Students want voice on Presidential Search Committee

By Casey O’Brien

Students across campus are keen to make sure their voices are heard in the pursuit of the new University President as the Presidential search committee continues to seek candidates ahead of the application deadline in November.

The committee is comprised of eight Board of Trustees members, two faculty and a single student—ASUPS president Naksha Renee Jones. The committee will be working with a third party consultant, AGB consulting, through several rounds of candidate narrowing before sending their suggestions to the board of Trustees, who will be making the final choice about the new president.

Although the only student on the committee is ASUPS president Naksha Renee Jones, ASUPS as an organization is not involved with the selection process. Jones was selected for her involvement with various groups on campus. She in turn selected nine students she considered leaders on campus to offer their feedback during discussion sessions with the board, many of whom were leaders of identity or culturally based groups on campus.

Students expressed interest in a candidate who reflected their identities—ideally a woman or a person of color—in order to have a leader different from Puget Sound’s past presidents.

Sophomore and president of Advocates for Detainee Voices and Latinos Unidos Amanda Diaz was a member of the focus group.

“All of us present agreed that we had all had experiences walking into Jones Hall and seeing the pictures of previous presidents. And if you can guess, all white, all male, except for one woman. We knew that our identities were not represented there and that was one of the larger takeaways from the suggestion we gave to the search committee.

“We want to see our identity present in our next president,” Diaz said.

The Puget Sound Student Union has also expressed a desire to see diversity in the next president during their meeting outside of the Board of Trustees events during the Board’s visit, holding signs that read simply “president of color” and “think responsibly.”

“In the student session it was brought up more bluntly, in terms of how people talked about it, and with the search committee session it was more discreet,” Jones said.

She felt that diversity was not the search team’s main objective, but that the committee was definitely aware of the desire of the student body.

“It was mentioned, and acknowledged. It’s something that they are aware of and something that would be helpful to get a different sort of take for candidacy or search participants, but not a main emphasis—if it happens it happens,” Jones said.

“The committee agreed very strongly that students’ opinions have to be heard,” Diaz said. “They seemed very intrigued with our educational and career goals as well as what roles we play as student leaders at Puget Sound.”

The committee agreed that the student session went out of their way to contact student leaders on this campus to hear their concerns with the current president and what we would like to see our future president do,” Diaz said. “They seemed very intrigued with our educational and career goals as well as what roles we play as student leaders at Puget Sound.”

By Ella Frazer

“Contrary to popular belief, we are not trying to overthrow ASUPS,” sophomore Layth Sabbagh said. Sabbagh, along with a number of other students, is spearheading an effort to bring a new student union to campus amid concerns that the Associated Students of Puget Sound (ASUPS) is ineffective at responding to student concerns.

“The students in the focus group also were very interested in seeking a candidate who would be more easily approachable,” Sabbagh said. “Fundraising competence and commitment to students were also emphasized as key qualities. Jones emphasized that finding a president who is similar to Ronald Tomas is not the committee’s goal. ‘They are pretty public that they are looking for the next president, not the next Ronald Tomas,’” Jones said.

President Tomas has been respectful of the process. ‘He tends to leave the room when they’re discussing him, making sure that he doesn’t impact people’s opinions,’” Jones said.

The students in the focus group also were very interested in seeking a candidate who would be more easily approachable.

“Another big quality we wanted in our next president was a candidate with a HUGE social justice background. We all decided that our school has a lot of trouble organizing students, we don’t know if it’s apathy or if students are generally busy but we want someone who encourages our students to protest and to demonstrate their frustration with the injustice in this world,” Diaz said.

Jones, as the only student on the search committee, felt pressure to make her voice heard.

“I definitely felt a little drowned out by the committee at first, but then I realized I just had to jump in more courageously, and say things before people were entirely done talking, if there was a point I really felt strongly about,” Jones said.

She emphasized innovation as a quality that she wanted to find in the next president. “Sometimes I think there is a lack of innovation, and sometimes I think there is a lack of level of ability to adapt, I think we are a little behind,” Jones feels that bureaucracy and red tape has held UPS back in the past, and she wants to make sure it does not do so in the future.

The committee states that they are seeking a “strategic and innovative planner.” Fundraising competence and commitment to students were also emphasized as key qualities. Jones emphasized that finding a president who is similar to Ronald Tomas is not the committee’s goal. “They are pretty public that they are looking for the next president, not the next Ronald Tomas,” Jones said.

“President Tomas has been respectful of the process,” he tends to leave the room when they’re discussing him, making sure that he doesn’t impact people’s opinions,” Jones said.

The organization is led by 11 core members, but each member stresses that this organization is non-hierarchical, meaning they do not have levels of leadership but prefer to work collaboratively and with an equal distribution of power.

This relaxed structure allows greater access for students looking to become involved. As the organization is in its primary stages, it is looking for students who would like to participate.

“This student union also prides itself on the fact that the majority of members are people of color. Nikita Now, a core member, puts emphasis on the PSSU’s concern with campus diversity.

“We want to be a voice for them, or a resource for them,” New said.

In addition to working with ASUPS, the PSSU has been working with a variety of other clubs and organizations on campus, including the Black Student Union, Latinos Unidos, and the Muslim Student Association.

“Can every student’s voice be heard? That is our goal,” New said. She would also like the PSSU to act as a resource for students to gain awareness of clubs on campus.

“It took me until junior year to find out about Latinos Unidos, and I am a Latina. How did I not know that?” New said. “We [the PSSU] want to create a better connection between every club on campus. That way there is transparency with what is happening. So many students do not know about other clubs.”

In the past week, the PSSU has gained campus awareness by presenting outside of Board of Trustees meetings on campus.

They were “protesting Thursday through Saturday at Board of Trustees meetings to voice student concerns over the presidential search and socially responsible investment,” Sabbagh said. “We are hoping to open up a space where other student organizations may feel empowered in solidarity to voice their concerns to those who are the ultimate decision makers.”

