University struggles to meet student financial need

Like many other first generation students, Roger has been navigating the waters of financial aid largely on his own since the beginning of his college experience. With tuition ballooning at colleges nationwide, is there more the University can do to make college more accessible for all?

Editors Note: We have altered Roger Smith’s real name in order to avoid backlash targeting that individual. It is not the policy of The Trail to use pseudonyms or anonymous sources regularly, but in the course of investigating sensitive issues that may effect the personal lives of our sources, we find it necessary to do so. The full policy on anonymity can be accessed by contacting the Editor-in-Chief at trail@pugetsound.edu

By Ella Frazer, Maya Nasson

Since the beginning of his college experience, Roger Smith, a current junior whose name has been changed to avoid backlash, has been navigating the waters of financial aid largely on his own. “I’m a first generation student. My parents didn’t go to college; they know nothing about this system,” said Smith. Smith’s first year, his aid package was $33,000 short of what he needed, so his mother took out a Parent Plus Loan to cover the difference. But that year she lost her job, became homeless and her credit rating suffered, preventing her from taking out a loan the following year.

“My EFC was zero on the FAFSA which means I have no money to give. I was homeless up here in Tacoma, my mom was homeless in LA — I had no money for education,” said Smith. Puget Sound provided a $10,000 grant, “But I still needed another $16,000.”

He went to Financial Services and was advised to take out a private loan, which often means far higher interest rates than FAFSA loans.

“I was this 18-year-old kid who had no parental support, no guidance. How am I supposed to know how to take out a loan all of a sudden?” said Smith. Maggie Mittuch, Associate Vice President of Student Financial Services, acknowledges that there are a lot of moving pieces that have to be accounted for.

“I used to say that running a university is like running a small town. But it’s really more like running a country,” Mittuch said. “You’ve got government, you’ve got health care, compensation, student needs, desires to provide strong academic programming, desires to attract good faculty, you’ve got all of this stuff, and it has to get balanced. And then there’s the real experience of families out there, who are looking at tuition, room and board, — bill that’s pretty big — and how do they make that work?”

Smith stressed the perceived assumption within Financial Services that all students are coming to the table with a supportive family waiting in the wings.

“It feels like they expect you to have all your shit figured out — you, with your parents, or with your family — they expect you to know what you’re doing,” said Smith.

For students who come to college without parental support, or without parents who are familiar with the college financial aid system, the process of locating funding for a college education can be a difficult and even traumatic process. Smith felt that the financial aid office did not do enough to support him or others who, like him, didn’t have families able to support them fully.

“They use a lot of jargon and they confuse me, and it’s inaccessible. Half the time I don’t know what they’re talking about, and I’m sitting there, and I don’t even know how to ask them questions about their language,” said Smith. “I mean, I’m clueless about the system! Make it accessible! Make it so we understand what we’re doing, what we’re getting ourselves into.”

Mittuch wants Financial Services to be a place students feel they can, and want to, go to when they or their families are facing hardship.

“Students are always welcome to come in and talk with us when there is a change in the family’s circumstances. We have avenues that are available for them to say that ‘my dad’s about to start college.’”

She recognizes, however, that there is no easy solution.

“We would all love it if our students had lower levels of unmet need. That would make our jobs so much easier. It’s just a difficult nut to crack today, especially when you think about the costs of providing education.”

The financial aid system at the University is multi-faceted and complex, and funding for student education comes from a variety of different sources. Puget Sound, like most residential liberal arts colleges, offers both need and non-need based aid, or merit aid. About 65 percent of students at Puget Sound receive need-based aid, but over 90 percent receive some form of aid, whether merit, financial or both.

Many Puget Sound students also earn money for their education through work-study or take out private loans, as Smith did. Annual costs, including tuition, room and board, add up to $56,456, but the average amount paid by Puget Sound students is much lower—only $28,459. Scholarships range from $1,500 to covering full tuition, room, board and associated fees. While Puget Sound meets the majority of students’ demonstrated need—about 75 percent—peer institutions like Lewis and Clark College in Oregon, in the range of 82–85 percent, and students at Puget Sound, like Smith, can end up with aid packages that are short of what they require to pay for college.

