

# The Trinity Tripod

-ESTABLISHED 1904-

Now then-Trinity!

Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Volume CXV  
Number XI

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NEWS EDITOR

3 page The *Tripod* compares data on the compensation of Trinity's administrators with our NESCAC peers.

## VITA Tax Clinic

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NEWS EDITOR

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## St. Anthony Hall Censured for Spring, AD Suspended To 2022

GILLIAN M. REINHARD '20  
FEATURES EDITOR

Following an administrative resolution hearing held Jan. 23, preceded by a two-month college investigation, St. Anthony Hall was placed on a one-semester censure and Alpha Delta Phi (AD) was placed on a four-semester suspension. The disciplinary actions differ significantly. While the Hall will not be permitted to recruit pledges nor hold socials until the beginning of the fall 2020 semester, AD will not be able to undertake in any "fraternity-related activities" (including recruitment and socials). Additionally, the AD dining hall will be closed until Jan. 5, 2022, meaning that all of AD's current members, aside from its fall 2019 pledge class, will no longer be able to participate in fraternity activities while students at Trinity College. The *Tripod* obtained a

letter from Dean of Students Joe DiChristina to the Board of Trustees detailing the incident, which, according to the letter, stemmed from a Nov. 9, 2019 physical altercation at 4:00 a.m. involving 24 Trinity students, nearly all of whom belonged to AD or the Hall. The documents do not provide details of the incident or of the circumstances behind the incident. As DiChristina explained in the letter, AD received a more severe sanction due to its "significant conduct violations" over the past four years. DiChristina further indicated that "both organizations have been found responsible for the altercation."

The *Tripod* also obtained the decision letter sent to St. Anthony Hall from Dean of Students Joe DiChristina and Associate Dean of

see FRATERNITIES on page 3

## Annual Spring Involvement Fair



KATE SHEELY



GIOVANNI JONES '21

Trinity College students participated in SAIL's annual Spring Involvement Fair this past January.

## What is "Alumni for a Better Trinity?"

GILLIAN M. REINHARD '20  
FEATURES EDITOR

Maybe one of the last remnants of Jimmy Jones' presidency, "Alumni for a Better Trinity" exists as one of the College's most controversial and active forums. According to Bob Babcock '90, a former moderator of the Facebook group, as well as Douglas Kim '87, vice president of his class, a former National Alumni Association member, and current moderator of the Facebook group, "Alumni for a Better Trinity" was first formed in 2012 by Robert Bibow, a graduate of the late 80s, in response to President Jones' co-ed Greek mandate. This mandate, no longer within the immediate memory of Trinity's undergraduates, required that each Greek Life orga-

nization accept both male and female students. This proposal, pulled off successfully by peer school Wesleyan, was met with widespread backlash from alumni at Trinity.

Kim explained that the Facebook group is well known for its active debate, adding that "Alumni for a Better Trinity" is unique in its size, consistent activity, and diversity of opinion. It is believed to be the largest group of its kind on Facebook among NESCAC schools."

"I think it's probably safe to say the members of the group are on the younger side. I may be on the older end," commented Bill Yelenak '75, a participant in the forum. "I think it's a great mix of alumni," he added. Though the group boasts about 2,000 members (both current

students and alumni), it is typically a much smaller group of alumni that carry conversation. Hundreds of group members rarely like posts or comment at all.

Of a relatively small pool of participants, debate and discussion run rampant. After a very non-scholarly analysis (and input from Babcock), the topics most likely to incite 100+ comments (both for and against) on a post include:

- (1) Greek Life
- (2) President Berger-Sweeney and Vice President Angel Perez
- (3) Professor of Sociology Johnny Williams
- (4) Tuition Increases
- (5) Trinity alumnus Tucker Carlson

(6) "The Rankings"

"(Some members) advocate for Western Civilization and mock minority and identity groups that protest," continued Babcock. Out of perceived frustrations with the group, Babcock and a group of members of the Trinity community created a second forum, titled "Trinity Alumni, Faculty, Students, and Friends." Its purpose, as Babcock explained, is to "provide a place where people didn't need to see Trinity as an extension of Tucker Carlson's America." The group hosts about 450 members and sees somewhat less frequent postings and discussion as a result.

see ALUMNI on page 7

# The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904  
"Now then-Trinity!"

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The *Trinity Tripod* has been published by the students of Trinity College since 1904. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the College community. The *Tripod* is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs \$10.00 and a one-year subscription costs \$20.00. Please address all correspondence to:

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# Trinity College

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## CORRECTIONS

# Tripod Editorial

## Colleges Coping with Corona

The outbreak of the coronavirus has rocked the global community to its core, not only inciting fear and hesitation among billions of people but also in prompting instances of racism around the world. We here at Trinity are not immune to the dangers posed by the December outbreak of the virus, despite the apparent bubble that surrounds our campus and keeps us detached from the larger world. Contrary to the popular opinion on campus, the virus does not require a lime nor does it pose a threat to Bud-Light flu; here is what you need to know about the global-health crisis.

The coronavirus was first detected in the Chinese city of Wuhan, and since December has been confirmed in more than 25 countries and territories. Almost 60 million people in China are under lockdown as international researchers attempt to create a vaccine and hinder the spread of the virus. The outbreak has killed at least 305 people across the globe, infecting 14,300 people total. Only one person outside of mainland China, a man from the Philippines, has died. As of this past Sunday, the Department of Homeland Security announced that it will enforce restrictions for all passenger flights carrying people who have recently traveled from China. Eight cases of the virus have been confirmed in the U.S., and the latest is not far from home, as a University of Massachusetts-Boston student was recently confirmed infected.

Connecticut residents faced a scare when reports of an infected Wesleyan

student spread across the state just last week. The student had recently been through an airport in which there were confirmed cases of the virus, but upon being monitored, the student tested negative for the disease. Although this was a false alarm, a confirmed case still remains a state over, and a patient at Bellevue Hospital in New York City is being tested as well.

Scares of the virus have been occurring daily on college campuses across the country, with administrators canceling sporting events and launching petitions to cancel classes out of fear. Colleges and universities are breeding grounds for bacteria and illness, so no wonder people are losing their minds after a global-health concern was declared for an untreatable virus. However, there is no case in which it is a bad idea to remain calm and prevent stigmatization across campuses worldwide.

What people fail to acknowledge is the prevalent threat of more "ordinary" diseases like the common influenza which kills anywhere from thirty to eighty thousand people a year, according to the CDC. Diseases only become harrowing threats when they stem from places that feel distant and unfamiliar to the average American.

The dramatics surrounding the coronavirus only further exacerbate the racist stereotypes that coincide with foreign borne illnesses. When the Ebola virus broke out in 2014, the internet was rampant with concerns about "catching Ebola." Many misconstrued the spe-

cifics of the disease, painting Ebola as something that plagued the entirety of Africa rather than just a few countries, namely Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. Only four cases were reported in the United States with three of the infected surviving and one passing away. Ebola was hyperbolized as a genuine, widespread threat to the United States and perpetuated the racist stereotype of a disease-ridden Africa.

Just as Ebola enabled a racist attitude towards Africa, the coronavirus has encouraged xenophobic comments targeting Asian people as a whole. Further fear mongering can be found on social media sites like Twitter, where videos have appeared showing a man throwing up blood on a train, falsely claiming the episode as a symptom of coronavirus. The man was actually a victim of late stage liver cancer, but this information is hidden among a sea of replies. Spreading false information to a worldwide audience encourages a culture that not only dramatizes the risk of infection, but also alienates people with whom the virus is associated: in corona's case, those of Asian descent.

The coronavirus is not currently a devastating threat to the well-being of Trinity students, but should the disease spread further, the correct response is not panic but self care. Wash your damn hands. Wear a face mask. Don't perpetuate racist stereotypes that the international student in your class is going to infect you with corona.

