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Ursinus College Grizzly Newspaper

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#### The Grizzly, November 6, 2014

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**Brian Thomas** 

See next page for additional authors

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# Dr. Peter Small appointed as interim dean

**Deana Harley** deharley@ursinus.edu

After the untimely death of president Bobby Fong, dean Terry Winegar was appointed as interim president for Ursinus College. Taking on that position, Winegar could no longer serve as dean of the college, so Dr. Peter Small was appointed as interim dean of the college. Before being appointed as interim dean, Small was, and still is, chair of the department of biology and a professor of biology.

Small received his bachelor's degree in biology at Austin Peay University in Clarksville, Tennessee. After getting his bachelor's degree, Small went on to East Tennessee State University to earn his master's degree

After that, Small received his PhD at Miami University in Ohio. After earning his PhD, Small taught at Miami University for

While at Miami University, Small saw an ad for Ursinus College. He says the description of the ad immediately attracted him to Ursinus. Small is an ecologist, and that is exactly what was being advertised when he saw the ad.

'I drove over the day before the interview and just checked out the area and the campus without anything official," said Small, "and I loved it."

Small started his career at Ursinus as a professor of biology with a specialty in ecology, and that has remained since. Now that he is interim dean, this will be Small's last semester being a professor and chair of the department of biology.

Before being appointed as interim dean, Small was actually planning on retiring in two years. Now that he has been appointed as interim dean, Small plans on staying for an extra year. Small says Winegar needed somebody who had practical administrative experience, and that is what Small had.

Small is now finding himself essentially corresponding to himself since he is filling both positions of chair of biology, and interim dean. Therefore, he will also need to find a new chair of the biology department.

Small says he will miss being a professor and seeing his students in a classroom setting, because students are his favorite part of Ursinus. Small's research lab studies Diatom Population Dynamics, and he says working with students on that research is what he will miss most about being a professor. According to his research website, the research group has "recently focused their work on populations dynamics, periodicity, and annual cycling of

"To me, there's nothing better than being in a room with 20 bright students," Small said, "or having one on one work with a research student. That's why I came here and that's what I've been doing for years."

Small says that was his biggest fear when Winegar asked him to serve as interim dean, that he would be away from students.

"I wish there was a way to do this job and still teach," Small said, "but there isn't, and I'm finding that out right now."



Photo courtesy of Ursinus College Communications

(From left) Cari Freno, Charlie Stainback, Alan Bloch, and Nancy Berman all celebrate the opening of the latest art exhibition, Good Neighbors. It was during the gallery opening that the Berman Museum announced that they had received a \$200,000 grant.

# erman receives large grant

**Phoebe French** phfrench@ursinus.edu

A \$200,000 donation to be given over two years was made by the Berman Foundation to the Berman Museum of Art on Oct.

The Berman Foundation, based in Los Angeles, is headed by Nancy Berman, daughter of the late Philip and Muriel Berman. Philip Berman attended Ursinus College briefly from 1932 to 1933.

Berman Museum of Art director, Charles Stainback, appointed in April of 2013, said that the donation will be used for exhibitions and other related expenses. "It's a matching grant," said Stainback, "so we will be trying, over the next two years, to raise an additional \$200,000 to match that. That's our big challenge." Stainback says that he's working with the advancement office and is excited to take on this challenge.

"Philip Berman had a real

connection to the college," said Stainback. "In the late 1980's, it was decided that it would be good to have an art museum on campus, so he helped with some of the renovations of this building, gave an endowment to pay for the director's salary, and at that time, put over 2,000 works on long term loan to the Berman Museum from his collection." In the fall of 2013, the works that were on long term loan were permanently donated, amounting to around \$2.2

He is excited for the exhibitions that this donation will make possible. "We're being very ambitious and looking to do a lot of interesting exhibitions," says Stainback. "We want to start a dialogue [on campus] about ideas and artworks." Stainback is working with the philosophy department's Nathan Rein to get next year's CIE students involved with the museum.

"We're trying to program the

exhibitions so that there is a bigger connection with the students.'

"It is the goal of the Berman right now to draw in more people, students and the public," says senior Mallory Vukovic, "This [donation] will definitely help them accomplish that."

The Berman Museum's current exhibition, Good Neighbors, will be displayed until Jan. 11, 2015. Good Neighbors features a variety of works by 11 artists based in Philadelphia. The exhibition touches on themes of family, intimacy and nostalgia, and is "an effort to highlight an open, vibrant community of artists."

Upcoming exhibitions include A Stratigraphic Fiction (Time Before Time), opening Februrary 3, 2015, which will feature works from 1970 to the present, along with Museum Studies, also Opening February 3, 2015, which will feature 10 internationallyrenowned contemporary artists.



Photo courtesy of Andrew Tran

On Oct. 25, current students and alumni flocked to Reimert courtyard to celebrate homecoming weekend. Many areas of the campus were left covered in trash, including cans, bottles, and broken glass.

# Campus Safety handles thefts

Brian Thomas brthomas@ursinus.edu

A number of people have claimed to be the victims of theft and vandalism over homecoming weekend at Ursinus. With the high number of alumni and community members taking part in the events, there are few opportunities for repercussions and punishment for the culprits. While the number of reported incidents appears to be down from last year, some students have still fallen victim to theft and vandalism

Last year, Lucas Bricker, who was living in Reimert at the time, had his Xbox gaming console stolen. According to Bricker, a number of other residents' Xboxes, were stolen as well.

