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## The Grizzly, November 10, 2016

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Photo courtesy of Ursinus Communications

From left: Jill Marsteller, April Edwards, Nina Stryker, President Blomberg, Dr. Will Del Pilar, and Ryan Costello get first dig at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Innovation and Discovery Center.

# Innovation and Discovery Center breaks new ground

*Ursinus' versatile new addition expected to be completed by fall 2018.*

*While it's centered on sciences, students can expect a lot more.*

**Brian Thomas**  
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Over homecoming weekend, Ursinus officially broke ground for the new Innovation and Discovery Center (IDC). The center will connect Pfahler and Thomas Halls and provide space for adaptive classrooms and student collaboration. It is expected to be fully functional by fall 2018. Renderings are available online and students can see virtual tours on the TVs throughout campus.

Despite this, students may not know fully what to expect. The IDC is a science building, but it's also more. It'll provide more classrooms and labs, but its design emphasizes free, open space. It's academics-centered, but it'll also house the Parlee Center for

Science and the Common Good and the U-Imagine Center.

"I see this as pushing the bounds of academic innovation, and it's doing it in a very Ursinus way," said President Brock Blomberg in an interview.

*"I see this as pushing the bounds of academic innovation, and it's doing it in a very Ursinus way."*

— Brock Blomberg  
Ursinus President

Blomberg said that the IDC is unique because it will house public affairs, science, and entrepreneurship and innovation all under one roof. At most schools, on the other hand, buildings tend to only focus on one area.

The real excitement of the IDC, according to Blomberg, is going to be its versatility. The classrooms, labs, and spaces are all designed for adaptability. The components can easily be moved, and the spaces will work for a variety of different activities. Additionally, students and professors in the future can alter the spaces so that they incorporate the most up-to-date technology and innovations.

"I sure hope [that it's used differently as technology advances], because we're not in a static world, we're in a dynamic world, and the mistake you can make sometimes is not being thoughtful about that," said Blomberg. He hopes that the adaptability of the

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## Ursinus picks new dean/VPAA after months-long search

*Mark Schneider, professor and assistant dean at Grinnell College, to take over as dean/VPAA*

**Sophie Worthington-Kirsch**  
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Ursinus College has hired Mark Schneider of Grinnell College as its new vice president of academic affairs. Schneider's hiring was announced to campus last Wednesday morning. This announcement came after a months-long search that started at the end of the spring semester. Terry Winegar, the previous VPAA, left the position last year, and April Edwards has filled the role in the interim.

According to Ursinus College Student Government President Robert Rein, the VPAA and dean is "the chief academic officer and helps manage the registrar, academia, and is heavily involved in faculty representation and development. This position is also a part of President Blomberg's cabinet, reports directly to President Blomberg and is integrated into the Board of Trustees to inform the Board of any academic changes and directions the College wishes to go."

In order to fill this very important position, the search committee was made up of people from every aspect of Ursinus: President Blomberg, Carol Haas, a 70' alumna and board of trustees member, Professor Reig from chemistry, Professor Scudera from drama, Professor Goodman from media and communication studies, Dean McKinney, and Rein.

Reig vocalized what the search committee was looking for in the new dean.

"We were looking for someone who was an advocate for the liberal arts, a strong advocate for the faculty, but also a collabora-

tive leader in the administration, and someone committed to diversity among faculty, students, and staff, and someone with innovative practices in undergraduate education."

Rein added, "In general, we were looking for someone who we believed could integrate themselves into the Ursinus community and reflected our college's mission. Furthermore, we wanted a person who was devoted to the liberal arts and exemplified Ursinus' values."

Schneider, the new VPAA, has multiple degrees in physics, including a Ph.D. from Princeton University. In his most recent position as a professor and associate dean at Grinnell College in Iowa, Schneider taught courses ranging from General Physics to Advanced Quantum Theory. In the past he has shown a clear talent for leadership roles.

Reig stated that he "served in several administrative roles at Grinnell [which] included being the elected chair of the faculty, which speaks to his leadership."

He also spearheaded the Grinnell Science Project, which speaks to his commitment to diversity.

Reig continued, "[it] was a huge diversity initiative for students in the sciences and it's really built on a foundation of if you find ways to help all students, you will also find ways to serve underserved students. So it's not just about having programming for underserved students, but about recognizing that everyone has challenges at college. It recognizes the extra challenges of un-

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space can help students prepare for jobs in the future that may not even exist yet.

“That’s the idea, that you want it to be very open-sourced, as much as a building can, so that it can adapt and evolve in the way that thoughts do,” said Blomberg.

This is especially attractive to Brendan Cherrey, a first-year student who said he’ll likely major in biology and chemistry. He hopes to work in the medical or pharmaceutical fields, and although he didn’t know about the IDC until he saw the tours on the Wismer TVs, he thinks it’ll give him a lot of opportunities to learn outside of the classroom.

“I think this is a great opportunity to, while you’re at college, express all of the ideas you have now,” said Cherrey. “Because the ideas you have in class, you will probably forget by the time you graduate. So the opportunity to just express them, test them, see if they’re plausible...it’s a really cool idea.”

