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The Student Movement Volume 106 Issue 20: Waving Goodbye to the School Year: AFIA Musical Dazzles Audience

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Waving Goodbye to the School Year

AFIA MUSICAL DAZZLES AUDIENCE



Photo by Peter Tumangday

Humans

HUMANS

Meet Your New AUSA President: Aya Pangusan

Interviewed by: Timmy Duado [04.22.22](#)

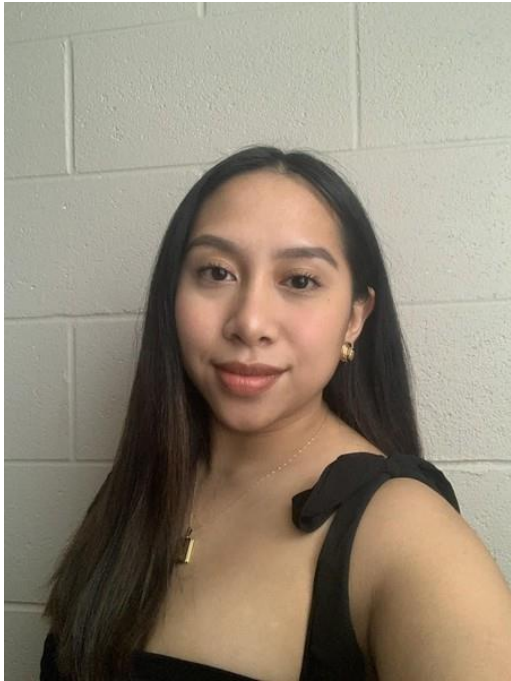


Photo by Aya Pangusan

Andrews recently held an election for the new Andrews University Student Association (AUSA) officers for the 2022-2023 school year. This week, I interviewed the new AUSA president, Aya Pangusan (senior, nursing). Aya gave an inside look at what she has planned for the upcoming school year, what made her interested in the job, and provided a peek into her personal life.

Where are you from and what brought you to Andrews?

Originally, I am from Virginia, but I was born in the Philippines. I came to Andrews since my older brothers were already going to school here and for the major I started in, Andrews had the best program out of all the Adventist schools. When I was visiting Andrews during preview week, I was drawn to the diversity and the events put on by the campus. I felt that I could learn more about my culture here since the community was growing and active on campus. I wanted to be a part of such a diverse school that celebrated the variety of cultures on campus.

What do you like to do with your spare time?

I love spending time with my friends, working out, and catching up on sleep. Since I tend to get overwhelmed easily, I take time to refresh myself by going out to eat at my favorite restaurants or going for a drive.

What are 3 things you can't live without?

I can't live without my family, my friends, and my dogs. My family gives me unconditional love and support. I know that they are always in my corner, supporting me and helping me be a better version of myself. My friends are also another source of support for me when I'm unable to see my family. They keep me in check, help me laugh and smile, and give me love and support that pushes me forward. My dogs are just a big source of happiness in my life. They give me love and are just a serotonin boost whenever I'm feeling down.

Now that we got to know you a little better, what do you believe you can bring to Andrews to make it a little better?

I believe that I can reconnect the student body and bring back school spirit to the Andrews campus. Covid has definitely impacted our campus and our social as well as spiritual events. Since we've had to adapt to the new norm of Covid, we've had to limit events and it's been difficult to bring the student body together. I believe that the AUSA team can revamp events and bring in new ones that can rekindle school spirit and relationships! I also believe that I can make AUSA more connected to the student body. As I said before, I want to push for AUSA to have open office hours again and make AUSA more present in the student body.

What made you interested in the position?

I love serving people and I have always had a passion for planning events, hearing the concerns of others, and finding new ways to improve. I believe that leadership needs to be changed on Andrews campus and that AUSA can do even more to serve the needs of the student body.

Do you have any other plans for next year that you would like to share?

I definitely plan to have another AUnited Weekend to celebrate culture and diversity on campus. Some events I have lined up are bringing back the Block Party, working with Campus Ministries to plan an off-campus vespers such as a beach vespers or another worship retreat to strengthen and reconnect our relationship with God, and improving campus wellness by having more mental health days where we check up on the student body throughout the year.

Is there anything you'd like to say to the student body?

I am here to serve you, so please don't be afraid to share your concerns and what you would like to see happen next year! AUSA functions because of all of you. If you feel like you are not being represented or want a space to be represented, please tell us. We will do our best to make next year emotionally, spiritually, and physically amazing for all of you and one that you will all remember and enjoy.

HUMANS

Meet Your New AUSA Senator-at-Large: Rock Choi

Interviewed by: Grace No [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Rock Choi

This week I had the privilege of sitting down with Rock Choi (freshman, exercise science), the newly elected Andrews University Student Association (AUSA) Senator-at-Large, to get to know him a little better and discuss his plans for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year.

Tell us a little bit about yourself.

I am an exercise science major in the pre-physical therapy program. Some hobbies I enjoy are swimming and cup stacking. However, I haven't cup stacked in a while because I don't have the right cups to do it with. Cup stacking was a required activity in one of my P.E. classes when I was studying in Korea for a year and for some reason I really liked it. For the same reason people like Rubik's cubes, I like cup stacking. It's fun.

How has the school year been for you so far?

It was interesting—in a good way. I made incredible friends that have stuck with me for the entire year and hopefully for much longer. It has been the first place where I have been new and was so easily accepted.

Why did you decide to run for this position?

I felt like it was a good way to get more involved in the school and serve our student body in an impactful way.

How did you feel while campaigning for Senator-at-Large?

Campaigning was definitely weird and nerve-racking because I had to go up to people that I didn't really know and ask them to do something for me. I honestly didn't like it very much, but I just told myself that it was necessary and pushed through it. It was something I'd never done before, especially when it felt like I was begging people to pick me. It was definitely an interesting experience.

Do you have any goals for the upcoming school year that you would like to accomplish through the senate?

One of my main goals for next year is to provide sustenance to most if not all of the departments at Andrews. This means providing everyone with something to eat, because who doesn't like eating? I talked about it in my speech, but a vending machine in the Science Complex would be nice for sure. Some of the seniors I know have pushed for a long time to get one and I want to continue pushing for it. The Gazebo could also have more options in their drinks. Coffee is something I know a lot of people on campus rely on to stay focused throughout each semester,

and so having good coffee would definitely be extremely helpful. Additionally, the line at the Gazebo can be very long and inconvenient. These are just some of the ideas that I've come up with and I have yet to see what my position will allow me to do and how I can make these things happen.

What kind of snacks would you want to see around campus?

The snacks in the vending machines are perfect as they are. But it's the availability of these snacks across campus that is the issue. For example, when I'm in the library I have to walk to Buller, which has the nearest working vending machine, just for one small bag of chips.

Are you looking forward to working with the other senate members?

I'm really excited to work with the other senate members next year. I hope that I can have a group of students that have a goal they are determined to reach within the school year and change our school for the better. They are the ones that will help introduce me to new ideas and concerns I didn't even know were problems in our school, and help further expand my knowledge of what I can do for the student body.

HUMANS

Professor Spotlight: Dr. L. Monique Pittman

Interviewed by: Caryn Cruz [04.22.22](#)



Photo by L.M. Pittman

I was first introduced to Dr. Pittman as a senior in high school when I had the opportunity to visit Andrews University for the first time. A friend was generous enough to give me an unofficial tour of the campus, and when we traveled through Buller Hall there was a brief yet pleasant encounter with Dr. Pittman as she spent some time engaging in conversation with us. I remember despite us catching her at a busy time on that Friday afternoon, she graciously talked with us for a few moments as I shared my hopeful plans for being an English major. The interaction left me feeling inspired and excited to return in the Fall as an official AU student. I'm grateful for the faculty and staff on our campus who invest in the lives of the students as we navigate through the tumultuous college experience. Dr. Pittman, a Professor of English and the Director of the J. N. Andrews Honors Program, is certainly one of the many supportive faculty members here who encourage their students to become future success stories.

What is your current field of study/expertise? Why did this area interest you?

I'm a Shakespeare in performance and adaptation scholar, with a specific focus on the representation of gender, class, and race in productions and appropriations. My PhD work focused on constructions of gender so that interest has actually been part of my scholarly journey for a long time; frankly, my Honors Thesis at Andrews University also examined literary treatments of female containment and agency. I've definitely been consistent in my focus, though that feminist theoretical orientation has widened over the years to better account for intersectional identities that layer forms of marginalization such as race, class, and sexuality in addition to gender.

What is your favorite book genre? Does this differ from your favorite film genre, and if so, what is it?

I'd say my favorite genres are a toss-up: I LOVE beyond all expression epic poetry (Homer, Virgil, Ovid, Milton, all the boys); however, I'm also very fond of the nineteenth-century English novel (many of which were written by women). To study and teach, probably epic; to read for comfort and personal illumination, the nineteenth-century novel. In film and television series, both Paul (my partner) and I gravitate towards spy or political thrillers, and that probably connects to our shared interest in global politics as well as my own obsession with Shakespeare's history plays, which are my prime scholarly focus at the moment (and which repeatedly examine the power-brokering that defines nation-building). My book on the history plays of Shakspeare in third-millennium performance actually comes

out this month (“Shakespeare’s Contested Nations: Race, Gender, and Multicultural Britain in Performances of the History Plays” Routledge, 2022).

What has been your favorite class to teach at Andrews University?

