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ASG appoints new cabinet, hears from Cole

By **ANTON HODGE**
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Allegheny Student Government met on April 22 for its final General Assembly of the year. The presidential transfer of power was carried out, as well as elections of cabinet positions and final reports of the current cabinet.

Cabinet Reports

Director of the Treasury, Doug Malcolm, ’27, reported the year was a great success in terms of the budget, and that finance requests have been closed for the year.

Director of Finance, Dominic Juliana, ’26, reported there will be no meeting of the finance committee on Friday, April 25. The finance request form will be improved for next semester, and emails for budget applications will be sent and completed over the summer to be prepared for the fall. A meeting of all club leaders is in the works for the fall to meet about finances and clarify multiple points such as T-shirts. This week’s budget came to $7,594.31 and the highest charge was a $1,590 charge from the International Club for catering.

Co-Directors of Student Affairs, Ben Keefer, ’27, and Lyra Lindsay, ’27, reported that restocks to the Henderson Campus Center bathrooms will continue over the summer.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

The 2026 ASG cabinet poses behind the ASG desk after the General Assembly on Tuesday, April 22. *From Left:* Aidan McGrory, ’26, Nick Banez, ’26, Jake Slater, ’26, Dominic Juliana, ’26, Anna Kohler, ’26, Douglas Malcolm, ’26, Chezka Quinola, ’27, Kenzie Hughes, ’26, Lyra Lindsay, ’27, Brayden Devinney, ’26, Iris Styers, ’26, Aubrey Carion, ’27, Hailey Herring, ’26.

See ASG | *page 2*

Investigation of Oddfellows reveals sewer trouble

By **MILO WATSON**
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Users of GatorHub would have noticed an alert on March 28 offering relief and resolution to an alarming suspicion that had interrupted 9 a.m. classes in Oddfellows earlier that day. “Early Friday there was an alert of a gas leak at Oddfellows,” the notification read. “The gas company was called and met our HVAC team to investigate this. No gas leak was found.”

Mark Weindorf, director of Public Safety, explained that concerns were initially raised by parents of children attending the Meadville Childrens Center and Meadville Cooperative Preschool, both of which operate inside Oddfellows Hall.

“Parents dropping their children off, you know, at the daycare and at the preschool had noticed a smell that they believed to be a natural gas leak. I think it had been smelling for a few days. There was an odd smell, and we were not notified about that,” Weindorf said. “At that point, those parents, and some of them were board members to the daycare as well, had the daycare or had their building supervisor on scene actually call the gas company to get them started.”

When Public Safety was notified shortly after, the gas company was already racing towards campus. Weindorf described a swift response to the suspected danger, beginning with instructing Oddfellows Building Coordinator Jessica Sakal to carry out an evacuation.

“I quickly told her that I would have officers respond down, and if she could start with evacuation processes, if she could help me with that, because there was different faculty in the building,” Weindorf said.

See GAS | *page 3*

Allegheny joins colleges in letter calling for academic freedom

By **ANNA WESTBROOK**
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Allegheny College President Ron Cole, ’87, has joined over 350 college and university presidents nationwide in signing a letter condemning the Trump administration’s recent attempts to wield influence over higher education institutions by withholding federal funding.

“As leaders of America’s colleges, universities, and scholarly societies, we speak with one voice against the unprecedented government overreach and political interference now endangering American higher education,” the statement titled “A Call for Constructive Engagement” begins. “We are open to constructive reform and do not oppose legitimate government oversight. However, we must oppose undue government intrusion in the lives of those who learn, live, and work on our campuses.”

The letter, prepared by the American Association of Colleges and Universities, has been signed by all the Ivy League schools except Dartmouth and numerous state and private institutions, with student body sizes ranging from a couple of hundred to tens of thousands.

In an email to Allegheny employees Tuesday morning, Cole explained he decided to sign the letter after reaching a broad consensus of support from the Executive Committee of Allegheny’s Board of Trustees.

“This letter is in support of core values of American higher education, including principles of academic freedom and research — tenets that are central to our values at Allegheny and essential to deliver excellence in liberal arts education,” Cole wrote. “I believe, along with other higher ed leaders, that these tenets are at risk with recent government actions in higher education.”

See LETTER | *page 3*

“Empty Bowls” event raises funds for Crawford County children



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Students choose from a selection of over 500 hand-crafted bowls at the “Empty Bowls” event in the Henderson Campus Center Lobby on Wednesday, April 16. President of Clay Club Eleanor Rochford,’26, stated that the artists in the club had essentially been working on this project since they came back from winter break, hosting a bowl crafting event and then a bowl decorating event over the course of the semester.

See BOWLS | *page 5*

In this week’s Campus...

GATOR GIVE DAY

Contributing Photographer Sara Gilroy, ’28, presents pictures from Allegheny’s annual Gator Give Day on April 17.

