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## The Grizzly, February 2, 2017

Brian Thomas  
*Ursinus College*

Naseem Syed  
*Ursinus College*


Katelyn King  
*Ursinus College*

Paige Szmodis  
*Ursinus College*, [paszmodis@ursinus.edu](mailto:paszmodis@ursinus.edu)

Courtney A. DuChene  
*Ursinus College*, [coduchene@ursinus.edu](mailto:coduchene@ursinus.edu)

*See next page for additional authors*

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**Authors**

Brian Thomas, Naseem Syed, Katelyn King, Paige Szmodis, Courtney A. DuChene, Sarah Hojsak, Teddi Caputo '18, Kevin Leon, Elizabeth Myers, Nick Brough, and Gerard Brown



Photo courtesy of Naseem Syed

Terrence Williams addresses students and faculty at the Diversity Committee's town hall meeting.

## Diversity Committee Questions Campus Climate

*The Diversity Committee held a town hall meeting last week to discuss the result of last semester's campus climate survey*

**Katelyn King**  
kaking@ursinus.edu

To kick off the new year, the Ursinus Diversity Committee held a town hall meeting to discuss the results of a campus climate survey it conducted last semester.

The town hall happened Monday, Jan. 23. The Olin Auditorium was packed with about 200 students, staff, and faculty in attendance. This meeting was planned to share and discuss the results of a campus climate survey sent out last semester by the Diversity Committee, as well as possible actions going forward.

The survey was open from the last week of the fall semester to

just after New Year's Day, giving staff and students over a month for completion. Ursinus staff and students were asked whether or not they had experienced or witnessed discrimination in or out of class. The survey also was meant to address potential changes to the Unity House on campus.

At the beginning of the meeting, Terrence Williams, director of diversity and inclusion and assistant dean of students, addressed the audience. "Around June or July, I was tasked to look at our programmatic areas and to begin working on a bigger scope with the president and presidential cabinet," he said. "We discussed what would they like to see, want to know more on, and where the community was.

We talked about inclusion and how to support the needs of the people. So we sent out a survey crafted by the Diversity Committee, and we're here to talk about the results and next steps."

Williams then projected the survey results with several pie charts indicating the percentage of respondents who saw, heard about, or experienced discrimination first-hand. The topics of the first slide described discrimination based on socioeconomic status (SES), religious identity, racial/ethnic identity, and disability.

Overall, the great majority of respondents did not experience

See **Survey** on pg. 3

## Former Dean Files Lawsuit Against Ursinus; College Denies Charges

**Naseem Syed**  
nasyed@ursinus.edu

Lucien "Terry" Winegar, former Ursinus College dean and executive vice president of academic affairs, has filed a federal lawsuit against the college and President Brock Blomberg.

The complaint was filed in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia in September and was first reported by WHYY in December. It alleges that Winegar was removed from these positions on the basis of age discrimination, citing the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and that the college violated his employment contract.

According to the complaint, "President Brock Blomberg was motivated by his desire to have a person who is substantially younger report to him." Also according to the complaint, Winegar retains a tenured position at Ursinus as professor of psychology and is currently on paid professional leave.

Ursinus filed a response with the District Court in December. The filing denies all allegations made in Winegar's complaint. The response claims, among other affirmative defenses, that Winegar "engaged in willful misconduct and otherwise grossly neglected his job duties," though it does not offer further details about such actions. Winegar's complaint alleges that he did not engage in willful misconduct or gross neglect of duty, and claims the college never advised him otherwise. Ursinus is represented by Nancy Conrad, a Lehigh Valley attorney specializing in

workplace disputes.

Winegar came to Ursinus as dean and vice president of academic affairs in April 2012. Winegar became better known by students and faculty when he stepped in as interim president after the death of President Bobby Fong on Sept. 8, 2014.

The complaint seeks at least \$1.56 million in compensation for a breach of contract and outstanding severance pay. Winegar is represented by Anthony Abramson, a Blue Bell attorney specializing in workplace discrimination.

The complaint alleges that Winegar's termination "reflects a pattern and practice of Ursinus discriminating against an 'older' employee by replacing an 'older employee' with a 'substantially younger' employee." The complaint cites as evidence in the suit that Winegar's interim replacement, April Edwards, 52, is substantially younger than him. The complaint states that Winegar is 62.

The complaint additionally mentions Richard DeFeliciano, former vice president of enrollment, aged 58, left the college in May 2015. The complaint says that two months later, David Tobias, whom it says was 32, was hired as vice president of enrollment. The complaint alleges DeFeliciano was terminated based on his age.

Ursinus' December response claims that the school accepted DeFeliciano's resignation. The response also cites the hiring of Mark Schneider to re-

See **Lawsuit** on pg. 2



Photo courtesy Ursinus College Communications

Robert Wonderling, president and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia and new chair of the Board of Trustees.

## Q&A with new Board Chair, Robert Wonderling

*Wonderling takes over after former chair Michael Marcon resigned last semester*

Paige Szmodis  
paszmodis@ursinus.edu

Since former board chair Michael Marcon's resignation in September, Nina Stryker has been serving as the interim board chair. Robert Wonderling was appointed during the board meeting on Jan. 21. He is the president and CEO of the Chamber of Commerce for Greater Philadelphia. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Allegheny College and his Masters of Arts in Government Administration from the University of Pennsylvania. The Grizzly reached out to Wonderling to learn more about him,

his involvement in the Ursinus community, and his new position as board chair.

### How are you connected to Ursinus?

I first became engaged with Ursinus about six years ago after forming a close personal and professional bond with the late Bobby Fong. I had just arrived as the president of the Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce and Bobby was just beginning his tenure as president of Ursinus. We became fast friends and then he became an active participant in our Chamber's College and University President's Alliance. We also are the proud parents of a recent Ursinus alumnus, Mark

Wonderling '16, so my family has quickly developed a great appreciation for the college.

### How long have you been on the Board of Trustees? Why did you decide to join the board?

I've been serving as a trustee for approximately three years. I was recruited by President Fong. During those earlier years, the more I learned about the college, the more intrigued I became about Ursinus, its rich heritage, its commitment to academic freedom and expression, and its very bright future—both among the national liberal arts landscape and across the Philadelphia region.