"The protocol was to essentially report it and wait to see what happens. They never did find the

culprit, so I never found out about repercussions," said Bricker in an email. "The only thing [campus safety] really did was say sorry, tell me to lock my doors next time, and say that they'd let me know if they found anything out."

Alex Wiltz, assistant director of campus safety and community standards, was not at Ursinus last year. His first homecoming saw little reported incidents of theft or vandalism.

"I can't think of anything that was reported," said Wiltz.

The protocol for handling reports of theft and vandalism on homecoming is the same as on normal weekends at Ursinus.

"We establish a time frame of when and where the incident happened, were the doors locked, who was around, stuff like that," said Wiltz.

After that, according to Wiltz,

the locksmith can pull the card swipe records if the incident occurred in a room or building that requires an identity card to enter.

The next step is for Wiltz or another member of the staff to continue communicating with the student.

"I'll follow up with the student to see if it [the missing item] has been found, and then investigate any leads," said Wiltz.

Typically, students are also encouraged to file a police report with the Collegeville Police Department as well. The campus safety staff helps to facilitate this. "We will walk them to the station if we can," said Wiltz.

A program implemented by campus safety involves having the officers carry business cards

See Thefts on pg. 3

# Graduates granted campus housing

Dysean Alexander dyalexander@ursinus.edu

Finding a place to live and start a life after college is commonly the top struggle for students after graduation, but for Ursinus alums John Lawrence and James Valentine, this confrontation has been delayed due to their being granted dormitory space for a ninth semester as they finish out their student-teaching requirements.

Lawrence and Valentine have both been granted rooms in North Dormitory in order to help lessen the strenuous commutes from their respective hometowns to the local schools of the Collegeville area. According to Lawrence, who is currently student teaching at local Spring-Ford High School, it allows him to work more efficiently since he lives more than an hour from the school.

"Since I live a little too far away, Ursinus was very accommodating, and let me choose whatever single I wanted in North Hall," said Lawrence.

Students select rooms each spring semester in the annual housing lottery which goes in order by year. Lawrence and Valentine, being part of the 2014 class, were able to select their rooms ahead of time spring semester 2014 due to circumstances of their situation.

Melissa Sanders-Giess, who aside from being assistant dean of students, also assists in providing leadership and direction for the assistant director and resident advisor programs including housing selection and assignment processes.

Sanders-Giess assisted these alumni in their needs for student

teaching and in order to fulfil their jobs.

"During fall housing lottery, we offer early placements to students who are members of a cohort that already graduated," said Giess. "Note that some students complete student teaching during their consecutive eight semesters, so this would not apply to them."

Although Lawrence and Valentine have been granted this privilege, and being graduates no longer have to pay tuition, they still must pay the cost of room and board, along with the credit cost of student teaching.

Student teaching is a requirement for students seeking to be certified in education and is a crucial part of these student's curriculum. Being able to have secure, convenient living makes the process more accessible and manageable without the constant concern/worry, but living back on campus after graduating can present separate challenges that Lawrence and Valentine each dealt with in many ways.

"It definitely feels a bit weird for me to be living back on campus again. Once you get the taste of four years of undergrad, coming back again isn't really the same," said Lawrence. "You're basically a student, but not the definition of a true undergraduate per-say."

Although the feeling may be uncomfortable at times, Lawrence said that his undergraduate and graduate friends give him constant support in his efforts of becoming an English Teacher.

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# Senate changes organization

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The student senate is reorganizing this year to strive to be more collaborative and governmental. The student senate was formed last year after Reimert Hall was shut down for a weekend in January. The senate formed in response to the shutdown, calling students in to discuss how to come up to solutions to the problems that caused the shutdown.

This year, though, the senate is aiming to become more political and be more representative of a broader spectrum of student life. Although the senate was disciplinary last semester after the Reimert shut-down, this year they hope to be more collaborative and governmental.

"Our initiative is to create student governance that is fit for our school," Tony Sierzega, president of the senate, said. "Essentially that means serving as a place that's open for dialogue and debate."

Sierzega goes on to say the senate really wants to acknowledge and incorporate student ideas this year. He said the group is interested in hearing the problems that students see around campus, and what they think the best solutions are.

One thing the senate changed so far this year is their executive board. They added one class representative for each class in hopes that those four people would be "senators," which are representamediators and middlemen for stutives from each organization on campus. Greek organizations and

Brian Kennedy, vice president of the senate, said he thinks the representatives are a key aspect to forming relationships between student government and the student body.

"The big change this year is that we have representatives for each grade," Kennedy said, "so we want the student body to know that that's a place where they could go with an issue they have, an idea they have, or anything they'd like to see changed."

Kennedy said when an issue is brought up to a representative or to anybody on the executive board, something will be done about it or it will at least get talked about if something can't be done.

One of the programs that the student senate implemented this year was the Reimert Courtyard Clean-up Program. When the student senate formed last January in response to problems in Reimert, trash was one of those problems and has continued to be an issue since.

In response, the senate formed a program so that when a suite registers a party, they are randomly assigned a weekend of court-yard clean-up. The senate did this last semester, but it became an actual program this semester.

