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University of Washington - Tacoma Campus

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JOURNALIST

Joint Project of the MSU Department of Journalism, Moscow
and University of Washington Tacoma



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Joint Project of the MSU department of Journalism, Moscow and University of Washington Tacoma

UWT Staff: Kristin Della Vecchio (UWT Editor), Krizia Chimal, Donna Kopmar, Justin Lawrence, Rob Pangaro, Allison Pham, Nathan Richholt, Joanna Sappenfield, Chelsea Vitone

Moscow Staff: Stacie Penyz (MSU Editor), Daria Khlopova, Nino Rosenbashvili, Alina Ryazanova

Graphic Design: Nathan Richholt
Alina Ryazanova

Design & Layout: Krizia Chimal,
Donna Kopmar

Instructors: Dr. Chris Demaske, Dr. Maria Lukina, Diana Kulchitskaya

Special thanks also to: Cheryl Greengrove, Katie Baird, Colleen Carmean, Adrienne Ione, the University of Washington Tacoma, School of interdisciplinary Art and Sciences School at UWT, and Moscow State University Department of Journalism.

Address: 1900 Commerce St., Tacoma, WA 98402

Contact: cd2@uw.edu

By Kristin Della Vecchio & Stacie Penyz

Since Spring 2000, students from the University of Washington Tacoma and Moscow State University have come together once or twice a year to co-produce a media project, The Journalist. The UWT/MSU Journalism Exchange Program has enable some of the brightest and most gifted journalism and communication students from the two schools to travel to each other's countries and spend an intensive eight to 14 days writing and editing copy, performing layout and participating in a myriad of cultural experiences. In March 2014, four UWT students were chosen through a competitive application process. They got their passports, made contact with their Russian counterparts at MSU and began writing their stories. Sadly, due a delay in visa invitations for the American students, the project had to be cancelled. Although we were faced with devastating news in the Spring, the program continued this November, again giving students the opportunity

East Meets West

to collaborate on an eight-day project, this time on the UWT campus.

This issue of The Journalism marks our 11th year of cooperation between MSU and UWT.

This production year was an adventure for everyone, filled with lack of sleep, creative journalists, experienced layout persons, great graphic designers, and a skillful photographer. For the four students from Russia, it was their first time in the United States, which luckily was marked by a unique experience, creating a relationship with their American colleagues at UWT. They got a chance to not only travel, but work with people from a different cultural group as well. Prior to meeting each other, we had conversations about stereotypes (both the Russians and Americans), and it was interesting to study these ideas as we met. From our experience during the project, we learned that those stereotypes were unfounded -- both cultures dress similar, our ways of communicating are very

much alike, and we both love to smile.

As for our experience with collaborating as a group to produce The Journalist, everything for the most part went according to schedule. The experience as a whole was amazing. Working together with students from another country and creating a magazine does not seem very simple, but it was fun, fascinating and an experience to treasure. For a month or so prior to meeting, we all kept in contact with each other through email. So, finally meeting face-to-face was exciting after having built a virtual relationship.

The lack of sleep was well worth the experience. Not to boast, but we formed an amazing magazine, all with vital, and unique topics. We had a group of creative people. Working with everyone and witnessing the development of a magazine was truly wonderful. It proves that, in spite of the difficulties in translation and views, we can work together on a journalistic project.



The Ebola Virus:

A Long and Deadly History



Photo By Kommersant.ru

By Nino Rosenbashvili

The story of the Ebola virus outbreak begins like stories of dangerous disease outbreaks often do — with monkeys.

In 1967, research centers in Belgrade, Frankfurt and Marburg got a group of African green monkeys from Uganda and relatively soon, a few scientists from a study group who had contact with animals fell ill. Some of them died afterwards.

Now we know that the virus, named the Marburg virus after the town where the infected doctors lived, was the cause of their deaths. The virus was an RNA virus of the filovirus family, similar to the Ebola virus, although slightly less deadly (a 23 percent versus 30 percent mortality rate). The five species of Ebola virus are the only other known members of the filovirus family, according to the website for the Center for Disease Control.

Research conducted over the past several decades shows that there are virtually millions of viruses on Earth. Many people get

attacked by them several times a year. As a result, most people know quite well the chills, cough and high temperatures associated with the common cold. But what do Marburg virus infected patients feel?

Meduza, the Russian-language online news site based in Latvia, quoted one of the virus victims, Sergey Vizunov, a Russian scientist who worked in a special medical laboratory at the end of the Soviet Union period:

“Feelings are strange: your skin is bleeding, but it doesn’t hurt. Everything else hurts; your head, eyes, liver, back and muscles. You feel terrible acute pains and get an incredible sensibility,” Vizunov said “Every touch is painful (not mentioning the pain you feel while getting an injection). Furthermore, you are unable to get up and you don’t want to.

“An hour, a day, a week pass one after another, and you simply don’t want to get up!”

Taking into account similarities of Marburg and Ebola viruses, it can be presumed that Ebola symptoms feel nearly the

same.

More than four decades have passed since scientists discovered the Ebola virus in 1976. If this has happened before, then why did the epidemics burst out again?

The Russian Academician Victor Maleev, who also works in the Central Research Institute of Epidemiology, said that the reason for the Ebola virus spread is the total collapse of the health system and other social infrastructures in affected states. He added that poverty and unsanitary conditions compound the problem, too.

Moreover, cultural traditions have a great influence on locals (for example, in countries like Liberia) and sometimes people trust shamans and voodoo more than physicians. This complicates the process of fighting the infection.

Still, other doctors are hypothesizing that people hide their sick relatives because of the fear of being separated, preferring to care about the patients themselves.

From time to time, humanity

has suffered from different medical diseases. For example, there have been three Ebola virus outbreaks in 21st century. But this time, the increased number of victims is illustrating just how dangerous and destructive the virus can be.

To safeguard as much as possible against the serious danger of infection, scientists and doctors always work with a special protective uniform.

“There is a dresser-coach, who gives you orders to make sure that you don’t miss one step and you don’t infect yourself while you’re undressing,” said Joanne Liu, Doctors Without Borders chief, in a recent interview with Russia Today.