Dean of Students Mike Segawa feels that the disparity in met needs of Puget Sound vs. peer institutions is due to the fact that most have smaller student bodies and larger endowments, allowing for more scholarship money.

Divestment gains traction at UPS

By David Balgley

The U.S. Forest Service spent a record-breaking $200 million per year combating wildfires this past summer according to the Department of Agriculture. Washington was one of the worst-affected states, with an estimated 200–400% increase in area affected by wildfires in the Western United States.

Mitigating global warming has been on the minds of many students at Puget Sound lately, with the Puget Soud Student Union (PSSU) picketing the Board of Trustees meetings on October 1, 2 and 3 and holding up signs reading “Divest UPS.”

Fossil Free, a project of 350.org—a prominent global grassroots divestment movement—defines divestment as “getting rid of stocks, bonds, or investment funds that are unethical or morally ambiguous” with the intention to encourage corporations to limit polluting emissions.

A petition calling for the University to divest was circulated by the student-run ECO Club on Sept. 6 with the goal of reaching 750 signatures. This petition calls for the University to abstain from all new investments related to fossil fuels, and to fully divest in endowment within five years. On Oct. 7, just over a month later, they reached their signature goal.

The success of this petition does not mean that the University will choose to divest; several barriers remain to the implementation of a divestment project for the University’s endowment.

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University struggles to meet unmet student financial need

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Segawa. “Before then, we didn’t have the infrastructure, or as many people dedicated to it, and frankly I just don’t think we had as much expertise as we’ve had the last ten years.”

The expansion of the endowment— which grew by over $130 million dollarsthrough the One of a Kind Campaign— has allowed for more financial aid, and Segawa says there are plans to continue expanding the institution’s aid program. “The biggest single thing that we raised money for was student financial aid, the recognition of the gap, and the work that we have to do to make this place even more accessible and affordable than we are today,” said, referring to the One of a Kind capital campaign.

In the last decade, merit aid has grown tremendously both at the University of Puget Sound and beyond. The growth of Puget Sound’s endowment mirrors the expansion of scholarships, particularly merit-based scholarships, at many U.S. universities. Some worry that the expansion of merit aid fails to help, or even harms, low-income students. According to a 2013 report by the New American foundation, “Besides the very richest colleges and some exceptional schools, most non-elite non-profit colleges provide generous amounts of merit aid, often to the detriment of the low-income students.”

Mittuch argues that merit aid programs actually pull money away from financial aid programs, in an attempt to up the caliber of the student body—and tuition revenue. The foundation analyzed 479 private, nonprofit institutions, and found that at two-thirds of them, students with annual family incomes of $30,000 or less had tuition bills that averaged more than $15,000 a year even after all forms of scholarship and grant aid were factored in.

“Even though a student is going to qualify for an academic scholarship based on academic factors, it doesn’t necessarily mean that that academic scholarship isn’t helping meet need,” Mittuch said. “When you think about merit aid, it just isn’t going to people who don’t need it. It’s going to people who need it. It’s helping fill their need.”

In 2015, 41 percent of Puget Sound’s total financial aid budget went to pure need. 58 percent went to students with a combination of need and merit. Mittuch highlighted that although the University does use merit scholarships to attract students, who might be able to afford more than they are required to pay, the money that they do pay is still used to cut the students with high demonstrated need.

“So they come to Puget Sound, and some of the help that they pay the way for the kid who has both academic talent but also doesn’t have any resources,” said Mittuch, referring to students drawn by high merit scholarships. “So the way we use academic scholarships for the kids who don’t necessarily need it is because they’re going to need them to pay tuition, and be a part of the community... but we then use a part of that resource that they’re going to need to help pay tuition, and some need help, for whom it wouldn’t be an option to be here without it.”

Mittuch feels that the elimination of merit aid to students who can afford to pay the University’s tuition is an issue. “You’re giving full ride scholarships, you’re giving them full ride—I know a kid who got a full ride scholarship who can afford to pay tuition. He can afford this school! Why is he getting a full ride? Because he had that privilege growing up, privilege growing up to attain these different skill sets that this university admires so [exploitively] much that they’re going to give you more money,” Smith said. “And the students who didn’t have that privilege growing up... they have to work... so much harder to get here.”

