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Valerie Osborne

Kevin Leon

Courtney A. DuChene

Johnny Myers

Emily Jolly

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Valerie Osborne, Kevin Leon, Courtney A. DuChene, Johnny Myers, Emily Jolly, Sophia DiBattista, Thomas Bantley, Julian Spain, and David Mendelsohn

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## Department of Education rolls back piece of Title IX

*Move by Devos aims to protect those accused of sexual assault*

**Kevin Leon**  
keleon@ursinus.edu

On Sept. 7, 2017, US Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced her plan to roll back supplemental documents of Title IX in an effort to protect those accused of sexual assault on college campuses. Title IX is part of the Education Amendments of 1972 that state, “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.”

Since its initial implementation, the Supreme Court and U.S. Department of Education have given Title IX a broader scope, requiring schools to respond and fix unsafe educational environments.

DeVos argued that the power Title IX had under the previous administration was too far-reaching and that it encroached on students’ civil liberties, particularly students accused of sexual assault. She believed that schools acted similar to a court, without the same protections that a real court would grant the accused.

In a letter published on Sept. 22, 2017, the current Acting Assistant Secretary of Civil Rights under the current Department of Education, Candice Jackson, argued that the Dear Colleague Letter, which had been a part of the Title IX process since 2011, overstepped many boundaries. The Dear Colleague Letter, put into place under the Obama administration, provided guidance for schools when dealing with sexual assault cases.

Now under Devos both the Dear Colleague Letter on Sexual Violence and the Questions and Answers on Title IX and Sexual Violence documents are being withdrawn by the Department of Education.

Jackson found that the Dear Colleague letter forced schools to adopt a minimum standard for convicting evidence; only a 51 percent probability of the student having committed sexual assault was needed to find the accused guilty.

The Dear Colleague Letter also allowed for an appeal process in the event that the accused was not found guilty. She claimed that schools regularly reserved an appeal process for those who believed that they were wrongly found guilty.

The withdrawn documents discouraged cross-examination by the parties and forbade schools from relying on law-enforcement investigations. As a result, schools were forced to act as an expedited judicial system.

DeVos’ administration believes that the procedures established by schools for resolving allegations lacked basic elements of fairness and due process. DeVos’ administration argues that procedures put in place under Obama seemed to be overwhelmingly stacked against accused students.

“The department has decided to withdraw the above-referenced guidance documents in order to develop an approach to student sexual misconduct that responds to the concerns of stakeholders and that aligns with the purpose of Title IX to achieve fair access to educational benefits,” Candice Jackson stated.

The main issue that DeVos’ administration finds with the previous state of Title IX is that it allegedly is disproportionately stacked against accused students. Students who faced a Title IX investigation would not have the same protections one normally does in a court of law, even though the process supposedly acted like a court.

Students found to be at least 51 percent likely to be guilty would face different sanctions depending on school’s individual policies,



Photo courtesy of Communications

Jessica Oros, Deputy Title IX coordinator, explains why the college will continue to adhere to the Dear Colleague Letter.

though they were far from legal action. The range of actions vary depending on the college or university but would nonetheless affect their academic careers. The changes made are to protect the academic pursuits of the accused from derailment due to what they believe to be an insufficient amount of evidence.

However some argue that the changes the DeVos’ administration is pushing fail to protect victims of on-campus sexual assault. According to a Washington Post article by Dana Bolger and Alexandra Brodsky, the guidelines in the Dear Colleague letter empowered survivors and prevented administrators from pressuring victims to withdraw from school until their assaulters graduated. Candice Jackson told the New York Times in an interview that 90 percent of sexual assault accusations are false, however, research on sexual assaults has placed the proportion of false accusations between 2-6 percent.

The Dear Colleague Letter also

outlines federal protections for students who find themselves accused of sexual misconduct. If the Department of Education cared about potential injustice done to accused students, they would enforce the letter more strictly rather than withdraw it.

First-year student Amanda Turcios worries that the roll back of the guidelines in the Dear Colleague letter will hurt student victims of sexual assault.

“I fear that this will only hurt those who have been assaulted. Yes, there are people who have false allegations/accusations towards them [and that] can really harm their reputation, but the victims who have been abused do not receive the same attention and sympathy,” said Turcios.

These changes made by DeVos’ Department of Education do not require that schools retract these documents from their own Title IX process—only that the federal government no longer mandates

them. As a result, colleges and universities no longer face a federal investigation if they are found to not meet the Dear Colleague Letter or the Questions and Answers requirements.

The Title IX office at Ursinus has decided to keep both the documents in place and not change their process in accordance with the current mandates by the Department of Education. Deputy Title IX coordinator at Ursinus, Jessica Oros said, “Ursinus, as an institution, believes in the work of Title IX and what that does... Ursinus uses the [fifty-one percent] preponderance of evidence standard for all of their student conduct so we will continue to use the preponderance of evidence until the department of education says we have to change.”



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Photo courtesy of Nzadi Keita

DeSimone was awarded the National Medal of Honor in Technology and Innovation by President Obama in May 2016.