Their primary goals are to create connections with clubs in order to vocalize needs, act as a resource for critical thought about programs and policies on campus and increase awareness of and cooperation between the University and the city of Tacoma. The PSSU is focused on awareness and activism, with the ultimate goal of social change.
University makes strides toward sustainability

By David Bailey

Stewardship and the environment are two core values listed in the University’s Strategic Plan, and these are emblemized in the tireless work of administration members searching for new ideas and projects to improve sustainability on campus. These projects address issues ranging from transportation to waste management and reducing energy consumption.

Over this past summer, the University negotiated its contract with Zipcar in order to support a station three cars on campus. This will provide greater access to shared cars, which reduces the need for more cars on campus. Furthermore, Zipcar is doing a “blitz,” by adding two additional cars. The initial moniker was intimidating, but with a name that encourages customers to make more sustainable choices.

“Provide service and want everyone to feel welcome, but I think that Cupless got viewed as a harsh message,” senior Dining Services manager Chelsey Bairey said. “Choose to Reuse is still a good name. It’s more approachable, but it makes it more friendly. This will save 40,000 kilos-Watt hours a year and 3500 kilo-Watt hours a year respectively.”

The good thing about these projects is not only that we will have direct energy savings, but we will be practicing something that is more efficient. This will save 40,000 kilo-Watt hours a year and 3500 kilo-Watt hours a year respectively.

Zipping to sustainability: The University negotiated with Zipcar to increase the number of cars on campus as part of wider initiatives to improve campus-wide sustainability.

ASUPS President Jones focuses on student concerns

By Allison Nason

Though college campuses may be idealized by some as places where important dialogues take place, marginalized voices are often elevated, at Puget Sound there remain undercurrents of frustrations that such conversations aren’t occurring.

Student Body President Nakisha Renee Jones plans to combat this issue through an initiative called Town Hall Tuesdays.

Student Body President Nakisha Renee Jones plans to create an initiative called Town Hall Tuesdays to combat a growing frustration among students that important dialogue and marginalized voices are not being reflected.

Town Hall Tuesdays are monthly meetings that will provide students with safe spaces to engage in conversations about pressing issues and matters of interest. The first meeting took place on Sept. 22 and this semester will serve as a trial run for the project.

SECURITY UPDATES

The following incidents occurred on campus and were reported to Security Services between Sept. 21, 2015 and Sept. 27, 2015:

(2) Alcohol Violations: Security responded to reports of intoxicated students in residence halls.

(2) Drug Violations: Security responds to reports of student possession of controlled substances in residence halls.

THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

October 9, 2015
trailnews@pugetsound.edu | TRAIL@PUGETSOUND.EDU | TRAIL@PUDS.COM

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The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a vehicle to provide campus-wide community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discussion.

Visit trail.pugetsound.edu for the full mission statement.
Applying the Nordic Model to Bernie Sanders platform

By Jessica Wiken

Bernie Sanders’ “Agenda for America” campaign advocates a socially democratic solutions approach toward twelve issues he considers endemic to the United States’ capitalist democracy. The evident similarities between the ideals within Bernie’s proposal and those operating within the Nordic Model are no coincidence. The Nordic Model refers to the social, political, and economic policies practiced by the Nordic countries vitalizing governmental systems to non-social democratic systems of government. This is not evidence enough that all governmental systems should mobilize towards social democracy.

However, several discrepancies warrant consideration before transposing the Nordic Model onto the United States’ current democratic capitalist system. Specifically, attention toward the disproportionately homogenous demographic of the Nordic nations demonstrates a lack of diversity, which problematizes the viability of Bernie’s proposed system within a country such as the United States. Low levels of diversity enable equality. If a country’s population looks the same and shares similar cultural and social values, little grounds exist to provide a foundation for distinctive discrimination. The Nordic states rank in the 140s in the 2003 Ethnic Diversity Ranking and do not account for the magnitude of the realities of the United States’ current governmental divisions as well as the Bern movement have any reservations in aspiring to the Nordic Model?

After all, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, and Finland disporportionately dominate the top global rankings in the gender, class, and income equality, education quality, quality of life and happiness, low public sector corruption, et cetera compared to non-social democratic systems of government. Is this not evidence enough that all governmental systems should mobilize towards social democracy?

Despite the United States sub-par position in global equality and prosperity statistics when compared to the Nordic countries, disparities in culture and society exist in the United States which have not appeared to a similar degree in the Nordic countries. The dichotomies surrounding ethnicity, class, culture, religion, and gender within the United States too often act as barriers to social, economic, and political progress. This discrepancy largely accounts for the United States’ seemingly inferior ranking in the top sphere of other high-income countries. However, accounting for this discrepancy, the bias grounded in the United States’ levels of diversity invalidates the comparability of the Nordic Model’s successes with the “failures” of the United States. The social welfare programs praised by Bernie for advancing the equality and quality successes of the Nordic countries have limited direct applicability and relevancy to his proposed social democracy model for the United States with or without extreme modifications. The Nordic social democracy model is specific to application in a non-democratic, homogeneous environment; this largely negates any realistic applicability within the United States.

