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## The Grizzly, October 23, 2014

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# THE GRIZZLY

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF URSINUS COLLEGE

IN THIS ISSUE:  
Good Neighbors pg. 2  
Dr. Throop pg. 4  
Death Penalty pg. 6  
Field Hockey pg. 8

COLLEGEVILLE, PA.

THURSDAY, OCT. 23 2014

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## Website launching

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Ursinus will be launching a new website either later this month or early next month. The new website aims to be more user-friendly, more visually appealing, and more informative, said Paul Dempsey, web director and project leader.

The production of the new website began in June 2013 when a proposal was submitted to design firms from a committee that Dempsey formed, according to the blog regarding the website. The committee included members from the dean's office, admissions, students, faculty and more.

Dempsey had the idea to make a new website three years ago when he started working at Ursinus.

"It wasn't presenting us in the best light," Dempsey said in regards to the current website. "It's kind of a dark and gloomy site, with tiny fonts and it's not very user friendly."

One of the main reasons Dempsey felt the need for a new website was because of the increased usage of mobile devices. Students and other community members are using more and more mobile devices, including phones and tablets, to access the website. The current website does not adapt well to such devices because the page is not made to adjust to different screen sizes.

In early 2013, the committee received funding for the new website. The committee wrote a request for proposal, and sent it out to many different web design firms last summer. Dempsey picked firms that he was familiar with that he knew had worked with colleges in the past and that



Photo courtesy of Ursinus College Communications

Students and alumni collectively cheer for the Bears at the 2013 homecoming football game. This year's homecoming will take place on Oct. 25-26, and begin with the annual Grizzly Gala.

## Homecoming kicking off this weekend

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Homecoming 2014 has a packed schedule for all students, faculty and alumni on campus. This year's events will begin on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 9 a.m. and will run for the remainder of the day. As always, there are a variety of events, including Ursinus athletics, exhibits, performances and a wide variety of foods.

The day will start with the Bear Pack 5k Run that will begin at 9 a.m. and costs \$25. This 5k run will begin on the Ursinus College campus with registration beginning at 8 a.m. Race applications can be found at [www.ursinus.edu/homecoming](http://www.ursinus.edu/homecoming).

[www.ursinus.edu/homecoming](http://www.ursinus.edu/homecoming).

There will be an Admission 101 information session held in Pfahler 106 from 11 a.m. - noon. This program will give those in attendance an idea of what colleges and universities are looking for when making admissions decisions. Ursinus assistant directors of admission Alyssa Daloisio '10 and Logan Duffie '11 will be leading the discussion. This event is open to all Ursinus families with prospective college students.

The Bruins Club is sponsoring Bears' Brews & Bites from noon - 4 p.m. This event will be in the Kaleidoscope plaza and invites all Ursinus Alumni to get the of-

ficial UC tailgate started. All current students who are 21 years and older are also invited to join the festivities. It will cost \$10 for all you can drink beverages provided by Victory Brew Pub, and \$20 for the Victory Brew Pub and BBQ buffet.

"This should be a great event for Homecoming 2014," said Anthony Sierzega, president of the Ursinus College Student Government. "It's a great opportunity for students and alumni to get together and show their support for the school."

Ursinus Athletics will be busy, starting with a noon game between Ursinus Field Hockey and Dickinson. At 1 p.m. the

UC football team will take on Susquehanna at Patterson Field before the men's soccer team battles McDaniel at 5:30 p.m. There will also be a women's lacrosse alumnae game at 9 a.m. on the Eleanor Frost Snell Field.

The Berman Museum of Art will be hosting two exhibitions beginning at noon. You can stop by and enjoy "Sleep," featuring photographs from Michael Putnam and video from Andy Warhol, and "Good Neighbors" which is a project of different works from local contemporary

See Homecoming on pg. 3

See Website on pg. 2

# Board to discuss new president “Good Neighbors” debuting this week

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Ursinus' board of trustees will meet this week to discuss and vote on how the presidential transition will proceed.

Following the passing of Dr. Bobby Fong on Sept. 8, Dr. Terry Winegar assumed presidential responsibilities of the college in his role as executive vice president. This week, the board will vote to reaffirm this transition of power as well as whether Winegar's title will change.

"I don't think there's any doubt that Dean Winegar will continue with the presidential duties," Alan Novak, chairman of the board, said. "But we will continue with succession planning."

The primary decisions to be made at Friday's meeting include whether or not to initiate a national search for the next president of the college, and if so, the initial parameters of that search and of

the search committee.

There is a "healthy conversation" surrounding whether to open a national search for a new president among the faculty and staff, Novak said, and there is some division of opinion.

The faculty governance committee, which is responsible for holding faculty elections, will submit a report to the board this week summarizing the faculty's perspective on whether to initiate a national search.

"There are people in both of those camps, and they're not mutually exclusive," said April Kontostathis, an associate professor of computer science and chairman of the faculty governance committee. "Some faculty are encouraging internal candidates to apply for the national position, but there's just no consensus. People have a lot of different opinions. A lot of my colleagues think that there is a consensus when there

actually is not."

One representative from the faculty, staff, and students will be present at the board meeting, but they will not have a voting role.

While the board will vote on whether to initiate a search committee at the meeting, Novak reiterated that the search process would include community members of all levels.

"We've opened up the lines of communication between students, staff, and faculty," Novak said. "Everyone who has a stake in the college should be involved in this."

Faculty are anxious to hear the board's decision, according to Kontostathis.

"In my own personal opinion, we're in limbo mode, and that's been frustrating for a lot of people," Kontostathis said. "I agree that a national search is the way to do things, but I don't know if we can take it again this soon."

website, Dempsey said, so getting different faculty and staff members who were already very busy to devote time to it was very challenging, but paid off for the production team once people did devote time.