Page 3

TRASHION SHOW

The annual Trashion Show held by SEA showcases creativity in recycling, which Co-Editor-in-Chief Ben Stavnezer, ’27, photographed.

Page 5

SENIOR REFLECTION

Staff Writer Kat Pointer, ’25, shares her thoughts on what she learned from The Campus during her time on staff.

Page 6

FRIDAY H: 74° L: 54° Rain: 69% Sunrise: 6:26 a.m. Sunset: 8:12 p.m.

SATURDAY H: 58° L: 41° Rain: 69% Sunrise: 6:25 a.m. Sunset: 8:13 p.m.

SUNDAY H: 65° L: 45° Rain: 0% Sunrise: 6:23 a.m. Sunset: 8:14 p.m.

ASG *from page 1*

Attorney General Chezka Quinola, '27 announced that senate elections will re-open in the fall to fill vacant positions and gave a thanks to everyone.

Class Senate Reports

Class of 2025 President Akari Brown, '25, reported Senior Week planning has been completed, with communication being done through email and GatorHub. Seniors will need wristbands to participate in senior week events, with bands costing $15 in cash.

Class of 2027 President Liam Shields, '27, reported the class would be hosting an open tab in GFC on April 27 from 6 to 7 p.m..

President's Report

President Ella DeRose, '27, will be meeting with the Board of Trustees on May 10 to end the year and report on the state of the school.

Adviser Announcements and Guest Speaker

Allegheny College President Ron Cole, '87, joined ASG to make announcements and congratulate the senate for its conduct in governance.

Cole told ASG that he signed a letter put out by the American Association of Colleges and Universities. "The letter is titled, 'A Call for Constructive Engagement' and it was composed by university and college leadership and presidents, and then there was a call for signatories to that letter. Now, after reading that letter and engaging with some leaders, I wanted you to be aware of this. The letter — I'm going to frame it as a letter on behalf of higher education. It will be viewed as political. I don't view it as political, right or left or in between. I view it as a letter in support of the values of American higher education. Let me read you all an excerpt from the letter: 'Our colleges and universities share a commitment to serve as centers of open inquiry where in their pursuit of truth, faculty, students and staff are free to exchange ideas across a full range of fields without feeling at risk of fear, censorship, or deportation. This letter is a statement on behalf of our institutions. Supporting the intrinsic values of academic freedom, that allows us to provide the most excellent liberal arts experience. Without that, we can't do what we do, and all of you would have a much lesser experience.'

Cole also spoke about the opening of the new Allegheny Lab for Innovation & Creativity building located on Bessemer Street. On Thursday, April 24, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro joined Allegheny for the ribbon cutting ceremony. This new location will serve professionals in manufacturing fields with training in advanced machinery and jobs. Allegheny students and faculty will be able to conduct research and use the facility for advanced projects. Visitors can see the space during an open house event Friday, April 25, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Joe Leszczynski, '25, hands off the gavel to Douglas Malcolm, '26, after Malcolm was sworn in as ASG Vice President.

of the process, I have decided to sign that letter as president of Allegheny. As student

Unfinished Business

The second vote to recognize the Green



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Allegheny College President Ron Cole, '87, speaks to ASG senators and consituents during the General Assembly on April 22.

Coalition passed with an abstention from the organization's representative, Liam Shields, Class of 2027 President.

The second vote to recognize Upsilon Pi Epsilon, a honors society for computing and information sciences, and found its Chi chapter, passed.

Allegheny College Equestrian Team/ Club also passed its second vote.

New Business

ASG President Chezka Quinola, '27, was sworn in as president by former President DeRose for the next academic year.

ASG Vice President Douglas Malcolm, '26, was sworn in by President Quinola for the next academic year.

Cabinet nominees were then voted on for approval by the representatives.

Kenzie Hughes, '26, was nominated and approved for the role of chief of staff. Hughes wants to focus on improving communication between committees and the student body as a whole to show what changes the student body can make to the college directly by tabling in the campus center weekly to biweekly.

Anna Kohler, '26, was nominated and approved for the role of attorney general with one abstention. Kohler, a member of the swim team, seeks to enter the office with a focus on improving connections between student athletes and the student body.

Juliana will return to the role of director of finance for another year after his nomination and approval by the body. Having been a representative for a year and the director of finance this past year, Juliana is experienced in the role and seeks to continue to streamline the budgetary process.

Nick Banez, '26, was nominated for and approved to the office of director of the treasury. Banez he said he is a current member of the baseball team, and an economics major. He seeks to improve transparency in the office.

Iris Styers, '26, current president of the junior class, was nominated and accepted to the role of co-director of student affairs. Having held the position last academic year, Styers returns to focus on food and ASG's relationship with Parkhurst.

Lindsay was nominated to retain her role as the other co-director of student affairs Having conducted stocking of bathrooms with sanitary products and organized the dining committee, Lindsay hopes to carry that progress forwards.