-KN & LF

## A Note on the *Tripod's* Motto

Several years ago, the *Tripod* made the decision to adopt a new motto, "Scribere Aude," drawing on the Enlightenment philosopher Immanuel Kant's "sapere aude" (which itself was taken from Horace). The *Tripod* "dared to write" about controversy and the issues that impact our beloved college just as Kant "dared to know."

However, we felt that a new decade perhaps demanded a change and thus we have revived the *Tripod's* original motto from more than a century ago: "Now then-Trinity!" This motto appeared in the *Tripod's* first issue of Sep. 23,

1904 and is drawn from the words of then-President Flavel Sweeten Luther on the occasion of his inauguration, who remarked to undergraduates "now then, Trinity." The *Tripod* included the motto beginning from its third issue of Sep. 30, 1904 and it appeared as the paper's motto at various points throughout subsequent decades.

At the time, the *Tripod* did not endeavour to explain Luther's remarks, as they were no doubt aware of their meaning. However, we do not have the benefit of attending Luther's inauguration and thus we can only speculate on his in-

tentions. The *Tripod* likes to view the phrase not as an incidental remark encouraging the onward momentum of the College under Luther's leadership. Rather, we would aver that the phrase indicates something greater: a positive outlook toward the future, with a reverential nod to tradition.

Whatever the true motives, however, the *Tripod* is steeped in the traditions of this small liberal arts college. We are proud to recall our own heritage as we, together, embark upon the next decade, and so are bold to declare "Now then-Trinity!"

# NEWS

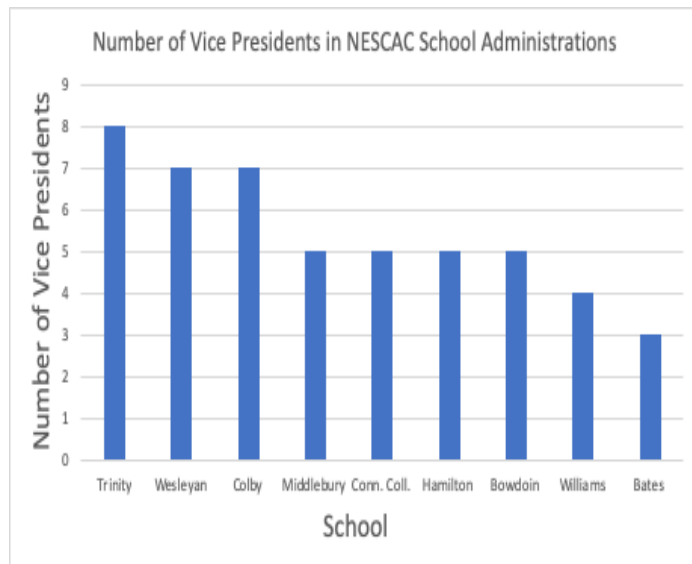
## Data Show Trinity Has Most VPs in NESCAC, Compares Salaries

DANIEL NESBITT '22  
NEWS EDITOR

The *Tripod* conducted a survey of New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) schools and examined the financials behind each school's administrative personnel. Utilizing the publicly available Form 990, an IRS form filed by all tax-exempt non-profit organizations, financial data were gathered on college administrators for all the NESCAC schools. Data from Tufts University was not included as its large graduate student population could greatly affect its administrative structure relative to other NESCAC schools.

There are some limitations to the data used. First, the compensatory figures of various administrators are limited to "Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees," so some administrative officials may not be reported. In addition, the most recent data comes from the fiscal year ending in 2018, but the data and administrative structure could have changed at institutions since then.

As shown in Figure 1 above, Trinity College has eight vice presidents, the most of any NESCAC school, followed by Wesleyan University and Colby College, each with seven vice presidents. Data from Amherst College was not included as Amherst uses different nomenclature in their administrative organization. In addition to the largest absolute number of vice presidents, Trinity also has the largest ratio of vice presidents to undergraduate students, nearly double that



TRINITY TRIPOD  
**Trinity has the most vice presidents within the NESCAC, with eight as of February 2020.**

of Williams College and Middlebury College. Trinity's eight vice presidents received an average total compensation of just under \$325,000.

The *Tripod* also compared the salaries of NESCAC schools' highest-ranking admissions official in both absolute and relative terms. Trinity Vice President of Enrollment and Student Success Angel B. Perez was the second-highest paid admissions official in the NESCAC, earning \$280,753 in total compensation, behind Hamilton College's Vice President of Enrollment Management Monica Inzer who earned \$295,635 in compensation. In addition, Perez's salary proportional to the school's endowment is the third largest behind only Connecticut College and Bates College.

Admissions data available through US News & World Report were also examined. Compared to the rest of the NESCAC, Trinity is average when it comes to the percentage of first-generation undergraduate students, with

18% compared to the average of 17.2% for the conference. In addition, Trinity has the second-highest acceptance rate in the NESCAC at 34%, eclipsed only by Connecticut College's 38%. Trinity's acceptance rate is also double that of rivals Wesleyan University and more than triple that of Bowdoin College. Trinity's early decision (ED) acceptance rate is also second-highest in the NESCAC at 58%, again behind Connecticut College at 62%. These relatively high acceptance rate, coupled with Trinity's high tuition of \$59,050 for 2019-2020 have corresponded with Trinity's US News ranking of 46, tied for last in the NESCAC. Though rankings are not perfect, they are still important.

These data indicate that the size of Trinity's administration is larger than that of our NESCAC peer institutions. It is important to note that this data set is limited and further, more detailed data is necessary to more accurately evaluate the size of Trinity College's administration.

## Hall, AD Reprimanded

continued from page one

Students Rob Lukaskiewicz. The Trinity administration found the Hall responsible of committing "conduct that is unbecoming of a Trinity College student." Additionally, the Hall (as an organization, not certain individuals) were accused of "behavior... that endangers the health and safety of oneself or of others," as well as "failure to comply with Trinity College's alcohol policy and regulations." The letter also indicated that "eleven members or affiliates of the organization did not effectively deescalate the altercation nor mitigate its extended, disorderly, and unsafe duration."

Unlike AD, the Hall's dining hall will remain open. However, if the college lifts the Hall's censure in the fall of 2020, the organization will only be able to hold socials once monthly until fall 2021. The college has also indicated that "there will be no new members of the eating club" and that this sanction will be "reviewed by the college in January 2021."

Further, the decision letter appears to stipulate that future membership in the Hall will closely involve participation of Trinity College, stating that "all potential new members will be interviewed by a committee representing the college, St. Anthony Hall nationals, and St. Anthony Hall alumni." It was not immediately clear from the decision letter for how long the college would remain involved in the review of new membership.

While there will be no transcript notation for the students involved, the decision letter indicated that the Hall's censure "means that the organization is not in good standing with the College." The decision also notes that "alcohol use by the fraternity as an organization" is not allowed for spring semester 2020." The college also stipulated that the Hall's censure status will be reviewed after a membership report is prepared and delivered by

Mar. 24, 2020, current membership participates in educational workshops through Dec. 2020, and members engage in participation with "stakeholders on campus to cultivate new relationships that support the college's mission and strategic plan."

"In neither case [AD or the Hall], has [Trinity College] chosen to 'derecognize the fraternity,'" read the letter sent by DiChristina to the Board of Trustees. The letter continued, noting that the college believes "that Greek life is a positive and integral part of our community." The Dean of Students Office also noted that the college will work closely with AD to help continue the fraternity's existence following the two-year suspension. DiChristina further stated that we "are extremely fortunate that the "altercation did not result in any serious or lasting physical harm to the students involved."

Following the administrative decision of Jan. 28, the executive boards of AD and the Hall have five business days to decide to appeal the sanctions. An announcement from the administration to the wider Trinity community is expected to follow.

President of AD Courtland Boyle '20 spoke to the *Tripod* and indicated that "AD is seeking an appeal and has no further comment."