Some institutions have chosen to step outside of this ‘tuition arms race.’ In September of 2015, Rosemont College’s Admissions Office announced a 43 percent reduction in tuition from $32,620 to $18,500. The motivation for the change was concern over ‘sticker shock,’ which describes a price point wherein potential students with financial concern do not apply to universities with high prices. Despite the likelihood that that price would actually be steeply discounted by scholarships and aid. Dean Segawa thinks it is unlikely for Puget Sound to consider a similar shift. “So many of our donors want to give to financial aid... and that’s an important way of keeping them connected to this place. And so if we were to lessen the emphasis on that... it would be a very different thought process for many of our donors. We also have a good cadre of families for whom this price is affordable, and they are willing to pay the cost, given the value that they see in the education that their student will earn and receive here, and that’s another balancing point or variable here,” he said.

Mittuch also feels that the high price point of the University allows it to compete with peers to attract families that assume that an expensive college means a quality college. “Right now, 40% of every tuition dollar gets turned around in financial aid. That’s a lot. So we’re discounting heavily,” Mittuch said. “If we were to drop the price, the discount would be as heavy... well, there’s this thing called ‘discounting,’—that’s what Sound is the greater Tacoma, university admires so much, and if you have that discount, cheap people, don’t think you’re good. It’s ridiculous, but it’s true.”

These kind of thought processes reflect the concerns of many who feel that universities are becoming increasingly administrative, and so preoccupied with running and funding their institutions to the focus that is taken off of the individual students for whom these institutions were supposed to serve. “At the end of the day, the university is a business,” said Smith. “And if the Financial Aid Office is representing the university, they’re not representing the students. And if they’re representing students, they’re representing the students that they want, that they expect, the one type of student that they think and fantasize about. And I’m not that student. And most of the students who end up in the Financial Aid Office aren’t that student.”

CORRECTIONS

The article printed October 16, 2015 entitled “The Safe Campus Act” was mistaken— not attributed to a writer— The article was written by Chase Hutchinson. The Trail regrets this error.

Delilayo Marsealis
With the UPS Jazz Band

techncial excellence, mensure mind & frequent touchs of humor—44 Times “One of the best, most imaginative & musical of the trombonists of his gener

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2PM 
THE TRAIL FREE WORKSHOP — Any kind of music, any kind of instrument

WHERE TO FIND THE TRAIL

BLACK BEAR YOGURT BUJUEREFOFFEE CAFFE BROUSSEAU METRONOME COFFEE SHAKAHEEJAVA
Divestment gains traction at Puget Sound

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“The increased size and complexity of our endowment in recent years led to our decision to contract with an Outsourced Investment Manager to manage our endowment,” Vice President for Finance and Administration Sherry Mondou said.

According to the Office of Communications, Puget Sound’s endowment was valued at $323.8 million as of July 31, and approximately $40 million of that is directly invested in fossil fuel corporations. The University’s endowment is invested using pooled funds managed by Perella Weinberg Partners (PWP). The benefit of this system is that the endowment has access to exclusive fund options that have high rates of return, but at the expense of exerting direct control over financial arrangements.

Yet the endowment is not managed by the University’s administration, and the decision to contract with an Outsourced Investment Manager is a requirement mandated to emphasize investment returns over any other consideration when managing an endowment.

When asked about the University’s responsibility in relation to divestment, several members of the administration stressed the financial responsibility that trustees have in making smart investments that have significant real returns. “It’s their role to invest funds from donos in a responsible manner,” Associate Vice President of Business Services and Executive Director of Community Engagement John Hickey said. “They need to make sure that they’re maximizing their return on investments to support the institution.”

Currently, the endowment does reap a significant return; it is expected to make $12 million annually from investments.