One of the major changes the senate made this year was adding

"senators," which are representatives from each organization on campus. Greek organizations and clubs each have a representative that attends the meetings and discusses on behalf of that organization.

Another change the student senate made this year was the format of their meetings. Previously, meetings ran similar to a Town Hall meeting, meaning they became more of a question and answer format, according to Kennedy.

Now, Sierzega says the meetings will begin with a few agenda items from the senate then there will be time for the senators to raise any issues they have, and a discussion to follow. This makes for a more communicative group and a discussion that will hopefully lead to solutions to any problems raised.

Both Sierzega and Kennedy have big hopes for the growth of the student senate. Both agree that the student senate should be a governmental organization that all students can come to and discuss ideas, concerns, and suggestions. Sierzega said he hopes the student senate will be the "most deliberative student government this school has ever had."

Kennedy said he hopes the senate will be a place where students know they can go to see real changes made, or, at minimum, real discussions.

#### Thefts continued from pg. 2

that read "This could have easily been stolen...Make sure you secure your belongings," along with the campus safety phone number.

This program was established in hopes of not only preventing theft, but encouraging students to be more wary of where they leave their items.

If a campus safety officer sees a personal item lying around, they will take it to the campus safety office and leave the card where it was. This lets the student know that their property is safe, where it is, and that they should be more careful about securing it.

Bricker, who no longer lives in Reimert, said that he did not experience anything similar during this year's homecoming.

Jonathan Vander Lugt, who had his GPS stolen from his car last year, found his car vandalized this year. [Full Disclosure: Vander Lugt is the sports editor for The Grizzly.]

Vander Lugt found his license plate bent upward as though from what appeared to be a theft attempt. The license plate was damaged from the incident.

On normal weekends, campus safety officers patrol the whole campus

On homecoming weekend, however, the three officers on duty are assigned to carefully monitor specific areas. Wiltz said that the officers respond to calls along with RAs and Wiltz himself

During homecoming, one offi-

cer is assigned to Reimert, including the parking lot, another is at the main campus, and another is mobile on Main Street.

"We make sure we are fully staffed," said Wiltz.

"We like to know where we are during homecoming so we can back each other up," said Wiltz.

The officer assigned to Reimert patrols the parking lot as well. Later in the night, however, the officers tend to end up at Reimert responding to calls, according to Wiltz.

Campus Safety encourages students who have fallen victim to theft and vandalism at any time to report the incident.

"If they're not reporting anything, we can't do anything," said Wiltz.

#### International Perspective

## Learning to embrace American foods

**Justin Zheng** 

In the fall of 2011, I arrived at Chicago O'Hare airport for the first time in my life. After two and a half hours, I got to my high school dormitory, Ella Dye, in Beaver Dam, WI.

I felt extremely hungry and the dinner that I wanted was some hot soup and regan noodles, which are traditional, spicy Chinese noodles with sesame sauce. However, I ended up eating toasted bread and cold milk, because the cafeteria was almost closed.

The whole night I was starving and for the first two weeks I could not get used to the food in America. After I finished all the food that I brought from China, I had no choice but to eat in the cafeteria.

Since regan noodles are my favorite Chinese food, I started to try some similar food, such as pasta and spaghetti in the cafeteria. It was not bad!

I began to eat with my roommate who was an American. More and more food went onto my "waiting list," and I started to like them. After months, I could even make my own personal favorite salads and sandwiches.

Time traveled fast. Two months ago I started my new life here at Ursinus College. As a student who has studied in the Midwest US before, I did not have any hard transitions, especially with food, compared to other international Asian students.

I have seen a lot of students who, like the "old me," struggle with American food, and some of them were even crazier. They have gone to Wismer only once or twice this year.

Other than that, they eat instant noodles or instant rice in their room. The result of not eating fresh food might make them sick. Therefore, I have thought a long time about how to solve this problem.

Either people change the environment or the environment changes people. I think there can be two solutions. The first would be that people change the envi-

ronment. If I were in charge of Wismer, I would open an Asian food section in Upper. This thought would not only benefit the Asian international students, but also improve the diversity in Upper Wismer.

I think the second solution would be that the environment changes people, which seems more realistic than the first solution. For instance, students get up in the morning to have breakfast.

Three options are croissants with American cheese and sausage, bagels with American cheese and bacon or only fruits. Since those are my personal preferences, international Asian students might be more likely to have a taste for them as well.

Saying the environment changes people encourages Asian international students to get rid of their traditional thoughts about American food and really try something new every day in Wismer. By trying different foods at Wismer, students may be able to find their own favorites.

I think my solution would also be a good way for some of the American students who are not used to the food in Wismer yet, since this is the first time that they are attending a boarding school. Food in Wismer may not be the same as the food that is made by parents, but it is always good to give it a try.

How I got used to American food is by doing this. If all of the international Asian students thought like this, I believe that everyone who is not used to the food in Wismer would become used to it.

#### **Author Bio**

Justin Zheng is an international student from Wuhan, China. He is planning to be a business major. Justin is a member of Meistersingers and the Southeast Asian Student Association.

# FEATURES



Photo courtesy of Alexis Primavera

Myrin Library will be undergoing renovations for the 2014-2015 school year to create a more comfortable and inviting environment for the Ursinus community.