Following the article's publication, DiChristina declined to discuss the matter with the *Tripod*, indicating that "if and when the time is appropriate, then the College will make an official statement."

Director of Campus Life and Social Houses Kathryn Wojcik also declined to speak with the *Tripod*. The President of the Inter-Greek Council and the President of the Hall did not return requests for comment.

*A version of this article originally appeared as a special report on the Tripod's website on Jan. 30.*

## The College Campus Safety Report: Jan. 25 - Feb. 3

Thursday, Jan. 30  
*Clement (Chem)*

Arson, Vandalism, & Disorderly Conduct. An arrest was made in relation to this case.

Friday, Jan. 30  
*81 Vernon Street*

Burglary & Larceny - Theft from building. A disciplinary referral was made.

Sunday, Feb. 2  
*Elton Hall*

Drug use violation. Disciplinary referrals were made.

# Trinity College VITA Tax Clinic Opens for Second Year of Prep Services at the Trinfo Cafe on Broad St.

SHAWN OLSTEIN '22  
NEWS EDITOR

This past week, the Trinfo Café VITA site opened for the tax season. This is the site's second year following its "pilot year" last year. Founded by Senior Lecturer in Political Science Serena Laws, the site is a part of the IRS's VITA program which provides free tax preparation services to low-income individuals. The site is staffed by Trinity students who received tax preparation certification through the VITA program. Students in POLS 310: Tax Policy and Inequality in Hartford receive certification and staff the VITA site as a part of their classwork.

This year, the Trinfo VITA site received gener-



TRINITY REPORTER

The Trinfo Cafe, the site of Trinity's VITA tax clinic.

ous funding through two different alumni gifts, allowing for greater expansion of the tax clinic. Laws told the *Tripod* that "broadly speaking, our goals are to double the hours we are open, double

the number of returns we complete at the clinic and increase the number of first-time VITA clients at our site. This year we are already set to be open for more hours, and we'll have more volunteers (students

and others) working as tax preparers at our site." The Trinfo VITA clinic is open to both Trinity students and Hartford residents, representing the college's desire for greater integration with the surrounding Hartford community.

The VITA, or the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, was founded in 1971 in California. The program has continued to grow since the 1970s and has filed 3.7 million tax returns in 2015. The program is intended to provide services to low to moderate-income taxpayers, which it defines as households making less than \$56,000 a year. There are several levels of tax certification through the VITA program: Basic, Advanced, Health Savings

Account (HSA), and Military. The VITA clinic at Trinfo Café is considered a basic preparation site, meaning its preparers have all gone through the basic certification course. However, advanced certification is mandatory for site coordinators and is optional for any preparers who choose to attain it.

There are many other VITA sites in the Hartford area, such as those at Pope Park, the Hartford Public Library, Capital Community College, the University of Hartford, and many more; however, given the demand for low-income tax preparation services in Hartford, especially around Trinity College, the Trinfo Café VITA site provides a much-needed service to the Hartford community.

## Intercollegiate Update: News on Nearby Campuses

### Bates College

On Jan. 15, the Bates College Student Government invited Bates Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Geoffrey Swift to their first meeting of the semester to discuss the rising costs of tuition at Bates College. Bates is one of a few colleges with tuition costs above \$70,000. Student organizations have pressured the Bates administration to stop raises in tuition cost. None of the efforts by students to lower tuition costs have resulted in tuition drops, despite several student protests. As reported by the *Bates Student*, two-thirds of Bates College operating costs are directly related to the staff, faculty and administration, including payments, benefits, and taxes. Despite the talks between the Student Government and administration, it is unclear if tuition costs at Bates will be lowered.

### Hamilton College

On Friday Dec. 6, student groups around Hamilton College participated in the second climate strike of the semester. The Hamilton Spector reported the strike was led by the Sunrise Movement, along with support from the Feminists of Color Collective, Shenandoah Kirkland Initiative, and Vegan Club. The student strike began around 10:45 a.m. and students marched across campus in black to represent mourning for the "death of our generation at the hands of the climate crisis" according to the *Spector*. Strikers demanded for Hamilton to divest their investments from fossil fuel companies and declare a climate emergency on behalf of the college. However, the Hamilton College administration has made some progress on climate related issues and plans to move the college's carbon neutral date up from 2050.

### Williams College

On Friday Jan. 24, the Williams Forum at Williams College hosted a conversation regarding athletic recruitment at the college. According to the *Williams Record*, the catalyst for this conversation was an op-ed published by Williams student Katherine Hatfield entitled "Let's Lose the Directors' Cup: A Call to End Athletic Recruitment." Hatfield argued against athletic recruitment on the basis that it compromises the diversity and athletic achievement of the college. Despite a majority of students in attendance defending athletic recruitment, some attendants said that the recruitment process could be toxic and a possible detriment to campus culture. While no NESCAC school had ended the practice of athletic recruitment, the conversation at Williams College represents a growing conversation across college campuses.

# REDEFINE YOUR FUTURE

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# OPINION

## Learning From Blunders: The Future of Foreign Policy

AIDAN TUREK '20  
OPINION EDITOR

There's this collection of squat brown buildings you can see from the 5 Highway driving to Los Angeles from San Diego. Perched beneath the rolling hills of Southern California and looking out on the expanse of the Pacific, these mud brick buildings serve an entirely mundane role: they're model Middle Eastern villages, the ideal training ground for the Marines of Camp Pendleton where the 'village' is located. When and how did the stereotypical elements of these structures, of sand and oil become normal to Americans? For almost thirty years, the U.S. has held considerable military stock in the 'Middle East'—a term as imprecise as it is unhelpful in explaining that region's cultural mosaic. After the Gulf War in 1990-91 and the subsequent invasion of Iraq in 2003, the Middle East has been a fixture of U.S. foreign policy.

I recently attended a talk hosted by Brett McGurk, until 2018 the Special Envoy for the Global Coalition against ISIS. Having served as a law clerk to Justice Rehnquist, McGurk was tasked with drafting a new Iraqi constitution after liberation in 2004, after which point he stayed on as an advisor. He was a firsthand witness to the chaotic aftermath of

the invasion: after Saddam's capitulation, when soldiers overnight became peacekeepers, a position for which they had little inclination and even less training. McGurk survived the transition of administration, serving as Obama's senior advisor on the Middle East. He observed the infant Iraqi state's struggle to exist, while also seeing President Obama's withdrawal in 2011 of troops, creating a vacuum that would birth ISIS. It was as senior envoy in 2014 that McGurk organized the anti-ISIS coalition, continuing on in this role after President Trump's inauguration in 2017. Despite the success of the campaign against ISIS, McGurk's relationship with the administration was strained. The sudden withdrawal of U.S. forces from Syria in December 2018, made by the President immediately after a phone call with Turkey's leader Recep Tayyip Erdogan, convinced McGurk to resign from office.

As a career diplomat with an unparalleled level of expertise on the region, his actions speak to the heart of our international blunders. McGurk's words speak as strongly as his actions; of Trump's foreign policy, McGurk is tersely critical, stating in an October 2019 tweet that "Donald Trump is not a Commander-in-Chief. He makes impulsive decisions with no knowledge or delibera-

tion... He blusters and then leaves our allies exposed when adversaries call his bluff or he confronts a hard phone call." Of our Middle Eastern ventures, McGurk was equally forward. In his opinion, the biggest winner of our blunders has been our rivals Iran, Russia, and China. Moreover, the recent assassination of General Qasem Soleima-

the shell of a friendly Iraqi state. Obama too struggled to find equilibrium, and his ultimate withdrawal from Iraq created the conditions for ISIS' rise. And now, our untimely withdrawal from Syria and retreat from Afghanistan—amidst the blatant lies and missteps revealed by the 'Afghanistan papers'—allows Russian and Iranian dominance

testament to a twenty-year tragedy of strategic failures, exacerbated by the erratic and impulsive decisions of our current C-in-C. If there's a logic behind our foreign policy, it seems to be short-term domestic showmanship, while difficult questions of what we ought to do, and how to do it, are left unasked, unanswered. At stake in this region is the ability of the United States to act as a global power, which is in turn our potential to spread democracy, equality, and liberty. This is an election year, and one focused heavily on the domestic side of policy. While the nations of Iraq and Iran seem like distant problems for another nation, their fates have been invested with thousands of American servicemembers killed and wounded, billions of dollars for aid and development, and, just as decisively, the lives of millions who call that land their own. The decision lies before us to salvage our legacy in the Middle East, to deliver the promises inherent in 'liberation.'