Cherrey’s class will be one of the first to get to use the IDC when it is functional in fall 2018.

According to Blomberg, everything is moving according to the planned timeline. The school is searching for construction companies, and students will likely see the beginnings of construction next semester. Blomberg said that the school is aiming to minimize disruption to student life by concentrating the most intense work in the summer months.

Still, some students have expressed frustration with the IDC. Junior Kayla O’Mahoney thinks that there are other areas at Ursinus that could use the resources.

“It is hard to support the building of a third science based building when there should be more important things on the radar of the school in terms of financial investments,” said O’Mahoney, citing specifically the cleaning

staff, the arts, and Ritter. She may have a point. Ritter is an old, hard-to-navigate building that houses a number of majors like media and communications.

When we asked Blomberg about this, he said that he agrees but that it is important to not think about the IDC as the final initiative that Ursinus will take. He also pointed out that Ursinus recently invested in the arts with the Berman Museum and the Kaleidoscope.

“This is not a plan about how to build up science or other disciplines in the IDC,” said Blomberg. “It is a piece of a puzzle in a larger mosaic that [had] already started years ago when we built up the humanities.”

Still, the IDC will cost \$29 million according to the fact sheet on Ursinus’ website, and it is a significant investment for the school.

The school recently launched the Keep the Promise Campaign, a comprehensive fundraising initiative that has already raised about half of its \$100 million goal. According to Blomberg, helping to fund the IDC is part of the campaign, but Keep the Promise is about much more, like providing scholarships to students who need financial aid and increasing programming.

Blomberg said that he welcomes participation by the community in the overall plan for what Ursinus should prioritize going forward.

He will be hosting a town hall meeting Wednesday, Nov. 9 at noon in Bomberger Auditorium with college leadership that will allow for a dialogue about the college’s priorities going forward. Students who want to learn more about the college’s plans for the future and register their own thoughts with leadership are encouraged to attend.



Photo courtesy of Anupy Singla

Anupy Singla, alumna, author and entrepreneur will speak at U-Imagine symposium of Nov. 11

# Q&A with Anupy Singla

*Grizzly speaks with author and entrepreneur, Anupy Singla*

**Tom Armstrong**

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Anupy Singla is an author, entrepreneur, and Ursinus alumna. On Friday, Nov. 11, 7-8:30 p.m., she will speak at a symposium, “She Works Hard for the Money!: Enterprising, Entrepreneurial and Empowered Women Tell Their Stories,” hosted by the U-Imagine center for entrepreneurial studies.

After the event students will

be able to purchase Singla’s latest book, “Indian for Everyone: The Home Cook’s Guide to Traditional Favorites,” which she will be signing. Students will then be invited to stick around afterward for a coffee and dessert reception.

Since 90 minutes hardly seems sufficient to tell Singla’s story in honest depth, we spoke to her about her life and work. This interview serves as an addendum, a report, and as Singla might put it,

a story.

**Can you tell us about when you first developed an interest in self-starting your life?**

I was the morning reporter for a television station in Chicago. And, while I loved the work, I was finding it very tough to balance my life, especially with a

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derserved students. This shows a lifetime commitment [by Schneider] to promoting diversity.”

Rein said, “Mark is a friendly, intellectual individual who I believe is going to find great success here at Ursinus. From the few interactions I have had with him, I can confidently say that he is a very warm presence that I know will be committed to the entirety of the college. . . Mark’s experiences will be an invaluable asset as he starts his new position this summer and I’m excited for what he is going to bring to Ursinus.”

Schneider will take over the position at the beginning of the summer, after this academic year.



Photo courtesy of Ursinus Communications  
New Ursinus dean/VPAA Mark Schneider. He’ll start at UC after next semester.

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husband who traveled for a living and with two young girls at home. I realized the only way to make things work and not lose my sanity was to have more control over my work life. I wasn’t sure at the time if that meant starting a freelance writing career or writing cookbooks for a living. But the idea to write cookbooks and build a business around it seems to be working.

**What did you get out of Ursinus?**

I loved the political science program at Ursinus - with teachers like Dr. Hood, who taught classes that tapped into my love of international studies and writing. I discovered my inner writer in my years at Ursinus.

**Are there any significant changes to Ursinus you see today versus the time you went here (culturally, in terms of curriculum, etc.)?**

The campus is more global in outlook and outreach, which is so important. I also appreciate the continued attempt to reach students with diverse backgrounds, whether that is ethnic or geographical. I think college is a time to be introduced to many ideas and different kinds of people so that you can experience more of

the real world.

**From your work in media, business, and publishing, it’s evident you’re a talented performer, writer, and entrepreneur. What takes precedence?**

First and foremost, I am a storyteller. I love capturing interest, audiences, and customers with my story. It reinforces my strong belief that no matter our differences, we all love hearing not only a good story, but the story behind the story.