### What do you think will be the biggest challenge for your new role as board chair?

I tend to see the world through the lens of abundant opportunity ... not so much challenges. Therefore, I am convinced that we can foster an inclusive community of robust engagement between my fellow trustees, administration, faculty, alumni and, of course, our students. That level of communication will create a growing and dynamic Ursinus.

### How do you think Ursinus can learn and grow from Michael Marcon's resignation in September?

I have given this subject quite a bit of thought as I prepare to serve as your chair. First, one individual does not make up an entire college community. Second, we all need to redouble our efforts to be mutually respectful, transparent, and willing to have candid conversations about the college's past, present, and future. Third, we always need to attempt to "walk in another person's shoes"—to listen, learn, and move forward in collabora-

### Lawsuit continued from pg. 1

place Winegar permanently in Oct. 2016. Schneider, currently a physics professor at Grinnell College in Iowa, is 62, and will be joining the staff in time for the next academic year.

While Winegar served as interim president, the board of trustees conducted a national search for a new president. Winegar resumed his position as executive vice president and dean of academic affairs after Blomberg was appointed as president in 2016, according to the suit.

"The board recognized Dr. Winegar's outstanding contributions over the past few weeks leading our community through a very difficult time," wrote former board chair Alan Novak in a 2014 press release announcing Winegar's appointment as interim president. "He has been thoughtful and committed to this effort and will continue to serve the college in a distinguished and exemplary manner."

According to the suit, in July 2015, Novak renewed Winegar's contract. The contract was included in Winegar's complaint

as an exhibit. According to that contract, Winegar was to receive \$325,000 in annual salary, employee benefits and use of a 2009 Toyota Avalon, with his appointment continuing through June 2019, according to the letter written by Novak.

Students and faculty speculated over Winegar's departure from Ursinus, and sticky notes with the question "Where's Terry?" were anonymously posted across campus in May 2016.

Edwards, Winegar's interim replacement, had served as chair of mathematics and computer science department and as co-director of the U-Imagine Center before her appointment. She was called in an email from Blomberg to the campus a "decisive and inclusive leader" at Ursinus for 13 years in various leadership roles.

In an email sent to the campus community, Blomberg announced that Edwards will assume a position as vice president for academic affairs and dean of the faculty at Elmhurst College in Illinois in June 2017.

When reached through email, both parties and their attorneys declined to comment.

tion with all of our best interests at heart.

### How do you plan to help Ursinus achieve its values of inclusivity and transparency?

I will lead by example. I will also hope to consider the best practices I have learned in my professional and personal life that will assist Ursinus in being a standard-setting community for equity, inclusion and invitation.

### What are you looking forward to developing in Ursinus' future?

The best graduates on the face of the earth!

### What do you love the most about Ursinus?

My favorite place is the basketball court ... especially when "Helfferich Hooligans" are in the house!



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Ursinus Grizzly  
601 E. Main Street  
Collegeville, PA 19426

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# Changes to CIE questions and curriculum in fall CIE syllabus undergoes revamping for class of 2021

Courtney DuChene  
couchene@ursinus.edu

Next fall, first-year students will encounter a fresh CIE syllabus with new questions that have been tailored to align with the college's re-worked core curriculum.

The new CIE 100 syllabus includes the addition of "Between the World and Me," by Ta-Nehisi Coates, excerpts of Confucius' "Analects," excerpts from Galileo's writings, "Letters to the Grand Duchess" in the "Discoveries and Opinions of Galileo," Excerpts from Galileo's "Dialogue of the Two World Systems," and the film "Persepolis." "The Letters of Abelard & Heloise," Renaissance Art, Brebeuf's, "The Jesuit Relations," and the excerpts "The Starry Messenger" and "Letters on Sunspots" from "Discoveries and Opinions of Galileo" have been removed from the syllabus.

In the second semester, new texts include, "The Stranger," by Albert Camus, the first three parts of John Stuart Mill's "On Liberty," selections of "The Creation" by E.O. Wilson, "The Mersault Investigation" by Kamel Daoud, and the poem "Lines Composed a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey" by William Wordsworth.

The second semester syllabus is losing "The Reluctant Fundamentalist," "Thinking, Fast and Slow," and John Locke's "Second Treatise." Additionally, Freud's "Civilization and its Discontents" and Michelle Alexander's "The New Jim Crow" have been reduced to excerpts. The "Declaration of Independence," Stanton's "Declaration of Sentiments," and a speech by Frederick Douglass will become a performance common event.

The proposed new questions are expected to align with the school's new core curriculum, if it is adopted. English professor and CIE coordinator, Dr. Matt Kozusko, explained that, "when the questions change is not decided yet. We were hoping to go with new questions in the fall, but the rate at which this new curriculum rolls out is just

unknowable right now."

He went on to add that the questions have been adopted and said, "they are so important and foundational that I would be surprised if they got unadopted."

The proposed new questions are: "What should matter to me?"; "How can we understand the world?"; "How can we live together?"; "What will I do?"

These questions would replace the three previous CIE questions: "What does it mean to be human?"; "How should we live our lives?"; "What is the nature of the universe, and what is our place in it?"

Still, some students are not convinced the new questions are the best plan for CIE. Current CIE student Andrew McSwiggan said, "I think these new questions are far too vague."

He also described how the old questions provided some unification to the course.

"The old questions were very clear about what they wanted the instructors and the students to do, which is to take the texts and try to connect them, not to each other necessarily, but to a big picture," he said. "You would connect these puzzle pieces together and you would step back and say 'Using these questions, these books, and the film, this is what we as a CIE class have to say about humanity and our place here.'"

McSwiggan fears the new questions are too broad to achieve these lofty goals.

"They don't have the context [like] the last ones had that grounded everything onto a common platform," he said.

Dr. Kozusko, however, thinks the new questions have quite a bit of overlap with the old ones and that they will be a positive addition to CIE as a whole.

"I think you can hear sort of a loose equivalency between the new questions and the old ones," he said.

Dr. Kozusko also gave his perspective on the thought process behind the updated syllabus.

"It's nice to get a change from the faculty perspective," he said. "If you've taught the same stuff over and over you stop experiencing it for the first time."

