/theatre, last spring, and Keeley decided to tell their story in a 67-minute documentary, "This is a Cemetery: Greendale," which premiered at 7 p.m. Feb. 28, at Park Avenue Cinema.

The free screening drew more than 200 people to the theater, prompting Seth Groover, Park Avenue Cinema manager, to turn people away from the 7 p.m. show and host an unplanned second screening at 8:30 p.m.

"We've tried film festivals before," Seth said, who screened Keeley's "940 Park Ave." documentary at Park Avenue Cinema in 2016. "None of them have been as successful as Michael's."

A sheet cake complete with iced headstones and flowers waited in the lobby of Park Avenue Cinema as people filed through the theater doors after the first screening.

"I hope you enjoy being in the cemetery for a while," Keeley told an audience of about 50 people at the start of the evening's second screening. "There's poignant moments and quiet moments, but there's also moments where people are laughing. There's a sense of humor to it."

Keeley's storytelling process began Memorial Day 2018, the first day he filmed at Greendale.

Keeley said he knew he would be able to film visitors on Memorial Day weekend and wanted to record moments of people spending time on cemetery paths where the rhododendrons would be in bloom, among rows of loved ones and along wooded trails.

From the initial day of filming, Keeley returned to Greendale to film the changing seasons, capturing the cemetery and park in all weather conditions, through the summer months until November 2018.

Walking down the front steps of the superintendent's house and unlocking the front gates of Greendale, a shot of Patrick Groover opens the film, which covers the lives of Jim, Mary, Patrick and other crew members, operations of the historic cemetery and park and offers glimpses into the future of Greendale.

Patrick, assistant superintendent of Greendale and nephew to Jim and Mary, now lives on the grounds, in the house where Jim and Mary raised their children.

Following Patrick and the Vogans through the cemetery and park grounds, Keeley chronicles the leaf-blowing, weed-eating, flower-planting, grave-digging lives of his caretaker subjects.

With camera in hand, Keeley toured the grounds with Mary, who periodically paused at historic stones and plots, recounting stories of Civil War veterans, Allegheny College presidents and students, the inventor of the zipper — Gideon Sundback — and the first burial at Greendale.

Dated Sept. 22, 1853, the first burial site at the current Greendale grounds marks L. Aurora Balch's resting place. The original cemetery land, Jim explained, served as David Mead's backyard cemetery at the corner of Park Avenue and Randolph Street, when Mead first arrived in the area in 1787.

By the mid-1800s, bodies buried in Mead's original cemetery were moved to the current Greendale grounds a few blocks east on Randolph Street.

"When they brought David Mead up from the old burial ground to our cemetery, as they were putting him in the cemetery at our place, they found out they had the wrong person because they found square cut nails in his casket, and they knew that wasn't right," Jim laughed, as he told the Park Avenue Cinema audience after the second screening. "So they had the wrong person, and they went back and got another person and declared him David Mead. We think we got David Mead."

Punctuated by moments of peaceful instrumentals and anecdotal history lessons from Jim and Mary, the charm of "This is a Cemetery: Greendale" is best described by George Shepard, whose words are inscribed on a stone at the entrance of Greendale.

"A cemetery is a history of people — a perpetual record of yesterday and a sanctuary of peace and quiet today," the stone reads in part. "A cemetery exists because every life is worth loving and remembering — always."

Shepard's short poem, "This is a Cemetery," is reflective of how Jim and Mary think about their lives at Greendale, and how Keeley wanted to represent the space. Cemeteries do not have to be scary or creepy places, the Vogans argue in the film. In fact, Greendale serves as both a cemetery and park, with wooded trails along a ravine.

Cemeteries and their grounds can represent the shared history of a community and its people, an idea Keeley said is sometimes forgotten in contemporary, local storytelling.

"There's a real gap in media for focusing on the community you're in," Keeley said. "There's a lot of great stories right here."