**How and when did you decide storytelling would be a priority in what you do?**

I have always been a storyteller, and interested in hearing everyone’s stories. I still remember my grandfather visiting from his village in India describing his love of food and how to make his favorite dishes. When I write my recipes now, I find that they are not complete until I include the background, history, and story behind it.

**Are there any other projects you’re pursuing, planning to pursue, or wanting to pursue in the future?**

I am in negotiations to launch one of the first Indian travel and cooking shows on public television. I’ve been working with WTTW in Chicago and expect

that it will be a national show. Currently, my team and I are raising the money needed to produce seven episodes for the first season.

**How do you want to affect listeners at your symposium?**

I want to motivate those who come to block out the daily noise and hone in on what they truly want to do. And then know they can make it happen. But that it only happens with hard work, perseverance, and a tiny bit of luck. Very few successful people will tell you they made it sitting back and letting others do the work for them. Plan to roll up your sleeves and tell yourself no job is too small or too great. When you are the boss, you do it all.

**Has a change in career affected the ratio of what happiness you get from leisure and what you get out of work?**

My happiness level skyrocketed when I started working for myself. Largely, because I can make my own schedule and be there for my young girls on a daily basis. It’s made a huge difference for them to have me home and involved in their school lives.



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## International Perspective

### *Chinese teaching assistant embraces the freedom to be herself in the U.S.*

Kai Jin  
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Several days ago, my sister sent me a newly-shot video made by one of her friends who is studying in the United States. In the video, a street performer was passionately playing his electric guitar. Apparently attracted by the music, a passerby strode in front of the performer and began to head bang with the beat, making guitar gestures at the same time, as if he were accompanying the latter. My sister commented that it was a little bit awkward and weird.

She has studied in Turkey for several months and Canada for half a year, yet with that international background, she still cannot embrace other people’s enthusiasm. I said to her that in the United States, it would be awkward if you didn’t dance to the music. Then she asked me, “Would you do the same things as Americans in order to not be considered a weirdo?”

I admitted I would rather be thought as a weirdo than dance in public. She replied, “If you really do not mind being called a weirdo, why did you stop using your umbrella to block sunlight in America?” I was like, “Well, yeah... that’s a good question.”

It was a hot summer when I first came to the United States. I went out to the grocery store, holding my umbrella to screen sunshine as many women do in China. It is quite common in my country to see people carrying umbrellas on a hot summer day to provide shade, keep their body cool and block direct sunlight that may damage the skin. Some even use umbrellas when they are riding their bicycles or scooters although it’s dangerous. But when I walked around using my umbrella in the United States, I found I was the only one to do so and sometimes I would get curious stares. So I decided that when in Rome, do as the Romans do, though that meant I had to endure the scorching heat in summer and get naturally suntanned skin.

But the umbrella is no longer a dilemma for me now, not because fall has arrived and driven away summer heat, but because I am no longer afraid to carry my umbrella in the sun and be looked at

as a weirdo.

My experience in the past few months has demonstrated how people are constantly pursuing freedom in the U.S. When they are happy and enthusiastic, they show it, naturally, whether it is dancing to the music or standing to applaud the wonderful performances at the end of plays. They are brave enough to be themselves, wear whatever they want and choose whatever classes they are interested in. I think it is a good thing, as long as it does not hurt anyone.

This freedom is also embodied in the classroom. Students feel comfortable asking questions and airing their views in seminar classes. In this free atmosphere, the equal relationship between teacher and students promotes communication and benefits both sides a lot. I have talked with some senior students who are learning Chinese and found that each and every one of them has his or her own life direction. Some want to do business in China; student wants to be a psychologist said she learns Chinese in order to understand Chinese patients better and thus provide them with better help; another student has been dreaming of becoming a doctor since she was very little. They all love learning and love life.

This freedom is also one of the goals of Taoism, a classical Chinese philosophical system founded by philosopher Zhuangzi around the sixth century B.C. The difference lies in that the American freedom tries to break the outside constraints for individuals, while the freedom advocated by Taoism emphasizes an individual’s inner or psychological improvement to be in harmony with the outer environment. Yet both of them have the same goal: to make individuals truly be themselves and find happiness and their own meanings in life. I have to say that in the free and tolerant environment in America, it is easier to practice Taoism’s psychological adjustment. Next summer, I will not hesitate to carry my umbrella. You are welcome to join me.

*Kai Jin is from China and she is now a Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant at Ursinus College. She is interested in education, especially language teaching.*





Photo courtesy of Amelia Goldstein

The exterior of the U-Imagine Center, located on Main Street. This weekend, the center will host a symposium featuring several successful women entrepreneurs, including many UC alumni.

## Women entrepreneurs share stories of success

*This weekend's symposium, hosted by the U-Imagine Center, will offer students the opportunity to interact with women of various fields*

**Emily Jolly**

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According to Dr. Rebecca Jaroff, the U-Imagine Center at Ursinus has a saying: "You don't know what you don't know."