The key word here is extreme. Despite the questionable feasibility and practicality of social democracies within the United States, this “extremist” movement is gaining momentum within the Puget Sound community and among college culture in general. The word “Extremist” was not chosen to indicate negative connotations or skepticism, but to emphasize the nature of student inclination with radical change. While deeming this movement for radical change as revolutionary would be choice and empowering, the popularity of radicalism in campus communities is not an outlier phenomenon especially in a liberal arts university such as the University of Puget Sound. While radicalism is not necessarily a bad thing, it often deemphasizes practicality for the sake of marketability. In college, being practical isn’t really attractive, after all, is staying up until 3 a.m. most nights on a diet mainly consisting of sugary carbohydrates sustainable? Not really, this is a generalization but illustrates that students typically tend to gravitate toward the extreme and consequently, gloss over the feasibility for which they are advocating. Radicalism is college’s last hoorah before transitioning into the practicality and reality of post-collegiate adulthood. While yes, Bernie’s radicalism is an unprecedented level of social change; his popularity within college culture is expected. Nonetheless, society needs some radicalism and a movement of visionaries, otherwise it would remain largely stagnant. However, it is important to note that the compromise established at the intersection of radicalism and practicality facilitates economic, political, and social change. Extremism in either form cannot foster an environment conducive for progress.

Consequently, Bernie should revise his proposal advocating for the social democracy derived from the Nordic ideal. This is imperative considering its numerous shortcomings in ac KNOWLEDGE. This proposal is too extreme, and does not account for the importance of noting that the compromiseresult in a loss of meaning to the issues surrounding the United States’ current governmental systems.

If Bernie can propose a realistic system of social democratization in concert with the United States’ ethically and culturally diverse populous, and values and aspirations of its citizens, he can facilitate unprecedented governmental progress, innovation, and influence which will go unvalued. As a result, the rigid perception of the Nordic model, so unrealistically admired for, will be forever
By Paul Goudarzi-Fry

Technological advancement is a double-edged sword when considering the financial implications of an institution-wide upgrade. Despite the increases in Internet capability, consumption of the Internet and the demand for greater connectivity outstrip the availability of Internet service that Puget Sound can provide. Moreover, the Internet as a service is far from cheap. Anyone who has to provide their own home Internet knows this already, but providing to over 2,000 individuals every minute of every day is a difficult task to execute, even for an advanced organization.

The changes that have been implemented to the Internet at Puget Sound have apparently increased speed and availability for Puget Sound students, but the ultimate result has not been able to keep up with the growing demand.

Part of this has been the result of an exponential increase in devices that require Internet connectivity, but has the number of devices alone had such an impact that the whole system is halted?

Examining resource allocation details little to answer that question, but another look at the Education, and General (E&G) budget for 2014-2015 reveals that $5,466,000 was allocated to Technology Services. Of course, this covers much more than the Internet. Technology Services provide for all manner of technical advancement and maintenance across campus.

Instead of looking at resource allocation to technology services, it provides more insight to examine the list of “Student Quality Expectations” under the Key Cost Drivers. Among them are “small class sizes, low faculty-to-student ratios, excellent teachers, services to support student success to graduation, excellent facilities, and strong student outcomes.”

“Providing secure and effective technology solutions doesn’t appear until an entirely different section, completely unrelated to student desires. Wireless communication and increased speed of wireless Internet access does not appear on the E&G budget specifically, and there are few clues as to how Internet speeds have been improved.

The school must then weigh whether to wait for student pressure to improve the Internet, or to do so regardless. If enough students made formal expressions of grievance or need, then more allocations to the Internet could address those needs. Enough attention given to the problem combined with enough financial backing can cause the supply of Internet to match the growing demand. Still, that’s not to say that the pleas have been altogether ignored.”

“The simple truth is that more and more services offered by Puget Sound are coming through the network. In order for it to meet all the student’s various needs, we have to expand the bandwidth and processing power of the service. That is true at Puget Sound and at all universities nationally,” William Morse, Associate Vice President for Technology Services, said.

The various needs of the students include both academic and recreational activity. With Netflix, YouTube and other high-usage services, it can be difficult to justify a college having increased Internet service without an equal increase in academic performance.

However, Morse explains, “Even though those activities are not academic, they are important for our students’ quality of life. We want our students to be happy living on campus.”

That means we have to provide great Internet and network access.”

If student demand for high-speed Internet is met with the financial backing from the University then provisions can be made, as long as it remains a priority with the students.

While Internet connectivity may not be of utmost importance for Technology Services in a time of countless technological system updates, it is still a vital aspect of life for students on campus.

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Letter to the Editor:

STATE OF ASUPS

Allow me to share my thoughts. I would summarize the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound as serving three main purposes: to represent the students, to provide supplementary services, and to advocate for student needs.

In this first month of school, I would say that our organization has performed very well in providing supplementary services to our student body. For example:

We fund over 100 clubs, we deliberate carefully over where all of the $555,000 in student fees are appropriated throughout the year, we provide Ora Cards for free bus transportation across Pierce County, we rent out cameras, card readers and vans for large groups to travel, and we uphold the services of the Technology Branch of Programmers and Media.

These are great resources that are not readily available in other departments across campus. However, in this next phase, we are looking to build our representation and advocacy for students. Alixa Hartnig, the ASUPS Vice President, and I, are focusing on making ASUPS a more accessible and approachable organization.

Our visible representation is in need of reconsideration as we move into this next season, and as we attend to the changing needs of the campus community. Fall Elections are a great way for interested people to make an entry into ASUPS, and I would highly encourage everyone to run and diversify our candidacy pool. Packets can be picked up from the ASUPS office in Wheelock Student Center 210.

This campus is changing in a lot of ways. ASUPS is working on keeping pace with the changes by increasing our activism across campus. In particular, students have remarked openly that they do not feel as supported by ASUPS, and that is something we are working to rectify.

ASUPS is already working toward transgender accessibility, reducing hunger in the student body, and creating more transparency in our organization. There is much work to be done in ASUPS; however, there is lots of positive and good work that our ASUPS leaders are doing every day of the week.

I am passionate about continuing the push for an ever-evolving, inclusive environment that welcomes and embraces all students. My vision for the year is to redefine the status quo. To me, this looks like taking a closer look at how we represent the students, and how we advocate for student needs. As a reminder, student voices have the strongest impact on campus policy. If you would like to see something changed on campus, I encourage you to share your views with me and others in your community. You can also come to the next Townhall Tuesday meeting held on October 13 from 4-5pm in the Piano Lounge. Townhall Tuesday is a space where we can openly come together and have an unfiltered discussion of campus life. I’m looking forward to an impactful year.