Jake Slater, '26, a communications major, was nominated for and approved to the office of press and communications.

Aidan McGrory, '26, was re-approved to continue in his role as director of sustainability and environmental affairs, continuing in his role from this year.

Hailey Herring, '26, current director of press and communications, was nominated and approved to hold the role of director of diversity and Inclusion.

Aubrey Carion, '27, was approved as the director of community relations, with a single abstention.

Brayden Devinney, '26, was nominated and approved for the role of director of organizational development.

LETTER *from page 1*

"The focus of this letter is not a political 'left' or 'right' issue; presidents with different ideologies and from a range of institutions have signed the letter," Cole added. "My goal is that we continue to strive for a campus culture that values respectful discourse across different ideologies."

In response to the letter, White House spokesperson Harrison Fields said the administration is "standing up for equality and fairness and will not be swayed by worthless letters by overpaid blowhards," according to a report from NBC News.

The letter asserts that higher education institutions have the "essential freedom" to determine whom to admit and what is taught, how, and by whom. This freedom, the signers explain, is a large reason colleges and universities have proven integral to American prosperity.

"The price of abridging the defining freedoms of American higher education will be paid by our students and our society," the letter concludes. "On behalf of our current and future students, and all who work at and benefit from our institutions, we call for constructive engagement that improves our institutions and serves our republic."

The letter comes after weeks of several high-profile standoffs between the Trump administration and a handful of prestigious universities. In late March, after the administration threatened to withhold $400 million from Columbia University, the university acquiesced to a list of demands from the White House, which included overhauling its protest policies and placing the Middle Eastern, South Asian and African Studies Department under academic receivership. Just this week, Harvard University announced it is suing the Trump administration, alleging that the recent decision to freeze the institution's $2.2 billion in federal grants is beyond the Trump administration's authority.

The letter also condemns the Trump administration's recent targeting of international students, stating that universities are

> My goal is that we continue to strive for a campus culture that values respectful discourse across different ideologies."
>
> —RON COLE
> *President of Allegheny College, Class of 1987*

centers of open inquiry where community members should be free to exchange ideas "across a full range of viewpoints without fear of retribution, censorship, or deportation."

As of April 22, over 265 colleges and universities have identified more than 1,700 international students and recent graduates who have had their legal status changed by the State Department, according to Inside Higher Ed. Many universities have said they do not know the reason behind revocations.

On several occasions, Secretary of State Marco Rubio has appeared to cite connections to pro-Palestinian protests as one justification. Additionally, some students' visas have seemingly been revoked for past offenses, like DUIs.

This is the case at Gannon University in Erie, where five international students from Spain and India studying engineering or business have had their visas revoked. Chief of Staff Doug Oathout said he was told the rationale behind the decision was that the students had committed motor vehicle infractions, like speeding or rolling through a stop sign, according to The Erie Times-News.

Allegheny, which currently has 62 international students enrolled, has not reported any student visa revocations.

GAS *from page 1*

Meanwhile, public safety officers rushed to the scene.

"Officer Goldenberg was there almost immediately, and myself and Assistant Director Kurt Sittler went down and responded down within, I'd say, four minutes, four or five minutes, you know, at the most, that we were there, and most of the evacuation was underway at that point," Weindorf said. "We made sure everybody was out of the building. And by the time I got there, within that four or five minutes, the gas company was already onsite."

An investigation commenced.

"Physical plant members and gas company members were going through, monitoring to see if there was an actual natural gas leak," Weindorf said. "Ultimately, the building was cleared. There was no natural gas leak."

Associate Professor of English and Department Chair Jennie Votava offered more details on the testing procedure by describing an email chain that included herself, Sakal, Weindorf and Physical Plant.

"No gas leak, he (Weindorf) said, was discovered by National Fuel, but they are going to pressure test the gas lines with the help of Physical Plant as a safety precaution," Votava said. "So they went ahead and pressure tested the gas lines."

Tests indicated that the building's internal gas infrastructure was up to par.

"So by noon that day the gas testing was completed and everything was satisfactory," Votava said. "The boilers are turned back on and the heat at that point, which had been turned off, was returned to the building."

Weindorf emphasized the rapidity with which the investigation alleviated concerns of a gas leak.

"Really, the whole thing started at like 9:22 and the incident ended right at like 9:59," Weindorf said.

"It would have ruined the 9 o'clock classes, unfortunately," Ian Binnington, dean for the student experience, added.

Still, Weindorf said, Public Safety acted with caution.

"As soon as we arrived and immediately upon our arrival, there was never any evidence that we found, the gas company found, or anybody else found, that it was possibly a natural gas leak," Weindorf said. "That would have been immediately identifiable, so no alert was sent out or anything like that. We continued to have the building evacuated because we wanted to be thorough and get all the way through it, but at that point we legitimately did not suspect that there was, there was any gas leak."