Olivia Frymark, a student who worked with Student Affairs on the content of the website, says the new website has many new features.

"The new site definitely aims to be visually appealing as well as informative," Frymark said in an email. "We are not trying to throw information at you but rather engage the user. Some main features include student profiles, faculty profiles, an event calendar, related links, etc. The appeal of the site is that it is very friendly. We are trying to convey the Ursinus community and outlook at the click of a button."

The new website also allows

different departments to create their own informational pages and add news and updates to their own pages. This, Dempsey said, is one of the ways the production team made the website focused on people, since that is what Ursinus is all about.

Dempsey hopes the new website will reach many prospective students. Prospective students often refer to a school's website before even visiting or getting any additional information. Sometimes schools don't know somebody is interested until they apply, so the website gives the school the chance to get all necessary information out to prospective students before they even visit campus. Dempsey hopes the new website will present us well and correctly to prospective students.

Bryce Pinkerton  
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"Good Neighbors," the new exhibition in the Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art, is on display starting this week. Home and the community are the themes that pervade this exhibition, as the local artists represent these themes throughout their work.

There are a variety of works on view, including paintings, sculptures, photographs, videos, large-scale installations, small models, portraits and more, all of which deal with ideas of home or the community in one way or another.

Ginny Kollak, the curator of exhibitions at the Berman Museum, started with the approach of displaying the work of three Ursinus professors. However, she then came up with the idea to expand beyond Ursinus and reach out to some artists at neighboring colleges and art institutions.

The exhibit features eleven artists, all of whom are living and working in Philadelphia. One of the elements of the exhibit is that all of the artists are working within proximity of each other. These artists are all neighbors, able to connect and relate through their surroundings.

Sarah Kaufman, Kay Healy, and Cari Freno, all professors at Ursinus, have separate pieces in the exhibit. All three professors have very different pieces in the exhibit, but they are all related through the theme of home and the community.

Kaufman has two series of photographs in the exhibit. Both series display nudity in an attempt to capture people's bodies interacting with their environment. Her first series, "Moments

of Absorption," displays people in their homes, showing them in their natural environment and moments in which they are comfortable and open. Her second series, "Devil's Pool," shows people at a swimming hole at Wissahickon Park. People come from all over to celebrate at this swimming hole, portraying a community that Kaufman displays through her photographs. By taking these photographs, the "idea of comfort and being free" is being demonstrated, Kaufman said.

Healy created large-scale installations made of stuffed fabric. She made these installations after listening to people in her community describe items from their childhood homes. They were typically items that the people may have lost but still have strong attachments to or memories of. Healy then put all of those individual stories together to create one large piece.

Freno, who recently joined the Ursinus art faculty, has a video on display. The video focuses mainly on the aspect of home, where family roles and relationships are significant.

Almost all of the artists have different types of work, which is the reason why this exhibition is "wildly different" from previous ones, Kollak said. However, all of the pieces have similarities in that they had to have people in the community cooperate with them in order for their piece to come together. These neighbors, family members, or community members were all significant in the production of each piece.

"I think people will be pretty surprised by some of the art work," Kollak said. "But I think ultimately people will be pretty excited about it."

Website continued from pg. 1

he thought would be able to communicate Ursinus' message in the right way. The committee chose to work with a firm called White Whale.

Dempsey then coordinated with White Whale, forming a contract and a schedule, and even planned for White Whale to come to Ursinus to see the campus and what the school is like.

"They came in, they met with people on campus to try to get a sense of Ursinus's identity," Dempsey said. "Then they presented that back to us and that helped lead them to a design process."

One of the only issues faced while producing the new website was getting a lot of people to devote time to the project. It is time consuming to create a new

## THE GRIZZLY

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The Grizzly is a weekly student-run publication that serves the Ursinus community. Views expressed in The Grizzly do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff or college.

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All letters submitted to The Grizzly must not exceed 250 words in length, must be emailed, and must be accompanied by a full name and phone number to verify content. The Grizzly reserves the right to edit all material for length, content, spelling and grammar, as well as the right to refuse publication of any material submitted. All material submitted to The Grizzly becomes property of The Grizzly.

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Staff positions at The Grizzly are open to students of all majors. Contact the adviser for details.

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# Grizzly Gala returning

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Homecoming is quickly approaching and that means so is the third annual Grizzly Gala. Students, alumni, staff and faculty are all welcome to this annual event.

The Grizzly Gala is going to be held on Friday Oct. 24 from 8 p.m. until midnight at the Rivercrest Golf Club and Preserve in Phoenixville. It is a night of signature cocktails, food, the Slippery Band and an opportunity for all the friendly faces of Ursinus' campus to kick off the homecoming festivities.

Since this is a cocktail party, this year's gala is featuring a unique mashed potato martini bar. Anyone 21 and older is welcome to enjoy cocktails from the cash bar.

Elizabeth Burns, program coordinator of alumni relations and annual giving as well as a 2012 graduate from Ursinus, is in charge of the planning the gala.

"We realized we had to have an event that brought the whole community together, so we invite our alumni, students, faculty and staff," Burns said. "It gives everyone a chance to hang out together outside of the academic setting. It gives the alumni the chance to check out the new students and faces and maybe catch up with faculty. It gives our students a chance to hear from alumni and see what they are doing with their lives after Ursinus."

All of the homecoming festivities are centered on the phrase "Unite with the friends you love." This is a theme that is based off of our very own love statue on campus.

However the Grizzly Gala has its own special theme. After last year's 1920's theme of flappers and gangsters, the Ursinus community had big expectations for the gala.

