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Women's Services offers training

By JOSEPH TINGLEY
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PHOTOS BY JOSEPH TINGLEY/THE CAMPUS



Nancy Sheridan and Doris Foster founded Women's Services Inc. as an independent organization in 1977 in order to address women's needs. They work to educate people on domestic and sexual violence and they operate prevention programs and victim counseling.

Women's Services Inc. in Meadville hosted the first session of its 19-session volunteer training course on Tuesday, Sept. 22. The session had 19 registered participants, including several Allegheny College students.

"It's open to the community and a lot of Allegheny students have shown interest," said Vicki Wood, director of special projects at Women's Services.

Women's Services Inc. was established in the late 1970s in Meadville to meet the needs of women in Crawford County. The organization was initially part of the Crawford County Drug and Alcohol Commission, but in 1977 it became its own independent organization.

Today, Women's Services aims to prevent domestic and sexual violence through education and prevention programs while also working to counsel victims.

"We have a vision, and it's a community free of violence," Wood said.

Upon completing the 19-session training course, which consists of two classes a week, the participants will be able to serve as counselor advocates with women's services. Wood said this means their volunteers can work directly with victims while enjoying the legal privilege of confidentiality.

"By law those communications are confidential," said Bruce Harlan, executive director of Women's Services.

Harlan said volunteers are vital to the organization's efforts financially. Each year volunteers donate five to six thousand hours of service. He said they are also important in ensuring that the organization's message is spread throughout the community.

"If we can train up a corps of volunteers who can take this work out into the community and onto campus. It's great," Harlan said.

Once a volunteer has completed their on-the-job train-

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Freshmen senators join ASG

By ALEX WEIDENHOF
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Allegheny Student Government held its first meeting with representatives from all four classes on Tuesday, Sept. 22. The newly elected class of 2019 senators were inaugurated at the meeting.

Mark Meyers, Isis Offutt, John Sieber, Alexia Porsche and Miguel Guillen, took an oath to represent the freshmen class in ASG and create a safe and inclusive learning environment for each student.

Each senator appeared eager to participate in ASG.

"I hope to communicate with our class frequently and hold events for us to build community," said Offutt, a member of the Internal Committee, which deals with student life, educational affairs and student voting.

Sieber, one of the newly elected representatives, said he already has goals in mind, including increasing communication between the student body and ASG.

President of the freshmen class, Miguel Guillen, also expressed a desire to create a connection between his class and the Allegheny administration and student government.

While the main focus of the meeting was the inauguration of senators from the

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MLK Mentoring Program welcomes 2015 applicants

By ANGELA MAURONI
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ANGELA MAURONI/THE CAMPUS

The MLK Mentoring Program recruits new mentors every year to tutor Meadville Area Middle School students.

The Martin Luther King Jr. Mentoring Program is operating under a new director, the fourth in its five years of operation. The current director is John Christie-Searles, assistant professor of political science.

The program began under Amendia Dixon in 2011, and is a work study job for Allegheny students who want to mentor at the Meadville Area Middle School. The program typically has 15-20 mentors and the position entails mentoring twice a week for two hours each day.

Christie-Searles said that he supports the program wholly, which made him willing to fill the open space.

"I saw the need and I stepped forward and filled the vacancy," he said. "I believe in the program, so it's an easy thing to commit to."

He believes that the program is beneficial to the mentors as well as the students they tutor.

"This program allows you to give back to young people," he said. "Young people helping young people is a great thing."

Nicholas Schake, '16, a Bonner coordinator for the program, agreed that the mentors and students can learn from each other. He recalled his time in middle school and how he thought many situations were worse than they were.

"These small things that seem like big deals might not be in a few years," Schake said.

He believes that seeing the students worry about small things can help prevent the mentors from reacting similarly when they remember the events they used to worry about.

Schake believes that the inconsistency in the director position has been challenging for the coordinators and mentors. However, he still thinks that the program has improved since he joined it his freshmen year.

Manuel Marquez, '16, has been involved with the program since his first semester at Allegheny. Once he became a Bonner leader, he went from being a mentor to a coordinator.

As a Bonner coordinator, Schake and Marquez's responsibilities include recruiting new members, reviewing applications, interviewing, occasionally doing follow-up interviews and ultimately choosing new members.

"We're not hands-on with the kids," Marquez said.

According to Marquez, they look for passion and enthusiasm in their mentors, and he believes that they have found that drive in a majority of the mentors.

Marquez said that the two best kinds of volunteers to have are people who are passionate and nurturing toward the middle schoolers and people who have gone through their own problems and who can relate to the children.

He believes the mentors should act as a kind of support system for the students as well as an academic guide, saying the mentors are there to tutor and to answer questions about college and life in general.

According to Marquez, teachers recommend most of the middle school students to the program, but some of the students come for extra help or because they like having someone to talk to.

"Some kids just want to do homework and don't have a great environment at home to do it," he said.

Schake agreed that the children often want someone who thinks they are worthwhile. He believes that flexibility is an important trait to look for in a mentor because one never knows what the student is going through. A mentor who can think and act quickly in a stressful situation is ideal, particularly if they are empathetic.

He said that a mentor can get out of the program what they put into it and he does not believe many have not enjoyed their experience.

"I don't know of any of our mentors that don't have anything positive to say about it," he said.

Tompkins lectures on antiracism

By LOGAN BATTIN
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The Karl W. Weiss '87 Faculty Lecture Series kicked off this past week, on Wednesday, Sept. 16 featuring Associate Professor of Communication Arts Joseph Tompkins giving a presentation titled "What's Richard Sherman Got to Do with Michael Brown? Mapping the Discourse of Official Antiracism." Tompkins' presentation featured information primarily from his own work: an article of his on the same subject that is soon to be published in the Journal of Sport & Social Issues.

A crowd of students, faculty and community members filed into room 301/302 of the campus center, which Tompkins was happy to see.

"The turnout was great," Tompkins said. "It's a testament to people who take these issues seriously, that they show up and we have these conversations."

Rachael Robertson, '16, also values these sorts of conversations.

"I think conversations and ideas that are brought to the table from talks such as Professor Tompkins' are vital to Allegheny learning," she said. "Engaging yourself and applying what you learn from your studies is crucial to making connections to the real world, to talking about topics that matter and for making changes to and imagining radical alternatives to unsustainable and unjust systems."

The conversations Tompkins alluded to were focused on capitalism, neoliberalism, diversity and social and economic identity.

These were examined primarily in their relation to racism and antiracism, specifically the circumstances surrounding two recent and high-profile racial events. Tompkins' primary focus was the media uproar over NFL star Richard Sherman's 2014 NFC Championship post-game interview. He also alluded to the racial rhetoric surrounding Michael Brown's killing, while unarmed, at the hands of a police officer in the Fall of 2014.

An active crowd stayed once Tompkins was finished with his presentation, and a conversation took place, which was not a surprise to Tompkins.