The odor that had originally triggered distress was found to have a far less deadly, but more common origin: "I believe it ended up being a sewer issue," Weindorf said. "And I think later that day, and I don't have a record of it because it wasn't reported to Public Safety, but toilets actually did back up, I think, in the daycare center. So that would be, I guess, the cause of that smell that was mistakenly thought to be natural gas at that point."

Because of the speed with which a life-threatening emergency was ruled out, Weindorf, in consultation with Binnington, decided not to push out a campus-wide Omnilert.

"While there was reasonable suspicion at the beginning that there was something going on, it pretty quickly became apparent there wasn't," Binnington said. "And so alerting thousands of people across the world that we didn't have an issue in Oddfellows — that sounds sarcastic. I don't mean it to be, but, you know, letting thousands of people know that there's actually nothing going on is not what the alert system is for.

"That would be more for a confirmed event," Binnington said about an Omnilert. "If there'd been a gas leak, we would have, 100 percent."

Binnington took the opportunity to stress how integral the Omnilert system is to campus emergency preparedness.

"Probably not when you were a first year, but certainly in the past couple of years, as part of orientation, we've asked first years as part of their orientation activities to put it on their phone," Binnington said. "The advantage of Omnilert is it has links to campus resources embedded in it. It also has what's essentially a panic button. Right? So there's a big red button that's at the top, and if you push that, you'll get connected directly to public safety. You don't even need to talk to them, and they will be able to respond to your location."

> While there was reasonable suspicion at the beginning that there was something going on, it pretty quickly became apparent there wasn't"
>
> —IAN BINNINGTON
> *Dean for the Student Experience*

> We made sure everybody was out of the building. And by the time I got there, within that four or five minutes, the gas company was already onsite."
>
> —MARK WEINDORF
> *Director of Public Safety*

Binnington reiterated how pleased he was with Weindorf's performance under the stress of an emergency.

"I'll say again how happy I am that Mark was willing to apply for our job to replace Jim Basinger." Binnington said. "I thought replacing Jim would be hard, and it was. But we have hired an incredible replacement for Jim, somebody with over 30 years experience in law enforcement who has just hit the ground running and doing a fabulous job."

Annual Gator Give Day celebration



SARA GILROY/THE CAMPUS

Director of Donor Relations Lisa Dixon *(right)* and Associate Vice President of Institutional Advancement Phil Foxman, '90, *(left)* welcome students visiting Gator Give Day in the Henderson Campus Center lobby.



SARA GILROY/THE CAMPUS

Career Coach Liza Schaef waits to hand out free sunglasses to those who stop by the Henderson Campus Center lobby on Thursday, April 17.



SARA GILROY/THE CAMPUS

Cardboard cutouts of Allegheny College President Ron Cole, '87, and Allegheny mascot Chompers provide a photo opportunity for students during Gator Give Day on Thursday, April 17.

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 Wednesday before publication.

April 16, 2025
Trespass
Robertson Complex
Closed

April 18, 2025
Trespass
Campus Center
Pending Investigation

THE CAMPUS
Since 1876

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Letter to the Editor

On free speech and academic integrity

Dear Editor,

When I was a freshman in high school, my English teacher pulled me aside before we began our Shakespeare unit and told me, "We won't be talking about it in class, but I thought you would want to know that many scholars believe Shakespeare was a bisexual or gay man."

She was right of course, that I would want to know — she knew I and another student had started the Gender and Sexuality Alliance that year. In our club meetings, I led presentations on inclusive sexual education from resources gathered on Planned Parenthood's website, at 15 filling the gap left by the abstinence-based and queer-exclusionary educational policy of the Pennsylvania government.

After college, I taught Shakespeare to my own students, English language learners at a public high school in Spain. I began by setting the context of the collected sonnets. More than 150 poems, 126 on his love for a young blond haired man, as well as 26 on his conflicted desire for his "dark lady." In the news, I read about the rollback of LGBTQ+ rights in my home country, with conservative politicians and groups across the country targeting primarily trans children and drag artists. I watched as Florida expanded their "Don't Say Gay" laws to the entirety of K-12 education, barring educators from any instruction related to gender identity or sexuality. At the time of writing this, the conservative controlled Supreme Court is considering Mahmoud v. Taylor, which could expand censorship of LGBTQ+ existence in K-12 education.

Censorship of work centering trans and queer people has a long history. On May 6 1933, three months after Adolf Hitler was made chancellor of Germany, Nazis burned the library at the Institute of Sexology. Two years later, the party arrested 50,000 people accused of male homosexual contact, sending between 10,000 and 15,000 to concentration camps where they were specifically marked with pink triangles. Throughout the mid-20th century, public servants in the United States were expelled from their jobs for engaging in homosexual behavior as part of the lavender scare, a Cold War moral panic about LGBTQ+ people that grew out of Sen. Joseph McCarthy's red scare. In Florida, LGBTQ+ teachers and students were harassed and investigated by the Johns Committee as part of this moral panic.