This year, the theme is 1960's which is spun off the overarching love theme. The theme includes anything classic 1960s, from

Jackie O to anything psychedelic like Woodstock and the summer of '69. The Rivercrest Golf Club will be decked out in the theme and so should the people attending. Anyone going to the Grizzly Gala is welcomed and encouraged to dress up in the 1960's theme.

There will also be busses shuttling students from Ursinus to the gala, so students do not need to worry about transportation.

"I went to the Grizzly Gala last year and had the best time. Now I cannot wait to go this year and see all my old friends. It's so much fun getting to see all the alum and faculty. It's also an excuse to get dressed up and go off campus," said Tara Morales, a junior at Ursinus.

The Grizzly Gala is not the only reunion. Saturday Oct., 25 during the football game, there will be events including the annual Bears' Brews & Bites where organizations reunite for the official tailgate along with food and several different brews.

## International perspective

### American class style can be surprising

Ella Yalin Yang

some important points.

When I walk into class I see students sitting in a circle, preparing for class, waiting for the professor to begin. Some students are reading books, chatting, or playing on their cell phones. During class, students say what they are thinking about; they share their ideas. They do not need to worry about if they answer the question wrong. The atmosphere is relaxed, which is different from what I am used to. This is the way of education in America. It is totally different from China.

I am an international student from China. This the first time that I have experienced studying in America and I will stay here to study for four years or even longer. I came to Ursinus two months ago. Studying here sometimes is a challenge for me. The people I meet every day are American and I need to speak English.

I enjoy that students share their different views in class even though others may think the opinions may be wrong. Actually, hearing views from other students can help us learn different aspects of one topic that we might not come up with by ourselves.

We can learn something new from others; even from what we might think are wrong ideals. When I review my notes and textbooks before a test, I remember the discussion about certain topics.

This is a good way to study since discussing in class may also make it easier to remember the important points for a long time.

In China, teachers tell us the important points to know from our book and their lectures. They tell us what to remember and we must remember them. Actually, in this way, I always found it difficult to remember the key points for a long time. I always reviewed my notes and textbooks before the test and I always forgot

line by line in the classroom and I always had about forty classmates in my class. At Ursinus, I have about twenty classmates in my classes. Actually, I like small classes better.

In China, before every class starts, students will bow to their teachers. Teachers always make the atmosphere of the classes so serious. It is not like the classes here where we can make jokes in class with our professors. Sometimes in China, if students in class cannot answer the questions or if they answer the questions wrong, they must stand for a while as their punishment.

I had this kind of the punishment in China when I took classes in middle school. I dislike this method to punish students. When I had this experience in China, I felt so embarrassed and humiliated in class. Thus, I think this punishment reduced my confidence to answer questions in my classes. I wonder if other international students who also study here had similar experiences when they studied in China.

I believe that different ways of education can make students different when they grow up. I agree with the American educational approaches. American methods for education make students more creative than Chinese students and almost all of the students share their ideas in class, whether right or wrong. This allows students' study to be flexible, not like the rigidity experienced by most Chinese students.

#### Author Bio

Ella Yalin Yang is an international student from Chengdu city, Sichuan province, China. She plans to major in psychology and specialize in criminal psychology.



Photo courtesy of Alexis Primavera

On Oct. 18, emergency personnel responded to house fire at 444 E. Main Street. It was reported that a candle caused the fire, and all residents were able to evacuate safely.

#### Homecoming from pg. 1

artists.

For those looking to bring their children to campus, the Kaleidoscope plaza will also feature the Family Art & Sports Pavilion. Activities include face painting, inflatable games and more. All

children's events are free of cost.

Other events for the day include the UC Jazz Ensemble at 4 p.m. in the Lenfest theater and a reception with retired faculty and staff at 4:30 p.m. in the Bears' Den. Speakers, music and dance performances will be held in Lower Wismer, sponsored by Sankofa Umoja Nia. The Bears'

Trap After-Party will be held at the at the Trappe Tavern where complimentary appetizers and drink specials will be available.

Remember to stop by the Ursinus bookstore from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. where all Ursinus alumni will receive a 10% discount on purchases.



Photo courtesy of Ursinus College Communications / Brian Garfinkel

Evan Lord, Aubrey Paris, and Samir Shah hold up their prize of \$7,500 after placing first in the 2013 U-Innovate! competition.

## U-Innovate competition returns

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The U-Imagine Center is set to launch its second annual U-Innovate! competition this semester. Ursinus introduced the program, which is open to all students, last spring. The competition helps students take on the entrepreneurial mindset and allows them to present their ideas in front of a panel. The panel then rewards prizes to the ideas they believe could be successful.

According to the U-Innovate website, "It's a way for entrepreneurial thinkers to refine a 'big idea' and get it in front of a supportive and enthusiastic audience!"

One member of last year's winning team, Aubrey Paris, spoke highly about what the program did for her. "Simply put, this competition has made me an entrepreneur," Paris said. "Three years ago, I never would have thought I'd be saying that during my senior year. But it has been a wonderful experience and I look forward to the journey to come."

With a lot of positive feedback on campus, the competition is set for its second year in a row and has already featured events on campus this fall. In addition to the competition, the organization

also has a building known as the U-Imagine Center located on 5th and Main Street, next to Marzella's.

The program defines an entrepreneurial thinker as "Someone – anyone, any major, any year, any background – who recognizes opportunities where others don't. E-thinkers imagine, then they innovate to solve problems in novel ways that make a difference in society," according to U-Innovate website.

Senior, Alex Manacher, was exposed to the first year program last spring after knowing friends who took part in the competition.

"Honestly, it seems like such great idea," said Manacher. "With this being my last year on campus, I think it's something I might have to look into a little more. Not to mention, with the event being held on campus and all the resources they offer, it would be huge learning experience."