Dr. Jaroff of the English department and Dr. Carol Cirka of the business and economics department, co-founders and co-directors of the U-Imagine Center for integrative and entrepreneurial studies, have been working closely with Maureen Cumpstone, the college's Entrepreneur-in-Residence, to organize a unique kind of symposium so Ursinus students can branch out into what they don't know.

Titled "She Works Hard for the Money: Enterprising, Entrepreneurial, and Empowered Women Tell Their Stories," the symposium will feature a wide variety of women entrepreneurs and their stories of success.

The featured women include

alumni and other community members, and represent a range of interests: There's something for every student.

The symposium is part of the U-Inspire series, which Jaroff describes as a program that both brings people to campus for students to meet and takes students off-campus for experiences with alumni.

*"They are making a difference, which is what a liberal arts education can do for you."*

— Dr. Rebecca Jaroff  
U-Imagine Center

"Students come to Ursinus, they're 18 years old, they want to get a liberal arts education, they're busy in their classes and their clubs, they're taking their exams, and they won't have a lot of time left over for thinking

about what's out there in the real world," Jaroff said.

The U-Inspire series is there to help the students do that thinking they don't have time for and, according to Jaroff, is "meant to be a kind of bridge for students . . . to get out there and maybe meet some people [and] learn how to do networking, [all] in a safe way because it's other Ursinus alums."

In the past, the U-Imagine Center has held two other symposiums: one last fall that was geared toward athletics and another last spring for performing arts. Jaroff described both as a success. Students who attended asked for more events in the future, and the center was happy to oblige.

"This is a little more ambitious this fall because we wanted to make it broader," Jaroff said. "We did focus it on women, but these women come from all walks of

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## U-Speak talk to explore under-represented voices

*Dean Terrence Williams will lead a discussion on the concept of the "Invisible Other"*

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Non-black people of color are frequently left out of conversations on race in America. Ursinus' assistant dean of students Terrence Williams is trying to counteract this.

Williams is making this issue the focus of one of his talks in the U-Speak series. The talk is titled "The Invisible Other: The Silencing of non-European-American/non-African-Americans in America's Culture Clash" and will take place on Nov. 10 at 6 p.m. in Unity House.

The issue of 'invisible others' is something that is starting to get attention in national media. The CNN article, "Race and racism in the 2016 campaign," discussed how Donald Trump is working to "enhance his image among minority voters, particularly African-Americans and Latinos." The article went on to mention that Trump polls in the single digits among black voters.

The article "Moving Beyond Bubble Tea" on usnews.com found that 69 percent of Asian American voters reported that no one contacted them during the 2012 election.

These articles show that Native Americans, Asian Americans, Middle Eastern Americans, and other racial groups are frequently absent from discourses on race in this country.

The U-Speak series was started by Williams this year as a way to discuss issues of diversity and inclusion on the Ursinus campus. He currently facilitates all of the U-Speak talks, but is hoping to include other presenters in the future once the series gains momentum.

His decision to include the Invisible Other in his series was inspired by a desire to start a con-

versation about people he has seen being excluded from everyday discourses on race.

According to Williams, the idea is something that is prevalent but doesn't have a fully established vocabulary.

"The Invisible Other is not really a concept that I know of. I don't think that language is used, so it's something that I believe I invented," said Williams. "It comes from a weird place, but in correctional facilities there's a lot of racial tension."

*"When we're talking about inclusion we're talking about everyone."*

— Terrence Williams  
Assistant dean of students

"You have the black side of the house and the white side of the house and then basically everybody else is their own group. They are literally called the 'others,'" Williams elaborated. "So I was thinking in real life of the 'others.' How if you turn on the news, if it's an incident that involves race—racial injustice, racial inclusion, racial exclusion—it's almost 99% chance of it being addressing a person of African descent with regard to a person of European descent."

Williams explained how these broader social issues apply to campus life.

"When we're talking about inclusion we're talking about everyone. I wanted to, in the U-Speak series, give space and make space for that conversation," he said. "When we talk about having a campus conversation about race I bet we're not thinking about

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**Entrepreneurs**  
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life.”

The first event will take place Friday afternoon, Nov. 11, with Christy Barilotti '01 giving a workshop on “Getting Dressed for Retirement.” While this first event is geared towards faculty and staff, Cumpstone assures students that everyone is welcome, for there will be information on financial skills.

Friday at 7 p.m. the keynote speaker Anupy Singla '90 will give a talk in Bomberger Auditorium in an open community event. Among many things, Singla is a journalist, cookbook author, and entrepreneur.

“As a woman of color, she has a particular story to tell: what it was like being a woman of color growing up in white suburbia and

King of Prussia, and what it was like for her here at Ursinus, and how her Ursinus education in particular helped her to make changes in her life that she couldn't have anticipated,” said Jaroff.

“We thought that she would be inspiring to a wide group of people both inside and outside the community—students, faculty and staff and local community members,” Cumpstone added.

*“It's geared towards students and inspiring students.”*

— Maureen Cumpstone  
Entrepreneur-in-Residence

On Saturday at noon, a student-only event featuring a lunch and panel discussion with eight women entrepreneurs, several of

whom are Ursinus graduates, will take place.