A new chapter in Greendale's story is about to be written, as Patrick is set to be superintendent after Jim retires in December, and is working to fully digitize land maps to create a comprehensive and convenient database of cemetery information.

Some resources are already available on the Greendale Cemetery website, which was redesigned in the last month by Patrick, Jim and Mary's son Daryl Vogan, and software engineer Reed Dunkle. The reconstructed website features photographs, an overview of Greendale's history and services, as well as maps of cemetery plots and sections.

The maps were originally in paper format and required careful tracing and overlaying to transform into digitally-accessible images. In the next few years, Patrick estimated, he plans on developing an app on which the maps will be available and users can search for plots, headstones of family members and scans of obituaries and stories related to the deceased.

"He's the future," Jim said of Patrick.

Keeley hoped to share the treasured history and hopeful future of Greendale through the project, but he said he did not imagine sharing it with a packed auditorium, where people lined the walls, standing.

Mary told the full auditorium she felt "overwhelmed" by the support of her community when the credits rolled after the first screening. Audience members flocked to the front of the auditorium to thank Keeley for his work, to thank the Vogans for their decades of dedication and to thank Patrick for carrying Greendale's legacy.

With a tight shot of a headstone's intricate cut-out design, a lanky spider enters the frame of the closing image. The spider pauses, almost looking into the camera. Then, it scurries out of frame, disappearing behind the headstone.

Keeley was particularly excited about capturing the spider's moment, capturing a crew of grave diggers over the course of a few days, capturing the secrets hidden in the rhododendrons and the snow dancing among sleeping bodies.

"There's always happy accidents if you wait long enough," Keeley said.

A third screening of "This is a Cemetery: Greendale" is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, April 11, in Allegheny's Gladys Mullenix Black Theatre in the Vukovich Center for Communication Arts.



Film still contributed by Michael Keeley

A small cherub statue is visible through rhododendron branches at Greendale Cemetery on Randolph Street, in Meadville, one of many "hidden treasures" described by Michael Keeley and Mary Vogan in 'This is a Cemetery: Greendale.'

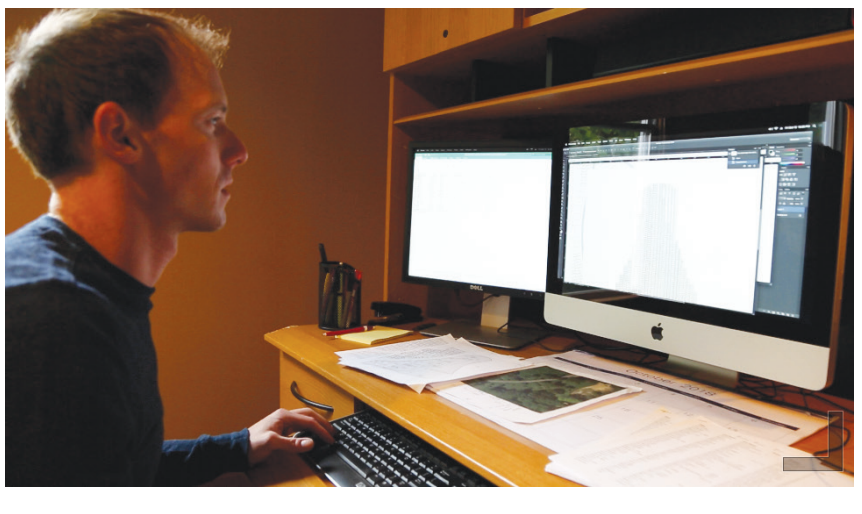


ELLIS GIACOMELLI/THE CAMPUS

A full auditorium at Park Avenue Cinema applauds after the premier of Michael Keeley's documentary, 'This is a Cemetery: Greendale,' which was screened at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, 2019.