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discrimination, but a notable amount had seen or heard discrimination. Twenty-six percent of respondents had heard or seen SES discrimination, 27 percent had heard or seen religious identity discrimination, 45 percent had heard or seen racial/ethnic discrimination, and 19 percent had heard or seen discrimination based on disability.

Several students responded with disappointment at the 11 percent campus response rate. Others said that the existence of discrimination, particularly due to racial and ethnic differences, was an issue along with the lack of survey participants.

The next slide showed that 39 percent of respondents have witnessed sex/gender identity discrimination, 35 percent witnessed gender expression discrimination, and a majority 69 percent had witnessed discrimination based on political affiliation. The fourth and final pie chart demonstrated responses to whether members of the campus had attended events on these matters: 59 percent went to zero to two events, 32 percent went to three to five, and a meager nine percent had attended more than six campus events.

During the audience responses, a professor suggested that students should be asked how important diversity is to them. Resident Adviser Zana Lee also said, "If it is not directly affecting you, it is easier to ignore."

Many students asked the question of why there were few survey takers and a lack of interest in diversity events. Audience members made suggestions such as making surveys required with SPTQs, clubs completing training classes, and collaboration between organizations.

President Blomberg added that the committee can try to take a lot from the data, but that the aim is progress and more involvement. He claimed that the survey and its results will help "supply insights that will inform future programming and initiatives." A variety of other important campus figures offered their input as

well. He is most excited to teach "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates and John Stuart Mill's "On Liberty."

"Coates is such an easy answer, but it's such a new text. It's short, engaging, and contro-

versial," he said.

Kozusko is disappointed that they are removing "Thinking, Fast and Slow."

"At this particular cultural moment I am most sad to see Kahneman go because it's about

well. "We are making changes to the end-of-semester surveys like adding inclusiveness," said April Edwards, interim vice president for academic affairs and interim dean of the college.

"We want to know what people want to know more about," said Debbie Nolan, vice president of Student Affairs and dean of students. Williams picked up control of the discussion again, saying that he gets joy out of his work but that there is a built-in audience of people who are already educated on issues of diversity and inclusion who regularly attend these events. He wanted to move the work of the Diversity Committee to the heart of the campus at locations such as Wismer.

"We aren't necessarily close, but a solution is attainable," Williams said, wrapping up the town hall. Professor Roger Florka of the philosophy department also announced the opening of a readings class related to diversity and social change.

The creation of the survey was partially in response to the previous town hall meeting of Nov. 9, which discussed the presidential election results. During the meeting of Nov. 9, the audience discussed the importance of diversity and inclusion, and the Diversity Committee led by Director Terrence Williams took initiative. Centered at the Unity House next to Corson, the Diversity Committee is made up of Williams, President Blomberg, three staff members, three students, three faculty members, and two deans.

Their mission, according to the Ursinus webpage, is to advise the president on goals such "as the creation, maintenance, and evaluation of: curricular and co-curricular programs; recruitment, hiring and retention of faculty and staff; admissions and student recruitment; faculty and staff training; response to community concerns; and coordination and publicity of events."

In addition to the survey results, a few other initiatives centered on diversity and inclusion were shared.

Williams has unveiled a new

system available to Ursinus students, the Bias Incident Reporting Form, which can be accessed on the college website, which is for "the purpose of reporting an act of bias towards a category of people or an individual based on actual or perceived social identification." It will allow the college to investigate events ranging from acts of small bias to larger occasions such as criminal acts of hate should they occur in the future.

According to Williams, this report form is live, but still needs to be adjusted with new additions. As these occurrences are reported, they will be taken with the same seriousness as other report types such as crime.

Edwards said that the end-of-semester surveys – the SPTQs – are adding "a question that asks about inclusive classroom environment, giving each student in each class an opportunity to comment on this important issue."

Edwards stressed that action is necessary for change to happen.

"It is incredibly important that we all maintain a focus on issues of diversity and inclusivity, working with the diversity committee and with Dean Williams, of course," said Edwards. "Too often we respond with a lot of meetings and events after an incident, and then interest wanes. We will all need to work together – faculty, students, staff and administrators – to make sure that these topics always get the necessary attention."

Nolan, a member of the Diversity Committee, has said that like with the meeting, if anyone has ideas, they are encouraged to pass them along.

"Students can send their thoughts to Dean Terrence Williams or to me," said Nolan. "Student affairs staff and student government officers are also a great resource."

President Blomberg also has stated that these are just the beginning stages of what he called an "ongoing dialogue."

"Diversity helps all of us achieve our highest potential," he said.

systematic bias and the way people as social beings think," he said. "And I am, I think justifiably, concerned about the way we experience the world as a data set and a place where fact happens."

## Portraits of protest: UC students take on Women's March in D.C.

*Marches in various cities last week drew unprecedented crowds and sent a strong message*



Photo courtesy of Naseem Syed

A portion of the 500,000-person crowd in Washington, D.C. during last Saturday's Women's March

**Sarah Hojsak**  
sahojsak@ursinus.edu

Early in the morning of Saturday, Jan. 21, the day after the inauguration of Donald Trump as the 45th President of the United States, Naseem Syed and Romina Kalmeijer boarded a Greyhound bus from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C. The two Ursinus juniors were heading to the Women's March on Washington, an event that had been in the works since Trump's election last November.

The march drew an estimated half million people to our nation's capital, The Guardian reported, with several million participating in similar marches in cities around the world. The official mission statement of the Women's March emphasized the intention to stand in solidarity with marginalized communities for "the protection of our rights, our safety, our health, and our families, recognizing that our vibrant and diverse communities are the strength of our country."

When Syed first heard about the march, she knew immediately that she wanted to attend. "I knew the historical significance of participating in the march because,

on the one hand, 'Women's March on Washington' made me think of civil rights marches and when I saw how much interest there was, I knew it was going to be something big. I wanted to demonstrate protest by being there and letting everyone know that Trump is not my president and he does not represent my country or me as an American citizen."

*"I hoped not only to create change but also to experience this hopefully hugely impactful day for American ideals and politics."*

— Emmett Cawley  
Ursinus junior

"I won't wait on the sidelines passively and not do anything about [Trump's] misogyny, his xenophobia, and everything else he represents," she added.