Peace and love,

Nakisha Renée Jones

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The tyranny of the normal

Radical Self Love as Anti-Fascism

By Natalie Scoggins

In his essay “Constructing Normalcy,” disability theorist Lennard Davis claims that before the 19th century, most people considered the ideal body to be that of a Greek god or something shown in a work of art. It was something to strive for, but ultimately unattainable. This changed in 1835 when Belgian statistician Adolphe Quetelet formulated the idea of “the average man,” both physically and morally, using data collected from several able-bodied, white, cisgender, Western European men. These data were arranged along a bell curve to show Body Mass Index (BMI) based on height and weight; values that lie in the middle of the curve are normal and therefore desirable, whereas values at either the low or high end are considered abnormal.

BMI only compares height and weight and was formulated from a small sample of people, ignoring fat/muscle/bone density, waist size, dietary differences, cultural values and more.

Yet, despite its inaccuracy according to an increasing number of health professionals, it is still used by dictators and doctors as an easy, simple diagnostic tool to tell people that they should change themselves to fit into a narrow range of “normal” based on two numbers plugged into a contrived formula that then places people into arbitrary categories of underweight, ideal, overweight and obese. Normal is ideal in that model.

The idea of normacy, according to Davis, is tyrannical because it forces one to compare oneself and everybody else to a certain standard that is, unlike the ideal, considered attainable—whether it is in reality or not. The average becomes the ideal, and “average” includes what many, even most, people cannot attain: whiteness, male- ness, middle class and other exclusive groups. Constant comparison to this average ideal causes discrimination/prejudice and moral values assigned to “abnormal” traits.

What’s more is that as the average becomes the ideal, the image of the average is shifted through media and advertising to be even further out of reach for most people: images of tall, thin, curvy or muscular, white or light-skinned, non-disabled, gender-conforming bodies.

This definition implies a slew of other privileges as well, and is frequently positioned as normative in our society. This becomes problematic because, in reality, very few people fit into all of these categories, yet everyone else is marginalized due to a history of patriarchy, colonialism, eugenics and capitalism.

Glorifying this false average discourages the celebration of the so-called abnormal, from a social perspective, being deviant is bad enough, but to celebrate it becomes obscene.

Those who are not affected, who hold the power, have the privilege of staying detached and objective; objective data and empiricism are considered the truth—but who created that paradigm?

Over the last several decades, we have been fighting aspects of this tyranny, from the Civil Rights movement in the 1950s and 60s to disability pride and gay pride marches in the 1980s and 90s to present-day body positivity hashtags on Twitter. These have driven change, giving us the Civil Rights Act, the Americans With Disabilities Act, marriage equality and more, but they haven’t altogether dismantled the structures of oppression that marginalize people. While legal change is a step forward, its top-down methodology does not account for the decades and centuries of reinforced stereotypes and classification.

We may feel weak, lonely and undesirably. Those feelings are valid—after all, this is what we are told to feel. But when we love ourselves despite every- thing telling us not to, that is an act of resistance.

And when we love each other, we do who do not fit into the “norm,” that is an act of resis- tance as well. To love our bod- ies and minds, our queerness, our fatness, our disabilities, our skin color and hair texture, our imperfections is to declare war.
From playing soccer with monks in Sarnath, India to snorkeling in Manado, Indonesia, the students on the Pacific Rim (Pac Rim) study abroad program immersed themselves in the culture of Asia. After nine months abroad, they are back to share their experiences.

Every three years, a group of selected students embark on a nine-month journey across Asia. During their time, they engage in both rigorous academics and personal discovery. Gareth Barkin, Academic Director for the second semester of the trip, designed a curriculum that allowed students to study the local culture and history of Southeast Asia through both classroom and experiential learning methods. In addition to coursework, the students conducted independent research projects in their spare time; they then presented their projects at a conference in Ubud, Indonesia.

Some students experience a specific defining moment that stood out from the trip. For senior KC Dolson, it was her travels in her birth country, India. For senior Lydia Hollingsworth, it was the mornings that defined her Pac Rim experience. “My favorite morning routine, if I have to pick one, was in Thailand. My friend and I would wake up early to go for a light run around the quiet campus. After our shower we’d go to the main road to buy our pork skewers and sticky rice in a bag for a total of 30 baht. Then we’d slowly make our way to class,” Hollingsworth said.

Others believed that there were multiple moments. “There were lots of ‘PacRim moments,’ like circumambulating the stupa at Borobudur or watching a cremation in India along the River Ganges where you had no choice but to take a step back and think about what an amazing opportunity the whole program was,” senior Nick Tucker said. Being immersed into a foreign place meant the students had to face the challenges of new living conditions and social norms. “The biggest challenge for me on the trip was living in Japan for a month and experiencing what it felt like to be a foreigner in another country,” Dolson said.

Travelling around Asia with 22 other people proved to be somewhat challenging, as well. Everyone saw each other at their best and worst and people inevitably formed closer relationships to some rather than others. Nonetheless, the students formed a close-knit group by the end of the trip.

Students also met a number of fascinating individuals on the Pac Rim program. Tucker admired Chiang Mai University professor Khru Guy of Thailand, who had a bold personality and sense of humor. Dolson talked about a group of student helpers in Vietnam who guided them around the city of Hanoi. The helpers took the Pac Rim students to the night market, to see live music, and even set up a karaoke party for the group. Hollingsworth’s helper was an abbot she met while staying in a Mongolian monastery. His devotion to Buddhism and love for his family inspired Hollingsworth during her stay.