Your choice in November has the potential to permanently reshape our failures in the Middle East, to recast America in the shining image with which we deceive ourselves. I advise we pick a leader who can balance the earnest abilities of our nation and its grandiose promise of democracy to the oppressed the world over.

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*"The decision lies before us to salvage our legacy in the Middle East, to deliver the promises inherent in 'liberation.'"*

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ni—who operated a pro-Iranian Shi'ite militia in Syria—speaks to a myopic and ill-planned opportunism. Our thinking is driven by political expedience rather than sound strategic planning, a charge levelled not just at Trump. There are three principles here: ends, means, and ways—what we want, what we have to get it, and how we do it. For policy success, those need to align. Often, they don't. The Gulf War held as its objective the liberation of Kuwait. That was achieved in a month with a coalition of thirty five nations. The Invasion of Iraq was a practically unilateral action that aimed at democratizing the Iraqi state—a considerably more ambitious objective to be achieved with far fewer resources. That objective failed, and a surge of troops was required to stabilize

of the land over which so much blood and treasure has been expended.

In a roundabout manner, this is an explanation of that faux Iraqi village at Camp Pendleton, a reason why Marines to this day train for sandy and arid climes. The death of Soleimani is just one in a series of poorly planned decisions made for immediate political gain. There is little to no aligning of ends, means, and ways. We invaded Iraq to build democracy, but when that got too hard, we left, and in so doing abetted ISIS. Having destroyed ISIS, we now contend with a thoroughly unstable Iraqi center, while on the peripheries Assad's Russian-backed Syria battles our erstwhile allies and Iranian militias escalate sectarian strife. The faux village in California is a

## Toni Morrison, Black Art, and How We Can Resist

KABELO MOTSOENENG '20  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On the day Toni Morrison died in August 2019, I was sitting at the back of a minibus in Johannesburg heading back home in Soweto after work. The Nobel Prize Laurette, Morrison, hadn't always been the darling of (white) American letters and it is publicly known that she never cared for reviews or the celebrity that came with being a distinctive voice in literature. The story of how Morrison wrote her first novel, *The Bluest Eye* (1970), is a tale of what all art should seek to uncover. In her documentary, "The Pieces I Am" (2019), Morrison underscores that she wrote the story of Pecola Breedlove because she wanted to read that story. From 1965 to 1970, Morrison would work on that story because she wanted

to write about a Black girl who was taken seriously in literature. Her subsequent, trailblazing novels *Sula*, *Song of Solomon*, *Tar Baby*, *Jazz*, and *Beloved* continued to write Black as real people—not for white people, not about their realities in

you how to read with diligence and to question your understanding of the world. Some people who've read her work have admitted to complexity in her *oeuvre*, but that admission underscores an important idea: we've been trained to see Black

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*"Morrison blends African mythology with Biblical texts while telling the story of a man attempting to locate 'home' [and] themselves."*

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relation to white people, not about themselves in relation to anyone before themselves.

Until I came to the United States to pursue an undergraduate degree, it was difficult to read Morrison's work and understand it. It is clear that Ms. Morrison wrote incoherently, but her work is so dense it teaches

people in literature though a certain lens. For example, while Morrison's most lauded work is her 1988 novel, *Beloved*, a novel she had published a decade earlier—*Song of Solomon*—is a lesson on how to read and write Black people. In her 1977 novel, Morrison takes a religious text and tells a

complicated story of naming Black people, the construction of the Black middle-class in America, and the importance of work to Black people. In this novel, Morrison blends African mythology with Biblical texts while telling the story of a man attempting to locate 'home,' themselves, and to take charge of their lives. Of course, there are white people in Morrison's story, but they are only peripheral because Morrison is mostly interested in how Black people understand themselves around their keen. We're trained to read literature about Black people on the receiving end of whiteness, and we are trained to write about our anger over whiteness and its systems of power and subjugation.

In the commemoration of Black History Month, how could Morrison's work in-

form us on how we can live our lives—notwithstanding race and racism? Systems of power that have been created to subjugate have altered how Black people live in the world, but Morrison warns that they also destruct us from tapping into the possibility of who we are. Morrison said that "the very serious function of racism is distraction. It keeps you from doing your work. It keeps you explaining, over and over again, your reason for being. Somebody says you have no language and so you spend 20 years proving that you do. Somebody says your read isn't shaped properly, so you have scientists working on the fact that it is. Someone says that you have no art, so you dredge that up. Someone says that you have no kingdoms, so you dredge that up. None of that is necessary."

# The Dungeons and Dangers of Trinity's North Campus

LIZ FOSTER '22  
MANAGING EDITOR

As a sophomore, I've only experienced two living spaces on campus, but both have been abysmal. Given the fact that students pay almost \$10,000 to live on campus, I find the quality of many residential dorms unacceptable. Freshman year, I lived in North Campus. North is notorious for being the worst freshman dorm, given that it's the only dorm not in the "concrete jungle" on the south side of campus next to Mather. Living on Vernon Street, the closest available food options are the Bistro and Steve's Bagels. The Bistro operates on a significantly more inconvenient schedule than Mather and is the more expensive of the two dining halls.

Imagine walking back from an afternoon class on Friday, hungry for some tasty 'stro food. Well, too bad, because after 3:00 p.m. the Bistro is closed and doesn't re-open until 6:00 p.m. on Saturday. Steve's Bagels, while open earlier than the Bistro (which

doesn't crack its doors until a ripe 11:45 a.m.), is not on the meal plan and cannot be paid for with meal swipes or flex dollars. The focus of this piece is to critique housing, not Chartwells Dining, but the inconvenience of living on Vernon Street when you want a simple meal and not a trek to Mather is unnecessary.

Beyond being in a food desert, North Campus had showers whose drains would constantly clog, small one-room doubles, and a terrifying basement. The kitchen constantly reeked and mysterious stains were everywhere. The horrible conditions of North then encouraged students, both those who did and did not live in the building, to destroy it further. The dorm was nothing more than a smelly, unmonitored (albeit very, very fun) playground until Campus Safety officers were implemented in the late spring. Even after this addition, the facilities in North remained abysmal.

Despite its flaws and lack of quad-style rooms, I would argue that North

may have been a more suitable living space than High Rise. I currently live in High Rise and I cannot believe this is a building deemed acceptable for students to live in. When I moved into school, I was met with a room that had no toilet seat or lid, a missing desk chair, a broken window, and a bed that shifted with the slightest of movement. The walls of my single were covered in a mysterious yellow stain from last year's resident that was so unappealing I had to rearrange the entire room to cover the indecency. I soon discovered that the light on my ceiling did not work.

When the heat was finally turned on in the building, the common room was a sauna, my roommates' rooms were toasty, and the bathroom was roasting. My room? Stone fucking cold. Without a light or a working heating unit, I literally live in a dungeon. The worst part of it all is that I can't even sleep in the common room to stay warm because if it's a windy day, the draft through the windows shakes our tap-

estries on the farthest wall and the blinds barely work against the sun.

Lastly, the elevator is a certifiable death trap. When it chooses to work, the elevator shakes and rattles with each floor. One day, the door didn't close all the way, causing a ter-

floor. You cannot win with this elevator from Hell.