## yrin undergoes renovations

**Aliki Torrence** altorrence@ursinus.edu

Myrin Library is in the process of making significant changes to its overall appearance. Renovations are already underway. In an effort to create a new look and more comfortable place for students to hang out and get their work done, Myrin Library is altering the general look of the

The staff plans to create more seating all throughout the library along with new study rooms going in on the third floor. Within the next year the library staff also plans to reconfigure the whole first floor by moving the circulation desk and creating a more casual environment.

Eleven years ago there was a significant flood in Myrin ruining most of the second floor. Fixing what was ruined was first on the list but making any new changes wasn't in the budget at the time.

"As libraries are becoming less and less popular it is more important to offer a variety of seating options to allow students to feel comfortable in the space they are studying," said Maureen Damiano, manager of library operations.

As technology advances and offers more choices in the ways we gather information, the library

must adjust to accommodate these advances.

"There are obviously changes going on, libraries in this day and age are changing their flavor," said Maureen Damiano. "Libraries all over need to find different ways to make things more user-

There are a lot of things that are changing when it comes to libraries. Recently, there has been less of an emphasis on hard copies of books and more of an emphasis on growing the eBook

"We still want to maintain the integrity of the collection of hard copies but still get rid of some materials that people really aren't using," said Damiano. "We just recently added over 130,000 eBooks to the collection."

Most of the noticeable changes are happening on the third floor. Over the fall break renovations started to offices that are going to be used for administrative IT staff with a long-term goal of changing them over to student study rooms.

The first floor is going to be in the process of becoming more of a collaborative and active floor

"We would like to make the first floor more of a place for students to be working together for group projects and help centers," said Damiano. "We would like to eventually have the writing center and more of the help centers on the first floor.'

Most of the circulation desk staff is full Ursinus students who are seeing these changes right before their eyes.

"I think the new renovations are a great for the library at this time, it's great to see how the students are adapting nicely to everything," said junior Danielle Stong, a circulation desk employ-

Moving more books to the basement where not many people go to study is going to create more space on the first and second floor for more areas to study. This is the primary point of the changes in Myrin. The library staff would like to overall create a more comfortable environment for students.

Myrin will continue with the renovations throughout the semester and on through next semester. The library staff would like to create a more relaxed place for students go when doing work alone or with a group.

"I think the main goal is to make the library more like a coffee shop - like Starbucks - but without the coffee if you will," said sophomore Ann Kopera, a circulation desk employee.

### Watson Fellowship nominees announced

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The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship was established by the Thomas J. Watson Foundation in 1968 with the mission of offering college graduates the opportunity to pursue a year of independent, purposeful exploration outside the United States.

The program provides fellows an opportunity for a focused and disciplined year of their own devising, a period in which they can have some surcease from a traditional educational and career pattern in order to explore with thoroughness a particular interest.

During their year abroad, fellows immerse themselves in the cultures to which they travel. They receive a \$28,000 grant, cannot return to the United States, and must write 4 quarterly reports on their experiences.

Currently, the Thomas J. Watson Foundation considers the applications of students from 40 liberal arts colleges and universities.

According to Melissa Hardin, assistant dean for international studies, the fellowship "asks applicants what they really care about in life."

Hardin added that, "the goal of the Program is to develop the person. It's not about research, it's about personal growth."

Senior biology major and Watson nominee Jamie Fasselt grew up on the Appalachian Trail. Through her interactions with its plant and wildlife, she developed a close relationship with nature. That connection "has shaped the person I've become," she said.

But Fasselt, during her studies at Ursinus, came to realize that her "conception of nature came from a relatively privileged place," she explained. "I mostly experience nature through leisure."

In modern times, as industries pose increasing pressure on natural resources, Faselt understands the importance of the marks we

"To be sure," she explained, "I have an aversion to clear-cutting forests, industrial mining, and smog-filled cities, but I acknowledge that we need to extract and

See Watson on pg. 5

#### Word on the Street

What is your major and what would you major in if you didn't pick your current major?

"I'm a history major. If I could pick a different major, I would definitely pick media and communications studies. The courses that the MCS department offers are fantastic and are very interesting!" - Michael Hoffman, 2016

"That's a tough question. I'm an MCS major but it would be definitely either theater or psychology. Theater because it's a passion of mine but also psychology because I think the way the mind works is so interesting." - Jordan Dunnigan, 2015

"Probably I would be a history major. That is my current minor, because I love it, but I was always concerned about finding a career path I would enjoy so I chose to major in business and economics instead. I promise I love my major though!" - Kirsten Biehl, 2017

"My major is BSMB (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) and if they didn't have that I would major in biology and minor in chemistry." -Sophia Lisowski, 2016

"My current major is history, with an education minor. However, if I wasn't doing history I would love to do theater, mostly because I love theater and acting. But also because I know a lot of the current theater majors, and they seem to really enjoy it!" -Drew Capone, 2016

# Dr. Jennifer Fleeger writes book on mismatched female voices in film

Christopher Santoro chsantoro@ursinus.edu

Finding inspiration can come from anywhere and at any time. To Dr. Jennifer Fleeger, it came as she was putting her son Hugo to sleep.

"It always starts with me asking a question about why I do something a certain way," said Fleeger.