U-Innovate gives students the support they need to push their big ideas. It also gives them the experience of working as a team with friends or other entrepreneurial thinkers and develops crucial skills to help prepare them in the real world.

Samir Shah was another participant of the winning team.

"I believe the U-Innovate com-

petition embodies a unique part of the liberal arts education, at least for me," said Shah. "As a Neuroscience major, I never thought I would be involved in business or entrepreneurship in any measure. Thanks to the encouragement of one of our mentors, Dr. Sorenson, we participated in the competition and took home first place."

The program gives students the opportunity to compete with no previous business experience needed. This helps students who do not major or minor in that specific degree to explore the field.

"Ironically, my team had no prior business experience, so it was particularly satisfying to know that the time we spent educating ourselves in this realm was well-spent," said Paris.

"I think our win goes to show that business and economics-savvy individuals are not the only students who should take advantage of the U-Innovate! Competition."

Information regarding this year's competition can be found at the U-Imagine Center. Students are also encouraged to speak with April Kontostathis, Becky Jaroff, or Carol Cirka, co-directors of the program. Students are also welcome to send an email to uImagine@ursinus.edu regarding any specific questions.

## Throop researches medieval Europe

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degree at the University of Toronto.

Dr. Susanna Throop, a prominent face in the Ursinus History Department, recently took a research leave. Focusing on the medieval period, she began a project to analyze the visual and literary artifacts of the Crusades.

During her undergraduate studies at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, Throop "took a medieval history class on a whim," she said. "I had to fulfill an elective, but I really disliked history in high school, to be honest."

To her surprise, she found the course extremely interesting, and was inspired by her professor, who "actually cared about who I was, what I thought—and that made a difference." She switched her major from biology to history, and took on a double major in English.

After Cornell, Throop utilized her bachelor's degrees to complete an interdisciplinary master's

During her studies, she took a course on crusading literature, in which she read a poem which characterized the crusades as vengeance for the crucifixion of Christ. The poem strongly affected her academic life; she went on to pursue a Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge, in Cambridge, England, where she took advantage of England's many cultural and historical artifacts to pursue the topic more in depth.

The research has had lasting impressions on her academic career. In her Ph.D. thesis, she examined "the distinctions between Jews, Muslims, and heretics, which seemed so distinct to us." In her more recent research, she found that these distinctions are less well-defined than previously thought. She examined the "rhetoric and propaganda," she said, of the Crusades, in order to find the

See Throop on pg. 5

## Word on the Street

*Should pets be allowed on campus, why or why not?*

"No because of phobias, allergies and a lack of responsibility."  
-J.D. Edgard, 2015

"I think maybe small land-based animals should be okay to have because they're about as contained as a fish is. I would absolutely love to have my cat on campus, but you have to think about the quality of life for larger pets, being contained in one small room isn't very fair. You also have to take into account the people you live with. If they have allergic reactions to your animals, it's not fair to them to have the animal in their home. Maybe seeing if there's interest in a SPINT house dedicated to accommodating pet owners would be a way to go about this." - Gemma Foley, 2016

"Yes for many reasons; they're a stress reliever, can help people cope with a lot of things and transitioning, and feeling less home sick. There should be a SPINT house for pets. That way, it won't hurt people with allergies. There can be an RA for that house that specializes with animals to help keep everything manageable and control whether people are taking good care of their pets or not." - Lindsay Flor, 2015

"Depends what kind of pet. There are some things that should be allowed that can live outside a water tank like a turtle. But dogs and cats need more attention than being stuffed in one room. Anything that is kept in cage is fine." - Jenna Koch, 2015

"Unless there are steps in place to make sure that students who have

# Don't forget about small majors

*The philosophy and religious studies department thrive at Ursinus*

**Madison Bradley**  
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With all the prevalent talk of biology exams and labs, we sometimes forget that just outside of Thomas Hall is a thriving community of philosophy and religious studies majors.

Courses like the meaning of life, philosophy of mind, freedom and determinism, and philosophy of religion are all courses of contemplation offered to student philosophers.

Dr. Stewart Goetz, one of the professors who teaches these philosophy courses, grew interested in the workings of the world through experiencing the world and the people in it. Those questions are what drive the philosophy and religious studies majors.

"I think philosophy is important insofar as it is a source of enjoyment," said Goetz. "Beyond that, it teaches one the importance of asking the right questions, understanding the assumptions that people bring to their views of things, etc."

Chris Hoops, a philosophy major in his junior year, describes how he became interested in his major.

"I became interested in philosophy in my middle school and early high school years," said Hoops.

"I had a set of beliefs I believed were true, but was afraid that maybe they were based on foolish thinking. So I started reading about different views, seeing how they made sense of the world around me. These initial steps I took in high school are the basis of what it means to philosophize—understanding dif-

ferent points of view and seeing what does and doesn't line up or 'make sense' about them. This is why I believe philosophy is one of the most important major here at Ursinus College."

There is no doubt that the philosophy aspect of Ursinus correlates respectively with the goals of a liberal arts of the college, corresponding with the other fascinating majors Ursinus has to offer.

But, with Ursinus having such

*"Philosophy helps one to understand what the purported problems are and whether they are really problems."*

— Dr. Stewart Goetz  
Professor of philosophy

a high concentration of science majors, it can be daunting to put into perspective the overall conflict usually affiliated with science and religion.

"While some argue that there is a conflict between science and religion, that itself is a philosophical topic for investigation," said Goetz.

"Philosophy helps one to understand what the purported 'problems' are and whether they are really problems. When I teach the philosophy of religion, I want my students to read the best arguments from opposing points of view so that they understand what many believe are the problems science creates for religion. Personally, I have concluded that the alleged problems are not really problems at all. Science is no more incompatible with religious belief than it is with believing that

there are souls that experience pleasure and act for purposes."