Kalmeijer first heard about the plans for the march while studying abroad in Chile last semester. After following the election from outside of the U.S. and being disappointed by the outcome, she said that the students in her program were eager to be involved when they returned home. "We looked at each other and said

'Let's all go.' We were so angry and we wanted to do something."

Also in Washington was junior Emmett Cawley, who drove to the march from Pennsylvania, motivated by his desire to show support for women and other groups represented in the protest and to oppose Trump's rhetoric.

"Throughout Trump's campaign his rhetoric was not wholly unfamiliar to me as a man benefiting from patriarchy and male hegemony," Cawley said. "Because of this, I felt that . . . [Trump's] ability to be openly sexist and spread sexually violent rhetoric and still become president is a symptom of centuries . . . of oppression of and violence against women."

"I marched for the many empowered women who helped make me the man I am today, for my future daughter, and for women of all colors and backgrounds," Cawley explained. "I marched to fight against the struggles they have faced up until Jan. 20, 2017 and against the threat that Trump represents for this nation's women for the years to come. I hoped not only to create change but also to experience this hopefully hugely impactful day for American ideals and politics."

The size of the crowd in

Washington was unprecedented and unexpected—the organizers had originally planned for only 200,000, according to The Washington Post. While crowd sizes may have restricted protestors' ability to physically march from one location to another as originally intended, Syed described that the massive gathering had a powerful energy. Walking from Union Station to the National Mall, where protestors were instructed to meet, she and Kalmeijer were surrounded by crowds of people heading to the same place—many carrying signs or wearing pink hats symbolic of women's rights. Syed carried a sign with the Simone de Beauvoir quote "All oppression creates a state of war" on one side and the words "Je suis femme" (French for "I am a woman") on the other. Kalmeijer's sign read "She is someone," with the words "sister," "daughter," and "wife" crossed out to emphasize that women should be respected as individuals.

"There were so many people, a sea of signs," Syed said. "You would imagine on any other day those streets would be empty and people would just be going about their everyday lives. But on [that] day at that time, there were thousands of people around us, and they were all moving toward the same goals and for the same reason—to support women, and women of color, minorities, Black Lives Matter. All of these movements came together, and we were surrounded by so much love. I've never been in such a crowd before."

While many groups were represented in the march, Cawley—who carried a sign that read "Empowered women empower the people"—noted that "it wasn't exactly the perfectly intersectional feminist march that we had in mind."

"Many white women were marching to solve the issues white women face and often were not impressed with the speeches which preached a more intersectional [approach]," he observed, also praising the speakers who did make sure to include the importance of intersectionality in their messages.

Cawley was particularly inspired by the words of civil rights activist Tamika Mallory, who reminded the crowd that while 96 percent of black women sup-

ported Hillary Clinton in the presidential election, a majority of white women voted for Trump, and urged white women to recognize their position in American hegemony.

Another speaker, Pakistani-American activist Linda Sarsour, urged protestors to focus not only on the problems perpetuated by Trump and the Republican Party but also on those affecting women across the world, such as drone warfare and human rights violations in the Middle East.

*"If you're really passionate about what you believe in and want to make change, then don't [just] stay at home and watch the news: Really go out there [and] effect change in a positive and peaceful way."*

— Naseem Syed  
Ursinus junior

"These were the speeches I hope will [be carried] in people's minds over the next four years, especially as Trump continues unfair treatment of people of color, citizens of other countries and immigrants," Cawley said.

While not close enough to the stage to hear many of the speeches, Syed and Kalmeijer had the experience of being among a crowd of performers in the streets, many of whom toted banners, played music and instruments, and led chants. "What was inspiring, or at least what impacted me the most, was the performers," Syed said, noting the symbolism of many of the acts: "There were dancers on stilts, there were performers in costumes, there was someone in a Donald Trump costume with a huge head, and next to him was a crocheted uterus." Syed also described a performance piece with roughly 40 participants that symbolized a boat, the performers chanting, "We're all in the same boat; keep the boat afloat."

According to Kalmeijer, the crowd was energetic throughout the day, despite long hours of standing in one place. "It was a good feeling to be in that place at that time, with people like me," she said. "We spent hours not moving but never got bored," noting the presence of several crowd

See **March** on pg. 5

# First-person perspective: student curator shares experience

Teddi Caputo '18 shares what it was like to curate the Berman's new exhibition in collaboration with fellow museum studies students

**Teddi Caputo**  
thcaputo@ursinus.edu

"Natessa Amin: Dancing on the Water Tank" is particularly unique not only because it is the artist's first solo exhibition at a museum, but also because it was curated by twelve people. "Dancing on the Water Tank," now on show at the Berman, is the first exhibition curated under Ursinus' new museum studies minor—a class of ten students, myself included, and our professors, Dr. Deborah Barkun and Ginny Kol-lak.

Amin's work deals with the exploration of cultural identity, family, and the moments that define who we are. Through her use

of abstracted forms and alternative materials Amin presents a look into the struggles and revelations that we all experience throughout life.

"Dancing on the Water Tank" came to fruition after many months of deliberation from vastly different creative voices. Curating an exhibition as an undergraduate is a triumph in and of itself, but perhaps even better than that was learning how to work with others to achieve the incredible result that we did. "Dancing on the Water Tank" is truly a beautiful work of art (and not just because of all the paintings and sculptures now residing in the museum's upper gallery). Every decision we made was backed by months of careful

planning, arguments, frustration, laughter, and awe. The act of putting all the pieces together was a form of artmaking itself. Working collaboratively teaches you so much about understanding those around you. It teaches you to compromise and listen, and that an open mind is more valuable than a biased one.

Funnily enough, the most challenging part of this process was perhaps deciding on the accent wall color for the exhibition. It took weeks of debate over numerous shades of pinks, purples, blues, and greens. We all listened and deliberated, yet it was pure luck that one person picked up the shade "Twilight Magenta" and held it to the wall. It was perfect, complimenting Amin's work in

all the right ways. From that moment forward Twilight Magenta became a joke, a mascot, and a color we all truly loved. It is reflective of the moment when we came together, and it is representative of a vision that helped move us forward.

We also spent hours pulling together a zine to act as an accompanying text to the exhibition. This document had been in the works for weeks and was the very last task we needed to finish. Late in the evening, we carefully pieced it together, taping page by page until it was done. In a moment of pure awe and reverence my class sat in silence and watched as we flipped through the final draft. It was in this moment that I felt it had all been worth it.