## Joe DeSimone '86 receives Heinz award

*Recognized for achievements in chemical engineering and entrepreneurship*

**Courtney DuChene**  
coduchene@ursinus.edu

The Heinz family foundation has recognized 1986 alumnus and former board of trustees member Joe DeSimone as one of the 22nd annual Heinz Award Winners. They said, on their website, “Dr. DeSimone’s achievements as a polymer scientist and entrepreneur, along with his leadership in convergence research, a new model integrating life, physical and engineering sciences to achieve innovations, is positively impacting human life in the areas of health, environment, energy and the economy.”

The foundation recognized DeSimone in their Technology, the Economy, and Employment category for his work in developing and commercializing advanced technologies such as 3D printing, precision medicine, nanoparticle fabrication, which focuses on the fabrication and preparation of nanoparticles for drug delivery, green chemistry, an area of chemistry and chemical engineering that focuses on creating sustainable products and reducing the transmission of hazardous waste into the environment, and his commitment to diversity in the STEM field on

See **Heinz Award** on pg. 3

# New education major created

*Education Department targets students with interests in policy and research, but not necessarily teaching*

**Johnny Myers**  
jomyers@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus College education department has announced that it will be creating a new major for educational studies, declarable in June 2018. Previously, students could only minor in education studies, earning a certificate of teaching that would allow them to enter the teaching field immediately upon graduation. Students on the teaching certification track would major in their subject of expertise—such as math, history, English, or science—but would not earn a major in education.

Now, students who are interested in the institution of education and want to earn a certificate around it can also pursue a major in the field.

With the education major, students now have the flexibility to pursue educational studies beyond being a teacher.

Sophomore Margrethe Leis is one student who will benefit

from the new education major. She said, “I was considering going down the teaching track, but I don’t think that I would want to be a teacher. Now, I’m focusing on education policy and how other countries run their education. There are issues in our educational system, whether it be funding or lack of access.”

Dr. Stephanie Mackler has been in support of creating a major around education for some time. Said Mackler, “I’ve been arguing for this for twenty years. For me, this is a chance for students to reflect on why [they are] here and what [it means] to be in education [their] whole life. We’ve mistakenly thought that education is teacher preparation, but there’s more [to it] than that.”

By creating a major, students who are interested in pursuing careers in education, such as working in counseling or education policy, will be able to further their studies with major, rather than just a minor in their

prospective field. Additionally, the major will bring new courses to the department that examine education through lenses other than teaching. One of these courses, EDUC-280: Education and Inequality, a requirement for the major, will examine whether educational institutions reinforce or combat societal inequalities.

Mackler believes this addresses a need within the college. She said, “We had a large number of students who were doing the minor without the certification, so people who went into school-counseling or into educational policy, or work in academic or student side of higher [education], or Teach for America, studying education in higher levels.”

Mackler clarified that the teaching certification program would remain with the new changes to the department. “We still have a teaching certification. But we have now a major called ‘education studies,’ which is an interdisciplinary study of education: culturally, philosophically, and sociologically.”

Leis expressed her enthusiasm for the department. “I’m really excited for the department because Dr. Mackler is awesome. She’s been really helpful through this whole thing. I went in as a minor, but she encouraged me to go for the major and showed me that I have room in my schedule for it.”

While Mackler is also excited for the new major, she also wanted to express her gratitude to those students who studied education as a minor without seeking the teaching certifica-



Photo courtesy of Communications

Dr. Stephanie Mackler helped create the new Education major.

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**Ursinus Grizzly**  
601 E. Main Street  
Collegeville, PA 19426

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tion and thus proved that the major was necessary. “I feel very proud of our minors, and [I think they] would have been

proud to be majors with us,” she said.

The educational studies major was created in October 2017, but students cannot formally declare it until June 2018 when

catalogue changes for the 2018-2019 academic year go into effect. Students with an interest in the major or any other questions can contact Dr. Mackler at [smackler@ursinus.edu](mailto:smackler@ursinus.edu).



Photo courtesy of Communications

Dr. Anthony Nadler was selected as one of the Columbia Tow Center for Digital Journalism Fellows.

## Nadler awarded Tow Fellowship

*MCS professor will research relationships of trust between journalists and news consumers*

**Courtney DuChene**  
[coduchene@ursinus.edu](mailto:coduchene@ursinus.edu)

Dr. Anthony Nadler, an assistant media and communications studies professor at Ursinus, has received a Tow Fellowship to support his research on how communities think about trust in media.

The Fellowship is provided by the Tow Center for Digital Journalism at Columbia University. The Center aims to explore the ways in which technology is shaping both the practice and consumption of journalism.

For his research, Nadler will be working with Dr. Andrea Wenzel, a journalism professor at Temple University; Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, a renowned journalist, scholar, and activist currently serving as the first Steve Charles Chair in Media, Cities and Solutions at Temple University; and Dr. Melissa Valle, a professor of African American and African Studies and anthropology and sociology at Rutgers University Newark.

Dr. Nadler briefly described the project. He said, “We’re doing research on relationships of trust and what types of news sources different communities in the Philadelphia metro area

turn to. Specifically we’re looking at Montgomery County and Germantown, so [we have] two different sites—one is clearly a lot bigger than the other. We’re interviewing folks, we’re going to be doing focus groups, we’re going to be doing some one-on-one interviews, and working with some news sources, like news organizations . . . who are interested in following up and saying, ‘Okay, this is community’s lack of trust, this is how they feel they’re not being covered right, how can we respond and start building that trust.’”