That’s also a really hard question. I have the profound honor to teach Honors Literature and the Arts every semester; that means that mistakes I make one term in terms of planning the class and activities, I have the pleasure to address and attempt to correct the next term. I love the chance to tweak and adjust and “noodle” with elements of the course and to continue to add new, interesting readings and artistic artifacts to the class. In that course, I’m forever learning new things and seeing the world from new points of view because of the incredible multi-disciplinary students in the J. N. Andrews Honors Program. They are my joy! But I’d be remiss if I didn’t also say that since it’s my specialty, I love teaching Shakespeare and Film, spending so much time talking about how filmmakers remake Shakespeare’s drama with the great students in the Department of English.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

In an academic setting, you meet such incredible, curious, humane individuals every year. So, without a doubt, my favorite thing about my job would be my students in Honors and my colleagues who teach and advise in the Honors program. As a member of the English department, I also have the honor of teaching and working with people who taught me and, now that the years have gone by, former students whom I once taught! The generational continuity in the English department is a special gift and one I do not take for granted. It creates a distinctive sense of belonging in the world. Furthermore, I’m especially lucky to teach and conduct scholarship with a precious friend and fellow Shakespeare scholar, Dr. Vanessa Corredera.

Who is someone you have always wanted to meet, but haven’t had the chance to?

I would love to have tea and gossip with Jane Austen and George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans).

List your favorite novel at the moment and why it has interested you.

I’m currently reading “The Silence of the Girls” by Pat Barker; it’s a fascinating retelling of Homer’s “Iliad” from the perspective of Achilles’s war prize, Briseis. I’m planning on teaching it next year in my epic and adaptation course (please consider enrolling in it!).

What has been your favorite memory so far this semester?

Two things: returning to attending Shakespeare Association of America in person where I met Adjoa Andoh (Lady Danbury of “Bridgerton” as well as a renowned theater actor and director), and seeing my Honors seniors’ faces for the first time in two years at our Honors Thesis Symposium this past Friday, April 15. Both experiences brought home so acutely the fullness of human connection possible when we see the face of the other; as my favorite philosopher, Emmanuel Levinas explains, the face calls us each to make room for one another, to share the world with each other, to care for one another. I pray we won’t be cut off from our friends and colleagues’ faces for quite so long ever again.

HUMANS

Senior Spotlight: Joshua Pak

Interviewed by: Lauren Kim [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Joshua Pak

This week I talked with graduating senior, Joshua Pak (senior, biochemistry), to learn about his plans after graduation and reflect on his time here at Andrews University.

What are your plans after graduation?

I plan on returning home to Boston and working in a biopharmaceutical lab to develop novel therapies and drugs. Due to the attention on the Covid-19 vaccines and the recent innovations in biotechnology, this field is an extremely exciting industry right now and I aspire to be a part of it. Eventually, I will want to return to school for a Ph.D. or MBA; only time will tell which direction I want to go, but I'm a little done with taking classes right now. I am definitely looking forward to having some more free time and making some money.

How do you feel about your time at Andrews?

With the exception of quarantine and all related (but necessary) Covid-19 restrictions, I've really enjoyed my time here at Andrews. A big part of this is definitely the wonderful communities that I've been involved with, which have all challenged my perspectives and pushed me to grow in a myriad of ways both socially and professionally. The Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry and the J. N. Andrews Honors Program are two that have really provided me with the opportunity to hone my skills and make the most of my time here. I'll also never forget all of my experiences in interacting with the cultural clubs; from attending events as a freshman to taking on officer positions—the dynamics of the cultural clubs are truly what sets Andrews apart.

What are you most proud of from your college years?

I'm extremely proud of the change and progress that has occurred on campus in the past four years that I've been here. One of the challenges I faced when entering as a freshman, especially as someone who did not know anyone at Andrews prior to my matriculation, was being able to get familiar with the various groups that already existed. I saw firsthand the first Infusion Vespers and the evolution of cultural clubs, to what eventually culminated into AUnited Weekend, and the new spaces that were created for inter-cultural and social connections that did not exist prior. Because of this progress, I've been able to meet so many wonderful individuals and communities that would've been unknown to me had we stayed complacent. All of these incredible experiences have really shown me the potential that Andrews has; my one disappointment would be that I won't be around to witness this newer generation of students taking it to the next level.

What changes do you hope we'll be seeing on campus?

I hope that a lot of cultural club leaders take the initiative to collaborate with each other and continue the excellent and original event planning that the campus is getting used to. Jocelyne Rico (AULA), Khaylee Sands (BSCF), and I (KASA) came

together at the beginning of the semester with the concept for the “Let All The Earth” Vespers on a whim, and it panned out to be an awesome program that exceeded what I could’ve fashioned by myself. Working with them was a real pleasure and I hope that in the future these cultural common grounds are able to be celebrated together more often. Similarly, AUnited was just incredible, and I’m curious how this formerly inconceivable experience will, hopefully, be implemented and improved next year. Intentionally expanding on the spaces where these opportunities for representation can be enjoyed would greatly improve the occurrences of these events and allow for a more cohesive Andrews community.

What advice do you have for the underclassmen?

One of my biggest regrets is not being able to fully explore all the communities that I encountered here; the diversity at Andrews allows for a ridiculous amount of unfamiliar experiences to impact any facet of your life. I truly believe that, if you’ve only been to a total of two churches or don’t have an event to look forward to on most weekends, you aren’t making the most of what Andrews has to offer. Between the concerts at HPAC, the regular open gyms at the Wellness Center, and the events that the cultural clubs put on, there’s always going to be something to go to. I hope that you guys are able to break out of your comfort zones and witness why diversity in the community is so meaningful. Another piece of advice I’d give is to be bold and not be afraid to change things if you’re unhappy with how they are. The quality of my experience at Andrews was inherently tied to the willingness of determined individuals who took the step to lead and transform the campus. If you have a talent for writing, curating art, or taking initiative, then I’d urge you to have your voice heard. Whether it's on AUSA/Senate, departmental or cultural clubs, there are plenty of opportunities and positions that are opening up as my generation graduates, which could use the vision of young and ambitious individuals.

Arts & Entertainment

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Creative Spotlight: “The Scoop” Podcast

Interviewed by: Solana Campbell [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Michael Davis and Amanda Amos

The Scoop is hosted by Michael Davis (senior, marketing) and Amanda Amos. I interviewed Michael about his role on the podcast.

What gave you guys the idea to start your podcast?

Truthfully, it was my idea. When I first got to college, I used to watch “Dear White People.” I thought that when I got to Andrews, there would be a space like that where students could be black and unapologetic. I really wanted a space where I

could just be myself and talk about things that are concerning—you know, current events, trends, fashion, and all things pop culture, from the perspective of a young black adult. I wanted to share this space with one of my really great friends, Amanda.

What are the logistics of starting a podcast?

Honestly, I wrote a 22-page paper about it before I started podcasting. Logistically, you have to buy mics, software, and luckily, we use Anchor, which is owned by Spotify, which allows us to easily distribute our podcast. Another cost is time and scheduling—being able to record at the same time can be very difficult. Having to use WebX or Zoom to record can make things more difficult. Recording online takes more technology in order to be able to silence background noise. You also have to create a social media presence in order to attract and keep listeners. When I was trying to start my podcast, I came to AUSA and asked if I could rent the studio, which wasn't being used for anything else. I was met with "no's." I also went to Griggs and asked if I could rent their studio. I think this is something that should change on campus, because Andrews needs to have creative spaces. We did record, finally, in the [AUSA] studio, but only because it was with BSCF. It's a hard process to even communicate with them to get the availability. In a way, it often feels like they are stifling creativity on campus.

What kind of topics are you discussing?

It's funny, so usually it's about current events. Black Twitter, systemic racist issues, interpersonal relationships, Black love, interracial relationships, things like that. Sometimes we take breaks because we have life, so we try to keep people updated on our lives. Amanda talks about her transitional period post-graduating.

How about guests? Any special guests?

We've had Htee Mu (senior, music) talking about "[Stop Asian Hate](#)" and all the things happening in Myanmar. We're currently doing a podcast episode with BSCF, with Khaylee Sands (junior, business) and Timmy Duado (junior, business). We're hoping to have more guests this summer. We have so many friends we want to talk with and there's a lot of things just now coming to fruition.

Is there a specific audience you're aiming for, or can anyone listen?

Our primary demographic is probably black people and people who are also of ethnic backgrounds who can relate to the things that we're talking about. It's important that listeners aren't offended by the unapologetic-ness of it all.

What do you hope to accomplish with “The Scoop”?

I want “The Scoop” to be the next “The Nod” or “The Read.” In a way, I would love for “The Scoop” to be the podcast that people of my generation go to listen to as they get older, because we will be aging with them. I’m excited for the possibility of endorsement or sponsorship in the future. The goal is to one day have a merch line, or something like that.

Where can I listen?

We are on all platforms that service podcasts.

Anchor: <https://anchor.fm/the-scooppod>

Spotify: <https://open.spotify.com/show/2JOvx8asP9Fn8uox8gM8vs?si=5235c0bfc5cd41cf>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/itisthescoop/?hl=en>

If you know what’s good for you, you should be listening to “The Scoop.”

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

“Return to Palau” Documentary Premieres at AU

Megan Napod **04.22.22**

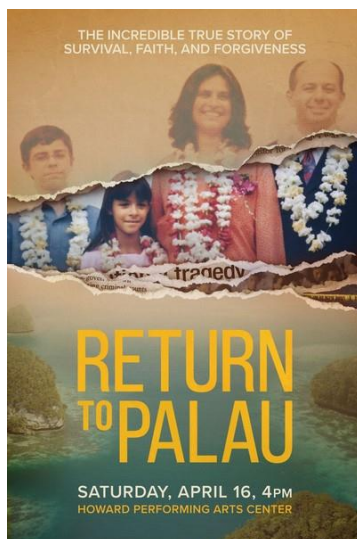


Photo by Matthew Hamel

The “Return to Palau” documentary had its Michigan premiere at the Howard Performing Arts Center on April 16, a sunny Saturday afternoon. Directed by Andrews University graduate Michelle Hamel, the film centers around the DePaiva family, especially Melissa (DePaiva) Gibson who suffered an unbelievable tragedy: the 2003 murder of her father Ruimar, her mother Margareth, and her brother Larrisson, while the family was serving as missionaries in Palau. Melissa is a survivor of abuse and trauma. The movie focuses on how her relatives rallied together to provide for Melissa, and how forgiveness and healing are possible, even in the most unthinkable of circumstances. I would strongly recommend reading about the complex sequence of events [here](#) before continuing.