Emilia Andrews, Lucy Beard, Kelly Becker, Dawn Chavous, Susan Winders Griste, Heather Holiday, Leigh Woolston Karsch, and Erica Schnebel are the featured guests. More information on their accomplishments and experiences can be found on the U-Imagine website.

This symposium has been half a year in the making—the idea forming in mid-May and stretching out over the summer, according to Cumpstone—with the process of gathering alumni and others who would be interested in sharing their experiences and could spark interest in everyone.

“It is geared towards students and inspiring students. So it's with alumni and other entrepreneurs who are willing to sit down in intimate round tables with our students and share their stories,

answer questions, and just have conversations to help inspire [them],” Cumpstone explained.

According to Cumpstone, the lunch will start with opening remarks from Kelly Becker. Students will then be provided information on each of the panelists so that they can decide who they will be most interested in speaking with and then they will rotate through the speakers' individual tables.

“Some of them have their own business and are typical, traditional entrepreneurs,” explained Jaroff. “But many of them are what we call ‘intrapreneurs,’ which means that within the [companies or organizations] that they work for, they are affecting change.”

“They are making a difference, which is what liberal arts education can do for you,” Jaroff said.

Cumpstone emphasized the

importance of this symposium with a quotation from Blake Mycoskie, the founder of TOMS shoes: “Every path is easier to follow when you see someone else's footprints already on it.”

Jaroff considers the lunch “a chance for students to see themselves in what other people are doing and say ‘I could see myself doing that.’”

While it is optional to register for all of the events ahead of time, students must register for the lunch in advance if they wish to attend. Links to registration can be found on the U-Imagine Center's webpage and in emails to students.



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**U-Speak** continued from pg. 4

what it's like to be Filipino on this campus.”

He noted that this conversation has been continually absent from politics as well.

“We're not talking about the Asian vote,” said Williams. “Have you heard either candidate talk about their plans for the Asian community? It's white, black, and emerging Hispanic. How many ‘others’ are there in this country? How many ‘others’ are we not even talking about? It's a fallacy if everyone doesn't have a stake in it.”

Williams has been consciously attempting to send a message of inclusion as he prepares for this talk. He explained that he intentionally scheduled it in the middle of the series so that it didn't seem like a “footnote.”

Each talk in the series follows a slightly different format depending on the subject matter. For

this talk Williams said, “I think I'm going to give more background than I usually do. So this one will feel more informational because it is a new concept. After that, depending on whether people are there to find out what it is or if people are there because they feel like the Other, there could be different directions where the conversation could go.”

According to Williams, “We're flexible in Unity House and in the office of Diversity and Inclusion. We're trying to meet the needs of the people. If it can be a place to bring voice for the voiceless or if it can be a place to shed light on that, then I'm just going to get out of the way and let that be the content.”

All students are encouraged to attend the talk. It will provide diverse perspectives that focus on issues that impact not only the Ursinus community, but broader national discourses on race in America.



Photo courtesy of Henry Gustafson

Unity House serves as a resource for students to discuss issues involving diversity and inclusion on campus. Dean Terrence Williams will give his latest talk in the U-Speak series there Nov. 10 at 6 p.m.

**Happening on Campus**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
U-Speak Series: The Invisible Other 7 p.m. Unity House	UC Poetry Slam 7 p.m. Lower Wismer	She Works Hard for the Money Women and Entrepreneurship symposium All Day Berman Museum	Student Showcase Recital 4 p.m. Bomberger Auditorium		Virtual Career Fair for People with Disabilities All Day Online	Is the United States a Civilized Nation? 4:30 p.m. Bear's Den

# Offensive costumes are micro-aggressions

Leighnah Perkins  
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The day before the ever notorious Halloweekend, Jordan Toy from Residence Life sent out an email detailing some safety tips for the weekend. One tip stated, “Think about how your costume is viewed by others and avoid wearing anything that is offensive. Avoid costumes that perpetuate stereotypes.”

Although I was really pleased to see multiple emails (one from Jordan Toy and one from student president Rob Rein) about choosing an appropriate costume, in addition to flyers posted on the doors of residence halls, it didn’t stop some people from wearing culturally insensitive costumes. I saw someone donning a Mexican poncho and others dressed in colors and clothes affiliated with the Bloods and Crips.

Wearing costumes based on stereotypes about real groups of people is not only inappropriate,

but also disrespectful and serves as a gateway to bigger problems on our campus. This issue goes beyond typically mentioned cultural appropriation, or taking aspects of a culture for your own use.

As any UC Bear knows, partying is a huge part of social life on campus. Just about any other college is the same way, so this is not just an Ursinus problem.

However, our party culture says a lot about our culture as a school and that is where the issue with problematic themes and costumes lies. Party culture can quickly turn into a disrespectful display of privilege with inappropriate choices of theme or costumes for parties.

The costumes or themed parties can in turn, spread or reinforce our negative stereotypes of people in our student body. These choices can make some people feel unsafe on one end of the spectrum or make some feel they can continue this behavior in everyday life.