This project builds off of some of Nadler’s research interests in conservative news. “I’ve been specifically working on conservative news consumers and their thoughts on both news that’s made for conservatives as well as the sort of big network news, and this [project] helps me expand [by] working with conservative audiences in Montgomery County but also by giving me more points of comparison for how this might be different among non-conservative audiences in Montgomery County or in Philadelphia and in Germantown.”

The selection of Montgomery County and Germantown as the

areas of focus are not for direct comparison, however. Nadler said, “[They’re] two different sites where we expect communities might have different grievances and different concerns about the news. It’s not necessarily that we’ll be directly comparing and contrasting those two sites . . . We don’t want to make general conclusions of how people’s relationships towards news media are. It’s more of how people’s relationships might differ across communities.”

Nadler added, “It’s very open-ended. We might have our own theories about what we’re likely to find, but we really want to follow what we hear from the groups that we interview. We don’t know exactly what, until we get this research going, the people we interview are going to say. That’s what really important to us.”

The timeline for the project is relatively soon with focus groups and interviews being conducted through January with writing and analyzing the research and meeting with news organizations in the spring. Said Nadler, “The hope is not that we’ll solve the problem but [that we] might help generate some experimental ideas to tackle [it].”

**Heinz** continued from pg. 2

their website.

DeSimone believes many different experiences from his career contributed to his win. He said, “I think, looking back over my career, the sort of translational research that we do to create companies and products that impact people’s lives and to create job opportunities is what they recognize.”

The Heinz award was established in 1993 by the Heinz Family Foundation. Named after Pennsylvania Senator H. John Heinz, the award recognizes individual achievement in five categories. In addition to the Technology category, they provided awards in the Arts and Humanities, Environment, Human Condition, Public Policy, Technology, the Economy, and Employment. Other winners for this year include Natasha Trethewey, for Arts and Humanities; Angela Blanchard, as the Human Condition recipient; Gregory Asner, in the Environment category; and Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, for Public Policy.

**“As a scientist and as an engineer, I think the thing that really helped me a lot in my career has been that liberal arts education coming out of Ursinus”**

—Dr. Joe DeSimone  
Class of 1986  
Heinz Award Recipient

Early in his career DeSimone worked with green chemistry and medicine. Elaborated DeSimone, “I did that early in my career and then I did some work in nanomedicine [where] we bridged two fields that were never bridged before: that is the technologies associated in making integrated circuits and computer chips, and we applied those for making particles useful for pulmonary medicine, vaccines, and chemotherapeutics, bridging computer science manufacturing techniques with drug delivery.”

Some applications of DeSimone’s work with nanoparticles include the possibility of delivering vaccines, such as malaria and tuberculosis, and the potential to improve cancer therapies.

As technologies have progressed, so has DeSimone’s work. “Now we’re heavily focused on new approaches [like] 3D printers that are 100 times

faster . . . We’re trying to take 3D printing from [the] prototyping world it lives in today to 3D manufacturing, which has never been done before.”

DeSimone described the challenges he has faced in his work: “It’s not easy doing something from scratch. It takes a lot of tenacity and it takes an amazing team. I’m very fortunate to attract amazing people to these new visions.”

His team members sometimes include students. DeSimone is the Chancellor’s Eminent Professor of Chemistry at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the William R. Kenan, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering at North Carolina State University. He said, “I think in general my students have always been interested in making a difference . . . in improving the health and wellbeing of people.”

He added, “what’s great about students is that they don’t know what’s not possible. So there is an unabashed approach to wanting to make a difference.”

The Heinz award is not the first time DeSimone has been recognized for his work. In May of 2016, he received the National Medal of Technology and Innovation in a ceremony presided over by President Obama. Speaking to the honor of receiving that award and the excitement of meeting Obama, DeSimone said, “That was pretty special . . . It was the last round of awards from President Obama. It was a huge surprise, and to get the call from his science advisor about this was stunning. President Obama . . . he said, ‘Dr. DeSimone I want to thank you for your service to the nation,’ and I said, ‘Are you kidding me? Thank you.’ It was just really, really special.”

DeSimone believes his time at Ursinus played an integral role in his success. He said, “As a scientist and as an engineer, I think the thing that really helped me a lot in my career has been that liberal arts education coming out of Ursinus . . . Seeing connections between fields that were not there before, and empowering people and collaborating, [using] analytical skills, [making] creative arguments—all those skills . . . were established and honed at Ursinus, and I’m forever grateful for that.”



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## Dr. Kerr appears on “Full Frontal with Samantha Bee”

*Ursinus sociology professor was invited to share her fear expertise on national news satire show*

Emily Jolly  
emjolly@ursinus.edu

For many people, there’s a sense of thrill in watching horror films or going to haunted houses, but have you ever wondered why some people love these things so much? Dr. Margee Kerr, Ursinus professor and sociologist of fear, has the answer.

“We . . . get the physical and natural high, so physiologically it can feel good because it’s all of the chemicals associated with feel-good states,” Kerr said.

Extending her knowledge beyond Ursinus, Kerr recently appeared in a segment on the TBS news satire talk-show “Full Frontal with Samantha Bee” on Oct. 25 to provide expertise on fear in relation to climate change.

The episode featured an interview with Kerr, who spoke about fear as manifesting from a physical response.