The event at the HPAC itself was put together wonderfully, and due to a full house, an overflow section had to be created in the Newbold Auditorium in Buller Hall in an attempt to seat all the guests waiting to view the film. A second showing of the film was put on that same evening to accommodate those who either could not find a seat or saw how the film was received and wanted to see it for themselves.

Following the first showing was a Q&A, which included Pastor Dwight K. Nelson of Pioneer Memorial Church, who asked questions to Melissa and her husband, Michael Gibson. Also on the panel was psychologist Ann Hamel, who served as a producer, and director Michelle Hamel. The Q&A was a great opportunity to hear from those involved about the three-year production of the film. A reception was held afterward, giving those in attendance the opportunity to meet Melissa and Michael.

There were many storylines intertwined in the DePaiva story, whether that was the psychologist’s perspective, having to come down to Palau immediately after the murder to care for Melissa and her trauma, Pastor Tiago and his Bible studies with the murderer, or the powerful perspective of her grandmother, Ruth DePaiva, whose role as Melissa’s primary caretaker stood out to all who watched. As said by Michelle Hamel during the Q&A, when asked about material for the film to begin with, “We started off with the interviews from Melissa and Ruth. We weren’t even planning on going to Palau in the beginning, but as more of the story revealed itself, especially through Ruth’s incredible interview, I just knew we had to go to Palau to get beautiful shots and B-roll. But then we realized there were so many people we could talk to, including the Queen of Palau and the President, who were

more than willing to speak about the tragedy, and maybe even [the murderer] Justin” (who is currently serving three life sentences without parole).

The film did end up featuring an interview with Justin, and his deep remorse for what he had done. An audible and uniform gasp from the audience in Newbold showed the shock that prevailed when we got to hear from him. That choice of the filmmakers to do an interview with him displays the deep forgiveness that the DePaiva family has for him, and the true commitment that the filmmakers had to illustrate that immense grace. The different viewpoints of those involved were navigated seamlessly. The diverse footage provided to tell the complex narratives given through numerous interviews throughout the film was done masterfully. Producer Ann Hamel had this to say about all of the new and old footage obtained: “We got footage that we never imagined we’d get years into the project. We got footage of the stories told in the interviews we did, whether it was Melissa jump roping in school, the funeral for her family in Palau, or the Christmas tree the DePaiva’s lit days before the murder. It feels divinely orchestrated.”

The director had this to say about the perspective she envisioned for the film: “My goal was to honor the DePaiva family. I really wanted to get to know who they were, and often in stories like this, it is heavily focused on the murderer and their act. But I had all this beautiful footage of this family, and wanted to focus more on who they are.” She goes on to say, “This is a difficult story to live with and have on your heart these past few years, and I’m so glad to finally share it with the world.”

A few students who attended the premiere shared their thoughts on the film:

Christopher Mata (senior, psychology) found the film eye-opening. He learned how a horrible situation can turn someone’s life into a blessing for others. “It made me realize that God’s forgiveness can reach anyone, even a murderer. As the director said, ‘It’s okay to be mad at someone as long as you take it to God; it’s not a sin to be mad.’ Production was really good, the drone shots were great, and how they were able to interview those involved really added so much because it brought the storyline to life.”

Nathalie Batres (junior, psychology) said, “What stood out to me was the overwhelming theme of forgiveness. She [Melissa] was really little when the murder happened and already then she had love in her heart to keep going in her life, return to Palau to be a missionary, and eventually face Justin and forgive him.”

The film has been nominated for best documentary and best director at the International Christian Film Festival, one of the largest Christian film festivals in the world, which takes place from May 4–7 in Orlando, Florida. It has also won awards and been nominated in several other film festivals. The film is currently being translated into Portuguese, Spanish, and Japanese.

If you'd like to watch the film again or see it for the first time, updates on the online public release of the film are [here](#), and general news of the film is [here](#)!

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Write On

Kaela McFadden 04.22.22

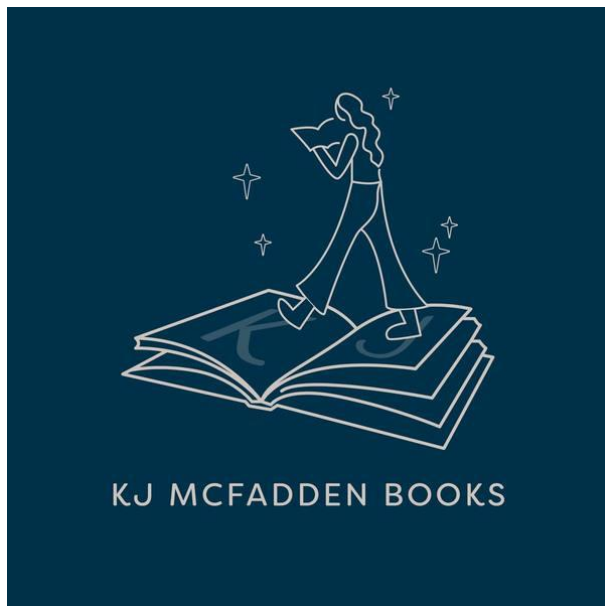


Photo by Kaela McFadden

Being a writer is oftentimes a thankless role. I spend hundreds of hours working on pieces that may never see the light of day. Still, I keep going because somewhere in the jumble of letters is a story I want to tell, even if it will only be read by a single friend.

I liked writing from a young age—more importantly, I loved stories. I spent hours diving into the vibrant worlds hidden between the pages of books. Whether it was simply recounting my day to my parents or spinning some fanciful daydream on the playground, telling stories has always been a part of me. The world in my head brings life to the dullest days, begging to be set free.

The first time I set out to write a book was in seventh grade. I didn't make it past the prologue. The next year, I began to handwrite a book during the monotonous moments in the school day. Eventually a handful of pages grew to a binder-full. I finished the project in a year. I was so incredibly proud of those handwritten pages... until I had to transcribe them all myself.

Working on that first manuscript taught me a few things: the importance of consistency, familiarity with written English usage, worldbuilding, and how to type at a decent pace. Although I will not try to publish that manuscript, the lessons learned still influence my writing.

It was during the winter of my freshman year of college that I started my next project—the one I am still working on. Honestly, I find that boredom tends to fuel my best projects. I started it one weekend night. I didn't know where I was going or even how far I would pursue the idea. I vowed to write at least 1000 words a week. Usually that ended up being on Friday. I prioritized that time and slowly it grew to 50,000 words.

AU Scriptorium, the writing club on campus, was established at the start of my sophomore year. Having a community cheering me on made me feel accepted and renewed my drive just as it had begun to peter out. During the extended Thanksgiving/Christmas break that school year, Scriptorium ran a NaNoRiMo, a writing event that traditionally takes place in April and November when writers vow to write 50,000 words in a month. Few things in life prepare you for such a task. 50,000 words in a month works out to just over 1,600 words a day (no breaks). By some miracle (mostly Covid limiting all other possible activities), I managed a terrible schedule of writing late into the night to reach the word count. I know how crazy I sound, but nothing beat the feeling of accomplishment I got at the end when I finished. My manuscript doubled in length, but I wasn't done. I kept writing at the same pace and finished my manuscript draft a few weeks later with 117,000 words (427 pages).

I am long winded with my stories and I don't like endings. This is no exception. The book I finished is only book one in a (hopefully) four book adventure series filled with mages, magic, and madness. I started drafting book two last summer.

Something I was never prepared for was pursuing writing professionally. I'm still not. I'm the odd pre-physical therapy major in an array of English classes to hone my passion (and fulfill my writing minor requirements). A few months ago, I began to send my writing to literary agents seeking publishing. It has been humbling receiving auto-generated rejection after rejection. It hurts having the work I slaved over get stomped on. As imposter syndrome kicks in, I've questioned so many times whether it was worth it to keep writing.

They say it's in rejection that you grow the most. I'm not giving up. I'm taking it as a sign that my manuscript still needs work. Editing has been my nemesis since day one. I'm great at drafting, but I'm a pantsler (I never have a plan when it comes to writing, the words drag me to the ending) and I don't like looking my work over after it's "done." Humbled by the rejections, I've turned back to editing armed with new skills from my short story class this semester (thanks to Dr. Moncrieff and my amazing classmates). I shed tears as my word count shrinks. Inevitably, words get cut here and there. My once 117,000 word manuscript is now down to 114,000 words (417 pages). It hurts, but in the fire my work is being refined. The story is becoming clearer and even better.

Along this journey, I've had so much support from Scriptorium, family, friends, professors, the AUSM, and the young writing community. Getting the opportunity to write, in any capacity, builds experience and familiarity with the craft, and I have been incredibly blessed with these opportunities. I wouldn't have come this far without their love and acceptance. Even if my manuscript never becomes a New York Times bestseller, I will be content with the journey. I will be grateful for the skills I've gathered along the way. I'll thank my mentors and continue cheering on fellow writers on their own journeys. I will love how far I've come. The journey is not just about getting published—it's about letting that creative spark free and watching it run wild.

I leave you with this advice to writers of every stage:

Just put one word in front of the other.

A sprinkle of drama never hurts.

Write a story you wish you could've read.

Keep reading. Keep writing.