After such an extensive social, cultural, and academic journey, it is no wonder the students are still processing their new perspectives. “I can’t tell you right now what has changed or why things feel different. I think it’s a long process to find answers to these questions and they only seem to come on their own time,” Hollingsworth said.

“I’m still decompressing from the trip and trying to understand exactly how I’ve changed,” Tucker said. “While Pac Rim took them on an ever-changing expedition across Asia, perhaps the greater journey is the ongoing one in which Pac Rim continues to help students discover themselves.”

“You find out things about yourself that you didn’t know on Pac Rim,” said Barkin.


PHOTOS BY
LYDIA HOLLINGSWORTH
Campus Films hosts female protagonist series

By Emily Parlan

This fall, ASUPS Campus Films is airing a series of films featuring female protagonists. The series, entitled “Girls, Women, and Females,” seeks to call attention to strong female characters, in part as a response to Hollywood’s recent trend toward male-centric plots.

The series is hosted by junior Dana Donnelly and will run every other Tuesday night through November. Films are shown at 7 p.m. in Rausch Auditorium and are free of charge.

All Donnelly’s film selections star women. Though they are not necessarily focused on an underlying theme or message, Donnelly says viewers can expect to be empowered simply by seeing women in major roles on screen.

She is also trying to feature films that were directed by females. “There are so many movies, especially recently, that have been male-oriented, and all of my favorite movies involve or star women,” Donnelly said. “I thought it would be cool to screen films that are female-centric that I want to share with other people.”

The series kicked off Sept. 22 with Welcome to the Dollhouse, a 1995 independent, coming-of-age comedy starring Heather Matarazzo as an awkward middle-schooler Dawn Wiener.

The latest film, A Girl Who Walks Home Alone at Night, was featured on the evening of Oct. 6. Marketed as the first Iranian Vampire Western ever made, it is a black-and-white, Persian-language film that combines elements of horror and romance to tell the story of a lonesome vampire in an Iranian ghost town.

“It’s unlike anything I’ve ever seen before,” Donnelly said. “It’s a foreign language film, but the main character is so strong and [the film] is really kind of funny. It’s pretty dramatic and it’s got a neo-noir kind of vibe. It’s a really fun movie.” Though it didn’t receive a wide release in theaters, A Girl Who Walks Home Alone at Night was chosen to show in the “Next” program at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival and was well-received by critics. It is now being adopted into a graphic novel by Radco and was recently made available on Netflix.

“It’s really cool to see women as main characters who drive the action of the movie and watch movies on the big screen as they were intended to be viewed,” Donnelly said.

The next two films in the series have not been officially announced, but Donnelly said she is thinking of presenting the 2011 comedy, Damsels in Distress, for the Oct. 20 showing. The Nov. 3 showing has yet to be determined.

Connecting to the Tacoma Community

Students looking to improve the quality of living for individuals in the community can look into volunteering at any one of these local non-profits

By Kaelie Coleman

Tacoma Rescue Mission

Focused on providing food, safety, addiction recovery assistance, educational outreach and clothing to those in impoverished neighborhoods of Tacoma, the Tacoma Rescue Mission has been helping the community since 1912. Getting involved with this multi-tasking non-profit isn’t difficult, and could provide a lot of variety as volunteers have opportunities to try all sorts of different tasks—from serving food to teaching classes on just about anything. More long-term options are also available in the form of internships and jobs. Please visit rescue-mission.volunteerhub.com for more information. Donations are also gladly accepted for those who don’t have the time to get their hands dirty.

The Guadalupe House

The Guadalupe House is the affectionate name for the sober, clean housing project for single adults that the Tacoma Catholic Worker, a subset of the nationwide organization, started. For those who aren’t living in the Guadalupe House or one of their satellite properties, the program also offers showers, use of the telephone and the opportunity to check email. As the needs of the people living in the Guadalupe house are constantly changing, the organization’s site keeps a list of the items they would appreciate having donated. Currently, the group is asking for donations of coffee, but they are always in need of basic necessities like toothbrushes and soap.

Nativity House

As the largest facility of its kind in Tacoma, the Nativity House was created to meet a wide range of needs for those low-income or homeless community members seeking help to improve their situation. The new Nativity House combines the services previously offered by three separate Homeless Adult Services (HAS) programs: Hospitality Kitchen, Nativity House, and Tacoma Avenue Shelter. The Nativity House acts as a shelter, while also providing food, education, access to Medicare and job training, while the newly added Nativity House Apartments offer 50 apartment-style permanent living accommodations for disabled adults who were formerly homeless. Catholic Community Services runs the Nativity House, so getting involved there is the first step to actively helping the Nativity House. Visit their website at ccsww.org/volunteer to learn more about available volunteer opportunities.

Centro Latino

Centro Latino concentrates their efforts on improving the lives of Latino individuals in Pierce County by addressing issues they may face through advocacy and education. Their services cover everything from legal assistance, such as translating official paperwork and assistance filling out forms, to parenting classes and basic job training, as well as offering support and counseling to sexual assault victims. The group also hosts cultural events like the recent Latino Art Festival that took place in August. Centro Latino has multiple volunteer openings at the moment for any commitment level, as well as an internship program and employment opportunities. Please visit clatino.org/en/how-you-can-help/volunteer/ for additional information.
African American literature class too sad for students

By Hip Fun

The University of Puget Sound has recently faced some backlash in some of its African American literature courses over the content being just "too sad." The University has long been committed to a diverse, expansive curriculum, but because students today are far more empathetic than students in the past, these courses may not be offered much longer.

"I was originally so excited to take my African American Feminist literature class," first-year student Bridget Nance said. "But then we started reading African American Feminist literature, and it got really sad, really fast."