On the show, Samantha Bee mentioned a new poll that claims Americans are more afraid of clowns than climate change, and that over half of

Americans believe humans are not responsible for climate change. Since “reason may not be enough to alarm Americans about climate change,” according to Bee, she turned to Kerr with the question: “Could we use fear to make people acknowledge that climate change is real?”

“Well, climate change is so diffuse and abstract and people are like, ‘what is it?’ If we can make people experience it in their body too and say ‘Ok, this is climate change, this is the consequence, I’m in danger.’ All of our attention is focused on our body, on being ready to run or fight,” said Kerr on the show.

She later elaborated, “We’re good at recognizing threats that are right in front of us and that we can wrap our mind around and even our hands. That something’s charging towards us and we can recognize the threat and feel an urgency to act. It’s harder to do that when it’s not right in front of us and when the idea is more abstract and so it’s the question of you know, if we made it feel as though it was that urgent, to replicate

the experience of people who are living through hurricanes or heat waves . . . For a lot of people, they don’t have any frame of reference for any of the dangers that climate change can bring . . . Let’s make it real, and see if that changes people’s, you know, appreciation of the seriousness of it.”

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*“We live in a ‘fear consumed world.’”*

— Dr. Margee Kerr  
Professor of Sociology

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Kerr has been studying fear for a while now. After receiving her undergraduate degree from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, she went on to the University of Pittsburgh to pursue a doctorate of sociology. She graduated from there in 2009. Kerr wrote her dissertation on how the idea that vaccines cause autism used fear to manipulate and scare parents into not vaccinating their children.

Since graduating, Kerr has

worked in various kinds of research related to fear including data collection and analysis for ScareHouse (a haunted attraction in Pittsburgh, PA), but she eventually wanted to switch gears. Now, Kerr is researching why we want to do scary things.

Kerr explained that there are different kinds of fear, the ones we choose to experience and the ones that take us by surprise.

“In America we have the social script for ‘fun-scary,’ this thing that we voluntarily choose to do that scares us, but within this protective frame, it’s not, you know, ‘fear-fear.’ Our emotions are constructed. They’re not these discrete, real kinds of things that exist within us; we make them in time and place,” said Kerr.

Kerr continued to explain that “when we say ‘Oh, we want to be scared,’ it’s more like, ‘We want to activate our sympathetic nervous system within the context of friends and family and fun.’”

Fear-inducing activities can help bring people together, according to Kerr. “Being

with people we like in times of great stress can make us feel more closely bonded and so becomes a networking and solidarity building experience [that] builds really rich layers [of] memories that we then think about fondly.”

Going through these experiences also gives the “psychological feeling of satisfaction and achievement . . . like running a marathon or rock climbing.”

When she was originally approached by the producers of “Full Frontal with Samantha Bee” in September, Kerr was asked if she had ever thought about making a climate change haunted house—something they wanted to do—and she said she had always thought it would be fun and funny. Kerr then put them in contact with Terror Behind the Walls at Eastern State Penitentiary, where she had a good relationship, and they created the climate change themed haunted house shown in the segment. People were then brought in to experience fears related to climate change.

While the haunted house idea was fun, Kerr acknowledged some flaws in the production. “I think that we both knew the whole time that haunted house experiences like that are fun because we know they are fake, so you know it’s not going to likely be effective because there’s that knowledge, you know this isn’t real.”

Instead, Kerr suggests first-hand experience. “Taking people to places that have been devastated. You know like we’ve all kind of forgotten about what’s happening in Puerto Rico right now but I’m sure they haven’t: They’re still dealing with power outages and [lack of] clean water, and for them the reality is impossible to forget. So, I think that outside of being able to see it first-hand, especially if people can personalize it . . . just really putting a name and face and story to a thing can help people appreciate what is happening.”



Photo courtesy of Ursinus Communications

Dr. Margee Kerr, sociologist of fear, has been studying fear in various capacities throughout her education and career.

# The history of a historian

*Dr. Ross Doughty has a long connection to Ursinus, from childhood, to student life, and now in his current position as professor*

**Sophia DiBattista**  
sodibattista@ursinus.edu

Who would've thought that Ursinus College was once a junglegym? All the towering buildings, scattered sculptures, and sinuous pathways would undoubtedly appeal to a young child's imagination. Ursinus was once a personal playground for one current history professor, Dr. Ross Doughty (Ursinus '68), who remembers exploring the campus as a boy and later attending the institution as a student with the same sense of familiarity.

"I had cousins who lived on both sides of the Ursinus campus—one family lived in what is now Omwake Hall and another lived on Glenwood Avenue across the street from Clamer Hall. We pretty much considered it a playground especially when the classes were not in session. I also played tennis on what were then the clay tennis courts located where the Kaleidoscope is now and scrimmaged with my high school football team against visiting high schools who had football camp at Ursinus. So, when I arrived as a freshman in the fall of 1964, I was on familiar ground," Doughty said.

Having relatives close by and a familiarity with the campus made the transition to college feel like a reunion with an old friend—if that old friend was a school consisting of hundreds of people. But Doughty had a somewhat different campus experience than most students. Usually students live on campus, but Doughty was a commuter.

He explained that because he was a commuter, he could not participate in various campus activities such as sports or small excursions.