*You are valid, wherever you are in your writing journey.
Have fun with it.*

If you are interested to hear more about my manuscripts and writing adventures, you can find my writing account on Instagram [@_k.j.mcfadden_books_](https://www.instagram.com/_k.j.mcfadden_books_).

News

NEWS

Balikbayan, Homecoming

Chris Ngugi [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Peter Tumangday

On Friday, April 15, the Andrews Filipino International Association (AFIA) held a Filipino cultural night entitled “Balikbayan.” I attended the event knowing that there would be a musical play and Filipino food served. Still, I, and the individuals I came with, were not anticipating a Broadwayesque performance. We were met with a 3-hour musical epic, entirely written and directed by Franky Paypa (junior, pre-physical therapy). It was a drama about love, loss, family, and culture with a

healthy dose of comedy balanced with notes of drama, intrigue, and reconciliation in the face of devastation.

The performance began after the Filipino and American anthems were sung in three-part harmonies. The musical followed an 18-year-old named Mahalia Robinson (who calls herself Lia), who found herself on a quest to discover her identity. She did so on a mission trip to the Philippines that she was on with her adoptive parents who were coming back to a clinic that they had left 18 years before. In the first act, we are introduced to the choreographed opening song, "This is Home," which was placed in the Philippine city of San Jose and was somewhat ironic as Mahalia did not initially feel at home. Part of this is because she is resentful toward her birth mom, who she believes did not care about her when she gave her daughter up. This anger for her mom extends to disillusionment with her culture and even her name, a name that was the last thing her birth mom gave her before she was abandoned as a baby. The musical is tied together by the idea that Mahalia is writing a college application essay to Yale with the prompt, "In your own words, describe what homecoming means to you." By the end of the piece, Mahalia learns homecoming means *Balibayan*, or "a return to [her] roots, to [her] culture."

This musical was also full of complex and rich subplots and backstories. One such subplot was that of Mahalia's adoptive parents, Dr. Sarah Robinson and Mr. David Robinson, who lied to her about how she came to be in their care. They told her that they got her in a closed adoption in the United States when they actually found her on a stormy night in the Philippines on the front porch of their clinic. This withheld truth leads to quite a few hijinks and a "Hamilton"-inspired song called "It's Not a Lie." There was another subplot about a boy named MJ Merardo, who Mahalia begins to like. As they start spending time with each other, he tells her a story about a woman who wanted to come to America but found herself in an abusive relationship with a man who wanted her to give up her pursuits. This woman becomes pregnant, and the abusive man leaves her and steals from her. She becomes so desperate that she puts her baby in a basket and places her on the porch of a local clinic, the very same clinic where the Robinsons work. A note in the basket simply said, "her name is Mahalia; please take care of her." The web becomes even more complex as we learn that Mahalia's mom is the sister of the woman who adopted MJ Merardo. Those are only a couple of the beautifully embedded narratives sprinkled throughout the musical, some of which contain anything from silly gang members to the tragic deaths of loving parents.

This is what Savannah Tyler (freshman, speech pathology) had to say about the musical after its conclusion: “I felt completely immersed in the story and the music was very catchy. I enjoyed the fact that you could tell the cast and crew were passionate about their production and the food afterward was delicious.” Nick Rouse (freshman, computer science) had similar sentiments and said: “I felt the AFIA musical was one of the best plays from this school year. It had a great message that wasn’t masked by its Christian themes. I especially enjoyed the musical performances from the third act of the show. The whole play was well put together and I look forward to any more productions AFIA puts out in the future.”

A couple of the performers also had something to say, including Samantha Cardwell (sophomore, music performance piano), who played Dr. Sarah Robinson. She said: “It took us a long time and we rehearsed basically every week on Sunday for about two hours and [as we got] closer to the performance, we had to do five to even six hours... on top of practice on our own. Honestly, I’m sure I can speak for all of us, but we were nervous and we were worried that maybe some things might go wrong, but overall I think that . . . the performance went way better than we all anticipated, and I’m just really glad that we all had a great time. I personally had a lot of fun rehearsing as well as performing, but nothing beats performing, it’s the real deal.”

Zachary Lowe (freshman, pre-physical therapy), who played the former gang leader Vince Mercardo, said “It took a good amount of work . . . it was kind of hard.” When asked how he feels now that the musical is over, he stated, “It’s actually kind of bittersweet, because it was a lot of work and took a lot of time to dedicate to this, but the sweet part is [that] it was really really fun despite all the hard things that we had to do and all the cramming of lines. I really truly enjoyed it.”

Franky Paypa (junior, pre-physical therapy), who was the mastermind behind this performance, said,

“It was a huge undertaking, considering that I had to take on the project fairly last minute. Throughout the entire month of December, I slaved away to rewrite the original script, complete the unfinished songs, and write entirely new songs in less than three weeks so rehearsals could start straight away when school started back up again in January. And that wasn't even the hardest part. Since it was so late in the school year, it was incredibly difficult to find people to fill in all the character and band positions, despite the fairly small cast requirement of the new script. I'm thankful to the people who did say yes, and I wouldn't have had the casting any

other way. My producer, Rhymiel Prudente (sophomore, medical lab science), and I seemed to run into a new problem every week, and it was hard to put on this project with less time than usual while still balancing a full school workload, work, and other co-curriculars . . .

Aside from the weekly rehearsals, I had to carve out some of my personal time to meet in small groups with the cast, or work one-on-one with them to coach them on their songs or do scene work. We also had to iron out issues with the venue, but even by the performance date, we still had not done an entire full run-through of the musical. Honestly, we were playing everything by ear on the day of. Our final performance WAS our soundcheck.

But, despite all the bumps along the road, the cast, band, and crew really did a marvelous job in pulling everything together. It wouldn't have been possible without each and every one of them, and though I can't say the play went on without a hitch or exactly to my vision, we did the best that we could with the time and resources that we had, and the memories I made along the way were well worth the pain (and tears). Thank you to the entire PCN 2022 team, and an even bigger thanks to Kristin Ferrer and her team back in 2020.

‘Balikbayan’ wouldn't have existed without their work and dedication, and I can only hope that what I delivered met at least half of their expectations.”

The 2021-2022 AFIA President, Justin Flores “Jflo” (junior, medical laboratory science), adds, “So much work was put into not only making this PCN come to life but also producing it in a way that truly encapsulated the dreams of the original producers from years ago. I actually had no role in any of the actual PCN musical planning, coordinating, directing, etcetera. All credit should go to Franky and the team that she put together! I can’t even begin to imagine the amount of blood sweat and tears that were shed in the process of rehearsing every single week, on top of any academic responsibilities they had.

Usually, a PCN director is chosen in the summer before the Fall semester begins. This gives the director plenty of time to plan out what they want PCN to look like for the Spring. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, I ended up reaching out to Franky in December, just before we left for Christmas break! We realized that we were going to have to work 10 times as hard, but Franky accepted the challenge and she gathered together the most capable and talented team!

If the event that I took part in planning puts a smile on people's faces, then the event was successful. Meeting new people and seeing old friends last night, I saw nothing but smiles! Also, the AFIA aunties really showed the students just how important they are to AFIA through the amazing food that they provided. PCN isn't PCN without food, and we are always grateful to our aunties for being so willing to help feed those who attend every year. Unfortunately, I was not able to watch the musical, but judging from the reactions of people coming out of the chapel afterward, they were blown away! The actors, actresses, and musicians poured their hearts and souls into making the performance as successful as it was. I couldn't have asked for a better farewell event, as we are currently transitioning into handing down the Presidency from myself to Jaden Leiterman (junior, medical laboratory science) and his new cabinet. I'm excited for what Jaden's PCN will look like next year and I hope that we see even more smiles!"

NEWS

Terry Dodge Memorial

Scott Moncrieff [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Darren Heslop

Terry Dodge, Jr.

November 15, 1968 - April 8, 2022

Terry Dodge attended Andrews University from 1987-1992 and graduated with a bachelors in Aviation. He returned to work at Andrews University from 1998 until this year, first at ITS as a computer support specialist and most recently as a flight instructor in the Department of Aviation. Terry died of cancer, and a memorial service was held for him at Stevensville SDA Church on Sunday, April 10. Below, we share some brief memories of Terry from some of his colleagues at Andrews.

Having Terry as a work colleague for more than 20 years, I knew him to be a person of integrity, compassion, loyalty, kindness and service. First and foremost, he strove to live as Christ would have him live, even when that took him on difficult paths. He was fiercely loyal and dedicated to his family, enjoying opportunities to talk about them and always serious about his concern for their life directions. He was always kind, compassionate and willing to serve wherever needed. If someone needed assistance with a project, be it a roof, video for a wedding or a computer problem, Terry was always willing and ready to help, even though I don't know how he found the time with how much he packed into his daily life. When Terry made a promise, you knew he would keep it. Terry's innovation and commitment to providing our church's (Stevensville SDA) services online (at first single handedly) was an example of his vision and tenacity to complete something he took on. While we feel the loss so intensely now, we can be certain that there is a "well done, good and faithful servant" greeting waiting for him on that great resurrection morning. So looking forward to that reunion.

Lorena Bidwell, Learning Systems Administrator, Center for Digital Learning and Instructional Technology, School of Distance Education (formerly ITS)

I met Terry winter camping near Lake Superior and observed his passion for videography. Soon after he provided his time and talents to the creation of a DVD about my mother, which was shown at her surprise 80th birthday party. Over the years we shared many more adventures, the most memorable being a backcountry canoe trip filming a route believed to be a favorite of Sam Campbell's through Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Quetico Provincial Park. Terry was my prayer partner. He was a man of strong faith and conviction and we supported each other

through good as well as challenging times.

Dave Village, Professor Emeritus, School of Rehabilitation Sciences.