In the U.S., targeted censorship and persecution of this extent by the government has never occurred against conservative or right wing ideology. Within this country, it has never occurred against white cisgender heterosexual Christian men on the basis of their identity as such. Yet, throughout the last decade, a false victim complex has been spread by right-wing commentators. If you ask Olivia Krolczyk, a recent speaker allowed on campus by President Ron Cole, '87, her bad grade for using unscientific language in a biology course constitutes the sort of censorship the targets of her hate speech have actually faced. If we do not provide resources, funded by the donations Allegheny College would desperately like from myself and other alumni, for her to spread her vitriol towards trans women, we are suppressing conservative voices.

As a student at Allegheny College, I frequently read from conservative commentators, many of whom I did not agree with. I went to talks by speakers I disagreed with, hosted by the college. Frequently, I listened to my conservative classmates state their opinions in class, for which I am sure they received their participation grades as earned. At times, these opinions constituted agreement with our assigned reading of Garret Hardin, a conservative thinker, who in his work on the tragedy of the commons argued in favor of ethnic cleansing and genocide. Other times, I heard my classmates argue in favor of policies akin to Jim Crow laws, such as the implementation of IQ testing as a prerequisite to suffrage.

Perhaps there were other students, who due to social pressure did not voice their conservative opinions, or who were afraid of a student smarter than them slicing through their inept argument. To be clear, fear that another person will call you hateful or an idiot does not constitute a genuine infringement on one's right to free speech. I too have been fearful throughout my life of backlash against my more controversial opinions, yet I still make a choice to proclaim them because I have something called a backbone.

I, like most other politically left members of the Allegheny community, do not object that I have been forced to engage with conservative ideas. I share the values around freedom of inquiry that Cole espoused to alumni in an April 9 statement; however as I also shared in an email response to the president, the recent events on campus do not constitute a free speech debate, but one of academic integrity.

As many of you know, the Allegheny chapter of Turning Point USA, a club whose charter was rejected by Allegheny Student Government, hosted an event for Krolczyk, an ambassador for the Riley Gaines Center, which adovcates agains the participation of trans women in women's sports. Despite massive opposition from both current students and alumni, Cole declined to cancel the event, instead dedicating the college's resources to platforming her anti-intellectual hate speech. In the same April 9 statement, Cole stated: "We should expect that other speakers will bring controversial ideas to our campus – some with which we will agree, and others with which we will passionately disagree. To preserve our commitment to freedom of inquiry, we must be a place where students learn to engage with controversial ideas and develop the skills to lead change."

In response, many students and alumni have accurately pointed out the numerous ways in which TPUSA and Krolcyzk violated our statement of community, which states: "Allegheny students and employees are committed to creating an inclusive, respectful, and safe residential learning community that will actively confront and challenge racism, sexism, heterosexism, religious bigotry, and other forms of harassment and discrimination. We encourage individual growth by promoting a free exchange of ideas in a setting that values diversity, trust, and equality. So that the right of all to participate in a shared learning experience is upheld, Allegheny affirms its commitment to the principles of freedom of speech and inquiry, while at the same time fostering responsibility and accountability in the exercise of these freedoms."

Some of these critiques from students and alumni focused on the proposed content of Ms. Krolcyzk's talk, which seemed to advocate for the elimination of specifically trans women from public life and the denial of trans people's ontological existence. Others critiques focused on Krolczyk's surfacing of a video of an incident that occurred nearly three years ago in what could be seen as an attempt to dox a current student who was appears in the video. I agree wholeheartedly that her speech should have been canceled over these concerns; however, I think there is an additional argument to be made for why her speech should have been canceled.

At Allegheny, I majored in philosophy, where I learned that my claims needed to be rooted in something deeper than a simple moral appeal. I can tell you until I'm blue in the face that Krolcyzk is a hateful bigot, but that doesn't actually make an argument about the epistemic validity of her claims, something she is also lacking. The issue with Krolcyzk's talk, with people like her, with the whole affair of TPUSA, is that these people are fundamentally wrong and intellectually unserious. If we want to maintain Allegheny as an intellectually rigorous institution, somewhere becoming of the brilliant faculty as well as the smart and curious students it has long attracted, we must reject the infiltration of anti-intellectuals in concerted astroturfing campaigns.

In social media posts by TPUSA, Krolcyzk's talk was advertised as centering on "Defending Free Speech and Women's Sports." While I feel I have adequately enumerated the flaws in the free speech argument already, I want to take a moment to address the claims regarding women's sports. On her social media, Krolcyzk advocates for trans women to be banned from participating in women's sports. Conservatives used to claim that "facts don't care about your feelings," so what are the facts regarding trans women and women's sports?