"Part of the point of the talk was to be provocative," he said. "Not for the sake of being provocative, but to engage people in conversation about important issues like race and class and identity and social justice, these things that we talk on campus a lot, but we don't have these community forums."

The conversation after Tompkins' presentation proved to be the sort of community forum that he wanted. People engaged with Tompkins and each other from a variety of angles for approximately 25 minutes after the lecture ended.

David Miller, professor of English, believes the title of the talk was responsible for the number in attendance.

"I think the title of it drew people," Miller said. "Everybody's thinking about Ferguson. Richard Sherman is a sports figure people recognize and anti-racism is a really loaded term, so there were a lot of African-American people, but also the liberal contingent of the faculty were showing up."

ASG *from page 1*



PHOTOS BY ALEÄA REYES/THE CAMPUS

Senators are elected for each class at the start of every academic school year and are sworn in by the Allegheny Student Government cabinet at a general meeting. This year, Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2015 was the inaugural meeting for the class of 2019's new senators.

class of 2019, the body also focused on several other issues.

Tess Bracken, '17, echoed concerns from last week about a petition ASG might receive regarding weight room policies in her vice president's report. Although the petition may have enough supporters, Bracken said the petition would be difficult to act upon without a specific action plan.

> "I want everybody to see that the student government is here for them. We're not just another administrative body or a club."
>
> Tess Bracken
> *Class of 2017*

Other weight room issues arose, including concerns that constituents expressed about the dress code policy.

"I've talked to Randy Moore," said Aubri Caslin, '17, director of communication and press.

Moore, Allegheny director of peak performance and fitness, enforces the dress code policy found on the Wise Center website. The policy requires students to wear full-length shirts at all times.

"He said that these policies have been in place, but simply have not been enforced in past years."

The meeting did address how some constituents felt about the manner in which he enforced these rules.

"We've asked him to be more sensitive when enforcing the dress policy," said Caslin.

The cabinet also informed senators of The Gator of the Year Fund, which will be used to attract a big name speaker to campus. However, due to low student enrollment, the fund will only be between $60,000 and $80,000.

Despite several roadblocks, ASG is determined to bring a popular, issue-oriented speaker to Allegheny.

Several members of the cabinet expressed goals for the upcoming school year.

"I want everybody to see that the student government is here for them. We're not just another administrative body or a club," said Bracken.



After campaigning and being voted on by their peers, five students from each class are elected to represent their class as senators.

WOMEN *from page 1*

ing at Women's Services, they have the opportunity to fill a variety of positions. Some work directly with victims while others work the phones of the crisis hotline, which women needing assistance or counseling may call. Volunteers also work to organize education programs on domestic and sexual violence for schools in the area.

According to Harlan the most important thing they look for in a potential volunteer is compassion.

"Compassion, that's the one thing we can't teach," he said. "If they didn't come with compassion, they are not in the right place."

Emily Rigotti, '16, began volunteering at Women's Services during the first semester of her junior year as part of her clinical psychology class. She said the experiences she has had with the organization have helped to shape her senior composition and her post-graduation plans.

"I loved the stuff I was doing and the people I met there," she said.

Rigotti said once she had volunteered for a semester, she decided to get certified through the training course. This semester with the certification she is doing more work with the organization.

"This semester I'm just launching into it because there is nothing stopping me," she said.

Over the past summer Rigotti worked part time in a crisis center in her hometown. She said the experience solidified her desire to continue in the line of work when she graduates.

While she said she is excited about the work she intends to do, she acknowledged that it is often emotionally difficult. She said it is important to be able to compartmentalize your emotions.

"You are going to have to deal with some heavy, negative stuff in your job sometimes and you can't bring that home with you," she said.

Despite the difficult aspects of the work, Rigotti said it is satisfying seeing the success stories and the positive attitudes of some of the women.

"I saw a lot of women get out of some really rough situations," she said.

Wood said that though the registration period for the volunteer training has passed, students and community members are welcome to apply for next year's training. According to Wood, depending on the level of expressed interest they may host a spring training.

Deadline for cooperative health program approaches

By ANGELA MAURONI
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Allegheny College held an information session for the cooperative health program it coordinates with Chatham University. The session was held on Tuesday, Sept. 15 in Quigley Auditorium, and served a sizeable crowd that, according to Health Professions Adviser Kirsten Peterson, is common to have each year.

According to Peterson, she can have around 500 students on her email list for pre-health events. With such a large number of students wanting to go into pre-health careers, Allegheny has taken steps to form several professional programs. One of these is the cooperative program with Chatham, which has been in existence for at least 15 years.

There are three paths the students typically take at the Chatham program: occupational therapy, physical therapy or physician's assistant.

According to Melanie Wrobleski, the assistant director of graduate admissions at Chatham, there are around 40 students in the OT and PT program and approximately 80 in the PA program.

Peterson said Allegheny students have an acceptance rate in any professional program at about 80 percent.

Wrobleski agreed that Allegheny students are well-received, saying the college's students are often accepted into the Chatham program.

"We love Allegheny students," she said.

Peterson said that in 2012, there were seven Allegheny students in the Chatham pre-professional program. Seven is a lot of students for any school, let alone one as small as Allegheny.

Despite how high the chances of acceptance are for Allegheny students, Wrobleski warned that the program is still competitive.

"In terms of project placement, our program is very competitive," she said. "And [it's] competitive for a reason."

According to Wrobleski, the reason for this is that the jobs they are going for are equally competitive. However, Peterson said that jobs are still available and that the number of positions for PAs is growing.

Courtney Lubick, '17, is applying for the cooperative program to be a part of its PA track.

"I always wanted to be a PA, but I didn't really know about the program until I came to Allegheny," she said.

Having known about the program since she was a freshman, Lubick was able to arrange her classes to finish her pre-requisites early. She is going to be a part of the 3-2 program, where a student completes three years at Allegheny and the other two at Chatham.

"If I know I want to be a PA, why wait?" Lubick said.

She said that although some students may feel uncomfortable with that much pressure, many students like the collaboration and experiential learning, according to Lubick. It is a part of Chatham's program that is unique from many others.

> I always wanted to be a PA, but I didn't really know about the program until I came to Allegheny.
>
> Courtney Lubick
> *Class of 2017*

Although not all students plan for the program as early on as Lubick, Peterson believes it is best to plan as early in advance as possible. Peterson said she gets people during all points of their time at Allegheny, some of whom have taken five years of classes before they have the right credits to join the program, though this is far less common.

"The coursework is very prescriptive," Peterson said. "It's very set."

Lubick believes that planning ahead has helped her be more prepared for the program.

"Because I decided earlier, I could get shadowing hours and volunteering in," Lubick said.

Peterson said she would recommend that students get in touch with her and Chatham's admissions as soon as they decide they are interested, and Lubick agreed.

"You can't rely on other people to just give you things," she said. "And you should stay in touch with [Kirsten Peterson] and the co-op."

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CRIME BLOTTER

Sept. 19, 2015
Walker Annex Hall
Student being investigated for underage drinking, public intoxication and public urination.