Terry attended the Stevensville SDA church and started bringing his personal video equipment to church and started recording the services and putting them up on Vimeo so that others that couldn't attend could watch. Eventually the church decided to purchase video equipment that we could use to livestream the services with. Terry helped pick out and install this equipment and worked to teach us the art of videography. The training continues as we try to continue his legacy of providing video services to others.

It was not unusual to find Terry borrowing cameras and video equipment and spending a whole day setting up to video someone's wedding "because they asked," even though they had no idea how much work was involved to make it happen. I had the privilege of working with Terry on a number of these events. The ones in the church where all of the equipment was already there was much easier.

Terry had a great love for Sam Campbell, the naturalist and author. He produced 2 DVD's featuring Sam Campbell, Land of the Voyagers, and Come to the North Country. He was also involved in having Sam's 16mm tape collection converted to digital format. He was friends with the current owner of Sam's forest island home and has visited it many times.

Daniel Bidwell, Formerly of ITS and Professor of Computer Science

Terry was a vital member of the Aviation Department long before he joined as a faculty. He received his pilot's licenses when he attended the department as a student and aviation has been in his blood ever since. When he returned to Andrews to work for the IT department he was assigned to the airport and it seemed like he was out here at least twice a week. He was vital to keeping the department running smoothly. From finding lost files to accessing stubborn email servers to speaking with France late at night in order to keep our flight simulators running, Terry's assistance was felt everywhere. When he decided it was time to leave the IT department, it was a logical decision to continue to put his skills to work at the airport. He put every bit of his energy into brushing up on his aviation knowledge so that he would be able to provide excellent instruction for the students. He was also a good friend. Always cheerful, ever willing to lend a hand, Terry was a genuine Christian. He will be sorely missed and ever remembered for his professional contributions and for the relationships he developed.

Jonathon Larson – Director of Maintenance, Department of Aviation

Terry was a man who brought passion and excitement to everything he did. He always carried a character of kindness, humility, and respect for others in a way rarely seen. He was definitely one who preferred to be behind the scenes, making things work, rather than in the limelight. Yet his enthusiasm for life was contagious. As a teacher, he was not afraid of working hard, and always strove to be the best resource he could possibly be for his students. He will be sorely missed.

David Macomber – Chief Flight Instructor

He was a problem solver. Anytime somebody came to him with a computer problem it would just magically go away. He had a heart for supporting others.

Darryl Penney – Assistant Chief Flight Instructor and Assistant Professor

NEWS

Until We Meet Again: Farewell to Three AU Deans

Chris Ngugi [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Qualyn Robinson

As we say goodbye to this school year, we are also saying farewell to three integral people in our campus lives. They are Meier Hall Dean, Donnie Keele; Lamson Hall Dean, A'Lisa Sorensen; and Lamson Hall Assistant Dean, S. Renee Paddock. Each of these individuals has decided to leave their positions on our campus to enter a new phase in their lives. They have all said goodbye to their respective residence halls through emails, and there were two strong commonalities between each of these farewell messages: deep gratitude for their experiences with us as students and the invocation of prayer in their decisions and their wishes to us.

Dean Sorensen of Lamson Hall answered a few questions about her decision to leave:

How does this transition make you feel? Is it exciting or terrifying or sad, or all of the above?

This transition is hard because I really love the Lamson residents and the many connections we've made over the years. I will miss them dearly as well as my awesome colleagues. I also feel happy in this transition because I will be living closer to my immediate family which I really haven't done since I was 18. I also feel excited about this transition because God put it on my heart (and boldly in front of my eyes) and although I was hesitant at first, he kept softening my heart. It has been an interesting experience watching it all come together.

What do you plan on transitioning into after this school year?

I have accepted a Vice-Principal position at Georgia Cumberland Academy.

What would you like to tell the students and faculty of Andrews University as you leave?

I feel very privileged to have worked with so many talented, caring, hilarious, approachable, trustworthy professionals over the years. It has been such a blessing to know each of them and to have shared this Andrews University journey with them. To the students, you have changed my life for the better in many ways. I thank you for your kindness, patience and love over the years. You are the reason I've been here for ten years. Thank you for the deep conversations, the jokes, the teachable moments, the dutch blitz nights, the pranks, the drive by hellos and so much more. I wish you all the best on your Andrews University journey and hope that this will not be our last encounter.

Dean Keele likewise shared about his decision to leave Andrews University:

How does this transition make you feel?

Transition is never easy—it involves letting go of the familiar in order to grab onto something new. But there is also something about the unknown that brings new energy. For me, this transition is a mixture of gratitude and anticipation. Gratitude for a place that has shaped me in profound ways and anticipation for a new and different experience ahead.

What do you plan on transitioning into after this school year?

I will be joining the team at UltraCamp, a software company based in Niles, Michigan, where I'll be responsible for digital media content and integration.

What would you like to tell the students and faculty of Andrews University as you leave?

The first thing that comes to mind is to remind and encourage the AU community that education has much more to do with the development of character than it does the acquisition of knowledge—that it is entirely possible to obtain a degree and remain uneducated. Don't get so absorbed in answering the question, "what will I become?" that you ignore the question, "who am I becoming?" In fact, if you put more time and effort into answering the question of character first, you will find that a vibrant career path will unfold before your feet.

Assistant Dean Paddock also shared her thoughts on leaving and plans for the future:

How does this transition make you feel, is it exciting or terrifying or sad, etc., or all of the above?

Transition is a mixed bag of emotions. It is a time when you evaluate the investment you made. It is sad to leave the community I have built during my time at AU. I have loved working with so many wonderful people. I'm grateful to be taking many beautiful memories and relationships with me. I am very excited about the future. God made this next step very clear, and I'm humbled by the opportunity.

What do you plan on transitioning into after this school year?

I have a 3-year-old son and it is my greatest investment and privilege to be with him. I will be transitioning to household CEO and director of child development.

What would you like to tell the students and faculty of Andrews University as you leave?

To the students, faculty, and staff of Andrews University, I want to say thank you. I

am humbled and filled with gratitude to have been a part of something bigger than myself. Many aspects of this life are superficial and temporary. It is my hope and prayer that we all actively make investments in the eternal. A life verse for me and the theme verse we chose for Gymnics this year was Romans 12:12, “Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.”

These Deans have had a significant impact. Some of the Resident Assistants (RA) were invited to share a favorite story or trait that stands out to them about their deans. They were also invited to share any words of wisdom as they say farewell to these mentors.

Akya Waller (senior, art therapy) said “One memory that stood out to me about Dean Sorenson was when I was a freshman, before she became head dean. On Saturday nights, my roommate and I would always go down and play dutch blitz with her for hours. She would talk to us about everything and anything and was just a joyous person to be around. With Dean Paddock, my first memory of her was tryouts for gymnastics. She was awesome, and her confidence was a thing that I admire. As I got to work with her and know her more, she was that super goofy and nerdy Dean that really makes you laugh and shares good snacks. They were both amazing to work and be around. If there is anything I could tell them in their new journey it would be to have fun, have faith, and enjoy the new beginnings. I’m proud of both of them and I’m happy they are able to move on to bigger and better things. I’m going to miss them so much, and I hope that God blesses their footsteps wherever they go. They are amazing women and I love them lots.”

Zyon Wiley (junior, pre-physical therapy), said “I think that one memory that stands out about “DK” [Dean Keele] is, when I was first thinking about doing the RA job it was between doing the RA job or basketball. A lot of people [my coaches] were saying ‘come pick basketball, come pick basketball’ and they were really biased. I just remember DK having this purity about himself and saying that ‘Zyon, it doesn’t matter what you do, you know you’re going to do it to the best of your abilities.’ I think that’s really what . . . made him such a memorable figure in my life. No matter what direction I chose, he wanted me to be a better man. Something that I would tell DK as he goes into this next phase of life is . . . don’t ever underestimate the impact that your words and your perspective and your knowledge has on the people around you. You have made, and can make, people’s lives so much better. Keep in contact, keep doing you. And keep changing young men’s lives and people’s lives as much as possible.”

Andrew Pak (sophomore, music) said this: “What I really appreciate is [Dean Keele’s] personal coaching sessions. He’s very much dedicated to personal growth . . . and he was very willing to help others achieve that personal growth for themselves. I think that is very admirable. As for what I would say to him: just keep growing, because you’re entering a new stage of life. It’s definitely a change between being the head dean of Meier and being wherever you’re off to next. I hope you find a lot of growth there.”

At the end of every year in my high school, we would say the Mizpah from Genesis 31:49. As we are ending this school year and saying goodbye to these deans, the graduating class, and our friends who live miles away from us, this would be the perfect time to say the Mizpah to keep us until we meet again. “The Lord watch between me and thee, when we are absent one from another.”

Ideas

IDEAS

Does the total score of a college course have anything to do with a student's motivation?

Robert Zhang 04.22.22

Figure 1

	100 points mean (SD)	1000 points mean (SD)	100,000 points mean (SD)
Overall emotional state	2.61 (0.63)	2.27 (0.74)	1.96 (0.80)
Preference for pass/fail	2.40 (1.46)	2.82 (1.43)	3.20 (1.48)

Figure 2

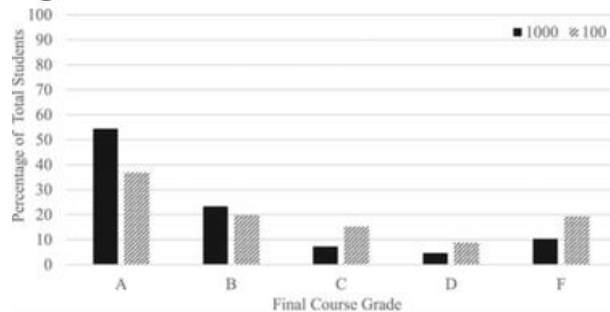
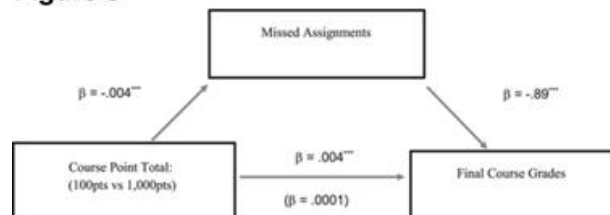


Figure 3



Note: $R^2 = .80$; *** $p < .001$

Photo by Jordan D. Troisi, et al

In current university education, although there are different teaching methods, most university courses use scores to measure student performance. This raises the question: for a professor who uses scores to measure student performance, where is the most appropriate position to set the total score of a course?