Well, according to a scientific review of a decade of research on trans women's participation in sports conducted by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sports, the available evidence suggested that trans women who had undergone testosterone suppression had no clear biological advantage over cis women. They also found that most attempts at exclusion of trans women mirror the historical exclusion of cis women from sports, and are not based on evidence. The first study on transgender athletes sponsored by the International Olympic Committee found that trans athletes, including trans women, were at a physical disadvantage compared to their cis counterparts. Additionally, it is clear that increased policing of who is included in the ontological category of woman not only does harm to trans women, but also to cis women who are perceived to be more masculine, as evidenced by the racist and misogynistic vitriol that the Algerian boxer Imane Khelif faced at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Empirically, Krolcyzk and those who hold her views are factually wrong. Yes, I reject her appearance on campus on moral grounds – because I love and care about the trans community of Allegheny, and I am hurt to see my alma mater abandon us. I am disturbed and disgusted to see the lack of spine by the administration to not even say the word trans in the statement released to current students when Cole rejected appeals for the event to be canceled. I also reject the degradation of the academic integrity of the institution that was my foundation as an intellectual. In the same way I would reject a speaker who claims the Earth is flat being brought to campus or one who pushes vaccine skepticism, I reject anti-intellectuals like Krolcyzk being brought to campus under the false guise of freedom of inquiry. Why would we waste resources on a failed scientist?

Allegheny's administration must do more not only to protect the vibrant trans community on campus, but ensure the intellectual vitality of our entire community. If we want to speak about our values of "academic inquiry" and counters to suppression of controversial speech, perhaps we should bring attention to the ways trans people have had their speech suppressed by the Trump administration, including attempts to bar any recipient of a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts from promoting "gender ideology." Why does the administration not seek to bring these intellectuals and artists with controversial ideas to our campus? In the face of genuine persecution and censorship, I would like to see Allegheny put its money where its mouth is and platform transgender intellectuals who are under attack by authoritarians, if we truly do value "academic inquiry" as Cole claims.

Until there is substantial action by the administration to rectify the disregard for our trans community and the cheapening of the academic integrity of the institution, I will not be promoting Allegheny or financially supporting the institution. I know I am not alone in this sentiment, and I encourage other students and alumni to make it clear to Cole that the cheap attempts to placate us will not suffice. I demand better of Allegheny than appeasement because I have seen it be better. I will not hold my discontent quietly as another president demeans our institution with their weak will. I suggest those who feel the same use their own freedom of speech to make it clear that we stand with the trans community at Allegheny and unintellectual fascists have no place on our beloved campus.

Sincerely,

Quinn Broussard

The views reflected in Opinion articles are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily represent the view of The Campus newspaper editorial board.

SEA holds Annual Trashion Show



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

President of Students for Environmental Action Elsa Waidelich, '25, announces the show's model and costumes.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Elizabeth Dyer, '25, models tarp-eralls on the runway during the event on Friday, April 18.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

The student band "Absolute Garbage" plays Allegheny's Alma Mater to start the show on glass bottles and a barrel drum.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Liam Shields, '25, wears a cardboard skirt and a shirt made of a pizza box.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Assistant Professor of Environmental Science & Sustainability Kevin Geyer, Costume Designer & Shop Manager Uriel Gomez, '12, and Sustainability Coordinator Kurt Hatcher, '07, judge the models of the show.



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

The models take to the runway for the final walk of the show.

BOWLS *from page 1*



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

Caleb Goodman, '27, and Aiden Beinhauer, '27, compare bowls during the event in the Henderson Campus Center on April 16.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

Students also enjoy a soup buffet. Those who purchased a bowl were invited to fill to-go cups or dine inside of the Henderson Campus Center. According to Rochford, it is a way for artists to give back to the community.