Currently, there is no vaccine, but cases of recovery are already known. In addition, the medical community now knows that the main component of the treatment is immunoglobulin. So researchers are getting closer to their goal of containing the deadly disease, which according to the World Health Organization, has caused more than 5,000 deaths so far.

Port of Tacoma Approves Liquefied Natural Gas Facility

By Kristin Della Vecchio

On August 21, 2014, Port of Tacoma officials approved a 25-year lease with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to build a \$275 million liquefied natural gas (LNG) facility.

The LNG facility serves as an asset to Tacoma, creating environmental benefits and a positive economic impact. The facility is said to be cost effective and cleaner, reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

According to Director of Communications at the Port of Tacoma, Tara Mattina, the 30-acre site will be built adjacent to Totem Ocean Trailer Express (TOTE) terminal, at the corner of East 11th St. and Alexander Ave. The facility will enable Puget Sound Energy, a local natural gas facility serving Western Washington, to provide dependable and more affordable natural gas to its customer at times of peak demand. This peak demand typically occurs during the winter.

The LNG, which is a form of natural gas but in liquid form, is said to be safe. Natural gas, which is highly flammable and consists largely of methane and other hydrocarbons, is cooled causing the gas to transform into liquid.

According to Puget Sound Energy, when the natural gas is formed into its liquefied state it is one six-hundredth the volume causing it to easily stored and transported. The LNG is not explosive or flammable, and remains in liquid form when cooled.

“The temperature where it becomes flammable is very narrow,” Mattina said. “There are some really fascinating videos on YouTube. It’s not explosive. You can actually see someone drop a lit cigarette or match into a cup of it and the match will go out.”

The LNG is a cleaner alternative

compared to the use of conventional fuels such as diesel. It will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 percent, eliminate other harmful emissions, and reduce the possibility of oil spills.

“This is environmentally sustainable and a good form of energy. It creates jobs during the construction of the facility and employs people with full-time permanent jobs when the organization is up and running, and creates tax revenues,” Mayor Marilyn Strickland said.

A new lateral pipeline will be built to provide the LNG. The pipeline will be five miles long, stretching from I-5 to Alexander Ave.

PSE will provide a dependable and affordable source of natural gas services to approximately 800,000 customers. PSE customers will pay less due to this conversion.

Natural gas is also used for trucks, railroads, maritime, and other sources of transportation. PSE will provide a cleaner fuel alternative to regional businesses when transporting materials. TOTE, a shipping line traveling regularly between Tacoma and Alaska, is converting to liquefied natural gas, as opposed to diesel, reducing its greenhouse gas emissions.

According to Mattina, the port is currently in the midst of a twelve to 24 month feasibility period.

“Construction could take three to four years. They are in the process of an environmental review, and then we will begin the permitting processes. That is what takes those twelve to 24 months,” Mattina said.

Once all of the permits are in place, the construction of the facility will begin. The construction and the operation of the facility will create up to 275 jobs.



Photos By Allison Pham



Travel Agencies in Russia Hit by Tourist Decline

By Stacie Penyaz

This summer was marked by serious turmoil in the Russian travel industry when a number of Russian travel agencies collapsed.

In the two month period between July 16 and September 15, there were 14 Russian tour operators that declared bankruptcy. This affected more than 100,000 Russian travelers who were stranded abroad or stuck at home because their agents didn't pay for their stay or travel arrangements, according to a report issued by Interfax, a Russian non-governmental news agency based in Moscow.

There are various reasons that led to this situation. The most obvious is the post-payment system. Travel agencies incurred huge debts to hotels and air companies when tour operators booked too many plane seats and hotel rooms with no money to pay for them.

Another factor is a troubled international economy contributing to a decline in the value of the ruble. Ambiguity in a law which allows agencies to send people on a trip without paying for a return ticket also heavily influenced the situation.

Not only did the Russian travel industry suffer this summer but the circumstances in this sphere led to a huge drop in other European travel economies. According to Reuters, there was a 14 percent decrease in Russian tourists coming to the Czech Republic this year. The predictions are not very optimistic.

"We expect further dropping. It may reach the point of 30 to 40 percent and even more this winter. The process will definitely continue," Russian Union of Travel Industry press secretary Irina Tyurina said in an interview with the portal Tourprom.ru.

Many European countries potentially face financial losses because of the drop in revenue that would normally come from Russian visitors.

However, this crisis in the Russian tourism market may have some positive consequences. The distrust Russian people have shown toward travel agencies has led to a new wave of independent tourism.

The online hotel booking service Ostrovok.ru marks a rise in customers for the third



Photos By Anastasia Penyaz



quarter of this year. This service has the biggest hotel supply team in Russia and aims to develop domestic tourism – a noble goal and not so hard to achieve while the decline of the ruble rates continues and it is cheaper to travel within the country.

For many people, traveling on their own seems complicated and unsafe. They prefer to buy an all-inclusive tour from an agency rather than book airline tickets and hotel rooms themselves. Of course, independent tourism has pros and cons, but it can be more pleasant than it sounds.

"I've tried all the existing types of tourism, I think," said 21-year-old Yury Lagorskij, an experienced Russian traveler and a history student at a Moscow university "I traveled by myself, I bought a voucher from a tour operator, I went hitchhiking. But the last option

is not for everyone; it's for those who don't worry about comfort and love to take risks. Independent tourism is for sure my favorite means of traveling. I can book a hostel online, buy the cheapest tickets and go see something new any time. The only disadvantage is that you have to check yourself on how to get from the airport to your accommodation."

If the situation in the Russian travel industry worsens, it will surely cause further loss of trust in our tour agencies. For the industry, it is necessary now to reduce this negative impact as much as possible. Speaking to travelers, it is important for them to know that, even if they are afraid to seek help from an agency, they can always find a cheap way of traveling using websites to make their unique holiday program.



Photo By Sergey Vasiliev/Kommersant

The Holy Spirit Diet

by Alina Ryazanova

Global Economy's Impact on Everyday Lives

A popular Russian saying goes: when people don't have enough to eat, they should feast on the Holy Spirit.