Why does this matter? Because it has been reported in many [studies](#) on online games and other types of score-based games, that earning more points can strongly motivate players. In addition to this, when earning the same percentage of points, for example, earning nine points out of one hundred points (9/100) is equivalent to earning nine hundred points out of one thousand points (900/1000). In this case, the increased value of the total score, even though the ratio is the same, may appear, in students' minds, to be farther from the top value. This phenomenon is called [denominator neglect](#) and is a common misunderstanding of numbers for humans.

Therefore, perhaps we can infer that in the points system, the size of the total score will affect the enthusiasm of the students, because if homework with a higher value is not completed, the loss of more points will cause the students to produce more work. Loss aversion might make students more active, which leads to an improvement in student performance.

In order to study this problem, Professor Jordan D. Troisi from Colby College and his colleagues set up a [research study](#). The lab based study was using an experimental design to gather students' responses on a hypothetical course with one of the three potential total points, which were 100, 1,000, and 100,000. The laboratory-based research recruited 308 students, and all the subjects were instructed on their voluntary nature before the experiment. They were divided into the three groups mentioned before (the total scores were 100, 1,000 and 100,000). All subjects were asked to read the following text before starting:

“All assignments this semester have a point value assigned to them. You can see each assignment with its corresponding point value below. All the points that you earn for each assignment are added together to calculate your final grade. You can use the grade scale to determine your letter grade based on the number of points that you earned.”

On the designed course syllabus, all the assignments had the same score ratio, and an icon with the course evaluation method (for example, “an A+ will be 96+ out of

100, and will be 960+ out of 1,000”) is also shown to all participants. After reading these, they will be asked to fill out a questionnaire (they don’t have to actually go to these experimentally designed courses). In the survey, they will be asked their states of emotion after losing certain points, and how likely they would be to sign up for a class using a pass/fail grading scheme. Figure 1 (top of article) is the result of the experiment, and we can conclude that a larger score can indeed cause fear and increase negative emotions, eliciting a greater preference for signing up for a course that is pass/fail.

Due to the limitations of laboratory-based experiments, the professor initiated another investigation, a study of an actual class. The actual classroom based study was going to observe and analyze students’ performance in 12 real courses over 6 semesters that they were enrolled in. There were two courses per semester, and the perfect scores were 100 and 1000. Figure 2 (top of article) summarizes the final grades of these students, and Figure 3 is (top of article) the conclusion drawn after the exchange between the two professors who taught the class. The conclusion was that, even though the contribution to the final transcript was the same, students were more willing to complete them because they were unwilling to lose such a large number of points when faced with higher point values of homework. The higher the degree of completion of the homework, the higher the final grade; on a smaller scale, some small assignments, such as those that were 2% or 5% of the total grade, were considered unimportant, and students were more likely to choose not to do them, which brought down their overall performance.

Therefore, if a professor can freely set the total score of the courses they teach, then a relatively higher score may be able to better motivate the professor’s students. Of course, if the professor currently has a better grading method, such as the Specifications Grading [method](#)¹ used by Professor Karl Bailey from Andrew University, then such a professor should advocate their grading method to all of their colleagues!

¹ Unlike conventional letter grades based on fractions, the Specifications Grading method measures the performance of a student based on multiple angles (such as attendance, average grade on tests or project that matches the requirement). For each requirement reached, an achievement point will be given, which will increase the student’s letter grade by a letter (a C to C+). Students need to work for those requirements in order to achieve their ideal grade.

The Pros and Cons of Taking a Gap Year

Gabriela Francisco [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Andrew Neel (Unsplash)

A gap year is a year off from conventional schooling—one which usually entails working and gaining hands-on experience in a particular field. Some people take one before entering college, others during the years pursuing their undergraduate degree, and still others in between graduating from college and pursuing masters or doctorate-level education. During gap years, students have the option of staying home to work, going abroad to an affiliated school in which they're still learning but the workload isn't as heavy, or being a missionary.

Cons

Location

It really depends on where you're doing your gap year. If you're taking a gap year away from home and school, what if you end up disliking where you're at? Unfortunately, you've already paid to be there and made a commitment to stay, so

you're pretty much stuck. If you're staying home, the con would be that you may not be able to experience anything new, and you may become a little stir crazy. On top of that, you might struggle with the contrast between, at school, having a lot of freedom to go wherever you want, whenever you want, as opposed to respecting your parents' rules back at home.

Friends move on

While you will most likely keep up with what is going on at school in many ways, the reality is that your friends will continue to have fun and live their lives without you being with them. You may feel it while you're away just as much as when you come back and realize all the inside jokes and memories you can't relate to.

Taking longer to finish up

Taking a gap year typically means that you will take longer to complete your degree, resulting in a later start time for graduate school or getting a job. This can be frustrating closer to the end of your time at school, when most of your friends are leaving while you stay behind, and it unfortunately makes it easier for you to make comparisons about your life progress with someone else's.

Pros

New Mindset

Being removed from what has been routine in your life is unsettling in the best ways. You will get to learn so much about yourself, about people, how to be a better problem solver, how to be resourceful, and what your own value system is. You will get challenged daily and you will have more space to experience different versions of you.

Motivation

If you've gotten too used to the people, classes, buildings, or food in this area and are tired of the fact that half of the year is gray and cold, it's hard to find the motivation to just push through one day, let alone a whole year. Sometimes having a year away can be what helps give you a push to finish the rest of your undergraduate career. Especially if you take a gap year in between Junior and Senior year, you will have such a big prize to look forward to and won't have to take so long to achieve it.

We are not Hamsters

In the United States, we have a problem with creating environments that make people feel that they have to constantly keep moving. That consequence of that

means that we work all the time and are made to feel bad when we have personal emergencies, we feel guilty for using vacation time, or we have this need to finish school in a certain time frame. I encourage you to take a step off that hamster wheel and remember you're not a slave to anybody's expectations or timeline, *not even your own*. This is said a lot, but it is true nonetheless: age is just a number. Whatever you have in mind will be accomplished at one point or another, just make sure to actually have fun in the process.

My year abroad as a missionary was characterized by all the points I made. I struggled not with the location in itself, but all the moving pieces within the location, such as the struggle between the missionaries with the locals and the struggles between the missionaries themselves. The issues we were having were exacerbated for me when I would open my phone and see 100+ messages on the group chat I had with my friends and was reminded of all the fun they were having while I was struggling (no fault to them). Even though I'm two years removed from that experience, every once in a while I come close to letting myself resent it when I realize my friends are moving onto the next chapter of their life soon and I'll still be here in Berrien.

As depressing as that may sound, if I were given the opportunity to do it again, I would, because the pros **do** outweigh the cons and also can be viewed in a positive light (something I learned to do being abroad). Feeling "stuck" where I was made me find ways to make my time there enjoyable and taught me to create a reality that I liked instead of waiting for it to just happen. My friends making their own memories made me realize I could also do that for myself. This realization gave me the opportunity to meet new people, get to know my professors better, and get involved in activities that I hadn't done prior to leaving. Lastly, I'm choosing to view not finishing at the same time as my friends as a bonus self-growth year. What does that look like? I'm not sure yet, but I'm excited to find out!

IDEAS

You'll Be Ready When You Get There, I Promise

Evin N. Musgrove [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Pierre Bamin (Unsplash)

News flash: you actually don't need to know, but let's talk about chameleons for a second. If you're like me, you've believed that chameleons change color in order to camouflage with their environment . . . a reasonable assumption. However, we have been lied to. Chameleons do not change color to *blend in* with their surroundings, rather, they change color *in reaction* to factors such as light, communication with other chameleons, and mood. A color change also shows that chameleons are absorbing or reflecting the current temperature; for instance, turning a bright color to reflect the sun's rays or turning into a darker color in colder temperatures to absorb extra [heat](#). In essence, these creatures' fascinating abilities allow them to *adapt* to their current conditions, making themselves "more at home," if you will.

The American Psychological Association [defines](#) adaptability as a person's capacity to respond appropriately to already changed or changing situations, as well as one's ability to adjust his or her behavior to meet various circumstances or people. If you so choose to love yourself by increasing your adaptability, a plethora of benefits are sure to follow. Primarily, you'll be a happier, more satisfied individual, not to mention how much faster you'll be able to bounce back from life's adversity. Likewise, your ability to adapt will make you more [valuable](#) in certain spaces, especially in the workplace, as those around you become aware of your creativity and proactiveness. Not to be dramatic, but this skill of adaptability might be a matter of life and death.

Now, back to the four-legged reptiles. Based on science, it would appear that chameleons don't know the extent to which they will need to adapt *prior* to being in a certain environment. However, once in the position, instinct kicks in, and they shift accordingly. Reader, you may currently be in a space of chronic doubt, paired perfectly with a wave of unanswered questions. You may even kid yourself into losing interest in your passion from over-examining the path ahead. I myself have spiraled while thinking of the journey to pursuing my PsyD. "Do I really have the stamina to become a doctor of psychology? Can I stand being a student in academia for so many more years? How will I know it's worth it? Will I quit mid-way? What if it's not as fulfilling as I thought it would be? Am I even smart enough?" Amidst the spiral, something my mum would say to me is, "Evin, you're not getting your PsyD tomorrow. You don't need to feel pressured to make a decision at this moment that the future you will be more equipped to handle when the time comes." Few things have been more reassuring to me than this motherly advice.