Sept. 19, 2015
Walker Hall
Student being investigated for selling marijuana on campus.

ASG UPDATES

ASG is still looking for people interested in the director of the interior and historian positions. Contact Haley Riley if interested.

There is one senior senator position available for interested parties.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Homecoming
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 25-27
The campus community has planned numerous activities, including the Homecoming Parade, athletic competitions, a TailGator lunch and much more. Visit sites.allegheny.edu/alumni/homecoming/ for a schedule.

Muslim Lunch and Prayers
Friday, Sept. 25, noon, PAM Retreat
Allegheny's Muslim community gathers for lunch, followed by Jum'ah prayer at 1 p.m.

Information Session for Senegal 2016 EL Seminar
Friday, Sept. 25, 12:15-1 p.m., Ruter Hall 300
Led by Professors Laura Reeck and Steve Onyeiwu, EL Senegal asks students to discover, explore and ultimately compare and contrast urban and rural life in contemporary Senegal.

Homecoming Late Night
Friday, Sept. 25, 9:30-11:30 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
Gator Activities Programming invites students to decorate Mason jars with Gator themes and dip caramel apples.

Networks of Care Series: Panel Discussion on "Food Security: Promoting Access, Nutrition and Performance"
Saturday, Sept. 26, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m., CHAPS, 944 Liberty St.
With access to fresh, healthy and nutritious whole food increasingly becoming a commodity for those of means, this panel discussion explores how we can increase food security for all members of our community. This is a Year of Meadville event.

EVENTS CALENDAR CONT.

Homecoming Parade
Saturday, Sept. 26, 11:30 a.m., Brooks Walk to Robertson Athletic Complex
The Meadville Area High School Marching Band will provide the music for this spirited showcase of Blue and Gold pride.

Gift of Life Table
Saturday, Sept. 26, 12-4 p.m., Robertson Athletic Complex
Hillel invites you to stop by their table to learn more about Gift of Life, a national bone marrow registry. A simple cheek swab has the potential to save a life.

Homecoming Tailgate Party
Saturday, Sept. 26, 12-2 p.m., Robertson Athletic Complex
Students can use a meal swipe to get their lunch under the tent.

Recital by Organist-Composer Charles Callahan
Saturday, Sept. 26, 2 p.m., Ford Chapel
Organist and composer Charles Callahan, one of the most recognized names in American church music, will give a recital devoted to the work of American composers.

Delta Delta Delta Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m.-2 p.m., Schultz Banquet Hall
Help the sisters of Delta Delta Delta raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Purchase a ticket for $5 from any sister or at the door. Regular, blueberry and chocolate chip pancakes are on the menu, and there will be raffle baskets and a pancake-eating contest.

Chapel Service
Sunday, Sept. 27, 11 a.m., Ford Chapel
Two alumni will provide worship leadership. Guest preacher Greg Cox, '97, is an ordained United Methodist minister and serves as director of connectional ministry for the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference. Sandra Wayman, '10, studied organ at Allegheny and currently works at Cornell University in the sustainable agriculture lab. She is an organist at First Presbyterian Church in Ithaca.

Roman Catholic Mass
Sunday, Sept. 27, 6:30 p.m., Ford Chapel
Catholic Mass is celebrated by Catholic Campus Minister Father Jeff Lucas.

Mid-Autumn Moon Festival
Sunday, Sept. 27, 7 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
The Department of Modern Languages, the Asian Studies Program and A5 host a celebration of the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival, an annual harvest festival that originated in Chinese culture. In addition to performances, there will be free Chinese food and games.

Information Session for Flagship Niagara 2016 EL Seminar
Monday, Sept. 28, 4:30 p.m., Arter Hall 213
Led by Professor Ian Binnington and the professional crew of the Flagship Niagara, this seminar focuses on living history and the maritime environment.

Towns Family Lecture by John Esposito: "Building Bridges: Protecting Pluralism, Ending Islamophobia"
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 7 p.m., Tillotson Room of the Tippie Alumni Center
Professor of Religion and International Affairs and of Islamic Studies at Georgetown University, John Esposito is founding director of the Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding and project director of the Bridge Initiative, a multi-year research project that connects the academic study of Islamophobia with the public square.

Opening Reception and Artists' Talks for Annual Faculty and Alumni Exhibit
Tuesday, Sept.29, 7 p.m., Art Galleries
Allegheny graduates Jess Marie Longobardo and Nicholena Moon will exhibit. The show will also feature works by the Department of Art's 2015-2016 faculty and staff—Heather Brand, Amara Geffen, Darren Lee Miller, Steve Prince, Byron Rich, Richard Schindler and Ian Thomas—as well as by Professors Cheryl Hatch and George Roland.

Carrden Market
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Campus Center
Purchase organically grown produce from Allegheny's own Carrden.

Information Session for Sri Lanka 2016 EL Seminar
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 12:15-1:15 p.m., Campus Center 301/302
The 2016 Experiential Learning Seminar to Sri Lanka will be led by Professors Ishita Sinha Roy (Communication Arts) and Darren Miller (Art). This 21-day exploration of Sri Lanka will be held May 16 to June 8, 2016.

Jewelry Trunk Show with Kappa Kappa Gamma
Wednesday, Sept. 30, 7-9:30 p.m., Brooks Blue Lounge
Jewelry by Trend Tribe will be offered for sale. Kappa Kappa Gamma will donate 20 percent of the proceeds to Reading is FUNdamental, the nation's largest nonprofit children's literacy organization.

Celebration of Eid al-Adha
Thursday, Oct. 1, 5:30 p.m., Campus Center Lobby
All are invited to a celebration of Eid-al-Adha, the Islamic Feast of the Sacrifice.

DeHart Local Foods Dinner
Thursday, Oct. 1, 6:30 p.m., Schultz Banquet Hall
Come for the market and festival on Brooks lawn at 4 p.m. and stay for the DeHart Local Foods Dinner, featuring vegetables, proteins, dairy, honey, fruit and other products from local farms. The cost is one meal swipe, $9 Munch/Gator Cash or $15 cash. Tickets sell out fast.

The enduring struggle of #BlackLivesMatter

By ADA ZECH
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It is time for this nation to initiate a call to end police brutality. Too many lives have been senselessly taken by law enforcement, like Michael Brown, who was robbed of his life on Aug. 9, 2014. Brown was an African-American teenage resident of Ferguson, Mo. who was shot and killed by Caucasian police officer, Darren Wilson.

The day after Brown's death, heartbroken citizens took to the streets in desperate protest against the relentless police brutality occurring in the United States.

On Sept. 14, 2015, a little over a year after the fatal shooting, the Ferguson Commission released a report titled "Forward Through Ferguson: A Path to Racial Equity." Members of the Ferguson Commission, who were appointed by the Missouri governor to conduct a study of social and economic conditions in Ferguson, wrote the report. "Forward Through Ferguson" was said to be an informally written people's report.

The report states, "The Commission, composed of 16 diverse volunteer leaders, was charged with the following: To examine the underlying causes of these conditions, including poverty, education, governance and law enforcement; To engage with local citizens, area organizations, national thought leaders, institutions and experts to develop a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the concerns related to these conditions."