“Half of the profits from the endowment go to funding projects like the construction of the new athletics and aquatics center. In addition, the money was put towards the creation of the William T. and Gail T. Weyerhaeuser Center for Health Sciences, which has seen 9,387 patients in occupational therapy and physical therapy clinics since Weyerhaeuser Hall opened in 2011. The remaining $37 million goes to facilities and annual support. The University also released an issue of Archives, the alumni magazine of the University of Puget Sound, entitled ‘The One of A Kind Issue’ to commemorate the ending of the campaign.

“The magazine primarily featured current students and alumni who have all had an impact on the Puget Sound community, including current ASUPS President Nakisha Renée Jones. The magazine issue highlighted some of the specific scholarship funds that were provided to students over the past year and stated that 141 existing endowed scholarships received additional donations, plus 85 scholarships were newly endowed.

“This has been a complex issue and they have to consider multiple significant factors before coming to a decision.”

“T_h e Board of Trustees only meets three times a year, which, in conjunction with their deliberate decision-making process, inhibits quick institutional changes.

“The Board has not come up with the statement [on divestment] that they said they would,” Mondou said.

Mraz added that the Board’s inability to make a public statement on the issue demonstrates their lack of progress in making a decision on divestment, to the frustration of student activists. On the other hand, ECO Club meets almost every week, which allows them to devote more time to the issue of divestment. This demonstrates that the different groups involved in this process do not see eye to eye on the timeline of decision-making processes.

“Divestment is not an issue that will go away when the leaders of the movement graduate, which has been a historical problem with personality-driven campus movements. “We aren’t going anywhere,” said Emma Casey, the ECO Club Treasurer, on the future of the movement. “I think we have a significant staying power and every year we’re bringing in first-year students who also care about this issue. So we’re here, and we’re going to be advocating for it until it happens.”

“That’s exactly what we told the Board of Trustees,” Mraz said.

“Realistically, pulling $39 million out of big oil and coal won’t hurt them [large fossil fuel corporations], which is hard for people to grasp,” Mraz said.

However, when Mraz and other ECO club members met with the Board again in February, they received a more favorable reaction. According to Mraz, they asked ECO to hold off on action for the Board to draft a statement on the possibility for action on divestment. Yet there was no progress when they met again in May.

“We went ahead and created the petition,” Mraz said. “It’s been a mutually respected, civil relationship but the petition is the first push-back in taking a stand.”

ECO Club representatives and members of the administration both brought up the example of the Rockefeller Trust’s decision to divest.

“We don’t need to stop working with them to divest,” Mraz said.

“Rockefeller is not commingled and has an entirely separate arrangement with PWP,” Mondou said. “They say they are working towards divesting, but in reality they haven’t made much progress. Many institutions are making divestment statements that are hollow.”

Mondou went on to explain this point, saying that several institutions used as examples by the divestment movement, such as the Rockefeller Trust and Pitzer College, have either not gone through with the process of divesting or have done it in a disingenuous fashion.

“Th e Board sets that climate change is an important issue, but they are thinking about the best ways for Puget Sound to create meaningful change without making hollow statements,” Mondou said.

Puget Sound has demonstrated its commitment to sustainability and the environment, evidenced by such actions as the creation of the Sustainability Advisory Committee and the signing of the Climate Commitment by President Thomas, among others.

However, neither the environment nor sustainability are mentioned in the University’s mission statement. This is a critical point, as Washington State law requires board members to adhere to an institution’s mission statement in carrying out their duties. Furthermore, with the exception of implementing an institution’s mission, board members are mandated to emphasize investment returns over any other consideration when managing an endowment.

One of the challenges has been the Board’s inability to make a public statement on the issue, which demonstrates their lack of progress in making a decision on divestment, to the frustration of student activists. On the other hand, ECO Club meets almost every week, which allows them to devote more time to the issue of divestment. This demonstrates that the different groups involved in this process do not see eye to eye on the timeline of decision-making processes.