Friend, I would seriously implore you to relax. **You'll be ready when you get there, I promise.** Whoever told you that you need to have 'xyz' all figured out by a certain time was more than likely projecting their insecurities about their own journey onto yours. It had nothing to do with you. This is your sign that you're actually right on schedule and that you will end up where you're meant to be. Not only is it okay for you not to know how you'll get to where you want to go, but you're also not *supposed* to know! If you did, you might honestly get in your own way. Just as God gave the chameleon the instincts to adapt in response to its environment, He has given you the same ability, ten-fold. Won't you stop holding your breath and trust that the future version of you will always be ready for the next step? Just wait and see.

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Pulse

PULSE

Eggs

Gabriela Francisco 04.22.22



Photo by Erol Ahmed (Unsplash)

That's the picture I have in my head when I think about where my mental health is right around this time every year. Maybe you have that one professor that is kind of mean, and you've successfully sucked back your tears throughout the semester, but now you feel like you could crack if they say one more thing. Maybe you've already gotten to the point where all the days, hours, and minutes seem to be scrambled together and you're relying on your roommate to wake you up and remind you that your class started five minutes ago.

If you can relate, here are some over(ly)-easy ways to make it to the end of this semester without boiling over.

1. Remember you pretty much have free-range on the campus. Go on a walk around campus or on one of the trails, hammock by the river, visit the mini botanical garden at the top of the science complex, play hide-and-seek in the library.
2. Create a schedule and stick to it. Don't forget to be kind to yourself and add scheduled rest times.
3. As Benedict Cumberbatch said, "...take each moment as it comes." Try not to let a lower score derail you or make you feel less than. If your quiz didn't go so well, let yourself be disappointed, then let it go and study better for the next one.
4. Take advantage of the Wellness Center. Use the saunas, poach yourself in the whirlpool, take some time in the infrared light cove. Allow yourself to actually relax without any books or electronics to distract you.
5. Intentionally look for the sunny side in whatever you're doing. [Studies](#) show that thinking positively actually contributes to lowered levels of anxiety and stress. If you need help on how to think more positively, click [here](#).
6. If you feel burnt out or fried and need to talk to someone, reach out. One of the chaplains and/or the Counseling & Testing Center would be more than willing to assist if you need a little extra help.
7. Be on the lookout for any events that will be coming in this next month that are literally geared to help you relax heading into finals.
8. Get active! Don't stay in your room and study all day, you seriously need to move! Go to an open gym, play tennis, race your friends around the track, climb the rock wall, or attend a class at the Wellness Center.
9. Remind yourself that you are more than a grade. Know this: you can't stop God from doing what He already has planned for you. Do your part and trust that God will do His.

Best of luck!

Points if you find all 9 times I referred to eggs ;)

PULSE

Goodbye from the SM Staff

04.22.22



Photo by Daniel Self

The editorial staff of “The Student Movement” reflects on this past school year and shares their future plans.

Alyssa Henriquez: Editor-in-Chief

“This year was quite the whirlwind! I applied to a million medical schools, worked as an English and Honors TA, and of course, had a ton of fun as part of “The Student Movement’s” staff. One of my favorite things to do throughout this year has been to go to Chicago whenever possible. I have also taken more time to do things like spontaneously go out on weeknights and spend more time with people that I love, because life is too short. The end of my final year of college feels incredibly bittersweet, but I am excited for what the future holds. I’ll be starting

medical school this fall at Duke University School of Medicine, and I hope to continue writing in some capacity throughout the rest of my life.”

Scott Moncrieff: Faculty Advisor

Congratulations to AU students, faculty and staff for surviving (and even thriving) two years of pandemic. It’s great to be part of a community bound together by a love of learning. And we even had a day of Spring today (04/21/22).

Taylor Uphus: Humans Editor

“Stressful, rewarding, laughter, and complete. These four words encompass my final year here at Andrews University. From completing my honors thesis, interning at Crowe LLP, and serving as Humans editor for “The Student Movement”, this year was the busiest and most stressful of my college experience. However, I would not trade these responsibilities and experiences for the world. Even amidst the stresses of school and work, I made wonderful new friendships, laughed more than ever before, and even found time to rediscover my love of going to the gym. After I graduate, I am planning to take a gap year, during which I will be working at Crowe LLP, studying for the LSAT, applying for law school, visiting some national parks, and hopefully hiking part of the Camino de Santiago. While I have completed one more step in life and am ready to move on to new things, I will always cherish the memories and people here at Andrews.”

Lyle Goulbourne: Ideas Editor

“Over the course of my senior year I have explored much more of the surrounding region than previous years, which has been quite fun. I would recommend you check out Cedar Point in Sandusky, Ohio, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in the UP, or Sleeping Bear Dunes. This next year I will be proving myself as a member of Gen Z and living with my parents while I take a gap year before medical school.”

Abigail Lee: News Editor

“This year has felt completely unreal, good and bad, but at the end of the day I am so thankful for the time I’ve spent working for “The Student Movement”. Working for the paper is like “Broadcast News” but without any of the love triangles and instead, all of the rush. If you didn’t write for us during 2022, you definitely should next year. Anyways, maybe this year as a movie would be “The Easy A”, archetypical and a decent watch but certainly no “Superbad”. Overall, I’m glad to have made it through alive and I have so much love and gratefulness for the people who got me through it. Friendship above all things!”

Alannah Tjhatra: Pulse Editor

“This year was insane, but in a good way. There were all kinds of highs and lows—I think it's been the most rollercoastery year I've had in college so far—but I've come out of it mostly in one piece. I got to meet lots of incredible people through both AUSA and “The Student Movement,” deepen friendships, and learn a lot about myself. I'm excited to be on “The Student Movement” team again next year; really looking forward to the things in store. Although the near-future looks a little daunting (I'm spending the summer preparing for the MCAT), it will also be really exciting (I'll be visiting my relatives in Indonesia, haven't seen them in three years)!”

Megan Napod: Arts and Entertainment Editor

“My senior year has been unique from other years, with taking graduate school classes for speech therapy but also finishing undergrad, a combination of beginnings and endings. I am sad that my time as a part of “The Student Movement” is one of those endings; it has been one of the highlights of my time here being a writer and editor over the past two years! After I get my undergrad diploma in a few weeks (which is barely hitting me right now) I will be continuing grad classes here in the summer and next school year.

Kurt Kuhlman: Website Editor

“I am glad this year is coming to an end, but very sad to see it go. Like all of the other seniors in the Honors Program, much of this year was spent working on my Honors Thesis, and it was so rewarding to work with Dr. Carpenter throughout this year and to finish just one week ago with the final presentation. While I am excited about my plans for the coming year, I will miss “The Student Movement,” the best job I've had yet. This summer my family is planning a post-graduation road trip from Tennessee to Arizona and back again to hit some new [state high points](#), and then in August I am going to be attending the University of Tennessee, Knoxville as a graduate student in their Political Science program to begin working on a PhD.”

Lily Burke: Copy Editor

“This past year, I have been studying abroad in Spain, and have understandably felt pretty disconnected from the Andrews community. “The Student Movement” has been my main connection to Andrews, and from the many articles I have had the privilege of editing, such as vivid recaps of events, intriguing arguments and ideas, and quick movie/book/song recommendations, I've been continually reminded that after my year of learning and living and making buckets of memories, I have an amazing community to return back to.”

This summer, after I finish my studies here in Spain, I'll be heading to Jordan for an archaeology dig study tour. Then this coming autumn, I plan to return to Andrews. I've switched up my major situation, and now am triple majoring in English, Spanish, and Anthropology, and plan to add a minor in ESL. I'm running for Honors social coordinator, and hope to help put on some fun social events. I plan to join Makarios again. Lastly, I'm really looking forward to finally be moved out of Lamson. Happy Summer!"

Qualyn Robinson: Photo Editor

"If this year was a movie, it's time for someone to roll the credits! My final year of university has not been free of stress, anxiety, and confusion (that would've been too kind). But through times of emotional turmoil came experiences of joy, laughter, and occasionally, peace of mind. Opportunities like "The Student Movement" have allowed me to creatively assess the numerous passing thoughts that roam my brain through the articles I've written and the photos I've taken. Don't get me wrong, life is just as stressful, anxious, and confusing, but I've learned to be a better communicator—not just with everyone else, but with myself. So I'll take my better-communicated self and my newfound degree and see where life leads me."

PULSE

Summer Plans

Gloria Oh [04.22.22](#)



Photo by Kimson Doan (Unsplash)

Although good old Berrien Springs continues to sprinkle snow on our hopes for spring, hang in there! Within two weeks, most of us will be finished with finals, ready to welcome summer regardless of the weather outside. I am especially looking forward to the break since it's going to be my first summer somewhat free from Covid restrictions since I started college. Although it will mostly be spent studying biochemistry and other MCAT subjects, I have some fun events planned—including an Alec Benjamin concert—and I am pretty excited!

I have interviewed various Andrews students and faculty to see what they have planned for the summer of 2022.

Ms. Maxine Umana, Honors Administrative Assistant, shared her plans about attending the concerts of Coldplay and the Backstreet Boys at the end of May. She showed her excitement by saying, “They’re finally back!” She will continue to stay busy throughout summer, as she plans to visit Morocco in June and explore more places in Berrien Springs (especially restaurants) in the meantime.