The Commission plans to work with local citizens of Ferguson, with the hopes of gaining their perception of the problems between law enforcement and its citizens.

The report dedicates specific sections of its writing to the use of excessive force by police officials and the emphasis of police in the role of a protector and a kind of guardian of citizens.

There have been many initiatives over the past year to institute sensitivity trainings and cultural responsiveness programs in police force academies. These initiatives have not been effective in reducing the appalling rates of police brutality.

Everyday more hashtags are created in remembrance of lives lost unjustly at the hands of law enforcement officials; more viral videos are shared of policemen beating young black boys for suspicious behavior or jaywalking, a crime that's not even a misdemeanor; and more pictures circulate the web of young Muslim boys in handcuffs, like the one who brought a homemade clock to school and, instead of being praised for his impressively engineered invention, was accused of having created a hoax bomb and was then arrested and put into custody at a juvenile detention center.

It is the responsibility of the government to keep all of their citizens safe and to treat them with equal dignity under the law. Hypothetical programs cannot resolve issues of morality in the workplace, even in police forces.

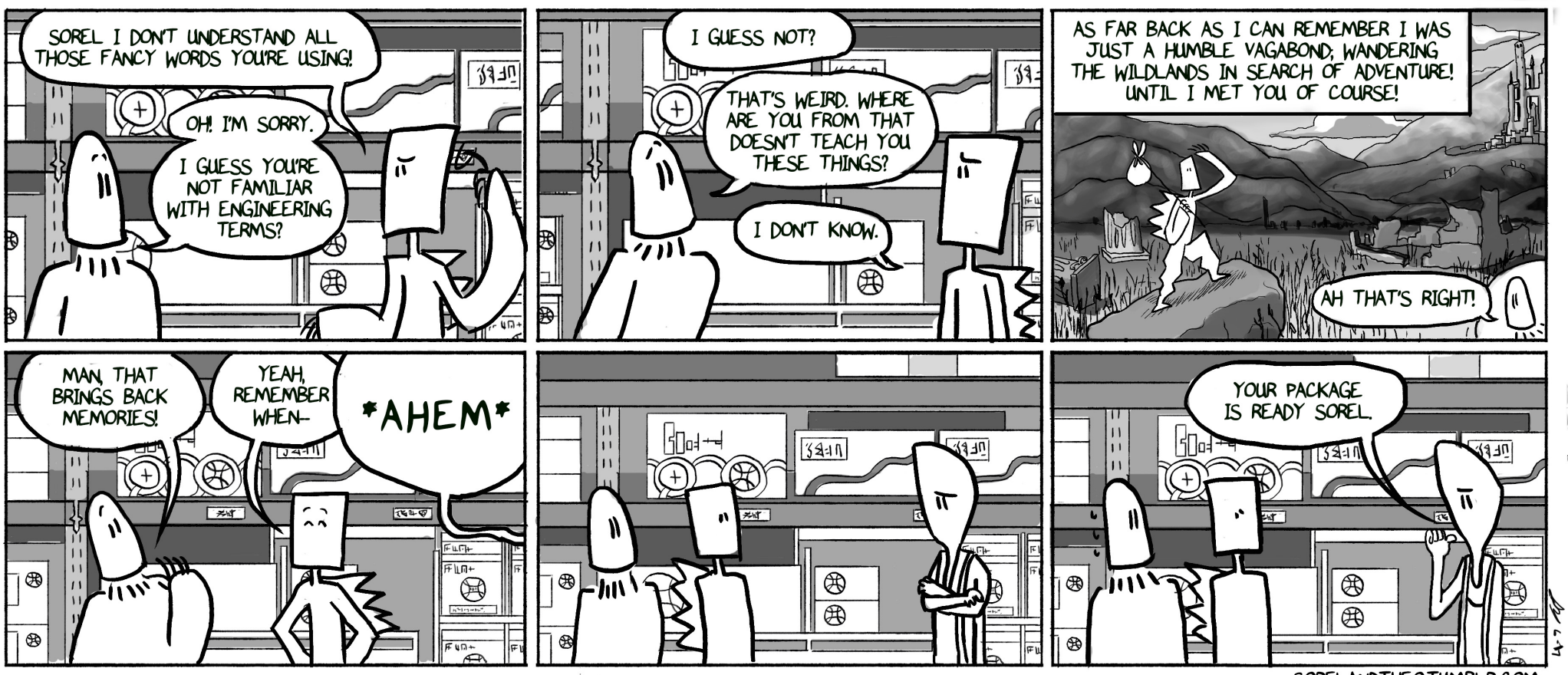
There needs to be reform in the law itself. It should not be the law to fill a certain number of arrests and citations, as if one is obligated to find a certain amount of evil in the world. Psychological evaluations on officers need to be a mandatory monthly requirement to remain in the field, and the law needs to institute repercussions for officers who use chokeholds.

Everyday there is an increase in the stigma that the officers who are supposed to serve and protect are malicious, violent and an enemy to civilians.

People of color live in fear because they exist in a society that does not appear to value their lives equally in the justice system and in the law itself. It is time for real change: change that becomes law, change that makes it impossible to disrespect and devalue another life.

Until then, allies and activists alike will keep making hashtags and raising awareness of this gross, heartbreaking injustice because #BlackLivesMatter, there needs to be a call to end #PoliceBrutality, and this nation needs to love and value all of its people and keep all people safe and protected.

THE SIMPLE THINGS



Comic by Jonathon Yee

Kim Davis refuses to issue marriage licenses

Religious freedom should not contend with jurisprudence

By MARIA GRAZIANO • Contributing Writer • grazianom@allegheny.edu

One of the most recent controversies is the Supreme Court's ruling on same-sex marriage in June 2015, Obergefell v. Hodges. While many Americans believe it is a step toward creating a more accepting country, there are still many who oppose same-sex marriage and believe it is immoral.

Kim Davis, a clerk in Rowan County, Ky. recently made headlines for defying a court order by denying a gay couple a marriage license, a right granted to them by the Supreme Court's ruling in favor of same-sex marriage guaranteed by the 14th Amendment. Davis then denied giving any couple a marriage license, stating that allowing gay marriage went against her religious beliefs, and that she was acting "under God's authority."

Davis also told her staff not to issue marriage licenses, because she wanted no personal or professional ties to any same-sex marriage licenses. She was then arrested, held in jail for contempt of court, only to be released five days later and return to work. Davis' lawyers filed an emergency application with the Supreme Court asking to hold the lower court's order while they tried to appeal, but the application was denied. Upon Kim Davis' release from jail, she was escorted by 2016 Republican hopeful Mike Huckabee, and greeted by a multitude of supporters who also believe marriage should remain "traditional."

The issue of separation of church and state has been an ongoing battle in our country for decades. Although many people do their best to keep these two equally important ideas separate from one another, the ideas tend to become entangled. In stories such as Davis', it is hard not to run into a problem of religious beliefs versus federal law.

