

RECONSTRUCTION JUNCTION



Photo contributed by Bill Ross

The new fields being installed at the Robertson Athletic Complex will host men's and women's soccer games and practices as well as field hockey and women's lacrosse competitions.

See **UPDATES** | page 4

Office renovations, relocations on campus

By **SARA HOLTHOUSE**
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As Bentley Hall prepares for renovation and Reis Hall empties out this academic year, the previous occupants have found new homes in the Henderson Campus Center, Schultz Hall and Murray Hall, while a move to the Tippie Alumni Center is scheduled for early September.

The biggest change was the relocation of the Office of Student Life, previously in Reis, to the Campus Center. Relocating Student Life — which includes the Dean of Students, Residence Life and Spiritual and Religious Life — required the reorganization and renovation of the third floor of the Campus Center.

“Returning students will be like, where’s financial aid, where’s counseling, where’d everybody in Reis go?” said Jane Ellen Nickell, chaplain. “But hopefully the first-year students will come in and ... see all of these offices in one suite together in the Campus Center (and) will hopefully

really feel the support that the campus provides for them.”

As part of the renovation, the office now has a common area for students to have a quiet place to relax. Nickell said there are some confusing parts of being moved to the Campus Center — Student Life now has only one entrance, for example — but added that those are minor issues.

“I think everyone is pretty happy with where they are now,” Nickell said.

Also moving from Reis are the Counseling and Personal Development Center, which has moved to be co-located with the Winslow Health Center in Schultz and the Office of Financial Aid, which is now on the second floor of the 454 House. The 454 House also houses Admissions.

As Bentley undergoes renovations, its offices are moving as well. So far, the Registrar, Human Resources, Title IX, the Dean for Institutional Diversity, and Institutional Research have moved to Murray Hall, just south of the Campus Center. Murray was previously

used for Computing Services and a few classrooms; however, the building had space available to house new offices.

Jason Ramsey, director of enterprise services in Institutional Research said the move to Murray is beneficial.

“(Institutional Research) work often involves the Registrar and Human Resources, offices that both shared a floor in Bentley with IR, and now continue to do so during the Bentley Hall renovation having moved to Murray,” Ramsey said. “It is a nice opportunity for staff and administration to make closer connections with one another by working from the same building.”

In early September, Tippie will also be the new home to the offices of the president, executive vice president and dean of the college. These moves will take place in early September, but the definitive date has not been announced.

Gilly Ford, interim dean of students, thinks the changes make the offices and their services more available to students.

“I think the ultimate goal of the move is that the areas students need to be more accessible are all here in one place,” Ford said.

She thinks the post office, bookstore and print shop renovations and relocations are logical moves that better connect their purposes and make them more accessible now that they are all in the same spot on the second floor of the Campus Center.

“It’s really beneficial for all of the offices to be in one place and to be connected to all of the other services that the students need, and I think that’s really exciting,” Ford said.

Ford said plans are in the works to organize an open house for students to be able to see all of the renovations, but she said students should always feel free to pop in and check it out on their own. Overall, all of the staff members whose offices have moved are in agreement that the move was beneficial and look forward to the upcoming year.

Class of 2022 explores Allegheny values in FS programs, exploration

By **MATTHEW STEINBERG**
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Beginning as first-years, students are encouraged to explore new fields of study at Allegheny College. The first-year/sophomore program helps kick-start that exploration.

Allegheny’s FS program is an element of the curriculum that allows first-year students to delve into different topics. Designed to help students develop a variety of skills including critical thinking, communication and writing, the program serves as an opportunity for students to achieve the four Institution Learning Outcomes outlined by the course catalog.

Professors from all departments at Allegheny put together and teach FS courses that will help incoming students adjust to Allegheny’s academic style. For the fall 2018 semester, first-year students are taking a variety of FS 101 courses like “The Space Race,” “Love, Sex, Marriage, History, Science and Philosophy” and “Eat, Drink and Community.”

Alyssa Ribeiro, assistant professor of history, will take students back in time to look at the Space Race. In the midst of Cold War tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union in the mid-20th century, space ex-

ploration became an area of interest and conflict between the two superpowers.