One of the assigned texts in Hine's class, "Wench" by acclaimed author Dolen Perkins Valdez, focuses on relationships between slaves and slave masters during the slavery era. The book describes in detail some of the more extreme incidents between the slaves and slave masters. The course's students did not respond well to "Wench." In fact, many students, including Hine, left class sobbing the day "Wench" was discussed.

"It was just so sad. The fact that he could treat her like that, it's sick," Nance said. "I don't know why Wench needed to be included in the reading list."

The course's instructor, Professor Greene, felt that "Wench" is an important text, crucial to furthering her class's understanding of African American Feminist literature.

"Of course it's sad. Sad is an understatement regarding the purchasing and trading of human lives. This is a course on African American Feminist literature. If you want something life-affirming take a class on Modernist literature or something. Those guys had it easy," Greene said.

Nance and many other students in the class also take issue with the way Professor Greene guides class discussions.

"I just feel really shut down a lot of the time," Nance said. "I feel like my input isn't well received and is kind of glossed over."

Professor Greene, while sorry that Nance has felt shut down in the past, stands by her decision to repeatedly ignore Nance's comments in the nicest way possible.

"She just sits there and cries and says things like 'I can't believe he would rape her,' and I'm like, 'Well, believe it, because he did, now let's freaking analyze it.' This is a literature class, we're here to discuss the literature," Greene said. "Am I supposed to let hypersensitivity derail class discussion entirely?"

Greene has been teaching African American literature for over 15 years and does not feel that her courses' required readings should be altered in any way.

"The books I teach are classics. They're important, they're widely regarded by scholars in African American Literature as the books to read," Greene said.

The feedback the University has received regarding African American literature classes may result in either a serious restructuring of the courses' reading lists, or the elimination of these classes entirely.

"We listen to our students here at the University of Puget Sound, and our students are saying, 'These books about black women are really sad,' and we hear them. We hear them loud and clear," University of Puget Sound employee Meghan Swanson said.

Books written by and focusing on African American women that aren't really sad are extremely hard to come by, but Swanson is keeping her eye out.

"Ariel and the Bee. Was that based on a book? Maybe that will work. If I can't think of at least five more by the end of the semester though, African American literature classes as we know them will cease to exist," Swanson said.

Sad Students: Students being told they must confront their privilege and that they won't be reading...
We all know the number one rule: don’t talk about fight club. But after years of hearing whispers from passerby, I knew someone had to start talking.

I’m here to confirm that yes, the long-disputed rivalry between Diversions and Oppenheimer cafés is true—and it goes so much further than you could have imagined.

I started by infiltrating their ranks. I applied to work at both the cafés last year, knowing that I would need to bide some time in order to earn their trust. I started my work at the beginning of this semester and finally, after numerous days of hard work, I was deemed trustworthy enough to receive an invitation.

It happened on one of the evening shifts. I was about to clock out when one of the leads—Stan Orlando—casually walked by me and dropped a note into the pocket of my apron (note: names have been changed for privacy purposes).

The paper said only: RUMORS R TRU MID-NIGHT 2NIGHT PRESIDENT’S WOODS.

I went up to Otsushi to inquire about the paper, but he waved me off, saying that he had to get back to serving customers (although no one had ordered a drink in ten minutes).

So I went home and I waited. I knew that this had to be something to do with the unspoken club—but whether it was going to be an initiation or a real thing—I had no idea what exactly to expect. At 12:01—figuring this would make me fashionably late—I left my house.

I saw Otsushi standing with another person by the big mushroom in the presidents woods. When I got closer it I realized that it was Emory Rawsteak, an Oppenheimer worker*.

“You’re late,” Otsushi commented, “But fashionably so.”

“I thought you were going to wait to bring her here,” Fryan said, rather pointedly, to Otsushi.

“Find her attention to me. “Well, you’re here now, so there’s nothing we can do about it. What do you think?”

At this point I wasn’t thinking about my journalistic integrity or sticking to protocol; I just needed to know why.

Fryan informed me that it was the best possible way to release all the built-up tension from serving demanding students and being hyped up on caffeine.

“Plus, it’s chill that we can utilize the lack of feeling in our hands from years of burn callouses from the steam wands and hot pitchers [on the espresso machine],” said Otsushi.

We enjoyed the fight for another few minutes. Just as the Diversions fighter reached for a sharp piece of ceramic mug, the Catering crew came in with their serving trays at the ready, closely followed by the Cellar workers carrying ice cream scoops and pizza cutters in hand.

“You would like this betting for here or to go?” Cellar worker Cat Valencia said.

“What’s the big idea?” the losing fighter yelled. “We’re sick and tired of everybody thinking the cafés are sooood cool. We want the recognition we deserve. We want to join the fight,” a Catering worker said as he slipped away to uncork a wine bottle before I could catch his name.

“No,” Rawsteak said flat out.

Then it’s a fight to the death,” Valencia replied. It was precisely at this point that I remembered my training as a journalist, and how my editor advised me to “never get involved enough for someone to see you.” So I did the only thing I could do: I gracefully bowed out of the situation by creating a diversion and pushing a Diversions barista into a Cellar worker charging at me. I then quickly fled the scene.

Results of the fight-to-death are still pending. Further investigation is being pursued by a brav-er soul.

I’m here to confirm that yes, the long-disputed rivalry between Diversions and Oppenheimer cafés is true—and it goes so much further than you could have imagined.

Diversions is a place where the best of the best get to hang out. The Oppenheimer workers, on the other hand, are a bunch of misfits who don’t quite fit in with the rest of the crowd. The two camps are constantly at loggerheads, and it seems like there will never be peace until they finally come to an agreement.

But then one day, a woman named Xeno arrived. She was unlike anyone else I had ever seen. She was tall and slender, with piercing blue eyes and a soft smile. She walked into the Diversions coffee shop and immediately became the center of attention.

“Hey, what’s up?” one of the workers said, clearly impressed.

“I’m here to join the fight,” she replied.