Since summer 2014, Russia has lived under economic sanctions, partly imposed by the European Union and the USA, and partly by Russia itself. How do these sanctions influence ordinary people's lives? We asked a student, a university professor and one person, who is retired, to tell us about the changes which happened in their lives these past few months.

The College Student



Ekaterina Provornaya is a 19-year-old, third year student at Moscow State University:

"I see the growth of prices every day. My favorite dairy cheese has grown by 5 rubles (\$0.11)".

All products from the United States and the European Union have disappeared since the Russian embargo in August. Russian

milk and curd has gone up by 20 to 30 percent, according to the Russian government statistics agency, Rosstat, which provides official information about the economic, demographic, and social situation in the country.

"The rate of exchange falls, stipends melt away, yet I do not convert my money into dollars. But I have some pounds. Since July it has grown by more than 15 rubles (\$0.32)," Provornaya said.

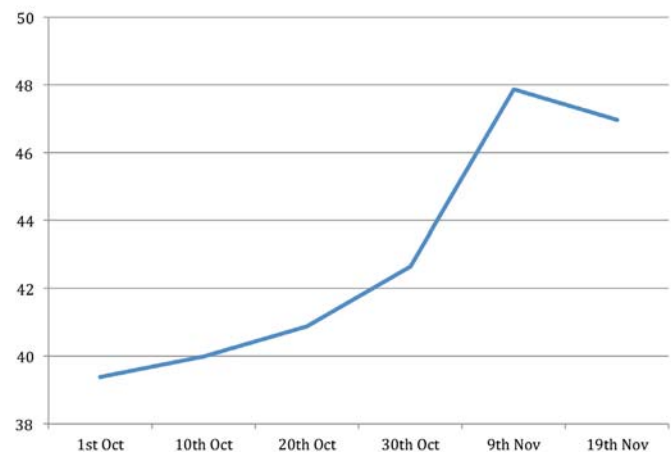
The dollar-to-ruble rate has also changed. In November 2013 \$1 was 32.5 rubles, in May 2014 it had changed to 35 rubles, and now hovers around 47 rubles. The primary reasons for the falling ruble are collapsing oil prices and the economic sanctions.

The Retiree



Elena Galkina is a 69-year-old pensioner. As with many senior citizens, she has to work.

She is a checkroom attendant. Her



The value of the dollar in rubles

pension is 12,000 rubles (\$259.17) per month. She earns 11,000 rubles additionally (\$237.58). Her husband is 82 years old with a pension of 20,000 rubles (\$432).

"We always buy Russian beef. One kilo now costs 380 rubles (\$8.20) instead of 260 (\$5.61) in spring," Galkina said. "We spend around 15,000 rubles per month (\$324) on food."

Beef was also affected by sanc-

tions. As Russtat states, Russia imports 60 percent of beef. Approximately 90 percent comes from South America and Belorussia.

"We pay around 6,000 rubles (\$129.58) for medications. Each month we buy Netherlands preparation Omnix ocas from kidney troubles for 1,500 rubles (\$32.39), and French anesthetic Voltaren 450 rubles (\$9.71). We do not buy Russian medications because of the low

quality, but foreign ones are more expensive now.”

The pharmaceuticals industry itself is very profitable because everybody has to buy medications regardless of the price. The Russian government program “Farma-2030,” which encompasses the 70 to 80 percent market share for Russian medications, doesn’t work.

The Professor



Gregory Prutskof is a 44-years-old, MSU professor. He has two children. The salary

of an MSU professor is approximately 35,000 to 40,000 rubles (\$755 to \$863) per month.

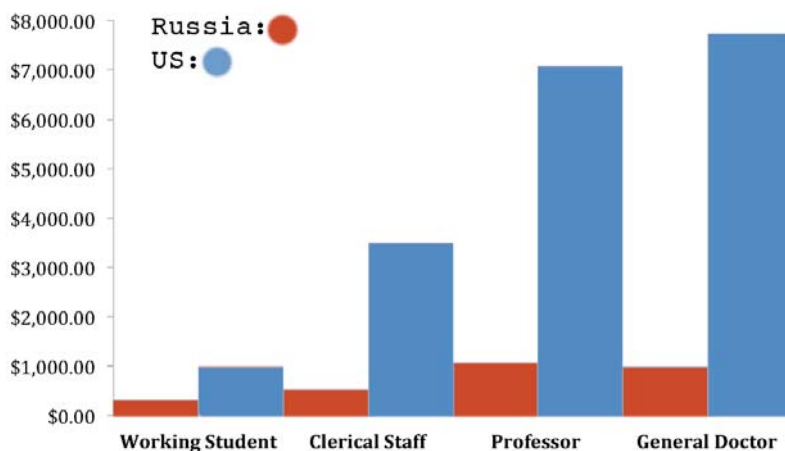
“I feel the growth of food prices. I used to buy Russian cheese 0.5 kg for 100 rubles (\$2.15), but now it is 150 rubles (\$3.23),” Prutskof said. Anyway, I think it could not be worse than the last years of the USSR, when we could buy no food at all!”

From October 28 to November

5, cheese prices have improved 0.4 to 0.6 percent. In October, Russian cheese price increased by 3 percent. The cause is the appearance of alternative providers of raw produce and products instead, from the Baltics, Poland, Netherlands and France.

“I buy some clothes for my children every two months. My eldest son loves Spanish Zara,” Prutskof said.

Brand Zara, as other European casual style brands, is very popular in Russia. Factories in the country produce only 18.4 percent in the clothes market. We asked 10 students from MSU to name something they wear that was made in Russia. The list consisted of socks. Approximately 85 percent of the children’s clothes imported come



Monthly income in Russia and U.S

from China, South-east Asia and Pakistan, according to analysts from “Market centre” organization.

Russia has neither raw materials for the textile industry nor enough investment, which could boost the national production. The interest rate is enormously high. This year the Russian Centrak Bank increased the interest rate from the record low 5.5 percent to 9.5 percent. These rates in commercial banks, which charge 15 to 17

percent in a year, are not available for personal businesses. It inhibits growth of the Russian economy.

“I feel the increase of petrol prices, though oil becomes cheaper. Five hundred rubles (\$10.70) used to be enough for 15 litres (about four gallons), but now I pay the same price for 13.8 litres (\$3.60 gallon) regular petrol,” Prutskof said.