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“That’s exactly what we told the Board of Trustees,” Mraz said.
The article, “A Second Look on the True Meaning of Diversity” by Jess Wiken seems to imply that selecting a president of color is not an accurate concept to this argument: reverse-racism that is colorblind racism. White people are not oppressing the centuries of rampant racism and cultural extinction perpetuated by European Imperialists creates the history of oppression of people of color in the United States. Blacks were enslaved for years of discrimination, and the negative effects caused by years of discrimination, to make sure minorities are represented at schools and in the workforce, and to create an equal opportunity for everyone by helping those individuals that have been at a disadvantage for years. Discrimination continues to deny opportunities to minorities and women to this day. We want to make this school more diverse, and the cost of education does provide an acute financial strain, students of color that are able to attend the university are subjected to a sharply polarized white-homogenous environment that is in many ways silencing and erasing for those that do not conform to Whiteness. Clubs on campus also have a varying number of students based on specific background. Simply having an identity represented allows students to see that there is a comfort of all students of that identity, nor does it guarantee them to be a severe misinterpretation of the true nature of the struggle and hardships that they can never endure, regardless of whether or not the individual is willing to stand in solidarity. To that end, a president of color (or of any other marginalized identity) would, presumably, know how to better reach prospective and current students and support them in ways that this white institution is currently unable to do for students based on specific background. Simply having an identity represented allows students to see that there is a comfort of all students of that identity, nor does it guarantee them to be.

The piece described the search for a president of color, or any other minority, to change the background or identity, to be “restricive and contradictory to the solidarity movement for gender and racial equality,” and that needs regarding diversity are met by clubs, the annual diversity summit, and “numerous other resources.” Furthermore, tuition is cited to be “largely responsible for the lack of diversity on campus.” I find these statements to be an extreme misrepresentation of the truth, and a corruption of the reality experienced by many students of color nationally. A president of color would not simply serve as a “visual manifestation of diversity.” A president of color would be a show of how to abolish the white precedent that has been established in the administration and to open the role to those who understand the experiences of students from marginalized identities. White people cannot be easily made to understand the true nature of the struggles and hardships that they can never endure, regardless of whether or not the individual is willing to stand in solidarity. To that end, a president of color (or of any other marginalized identity) would, presumably, know how to better reach prospective and current students and support them in ways that this white institution is currently unable to do for students based on specific background. Simply having an identity represented allows students to see that there is a comfort of all students of that identity, nor does it guarantee them to be.

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Letter to the editor by Amanda Diaz

I am writing in response to the piece entitled “Second look on the true meaning of diversity.” I took issue with a number of points in that article, which I understood to be a severe misrepresentation of the needs of students of color, both at Puget Sound and in communities attempting to close the gap in the presence of higher education.

The piece described the search for a president of color, or any other minority, to change the background or identity, to be “restricive and contradictory to the solidarity movement for gender and racial equality,” and that needs regarding diversity are met by clubs, the annual diversity summit, and “numerous other resources.” Furthermore, tuition is cited to be “largely responsible for the lack of diversity on campus.” I find these statements to be an extreme misrepresentation of the truth, and a corruption of the reality experienced by many students of color nationally. A president of color would not simply serve as a “visual manifestation of diversity.” A president of color would be a show of how to abolish the white precedent that has been established in the administration and to open the role to those who understand the experiences of students from marginalized identities. White people cannot be easily made to understand the true nature of the struggles and hardships that they can never endure, regardless of whether or not the individual is willing to stand in solidarity. To that end, a president of color (or of any other marginalized identity) would, presumably, know how to better reach prospective and current students and support them in ways that this white institution is currently unable to do for students based on specific background. Simply having an identity represented allows students to see that there is a comfort of all students of that identity, nor does it guarantee them to be.

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Super rich kids with nothing but loose privileges

The first of two Opinions pieces discussing the issue of economic diversity at the University of Puget Sound

By Jack Kelly

In 1987, American author Bret Easton Ellis published his second novel called *The Rules of Attraction*. The novel recounts the debauchery of bratty, sophomoric and elite students at a small liberal arts college on the East Coast. The backdrop of the novel is the fictional Camden College, which bears a striking aesthetic resemblance to the University of Puget Sound in its size and the general disposition of its students.