Hoops agreed about the contrast often connoted with philosophy and science.

"I've realized the norm for the science department and the philosophy and religious studies department has been one of mental separation," said Hoops.

Hoops then went on to explain how a different "mask" was adorned when entering either a philosophy class or any science class.

"No crossover happens between each state of thinking," said Hoops.

"This is why being a philosophy major is not an issue with so many science majors. Most students don't realize the implications a purely naturalistic view of the universe has for the religious and ethical beliefs they assert outside the classroom. A course such as the philosophy of religion brings to light how each different mindset affects the other."

Hoops explains the significance of philosophy in the grand scheme of life.

"It is one thing to memorize biological systems, learn about how the stock market works, or understand the structure of certain poetry," said Hoops.

"But to know how to think, to know how to learn in the first place, is something I can take with me everywhere I go in life. Whether it is in casual conversation or in a profession setting, the art of thinking and understanding is such an important skill to have and truly embodies the Ursinus motto for education."

Throop continued from pg. 4

portrayals of these groups.

During her leave, she also analyzed visual evidence. "It was my first time working so directly with evidence of that kind, which was very important," she said.

Her studies thus far "are the base primary source analysis for about the first fifth of the period I want to look at," she said.

She estimated that completing her work could take several years. However, she remains confident in her scholarship, saying her past experiences with research and scholarship have assured her that "it will work out."

Chair of the history department, Dr. Ross Doughty, said that Throop's research "is extremely highly regarded by other specialists in her field. She is one of the outstanding young scholars on medieval Europe—at the very

least, on this continent, and further abroad."

Doughty, who, in his words, focuses more "on the pedagogy of history," said that Throop is an ideal combination of careful researcher and engaged teacher, and that "many of the students in her classes are not history majors—and that's extremely important."

Throop said, "I'm really aware of the role good teaching has had in my life," and, as a result, she constantly thinks about "how to strike the balance between the empathy and objectivity required to be a good interpreter of history, and the need to acknowledge the connections between the past and the present."

"She is excellent as a researcher, as a teacher, and as an advisor," Doughty said. "That makes her a unique asset to our liberal arts college."



Photo Courtesy of Caroline Sandberg  
Dr. Susanna Throop teaches history classes on topics such as gender and sexuality in the Middle Ages and the Crusades.

## Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
7:00 p.m. <i>Lecture and Film Screening: Andy Warhol's 'Sleep'</i>	7:00 p.m. <i>Shabbat Dinner</i>	2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. <i>Tombstone Tales</i>	4:00 p.m. <i>Heefner Memorial Organ Concert</i>	12:10 p.m.- 1:20 p.m. <i>Aqua Zumba with Becky DiMino</i>	12:00 p.m. <i>Meet with Temple's School of Tourism and Hospitality Management</i>	6:00 p.m.- 7:00 p.m. <i>Ursinus College Environmental Action meeting</i>
8:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. <i>Feminists In Action Meeting</i>	8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. <i>Grizzly Gala</i>	4:00 p.m. <i>Ursinus College Jazz Ensemble</i>		12:30 p.m. <i>Biology Seminar: Tiffany Weinkopff, U. Penn Dept. of Pathobiology</i>		7:30 p.m. 'Medea,' Translation by Brendan Kennelly
		All Day <i>Homecoming</i>				

# The problem with capital punishment

## *American justice system enforces punishment unfairly*

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My initial take on the death penalty was, if you kill somebody, you should be killed. It would only be fair. But after much thought and discussion, I've come to a different conclusion. America should get rid of the death penalty because they can never seem to get the punishment right in the first place. How can such a serious punishment only be state law and not a federal law? It shouldn't be possible that I can commit a crime in one state and be sentenced to death as a result, but commit the same crime in a different state and know for sure that I won't be put on death row because the death penalty is abolished in that state. There are 32 states that still sentence people to death, with the other 18 states abolishing it as late as 2013.

It's tough to tell what crimes deserve capital punishment because of all the flaws that come with the crime. If a criminal is charged and found guilty of premeditated murder, that should be enough to put the killer on death row because they knew what they were doing and they systematically planned out a killing.

There shouldn't be a place in this country for people like that. The real problem comes in when the system starts to question the killer's sanity. They're a dangerous person, but they weren't sane when they committed the crime, so they can't be sentenced to death. Why wouldn't every criminal just plead insanity if that was the case? Then there are people who commit crimes of passion. They kill another person, but it wasn't planned or thought out, they did it out of pure emotion or anger. The justice system realizes

that the person wasn't thinking clearly when they committed the crime, so they can't be held accountable enough to be sentenced to death. It's not justified because anyone can plead insanity when testifying in a court. The death penalty can also be torturous at times.

The death penalty isn't supposed to be a torturous event, but this has been happening because they're doing it wrong. If they are going to kill the person, it should be done quickly and not take two hours. When a criminal does get the death penalty, the doctor is not allowed to be the one to carry out the death procedure due to ethical reasons, so a specialist is brought in to determine their sanity. According to the article "Mr. Death Penalty" written by Nora Caplan-Bricker, "In Ohio, an experimental cocktail of drugs left Dennis McGuire gasping for breath for

26 minutes before he died. Clayton Lockett writhed in pain on the gurney during an April lethal injection in Oklahoma; Joseph Wood slowly expired over the course of two hours in July in Arizona."

Race is also taken into strong account while discussing the death penalty. Many more non-white people get sent to death row for committing the same crimes as white people do.