The Brent Crude price fell from \$115 in June to \$80 in November. Petrol prices around the world are at their lowest now. In the USA, prices fell to \$2.90 (-0.88 percent) in autumn. In Russia, prices conversely increased. They keep growing (9.20 percent since the beginning of 2014). To make up for their losses abroad, oil companies tend to increase the price in the country of origin, and cheap oil itself means a Russian budget shortage, 52 percent of which rely on oil revenues.

Patriarch Kirill, leader of the Russian Orthodox Church, said once that the fall of living standards is an additional trial for Russians. “We face the problem of foreign sanctions. Why are they imposed? Mostly, to divert your attention from national interests to your own.” He forgot, unfortunately, to mention one thing: the painful food embargo was imposed by none other than Russia itself.

(\$1 = 46.3 ruble under the rate of exchange as of 13 November 2014)*



Prices in Russia and U.S (In U.S Dollars)

Graphics By Nathan Richholt & Alina Ryazanova



The University of Washington Tacoma retains the right to dictate time, tests, raising questions about First Amendment rights for the campus

Amidst a recent controversy in which the University of Washington Tacoma Student Activities Board (SAB) partnered with Pierce County Asylum haunted house, small pockets of the student body took to protesting, holding signs, and inviting students to engage in discourse about mental health stigma education.

On October 24, UWT Social Work senior Aaron Myracle took up post outside of the Mattress Factory building, silently holding a sign which read “Why is UWT Funding Stigma?” Associate Vice Chancellor of Student and Enrollment Services Cedric Howard was returning to his office when he saw Myracle, and approached him, allegedly asking for student ID and informing Myracle that he had no right to protest there because the walkway in front of the MAT was not a free speech zone on campus.

Free speech zones are areas which have been designated as spaces for people to exercise the right to free speech. First coming to popularity in the Vietnam era, universities utilized these zones to inhibit unpopular political

opinions by relegating them to zones on campus, but in the wake of Bush’s administration, these zones are designed to protect the president, they have found themselves in dry scenarios both on and off campus.

The First Amendment’s protection of free speech reads in part “...abridging the freedom of speech or of the press.”

However, this protection is not a complete protection. The Supreme Court has historically set boundaries to determine where speech can be restricted. While people have the right to free speech, it is not unlimited as to when and where it can be exercised.

“University officials have the right to regulate speech zones are content neutral,” according to a scholar with the American Civil Liberties Union. This line of thinking is generally acceptable because the speech takes place in a public space and speech can take place in a public space.

Time, place and manner restrictions were established in *Grayned vs Rockport* where the Supreme Court ruled that a noise ordinance violated a noise ordinance on campus in 1972. The Court found that the time, place and manner restrictions were further significant restrictions on speech, but they were permitted, (but) they were not a violation, however, public places are protected.

On October 24, 2014, a high school student



Speeches in Jeopardy

place, and manner of pro-
community.

By Chelsea Vitone

ating protesters to less visible plac-
t they caught fire under George W.
ation. While political free speech
ed, in theory, to protect the presi-
found their ways into less cut and
h on and off the campaign trail.

ndment of the United States Con-
part: "Congress shall make no law
freedom of speech, or of the press."

right has never been read to be
ection of all speech. Instead, the
orically created categories or set
termine what types of speech can
hile the government cannot refuse
to protest, it can enforce require-
, where, and how it is carried out.

icials have argued that free-speech
-neutral and don't ban student
xisting to David L. Hudson Jr., a law
First Amendment Center. "Along
ing, the policies are constitution-
because they merely regulate where
place as opposed to whether the
place at all."

nd manner was first argued in
ford in which picketing students
ordinance while on a high school
The court to rule "reasonable 'time,
' regulations may be necessary to
at governmental interests, and are
subject to such reasonable regula-
peaceful demonstrations in public
ed by the First Amendment."

4, UWV was host to bus loads of
ents for the third annual W Day,

celebrating UW's 153rd birthday. As part
of the festivities, students wound their way
through campus, while students and staff
showed off what UWV has to offer in hopes
of drawing college bound seniors through its
doors. Myracle said he believed the possible
negative publicity advertised by his sign may
have been the catalyst to the discussion of
free speech zones, and the subsequent meet-
ing in Howard's office.

In an interview for *The Ledger*, Howard
said: "I asked him for his student I.D., but
he didn't want to produce it...My main goal
in approaching him was to deter-
mine if he was a student, otherwise
I would have asked him to move
down to 19th and Pacific."

Howard escorted Myracle to his
office, citing the court case *Rosen-
berger vs. University of Virginia*.
While the case did focus on campus
speech issues, it did not pertain
to free speech zones, which How-
ard seemed to imply in his con-
versation with Myracle. This left
Myracle with the impression that
his intent was not to educate, but to
"make me uncertain of my right to
protest."

This incident raises questions
concerning UWV's free speech policy. UW
free speech code WAC 478-124-020 states that
the only form of protest which may be restrict-
ed is that in which there is "Conduct which
intentionally and substantially obstructs or
disrupts teaching or freedom of movement or
other lawful activities on the university camp-
us," but no other material exists regarding
university-wide policy on free speech.

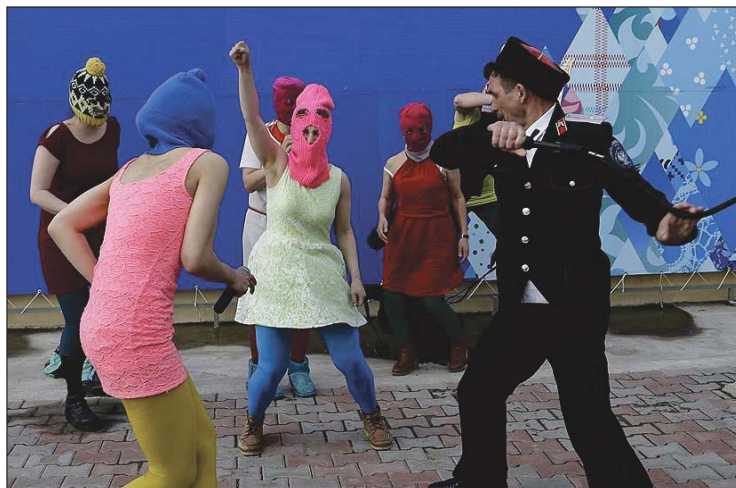
While regulation may make sense in order
to avoid chaos on campus, some law scholars

Russia v. U.S. on Campus Speech

Associate Professor and Deputy Dean of the Journalism De-
partment at Moscow State University, Maria Lukina described
the academic experience of free speech in Russia: "Students are
treated as the regular citizens, there are no special laws or rules
concerning their freedom of speech. Meanwhile, some high
schools and universities formulate their corporate ethical rules/
standards or codes. Like in journalism profession there are ethi-
cal codes and reputation of a journalist depends on whether he/
she follow these rules or not."