I have hope that next year will afford better living opportunities, but in every room and dorm I've entered on this campus I've encountered students, with different problems. Whether it be a bathroom (com-

*"Whether it be a bathroom, damaged walls, rocky bed frames, or a general aura of uncleanness, housing at Trinity constantly dissapoints its students."*

rifying banging noise every time it passed a floor. Every time one attempts to take the elevator it presents a new challenge. Some days, the elevator buttons won't work unless you wait for the doors to close all of the way and then remain perfectly still, nowhere near the doors. Other days it will stop and open on floors where no one awaits to step in. Another charming feature of the elevator is its tendency to force you to go up a floor or two even if you'd like to go down to the ground

munal or private), damaged walls, rocky bed frames, or a general aura of uncleanness, housing at Trinity constantly disappoints its students. Complaining about residential life on a college campus is nothing out of the ordinary, but I've yet to hear a Trinity student eager to brag about their living quarters. Given the financial burdens of college, the least a student deserves is comfortable, clean housing. A work order may fix a window, but not the status of residential life on Trinity's campus.

## Debate and Civility at Trinity and Beyond the Campus

ANDRE CURTIS '20  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

This past year for me was filled with moments of tremendous growth and unfortunate failures. I have been drawn into the world of investing after giving in to the many media outlets buzzing about day trading and higher interest gains from investing with apps such as Acorn and Robinhood. I had the fantastic opportunity of serving as a Quest leader after overcoming deep reservations about being in the woods. Though largely intimidated at first, being a Quest leader gave me the oppor-

intellectual and psychological scares serving as vestiges of my success.

One thing that stood out to me last year was just how pervasive the misconceptions surrounding the relevance of facing challenges are. But before I make my case as to why we need to embrace difficult conversations and encourage conflict resolution among peers, I want to preface my point with the declaration that I am well aware of the immediate and long term impact of toxic stress, and that I am not encouraging an absolutely unrestrained expression of one's point

ed to bridge the divide in fundamental social issues.

I am often asked why I chose to study neuroscience and psychology, to which I would respond by sharing the details of my thirst for understanding the complexities behind the human mind which subsequently power our motives and behaviors. One important element of the human brain and psyche that has wholly captivated my interest is the power of our mind to be a conduit for freedom as it collates the sensation of the body and organizes it in an intelligible fashion known as communication. Unfortunately, this marvelous feature of the individual is being stifled as we cut off its supply of conflicting ideas and restrain its expression of such ideas with modern speech codes. This system of censorship enables the propagation of idealistic realities for narcissists, while creating a difficult place for the typical person to broaden his or her understanding.

Last semester, while TA-ing a class, it was brought to my attention by a student that a certain class activity may have been "a bit too much" since

it had asked students to write about a difficult experience. What I found most troubling is that she argued that a reason to not talk about perturbing events in a course on human psychology was that you want to inoculate people from "any kind of stress." Even more disturbing to me was my discussion with two of our professors who expressed their sorrowful concern for discussing certain ideas that would enrich the classroom experience because they feared offending their students. Both cases highlight two important issues. First, the millennial view on dealing with difficult topics, which ultimately feeds into the second point: the attack on academic freedom.

I believe that the solution to the difficult topics that we are now facing in our society is not to silence them in the academic setting, but rather encouraging open discussion among the youths who are destined to become leaders and builders of tomorrow. While stress can be toxic, it is important that we seek to create space for a healthy amount of stress that will pressure weak

ideas and force them to improve through the challenges of research and debate. Upon accomplishing this, we are likely to create a more empathetic and inclusive environment that allows each student to experience the magnificence of an evolving belief. From this broadening perspective, we will all move closer to the truth while building the resilience necessary to respectfully disagree and co-exist with the opposition.

I sincerely hope that the year 2020 can be a time of reckoning for many to realize that stress can be good, and that the onus is on everyone to improve his or her life through voluntarily entering uncomfortable situations and being willing to be molded by such experiences. Just as there is a popular consensus regarding vaccinations that minor stressors on our immune system fortify it for greater attacks, we should embrace conflicting ideas on campus where there is less threat to our persons. In doing so, we are guaranteed a much more educated population with the resilience to triumph over the great conflicts of our time.

*"This system of censorship enables the propagation of idealistic realities for narcissists."*

tunity to be a part of the introductory experience of freshmen embarking on the peregrination of college life. These exciting ventures have brought about a greater sense of purpose and newfound faith in my strength as I have triumphed over the arduous novelty of each situation with the

of view that is negligent of the potential negative impact on the hearer. However, I believe we need to have this discussion because of the censoring of so-called "controversial speech" that leads to individuals censoring themselves from expressing important ideas that may be the key point need-

## What, Exactly, is “Alumni for a Better Trinity?”

continued from page one

Erin Poskocil '84 agreed with the comments of Babcock, explaining that she began to pull away from the “Alumni for a Better Trinity” Facebook group after vigorous debate surrounding the Charlottesville/Unite the Right rally protests of 2017. “One of the things about Trinity is that even people who criticize the school criticize because they are passionate about Trinity...there are a lot of alumni who care a great deal,” she explained.

Last spring, “Alumni for a Better Trinity” reached the attention of both the Trinity administration and *The Hartford Courant*, which reported on campus controversy within the framework of conservative-leaning Professor of Political Science Greg Smith and liberal-leaning Professor of Sociology Johnny Williams. “Alumni for a Better Trinity” featured prominently in the *Courant's* reporting on outrage surrounding the incidents. In a special to the *Courant*, President Berger-Sweeney pointed out that the Facebook group was a “small number of alumni” as well and was not representative of the “diverse opinions of (Trinity's) 27,000 alumni.”

Despite this, “Alumni for a Better Trinity” and other Facebook groups remain an active and at least somewhat relevant forum for alumni and other members of the community. “I do like the Trinity Facebook group for staying abreast of some of the serious issues affecting the school... more recently, though, alums are posting more fun things about Trinity,” said Yelenak, “It's also a good way to keep up with Trinity sports,” he added.

Discussion on the forum seemed to have reached its zenith in spring 2019, when the SGA debated the merits of acknowledging the controversial Churchill Club. Since then, however, Yelenak's depiction of the forum seems accurate. Recent posts have centered around squash and Cinestudio, generating mostly positive content. The *Tri-*

*pod's* recent article on the two-semester suspension of Alpha Delta Phi (AD) and the one-semester censure of St. Anthony Hall, however, garnered nearly 100 comments, almost all condemning the recent actions of the Greek Life organizations, a surprising reaction given the Facebook group's origins.

A common thread amongst alumni involved in the Facebook groups, particularly “Alumni for a Better Trinity,” is a dissatisfaction of opportunities for alumni to stay engaged in Trinity. As Poskocil explained, there are relatively few alumni employed by Trinity's administration in comparison to her time as an undergraduate. Poskocil believed that the College may not maintain a close connection to the Facebook group “Alumni for a Better Trinity” due to its negativity against the school.

“We have a Class of 1984 Facebook group,” she explained, “it's all positive, but it's not as active (as “Alumni for a Better Trinity”).” Poskocil continued, “if we (members of “Alumni for a Better Trinity”) were all sitting down together there's no way people would act like that.”

Kim stated that the Facebook group's aim, “has always been to create a forum where members of the community could air their feelings—positive and negative—about any issue facing Trinity. It's an essay, more transparent way to stay engaged that goes beyond the traditional public relations stories.”

As Poskocil pointed out, Trinity is a small community, and just being an alum of the school can instill a certain sense of comradery amongst graduates “As much as Trinity has changed, the basics seem to still be there.”

For better or for worse, in the twenty-first century Facebook and the various groups it fosters champion some degree of alumni engagement. Examining groups such as “Alumni for a Better Trinity” can provide a fascinating window into alumni opinion and discourse at Trinity.