In a 2011 article published in the Daily News, Mario M. Cuomo says, "capital punishment appears to threaten white drug dealers, white rapists and white killers less frequently than those of other races." The stats don't lie. Of the last 18 people to be sentenced to death in New York, only four were white, according to Cuomo. It is much more challenging for minorities to get the same caliber lawyers as white people do,

which means that when it comes to the sentence, the minorities will never get off lightly.

Lastly, the death penalty kills innocent people. In a 2014 article published in the Huffington Post, it was discovered that over four percent of the people that are given the death penalty are innocent. That's a pretty high number of people when we're dealing with life and death scenarios.

I'm not completely against the death penalty, but it should only be used under extreme circumstances, and they need to know that the person they are executing is guilty of the crime. Other than that, America as a country needs to abolish capital punishment. Throwing people behind bars for life makes them pay for what they did. Executing them is giving them the easy way out.

# Extra-terrestrial existence: reason to believe?

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With the announcement that scientists have discovered living organisms attached to the International Space Station, the debate over life outside of our planet has come to light again. According to a Gizmodo article by Jesus Diaz, a Russian scientist made the announcement on August 19. Cosmonauts had found a variation of sea plankton living on a window. Although it is believed that humans on earth may have been the reason these organisms were found there, it provides the world with evidence that life may be sustained in the void of space. This allows us to further explore the possibility of life in space. This new found evidence could

mean the existence of extraterrestrial life beyond earth or even our galaxy.

The existence of extraterrestrial life has been up for debate for decades now. The intrigue with life beyond earth is usually something that is seen as crazy or insane. But what if these "crazy" people were right? What if aliens and UFO's actually could exist in our universe?

From the evidence found by the Russian cosmonaut, we can now make hypotheses that organisms can exist in space, even if microscopic. If our life cycle can start from tiny microscopic organisms why can't full alien civilizations begin to exist? This evidence of the organisms living on the outside of the space station proves that aliens could live, re-

produce and flourish throughout the universe. If these small protozoa can thrive on the outside of a space station in the void, then imagine what a community of these could look like on a surface where there is moisture and other life. I believe that it is possible that these organisms are out there somewhere in our universe. These aliens are living functioning beings that exist among the stars. It is possible to begin the debate that these beings and organisms are out there beyond earth and beyond our galaxy.

The alien's chosen mode of transport also provides evidence into their existence. The UFO, or Unidentified Flying Object, provides visual clues into the theories surrounding the existence of alien life. The remarkable and un-

believable sights may provide the proof we need to factually verify aliens exist. Recently on August 31, ABC news reported that a Pennsylvania woman, Stephanie Wilkerson, witnessed a UFO close to her residence. She took pictures as well as video of the event. The police were baffled by the sight as well and contacted the National Guard as well as local airports to see if any flights were active in the area. Interestingly, both groups said no activity was supposed to be happening. Wilkerson, who was skeptical before the event, then went on to say "I am now a believer of UFOs". If the sightings of these UFOs are confirmed, then we truly would have life beyond our planet and they would be able to achieve interstellar travel.

According to James Wilson, an Ursinus Student, "there is definitely something else out there. I mean who knows they are probably watching us now." He then went on to say "They are real to an extent. I feel that some of the videos we see are faked or somebody made them. But the old home videos or the photos from the 50's, those could be true because it was harder to doctor the film up back then." Although most of the public is skeptical of aliens and UFOs, some people hold onto the belief that other life exists.



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# Football team preparing for homecoming

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The Ursinus Bears will face the Susquehanna Crusaders on Oct. 25 for their homecoming game.

The Bears hold a strong 5-1 record going into the homecoming weekend, while their opponent Susquehanna is currently 1-5. The team looks to take this game like any other.

"We do not want to become distracted with all the festivities and events that go on and we really try to focus on the game itself like any other week," said senior quarterback Kevin Monahan.

They get excited for this game every year, as homecoming is a great opportunity to see past teammates and friends.

"Homecoming doesn't mean anything different to Ursinus football than it does to any other team on campus," head coach Peter Gallagher said, "but it is definitely extra special because you get to go out and perform in front of friends, family, and alumni."

"We want to go out there and represent Ursinus as best we can and homecoming is a time where we can show how good we are in front of all the people who support us," said Monahan.

No more or less preparation goes into the homecoming game specifically. With that said, Susquehanna has been in some tight football games this year and has given the opposing teams a fight. Their record may not show

See Football on pg. 8

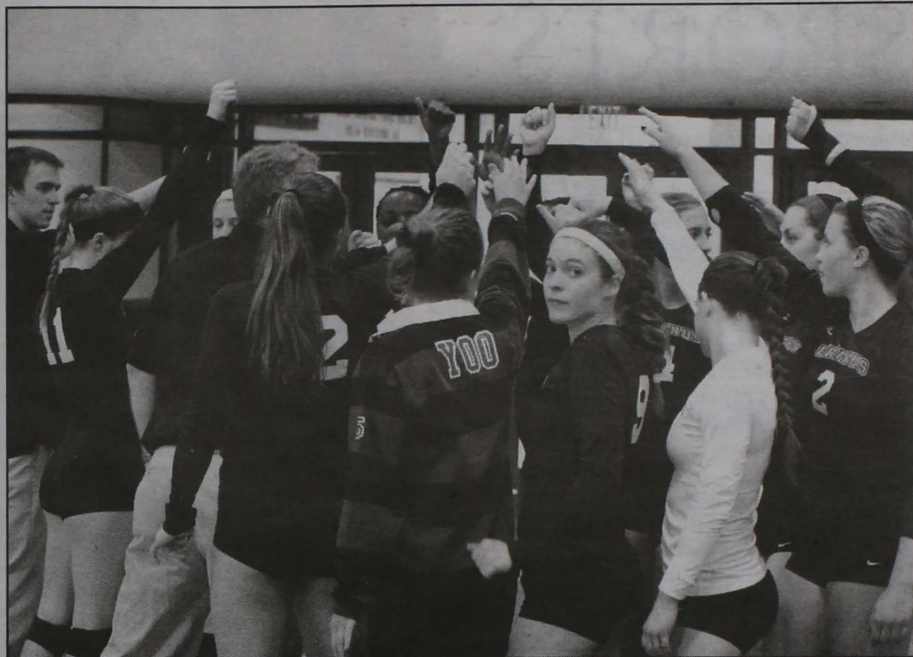


Photo courtesy of Jon Vander Lugt

The volleyball team is seen here huddling up before their Oct. 11 match against Johns Hopkins. After dropping a tight first set, the Bears lost the next two and fell to the Jays, 27-29, 19-25, and 9-25.