It felt almost cinematic, an experience I look back on fondly and emotionally.

"Dancing on the Water Tank" is exemplary of artistic achievement within an academic setting—the tangible success behind the ideas and actions of a collaborative force. As I walked through our opening reception and watched the smiling faces of students, faculty, family, and friends, there was a sense of overwhelming joy. To quote Dr. Barkun, "I do not remember the last time that I felt so happy or felt surrounded by so many happy people." It was truly that moving for everyone involved, but then again, how could one not be moved when everything is reflecting Twilight Magenta?

## March continued from pg. 4

leaders who kept the marchers engaged in various chants.

Syed returned to the common purpose that brought many of the marchers together. "The reason why everyone was there is because they empathize with what it means to be a woman in this time of discrimination, misogyny, wage gap, and other ways in which women don't have the same rights [as men]. There's a sense of 'this is something I will stand for because maybe I'm not immediately experiencing it, but I am recognizing it's something important to care about.' I feel like that's why everyone was there."

She added that the idea of non-violent resistance was inherent in the goals of the march: "We wanted to harbor love and not be hateful or violent or attack others—even if those who are counter-protestors might hold phobic

views against us. Instead of giving in and engaging in violent conflict, it's better to try to love the other. And so we really had to try to love Trump supporters, [though] it sounds so counterintuitive."

With a sharper tone, Cawley expressed hope that the recent marches will push more people to engage in protest. "I hope that the march helped catalyze millions of previously stagnant citizens to act in the face of oppression and the nationwide struggle for freedom and justice," he said. "I hope that the [march] empowered Americans to take control of this nation and set it on a course for justice, equality, and compassion for all citizens of the world."

Cawley also attended a protest at Philadelphia International Airport Sunday afternoon, a response to Trump's recent controversial executive order barring immigrants and refugees of several Muslim nations. "I suspect that a showing of millions nationwide

(following Trump's inauguration) has already had an impact on the will of the American people to resist oppression in all its forms," he said. "From racist policing to the xenophobic and racist policies of our ruling class, it has become clear that, at large, the American people will not remain silent."

*"It was so moving to see all these people who were just as frustrated and angry as we were . . . I would definitely march again"*

— Romina Kalmeijer  
Ursinus junior

Reflecting on the march, Kalmeijer said she is eager to participate in future protests. "It was so moving to see all these people who were just as frustrated and angry as we were . . . I would definitely march again."

Looking forward, Syed expressed that she would like to see

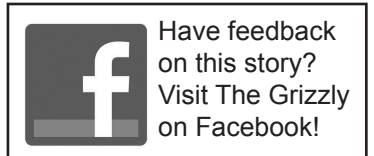
those who wish to protest step out into the streets. "If you're really passionate about what you believe in and want to make change, then don't [just] stay at home and watch the news: Really go out there [and] effect change in a positive and peaceful way. Don't engage with the vitriol and the verbal attacks . . . Resist peacefully."

And Cawley is not about to stop protesting anytime soon. "It's going to be a busy four years for me and for many others," he acknowledged, anticipating the continued action that will likely build as Trump's presidency progresses.

He also noted that those who wish to take part in political action during this new administration do not necessarily have to travel to large cities to get involved, as he has done. "I encourage everybody to reach out to Ursinus' student groups [like] GSA, SUN, FIA, UCEA, ALMA, Hillel, UC Republicans, UC Demo-

crats, [and] Young Americans for Liberty, [whose members are] students committed to continuing these battles and who are endlessly helpful in getting others involved."

"I think it's a historic time. People should be following the news, [be] aware of what's going on, and take the opportunity to become involved," Syed said, also noting upcoming marches already being planned in support of various causes from immigration to climate change. She also stressed the importance of calling your local representatives, another simple action those who wish to see change can participate in. "We have control over who represents us, and [our representatives] should know that what [Trump] represents is not for everyone."



## Happening on Campus

| Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday | Sunday       | Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday  |
|--|---|----------|--------------|--------|--|--|
| Berman Conversation: Natessa Amin with student curators<br>7 p.m.<br>Berman Museum | Pinterest Night:<br>Mug Decorating<br>5:30 p.m.<br>Lower Wismer |          | Founders Day |        | History Help Room<br>7 p.m. - 9 p.m.<br>Olin 317 | Majors & Minors Expo<br>11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.<br>Lower Wismer |

# Betsy DeVos is a danger to our education system

*Here's why we should worry about DeVos' impact as secretary of education*

**Kevin Leon**  
keleon@ursinus.edu

Currently, Betsy DeVos has yet to officially take office due to a delay in her hearings. Her ideas of diverting funds from public schools to the unregulated private sector poses immediate danger to low-income students. She can either gain the congressional support necessary to enact her ideas, or she can be totally ineffectual and blocked from making any real change. Either way, her ideas are dangerous to the public education system.

Back in November, Donald Trump announced DeVos as his cabinet pick for secretary of education. Now that he has taken office, his nominees have also begun to take their places in the cabinet. Betsy DeVos is an education activist from the state of Michigan. There she has been a successful force in the privatization of education.

DeVos has largely worked toward education reform in the state of Michigan. Some effects of her financial support are blatant in the Detroit area. Detroit boasts the largest network of charter schools, something DeVos advocates through the privatization of education.

As noted by Stephen Henderson, a writer for the Detroit Free Press, "This deeply dysfunctional educational landscape — where failure is rewarded with opportunities for expansion and 'choice' means the opposite for tens of thousands of children — is no accident."

As a result, many inner-city Detroit students' only options for leaving failing charter schools are attending other underperforming charter schools. Charter schools have shown higher graduation rates than regular Detroit public schools, but students' test scores fail to reflect a better system. Detroit, a city which has been strug-

gling with education reform, has yet to see any real improvement through the policies DeVos lobbied for in the past two decades.

The fallout of these policies, as Lauren Slagter from local Michigan news source MLive reports, has prompted the Ann Arbor School Board to call for a rejection of DeVos' nomination, a stance not often taken by a school board.