## Cinestudio's Moonlight Movies: Showing Student Favorites

MAURA KEARY '22  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Cinestudio, founded in 1970, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary of operation in 2020. The venue is Trinity's own student-operated, non-profit movie theater tucked away next to the main quad on campus. Run by both students and community volunteers, Cinestudio offers a variety of showings at the theater, ranging across an array of different genres.

To celebrate the theater's semi-centennial, Cinestudio coordinator Claire Pritchard '20 explained that on Feb. 22, it would be presenting a double feature of *Yellow Submarine* and *Alice's Restau-*

*rant*, Cinestudio's first showings in 1970. Both movies will be free for all students and the public.

In addition to Cinestudio's usual movie screenings, there is also a monthly program called “Moonlight Movies,” in which students attend a movie for free with a Trinity ID. “It gets a lot of people who wouldn't normally come to Cinestudio to come,” Pritchard explained. For these events, a movie is selected to be shown at 10 p.m. once a month. Pritchard explained that dependent upon the coordinator at the time, there are different movies chosen to be shown. “I really like to show throwbacks and childhood classics; we showed *Home Alone*

for Christmas two years ago and we just recently showed *She's the Man.*”

By partnering with the Office of Student Activities, Involvement & Leadership (S.A.I.L.), Cinestudio is able to offer this opportunity to Trinity students so they can enjoy a no-cost movie in their own backyard.

For the next Moonlight Movie, Cinestudio will be showing *Love and Basketball* on Feb. 14. Students looking to get involved can email [cinestudio.staff@gmail.com](mailto:cinestudio.staff@gmail.com) to find out about volunteer opportunities. “All of our staff are volunteers, so they work every showing. Volunteers get into every movie for free and they also get free tickets for their friends.”

May 5, 1970

## Cinestudio's Success Belongs to Students

by Rick Markovitz

The CINESTUDIO, located in Kriebel Auditorium, is “most likely” the only completely student run, fully theatrical cinema on a college campus in this country, according to James Hanley '72 and Mr. Lawrence Stires, director of the language labs in an interview last week.

The College Film Society is the group behind the CINESTUDIO and also the group entirely responsible for the renovations of Kriebel. Stires said that \$11,000 has been spent thus far to paint the walls and ceiling, rewire and replace the sound system, install locks on the exit doors, and purchase and install a 35 foot screen in addition to other improvements. This figure is only the cost of materials; about thirty students have worked on the

Students are also called upon to do other things which commercial theaters do not have to worry about. Stires stated that students are responsible for bookings and business negotiations as well as pick-up delivery of the print in New Haven or Boston. Students also clean the CINESTUDIO because the College provides no janitorial service for financial reasons.

United Artists Distributing Company has taken an interest in the unique organization by offering films at feasible rates. Hanley said that the first three 35mm films were contracted on a minimum run basis where the distributor is paid a predetermined fee. Now, Hanley said, the CINESTUDIO can obtain films on a straight percentage basis because it has established itself as a professional quality

TRINITY TRIPOD

Cinestudio first premiered in 1970 and the *Tripod* kept close tabs on its success.

## Future of Cinestudio Brought Into Question by Stires Firing

by Megan White and Alan Levine

The recent dismissal of Lawrence R. Stires as Film Coordinator for the college by Dean Edwin P. Nye has caused an uproar among the Cinestudio staff. Through the use of publicity and a series of meetings with various involved parties, the staff is hoping to promote a reversal or modifications of this decision.

Unexpectedly on February 8, Dean Nye informed the college community that he had decided to dismiss Larry Stires from his position as film coordinator, in a memorandum outlining his ideas about the academic use of film. To take his place, Nye chose Kaja Sherman, assistant professor of

student-run organizations, and feel slighted because Nye neglected to consult them and has ignored their input until recently.

Many parties involved in the outcome of this controversial dismissal were contacted and discussed their views.

### Nye Wants More Efficiency

Although he praises its “good assortment of films,” Dean Edwin Nye says, “Cinestudio is one of the campus mysteries.” From his point of view, he sees it as self-perpetuating, fiercely independent, but he says it is unclear how it functions. The academic use of film is growing rapidly on campus, and because he feels that the college needs more film

claims to the contrary by Cinestudio staff members, Nye insists that the “College certainly doesn't want to take it over.”

Nye decided to replace Stires with Silverman. He concedes that Stires has probably been a great help to Cinestudio, “But from my point of view, he's been something less than satisfactory,” as Film Coordinator. Still, he prefers to focus on establishing a clear description of how this position will be handled. Only then will who is filling that position be of importance.

When asked if his dismissal of Stires is evidence of a personal grudge, he replied tersely, “Hogwash.” He added that he is not anti-anything, but must ask some very tough questions

TRINITY TRIPOD

In 1979, Cinestudio and its upkeep was front page news in the *Tripod*.

# The *Tripod* Highlights TrinCycle: Crescent Street 76H's Fun and Healthy Tradition

OLIVIA CAIME '23  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Voluntary dietary restrictions, fitness classes, juice cleanses, and intermediate fasting are only a handful of some of today's crazes. More and more people are diving into the world of healthy eating and working out. Attending college presents students with many complications when attempting to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Finding better options in Mather can be difficult for sure, however, Trinity has been taking steps to help students to sustain their healthy lifestyle.

With activities such as yoga, Zumba, and rock climbing, students can find an activity that best suits them. Among student favorites is TrinCycle, a cycling class. The classes are held in Crescent 76H Monday through Friday from 5-6 p.m. To make each class different and as exciting as the first, there are mul-

tiple student instructors.

Some instructors conduct their class to throw-back music or hip-hop, while others play the hits of today. The intensity of the class varies as well. Each instructor has their own cycling routine and encouraging words to keep you going. Due to its popularity, students should arrive at least ten minutes early to ensure they can get a bike—the class fills up extremely fast.

While TrinCycle is known on-campus for its high intensity, cycling also allows students to undertake an individualized workout. Students can adjust the bike resistance as well as the weight of the dumbbells used for the arms. "I love TrinCycle because of the good energy and how everyone is working out together but you aren't competing with each other, just yourself," stated Alexandra Boursican '23.

According to an article posted by *Time*, spin-

ning is high on the list of high-intensity workouts. There is a laundry list of benefits: it has been proven to improve body composition, decrease fat mass, and lower blood pressure and cholesterol. Cycling and spin classes have been proven to have several benefits, including decreased stress and body fat levels as well as increased cardiovascular fitness and joint mobility.

Last Saturday, students participated in TrinCycle for Science. While TrinCycle is usually offered for free, this event charged participants to help Tri-Beta (Trinity's chapter of the Biology Honor Society) send local students to a science camp this upcoming summer. Prizes were awarded to the participant who rode the furthest in the competition as well as the best team theme.

For students looking to maintain their physical and mental health, TrinCycle is a great option on our small campus.

## Women and Dance

GILLIAN M. REINHARD '20  
FEATURES EDITOR

On Thursday, Feb. 6, in Dangremond Commons, a panel discussion, "Celebrating 50 Years of Women and Dance at Trinity," will be held. The panel will feature Associate Professor of Theater and Dance Katharine Power, Associate Professor of Theater and Dance Lesley Farlow, Professor of Theater and Dance Judy Dworin '70, with Assistant Professor Theater and Dance Rebecca Pappas as moderator. The discussion will focus on the history of dance at Trinity, a unique program, particularly through its connection to Dworin.

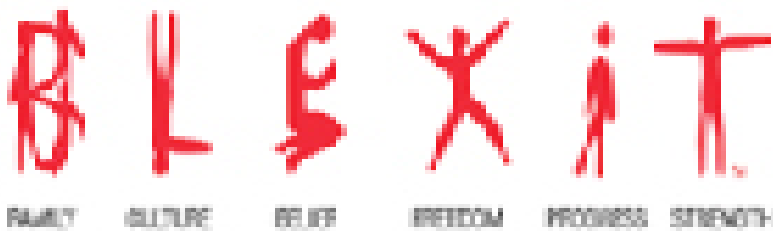
Dworin, the first woman to graduate from Trinity, started the dance department at the College. The creation of the department coincides with Trinity's celebration of coeducation. As Pappas explained, dance is an interdisciplinary study at Trinity—all majors are both theater and dance majors. As Pappas explained, the curriculum, back then as it does now, incorporates study of movement—choreography—with an emphasis on community action.