Past parties on campus like “Thuggin and Chuggin” and fiesta

themes around Cinco de Mayo are just offensive. There’s nothing clever or funny about these kinds of themed parties.

As junior Alex Nigro ever so eloquently summed it up, “[Throwing parties like that] makes you look uneducated.”

Considering the price of our tuition and how hard we work as a student body, we should be able to put more thought into our costume and party ideas. What kind of message would continuing these practices show our surrounding community?

In no way am I trying to be a buzzkill or suggest there shouldn’t be themed parties, but out of all the themes and costumes out there why does anyone end up choosing ones that are offensive? A simple Google search of theme party ideas produces millions of results.

Really, it’s not difficult to choose a non-offensive theme or costume with all of the options out there. I saw multiple costumes Saturday night that were inventive

and fun, including people dressed as Harry Potter characters, aliens, or even Waldo. Creative costumes are way more memorable and unique.

By believing it’s okay to mock other cultures and marginalized groups of people through costumes and themed parties, people are spreading the message across campus that other cultures are only valued as entertainment and not as actual people with their own sets of experiences and feelings.

The issue of dressing up in culturally insensitive ways spreads to other places on campus and reflects a real problem at Ursinus regarding micro-aggressions.

An American Psychological Association journal article titled “Unmasking Racial Micro-Aggressions” by health journalist Tori DeAngelis relays a story of racial bias experienced by Columbia University psychologist Derald Wing Sue and a colleague. In the article, Sue defines micro-aggressions as the “everyday in-

sults, indignities and demeaning messages sent to people of color by well-intentioned . . . people who are unaware of the hidden messages being sent to them.”

The idea of offensive parties and costumes is just the tip of the iceberg of micro-aggressions here at Ursinus. Although these costumes and party themes seem like innocent fun and harmless to some, they spread messages whether they’re meant to or not. These messages say to members of marginalized groups that it’s not only okay for stereotypes to be perpetuated but that it’s fun to do so. It turns people’s existences into nothing but a punchline.

So, the next time anyone thinks about planning an offensive party or pulling out a costume that you have to think twice about, save yourself the trouble. Just don’t do it. Instead, I suggest browsing Pinterest for some innovative costumes and party ideas that won’t offend already marginalized groups of people.

# UC needs in-person activism to make progress

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As we all know through emails and social media from the college, Ursinus is in a *huge* transitional phase, as we near our 150th year as an institution. Some may dismiss this transition as merely superficial, especially after seeing physical changes like the redecoration of Wismer or the impending construction of the Innovation and Discovery Center. However, that does not mean that we *should* see it that way.

At the beginning of this semester we experienced social media activism at work when a student discovered and shared problematic tweets from Michael Marcon, the former chair of the board of trustees. I personally saw a conversation develop between other students, alumni, and parents through comments, shares, and the hashtag #NoMoney4Marcon online.

Within the first two weeks of school, we saw this discussion move from online to a campus-wide conversation, which included faculty and staff. All of these

discussions came together in a series of forums.

The progression of events raised questions not only about Marcon, but also the culture and community of the college as a whole. This moment rocked many individuals to their core, especially those wondering if the Ursinus they thought they had known was lost.

Since the resignation of Marcon, much of our conversations about campus issues have moved back to social media. It would seem that this has become the dominant expression of activism for our campus culture. And why shouldn’t it be? If we look at the Marcon case in a vacuum, it’s easy to claim that online activism brought this campus-wide movement across the finish line.

Wael Ghonim, who co-founded the Facebook page, “We are all Khaled Said,” gave a Ted Talk about the need to redesign social media so it can perpetuate movements and create a space for dialogue between users. He related his argument to the Arab Spring, which was a series of uprisings beginning in 2010 against govern-

ments in Tunisia, Egypt, and other countries in the Middle East and Africa.

Ghonim described the growth of a protest event in Egypt: “In just a few days, the invitation reached over a million people . . . Social media was crucial for this campaign. It helped a decentralized movement arise. It made people realize that they were not alone.”

Like the mobilization around Marcon, Ghonim saw impressive momentum and a concrete result. However, these events did not occur in isolation. In fact, I do not think the wave of student interest in Marcon would have been possible without the climate of frustration and dissatisfaction established by earlier campus protests and actions.

Later in his talk, Ghonim reflected on the aftermath of the Arab Spring and the role of social media played. “The euphoria faded, we failed to build consensus, and the political struggle led to intense polarization. Social media only amplified that state by facilitating the spread of misinformation, rumors, echo chambers and hate speech.”

As a senior student, I am worried about where campus activism is going. We saw how effective and quick it was to spread information and garner support from alumni and people outside of our community earlier this semester. And with the turnover rate for activism occurring every four years, this online network is crucial for campus organizations to continue their work despite changes in leadership.

However, this confidence in social media is not enough to get Ursinus to “move forward.”