In respect to free speech zone restrictions on U.S. university
campuses, she responded, "I can't say that I love the idea. Russia
doesn't use such methods but I could understand the university
administration which have the mission to teach and they prefer
students will concentrate on their studies."

In a 2012 event that garnered international media attention,
the feminist rock band Pussy Riot staged a performance in
Moscow's Cathedral of Christ the Savior. The purpose of the
performance was political protest, but over half of the mem-
bers were subsequently arrested and charged with "hooligan-
ism motivated by religious hatred" according to a BBC report.
Three members were sentenced to prison, while the other two
fled the country to avoid the same fate. This case is another il-
lustration of the murky protection of free speech.



are concerned about the use of such zones to
impermissibly restrict content.

"The question we have to ask first is: does
it [the placement of the zones] restrict more
speech than it has to?" said Chris Demaske, a
UWV associate professor of communication
and First Amendment law scholar who has
published on the topic of free speech zones.

Demaske considers free speech zones on
college campuses to be the "antithesis of edu-
cation," calling them "detrimental" to the goal
of academic inquiry in higher education.

Recent Elections Could Cost Students Money

By Rob Pangaro

The elections of 2014 are over and what does that mean for higher education?

On June 28, 2013, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee signed an operating budget that increased higher education funding for the first time in quite a few years. The upside to this was the freezing of college tuition rates for two years.

This upcoming year, those freezes are going to be back on the legislative table. With the recent elections, the question arises of whether or not tuition for college students will continue on its traditional path of rising or will those newly-elected representatives stop that from happening.

There are quite a few politicians that will be debating to see what the next steps are for college tuition.

Dick Muri, the 28th Legislative District Representative, is not only the Assistant Ranking Minority Member for the Education Committee, but also sits on the Higher Education Committee.

“We can not continue to have our young graduates from colleges come out of school with enough debt to literally last them decades,” Muri said. “We must figure something out so that these graduates have a step up and have the opportunity to be successful in the field they were studying and not be so concerned that their education loan payments are more than they can afford.”

Muri is among a number of politicians that have

openly campaigned and discussed the importance of not having college graduates entering the workforce in extreme debt.

According to The Project on Student Debt, an initiative of The Institute for College Access and Success, the average student loan debt for recent graduates has topped \$30,000. This is sometimes more than what a graduate will even make in their first year of work after receiving a degree.

“Another problem facing recent graduates is that after having spent tens of thousands of dollars on education, they come out getting jobs that are not even in the area they were studying,” said Mark Ostrom, an assistant professor at Pierce Military College. “It’s deplorable to think that young men

and women are put in a predicament where they must hold down two or three jobs in an area they are well over qualified for in order to pay down tremendous student loans they have amassed.”

This is the plight of many; however, the idea that tuition in the state could possibly rise also sets up another problem for some students.

Stephanie Wozniak, a Pierce College student who earned her certificate in Emergency Management, was hoping to transfer to University of Washington Tacoma after the spring of 2015. If tuition goes any higher, her budget will not allow for her to do so.

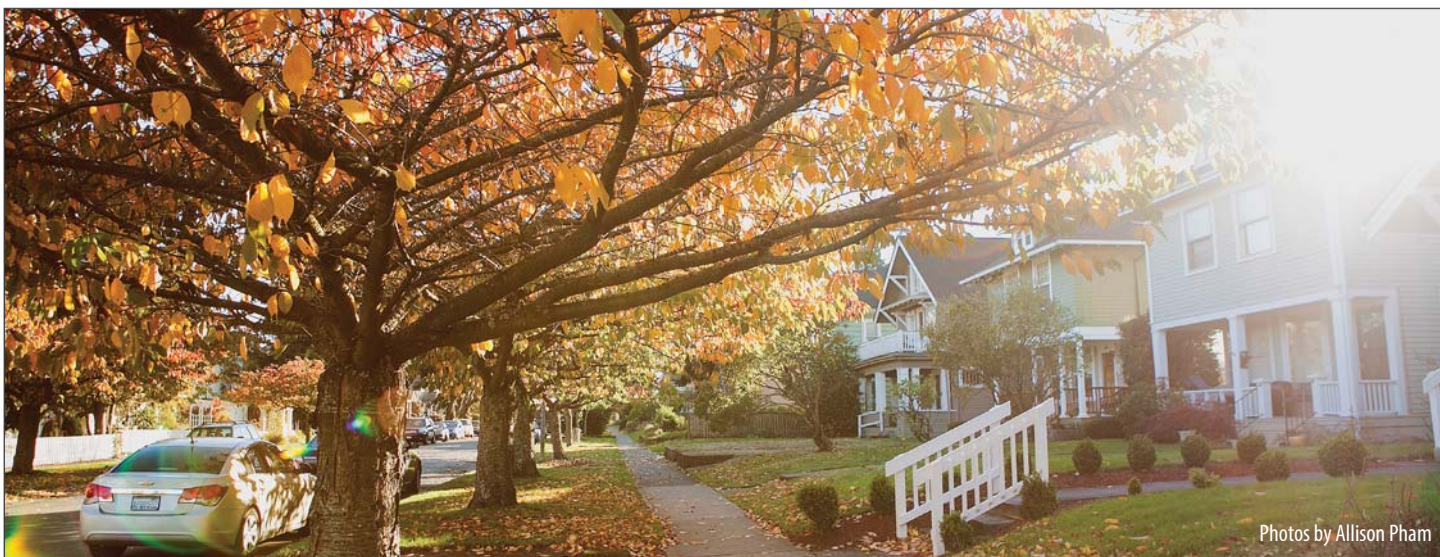
“I have set aside a certain amount of money every month in hopes to transfer to the University

of Washington, however if the tuition rises then my budget is shot and I will most likely have to put my education on hold and look for a job,” Wozniak said.