# Serving up success

*V-ball currently sits at 13-10, four games better than their 2013 record*

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The Ursinus women's volleyball team is off to strong start for the 2014 season. Through a combination of good fundamentals and drive to win, the Bears have managed to find success in the first half of the season. After falling short in their first two matches, the Bears reeled off a seven game winning streak, which has helped place their current record at 13-10. The team hopes to build off of their early success and play competitively throughout the remainder of the season.

"We had a bit of a lull in the middle of the season," senior captain Gina Powers said, "but we picked it back up now and are ready to finish the season strong."

Much of the team's success

this season derives from strong veteran leadership. The Bears have been successfully led by captains Gina Powers and Leah Masiello. After garnering All-Conference honors in the 2013 season, Masiello has continued her success by utilizing her relentless playing style, and leads the conference in digs at the mid-point of the season.

Powers has been a vocal leader this season and calls out all the teams' sets. Coach Groff also highlighted senior Joy Oakman's ability to accurately serve the ball as a significant factor for the Bears' success so far.

"Great servers are a benchmark for good teams and luckily we have the best servers in the conference," said Coach Groff.

Serving remains the major strength this season, and the

Bears have managed to keep 90% of their serves inside the court. The squad uses their ability to serve well as an effective way to control the ball and the pace of the game as a whole.

Their ability to serve so effectively lies in their superior technique. In order to find success this season, it was imperative the bears found a way to offset their size differential. The team is undersized in their division—the average height of the team is only 5-feet-9-inches.

They have also had the benefit of a very strong recruiting class, which included six new freshmen. Coach Groff highlighted Morgan Dawson's ability as a serving specialist as a strong contribution to

See Volleyball on pg. 8



Photo courtesy of Alexis Primavera

The football team is seen here warming up prior to their game on Sept. 13. They head into their homecoming matchup against Susquehanna this Saturday, Oct. 25 looking to add their sixth win the 2014 slate.

## Last Week's Scores as of Monday Oct. 20:

Football (5-1)	Field Hockey (11-2)	M Soccer (5-6-2)	W Soccer (5-6-2)	Volleyball (13-10)	M&W Cross Country
<b>Oct. 18 at Juniata</b> UC: 10, Juniata: 38  Steve Ambs: 9 total tackles, 1 sack  Taylor Paul: 60 yards on 16 carries	<b>Oct. 11 at Johns Hopkins</b> UC: 2, Johns Hopkins: 0 Goals (UC): Amber Steigerwalt, Megan Keenan  <b>Oct. 16 at TCNJ</b> UC: 1, TCNJ: 4 Goals (UC): Danielle Stong	<b>Oct. 11 vs. Johns Hopkins</b> UC: 0, Johns Hopkins: 0  <b>Oct. 18 at Washington</b> UC: 2, Washington: 1 (OT) Goals (UC): Ryan Butler, Jamie Harper	<b>Oct. 11 vs. Johns Hopkins</b> UC: 0, Johns Hopkins: 4  <b>Oct. 16 at Swarthmore</b> UC: 0, Swarthmore: 5	<b>Oct. 11 vs. Johns Hopkins</b> UC: 3, Johns Hopkins: 0 (27-29, 19-25, 9-25)  <b>Oct. 14 vs. Swarthmore</b> UC: 0, Swarthmore: 3 (26-28, 25-16, 25-15)	Men's: <b>Oct. 11 at Charger Invite:</b> 2nd place, 67 pts <b>Oct. 18 at Gettysburg Invite:</b> 24th, 663 pts Women's: <b>Oct. 11 at Charger Invite:</b> 2nd place, 43 pts <b>Oct. 18 at Gettysburg Invite:</b> 12th, 381 pts

Volleyball continued from pg. 7

the team's technical offense. Additionally, Taylor McCartney and Allison Raff have consistently played at a high level as well this season. Raff is another great server and has one of the best hitting percentages on the team. Twin sisters Jasmine and Phrieda Bogere have constantly improved and will play a significant factor in the future team's success, according to Groff.

"We are a very hardnosed team," senior Lindsey Doyle said. "Because of our no-quit attitude I think we can definitely finish strong and make the playoffs," said senior Lindsay Doyle.

Through a combination of superior technique, stamina, and grit, the volleyball team hopes to finish the season competitively.