AUBRYANNA SNYDER/THE CAMPUS

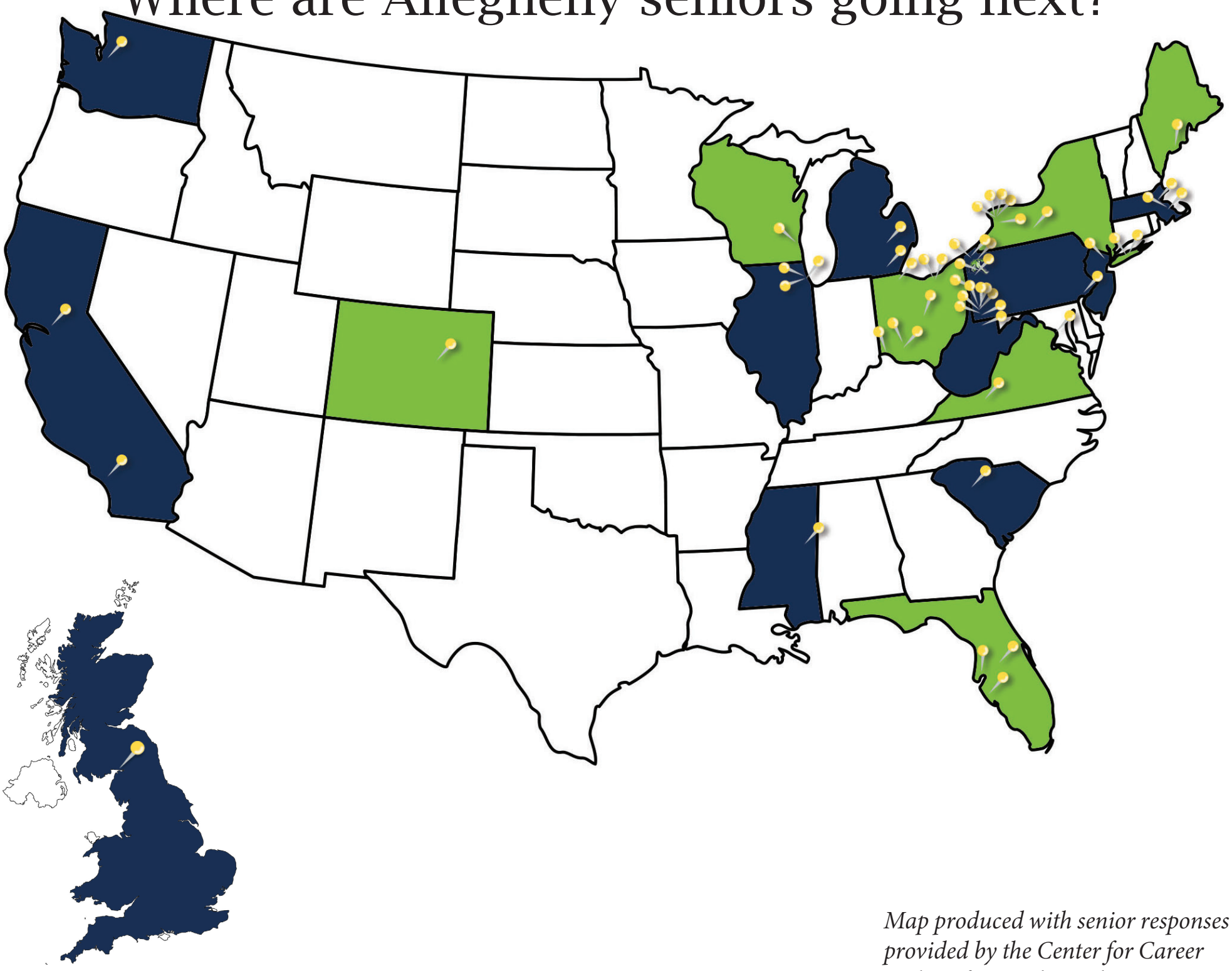
Eleanor Rochford, '26, Tanner Slesh, '25, and Mazzie Standish, '25, greet students as they line up to purchase Clay Club's handmade bowls for $10. According to Slesh, they raised over $2,000 more than the previous year the even was held and in the first 10 minutes of the event they had $210 in Venmo and "too much cash to count."



BEN STAVNEZER/THE CAMPUS

The bowls available for attendees of the event had many different in every styles and shapes, from wood-fired clay to glazed bowls to decorative dishes.

Where are Allegheny seniors going next?



Map produced with senior responses provided by the Center for Career and Professional Development

Learning To Say Goodbye: What *The Campus* Taught Me That No Class Ever Could

By **KAT POINTER**
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Goodbyes have never been easy for me. As I reflect on my past four years at Allegheny College, I can't help but feel a strange mix of nostalgia, gratitude and disbelief at how much has changed since I first stepped foot on campus as an eighteen-year-old with dreams of becoming a music teacher.

As a freshman, my path seemed certain. I was set on a music major and an education minor. In October of my sophomore year, that plan was abruptly derailed when the college discontinued the music major, just two weeks before the declaration deadline.

It felt like the rug had been pulled out from under me. I was lost and overwhelmed, unsure of what to do next. Even with my many interests and passions, I wasn't sure what would be the best fit for me.

In that moment, I realized that college and life are rarely linear. After countless conversations with my advisor, friends, and family, I decided to major in business with a focus in marketing.

The decision was made in urgency, but it turned out to be exactly what I needed. I found a department that welcomed me and faculty who believed in me.

At the same time, I decided to minor in writing, a passion I've been interested in since childhood. What started as a love for poetry soon evolved into something deeper, as I developed my nonfiction, fiction and journalistic writing.

Still looking for a connection to music, I began to sing in the College Choir my sophomore year. This decision brought me both balance and joy to my academic and personal life, giving me belonging and a meaningful community.