I know I have been guilty of sharing or retweeting posts about things that need to change at Ursinus and the outside world. Now more than ever we, as students, need to keep hosting forums, discussions, and events to build the momentum of change on campus. With the administration still developing the future of Ursinus, it is a great and exciting time to be students on this campus.

Social media is a great launching pad for new ideas and ways to make change, and as we saw, it can mobilize us around one issue. But it can also reinforce our beliefs

and worldviews based on those we choose to friend or follow.

In a 2016 article for the New York Times, John Herrman assessed the rise of Facebook exclusive news sources, which he argues has shaped the way people consume information and political ideals. He specifically attributes this to the design of Facebook’s newsfeed, which prioritizes information and posts based on what users click on.

Even though Ursinus is a small campus, our website states that we have 1,650 students. That’s 1,650 voices that need to be heard and engaged, but we keep sharing information to the same networks of students with similar values online.

At the forums, I saw students maturely address someone of authority who did not share their experiences and worldview. This skill is imperative at this institution and beyond. If Ursinus is to “move forward” on social and political issues, then the majority of student activism needs to be done in person and on campus spaces, where we are exposed to differing opinions and viewpoints.



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ended at the hands of 10th ranked TCNJ. The Bears then fell to Division II West Chester, the Bears' fourth and final loss of the regular season. The Bears ended the 2016 regular season on a four-game winning streak, highlighted by a 5-2 drubbing of 12th ranked Muhlenberg.

The Bears finished the year with a 9-1 conference record, giving them the No. 1 seed and home field advantage throughout the Centennial Conference tournament.

The Bears began their title defense with a semifinal clash against the Dickinson Red Devils. Down 2-1 earlier on, the Bears roared back to defeat the Red Devils by a score of 5-2. Senior Colleen Leahy, junior Brooke Overly, Kopera, and Steigerwalt scored for the Bears. This set up a rematch with Franklin & Marshall in the conference final.

Steigerwalt got the Bears on the board first, but the Diplomats were fast to react and tied the game three minutes later. It was a defensive struggle the rest of the way between two evenly-matched teams before they entered overtime, where the Bears would prevail. According to the Ursinus athletics web page, this marks the 12th conference title in the last 13 seasons.

"We are just really excited for our four-peat this year and hope to be able to continue to find success this season," said Steigerwalt.

Currently, the Bears are ranked sixth and are looking to win a national title. Last season, the Bears made a final four run, but ultimately fell in the national semifinals.

"We can definitely use our last playoff run as motivation for us to get even further this year," said Steigerwalt. "We were able to find success and make the national semifinal game."

While the Ursinus roster is loaded with talent, Ursinus has specifically benefitted from the

*"We can definitely use our last playoff run as motivation for us to get even further this year."*

— Amber Steigerwalt  
UC Field Hockey Athlete

tremendous plays of Steigerwalt and Torrence, who were both selected to play in the Victory Sports Tours/National Field Hockey Coaches Association Division III Senior Game.

Steigerwalt was a second team all-American last season, a first team all-region honoree, and has been named to the all-conference team on two occasions. Torrence has also received three-time all-conference honors, three-time all-region honors, and is a two-time All-American.

"It is such an honor to further represent this team," said Torrence. "I would not have received any of the honors if it wasn't for my teammates and coaching staff." These two seniors have played a huge role in the Bears' successes over the past four years, and will be key for the Bears as they look to make another deep tournament run.

The Bears return to action in the upcoming NCAA Division III Field Hockey Championships. The date, time, location and opponent have not been announced. The Bears' opponent, whoever it may be, is surely going to have its hands full with this very talented and experienced Ursinus team.



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Ritter 141

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most winningest coach in a single men's sport in Ursinus history. If the team has another successful season, Racich could be the winningest active coach in Division III wrestling.

Currently Racich is fourth on the all-time winningest coaches in Division III—one win behind retired Wilkes University coach John Reese. Racich is chasing the record of 569 wins set by Olivet College coach Jare Klein. Klein retired as head coach in 2001.

However, Racich considers this record as not his personal achievement but as something accomplished by all of his teams.

"Whatever records set are those of the Ursinus College wrestling program, not Bill Racich," he said. "The long history of success we've seen in the wrestling program is a direct result of the hard working, self-motivated student-athletes."

As for his thoughts on the upcoming season, Racich and his coaching staff are feeling confi-

dent in the team moving forward. "Excitement is always in the air and we will focus on keeping a positive attitude each day. Ursinus College wrestling has a nice blend of experienced wrestlers and quite a few new guys we can't wait to turn loose," said Racich.

Racich also commented on the beginning of the season and what he expects from his team.

"The beginning of each year brings a new set of challenges; getting [the team] into a winning routine is critical," said Racich. "I've found that if the beginning is established correctly regarding academics, social life, and training, good things will happen later in the year."

The Bears opened their season this past Saturday, Nov. 5 at the Messiah Invitational, where senior Alex Kramer and first-year James Harkness both placed second in their respective weight classes. Kramer wrestled in the 149 weight class and Harkness competed in the 133 bracket. Their next competition will be the Fall Brawl tournament at home on Nov. 12.