Dr. Monique Pittman, Professor of English and Director of the Honors program, plans to spend a productive yet relaxing summer with her friends and family. She will be pottering in her vegetable garden, coediting a book with Dr. Vanessa Corredera in her study, and co-authoring an article about “West Side Story.” But most importantly, she will “hang out with the amazing Paul Smith Junior,” her dear partner!

Dr. Rahel Wells, Associate Professor of Biblical studies, also has many activities planned out for her summer. This includes a couple of backpacking trips with her father (80 miles in California) and her husband (150 miles in North Dakota). She will also be taking her Pathfinders on a camping trip and officiating a wedding for her former student at Wyoming—and she will still find time to write a commentary on Deuteronomy and work on other small projects!

Professor Davide Sciarabba, Assistant Professor of Religion, also plans to travel with his family members to visit their relatives and close friends in Europe. He plans to enjoy nature and also focus on finishing his dissertation in the remaining time.

Students also shared plans for their summer.

Graduating Seniors

Chaelynn Lee (business administration)

“I am planning on traveling to a couple different countries before heading off to medical school. It will be really nice to see my extended family in Korea. With Covid, traveling has been extremely difficult.”

Lisiane Umuhire (Spanish and psychology)

“The day after graduation, I will go on the Europe study tour for a month. Two weeks later [I will] go back to my home country of Rwanda for a month, then work for the last few weeks of July. After that, I’ll go to Bolivia for a year of student missions.”

Elianna Srikureja (English literature)

“My plans for the summer are to do a road trip and hike with my mom, get my research published, and move to Loma Linda to get ready for Dental School in August.”

Tyler Braithwaite (computer science and math)

“Plans for the summer probably will revolve around planning the rest of my life as well as chilling and taking a trip out west to the Grand Canyon.”

Hugo Qin (biology)

“My plans for this summer are to study for the MCAT and [then] do research in Hong Kong.”

Juniors

Jessica Bowen (animal science)

“I’ll mostly be working at the vet clinic while taking summer Biochemistry. My internship will be held where I work, so I’ll just be doing additional tasks there.”

Elena Petrie (nursing)

I will be spending my summer at home in Montana, where I’m looking forward to relaxing and spending time with my family. I will also be working part time as a veterinary assistant.

Ashley Kim, Kwesi Tuffour, and Enlai Wang (biology)

Ashley: “My plan for this summer is to study for the MCAT. I am planning on applying to medical schools this cycle, so hopefully I get a good score!”

Kwesi: “I’m also going to study [for the] MCAT and apply to medical school. For the latter parts I will be binge watching Netflix.”

Enlai: “Same.”

Amber Engle (pre-physical therapy)

“I plan to study for the GRE and prepare for my Student Missionary year. I am also planning on working at a summer camp for a few weeks.”

Sophomores

Gabriella Srikureja (biochemistry)

“This summer, my plan is to help my parents pack up their house to move. If I have time in addition to that, my plan is to get a job or volunteer.”

Nora Martin (psychology and English)

“My plans for the summer are to stay at home and just relax. Maybe I’ll read a book. Who knows? I have options.”

Jakob Kwon (accounting)

“My plans for the summer are to work. I have a couple of jobs lined up, but I’ll decide when I get home. I will also prepare for next semester, as I plan for my next classes in the upcoming weeks.”

Freshmen

Ian Neidigh (chemistry)

“I’m going to be working as an intern at a pharmaceutical company to further my skills in chemistry.”

Melissa Moore (nutrition science)

“I’m taking General Physics I in May and then volunteering at the General Conference for a week. After that I am planning to work at summer camp for a month and spend the remaining month visiting family in Brazil. We haven't seen my mom's side of the family in six years, so we are planning to go to Brazil this summer.”

Kamillie Hernandez (biochemistry)

“This summer, I plan on spending as much time as possible with my family and possibly traveling to somewhere peaceful. I will also catch up with friends who I haven’t seen all year.”

To Find Your Worldview

T Bruggeman 04.22.22



Photo by Marcos Paulo Prado (Unsplash)

We have now come to the final few weeks of the school year, and for those Freshmen in the J.N. Andrews Honors program, this means thinking about their worldview. Ask any Honors student and they'll remember the worldview paper—and their close friends at the time probably will remember them talking about it, too. It is the culmination of Western Heritage, the two-semester, total of ten-credit course that is foundational to the Honors program and typically taken in an Honors Scholar's Freshman year. Throughout the course, students examine history, theology and philosophy, and fine art originating in the various time periods and countries of "The West."

At its climax, Western brings the Worldview Paper. This is a ten-page paper, the purpose of which is to take everything you have been shown over a school year of learning and come up with an answer to it, or perhaps it would be better to say, a response. The class presents you with options of what you can believe, and it shows you what people before you have believed, but it ends with a question: what do you believe? Your job is simply to decide . . . and then write ten pages about it. :P

Myself being in Western this semester, I can speak to this being a fascinating experience. You first have to decide what you actually believe in the first place,

which wouldn't seem like it should be a challenge. But even for me, who has a pretty good idea of what I believe—at least what I don't believe—it wasn't easy to consolidate it all down into something communicable. It's this process that's really valuable, because it forces you to clarify your random thoughts and gather your miscellaneous ideas into a solid framework or foundation. And a foundation is really important, so it's good to be able to disperse the fog and actually be able to see it and know what it is.

I think it's good to do this even if you aren't forced to by a class. We've just spent eight months at school, away from home, away from home church, in and around new ideas and other young people—the perfect conditions for new beliefs to form. Most of us at Andrews have grown up in a world that presents us with a set of beliefs. And oftentimes we end up taking them, which is okay! But over time, especially when in an environment like university, we often develop and grow—sometimes without even realizing it or fully grasping the implications of it on our overall belief structure. So it's good to take stock of ourselves every now and then. And what better time to do so than now, at the end of one such period of openness?

I challenge you to take a few days once exams are over and home has reclaimed you to ask yourself the question: what do you believe? (I'll here point out that it's okay if you don't have all the answers or if some aspects of your worldview conflict with each other; you don't need all the answers right now, but it is useful to know the questions you're working with.) Journal, write out some bullet points, talk it over with someone—do whatever works best for you. But examine it and organize it. Importantly, communicate it in some way—that's how you'll clarify it in your own mind.

The Last Word

THE LAST WORD

Butterflies and Anxiety: A Final Word

Alyssa Henriquez 04.22.22



Photo by Kourosh Qaffari (Unsplash)

When I was little, my mom took me to a butterfly conservatory with a family friend and her son. In my memory, the place was ethereal—there was lush greenery, those clear ceilings that let the sun shine through, and colorful insects flying around the room. We were instructed to hold our fingers out so that the butterflies could land

on top. I stood there with my finger pointed out, anticipating that one might rest on my hand.

In seconds, a large butterfly with royal blue wings touched down on my hand. Although this was what I wanted, I became startled, impulsively shook my arm, and caused it to fly away. No one saw.

Moments later, my friend had a small brown moth land on his fingers. The moms grew excited, rushing to take pictures and admire his feat. He stood perfectly still, the small creature slowly flitting its wings. I watched, wishing I hadn't scared mine away, unable to go back in time and tell myself to hold still and not ruin the moment.

This was a harmless incident, but for whatever reason, it stayed in my mind for years. What causes a small child to remember things like this? Was it because I was somewhere new—an environment with bright colors and unfamiliar stimuli? Was it because this was one of my few afternoons with a friend who later moved away? Whatever the case, I am confident in one thing: it was one of my first memories of self-scrutiny and disappointment. Over the years, the instance morphed into a symbolic representation of the way that I would react to a litany of things in life, good and bad, as someone predisposed to anxiety.

It is hard to articulate all of the ways in which anxiety has affected my life. As a child, it manifested as suffocating self-consciousness and a fear of speaking to several people at once. In certain instances, I became hyper-aware of the way that my mouth was moving when I talked, and stumbled over my words when more than one person looked at me. When I felt like things were slipping out of control, my heartbeat would quicken, my chest hurt, my fingers grew numb, and I became trapped in cyclical, paranoid thinking until the perceived threat disappeared. At times, my anxiety felt both energizing and paralyzing—my mind buzzed while my body refused to convert my thoughts into audible words and actions for fear of embarrassment. As a result of this, I was often not the loudest person in the room. I'm still not. But if there is one way that I have always felt consistently empowered to express myself, it is through writing.

My interest in writing started with things like making little storybooks as a kid and filling them with crude illustrations, or drafting a persuasive letter to my parents when I wanted a puppy. Over time, it morphed into analytical essays, and longer, winding narrations of things that happened in life. My favorite part of it all was granting an unequivocal voice to the thoughts, people, and events that I observed.

While that might seem like a fairly “literary” endeavor and therefore removed from newspaper writing, I view my work here as likewise highlighting the events, people, and spectrum of opinions that give this campus life. Throughout my time working for “The Student Movement,” I have sat down with employees who are experiencing despair, professors who animatedly speak about their discipline, and students who radiate an interesting mix of joy and stress. I’ve helped document events where men slip on high heels and run to raise money, commented on pop culture, and reflected on the unique set of experiences that come with living in rural Michigan. Throughout my time here, it has been a distinct privilege to highlight the voices of students, staff, and community members all around campus. In a way, it is a sweetly paradoxical experience to do this considering the ways I have (and sometimes still do) wrestle with feelings of inadequacy.

If there is one sentiment that I hope pervades my last message, it is that the things you do are worth reflecting on, and writing about, and sharing.

However you view your life and your work, my overarching goal throughout this year has been to highlight the ways that it fits into a larger community and has meaning. And as someone who took a long time to identify a confident voice—from skittish moments in a butterfly conservatory to countless instances of self-repression—it is fulfilling to witness the outpouring of different pieces and perspectives that make this paper what it is.

Now, as this era draws to a close and a new version of “The Student Movement” emerges in the fall, I wish you the best—you are in good hands!