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*Oppenheimer does not have any leads; I later discovered that Rawsteak (who has worked her way up in the ranks quickly as she has only been with the café for a month) acts as the self-appointed coordinator for the ring.

**It was later revealed that workers use Monopoly money as a placeholder for their dining dollars while making bets.
The University breathed a sigh of relief when the Seahawks knocked off the Bears 24-20 on Sunday, Sept. 27. After starting their season with two losses, the game against the Super Bowl champs became a must-win for Seahawks fans. They delivered in shutout fashion and brought some confidence back to the Seahawks faithful. The new climbing wall stirs excitement and brings new opportunities to beginning climbers and professionals alike.

Puget Sound Seahawks fans confident in rest of season

By Lucas Crowley

The remodel of the Memorial Fieldhouse will bring a new rock climbing wall to campus. The remodeled rock will be complete with new mats and brand-new equipment. The first climbing wall on campus was built as a result of a 1996 student initiative. One of Puget Sound Outdoors’ climbing coordinators and junior Eric Stern believes it was one of the student’s senior thesis projects. This same individual is returning to campus to help construct the new wall.

The climbing wall, built in 1996, was made of wooden walls and Stella Stretch. It stretched to 20 feet tall and was roughly the size of the racquetball court... and was a bit old and a bit run down. The wall is currently under construction due to its age and the difficulty of maintaining the climbing wall, which will reopen in January 2016.

The old wall was typically used for bouldering during the gym’s open hours. In addition, the gym will continue to offer opportunities to belay and to be belayed during coordinator hours. In order to become belay certified, the University offers a short belay course taught by the climbing coordinators.

Currently, Stern is unsure how the system to rent gear will work when the new wall is established. Harnesses will be available to students and the public during coordinator hours, which are subject to change once the new wall opens.

The climbing hours listed on the University of Puget Sound website might also change once the new wall opens. Presently, one can get a climbing membership for a $25 fee and can climb from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. If you do not want to buy a membership, you have the option to go to coordinator hours and climb for free up to three times.

However, this system might be subject to change when the new wall opens.

“The format of the fitness center is different than what it was previously,” Stern explained.

Last year, the University held a going-away party for the old wall. They hosted a competition where 20 to 30 people climbed the wall at once. “It was a bit crowded but everyone was able to climb,” Stern said.

If you are interested in climbing, you have the option of joining the Climbing Club or an introductory climbing class offered as an activity credit. The class is offered through the Physical Education department and teaches the “skills, terminology, and fundamentals of movements utilized in the sport of rock climbing,” according to the course description. The class also focuses on practicing safety while climbing and training the students to become more comfortable with climbing.

The class is currently limited to 12 students. This fall, the class is taught by University of Puget Sound alumnus Andrew Davis. Davis is a professional guide and climbing instructor at Edgeworks Climbing and Fitness Center.

As for places to climb off campus, the Pacific Northwest offers a variety of climbing opportunities. Stern’s favorite nearby spot is Little Si in North Bend, Washington. He recommends climbing Smith Rock in Terrebonne, Oregon, where one has more time to climb.

The new climbing wall sits exciting and brings new opportunities to beginning climbers and professionals alike.

FOOTBALL

Loggler football took home a 24-20 win against Willamette in their first conference game on Saturday Oct. 3. The Loggers got off to a strong start. A pass thrown by junior quarterback Hans Fortune (Kenmore, Washington) and caught by senior wide receiver Kevin Miller (Seattle, Washington) put the Loggers on the board early in the first quarter. Touchdowns by Willamette caused the Loggers to trail 17-20 with less than 5:00 in the game. With just 1:17 left, senior wide receiver Parker Brisebois (Bonita, California) caught a touchdown pass from Fortune. The touchdown, combined with a successful kick from senior kicker Sawyer Pete (Castle Rock, Colorado), secured a 24-20 victory for the Loggers. Next, football takes to Whitworth at home on Saturday, Oct. 10.

VOLLEYBALL

The Loggler volleyball team won both conference road games this weekend, sweeping George Fox in three sets and beating Lewis and Clark 3-2. Puget Sound controlled all three sets against George Fox, winning 25-19, 25-16 and 25-17. Sophomore Hannah Stronon (Portland, Oregon) and senior Heather Sangster (Los Altos, California) each had eight kills and sophomore Rita Dester (Anchorage, Alaska) had two aces. Against Lewis and Clark, the Loggers fell behind 2-1 after three sets with the fourth set ending in a tie. In the end of the fifth set, the Loggers scored three consecutive points to take the final set and win the game. Senior Shawna Smith (Longview, Washington) led the Loggers with 13 kills. The Loggers are 4-2 in their conference and take on Pacific University at home on Saturday Oct. 10 next.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Women’s soccer remains undefeated, winning 1-0 against Whitworth and ending in a 1-1 tie against Whitman. Saturday’s game against Whitworth allowed sophomore Grayson Williams-Krebs (Lake Oswego, Oregon) to score her second goal of the season. The Logger defense, with junior goalkeeper Lauren Thomas (Woodinville, Washington), had their seventh shutout of the season. However, the women settled for a draw after tying against Whitman the next day. The Loggers had an early 1-0 lead when junior Emma Donckles (Los Altos, California) scored her first goal of the year. Whitman tied up the game with a goal in the 47th minute. While currently undefeated, four ties in the conference have the Loggers sitting at only third place. The team will try to move up the standings in its next game against George Fox on Saturday, Oct. 10.