This heavy criticism from the state in which she has had the most influence over her career should cause worry to both Democrats and Republicans; public education should not be a partisan issue. Critics from The Washington Post, Detroit Free Press, and the Democratic Party have all voiced concerns on her qualifications to be the secretary of education, and justly so. Betsy DeVos does not have true credentials or even experience to be allocating the country's education funds.

Henderson's article "Betsy DeVos and the Twilight of Public

Education" stated, "In fact, she has no relevant credentials or experience for a job setting standards and guiding dollars for the nation's public schools. She is, in essence, a lobbyist."

She has no real experience in the education system because all she's done in the past is financially support her interest groups.

Kary Moss of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Michigan also declared, "We believe that all children have a right to a quality public education, and we fear that Betsy DeVos' relentless advocacy of charter schools and vouchers betrays these principles."

DeVos' voucher program ideas, which redirect public school funds to charter schools based on enrollment and other figures, have been thoroughly rejected in Michigan. It's clear her home state was not fond of her family's proposed legislation.

At a national level, her ideas

can potentially pass Congress and be instated nationwide. Though that is a worst-case scenario, it is unwise to dismiss it, especially considering how this political cycle has gone.

Most recently, as CNN's coverage shows, during a confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill, Betsy DeVos was asked about her stance on the presence of firearms at school. She stated that they are key to self-defense, which is a fair argument, though she had an interesting point. DeVos stated that having guns in schools are important in states like Wyoming "to protect from potential grizzlies."

This statement was mocked online and shows that DeVos is alarmingly disconnected from the issues schools face. Still, with her nomination as Secretary of Education, she is expected to run a section of the government devoted specifically to that.

# Scott Pruitt's EPA will put our climate at risk

*Environmental Studies student voices her concerns about Administrator of EPA*

**Beth Myers**  
elmyers@ursinus.edu

Climate change puts all of earth's life at risk, including human life. Scott Pruitt's history displays that he should not be trusted to lead the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since the beginning of Donald Trump's campaign to become president of the United States, controversy and shock have surrounded and continue to surround his actions, decisions and statements. This extends to his nomination of Scott Pruitt for Administrator of the EPA.

Trump's repeated statements and tweets announcing his skepticism of climate change and his threats to remove the United States from international climate commitments, such as the Paris Agreement, are only a few out of the wealth of controversial statements he has made.

Within the first week of his presidency, Trump has begun to take action regarding his anti-envi-

ronmental rhetoric by suspending the EPA's contracts and grants. He also signed executive orders to advance progress on the Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipelines.

Considering Trump's statements and actions regarding the environment, it is not surprising, although disappointing, that he elected to nominate Scott Pruitt, the attorney general from Oklahoma, to be the administrator of the EPA. I say Pruitt's nomination to lead the EPA is disappointing because Pruitt has a rich history of anti-environmentalism.

According to Joe Wertz from National Public Radio (NPR), Pruitt has sued and joined other attorney generals suing the EPA over environmental regulations numerous times. Wertz describes Pruitt as the "principle architect of a coordinated legal attempt to block EPA regulation with courts."

Wertz's article included that Pruitt, in Senate testimony, was quoted saying, "the [Environmental Protection] Agency is now being used to pick winners and losers in the energy market by elevating

renewable power at the expense of fossil fuel generation."

This suggests that if confirmed as administrator of the EPA, Pruitt would not be in favor of promoting clean and renewable energy sources. The NPR news article by Wertz documented that Pruitt has also stressed that he believes that human-accelerated global climate change is still being debated by scientists.

However, NASA's webpage dedicated to climate change states, "multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals show that 97 percent or more of actively publishing climate scientists agree: climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities."

In an article for The New York Times, reporters Eric Lipton and Coral Davenport claim that Pruitt has also assisted fossil fuel companies in suing the EPA 13 times and has received campaign donations from many of these same companies.

Pruitt's conflict of interest is

also displayed by his connection with the fossil fuel industry. Reporters Chris Mooney, Brady Dennis, and Steven Mufson wrote in an article for The Washington Post that Pruitt defended ExxonMobil after other state attorney generals wanted to find out if the oil company neglected to disclose information acknowledging that the burning of fossil fuels contributes to global climate change.

To address the United States' contributions to climate change and its dangerous impacts, such as sea level rise and desertification, the EPA and the Obama administration created the Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan is designed to reduce the United States' greenhouse gas emissions in a flexible way by allowing each state to design a plan determining how they will achieve their greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Pruitt joined a group of attorneys general in suing the EPA over the Clean Power Plan, of which the Supreme Court has currently issued a stay, which means that American climate change prog-

ress has halted. The stay now stalls actions proposed by the plan and prevents the EPA from doing its job.

When asked what his thoughts were regarding Scott Pruitt's nomination to lead the EPA, Evan Hunt, a junior and environmental studies major at Ursinus, stated that, "Pruitt's nomination is concerning because his record shows he has no interest in reforming our energy system. Climate change is an immediate global health issue and we need leaders who are dedicated to moving towards a sustainable energy model."

I agree with Evan. Human activities, such as emitting greenhouse gases and drastically altering the earth's ecosystems, have caused the global temperature to rise. In a January 2017 press release from NASA, it is stated that the global temperature has risen two degrees Fahrenheit since the late 1800s. The temperature will continue to climb unless we change our behavior.





Photo Courtesy of Amelia Goldstein

Members of the gymnastics team during a practice before their meet against Rutgers University on Jan. 28.

## Gymnastics team vaults into action

**Nick Brough**

nibrough@ursinus.edu

The women's gymnastics team is putting up solid numbers as they begin their 2017 season. Despite losing their first two meets of the season, things are looking good for the Bears as their season moves forward.

At the start of their season, the Bears took on West Chester University. Although they built up a solid team score, the Bears fell to the Golden Rams 191.050-186.875. In their second meet of the season, the Bears posted another impressive score against the Temple Owls, but again, the Bears fell by another small margin, losing 193.375-189.350.

The gymnastics team has a lot to look forward to in the remainder of the 2017 season. They have several key meets in the near future, which includes a rematch with Temple.

Head coach Jeff Schepers also looks forward to the rest of the season and is pleased with the way things have gone so far.

"The team has started the season on a very good note," Schepers said. "Our home opener with West Chester went as planned. We had a few mistakes and a few bobbles, but that [is to be] expected for competition [at the start] of the season."