Nevertheless, Doughty found ways to be involved at Ursinus. "I still played intramural sports and worked as a manager and scorekeeper for the football and basketball teams. I got to travel with the teams and meet a lot of people through sports. I also helped organize a political commentary magazine called Focus which lasted a couple of years."

Doughty's networks expanded even though he was busy balancing a lifestyle few at Ursinus experience. "Although I didn't join a fraternity, I had a lot of friends in Delta Pi Sigma, which was an all-commuter student fraternity at the time."

Doughty also took advantage of the numerous travel opportunities available to Ursinus students. "During the summer between my junior and senior year, I joined an Ursinus student tour group for Europe and made friends that way . . . I'm looking forward to meeting a lot of old friends [from that experience] at [the class of 1968's] 50th class reunion in April 2018."

Of course, there were differences between the college back then and now; Doughty noted key distinctions from when he attended. "Well it was much smaller—only about a thousand students—and cheaper. The tuition was \$1400 a year when I was a freshman and only about \$2500 by the time I graduated. [The students were] a lot more politically conservative . . .

and [campus was] less diverse, racially and culturally. There was one African-American, two Asian-Americans, and one Latina in my graduating class. The overwhelming majority of the students came from the Philadelphia area."

Doughty continued, "Academically, there were far fewer majors than there are now, and there were no minors at all. The only available foreign languages were French, German and Spanish. French was by far the most popular language. Although there were individual courses in sociology, music, art history, and drama, there were no majors in any of those subjects, nor did media and communication arts, neuroscience, and theater and dance exist as majors. But biology, economics, and psychology were the most popular majors as they are today."

One of Doughty's own professors, Dr. Maurice Armstrong, first recommended that Doughty consider teaching as a career. Armstrong was the history department's chair in the 1960s, which is the position that Doughty currently occupies.

Doughty's eventual decision to become a teacher was solidified during his year studying abroad in Scotland. The knowledge and awareness he acquired while living within a different environment, plus a dedication to education, prompted him to make the final decision to become a teacher.

Said Doughty, "When I came back to Ursinus in the fall of my senior year and told Dr. Armstrong about my plans, he was



Photo courtesy of Ursinus Communications

Dr. Ross Doughty was a student at Ursinus in the mid 1960s.

very supportive and helped me get into graduate school." From Ursinus, Doughty earned a master's degree and doctorate from Harvard University.

If given the opportunity, Doughty said that one of the things he would change about his time at Ursinus would be to rethink his decision to commute and instead live on campus full-time. He feels that he missed many events by not being a resident student, but still was fortunate to get the experience of living on campus while residing at St. Andrews in Scotland when

he studied abroad.

Regarding Ursinus in the present, if he could change anything, he would improve a pressing academic issue.

"I would add history as a core requirement," said Doughty.

There is a rich history between Ursinus and its alumni, so much so that some return to be in its family of faculty. Doughty is a shining example of this relationship. He anticipates fruitful futures for current students and looks forward to one day finally having history as part of the core curriculum.

## Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<i>International Film Festival: Oma &amp; Bella</i> 7 p.m. Olin Auditorium	<i>Concert Band</i> 7:30 p.m. Lenfest Theater	<i>Late-Night Pancakes</i> 10 - 11:59 p.m. Wisner Center	<i>String Ensemble Concert</i> 4 p.m. Bomberger Auditorium		<i>Class of 2020 Registers Online</i>	<i>The Gap Year: Exploring Opportunities after Graduation</i> 12 p.m. Bear's Den



# Male gun violence must end with restrictive gun legislation

Courtney DuChene  
coduchene@ursinus.edu

There were guns at my cousin's wedding shower when I was about 10 years old. The women gathered in the garage around plastic pastel tablecloths while the men were out in the back field shooting clay pigeons and drinking beer. My mother repeatedly emphasized the need for me and my sister to stay away from the field. Later that evening, two of my cousins got into a drunken brawl and, on the car ride home, my father speculated on what a disaster that could have been since they were both holding guns.

That was my first inkling that guns were dangerous.

Since that moment, most of my formal and informal education about guns has gone against that initial feeling that guns were dangerous. I learned the tired clichés that the right to own a gun is enshrined in the constitution, that guns don't kill people but people do, and that guns make places safer and we need more of them

(despite the wealth of statistical evidence to the contrary). A study published on Slate.com by criminologist Frederic Lemieux shows that gun violence and gun ownership rates are highly correlated.

Underlying the lessons about guns that I heard as a child was the central idea that a gun in the hands of a good man makes people safer. We see this trope all the time in movies—the cowboy who rides in and saves the town; the cop who shoots the villain in the nick of time. American gun culture perpetuates these myths, but we must start to discuss gun violence as an issue of regulation and an issue of intersectional feminism.

American gun culture feeds into toxic masculinity. Guns, with their connotations of power, are also more likely to be owned by men than women. A 2017 Pew Research study on gun demographics found that sixty-two percent of gun owners are male and men who own guns are more likely to obtain them at younger ages than women, with the average age being nineteen for men

and twenty-seven for women. This suggests that Americans consider gun ownership a rite of passage for men. Given that anger and violence are often considered the only acceptable emotional outlets for men, the prevalence of male gun ownership is disconcerting. The Pew Research Center also reports that forty-three percent of male gun owners can always access a loaded gun at home, compared to twenty-nine percent of female gun owners. While these statistics do not suggest owning a gun causes men to shoot people more often, it is worth noting that the dataset, "A Guide to Mass Shootings in America" published by Mother Jones reports that ninety percent of the seventy-two American mass shootings that have occurred in the past twenty years have involved a male shooter.