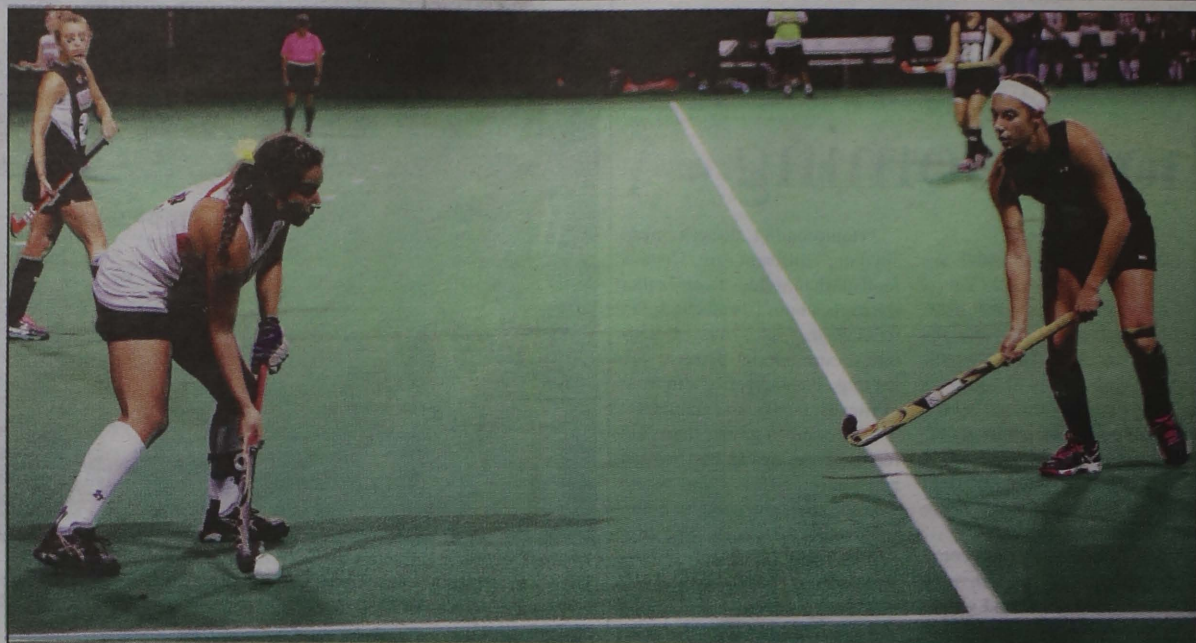


Photo courtesy of Grace Steel

Junior Danielle Stong (right) playing defense during a 6-1 win over Haverford. The Bears play their next conference game against Dickinson on Oct. 25, and close out their season with two more games against Catholic and Muhlenberg on Oct. 28 and Nov. 1, respectively.

Football continued from pg. 7

it, but they have a very strong team this year.

"I don't think they are going to bring a football team that won't play hard and compete," Gallagher said. "They have talent in many different positions... Susquehanna will without a doubt put up a fight and give us their best shot."

For the seniors, this is the last homecoming game they will ever play in. It hasn't set in for many of them, however, that it is in fact their last homecoming game.

"Each of the last three years has been a lot of fun and knowing that this is the last one I'll be a part of is pretty surreal," said Monahan. "Hopefully we play well and get a win in the front of everyone coming out to this game."



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## Field hockey dashes to 11-2 start

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The Ursinus women's field hockey team is off to a blazing start to begin the 2014 season. Through the first 13 games, the Bears are 11-2 with a conference record of 7-0, including a three goal victory over second place Franklin and Marshall, last year's regular season conference winner. Among all the Division III schools, Ursinus ranks fifth in the country.

"We have a lot of players who are stepping up and scoring goals, but we also have a lot of players who are doing a great job with assists, and players on the defensive end that are coming up with great plays to prevent goals against us," said head coach Janelle Benner.

Though field hockey is a team

sport, several individuals of the team have astounding statistics thus far. Megan Keenan, an All American, leads the entire Centennial Conference in goals at 15, and is second in assists with nine, putting her at first overall in the conference with total points, adding up to 39. Kelsey Reed leads the conference in assists with 11, while freshman Catherine Buczek set the conference record earlier this season for assists in a single game, with six.

Although the offense has been explosive for the Bears, the defense cannot go unrecognized. Eight out of the 12 games have not even been a challenge for the Bears, including victories by seven, eight, and 12 goals over their opponent. Junior goal keeper Danielle DeSpirito only ranks eighth in the conference in saves, mostly because opponents can't

get by the defense to get shots on goal.

"The difference between this season and last season is that we've really matured a lot as a team," said sophomore defender Annie Kopera. "We all work so hard together to achieve the main goal—winning the national championship. We are very willing to sacrifice our social lives to try and achieve our goal. We have the rest of our lives to go out and do whatever we want, but we only have so long to play field hockey."

Although the Bears are ranked fifth in the country, the team is not a lock to make the NCAA tournament. The conference tournament winner gets an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament, which is how the Bears earned the trip last year, but at-large bids are extremely hard to come by. Frank-

lin and Marshall was the number-one seed in the conference tournament last season, but got their NCAA tournament dreams crushed when the Bears defeated them in the championship game.

"We're just trying to take this one day, one practice, and one game at a time," said Kopera. "We don't want to look too far ahead because the only thing that really matters is the next game."

It's pretty hard not to look ahead for the Bears, who have their goal right in sight by the extraordinary play of everybody on the team this season.

"We are excited to keep progressing through the season and we are really happy with our current play," said sophomore midfielder Amber Steigerwalt. "If we keep playing to our potential, anything is possible."

### Upcoming Schedule:

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
	<b>Football vs. Susquehanna</b> 1:00 p.m. <b>W Soccer at Dickinson</b> 3:30 p.m. <b>M Soccer vs. McDaniel</b> 5:30 p.m. <b>Field Hockey vs. Dickinson</b> 12:00 p.m. <b>Volleyball at Dickinson</b> 1:00 p.m.			<b>Field Hockey vs Catholic</b> 6:00 p.m.	<b>W Soccer at Eastern</b> 3:30 p.m. <b>M Soccer at Haverford</b> 3:00 p.m. <b>Volleyball at Muhlenberg</b> 7:00 p.m.