This is a scary situation for a person like Wozniak who at the young age of 29 is still older than most college students. If the tuition rate increases, putting her college education on hold could mean possibly never finishing.

So, the question then remains, what will these new legislators do when they take office in this upcoming year? Those interested in weighing in on the topic can attend one of the Washington State Higher Education Board Meetings held at the Capitol. The next upcoming meeting that is open to the public is December 5 at 10 a.m.





Photos by Allison Pham

Tacoma's Hilltop Separates From Notorious Roots

By Joanna Sappenfield

Once known as one of the most dangerous parts of Tacoma, Hilltop has rapidly progressed over a 20-year span but still clings to its stereotype.

Within the city of Tacoma bordered on the east by Tacoma Avenue South, on the west by Sprague Avenue, on the north by Division Street, and the south by Commencement Bay, Hilltop sits looking over the “gritty city of destiny.”

In the late 1980s Hilltop served as home to the Hilltop Crips (a violent and powerful gang). Their illicit activities launched Hilltop's most notorious confrontation, Ash Street Shootout, between gang members and U.S. Army Rangers. The years that followed have proved to be nothing short of a rigorous rehabilitation of Hilltop's region.

Born and raised in Kitsap County, Michelle Cordes, now a Tacoma resident, has lived in Hilltop since 2009.

“My grandmother went through cancer treatment in the early '90s, and all of her treatments were at Tacoma General and in doctors' offices in that proximity,” Cordes said. “It was a really scary place, the Hilltop, in that era.”

In high school, Cordes often played against Tacoma's schools in sports, which connected the students and created social networks

from her town to Tacoma. By the end of high school, Cordes was dating a boy from Tacoma's Hilltop.

“He wasn't in a gang, but had lots of friends who were,” Cordes said.

In 1991, Cordes boyfriend was shot and killed on Ruston Way, just north of Hilltop.

“He was just hanging out with some people who made the wrong people mad,” she said. “It was a really scary time.”

Hilltop is a far cry from what it was 20 years ago but still holds the dangerous image from the '80s.

“To this day, I still can't convince my grandmother that it's ok for me to be walking on anything with a letter for a street name,” Cordes said. “My friends who live in Bremerton still call Tacoma by the '80s nickname of Ta-Compton.”



Today, Tacoma bursts with pride. With Mt. Rainier as its backdrop the Pacific Northwest or PNW is the hashtag of many Instagram photos. Marketing campaigns “Tacoma, admit it, you're beautiful,” or “You'll like Tacoma,” are helping to give the gritty city a fresh identity.

“Since moving to Tacoma, having watched the city change over the years with the Museum district, the changes in the Hilltop, living in the downtown area, and the growth of the university I no longer say I'm from Bremerton,” Cordes said. “When asked, I say I was born in Bremerton, but I'm from Tacoma.”

Martin Luther King Jr. Way, the main street running through Hilltop, is lined with light poles with multicolored flags signed “Hilltop” in bold letters. Flowerpots facing the street re-

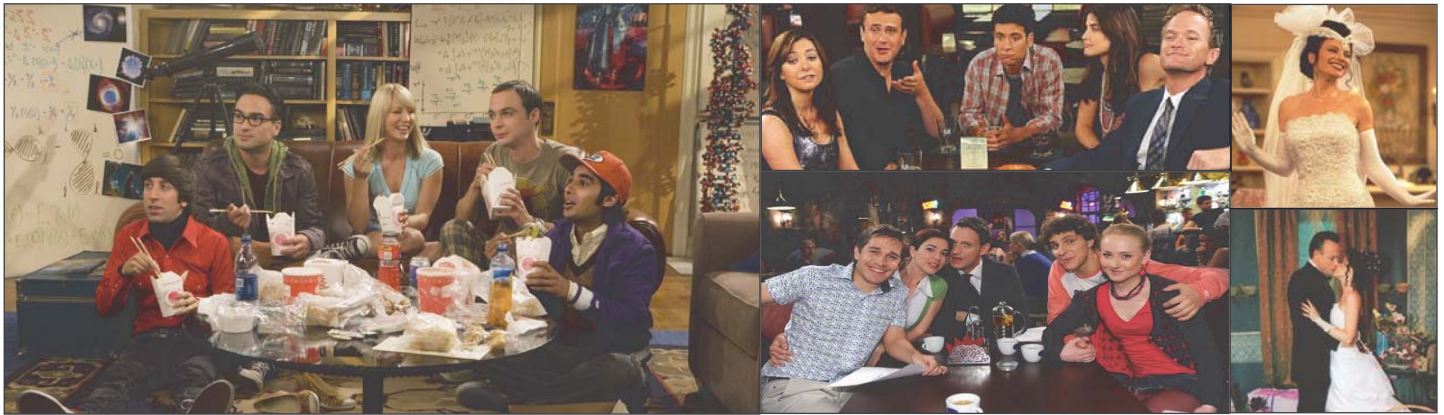
semble the same rainbow color scheme reinforcing the diverse demographic of people that stroll the streets. Bright optimistic murals border the park enhancing the brown brick buildings.

Hilltop Kitchen has been on this street for a little over a year. Dark windows barley give passersby a glimpse into Chris Keil and Matt Schweitzer's restaurant. Bearing no “Hilltop Kitchen” sign, a customer would have most likely heard about it by word of mouth. Inside is dark with low lights hanging, and refurbished wood for tables and walls.

“I've lived in Hilltop for the better part of 10 years,” Keil said. “I like it here. There are cool houses, nice parks, and restaurants.”

Hilltop Kitchen is just one sign of growth and progress; evidence that art and creative ambition now line the streets instead fear.