Guns are also linked to violent crimes committed by men against women. The April 2017 article "Domestic violence and guns: the hidden American crisis ending women's lives" published by The Guardian reported that fifty

women a month are shot to death in the US by former or current male partners. Many of these men would most likely consider themselves "good men." I know all of my uncles do, and yet I also know one of them held a gun to his wife's head and threatened her. Gun culture is intrinsically linked with violence and, unfortunately, our culture also praises violent expressions of masculinity.

Additionally, the perceived need for white men to protect white women has led men to commit mass shootings against LGBTQ+ people and people of color. According to the Mother Jones dataset, fifty percent of mass shootings by men were carried out by white men. Additionally, a 2017 Business Insider article titled "Everything you need to know about mass shootings in America" reports that men of color comprise half of American gun death victims. The Charleston Church shooter, Dylann Roof told his nine black victims, "I have to do it . . . You rape our women and you're taking over our country and you have to go." In 2016,

the LGBTQ+ community was targeted with the Pulse Nightclub shooting. A 2011 analysis of FBI hate crimes reported by the Southern Poverty Law Center found that there were 15,351 anti LGBTQ+ hate crimes between the years 1995-2008. As long as the country continues valuing the right to own guns over peoples' right to live, these statistics are unlikely to change.

Changing America's gun culture must start at the legislative level. If we remove gun ownership as a right enshrined in our founding documents, we take away some of its power. I urge students and faculty to call their representatives and announce their support for restrictive gun control policies. If we change the culture around guns, we begin changing some of the oppressive aspects of our patriarchal society as a whole.



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# JFK's legacy should be more than assassination conspiracies

Tom Bantley  
thbantley@ursinus.edu

In a move that surprised many last week, President Trump announced the release of classified documents to the public pertaining to the assassination of late US President John F. Kennedy. Trump initially wanted to declassify more documents, but due to pressure from national security units he only declassified 2800 records. About 300 documents will be held under review for at least 6 more months in order to gauge their effect on state security. The President later claimed he would release all of the documents, but this has yet to be seen.

Starting on Oct. 26, Trump started to work with the National Records and the Records Administration to trickle out some of the newly declassified documents. Many were hoping to find a bombshell or a smoking gun in the declassified documents, such as Ted Cruz's father being in the

grassy knoll or being the Zodiac Killer, but no such revelations were found. While declassified CIA documents and conspiracy theories may excite many Americans, there is more to John F. Kennedy's legacy than an assassination event that traumatized a nation. Kennedy should be remembered for more than his assassination: His memory should challenge Americans to be the best they can be.

That is not to say that these documents aren't interesting. Even though there is nothing in the 2800 documents that contradicts the initial findings of the Warren Commission in 1963, the documents do include some hair-raising details about the assassination. According to both ABC and CBS news, interesting facts include that a British reporter claims to have received advanced warning of the assassination through a mysterious anonymous phone call a half-hour before the assassination happened, that

there was no clear answer concerning Lee Harvey Oswald's relationship with the CIA, and that there were James Bond-esque plots created by the CIA to assassinate Cuban leader Fidel Castro. The documents also revealed the fact that J. Edgar Hoover was eager to convince the public that Oswald was the killer who acted alone. The big question that remains up in the air regards Lee Harvey Oswald's experience in Mexico City and what influence communist regimes may have had on Oswald.

While the arguments over the Warren Commission and the validity of conspiracy theories will continue to light fiery passions among many, these passions should not burn brighter than the impact President Kennedy left on the US. Kennedy is, perhaps, the most admired post-Second World War American president because of what he inspired in the American people. What made Kennedy memorable to so many

was the way he challenged the American people to rise above petty differences and be a better version of themselves. JFK promoted an ambitious vision for a 1960s where the United States could improve the economic life of more of the population, promote civil rights, have a positive influence on the world with the Peace Corps, and put a man on the moon. Most of all, JFK's more important legacy should be that he inspired confidence in Americans to tackle a world where dramatic, often unsettling, changes were taking place.

The ambition set forth in Kennedy's inauguration on January 20, 1961 to embrace a challenging world contrasts the United States' current political climate. We have a crisis of leadership and a waning confidence in the universal institutions of our society. President Trump exemplifies this crisis through his incompetence and irresponsible governing of the United States.

The United States is the most divided it has been in a generation and Trump is a product of that division. Many Americans dream of returning to a past utopia that never existed with the inspiration of Trump's "Make America Great Again" slogan, and this fantasy is undermined by his failure to lead maturely and competently in the White House.

The most productive way to remember Kennedy's legacy would be to embrace the bold ideals he challenged America with in the 1960s and to apply bravery, intelligence, and science to the global challenges our nation grapples with today. Instead of promoting drama and expecting praise for releasing Kennedy documents, Trump could best preserve Kennedy's legacy by challenging the American people to stand up to important issues such as climate change, healthcare, education, economic reforms, race relations, and other controversial social issues.



**Football** continued from pg. 8

enough as Tom Garlick had a 12 yard touchdown run to put the bow on a day that included 180 yards passing and 30 yards rushing with a pair of touchdowns for the quarterback.