> "There's poignant moments and quiet moments, but there's also moments where people are laughing. There's a sense of humor to it."
>
> —MICHAEL KEELEY
> Professor of communication arts/theatre, Allegheny College








Film stills contributed by Michael Keeley

**Top left:** Jim and Mary Vogan sit for an interview with Michael Keeley, who produced the 67-minute documentary 'This is a Cemetery: Greendale.' Jim has served as superintendent of Greendale Cemetery since 1981 and plans to retire in December 2019. **Bottom left:** Patrick Groover, assistant superintendent of Greendale Cemetery, works on digitizing maps of the Greendale grounds as part of a new digital initiative to make Greendale data more accessible to community members. **Above:** The Allegheny College plot at Greendale Cemetery is home to alumni and several college presidents, including William Crawford, who served as Allegheny College president from 1893 to 1920.

# Ross named director of athletics and recreation

## *Gator athletics announces internal hire of 23-year college employee*

By **OLIVIA BLAKESLEE**
Sports Editor
blakesleeo@allegheny.edu



Contributed by ED MAILLARD

Bill Ross, director of athletics and recreation, addresses the crowd at the renaming of the David V. Wise Center's performance arena after President James Mullen on Feb. 1, 2019. The renaming was one of the projects Ross oversaw in his seven-month tenure as interim director of athletics and recreation.

Working with a national firm, a search committee comprised of Allegheny students, faculty and staff chose to bring 23 years of Allegheny experience to the helm of the athletic department with the hiring of Bill Ross as director of athletics and recreation.

"Going into the process, I said it's going to be tough to find anybody that's going to be able to compete with Bill Ross, being around the school for so long, seeing its ups and downs, peaks and valleys," said Karol Vargas, '19, a student and former student-athlete who served on the search committee. "He knows everybody here; everybody loves Bill. Most importantly, Bill had that first thing that I had just said; he wants to win. He wants to bring Allegheny back."

Ross's official hiring was announced via a press release on the Allegheny athletics website Feb. 26, 2019. Ross formerly served as interim director of athletics and recreation since July 2018. Ross said he approached Executive Vice President Eileen Petula and expressed interest in serving in the interim role to maintain smooth operations in the athletic department.

"I think just the nature of athletics is so fast-moving that so often, it's a good idea to have one person in charge, ultimately making some tough decisions so we can keep moving forward on things," Ross said. "I told (Petula), 'It's a goal of mine to become an athletic director, it's a great way for me to try on the hat and see whether I like it or not.'"

Ross has worn multiple hats in his Gator athletics career. He came to Allegheny in 1996 after he was hired as the head coach of the men's and women's track and field and cross country teams. Ross's coaching tenure included a record 31 NCAC Coach of the Year honors.

Ross made the official move to administration in 2010, when he was hired as associate director of athletics and recreation. Ross said he was eager to make the transition, despite his love of coaching. Ross served on several committees during his coaching tenure that gave him a taste of the kind of role he now holds.

"Whenever there was a committee, I was like 'Me! Can I do it?'" Ross said. "I really enjoy the administrative side of sport. Even though I obviously had a lot of success in the coaching realm, whenever you can help institute change, to me I find that exciting."

During his seven-month tenure in his former interim role, Ross oversaw the addition of two new varsity sports for a total of 23 Allegheny varsity sports. Ross also oversaw the official renaming of the performance arena at the David V. Wise Center after President James Mullen. Ross spoke to the Allegheny community during the unveiling of the newly names James H. Mullen Jr. Arena, or "Jim's Gym."

"I think (Ross) made a first step with that basketball game versus Wabash when they renamed the basketball arena," Vargas said. "You could really tell that the way he spoke to the crowd and the crowd responds and loves the way (Ross) talks to them really fires everybody up, including the athletes. When he would come talk to the football team, for example, we were always really riled up to see (Ross)."

That ability to "fire everybody up" made Ross a standout, especially combined with his decades of experience, according to Vargas. He said it was particularly meaningful for him as a student to see that the college had hired internally instead of serving as a sort of "revolving door with the faculty and staff."

"He's really a guy that is excited about Allegheny, excited about the athletics here, and that's just something that everybody on the committee couldn't stop talking about," Vargas said.