“The shootings that happen in Hilltop today happen in very small areas,” Keil said. “To characterize all of Hilltop as dangerous is wrong. I'm not into marketing for the city. Tacoma is a diverse enough city that labeling it anything would be impossible.”



Funny Business Is No Joke in Russia

By Daria Khlopova

Many American sitcoms have become popular in Russia resulting in adaptation from English to Russian with varying results.

“The Nanny” and “Married...With Children” were the first American sitcoms to be successfully adapted into Russian. “The Nanny” was broadcast from 2004 to 2008 on CTC (a popular Russian entertainment TV channel) and was renamed “My Fabulous Nanny.” “Married...With Children” was broadcast from 2006 to 2013 on TNT TV channel and had the Russian name “Happy Together.”

Both shows were distributed by Sony Pictures Television International, which creates local versions of American programs throughout the world. The new format became so popular in Russia that even such unusual things as a butler in a modern Moscow flat (as in “The Nanny”) or a duplex apartment of a shoe salesman (as in “Married... With Children”) did not scare away the viewers.

When sitcoms started flooding the Russian TV market, the audience began to pick and choose which was more entertaining. To please a new mature sitcom viewer in 2008, Phil Rosenthal, creator, writer and executive producer of “Everybody Loves Raymond,”

came to Moscow. His adaptation of that hugely successful CBS sitcom is well-known in Russia under the name “Voronyi.” Despite the differences between Russian and American views on how to produce a comedy, Rosenthal’s sitcom has turned into a successful Russian adaptation.

Unfortunately, a unique formula does not always work. The Russianization of a hugely popular American sitcom “How I Met Your Mother” was a total failure. In 2009 CTC stopped broadcasting it after the first season failed. Nevertheless the original version of “How I Met Your Mother” is very popular among the young generation. Anyone who wanted to obtain the series could find episodes on the Internet.

“Kinopoisk” (the most popular Russian website about the cinema) gives 8.6 out of 10 to the original version, while the adapted one earned only 1.8. The only problem is the translation. This issue was resolved by Denis Kolesnikov, who is well-known in Russia as “Kurage-Bambey.” Kolesnikov, who lives in Tolyatti, a city in Samara Oblast, Russia, translates American sitcoms into the Russian language and posts them onto the Web.

“I think that the success of a sitcom depends on the quality of humor. American screenwriters make universal jokes which

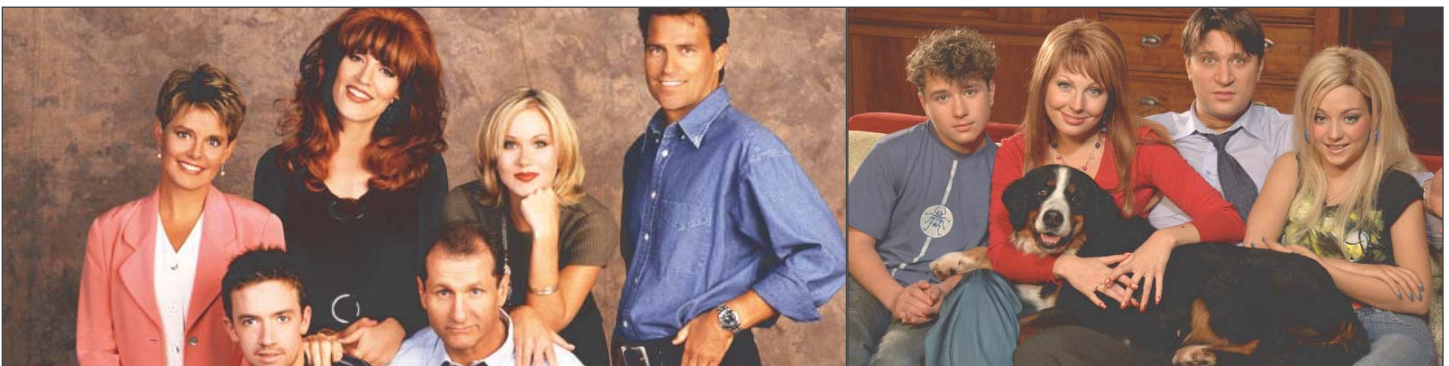
do not need any adaptations, just the right translation,” Kolesnikov said.

In 2008 he started translating “The Big Bang Theory” for his mother, because she did not understand English. Soon this hobby turned into a weekly mission, as many fans were looking forward to watching their favorite shows by “Kourage-Bambey.”

“I am proud of the fact that even people who can watch sitcoms in English often watch them in my translation,” he said.

It is interesting that CTC started broadcasting “The Big Bang Theory” in 2011. After the third season was broadcast the sitcom was discontinued. According to the spokesperson of CTC Igor Ivanov, it happened due to the low ratings. Novamedia, the company which translated the sitcom for CTC, states in their site that they will continue their work in case there is an official request.

It seems that a sitcom on its way from the U.S. to Russia has three options: an adaptation, a translation by a professional company to a TV channel, or an amateur translation posted to the Web. The first two options have professional producers, equipped studios and high budgets. Surprisingly, none of those advantages guarantee a success. Sometimes, they can be defeated just by a random enthusiast like Kolesnikov.



Underground Sounds: The Tacoma Music Scene

By Justin Lawrence

For anyone tuning into mainstream radio stations lately, the idea that Iggy Azalea is so fancy is probably burning into their minds. Luckily, there are alternatives to this repetitive madness to be found close-by. Tacoma has a thriving local music scene permeated by unique sounds, supportive venues and talented artists.

“There is so much good music out there that doesn’t get attention,” said Darrell Fortune, founder of NWCZ Radio. The Tacoma based internet radio station NWCZ Radio and its fore-runner, the award

winning podcast Northwest Convergence Zone, have been riding the airwaves since 2007. You won’t find mainstream songs repeated here because the station only plays local and independent music.

One of the main goals of the station is to give independent artists air time, as they have difficulty finding it elsewhere. They will often have live performances from local bands and help promote their shows.

NWCZ Radio is well appreciated by its listeners, demonstrated by its 2011 and 2013 awards from King 5’s Evening Magazine Best of Western Washington contests. It has even achieved national and international attention from listeners and independent bands alike.

“It’s always shocking to get an email that I have to translate,” said Fortune with a smile.