Davis' only argument for her actions is that it goes against her religious beliefs. However, the Bible's book of Matthew states that people are to love one another, no matter who they are. As a person of faith, I am outraged at Davis' actions, because they only cast a dark light on the religious community. Because of one person's actions, many people view the Christian community negatively.

In the work environment, especially one that involves government regulated issues, people ought to be unbiased in every aspect. One's religious beliefs should always remain separate from one's career, so that problems do not arise.

If you do not personally believe same-sex marriage should be legal, you have the right to hold that opinion. Everyone is entitled to their own beliefs, as it is written in the Constitution. We are fortunate enough to live in a country where everyone can think for themselves and act freely.

We as a nation must remember that not everyone shares our own personal religious beliefs. Many do not consider the religious stances of others, and cannot comprehend why someone would deny a couple their Constitutional right to get married.

Who are we to say someone cannot get married just because of who they love? How does destroying someone's happiness and future make anyone a better Christian? The short answer is: it simply does not.

The Bible says to love your neighbor and treat him as you would yourself. Until conservative Christians such as Kim Davis take this statement to heart and follow it, progress will not be made on the same-sex marriage controversy.

In a country founded on freedom, no one, no matter their religious beliefs, should be able to deprive others the right to marry whom they love.

Give credit to her ideological consistency as a Christian

By MEGAN GREIG • Contributing Writer • greigm@allegheny.edu

The idea that a person would run for public office, a position that represents the general public as a whole, and proceed to use that position to enforce his or her own personal agenda, be it religious or social, is wrong.

An elected position is one in which one person from the masses follows the will of the people.

Especially when that elected position is a clerk—someone who essentially affirms decisions already made by their superiors—there is absolutely no room for personal opinion. In this way, Kim Davis was inexplicably wrong in what she did, or rather, what she did not do.

However, you may come to admire a particular aspect of Davis' personality: her consistency. Davis refused to sign marriage licenses because she believed the federal government's decision to legalize same-sex marriage was immoral.

What a lot of people do not seem to know, however, is that Davis not only refused to grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples, but she decided that if the U.S. government was going to disgrace her personal definition of traditional marriage, then she would not grant marriage licenses to any kind of marriage, including "traditional" ones.

Even just for that little bit of added commitment I commend Davis. As someone who has had to stand her ground for many a social cause, a part of me applauds her for standing her ground.

Granted, this was a rather vitriolic ground on which to stand, but my point here is that Davis was willing to sacrifice the marriages that she deemed morally appropriate and that should exist under her nation and under her God. She did this just so that she could prevent her country from committing, what was in her eyes, a sin.

In order to fully appreciate how consistent Davis was with her own spiritual beliefs, one must shift perspective once more. Davis was raised her entire life in line with the belief that anyone who chooses to commit sexual acts with a person not of the opposite sex will burn in Hell for eternity.

If one were to pause for a moment and contemplate the concept of eternity—something that exists outside of time, that always has been, always is and always will be—one would conclude that Hell is an intense form of punishment. I know I personally would not wish that on my worst enemy. I cannot imagine many people in existence have ever truly deserved that.

Davis probably thought that she should not have to face the choice of disobeying her government or allowing her fellow Americans to risk eternal suffering.

In her own eyes, she made a heroic choice. She also made a choice that allowed her to keep herself from getting her hands dirty through affiliation with approval of same-sex marriage.

To most people, Davis' religious beliefs seem to have preceded the requests of the American people in her actions.

It is easy to view her decisions as ignorant, self-absorbed and irresponsible. However, in her own eyes, Davis acted out of nothing but love for her fellow countrymen.

She was faced with the decision to either grant rights to a number of couples so that they could be granted mortal satisfaction or save an entire nation from eternal damnation.

As repugnant and atavistic as her decision may have been, it is hard not to at least tip a hat to her commitment and consistency. Kim Davis, I would never elect you into office, but I am happy to see that you care for my eternal soul.

Nobel Prize winner delivers Lord Lecture

Dr. Robert Howard Grubbs discusses contributions to chemistry field

By TYLER STIGALL
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Allegheny students and faculty gathered at Ford Memorial Chapel to experience a different kind of speaker on Monday, Sept. 21. Nobel Laureate Dr. Robert Howard Grubbs, professor of chemistry at the California Institute of Technology, engaged an audience of students, teachers and community members in the 2015 Lord Lecture.

Shaun Murphree, department chair of chemistry, made the introduction to the lecture series, and Mark Ams, assistant professor of chemistry, introduced the night's speaker.

Grubbs began the night's talk with a brief primer on organic chemistry and the nature of experimental catalysis.

"A lot of people aren't chemists here, so what is organic chemistry?" he asked. "It's the chemistry of carbon and hydrogen bonds, of carbon compounds and of putting things together. It's the basics for plastics and food. You're made out of a lot of organic compounds."

Grubbs regaled his career's work in the subfield of organic chemistry that deals with chemical catalysts. Catalysts are a class of particles that allow for certain reactions that would otherwise be unfeasible to take place.

"For example, If you take hydrogen, and you mix it with oxygen, you can leave them alone for centuries and they won't do anything," said Grubbs. "But if you introduce a catalyst then, boom! They explode."

These reactions usually involve breaking and rebuilding molecules that are constructed around the element carbon, known as organic molecules. Organic molecules and the catalysts used to prepare them are used commonly throughout academia and industries.

"If you want to make new molecules, you have to break bonds and know how to put them back together," said Grubbs.

Grubbs has taught chemistry at the California Institute of Technology since 1978. He also heads the Grubbs group, which investigates new catalysts and reactionary pathways.

The Grubbs laboratory has made several contributions to the field of organic chemistry, and its practical applications in industry, including the discovery of a family of catalysts used in the olefin metathesis reaction.

The olefin metathesis reaction involves the breaking of olefins, a certain class of organic molecules, and the reassembly of double-bonds between carbon atoms to form new olefin molecules. The process is used to generate pharmaceutical drugs, renewable biofuels and insect pheromones.

In 2005, Grubbs, Dr. Yves Chauvin, a French chemist, and Richard Schrock, a chemist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, collectively won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for the discovery of this mechanism. Grubbs credited Chauvin with the greater part of the discovery of the stepwise process by which olefin metathesis occurs.

> "So if you do everything right, you get to meet with the King and Queen of Sweden."
>
> *Dr. Robert Howard Grubbs*

During the award ceremony for the Nobel Prize, the reaction was explained by a choreographed dance that involved dancers representing different atoms, molecular groups and catalysts. The dancers changing partners represented particles that broke off from one another and reformed chemical bonds to create new molecules.

After receiving the Nobel Prize, Grubbs was invited to a number of prestigious social functions, many of which he spoke about during the lecture.

"So if you do everything right, you get to meet with the King and Queen of Sweden," he said.

One process that the Grubbs group worked on was ruthenium metathesis. This particular reaction plays an integral role in a series of processes that can produce renewable jet fuel and other biofuels from seed oil derivatives.