Ross said his intimate knowledge of Allegheny made his hire meaningful for him as well.

"I think it's great in the sense that the institutional knowledge that I have, not only within the athletic department but across campus," Ross said. "Even though I'm not a graduate of Allegheny College, being here for over 20 years, you can basically say I'm a graduate. That affinity is there."

It was this affinity that Ross said is more important than his experience in his administrative role.

"I think it's helpful to not only have historical perspective, yes, but more importantly that love, that excitement about being deeply involved," Ross said.

Moving forward, Ross said his short-term goals are to continue to provide support for coaches and remove any obstacles standing between student-athletes and their greatest potential for success in both academic and athletic realms.

In the long term, Ross said he hopes to work under the motto "cultivating a culture of perpetual success" and promote sustainability in the athletic department until everyone can achieve success regardless of changes in staff at both administrative and coaching levels.

"We do that through mentoring of the coaches, hiring good coaches when coaches leave, making sure those coaches are paying attention to who they're recruiting, they're going after student athletes who are good fits for Allegheny College," Ross said.

Sean King, assistant athletic director for communications and media relations, said he is confident that Ross will be able to achieve these goals.

"They found a leader with a vision that will help carry Allegheny into the future and will bring in student athletes that will play an integral role in the campus community," King said. "I think as we head into a new era here at Allegheny with Dr. Link's presidency upcoming, I think (Ross) is the right person to lead us into the future of Allegheny College."

# Gator athletics seeks excellence in recruitment process

By **WILLY WALKER**
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From newly-hired coach to experienced veteran, the student-athlete recruitment process can be both grueling and rewarding. With spring sport seasons coming to a close, coaches are concluding their recruitment for next year.

Some coaches had to start from scratch because the upcoming season will be the inaugural one. In the case of women's field hockey and men's lacrosse, the coaches had to dedicate additional time to find the right athletes for their first teams.

"I think the biggest challenge with a new program is to make sure that people know that you exist," said Valerie Lohr, head women's field hockey coach. "As silly as that sounds, it's a new program and there's a lot of excitement for us, but there might not be as much press as you would like in the field hockey world."

In order to combat the need for players, Lohr has tried to make her program visible by traveling all over the country, visiting tournaments and having face-to-face conversations with players.

"We're not here just to start a program; we're here to create an experience," Lohr said. "We want to have a wonderful experience with passionate, powerful women who want to make the best versions of themselves in this world and give all they can to their school and community, so we reach out throughout the country to find these hardworking, talented young women to grow the sport and have a great time."

Men's Lacrosse Head Coach Tommy Pearce took the same approach. He described how most of last June and July was spent on the road attending recruitment events.

"The NCAC has really great teams in it, so in order for us to be competitive in the NCAC, we also want guys to be great athletes and good lacrosse players," Pearce said.

Pearce stressed the importance of bringing in players who will mesh well with the campus community. He said that because lacrosse is new to Allegheny, finding well-rounded players is even more important.

The coaches for the new sports are not the only coaches who travel looking for talent. Head Men's Soccer Coach Angelo Panzetta also regularly attends showcases to look for talented soccer players. One of his main goals is to increase the pool of players interested in coming to Allegheny.

"I think that's one of the biggest things that all of us coaches have that we know when we identify players and start the interest of Allegheny," Panzetta said. "We need to make sure that the beginning stages of that is a pretty large number because it's going to dwindle down and get down to a smaller scope at the very end."

Other coaches, like Head Softball Coach Beth Curtiss, host tournaments on campus, where they try to make possible recruits feel at home.

"For our fall tournament, we try to provide an atmosphere in which recruits and parents can come and the recruits (stay) overnight and they watch us play and then we do a big overnight," Curtiss said. "We run a clinic where we invite athletes to come in and participate, and it allows us to see them in person here and actually get a chance to coach them up in drills and stuff."