“Part of what I want to achieve with this course is to take an episode of American history that people kind of think they know about, and even they romanticize or idealize, and look deeper,” Ribeiro said. “Because I think a lot of Americans don’t actually know that much of the depth of history behind the Space Race.”



RIBEIRO



JACKSON



WATKINS

is will be Ribeiro’s fourth year teaching at Allegheny. She teaches courses in 20th-century history, specializing in late 20th-century urban history and race.

“The Space Race” will be Ribeiro’s first FS 101 course. For the class, she wants to start prior to the Cold War period, taking students back to the 1930s and looking into the development of rocket technology in the U.S. and Nazi Germany.

“I also want students to take a look at some of the behind-the-scenes individuals that may not get as much attention,” Ribeiro said. She wants to focus on instrumental figures other than the famous astronauts of the time. One book students will read, “Rise of the Rocket Girls,” profiles women who helped launch America into space.

Overall, both the new president and vice president look forward to the beginning of the school year and the start of their vision for Allegheny. “Camilla and I are really excited for this year, and we hope to really bring our ideas to life,” Greene said.

See **COURSES** | page 2

ASG president, vice president discuss goals, challenges

By **ALEX WEIDENHOF**
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With the 2018–19 academic year about to commence, Allegheny Student Government’s incoming administration is eager to begin its role in governing and advocating for the student body.

ASG President Camilla Gomez, ’19, and Vice President Gillian Greene, ’20, hope to build upon the work of previous administrations to strengthen the organization and communicate with Allegheny College students.

Gomez, who began her

work with ASG on its Press and Communications Committee as a first-year student, said she hopes to better advertise ASG to the student body.

“A lot of people on the outside don’t really know what ASG is,” Gomez said. “Unfortunately, there’s a misconception that the only people who care about ASG are the people in it. If you breach that gap with everybody else and do a better job of spreading information about ourselves, that can really help.”

Gomez also said ASG plays an underestimated role in administrative decisions.

“ASG is pretty important in the decision-making process for administration, and a lot

of people don’t actually realize that at other colleges it’s not like that,” she added.

In addition to general assembly meetings, which are held at 7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the Henderson Campus Center, ASG also places students on administrative committees. These include the Finance and Facilities, Curriculum and Academic Standards and Awards Committees, collectively known as the College Committees Council. Most students placed in these committees have voting roles.

“A lot of the changes that are discussed in these impact the students,” Greene said, adding that she and Gomez

want to make “sure that we have engaged students going to these committee meetings and voicing their concerns and opinions of the student body.”

A strength of last year’s ASG administration, Gomez said, was its ability to promote student government. She said this effort helped strengthen ASG’s image and presence on campus as a whole.

“Last year, people were so much more aware of ASG, so much more engaged in it and actually cared. Actually would show up. Actually would vote,” Gomez said. “We have had increasing voter turnout for the last three years.”

Greene, who also started

with ASG her first year, as a senator, said she looks forward to some of the changes at Allegheny, and she wishes to work with new administrators to see out her and Gomez’s vision for the college’s future.

“We have a new dean of students, April (ompson),” Greene said. “I have not gotten to meet her yet, but from what I’ve read about her, she seems really enthusiastic about Allegheny, and having a chance to work with her — and having that place with everybody in the administration — to help (Gomez) and I bring about some of the change we wanted to (is exciting).”

One such change the new administration wants to bring

about is an improved awareness and access to student wellness.

“It’s not just physical, it’s also mental health — making sure the students are happy and when they need extra resources, if they’re struggling with anything, really, that they know there are resources out there for them, and what steps they can take to get help if they want it,” Greene said.

Overall, both the new president and vice president look forward to the beginning of the school year and the start of their vision for Allegheny.

“Camilla and I are really excited for this year, and we hope to really bring our ideas to life,” Greene said.

IN THIS WEEK’S CAMPUS



FULBRIGHT REFLECTIONS

Sarah Shapley, ’20, shares experiences and lessons learned in U.S. Fulbright Program.

Page 2

WELCOME BACK, WELCOME BACK

New students and upperclassmen offer input on campus changes, life and hopes for the year.

Page 2

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

The Campus editor-in-chief welcomes new students, reflects and looks to the future

Page 3

RECRUITING NEW TALENT

Allegheny Women’s Tennis Team searches for new athletes for upcoming season

Page 4