Fleeger, an associate professor of media and communications studies at Ursinus College, is the author of two books. Originally, Fleeger did not see herself in her current role or even as an author. She began her college studies at Macalester College in St. Paul Minnesota where she studied cultural anthropology and music. Although film studies wasn't the focus of Fleeger's studies, she always had interest in films.

"I have always enjoyed movies," said Fleeger. "In high school the library would mail movies home to your house and I would get stacks of movies on my front porch to watch."

After working at a film house in New York for several years, she planned to pursue a Ph.D. in film studies to become a curator. She watched the films she showed at the theatre and wanted to know why and what they meant to us as a culture. Her plan shifted again after she began to enjoy teaching and leading discussion in the classroom.

"I like very much directing the conversation in class," Fleeger said. "Relating them to other students and then connecting them to what I have learned."

Fleeger's first book, "Sounding American: Hollywood, Opera and Jazz," gives a history and narrative of the connection between the musical world and the film world during the crossover from silent film to sound in the American cinema. She talks about how the genres of opera and jazz affected more change than originally thought previously by other critics and touches on issues of race, gender and ethnicity. She wrote this because she wanted to find the historical context of the evolution of sound in film and why certain things were more important than others.

Fleeger's second book, "Mismatched Women: The Siren's Song Through the Machine," found more inspiration than just a historical question of context. As a mother, wife and woman, she drew on women that seemed to inspire her in her life in different ways. Deanna Durbin and Kate Smith seemed to be the spark she needed to find an answer the question of how we view women whose voices do not match their bodies. This was important to her because she thought of this question by performing a normal task of motherhood. The task was singing her child to sleep. She thought she was doing her child a disservice when she stopped singing to her child. She let others sing to him rather than sing to her child herself.

"I was worried that my son would eventually not be able to recognize my own voice, with all the voices I had been using to put him to sleep," said Fleeger.

She then went on to research the lives of women like Deanna Durbin and Kate Smith as well as a few others to see if their voices matched their bodies. She found that the way we view those women actually appears to be put together incorrectly based on these women's voices.

"The view that we have on women is actually dependent on the voice we hear and if it doesn't match then we actually view the women differently," said Fleeger.

She has also brought these experiences and her research to the classroom allowing her students to expand on what she knows and is trying to teach students. Dr. Louise Woodstock sees the importance of this practice in Fleeger's classroom.

"By utilizing her own knowledge she has gained from the research she has done, she can actually allow for more in depth conversation to occur in the classroom," said Woodstock.

Fleeger's research works to add a new level of depth and provides students with a larger wealth of knowledge to learn from.

Through her life experiences she made a connection to the past. She now relates the view of these women to her everyday life as she tries to expand her own mind as well as those around her.



Photo courtesy of Alexis Primavera

Jennifer Fleeger received her Ph.D. from the University of Iowa and has since written two books. Her research includes feminist theory, Scandinavian film, American cinema, film music, and sound studies.

Watson continued from pg. 4

use resources; we are going to leave our marks on the earth. The question to ask is what kinds of marks should we be leaving?"

For her Watson year, she wishes to, in her words, "take a step back from my preconceptions of the word 'nature'—to challenge and broaden my conception of nature by going to places where people experience nature as necessity."

Faselt wants to travel to Belize, South Africa, Australia, Greenland, and India. These countries utilize nature in several different ways. In South Africa, conservation efforts are a necessity to keep many animal species from going extinct.

In India, nature is part of the spiritual experience. Greenland is using their increase of landmass due to global warming as leverage to declare independence from Denmark.

Her interactions with people in these countries "will take many forms," she explained. "My questions will be shaped throughout the course of my journey." She will talk to artisans, business leaders, politicians, as well as people on the street to gain a better understanding of these people's conceptions of nature.

The other Watson Fellowship nominees from Ursinus' class of 2015, and their project titles, are Rosie Davis-Aubrey—"I Am Every Woman: Exploring the Rites of Passage of Young Women through Dance," Emily Duffy—"Of the body/on the body: Narratives of tattoo and womanhood," and Kimberly Quintero—"Street Art Hebelution: Voices in the Urban Landscape."

#### Correction from October 30, 2014

Last week, an article referred to the U-Innovate competition. In fact, the competition's name has been changed to the Bear Innovation Competition this year.

#### **Happening on Campus**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
6:00 p.m. CAB Event: Pinterest Night 7:00 p.m. International Film Festival: 'Populaire' (French)	10:00 a.m. Deena Gu Laties: Early Work Early Scrolls Exhibition	9:00 a.m 1:00 p.m. Collegeville Farm- ers' Market	1:00 p.m 5:00 p.m. Festifall	12:10 p.m. Aqua Zumba with Becky DiMino	12:00 p.m. Philly Fellows information session	6:00 p.m. Ursinus College Environmental Action (UCEA)
	opens			7:00 p.m. BEAR Pitch Com-	All Day Road Trip - Visit	meeting
	7:30 p.m. Ursinus College Wind Ensemble			petition	Organizations over winter break	8:30 p.m. Gender and Sexuality Alliance meeting

# "The Francis effect" alters public perception of Roman Catholic Church

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Pope Francis, leader of the Roman Catholic Church, has distinguished himself as a unique and 'untraditional' figure. Francis, the first non-European pope in 1,300 years, has often expressed tolerance on a range of issues. He has famously asked, "Who am I to judge?" and has spurred conjecture from both conservative and liberal proponents.