One of Allegheny's more experienced coaches, Jeff Groff, head golf coach, said the online presence of the recruitment process has influenced the way coaches recruit players. Groff, who has been head coach for 18 of his 34 years at Allegheny, noted the simplicity of online scouting, though he also attends summer tournaments.

All of the coaches emphasized the importance of finding good students for their teams. This includes people who are proficient in their studies as well as people who are good citizens. Coaches determine this via research and discussion with parents and coaches.

"What type of person are they; are they a good citizen, do they make good decisions on and off the course and so through their parents and their high school coaches you kind of get a sense of what they're all about," Groff said. "That combination of three things, a good citizen, a good student and a good golfer. If you get those three, you got a pretty good chance to do pretty well here."

Some coaches select players because of their attitude, no matter their personal skill level. Assistant Women's Field Hockey Coach Margaret Maclean prefers personality over skill level in a potential student-athlete.

"I really look for attitude, class, manners and all of that stuff," Maclean said. "You don't want someone who's going to be a problem or make someone else on the team feel bad."

Lohr concurred with her assistant, stating that attitude is the first thing she looks for in a possible recruit. She mentioned how you cannot teach kindness.

"They understand that at the end of the day, this is just a game," Lohr said. "It should be fun, it should be that you have measurable goals but this is nothing to cry about or be stressed about, this is fun time."

Lohr emphasized that she did not want players coming because of the new program. She wanted players who wanted to come to Allegheny because they want to attend the college.

"You're going to love being here plus you get to play high-caliber field hockey, build a winning program and be involved with all of these people working to make you the best version of yourself," Lohr said.

Lohr said she likes to emphasize academics and community involvement. She wants players who do not just go to school and play a sport but those who also care about contributing to other organizations and the community.

"In terms of talent, we're looking for top talent," Lohr said. "We want the girls that have been trained and have those wonderful basics and that higher skill level plus work ethic. They have to want to work."

Coaches here believe that by bringing students to Allegheny on tours, that one-on-one interaction will be very influential, according to Panzetta.

> "We're not here just to start a program; we're here to create an experience."
>
> —VALERIE LOHR
> Head women's field hockey coach, Allegheny College

"For me, and I think for most of the coaches here, the big thing is when we identify a recruit, we're trying to get them on campus," Panzetta said. "We feel if we can get them on campus to show them what Allegheny can do for them, show them the facilities, get to interact with them on a one-on-one basis, that's going to be a big thing in the process."

As for numbers, it differs for every sport on exactly what the coaches need to build a functioning team.

Pearce seeks to bring 20 to 25 lacrosse recruits for the team's first season so it can practice functionally.

"It's hard to just practice when you have enough for a lineup for a game but nobody to practice against," Pearce said. "We think that gives us some room to bring in future recruiting classes before that first group graduates but also have enough guys to practice functionally."

Groff hopes to bring in three to four men and women golfers every year, and he described the model he has been using for more 20 years here to determine great recruits.

"Obviously the talent-wise men golfers that are in the lower to mid-70's; women golfers we're looking for women that are the high 70's and low 80's," Groff said. "That's kind of the standard that we use to build off of."

Curtiss will be looking for pitching, catching and utilities next year. She said the team is always looking for utilities and will be looking for players who can hit the ball. She also talked about how much she loves working at Allegheny and credits the tremendous group of women she gets to coach for her position.

Lohr hopes to bring in more attackers, defenders and possibly one more goalie. She will still keep her prerequisites of manners, class, hard work and academic strength.

All in all, the coaches expressed gratitude to have their jobs and be able to enjoy their work.

"Coming straight out of college and having a coaching job is really exciting," Maclean said. "I'm excited to start a new program and just see where this takes me in my career and see where it takes our program."

Lohr is more than thankful for the support from administrators, students and the entire Allegheny community.

"We are just so grateful and thankful to the athletic department and to the president, vice president and the board of trustees for believing in our vision and for helping us achieve this amazing program and the opportunity to show everybody what we can do," Lohr said.