The Ursinus College wrestling team during a practice before the Messiah Invitational on Nov. 5. Photo Courtesy of Amelia Goldstein

## Scores as of Monday, Nov. 7, 2016

Field Hockey (14-4)	Football (1-8)	Wrestling (0-0)	M. Swimming (0-0)	W. Swimming (0-0)	M. Cross County (0-0)	W. Cross Country (0-0)
Nov. 5; Ursinus 5 - Dickinson 2	Nov. 5; Muhlenberg 49 - Ursinus 7	Nov. 5; Ursinus vs. Messiah Invitational	Nov. 5; Ursinus vs. NYU Invitational	Nov. 5; Ursinus vs. NYU Invitational		
Nov. 6; Ursinus 2 - Franklin & Marshall 1 (2OT)	TD(s): Gerhartz (1)	Harkness (133) 2nd Kramer (149) 2nd	401 points	444 points		



Congratulations 2016 Centennial Conference Champions!





Photo Courtesy of Stylish Images /Ursinus Athletics

The 2016 women's field hockey team after defeating Franklin & Marshall on Nov. 6 to clinch the Centennial Conference Championship. This marks the fourth championship in as many years for the women.

# Field Hockey Tops Conference Once Again

2016 marks the fourth year in a row that field hockey has won the Centennial Conference championship. Next up? Nationals.

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For the fourth consecutive season, the Ursinus College field hockey team captured the Centennial Conference field hockey tournament championship. The Bears took down No. 7 Franklin & Marshall in thrilling fashion, besting the Diplomats 2-1 in overtime.

Sophomore Bridget Sherry blasted home a penalty stroke, giving the Bears the crown, and giving them an NCAA Division

III tournament birth.

"Our big team goal was to defend our title as the Centennial Conference Champions, which we were able to do today," said senior standout Amber Steigerwalt. "We wouldn't have been able to accomplish this without taking each game one game at a time."

Led by head coach Janelle Benner and captains Steigerwalt and Annie Kopera, the Bears finished up the regular season with a 14-4 record, which included a few tough, hard-fought losses to some of the top teams in the nation.

The Bears started off the season with a trip to 17th ranked Rowan, where the Bears prevailed 3-0. Coming home, the competition didn't get any easier, as the Bears hosted sixth ranked William Smith, but the Bears were able to pull out a 3-1 home victory. After losing 4-1 against eighth ranked Messiah, the Bears went on a three-game winning streak, before losing to the sixth-ranked Diplomats in 1-0 contest.

The Bears then went on a five-game winning streak, which

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# Wrestling Looks to Win It All in 2016-2017

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While fall sports are winding down, winter sports teams are bursting onto the scene to begin their seasons. Among these teams is the Ursinus wrestling team. After finishing their last season with a solid dual meet record of 15 wins and just three losses, the Bears are set to come roaring back even stronger.

The Centennial Conference poll for the upcoming season picked the Bears to finish second in the conference behind the two-time reigning conference champion Stevens University of Technology.

The Bears finished third last year in the NCAA East Regional Championships. After not making the trip to the conference championship in 2016 due to the norovirus that sickened over 180 students, the team is setting their sights higher and aiming for a Centennial Conference championship.

The Bears have some impactful performers returning to their squad this year. Leading the group this season is a handful of hungry seniors including Derek Arnold, Victor Hernandez, Corey Markovitch, Alexander Kramer, Matan Peleg and Robert Rein.

Arnold is the only returning all-American out of the group. In 2015, he placed fourth in the

nation at 149 pounds. Arnold in particular is returning to the team as an NCAA tournament qualifier from the previous year. Last year he finished with a personal record of 32-1 at 149 pounds. Junior Christopher Tan is also an NCAA tournament qualifier from the 2015-16 season. Tan finished last year with a personal record of 27-6 at 125 pounds.

Coming into the 2016 season, both Peleg and Arnold are listed as preseason all-Americans by intermatwrestle.com.

There is also a solid group of new faces joining the team. The incoming freshman class is highlighted by high school all-American Freddy Coradotti, Trey Harkness, Brandon Miller, Pat O'Toole, and Maryland state-placer Tom Boldosser.

After last year's season ended with two wrestlers qualifying for the NCAA tournament, this year the team hopes there will be more men participating in the tournament. With this year's powerful lineup of new and returning wrestlers, their goal is definitely obtainable.

This season could be especially meaningful for head coach Bill Racich. This year marks the 37th year Racich has been coaching at Ursinus. Racich has a career record of 514-114-8 along with 11 Centennial Conference championships. Racich is already the

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## Upcoming Games

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sat. Cont.	Sat. Cont.	Monday	Tuesday
		Wrestling vs. Fall Brawl 9:30 a.m.	Football vs. Dickinson 1 p.m.	M & W Cross Country vs. NCAA Division III Midwest Regional		
		M & W Swimming vs. McDaniel 1 p.m.	Field Hockey vs. Trinity/Cabrini @ Salisbury University 2 p.m.			