This use of community action in the dance de-

partment is reflected in its relationship with the Judy Dworin Performance Project, a longstanding arts organization in the city of Hartford, which brings dance to the community in places such as schools and prisons. As Pappas explained, community engagement and collaboration with other organizations is an important aspect of dance at Trinity.

Pappas spoke about the interesting relationship between women and dance at the collegiate level. "Historically, a lot of college dance programs were tied to women's colleges. The connection between dance at Trinity and coeducation at Trinity is not a coincidence," she said, highlighting the strengthening and flourishing of the arts at Trinity in the past fifty years. "Dance plays an important role in thinking about what it means to have a liberal arts education."

The spring semester of the dance program will include Open Dance, a free mixed-level dance on Feb. 11. Additionally, the spring dance concert, featuring work by the senior class hosted throughout different spots on campus, will be held Apr. 17 and 18.



Candace Owens  
Tuesday Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 2020  
Washington Room 8PM

Doors open at 7:30, entrance through  
Mather Lobby

Reserve a Free Ticket every day next week  
during common hour (12-1:30) at Mather.

Contact Nick Engstrom, President  
Email: [reagstoc@trincoll.edu](mailto:reagstoc@trincoll.edu)





# Arts & Entertainment

## An Analysis : Have the Academy Awards Become Archaic?

CAROLINE RICHARDS '22  
A&E EDITOR

With the film industry awards season in full swing and the Oscars being just one week away, it is no surprise that social media is abuzz with controversy over the Academy's nomination list. Every year there are celebrities who tweet about being snubbed and a fair few who post pictures of themselves on Instagram receiving "the call" from the Academy informing them of their nomination (see @florencepugh). However, the underlying disgruntlement of this year's media fiasco is not based on any one individual, but the overall lack of inclusivity and diversity that the Academy has (once again) displayed.

Though this shortcoming is nothing new (in 2015 the #OscarsSoWhite hashtag was trending on Twitter for weeks), the fact that it is still occurring is what has angered so many. Even after promising to include more women and minorities in their voting pool, women still make up only 32% and minorities a meager 16%. The rest are a majority white, male, and over 60, and the nominations in the past decade have reflected just that. To give a brief summary, this year there were no minority women nominated for Best Supporting Actress and only one (amen to Cynthia Erivo in *Harriet*) nominated for Best Actress. The

men nominated for Best Supporting Actor were all white, and Antonio Banderas is the only minority included for Best Actor. People felt these numbers were especially unfair given the increase in movies this year that had so many diverse casts, including *Harriet*, *Pain and Glory*, *The Farewell*, *The Last Black Man in San Francisco*, and *Hustlers*. Many were upset over Jennifer Lopez (*Hustlers*) and Awkwafina's (*The Farewell*) lack of nominations, believing that they did not get what they deserved for their roles in two movies that received outstanding reviews.

The whiteness and maleness only worsens in the category for Best Director, which is all male and all white, save for Bong Joon Ho for *Parasite* (which, in my humble opinion, deserves all the awards), again snubbing directors like Greta Gerwig for *Little Women*, Olivia Wilde for *Booksmart*, and Lorene Scafaria for *Hustlers*. Cinematography is all male, no surprise there considering the only woman ever nominated for that category was Rachel Morrison in 2017 for *Mudbound*; 2017 was the first time and she didn't even win.

I recently saw that the *New York Times* Gender account on Instagram posted an array of statistics regarding the Oscar nominations this year, and they were powerful as



GRAPEVINE.COM

The Academy Awards have been criticized for their lack of diversity and inclusivity over the past 92 years.

they are hardly believable. The numbers, gathered from a new report from the University of Southern California Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, state that only 43 women (7%) have worked as directors in the 1,100 top films of the last decade; only four were women of color. And only five women have been nominated for Best Director in the 92-year history of the Academy Awards.

What is so staggering about these numbers is that they rightfully look at "The Top Movies" of the last decade, not "All Movies," which is important because these are the movies

that are being seen by a majority of the population, these are the movies that play over and over in theaters and are written about and praised by the media. It is these top movies that should aim to have the highest level of diversity and equality in all facets, from director to cinematographer to screenwriting. The focus on Best Director is also significant because it cannot be emphasized enough that directors play one of the most important roles, if not the most important role, in making a film.

The fact that women are still being blocked from this position is a reflection

of so much more that is going on inside Hollywood and our culture as a whole. And if in 2020 this is still a problem, it is one that needs to be immediately and seriously addressed by the Academy, because this is totally unacceptable.

The next couple of years will be a real determining factor as to whether or not the Academy will succeed in diversifying and unifying their agenda. More and more people are boycotting the Awards simply for the lack of much needed diversity and more people will follow suit if things do not change; they need to adapt to the changing times and political climate.

## Austin Arts Center Calendar of Events: Save The Date!

Widener Gallery Opening and Reception:

*Change in America: 1940–1980, Recent Acquisitions from the Trinity College Photography Collections*

Thursday, February 6  
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.  
AAC Lobby

*Mr. Burns* - Spring Theater  
Thursday - Saturday  
April 2 - April 4 at 7:30 p.m.  
AAC, Goodwin Theater

Spring Dance  
Friday & Saturday  
April 17 - April 18 at 7:30 p.m.  
AAC

*Bright Star* - Spring Musical  
Thursday - Saturday  
March 5 - March 7 at 7:30 p.m.  
AAC, Garmany Hall

Samba Fest  
Saturday, April 25  
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
LSC Quad



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# SPORTS

## Competitive Weekend in the NESCAC for Trinity

### *Trinity Men's Squash Defeats St. Lawrence*

Trinity College men's squash hosted St. Lawrence University on Saturday. The Bantams beat the Saints 9-0, making it 13 straight wins this season. Ziad Sakr, a junior from Tanta, Egypt, had an incredible individual performance, allowing just one point in his sweep. Seven of nine Bantams saw sweeps on Sunday. Among those seven were first-year Aly El Toukhy and sophomore Aly Tolba, who allowed just six points in their sweeps. The Trinity men's squash program is currently ranked #2.

This past weekend's win against St. Lawrence was a step forward for the program and a great reflection of the work that they have put in throughout this past season. However, there is still a lot of work ahead for the rest of the season. The team will play on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 5:00 p.m. at the Kellner Squash Center, alongside the Women's squash team. Come show your support for both teams as they host Harvard in what will definitely be an intense match.

### *Women's Basketball Suffers a Loss to Williams*

The Trinity College women's basketball team fell short to the Williams College Ephs after an exciting comeback in the last nine minutes of the game. The Ephs took a quick lead of 10-9 in the first quarter and were able to hold off the Bantams, ending with a 23-14 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Ephs' momentum continued through the second quarter, where they were able to push the lead to as many as 19 points. Refusing to give up, the Bantams fought to score 10 points before the end of the half, trailing by only 38-29 at the break. Unable to keep the score within 10, the Bantams fell behind 68-49 with just nine minutes left in the fourth quarter. Last week's NESCAC player of the week, senior Peace Kabari, got the momentum going for the Bantams by scoring 12 points in the fourth quarter. With just 40 seconds left, the Bantams trailed by only five points. However, the Ephs were able to capitalize on two key free throws which ultimately put the Bantams away for good, resulting in a 76-83 loss. Kabari led the scoring for the Bantams with 26 points, 11 rebounds, and three steals. Trinity will travel to the No. 2-ranked Tufts on Friday at 7:00 p.m.