Very supportive of the local music community, NWCZ show hosts frequent the local music

venues, looking for what people want to hear. Fortune shared that he feels a strong sense of cooperation in the Tacoma music scene between artists and venues alike.

Tacoma is home to many venues that dedicate time to spotlighting local musicians and groups. It’s not hard to find a spot that plays what you like either.

Check out Metronome Coffee on 6th Avenue, Treos on South Union or the Antique Sandwich Shop in Ruston for an open mic and singer/songwriter focused scene. Head over to The New Frontier Lounge for a wide variety with a more indie feel. The Spar is a half coffee shop, half bar and restaurant notorious for its local blues groups. The Swiss has a good cover band and college scene and Jazzbones is one of the most popular venues in Tacoma, lending the stage to many local artists.

From hip-hop to metal to punk rock to fusion, Tacoma has a large but sometimes underappreciated music scene. It is often times shouting from the shadow cast by its big sister Seattle. But, despite this, the local artists tend to stick together, supporting one another across the genres.

Dan Rankin, General Manager and Talent Buyer at Jazz-

bones, feels this cooperative sentiment when he is booking shows. He shared that he will often contact local bands and collaborate with them to find other artists and create a full, often diverse show.

In fact, encountering musicians that play in several bands and various genres is not unfamiliar in Tacoma. Alison Baker is a local artist that does just that. She plays bass guitar and does lead vocals for her rock band Full Moon Radio, while she also does vocals, guitar and violin for the hip-hop group Grayskul. Being an independent artist or group can be challenging. Backing from fans and venues and coverage by local publications can have a big impact on the bands.

“The support here is incredible. It’s what keeps me going sometimes,” Baker said.

Baker’s group, Full Moon Radio, has received attention from the Weekly Volcano, and Grayskul was featured in this year’s Bumpershoot music lineup. Many groups and artists are creating quality music throughout Tacoma and the surrounding areas.

Look at event calendars on local venues’ websites and catch a show from a genre of your liking. Download an internet radio app and tune into independent music on your phone or computer 24/7. Great music still exists, it’s just harder to find these days. So, if you find yourself beating your head against the wall to rid your brain of the latest hit, stop immediately and check out your local music scene.

Photo by Justin Lawrence



MSU Students Choose Favorite European Spots

Story and Photos by Stacie Penyaz

Where does the typical college student from Moscow like to spend vacation time? The staff at The Journalist polled students from Moscow State University using the popular Russian social media site vk.com. Their suggestions might surprise you.



Ohrid

"I loved Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia. The middle-aged Samuil's fortress is very interesting both historically and visually. There is a spectacular view of the whole town from one side and a huge lake from the other. Another amazing location is the Ancient Theater. It is great that the theater is in good condition and still remains a site for various performances. I think it's incredible that concerts are held at an ancient site." -- Karina, 20, studying photo journalism



Belgrade

"I love Belgrade. This city is not expensive to live in, it's not luxury at all, and sometimes people call Belgrade poor. As for me, I like that the spirit of its rough history is everywhere you go. Right next to Kalemegdan you can find lots of graffiti – there are images of Japanese anime characters, fairytale houses and even famous Russian singer-songwriter, Vladimir Vysotsky. Another site to visit is the grave of former Yugoslav leader Josip Broz Tito. Lastly, I would recommend one of the biggest Orthodox churches in the world called the Cathedral of Saint Sava. There is a fountain in front of it and you can hear the beautiful melody of the church bells from there." -- Elena, 22, studying design

"Copenhagen is not just about the Little Mermaid, Andersen and Tivoli Gardens. The climate is perfect for me there. The absence of heat during the summer makes people go out and enjoy outdoor activity. I recommend tourists see the Round Tower while visiting Copenhagen because you can see the whole city from there. Another amazing place is Lego-mall. You cannot leave it without buying at least one Lego building set." -- Sasha, 20, studying radio journalism

Copenhagen



London

"The only European city I've been to is London. I fell in love with it immediately when I came. I love the streets in the center of London, the names of every district and sounds I hear while walking. I think every famous city has one iconic symbol; London has many. Big Ben isn't the only one. Every place is worth visiting – including the London Eye, Saint Paul's Cathedral and the Warner Bros. Studio Tour. London is definitely the place I would like to visit more often." -- Ayla, 20, studying TV journalism



UWT Students Choose Favorite American Spots

Story by Kristin Della Vecchio

Where does the typical college student from Tacoma like to spend their vacation or leisure time? A poll was taken at the University of Washington Tacoma to find out. Here are the sites students recommended to explore history, for excitement, relaxation, family fun, and more.



San Diego

“Anyone touring California should definitely visit the San Diego beaches. I went to La Jolla Beach with my sister and nephews. It’s a great place to relax with family or by yourself. Another place to visit is Washington D.C. There are a lot of sites to enjoy such as the Smithsonian Museum, the Washington Monument, and Lincoln Monument. They are a beautiful part of history.” --Helena, 19, studying Communication and Arts, Media and Culture

“I love roller coasters, so, I recommend going to Six Flags in California. It’s a really great place to go with friends and family. I would also recommend any local park here in Tacoma. They are great places to reflect and relax, or maybe even go for a walk.” --Blessy, 21, studying Information Technology

Six Flags

“I would definitely recommend going to Mount Rainier Park. I love it. It’s heavenly. There are beautiful waterfalls. During the summer, clouds are low without even hiking. The best time to go to is in August when the flowers are blooming. Also, if you are going to visit, avoid going during the weekend because there is no parking because it’s so busy. Leavenworth is also another site to see. It’s very quiet, peaceful, and relaxing.” --Liyah, 22, studying Politics, Philosophy, and Economics

Mt. Rainier



New York

“I’m a city girl, so I like big cities like New York. I’ve been there and it’s really pretty, and I would definitely recommend it. Central Park is a great place to walk and relax, despite how busy the city is and its vast population. I was touring NY for only a few days so I didn’t get to do as much as I wanted. I did get the opportunity to shop a little though. There are great amount stores to pick and choose from. At night the city is still alive and bright; it’s beautiful.” --Nina, 19, studying Computer Science