MEN’S SOCCER

Men’s soccer picked up two huge wins this weekend and now sit at second place in their conference. The Loggers took on Willamette on Oct. 3 and won in a 4-3 shootout. 10 minutes in, seniors Josh Soraino (Cathedral City, California) scored his first goal of the season. Sophomore Vincent Von Luethre (Los Gatos, California), sophomore Cameron Lorek (Claremont, California) and sophomore Benjamin Whitman (Claremont, California) all scored goals that led to a Logger victory. The Loggers took down Linfield College the next day, winning 3-1. Goals by senior Kenechi Agha (Sacramento, California) each had eight kills and sophomore Rita Dexter (Anchorage, Alaska) had two aces. Against Lewis and Clark, the Loggers fell behind 2-1 after three sets with the fourth set ending in a tie. In the end of the fifth set, the Loggers scored three consecutive points to take the final set and win the game. Senior Shawna Smith (Longview, Washington) led the Loggers with 13 kills. The Loggers are 4-2 in their conference and take on Pacific University at home on Saturday Oct. 10 next.

CROSS COUNTRY

The men and women placed fourth and 12th, respectively, at the Chuck Bowles Invitational at Willamette on Saturday, Oct. 3. The men were led by senior Tyler Shipley (Forest Grove, Oregon) who finished in first place out of 141 runners with a time of 24:33.80. Sophomore Geremia Zimdainski (Forest Grove, Oregon) was close behind with a second place time of 25:01.00. The team finished ahead of all of its NWAC rivals. The Logger women were once again led by junior Tailli Ni (Sacramento, California) who finished in 37th place out of 186 runners. The collective team placed 12th of 18. The Logger women still finished in front of NWAC rivals George Fox, Lewis and Clark, Pacific and PLU.

SPORTS RECAPS

By Nick Nestingen

RECAPS

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Deafheaven - New Bermuda

What can best be described as a fusion of black metal and shoegaze, Deafheaven’s New Bermuda transcends boundaries in ways that few records can. It churns and pumps, while simultaneously pulling the listener up in moments of light. Burmuda

Deafheaven - New Bermuda

After the dreamlike entrance of the Queens’s Stone’s latest album, it’s good to hear The Queens’ frontman Josh Homme is still up for some experimental spunk and fun. Him and Queens’ frontman Joshua Homme band together for some of the grooviest, silliest rock music you will hear these days. With infectious singalong choruses, theatrical vocal deliveries, and fuzzy garage-v-guitar and bass tones, Eagles deliver a heavy punch and raucous fun without any of that nagging real escape. Wolfe tried music and quit for a few years, but at around age 26 she started right back up. At 36, Zeitzer is touring the world for the first time, and the ability to stay focused on her own intentions is to the extent this feels like redemption. Just about any human is able to feel touched, or even saved by some kind of art, much like any human is capable of experiencing nightmares. The trick is to find that sound that calls you awake.

World Music Ensemble Visits Campus

By Daniel Wolfert

Despite the ancient origins of much of their music, a collective of six musicians from around the globe specializing in world music called the Guy Mendilow Ensemble has a decidedly modern approach to its presentation.

Fronted by Israeli-American musical director, singer and guitarist Guy Mendilow, the group consists of Mendilow alongside his parents, who are a World Music Ensemble. The ensemble’s perfor-

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TAM exhibit showcases the faces of AIDS

By Cole Souder

The new “Bricked” exhibit in Kittredge Hall was created by University of Puget Sound alumnus Katy Cowan and consists of two works. The first, called “Bricklines,” consists of several layers of bricks and wood stands, while the second, titled “Variations,” is a group of rope casts hung in the room.

The exhibit is minimalist to the extreme, as the works barely stand to fill the space allotted, but this simply adds to the exhibit as a whole. Despite the smallness of the space, the viewer is naturally pushed to the left, then around to the right following the work to tell a story.

The bricks are not the normal building material with which anyone on the Puget Sound campus is familiar. When cast ing, Cowan used an array of scraps and cast-offs to de-

form each one in its own unique way. These vary from chalk to pieces of pencils, from a hammer head to a crowbar. Beyond that, she used spray paint and oil pastels to color each brick to some extent. Although there is no brick is spectacular. Each is nothing more than junk. But as a group, they are something more than what is starting. Left, the bricks are dully colored, predominantly grey and especially deformed. One seems to be made more of chalk and pencils than cement, while others have foreign objects, like the previously mentioned hammer head and crowbar, extending out of them.

Moving right, the bricks hold similar physical characteristics; however, they also invoke something within. It’s nothing but a small taste of “right.” The colors of the bricks start to get brighter, giving them an air of confidence, something missing from the previous ones.

Each brick in the exhibit is distorted, chipped, broken or otherwise flawed in some way, but they are all still bricks, and they evoke a similar feeling.

In the description of his paint ing, Isenheim Field, artist Dar ren Waterston, “Sought to find essence across time and space?”

By Alona Stroup & Brianna Bolton

“Bricked” exhibit in Kittredge Hall

The chest sits on the floor, laid in that strange, overlapped light ing. The lighting that says, look here, this is it. An old chest, laid open and filled with sand. There’s a note tucked in the lid.

“In the sand
Written the names
Of those you
Lost and loved to AIDS,”
it says.

The sand has obviously been dis turbed many times, with the remnants of an “X” still etched into the corner. A middle-aged woman sits on the bench in front of this chest, a part of the Art AIDS America exhibit in the Tacoma Art Museum. She gently puts back tears.

This exhibit, which opened on October 3, and will run until Jan. 10, regardless of the 73 pieces of art work centered on addressing the issue of AIDS in America.

“The Tacoma Art Museum exhibit is an informative, reflective, and intructive exhibit that attempts to capture the complexity and problematic condition of AIDS in America. The process of creating the pieces for the Tacoma Art Museum does not happen in a year or two ahead of time. The Art AIDS America exhibit is ten years in the making. Executive Director Stephanie Stebich, Rock Huska Chief Curator and Curator of Contem porary and Northwest Art and Samantha Kelly Director of Education were key to picking the making the exhibit possible. Ste bich quoted Obama during her introduction to the press preview for the Art AIDS America exhibit.

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