"One of the things that was mentioned [at the Nobel Prize ceremony] is that catalysis can be used to make a lot of 'green' stuff," Grubbs said. "And so the Nobel Committee got really excited about this. I didn't really realize that I was a 'green' chemist until they told me about it."

Green chemistry, also known as sustainable chemistry, involves synthesizing chemicals from sustainable starting materials and using cleaner processes for the environment.

One such green project the Grubbs group has developed is the synthesis of insect sex pheromones. Pheromones are a class of biomolecules that allow for animals of the same species to recognize each other, usually for the purposes of mating.

As an alternative to pesticides, the Grubbs group has worked out a method to mass-produce a sexual pheromone, known as the Peach Twig Borer Pheromone, that disrupts the mating behavior of peach twig borer males when sprayed over a large area.

"So it turns out that during the mating season, females become good synthetic chemists," Grubbs explained. "And she makes very precisely one complicated compound. And that's called a pheromone. Each insect species has its own special pheromone.

"And the male becomes a really good analytical chemist, and they can detect chemicals at very low concentrations. And so given a concentration, the male hones in on the females, and they mate and lay eggs inside fruit, which causes problems."

Grubbs explained that the solution is to blanket an entire field with the pheromone so that males cannot locate any specific females with which they can mate.

"This confuses the males," Grubbs explained. "There's a concentration gradient everywhere."

A different kind of problem that Grubbs has approached more recently is cataract surgery. Around half of all cataract-surgery patients are required to wear corrective glasses after their surgery, and scientists and engineers have been looking for improvements or alternatives to this process, according to Grubbs.

Grubbs and his group at Caltech created a material for the synthetic lenses applied in cataract surgery that would allow for doctors to change the refracting power of the lenses after surgery, as opposed to having the patient resort to glasses.

"And according to the people in the know, this is working better than Lasik," Grubbs said.

Leah Krainz, '18, a biology major, attended the Lecture to see examples of how the material that she is learning in her chemistry classes can apply towards utilitarian, real-world advances.

"It is inspiring to see how [Grubbs'] work carried over to so many different fields of science and engineering," said Krainz. "He was definitely very accessible. People should keep their eyes open for similar talks."

Although Grubbs spoke on topics within the discipline of organic chemistry, the audience was filled with non-chemist students and faculty. Chris Yesukevich, '18, found the Lecture to be far more accessible than he had anticipated.

"I appreciate that [Dr. Grubbs] is a different kind of speaker than those who we usually see at Allegheny," said Yesukevich. "We don't often get to hear from Nobel Laureates."

Guest lecturer teaches sustainable fashion course







PHOTOS BY XIAOYU ZHU/THE CAMPUS

Guest lecturer Amanda Langdown, senior lecturer from the department of design at Manchester Metropolitan University School of Fashion teaches students to knit Tuesday, Sept. 22 as part of a one credit, weeklong sustainable fashion class at Allegheny College.

By XIAOYU ZHU
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Guest lecturer Amanda Langdown, senior lecturer from the department of design at Manchester Metropolitan University School of Fashion taught a one week hands-on sustainable fashion course in the Collaboratory on the third floor of the Pelletier Library from September 21-25.

This course was one credit and discussed the relationship between environmental pollution and labor injustices within the current fast fashion clothing industry.

According to Langdown, the main cause for the emergence of the fast fashion industry is that businesses want to maximise profits.

"Fast fashion existed to enable businesses to make more money," Langdown said. "Because the traditional fashion cycle was twice a year, two seasons, they realized that... there was a huge demand for novelty and diversion, that human beings crave novelty. They realized that if they could do it quicker they could get people to buy more."

She explained how a change in supply speed leads to an increase in resource demand and this is how fast fashion causes environmental pollution.

"I just think that it's had to speed up the supply chain. That's put pressure...on resources, so you need more and more resources to feed the hunger for more stuff. That puts more strain on the earth's resources as well," said Langdown.

During the class, Students had to design and knit a sustainable garment.

Keegan Sumser, '18, thought it was an interesting class and unlike any she has taken before. She said it brought to her awareness how fast fashion is associated with environmental problems.

"It is an interesting class, and I'm excited for it. I haven't taken an environmental class yet, but this course gets me excited for that as well," she said.

Twenty five students attended the Tuesday class where they learnt basic knitting skills. Owen Ludwig, '18, said that learning to knit was something new for him.

"I've never done this before. It's great for men to challenge gender stereotypes," he said.

Langdown provided materials for the students to use. She also brought in some of her previous work and one item she is currently working on to give students inspiration.

Beth Choate, assistant professor of environmental science at Allegheny College, organized the course. She said she saw Langdown give a presentation and this inspired her to set it up at Allegheny.

"I had never thought about this idea of sustainable fashion," Choate said. "I saw her give a presentation...and that made me think about this idea of how unsustainable our product of fast fashion is. In thinking about production...labor and worker rights...waste products, and so throughout the cycle we really have an unsustainable system."

Langdown suggested ways for people to be more sustainable when it comes to clothing.

"The first thing is to reduce the stuff you buy, reuse it and recycle," she said.

Choate also said this is an important thing for people to start thinking about.

"I don't know where a lot of my clothes come from," said Choate. "I spend a lot of time thinking about...where my food comes from, but clothing I guess is another big thing. I wear clothes every day, I eat everyday and so it's interesting that we have this huge food movement, everybody's thinking about food, everybody wants sustainable, they want local, but no-one's really thinking about clothing."

Choate said she was excited by the amount of interest this course attracted from both the Allegheny and the Meadville community.

"We have professors attending and staff members... and we've gotten so much interest from people in the community," Choate said. "The number of people who are interested in this topic or are thinking about this topic is really kind of mind-blowing."

Top: Beth Choate, assistant professor of environmental science, Elia Sherman, '18, and Erin Zehr, '19, study a knitting book at the Tuesday night class. **Above:** Clayton Stoyer, '17 watches an instructional video as he learns to knit.

'The Gift' pleasantly surprises and scares

By EMILY GREENE
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We unfortunately live in the age of cheap horror movies.

These days, the genre relies solely on jump scares, repetitive plots and special effects. The art of making a slasher sometimes seems to be lost to the ages. Horror movies just do not have the staying power that its predecessors did. It is very rare that you leave the theatre genuinely scared anymore.

That is what makes "The Gift" such an excellent watch. This is a horror movie, directed, written by and starring Joel Edgerton, defies the current standards of the genre and actually leaves the audience horrified.

Jason Bateman and Rebecca Hall star as Simon and Rebecca Callum, a struggling married couple. They have just moved to Los Angeles so that Simon can start a new job and eventually a family.

While the couple is out shopping one day, they run into Gordon "Gordo" Mosley (Joel Edgerton) a former high school classmate of Simon's. Gordo who has a strange haircut and is dead in the eyes, is immediately unsettling. Although he is nothing but nice on screen, there is something about Edgerton's performance that makes it apparent that Gordo has the capacity to become unhinged.