The Bears were able to outlast McDaniel College the next week on Oct. 28 at Patterson Field, winning with a score of 28-21.

It was a tale of two halves as the first half of the game was a high octane shootout, followed by a second half that saw just seven points scored in total.

The Green Terror got on the board first as they completed a three yard touchdown pass to Bamasa Bailor and went up 7-0 after the extra point conversion.

Ursinus capitalized after putting themselves in a good field position, starting the drive at their own 45-yard-line. A few chain-moving runs by running backs Stacey Gardner and Sam Ragland got the Bears to McDaniel's 26-yard-line. An eight yard pass to junior wide receiver Jake Clifford followed by an essential three yard run on 3rd and 2nd by Garlick gave the Bears another first down, while Ragland got off another big rush with a 15 yard touchdown run to even the score at 7-7 with 2:23 to go in the first quarter.

Early in the second quarter, the Bears saw another big break as senior defensive back Heath Hidlay intercepted the ball and ran it all the way back for a 19 yard "pick-6" touchdown to give the Bears a 14-7 lead. Hidlay completed the huge performance with two interceptions and six total tackles.

Ursinus was not done, though, as Gardner would go on to score a pair of touchdowns in the second quarter, his seventh and eighth touchdowns of the season. The first, an impressive 11 yard rush with 8:52 remaining in the quarter, the next, a dynamic 48 yard score with 5:32 remaining in the quarter to put

the Bears up 28-7.

McDaniel would get the ball back and score again after a fumble by Ursinus' Garlick. A 17 yard touchdown reception by Matt Schleifer with just over one minute remaining in the first half of action brought the game within two scores, 28-14.

No scoring took place in the third quarter due to a missed field goal attempt and a turnover on downs by the Bears. This trend continued into the fourth quarter until Bamasa Bailor caught his second touchdown of the day for 12 yards to tighten the score at 28-21, which would remain the score for the last 7:44 of play.

McDaniel quarterback Will Koester finished the afternoon with 215 yards and three touchdowns while running back Matt Cathey led the Green Terror with 57 rushing yards and Bailor led the team with 96 yards on nine catches with two touchdown receptions.

For Ursinus, Garlick ended with 158 yards passing while running for 14 yards. Gardner led the Bears' rushing attack with 118 yards and a pair of touchdowns, while senior wide receiver Shawn Hackett led the squad with 66 yards receiving on five catches, including his longest catch of the season, of 31 yards.

The Bears fell to 6-3 on the season when Franklin and Marshall College (8-1) came to Patterson Field and spoiled Ursinus' senior day.

Ursinus scored first when Sam Ragland ran in a nine yard touchdown to cap off a sixty yard drive a minute and a half into the contest.

It looked like the Bears would be able to build upon this lead until Ben Okun intercepted a pass by Garlick and ran it all the way back for a 55 yard touchdown to tie the game, 7-7.

The Diplomats took the lead early in the second quarter on a two yard touchdown rush by Taalib Gerald to put them up 14-7. They soon built upon that lead when Dillon Al-

derfer caught a 43 yard touchdown pass to cap off a 95 yard drive and put the Diplomats up 21-7.

Ursinus scored once more when a catch by Jonathan Gerhart brought the ball to the three-yard-line. Two plays later Garlick dove past the pylon to make it a one-score game again, 21-14, with just under two minutes remaining in the first half.

In the second half of the action, the Bears ultimately were not able to overcome the leg injuries of running back Stacey Gardner and wide receiver Jake Clifford.

Franklin and Marshall added to their lead when Gerald punched in another touchdown on the goal line with 8:26 to go in the third quarter.

Ursinus responded with a 70 yard drive of their own, capitalized by a 30 yard acrobatic touchdown grab by senior wide receiver Carmen Fortino, his fourth touchdown of the season. The catch over two F&M defenders brought Ursinus back within one score again, 28-21.

The Diplomats added seven more points when Alderfer caught his second touchdown of the afternoon to open the fourth quarter.

Hope was not lost for the Bears as they stormed down the field, but an 89-yard "pick-6" interception return off a Garlick pass attempt caught by Franklin and Marshall's Vincent Speranza all but clinched the game for the Diplomats, 42-21.

One more touchdown reception by Sam Ragland for twenty-four yards was not enough as the game concluded with a score of 42-28.

A stellar performance by Garlick was for naught. He led the team with 43 rushing yards and 398 passing yards. He threw a pair of touchdowns and ran one himself, but the three interceptions provided the biggest differences in the contest.

The Bears will play their final regular season game on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 1p.m. as they look to complete their historic season at Dickinson College.

## Senior athletes share memories as fall sports seasons wind to a close

**Julian Spain**  
juspain@ursinus.edu

November is typically a sad time for senior Ursinus athletes. It means most of the fall sports' seasons are ending or have already ended.

For seniors, this means that their time as Ursinus athletes is coming to an end. They go to their last practices, play their last games, and celebrate or mourn the final results for the very last time. But even though things may be coming to an end for them, they still have all the memories they have made in the past few years: memories they will look back on and cherish for years to come.

For many athletes, these memories are what made the sports worth playing in the first place; even though things are coming to an end, these memories leave student athletes without regret, making every long practice or game loss worthwhile. Some senior students were particularly happy to share some of the treasured memories they'd made as Ursinus athletes.