In other venues, Francis has also stressed the importance of highlighting God's mercy instead of focusing on specific church doctrine and rules. His lack of emphasis on specific traditional policies has led many to believe that change is on the way. This hasn't come without retribution, however, as we have seen many conservative cardinals react apprehensively to the pope's open attitude.

Pope Francis and senior

Catholic leaders recently met for a two-week summit to discuss challenges of the modern family in which numerous groundbreaking declarations were made. A midpoint report on the topic impelled a "pastoral earthquake" as language of welcome and appreciation for gay people, divorced couples, remarried Catholics, and cohabiting couples was used. This language, apparently favored by Francis himself, has caused much speculation and has earned him titles around the world such as "the Pope of Process."

Although this may be pure speculation, debate and discussion over the acceptance of these untraditional views are a move in an unfamiliar direction for the Catholic Church. Change is hard, especially for the Roman Catholic Church, who has always presented itself and its teachings as absolute. It's hard to deny symptoms of evolving doctrine within the institution, however.

Pope Francis' accepting view on people of any demographic is explained by his understanding of the evolving world we live in. In an interview with Antonio Spadaro for America Magazine, he was asked what his hopes were for the universal church given an exponential growth in churches established in recent years.

He replied, "For me, the relationship between the ancient Catholic churches and the young ones is similar to the relationship between young and elderly people in a society. They build the future, the young ones with their strength and the others with their wisdom... The younger churches are likely to feel self-sufficient; the ancient ones are likely to want to impose on the younger churches their cultural models. But we build the future together."

Here Francis explains how we are at a crossroad between traditional mindsets and evolving ones. He hopes to find middle ground and build a path in which both can co-exist peacefully.

Francis' humility and empathy towards people of all variations and in particular sexual orientation has made him popular throughout the world. Here in America, a pew research center poll conducted by CNN found that 85% of Catholic Americans view him favorably and more than 71% say that the new pope is a change for the better.

These kind of numbers haven't been seen since Pope John Paul II's prime. Francis' connection with the people didn't just sprout out of nowhere, as he has had a close connection with the community since his days as a pastor in his home country of Argentina. Rev. Gustavo Morello, an expert on Argentina's Catholic History, vouched for him himself.

"He's always been pastoral, close to the people," says Morello, now a sociologist at Boston College. "The simplicity in his daily life, that's real." The effects of Francis' charisma have simply been magnified since being elected to the highest position over a year ago.

The Vatican's softened tone on homosexuals seems to be as a direct result of the pope's open mindset. In an evolving world I see it as very timely that such an unconventional mind was elected to the position at this time. Francis understands that the harsh rejection of those with "untraditional" lifestyles will no longer be accepted as it once was. The world is simply changing and as he says "the elderly must learn to co-exist with the young". Pope Francis is bringing hope to the homosexual community among other catholic minorities. Although complete reversal of doctrine in highly unlikely to happen, it seems that the church is moving in the right direction towards acceptance.

# How proactive is rape prevention nail polish?

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Breaking news for women all over the world: four male undergraduates from North Carolina State University, Ankesh Madan, Stephen Gray, Tasso Von Windheim, and Tyler Confrey-Maloney, invented a nail polish that can detect whether or not your drink was spiked, according to Newsweek. The four guys came together and realized there was very little technology that could detect date rape drugs.

They decided to combine modern chemistry with a product that women use regularly and turn it into a tool to keep women safe from date rape. This product goes by the name of Undercover Colors. According to the product's Facebook page, "Our [the inventors'] goal is to invent technologies that empower women to protect themselves from this heinous

and quietly pervasive crime."

By just dipping a finger with the nail polish on it into a drink, it can detect a date rape drug. If a drug is present, the nail polish color will change. This product can detect the common date rape drugs such as Rohypnol, Xanax and GHB.

I believe this product to be a breakthrough for women. This is an easy way to check to make sure a drink is safe. The reality is, people will try to take advantage of a girl who is drinking. It is extremely helpful for women to have this as an option to stay safe. Of course, there are always other ways to be on the defense and stay proactive about safety when it comes to date rape drugs. This is just a very practical option.

The other advantage to this product is that it detects the problem before the situation gets out of hand. If a woman can see her drink has been tampered with,

that product potential just saved her life. Other options for safety, like self-defense classes are impractical. First, a self-defense class is only is helpful if a woman is sexually assaulted before she is drugged. Once a woman is drugged, her ability to use her defense mechanisms is impaired. Second, even with training in self-defense there is the possibility the attacker is just stronger and better trained, which renders the skills learned in the class useless. This product takes women out of a dangerous situation before any harm is done.

However, there are opposing opinions. Some women feel this product is putting the blame on the victim and not the culprit. They say the focus should be on stopping the date rapist in the first place.

Guardian columnist Jessica Valenti criticized such products, writing in her column August 2014: "Prevention tips or products that focus on what women do or wear aren't just ineffective, they leave room for victimblaming when those steps aren't

I agree to an extent, but even though these women feel it is putting the blame on the victim it still is potentially saving their lives as well.