I won't pretend it was easy to play catch-up in a major and minor I started two years behind. I pushed myself, may have been a bit overzealous and managed to complete my writing minor by the end of junior year.

In the fall of senior year, looking to fill in elective credits, I decided on taking Journalism 100 with Professor Mike Crowley. That semester, I had also decided to take my first non-fiction workshop.

I was doubtful at first, I didn't know how hard it would be to write about things with neutrality in one course while also pouring myself into deeply personal nonfiction essays in another. Two different writing perspectives can tend to clash in a writer's head; I was worried I would do poorly at both.

And that's when things took a turn—in the best way. With help from Professor Crowley and Professor Ferrence, I found that not only could I manage both, I could thrive in both, and I discovered a love for journalism that I never knew I had.

In high school, I was never interested in journalism and tended to keep my writing to myself. Now, I was writing for an audience, contributing to something bigger than myself, and it was liberating.

Being on The Campus staff, even if only for a semester, has changed the way that I see myself as a writer, a student, and a participant in my community. I learned how to ask questions that matter, about subjects I may not have been interested in otherwise, and how to shape stories to resonate with others.

Overall, these four years have helped me to remember that it's okay when plans fall apart. Sometimes, the best parts of life are the ones unplanned: the classes we take by chance, the communities we stumble into and the passions we grow into unexpectedly.

I'm walking away from Allegheny with a degree, but also with a better sense of purpose and who I want to be in the future. So yes, goodbyes are still hard, but they are a little easier knowing that you are leaving having found something you didn't even know you were looking for.

Trust the Process

By **SYD HAMMERMAN**
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If you had told me my freshman year that I would be a gym freak by the end of my senior year of college, I would've laughed, been in complete denial and told you to stop making up lies about my future. But as I sit here in Grounds For Change with my creatine concoction just inches from my hands, I have come to reflect on my journey and just how much I have changed. Coming from Houston, Texas all the way to Meadville, included lots of new experiences. Houston is as flat as a pancake, and you cannot go anywhere substantial without a car. It's safe to say the first walk back from downtown Meadville more than gassed me my first August here.

Fast-forward to the end of sophomore year, and I felt like everything that could possibly go wrong, did. A combination of some unexpected personal events and a toxic home environment pushed me to some pretty dark places. Other unhealthy coping habits became my escape from my reality. I literally could not handle the present moment and all my strong emotions that came from it. Until one day I had an epiphany: I could either bed rot and entertain some not great ideas, or I could go on a run. And I ran. And ran. And ran until I decided to stay on campus the summer of 2023 to get away from home before studying abroad in Jordan.

That summer, I ran over 100 miles. I still am blown away that I accomplished this and it still feels unreal that I did. I would wake up at 6:15 a.m. to be outside by 7 a.m. at the absolute latest, run three kilometers, shower for work at 8:30 a.m., go to work as a Gator Guide until 4 p.m., go to the gym straight after, run a mile and then lift weights. Locked in does not come close to whatever I was on during those months.

My workout journey continued into my time abroad in Amman. I kept my lifts and cardio consistent and got to experience a women's only gym for the first time. I was so proud of the work I had already put in over the last few months and felt I owed it to myself to keep going, no matter where I was in the world. I actually met some of my friends in Jordan at the gym. The women that worked there even remembered my birthday.

That brings us to the current moment, almost two years later. Consistently incorporating the gym into my life has been the best thing I have ever done for myself. There is a massive difference in my mental health and it has helped to bring so much more peace into my life. It feels like a switch has been completely flipped, and I give myself more grace now.

It is so gratifying to have tangible goals become achievable because of work that I did for myself. The ability to push my body to its limits is to know what I'm truly capable of, is to fully understand the privilege I have to be in a mobile body, in a working and healthy body. It reminds me that I am so much stronger than I believe I am, that progress is not linear, that consistency produces results and that there are many different ways to reach a goal. It is time set aside for me to be with me, in a space that I can enter both alone or with friends.

It is one thing to see yourself succeed. It is another to see your friends succeed alongside you. It warms my heart to know that several of my friends have also gotten into the gym because of my progress, and I am so proud of them.

Lifting has also helped me to feel like I have more stability in my life. Having a consistent routine, one that stays the course despite the chaos of everything else in my life makes the chaos easier to handle. You can imagine how having two weeks of mandatory rest after an emergency appendectomy last year made me beyond restless.

Which brings me to this: if you are thinking about starting some kind of intentional body movement, whether it's pilates, running, lifting (my personal favorite), walking, yoga, bouldering, biking, joining sports clubs and anything else, do it. There is almost nothing to be lost. Why are you waiting to live your life? To be conscious of the absurd randomness of life and the miniscule blip of time we are here. You are here now! Now!!

Everyone is capable of change. So are you. It may feel scary to change and scary to trust yourself. So do the scary thing and trust yourself. It will lead you farther than you can imagine.