Senior midfielder for the women's soccer team Danielle Kuller said, "[My favorite memories as an Ursinus soccer player include] beating Gettysburg in [penalty kicks] my sophomore year in the playoffs and our Halloween practice this year where we all dressed up for practice and had a three-on-three tournament. Having a chance to play with my eight best friends for the past four

years and [having us all finish] out our soccer careers together will always be memorable."

Senior cornerback Joe Schmid said, "[I will always remember] catching my first [interception] in the intra-squad scrimmage my sophomore year. The camaraderie and the relationships I made are irreplaceable. I couldn't have asked for a better four years with the group of guys I came in with. Not only did football give me memories but it has taught me an abundance of life lessons. As I got older I appreciated the game more."

*"I couldn't have asked for a better four years with the group of guys I came in with."*

— Joe Schmid  
Cornerback  
Ursinus College Football

For these athletes, sports are more than a hobby: They are a huge part of their college experience. In some ways, the sports these athletes partake in are an extension of the things they do in the classroom. Sports teach students valuable lessons--ones of discipline, competitiveness, and others that help to lead to success later in life. These seniors have gained many things through their athletic careers, including their titles as college athletes, valuable life lessons, and life-long memories. Ursinus' sports teams will be sorry to lose such dedicated Bears.

### Scores as of Monday, November 6, 2017

Football (6-3)	Volleyball (7-18)	Field Hockey (10-8)	M. Soccer (2-13-1)	W. Soccer (3-10-3)	M. Swimming (3-0)	W. Swimming (3-0)
November 4: Franklin and Marshall Coll: 42 Ursinus: 28	October 25: Washington Coll: 3 Ursinus: 0  October 27: McDaniel Coll: 3 Ursinus: 0  October 28: Ursinus: 3 Bryn Mawr Coll: 0	October 28: Ursinus: 1 #13 Franklin and Marshall Coll: 3	October 28: Ursinus: 1 Gettysburg Coll: 2	October 25 (2OT): Ursinus: 1 Washington Coll: 0  October 28 (2OT): Ursinus: 1 Bryn Mawr Coll: 1	November 4: Ursinus: 109 York Coll: 93  St. Mary's Coll: 43 Ursinus: 158	November 4: Ursinus: 115 York Coll: 87  St. Mary's Coll: 41 Ursinus: 160



Photo courtesy of Athletic Communications

Ursinus finished the 2017 season with a 4-1 record at Patterson Field. They have scored an average of 27.2 points per contest while letting up an average of just 23.1 points.

# Football drops three of last four games

*6-3 Bears look to rebound in final game of the season this Saturday versus Dickinson College Red Devils*

**David Mendelsohn**  
damendelsohn@ursinus.edu

The Ursinus College football team started the season off with a historic 5-0 record, including the defeat of seven-time reigning Centennial Conference champion Johns Hopkins University.

Since the historic victory over the Blue Jays, the Bears have lost three of their last four games as the season winds down.

The first loss of the season occurred on Oct. 7 against Muhlen-

berg College, with the score of 21-14. Both the Bears and the Mules turned the ball over twice, but Muhlenberg ran the ball for 214 yards compared to the Bears' 132.

A late drive down the field had Ursinus threatening to tie it up in the closing moments of the game, but a late heave from the 34-yard-line by sophomore quarterback Tom Garkick was intercepted by Muhlenberg's Joseph O'Hagan to clinch the game and end the Bears' undefeated season.

The next setback came against

Susquehanna University on Oct. 21, when the River Hawks edged out the Bears by just seven points, 21-14.

The Bears out-passed their opponent as Susquehanna threw for just 163 yards compared to 180 by Ursinus, but rushing defense was again an issue for the Bears as they gave up 209 yards on the ground while countering with just 92 of their own.

With just under six minutes left in the second quarter, the game looked to be a low-scoring affair

until Susquehanna's senior running back Cameron Ott had an 11 yard touchdown run to give the River Hawks a seven point lead after the extra-point conversion by kicker Connor Lustenberger, a lead that would not be relinquished.

Ott wasn't done as he punched in a one yard touchdown early in the second half to conclude a 78 yard drive. Ott finished the day with 175 rushing yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Ursinus did not give up, however, as they began the comeback

attempt. With just under seven and a half minutes remaining, first year running back Sam Ragland had a 24 yard touchdown reception to bring the Bears within a touchdown, concluding a 74 yard drive.

A good return by Susquehanna started their next drive at their own 43-yard-line and they capitalized, completing the 57 yard drive with a one yard rush from Nick Crusco to put Susquehanna ahead 21-7.

One last late score wasn't

See **Football** on pg. 7

## Upcoming Games

Friday	Saturday	Sat. Cont.	Sat. Cont	Sat. Cont.	Sunday	Wednesday
 <p>Wrestling: 9:30a.m.: Fall Brawl</p>	<p>M&amp;W Cross Country: NCAA Midwest Regional (@Big Spring HS- Newville, Pa.)</p>	<p>M&amp;W Swimming: 1p.m.: @McDaniel Coll.</p>	<p>Football: 1p.m.: @Dickinson Coll.</p>	 <p>Women's Basketball: 6p.m.: @Alvernia Coll.</p>		