Schepers had more praise for his team, adding, "This is going to be a very good season. Our experienced upper-class, with their years of college competition, are paving the way to get this team to the NCGA National Championships."

The squad is led by a strong senior class with lots of skill and talent. The class includes Jillian Casarella, Lauren Chavis, Allyson Getty, and Vanessa Scalora. Captain Jillian Casarella had only words of optimism for the team moving forward.

"Our season has been go-

ing really, really well actually," Casarella said. "We are only two meets into it, but the girls have really done a great job of competing exactly [how] they practice." We have the opportunity to go really far this season; as long as injuries stay minimal and our girls keep pushing the way they have been, I see huge things coming for our team in the following weeks."

Casarella also praised her teammates for their hard work and dedication this season. She emphasized how much the team is focused on winning and getting better each week. She also explained the specialties of the team

"A ton of our girls are nationally ranked on bars, beam, and floor, and we are looking to keep it that way as the season progresses," said Casarella. "Captain Lauren Chavis is ranked very high on bars, along with junior captain Alex Puryear

See **Gym** on pg. 8

## Women's Swimming on Pace to be Top of the Conference Again

*The Ursinus women's swim team has had a perfect record this season, and has remained unbeaten in their last 39 regular season dual meets*

**Gerard Brown**

gebrown@ursinus.edu

The women's swim team has been one of the best teams at Ursinus in recent years, and the accomplishments they have had over the course of the last four years are remarkable. For the past three years, they have been undefeated during the regular and postseasons. Keeping the tradition of winning alive, the team is undefeated in 2016-2017 regular season action.

The women are led by head coach Mark Feinberg, who is in his 12th season at Ursinus. He has done a great job building tradition within the program and has had great success along the way, according to members of the team. Senior captains Allison Emick and Marisa Ferrari had nothing but great praise for him.

Emick described Coach Feinberg as, very simply, "the best."

She noted how supportive he is of the athletes in and out of the pool.

Ferrari made clear that Feinberg is a big proponent of academics first and athletics second; he makes sure the athletes under his supervision are succeeding in the classroom before they can head to the pool. Both Emick and Ferrari believe that his coaching style has made a huge impact on the team over the past few seasons.

Emick and Ferrari also expressed how significant the pre-

season has been for the team's improvement.

This season Ursinus added full time strength and conditioning coach Eric Hoffman and assistant coach Paul Searles to supplement its athletes' primary team training. The women on the team have learned different drills to improve their endurance—a boon to their swimming in competition.

"Eric and Paul have been a great help [as] our strength and conditioning coaches [starting] early in September," Emick said.

Another factor that has helped the women's swim team this year has been their heightened team unity.

"This is the closest that both [men's and women's] teams [have been], which is different [from] the last three years I've been here. Everyone is fully behind each other and wants each other to win," Ferrari said.

Both captains expressed that the teams have a greater bond this year, which really helped the morale of the team. This season, they said, the team's work ethic is more positive, according to Ferrari. Ferrari said that she has reminded the women, especially the underclassmen on the team, to make sure that they knew that nothing was guaranteed and that they had to work hard to earn success.

See **Swimming** on pg. 8

### Scores as of Monday, Jan. 30, 2017

| M. Basketball (11-8)                         | W. Basketball (10-10)                        | Wrestling (13-3)                               | M. Swimming (5-3)   | W. Swimming (8-0)  | M. & W Track (0-0)   | Gymnastics (0-2)                                 |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|
| Jan. 26;<br>Ursinus 87 -<br>Haverford 58     | Jan. 26;<br>Ursinus 62 -<br>Haverford 55     | Jan. 28;<br>Ursinus 25 -<br>Merchant Marine 18 | Jan. 21;<br>Ursinus 143 -<br>Franklin and Marshall<br>119 | Jan. 21;<br>Ursinus 175.5 -<br>Franklin and Marshall<br>86.5 | Jan. 27;<br>Ursinus vs.<br>Muhlenberg<br>Invitational*     | Jan. 22;<br>Temple 193.375 -<br>Ursinus 189.350  |
| Jan. 28;<br>Johns Hopkins 74 -<br>Ursinus 71 | Jan. 28;<br>Ursinus 50 -<br>Johns Hopkins 41 | Jan. 28;<br>Stevens 19 -<br>Ursinus 18         | Jan. 28;<br>Washington 133 -<br>Ursinus 129               | Jan. 28;<br>Ursinus 150 -<br>Washington 112                  | *For full results please<br>visit ursinusathletics.<br>com | Jan. 28;<br>Rutgers 194.875 -<br>Ursinus 191.350 |

Gym continued from pg. 7

on floor, and myself and junior Kaelin Ruoss on beam.”

Casarella also noted how the coaches have played a big role in motivating and directing the squad to a higher competitive level every practice.

“Jeff Schepers and [assistant coach] Emily Repko come in the gym every single day, ready to work with us and make us the best we can be,” she said. “They are constantly finding ways to better our gymnastics and to do all that they can to put us on the right track toward our ultimate goal of winning Nationals.”

Chavis also expressed her optimism and happiness with the sea-

son.

“The first meet is always a tough one because the freshmen [are] new to the feel of college gymnastics, but we [had a] great start [to] the season,” said Chavis. “After our second meet, the team saw how much we have each other’s backs by fighting to do our best until the last routine of the night.”

Similar to Casarella’s take on how she feels the season will go, Chavis only had words of optimism and confidence.

“We have great depth as well as confidence, and that is truly key in the gymnastics world,” she said. “We have put a lot of hours into routines; as the season continues, we will [continue] to push and mo-

tivate each other to be greater and greater.”

The Bears will have their next meet in Philadelphia against the Temple Owls on Saturday, Feb. 4.



Swimming continued from pg. 7

Before the season started, the Centennial Conference poll projected the women’s swimming team to win the conference championship once again. If the women are successful at the conference meet, they will win their fourth consecutive conference title. The women have remained humble with their success each year and continue to do so as they swim into the final stretch of their season.

Both captains made it very clear that there is no other team that they would rather swim on.

“These sets of friends became my family,” said Ferrari. “Being a part of the team has helped me

grow and [has pushed me] even further.”

“I feel so privileged and am thankful to be on a team as great as we are,” Emick added. “I love this team; I really do.”