### *Men's Track and Field: Ninth in the Branwen Smith-King Invitational*

Trinity men's track and field finished ninth in a field of 22 teams at the Branwen Smith-King Invitational at Gantcher Center. Finishing the day with 37 points, they fell behind eighth-place Amherst by just six points. MIT finished first with a total of 135.5 points. Sophomore Robert Allen scored points for the Bantams by placing second in the 60-meter dash with a time of 7.08 and third place in the 200-meter dash with a time of 22.72. Sophomore Jalen Weathers also placed eighth in the 60-meter dash, along with Kai Balin placing fourth in the 200-meter to contribute to the Bantams 37 points. The team will next compete in the Cupid Challenge at Tufts University this Saturday, Feb. 8.

### *Men's Ice Hockey Falls in the NESCAC*

The Trinity men's hockey team lost two competitive NESCAC games this weekend at the Koepfel Sports Center. On Friday, the Amherst College Mammoths came out with the win over the Bantams. Senior Liam Feeney scored the first goal of the game in the first period, but the Mammoths came back in the third period, scoring two goals and securing their win. Still, senior goalie Teddy Loughborough had 36 total saves on Friday. Saturday was another tough competition for the Bantams. Trinity outshot the Hamilton College Continentals 32-28, but Hamilton came away with four goals against the Bantams. Trinity worked the Continentals' goalie hard in the first period with 13 shots on net, and Michael Grande's shot hit the back of the net at 19:59, getting the Bants on the board. Next weekend, Trinity takes on Middlebury and Williams at home. On Friday, Feb. 7, the Bants are hosting the Pink in the Rink game to raise money and awareness for breast cancer. You can find a "GoFundMe" link in their Instagram bio (@tcbantamshockey) to make a donation. Come cheer on the team and support a great cause.

## Djokovic Victorious Again at the 2020 Australian Open

JAY PARK '22  
SPORTS EDITOR

Every year, in the city of Melbourne, Australia, 128 men and women duel in the blistering heat to win the honor of being crowned a champion. One of four major tennis tournaments in the world—called the Grand Slam tournaments—the Australian Open is the first major tennis tournament played each year and is often called the "Grand Slam of Asia/Pacific" for being the only major tournament played in this region of the world.

Taking place over the course of the last two weeks of January, the draws consist of men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles, and mixed doubles events. While the top seeds are set before the start of the tournament, many players play matches beforehand to win the wildcard slots. So, for the vast majority of the tennis world, getting even the chance to play in one of these es-

teemed championships is an honor in and of itself.

But for others, merely playing in these tournaments is not the goal; the goal is the win it all. For the men's singles draw, the result was no different than was to be expected: perennial finalist Novak Djokovic of Serbia held off Dominic Thiem of Austria in a duel that went to five sets, with scores of 6-4, 4-6, 2-6, 6-3, 6-4. It seems as though all Grand Slams are won by a committee of three: Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal, and 8-time Australian Open Champion Novak Djokovic. In fact, the last 21 Grand Slams have been won by a player who has won a major before; not a single one has been a first-time champion. More recently, the men's singles draw has been a duopoly, with no one else coming really close.

But it is not the same narrative for the women's singles draw. The last 12 Grand Slams have had



Hindustan Times

Novak Djokovic playing in the 2020 Australian Open

eight different first-time major champions, a stark contrast to the firm grip of the top in the world of men's tennis. This year, the honor was given to 21-year old American Sofia Kenin, whose defeat of former number one Garbiñe Muguruza (4-6, 6-2, 6-2) cemented her status in the annals of tennis history. Kenin beat 15-year old American tennis player Coco Gauff 6-7 (5-7), 6-3, 6-0. At 21 years of age, Kenin's future is clear-

ly bright—but what does this mean for the future of women's tennis? Clearly, there is no one equivalent to Djokovic or Nadal in terms of sheer dominance. However, this absolutely does not mean there is a lack of talent.

At this point in time, it appears as though the status quo has not changed: men's tennis is still dominated by the aging titans, while women's tennis appears to be

more diverse. But, perhaps, that will not be the case for much longer. The men's big three are all now in their mid-to-late-30s, and as the next generation of players gains more experience, perhaps it will be enough to see their dominance fall. As for the women, who knows? Perhaps the bright stars such as Coco Gauff and Sofia Kenin can become the Serena and Venus Williams of their generation.

# Trinity College

Inside Sports:  
Recaps and Australian  
Open

## This Week in Sports...

### Men's Hockey

v. Amherst L, 2-1  
v. Hamilton L, 4-1

### Men's Basketball

v. Middlebury W, 82-76  
v. Williams W, 73-60

### Women's Hockey

v. Colby T, 2-2  
v. Colby L, 1-0

### Women's Basketball

v. Middlebury W, 65-54  
v. Williams L, 83-76

### Wrestling

v. Coast Guard L, 45-1

### Men's Squash

v. St. Lawrence W, 9-0

## Super Bowl LIV: Chiefs Overcome 10-point Deficit

JAY PARK '22  
SPORTS EDITOR

24-year old quarterback Patrick Mahomes led the Kansas City Chiefs to their first Super Bowl victory in history. Mahomes—who went 26 for 42 for 286 yards, had two passing touchdowns, and had a rushing touchdown—helped spark the Chiefs' offense in the second half, scoring 21 unanswered points. Already the league MVP of 2018, Mahomes can add the Lombardi trophy and the Super Bowl MVP trophy to his list of accolades.

Despite these accomplishments, Mahomes' performance was not flawless: he threw two interceptions and was, at one point, down by ten points. But, as his previous games have proven, he is not one to shy away from pressure. Mahomes led the Chiefs to overcome an astonishing 24-point deficit to beat the Texans 51-31. The next week, he continued his tear through the American Football Conference's (AFC) best, beating the Tennessee Titans 35-24.

Coming into the game as 1.5-point underdogs, many newscasters doubt-



THE DURANGO HERALD

Left: Super Bowl MVP Patrick Mahomes celebrates the Kansas City Chiefs Victory  
Right: The 49ers George Kittle makes a reception during Sunday's Super Bowl LIV



ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

ed the ability of the explosive Chiefs' offense to trump, arguably, the best defense in the league. The 13-3 San Francisco 49ers' offense was spearheaded by Jimmy Garoppolo and George Kittle, while their vaunted defense contained elite level players such as Richard Sherman, Nick Bosa, Dee Ford, and Kwon Alexander (Dee Ford was drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs but was traded for a second-round draft pick).

They were coached

by Kyle Shanahan, son of Mike Shanahan, who has won multiple Super Bowls in his past. It is interesting to note that Kyle Shanahan was the Offensive Coordinator for the Atlanta Falcons, and is arguably the most to blame for their historic collapse to the New England Patriots in Super Bowl LI, losing a mind-boggling 25-point lead.

But, it seemed as though Kyle Shanahan did not learn his lesson. Instead of aggressively running the ball and relying on the run game (as he had success-

fully done 13 times in this season in order to come out victorious), he decided to put the game in the hands of Jimmy Garoppolo. It was clear to all that the reason for the 49ers' success was their reliance on the running game and their staunch defense. Garoppolo went 20 for 31 for 219 yards, leading to one touchdown, and two interceptions. With the offense no longer managing the clock—and, thus, the game—the defense quickly lost steam, and was scorched by the ag-

gressive Chiefs offense.

At the end of the game, one thing remained certain: the future of the NFL is still bright. Young players such as Patrick Mahomes, Nick Bosa, and Jimmy Garoppolo will serve as the torch-bearers for the next generation of football. After so many years, Andy "Sweet and Sour Pork" Reid finally has a Super Bowl championship trophy. And one final word to the wise: always fight to the bitter end or get blown out in two Super Bowls.

## Coming Up for Bantam Sports:

Fri.

Men's Basketball v. Tufts @ 7  
Men's Ice Hockey v. Middlebury @  
7:30

Sat.

Men's Basketball v. Bates @ 3  
Men's Ice Hockey v. Williams @ 4