Ethan Wright, a senior at Ursinus College also disagreed with the opinion of Valenti. He said, "I don't see any downsides to putting your finger in a drink and detecting a date rape drug. There is no downside to using it as prevention. I completely disagree with someone saying don't use it because it just encourages the criminal. In that case, don't lock your doors and let a burglar in ordon't pull someone over if they are suspected to be drunk driving. That just doesn't make sense."

Wright's statement is accu-

rate. Even if there is the chance this product is victim-blaming, it is still wrong to not try and prevent the situation from happening if you have the means. I agree, Undercover Colors is a way to ensure safety in a subtle and practical manner. The four guys who designed this product were not talking about the "what ifs" of the future of date rape; they were solving the right now. No one has the ability to stop date rape completely. There is always a chance someone is going to slip something into your drink, so this product has a capability of keeping women safe now.



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# Men's swim hoping to make a splash

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The Ursinus men's swim team had a solid season last year, finishing third at championships led by head coach Mark Feinberg. The Bears will look to build on last year's success and hopefully reach new heights in the 2014-15

Feinberg got right to business immediately following the 2013-14 slate. "I started asking for their goals right after the season ended," he said.

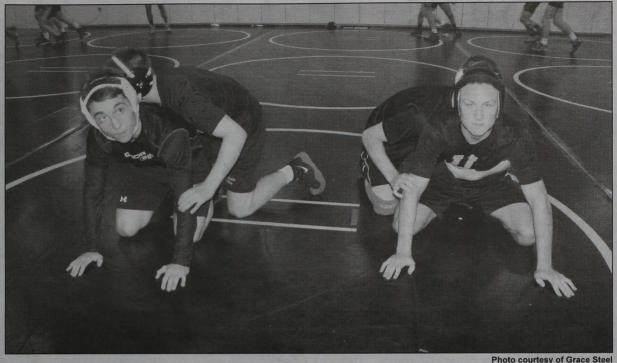
It gave players the ability to have short term goals to set for the summer. The theory of him asking for their goals at a much earlier time than previous years was so that players would come into the season in better shape.

Co-captain and senior Ben Jumper stated he's seen a couple of improvements within the team this year as well. "We hold each other accountable, and push each other every day," said Jumper.

"We hold each other accountable and phrase it in a positive way," said Jumper. "We challenge each other in the weight room, getting people to do an extra rep."

Josef Gershun, another senior co-captain added, "This year we've done more leg work with medicine balls which helps our foot turns when swimming."

See Swimming on pg. 8



Both Anthony and Austin Petril (left) and Christian and Keven Hoogheem (right) are seen at practice on Oct. 31. The wrestling team attended the Messiah Invitational on Nov. 1 and came in 6th place, with a score of 37.5

# inning down success

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This year, the wrestling team is looking to capture its third consecutive championship in a row. The Bears were recognized as the favorite to win the Centennial Conference title while receiving seven of eight first place votes in a preseason poll. With a lot of talent returning and a big freshman class, the 2014-2015 season will be led by head coach Bill Racich, in his 35th season.

"It's a blessing to be here. I love this place, the student athletes are wonderful. The people on campus are fantastic," Racich said. "The leadership present on down to the board of directors, everyone has the same philosophy and its academics first then athletics come second."

While wrestling does feature individual matches, the sport in general is formatted around a team structure. With that in mind, the guys here work hard to create a pleasant environment for one

"The biggest thing about maintaining a good team atmosphere is to realize we are all going through the same grind as the guy next to you," junior Joseph Cruz said. "We need to support each other just like any other team sport would do."

Something to look forward to this year is the hosting of the NCAA Championships in Hershey, Pa. While the team must compete still, there are high goals and expectations for this year's roster. Not to mention, there are a lot of high hopes about this team'quest for a three-peat and push for nationals.

"My expectations are for us to win the national title. We train every day like we are the national champs so it goes naturally that we expect to win," said Nathaniel

This Saturday, Nov. 8, the team will compete in the Fall Brawl Tournament as Ursinus will be hosting the event. More than just a sport, wrestling means a lot to the athletes here at the college and the team takes pride in having a mindset focused on success.

"So far my experience here at Ursinus has been great. From a wrestling perspective, I am grateful enough to say that I have a good coaching staff that shares the same mind-set that I do, and does not tolerate failure or underachieving," said Giancarlo Mor-

With tough practices and a lot of discipline that is required off the mat, each individual must focus on their part to make the team stronger while balancing the academic workload that Ursinus has set for their student athletes.

"It's been an unbelievable experience so far as a student athlete at Ursinus," John Morrison said. "I feel I have a great mix of athletic and academic success here. Also, it's so helpful to look over at practice and realize that yeah this is an individual sport but I have thirty other guys going through the same thing I am and are depending on my successes just as much I am on theirs."