The Bears still have two more competitions with conference foes Washington College and Bryn Mawr College to wrap up their season before competing in the Centennial Conference Championship on Feb. 17. You can catch the Bears competing at home Saturday, Feb. 4 against Bryn Mawr.

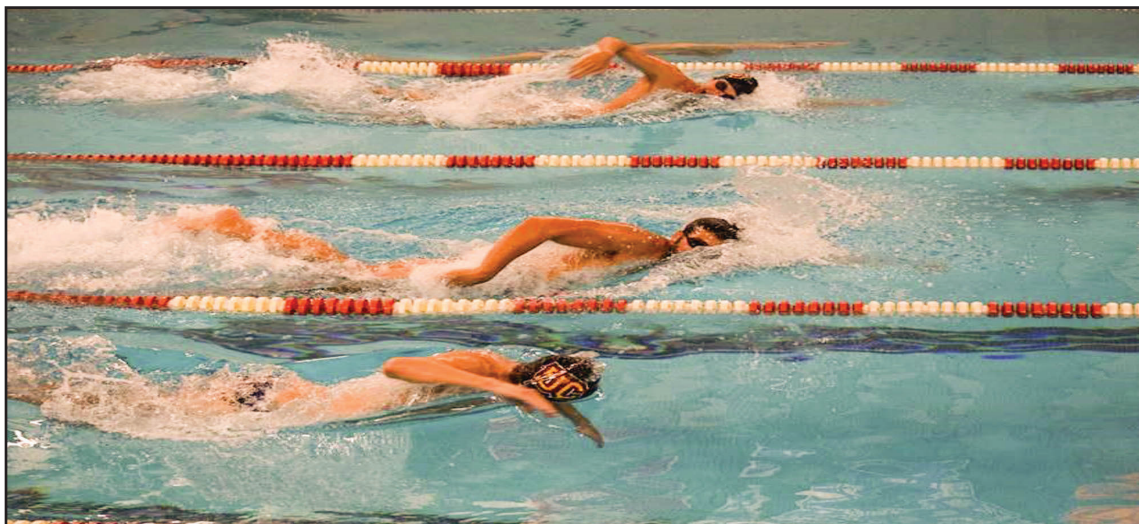


Photo Courtesy of Amelia Goldstein

The swim team during practice. The women have clinched three Centennial Conference Championships in the past three years. The women are looking for a superfeta of wins during the conference championship on Feb. 17.

# A message from the Grizzly editorial staff

Editorial Staff  
grizzly@ursinus.edu

In this issue, The Grizzly contains a report on a lawsuit filed by former Ursinus Dean and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Terry Winegar, alleging that his termination resulted from age discrimination by Ursinus. WHYY broke the story in December, and The Grizzly was alerted to the lawsuit anonymously a few weeks before that. We would like to use this space to address some issues related to that tip and remind the Ursinus community about our goals and mission.

The original note we received, which was addressed to editor-in-chief Brian Thomas and signed

anonymously by a person or persons claiming to be “Two troubled and tenured faculty members,” urged The Grizzly to report on the lawsuit, and provided a paper copy of Winegar’s publically available legal complaint. Despite being received in Ritter over the weekend, The Grizzly staff did not see this note, sent via post in an Ursinus envelope, until the night that our final issue of the fall semester was going to press, preventing us from any responsible coverage of the suit. We vowed internally to report on it in our next issue, which we have done.

Late last week, however, our advisor, MCS professor Nick Gilewicz, received another anonymous note with the same signature, expressing “disgust” and

frustration that we had not yet printed a story about the suit. The final paragraph of the note threatened Gilewicz by saying that if he did not insist The Grizzly report on this story, they would “hold him responsible” and “ask [their] colleagues in Media and Communications Studies to replace [him].”

We want to make it clear, in no uncertain terms, that The Grizzly is not publishing this story because of this threat. We make all editorial decisions independently, and we will not be bullied by anonymous letter-writers with unknown agendas. We also want to make it clear that our decision to wait until now to publish this story resulted not from an aversion to something that may reflect nega-

tively on the school, as the second letter to Gilewicz implied when it referenced the perceived “failure to do tough stories about the College’s administration under our new president.” It stemmed solely from the inconvenient timing of the original tip and a desire to not rush such a sensitive and multifaceted story. This newspaper serves the Ursinus community as a whole, and strives to provide balanced coverage of the events happening on campus. We stand by our work.

With the goal of transparency in mind, we would also like to share some information about our process that members of the Ursinus community may find useful. Our publication schedule is rigid, and dictated in part by the schedule of our off-site printer, whom we contract each year. We hear pitches from student reporters every Monday evening. They report these stories throughout the week, and then we edit them over the weekend, re-reporting when needed. These stories comprise the print edition of The Grizzly the following week. After hearing pitches for the future issue, we lay out the issue for that week, and send it to press late Monday night. Copies typically arrive on campus the Wednesday after we lay out. All of this is to say that, more often than not, it takes until the next Monday for a tip to be assigned to a reporter, and then another week until it is printed. It is not instantaneous, and it is driven by practical realities, not editorial indecision.

We hope that all members of the Ursinus community feel free to reach out to us with concerns or possible stories. We want this

newspaper to be of the community and for the community, and that can only happen if people trust us.

Additionally, we would like to re-assert our purpose on this campus. The Grizzly is indeed committed to reporting on issues and events of interest to the community. That said, it is also an educational endeavor. We intentionally operate as a space where students interested in journalism can gain first-hand experience, build a portfolio, and learn from their mistakes. It is a space where students can learn how to interview, write clearly, and hone their instincts. It is a space for learning as well as for reporting.

This message should not imply that we view ourselves as a perfect operation. We eagerly hear constructive critique, and move as swiftly as possible to rectify errors in our reporting when they are pointed out to us. We understand, like any newspaper, that mistakes get made, and learning how to mend them is part of the educational experience. We appreciate when people helpfully point out things we have missed, or topics we should focus on.

We hope the community understands that our goal is never to mindlessly promote the school’s initiatives, nor is it to vindictively churn out criticisms of the administration. Our goal is to provide insight into life here, give space for members of the community to share their experiences, and help students learn proper journalistic practices. We hope that the Ursinus community will aid us in this endeavor moving forward.