After their chance meeting, Gordo begins bombarding the couple with affection.

He starts by leaving packages at their doorstep. But then begins showing up at their house unannounced and inviting himself over to dinner.

Gordo creates a rift between the couple, or perhaps makes the preexisting problems between the pair more obvious.

As the movie progresses, it becomes apparent that Gordo and Simon have unfinished business from their high school days. Gordo begins his reign of psychological terror over the couple by stealing their dog and poisoning their fish. Rebecca, who is home alone all day, is on the receiving end of most of Gordo's punishments. She begins having nightmares and abusing prescription drugs.

Rebecca and Simon's marriage is a good example of the subtle horror in The Gift. The scariest thing about this movie is not the dead dog or the dreams of home invasion, it is the idea that people can surprise you in the worst imaginable ways.

Who wants to believe that their spouse could ruin people's lives without hesitation?

Edgerton allows the viewer to piece together the full story through the perspective of Rebecca. The movie features many creeping shots of her worst nightmares, the things she imagines during her long days at home alone, even worse, is when she is not imagining anything at all.

Although the plot is driven by the conflict between Gordo and Simon, Rebecca is undeniably the star of the film. This is why it was so disappointing that her perspective was cut out of the ending entirely.

The end did not lack in shock value, however. The problem is that it relies far too heavily on Simon's reaction to his bad karma, and leaves Rebecca's character without a resolution. This dismissal of her character is not necessarily surprising. The horror genre has always been famous for weak female characters. However, Rebecca was not a weak character, not until the end.

Ending aside, "The Gift" really is one of the best modern horror movies out there.

It leaves you with a lasting paranoia, which is so rare these days. If you want to question your whole life, go see it.

Homecoming showcases Gheny pride, high hopes

By EYLIE BUEHLER &
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PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY ALUMNI AFFAIRS

Students cheer on the Gator's football team at last year's Homecoming game which marked Allegheny's bicentennial. Allegheny lost 37-9 to Oberlin College on Oct. 18, 2014.

Students and alumni are celebrating another Homecoming this weekend.

This year's Homecoming will include a parade through campus, a tailgate and a football game against Kenyon College.

Erin Briggeman, interim assistant director in the Office of Student Involvement, is excited to experience Homecoming at Allegheny for the first time since she was hired in July.

"For a start, [Gator Activities Programming] agreed to put on the late-night Homecoming event this year, and they've been working really hard to put together a great program for everyone," Briggeman said. "Jayne Piskorik has been spearheading the organization of the Homecoming parade this year, and I have been helping her with that where I can."

Briggeman will also be helping out with alumni events and homecoming game festivities.

"My feeling about Homecoming is that while it is a historically athletic event, it's also a great chance for everyone to get out there and show what they love about being students here. So, in terms of hoping to achieve something with this year's Homecoming, I would hope that we are successful in creating a venue for people to do that," Briggeman said.

Rosalie Evans, '16, president of GAP, has been in charge of planning most of the events for students and visitors.

"GAP generally helps out with a lot of the events that the school plans," said Evans. "For the bigger events like Homecoming, my duty is to oversee everything and make sure everyone is doing their tasks. I am the liaison between the office of student involvement and our club, so I meet with them a lot to understand what they're planning because they are really involved in Homecoming as well. I just have to be looking at the bigger picture and making sure that all of the different moving parts are being taken care of."

Evans said that GAP will also being hosting a Late Night Event in the campus center lobby. She said that all students are welcome to make, decorate and eat caramel apples for free.

On Saturday, Sept. 26, GAP will host the TailGator where there will be free food and t-shirts for students. Evans said in order to get food, however, students must bring their AllCard.

"I really hope that everyone gets involved, goes to the parade or the football game," said Evans. "Our theme of Allegheny this year was to encourage school spirit and pride, hopefully get people more excited about the football game and being involved in the school."

Evans said they are also trying to encourage the Meadville community to come and watch and contribute to Gator spirit.

Mark Matlak, head football coach, said that this weekend should be an exciting one for the football team specifically because they are well prepared for the game, and two former players will be returning to campus to be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

"It is great we have two former football players being inducted into the Hall of Fame," said Matlak. "Both David [LaCarte, '91] and John [Marzka, '91] were integral members of the 1990 National Championship Team. Having met both of them before, they were great football players but even better people."

Matlak said the team has been getting ready for the game both mentally and physically.

"Pressure only occurs when you are not prepared," said Matlak. "Our team had a good week of preparation."

The Late Night Event will occur on Friday, Sept. 25 at 9:30 p.m.

Kickoff for the Homecoming football game will be at 1:00 p.m. at Frank B. Fuhrer

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Homecoming weekend calendar of events

Friday

5:30 P.M.

SWIMMING AND DIVING ALUMNI MEET

Mellon Pool, Wise Center

Saturday

11:00 A.M.

TAILGATOR LUNCHEON

Robertson Athletic Complex, free to all students, parents, faculty and alumni.

11:30 A.M.

HOMECOMING PARADE

Begins in front of the Campus Center and will preceed through campus, up Park Avenue and end at Robertson Athletic Complex.

1:00 P.M.

FOOTBALL GAME VS. KENYON COLLEGE

Frank B. Fuhrer Field at Robertson Athletic Complex, admission is free.

3:00 P.M.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ALUMNAE GAME

Wise Center Performance Arena

Sunday

10:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M.

BROOKS BRUNCH

Brooks Dining Hall, $7.50 per person for all you can eat brunch items (cash only)

11:00 A.M.

LACROSSE ALUMNAE GAME

Robertson Athletic Complex

For more information regarding Homecoming weekend events go to http://sites.allegheny.edu/alumni/homecoming/ or look on MyAllegheny.



PHOTOS BY ALEÄA REYES/THE CAMPUS

Allegheny College students dig and outline the footpath from the Meadville Area High School to the Meadville Area Recreation Complex on Saturday, Sept 19, 2015.

Gators pay it forward





Left: Allegheny College students collaborate with Creating Landscapes in cleaning and sprucing a Meadville community garden. **Right:** Elia Sherman, '18, leads a Service Saturday project in creating a shortcut between the Meadville Area High School and the Meadville Area Recreation Complex. The students measure the width of the path while diggingand leveling.

Volunteers contribute to community in monthly service day

By ALEÄA REYES
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Approximately 40 students split up into seven teams, each with their respective leaders to engage in two hours of community-oriented service in and around Meadville on Saturday, Sept. 29.

The day began with a provided breakfast in the Pelletier Library, where Heather Fish, '15, and Lee Scandinaro, '15, both Davies Coordinators in Civic Engagement, had a few words to jump start the day.

"It's not about the project, it's about the people," said Fish.

Scandinaro echoed Fish's statement.

"Have fun. Some of the projects might seem tedious or like busywork, but these people really appreciate our work and it's meaningful," said Scandinaro.

The projects ranged from gardening to demolition. Emmett Barr, '17, led the men's cross country team's project. Rhonda Hershelman, a meadville resident, had the volunteers take apart her shed.