As a new month begins, we can all expect our wrestling team

See Wrestling on pg. 8

#### Last Week's Scores as of Monday Nov. 3:

#### Football (6-2) Hockey(14-3) M Soccer (6-8-3) W Soccer (9-6-2) Volleyball (13-14) W Swimming (1-0) M Swimming (1-0) Wrestling Oct. 31 vs. Johns Nov. 1 vs. Muhlenberg Oct. 29 at Haverford Oct. 29 at Eastern Oct. 29 at Muhlen-Nov. 1 at Dickinson Nov. 1 at Dickinson Nov. 1 at Messiah Hopkins UC: 7, Muhlenberg: 0 UC: 0. Haverford: 3 UC: 2, Eastern: 1 UC: 111, Dickinson: 90 UC: 104, Dickinson: Invite Goals (UC): Valerie UC: 0, Muhlenberg: 3 UC: 14, Johns Hop-Goals (UC): Megan 6th place with 37.5 Keenan (2), Danielle Nov. 1 at Muhlenberg (9-25, 17-25, 9-25) kins: 42 Bedrock (2) points Stong (3), Samantha UC: 0, Muhlenberg: 1 Kevin Monahan: 25-46 Nov. 1 at Muhlenberg Macchio (2) Alex Kramer finished passing, 192 yds, 1TD UC: 2, Dickinson: 1 second at 149 lbs Goals (UC): Ama Achi-Michael Longo: 2 Austin Petril finished aw, Jeannie Jasinski third at 125 lbs.

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Wrestling continued from pg. 7

to perform at a high level this winter. They are just one of the many teams here at Ursinus that is built on academic and athletic success from their respected coaches and players. With only a limited amount of spots for players to wrestle during the matches, there is no distraction from the team's overall success.

"Yes it's an individual sport but it is also a team sport. I want my teammates to do just as good as I do and I hope they have the same support for me," said Cruz

It seems that success and winning are something that Racich is used to as well. All his life he has been a winner. Throughout his entire wrestling career, Racich has accumulated numerous awards.

But more importantly than his accomplishments, he focused on his team and working with the student athletes and gives credit to his coaching staff.

"I believe my coaching staff is better than I am," Racich said. "They all have a different vision and a different outlook; they all come from different angles. It is so important for our athletes to get different coaching philosophies and different styles across the board. More importantly, we all work together as one staff and one team."



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#### Swimming continued from pg. 7

The swim team manages to keep a positive atmosphere throughout their whole season. Gershun said, "We take a trip halfway through the season to Florida." During this trip they eat out at different restaurants, and it brings the whole team closer.

Just like any other year, as last year's seniors leave a new group of seniors that are pushed into that position. "There are a couple seniors who can give the 100 a run and sophomores who can give the 50 a run," said Coach Feinberg.

"The team counts on the sophomores and juniors to step up," said Jumper. "When your senior year rolls around, you've adjusted and gotten used to playing collegiate sports, but continued success comes from the sophomores and juniors."



Photo courtesy of Andrew Tran

Coach Mark Feinberg provides instruction during a mid-afternoon swim practice. The men's swim team officially began their season on Nov. 1 at Dickinson College and secured a victory with a score of 104-101.



Photo courtesy of Jon Vander Lugt

Megan Keenan is seen here with the ball during field hockey's Oct. 25 match against Dickinson. Keenan led the Bears and the Centennial Conference in scoring with 50 points.

# Field hockey to host Centennial playoffs

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After four years, Centennial Conference championship will be returning to Ursinus, giving the Bears home field advantage.

The team, currently ranked sixth in the nation, will be hosting the championship because they are the first seed within the conference. Since 2011, the championship has been held at Franklin & Marshall but this year the coaches and players are eager to bring the tournament back home.

"It's really exciting to be able to host after a few years, it certainly gives us an advantage," said head coach Janelle Benner. "We are taking all of our energy coming in from a great season and channeling it towards the tournament next weekend."

"Hosting this year definitely makes a statement within the conference," said sophomore Aliki Torrence. "We are not playing around. We are out to win and to get the job done."

In preparation, the girls are going back to the basics. The team comes out of every game and discusses the mistakes they made and what they need to work on for the next game. They use scouling reports to study their competitors and prepare for what they need to work on. The girls practice like they play in games.

A lot of prep work also happens behind the scenes. On Monday, Oct. 27, Benner participated in a conference call between all the parties involved in the tournament to discuss the playoff guidelines. As well as accommodating the conference's guidelines, Ursinus has to prepare the field, make programs, and be ready for anything thrown at them. "To be able to host, it's definitely all worth it." said Benner.

Hosting the championship undeniably has its perks. "[We love] playing on our surface," said senior captain Nora Kornfeld of the Bears' spongy home turf. "Our turf is different than many others' so we love being able to play our game on our field."

Benner and her team all believe they can succeed in bringing home another win for Ursinus this year. Benner explained that in order to win, the team will need to focus on the specifics of every game and capitalize on their opportunities.

"I think we can bring home another trophy because we go into everything a game at time," said Torrence. "We don't go into anything thinking we're going to win because you never know who will show up to play."

"I have so much confidence in my teammates," said Kornfeld. "We have a lot of potential and if we play the way we have been playing, we definitely have the ability to keep bringing the championship title back home to

#### **Upcoming Schedule:**

Wednesday

**Thursday** 

Frida

Saturday

Saturday Cont'd.

M&W Swimming at Albright

6:00 p.m.



W Soccer vs. Johns Hopkins Centennial Playoffs at Gettysburg 4:00 p.m.

Field Hockey vs. TBA Centennial Playoffs at Ursinus 12:00 p.m.

Football at Muhlenberg 1:00 p.m.

Wrestling hosts Fall Brawl

M&W Swimming at Lebanon Valley 12:00 p.m.

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