"We're going to destroy Rhonda's shed," said Barr, smiling.

Elia Sherman, '18, led a project at the Meadville Area Recreation Complex.

"We're building an interactive trail from the high school to the community garden," Sherman said.

This project was devised between the college and the community.

"My junior [seminar] designed the proposal for this trail," said Marissa Walters, '16.

As for the other projects, Tyler Allen, '18, ran an apple picking session at Mystic Mountain Training Center for a horse farm.

"I would hope that it would help the horses," said Allen.

There were two similar gardening projects. Angela Bui, '16, led a group to weed and trim at the Liberty House at the Crawford County Coalition of Housing, and Shanile Mcpherson, '16, and her team assisted Creative Landscapes in tidying up a community garden.

Lee Ann Streshenkoff, '17, and Meric Islam, '17, from the animal welfare club at Allegheny ran a booth at the Canine Cancer Walk at the Conneaut Lake Bark Park.

"This is a yearly project that our club's been having, and it's a great way to get more people aware of the cause," said Islam.

Service Saturday takes place the first Saturday of every month. Students can get more informtation at the Allegheny Gateway in the Pelletier Library.



ALEÄA REYES/THE CAMPUS

Laura Holesh, '16, and Olivia Heeb, '19, lie by the Allegheny College compass that they decorated with flower petals in the style of a mandala on Thursday, Sept. 24, .

"The art assignment was to create something ephemeral, made by nature and destroyed by nature," said Holesh. "I've been up since like six, working on this."

Holesh collected the flowers from around Meadville. "I tried to pick the dying flowers and then I picked the petals off," she said.

Holesh's setup attracted the gaze of several students, and even one participant.

"I was walking to my math exam and I saw this thing. When I came back, she was still here so I helped to set up and lay down petals," said Heeb. "And now we're just kind of hanging out."

Flower child

Student finds art project in unassuming space

Golf places second at John Carroll

By ALEX HOLMES
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The Allegheny women's golf team came in second in the John Carroll University Invitational, coming in at 692 points over the course of two days, 27 points behind St. Francis Universtity, the first place team.

"We came off of an off-week and put in good practice work. We worked on how to manage the course better and our short game, and took that mindset into the weekend," said Head Coach Jeff Groff.

Allegheny's top four golfers came in in the top 20 out of the 45 golfers at the invitational.

"The first day went really well and we all had confidence. We did team bonding before, went in with a good attitude and came out with good scores," said Kayla Orr, '18.

Orr and Paige Galloway, '18, tied for fourth place at 168 at the invitational. Coming in third for the Gators was Alexandra Metzger, '19, with 174, followed by Michaela Redinger, '19, with 185, Dana O'Connor with 187 and Kristen Greer, '18, at 215.

"We are a very young team, with three freshman and three sophomores. They have done a great job rallying around each other in practices and in competition," Groff said. "The women have been going out when it counts and doing what we have worked on. Our short game is always something we focus on and stress, that's where you improve."

Orr said there is not a lot of experience on the team but they are challenging themselves and working to help each other.

"It's hard for myself and the other sophomores to be a leader for the younger players when it's only our second year," Galloway said.

Galloway said the team is working on its perception as a small team and improving short game at each invitational.

This upcoming homecoming weekend, the women's team will be hosting the 10th Allegheny Invitational, bringing in 10 teams.

"The course is in great shape and we are excited to host again," Groff said. "We always get a little better with each invitational and enjoy competition."

The women shared Groff's excitement for the weekend.

"I'm excited for this weekend, we are on our home course and have the advantage," Galloway said. "We have a good chance of coming in, in the top and we're facing teams who we have played before and know."

Galloway added that at home the women know the course and what shots to take compared to being away and having one practice round.

"This weekend is going to be awesome and we have [alumnae] coming back to cheer us on," Orr said. "There is not so much stress of a new course and we go in more relaxed and comfortable."

The Allegheny Invitational will take place Sept. 27-28 at the Country Club of Meadville.



JOESPH TINGLEY/THE CAMPUS
Sarah Swartz, '16, serves the ball during the match against The University of Pittsburgh at Bradford on Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015. The Gators won 3-2 against the Panthers.

Women's volleyball at 9-4 this season

By EYLIE BUEHLER
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The Allegheny women's volleyball team is almost halfway through its season and have just begun tournament play with a record of 9-4.

Head Coach Bridget Sheehan said that at the tournament last weekend, Sept. 18-19, the team went 3-0 and played well.

"We have been very solid with our defense and side out game," Sheehan said. "We also control the tempo of the game very well. This past weekend we saw some success with our points on serve percentage, our out-of-system success and our blocking well."

Out-of-system play refers how the play is executed. When the play is in-system it means the ball is passed directly to the setter and there is a pass, set and kill within that play. Out of system is just the opposite in that the ball is not passed directly to the setter but the team keeps the ball in play.

Taylor Samuel, '16, said that their success in tournaments and games is a direct result of the team's hard work and dedication in practice.

"We work really hard at practice and are in the process of implementing new aspects into our game this year to keep ourselves competitive against the teams in our conference," Samuel said. "In addition, our defense has really stepped up this year because at this point in time we are nationally ranked second for defense among all Division III schools."

Assistant Coach Quinn Wright said that the team continues to better themselves in all aspects of the game and is working on the areas they feel they need to improve.

"Our biggest area of improvement at this point in the season is offensive," Wright said. "We believe that if we can get our offense running at a higher level, we can be a very good team."

Sheehan said that the team needs to focus on playing smart and continue to control some of the division's best attackers.

"Our goal is to keep them under their attack average and keep them stressed with game tempo," Sheehan said.

Samuel said that as the team gets further into conference play the team will have to work even harder to maintain their level of play.

"Our conference games are much more competitive and the level of play is more advanced," Samuel said. "Overcoming the adversity of beating nationally ranked teams requires a mental toughness that the entire team will have to showcase."

As for the rest of the season the team is focused on their upcoming games and take what they have learned from past mistakes and use it to grow as a team and as players.

> "Our conference games are much more competitive and the level of play is more advanced. Overcoming the adversity of beating nationally ranked teams requires a mental toughness that the entire team will have to showcase."
>
> Taylor Samuel
> *Class of 2016*

"The general goal for this team is to play a consistent style of volleyball with control and to keep confident during point runs," Sheehan said. "Staying aggressive with our core transition movement and tempo throughout a match."

Samuel said the team's sights are set on making it a long season in tournament play.

"The team's goals this year are to excel further in the playoffs, maintain a passing average of 2.2, hit 20 percent as a team, have no more than 3 point runs from our opponents and to maintain great communication and energy during our play," Samuel said.

The team's next game is home on Friday, Sept. 25 against DePauw University.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL



CASSIE BACHIK/THE CAMPUS
Allegheny pitcher Allison Cabo, '17, faces a batter from Thiel College. The Gators softball team fell to the Tomcats in the first game of the fall tournament on Sunday, Sept. 20, 2015.