The connection between Ellis’s second novel and the debate on whether or not Puget Sound should continue to issue merit aid may seem nebulous at first; yet, an analysis of the culture of small liberal arts colleges may shed some light on the issue. Puget Sound is well known for offering prospective students large sums of merit-based aid in the five-figure territory. These discounts off the actual sticker price of the University—$44,740 for the 2015-2016 year—make Puget Sound affordable for students who occupy the awkward space between not qualifying for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and coming from a place of extreme privilege. Thus, it would seem based on this fact that Puget Sound caters distinctly to an upper-middle class demographic.

We all know that socioeconomic diversity is good for class conversation. A variety of student backgrounds and perspectives has been noted to be beneficial in education and discourse among students. But, if we momentarily suspend this notion, and think of Puget Sound as an experience both socially and educationally, the results of the discounting merit-based aid become much more interesting.

As the holiday gains momentum, the discourse has continued, the closet and express their gender are commended and, to a degree, normative sexuality and gender are blurred by National Coming Out day concept of “coming out,” celebrating the strides that have determined the facts. Puget Sound is still worth celebrating. I do feel that there is a notion of young people who are lost on Puget Sound. After all, isn’t rubbing arms with the children of the nation’s elite not a quintessential reason why people attend small, private colleges? I was certainly seduced by the casual decadence of stories like *The Rules of Attraction* for the first six months I was here. I always viewed college as a window for regular middle class kids into the lives of the haute bourgeoisie. With nearly omnipotent merit-based aid, the stereotype so poignantly summed up by Frank Ocean is “Super Rich Kids” as “good times baby/It’s good times” will live on in America, whatever Puget Sound decides to do.

Rules of Attraction by Bret Easton Ellis recounts the debauchery of elite students at a small liberal arts college on the East Coast.

By Paul Gourdaiz-Fry

The level of discourse surrounding gender and sexuality has reached unprecedented heights over the last generation. While a measure of progress is hard to determine, the strides that have been made for marginalized groups is still worth celebrating. Included in this discourse is the concept of “coming out,” celebrated by National Coming Out day on Oct. 11. Individuals of nonnormative sexuality and gender are commended and, to a degree, encouraged to “come out of the closet” and express their gender and sexual identities openly. As the discourse has continued, the holiday has gained prominence. As the holiday gains momentum, so does the production of cards, shirts, mugs and other paraphernalia.

Queerness, used here as an umbrella term encapsulating the natalia.

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“Coming out”: How it effects our culture

The power of those once silenced.

Despite a changing world, much of the culture in which we interact expects that people are both heterosexual and cisgender if it went full 1 percent on the one percent would bring more infamous reputation of the school would result in a more outwardly exclusive demographic. While the majority of students would lose on Puget Sound. After all, isn’t rubbing arms with the children of the nation’s elite not a quintessential reason why people attend small, private colleges? I was certainly seduced by the casual decadence of stories like *The Rules of Attraction* for the first six months I was here. I always viewed college as a window for regular middle class kids into the lives of the haute bourgeoisie. With nearly omnipotent merit-based aid, the stereotype so poignantly summed up by Frank Ocean is “Super Rich Kids” as “good times baby/It’s good times” will live on in America, whatever Puget Sound decides to do.

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October 30, 2015
trail@pugetsound.edu
Alternative Fall Break introduces students to mass incarceration

By Ella Frazer and Maya Makino

Empathy, appreciation, shame, anger and awareness. These are some of the words that Puget Sound students used to describe their feelings following the most recent Alternative Fall Break program.

Alternative (Alt.) Fall and Spring Breaks at the University of Puget Sound are opportunities for students to engage with large-scale issues that affect the greater Tacoma area and our country. Students spend a portion of their break learning about social issues and involving themselves in those issues through volunteer work.

Alt. Fall and Spring Break programs offered every year and students are encouraged to get involved. For each break, students address new social justice topics, and there are no requirements for previous knowledge of the topics.

Alt. breaks are a space for students to learn and engage with social activism, said sophomore Jae Bates.

This fall, students who participated in Alt. Fall Break addressed the issue of mass incarceration. This phenomenon is especially important for Puget Sound students because of the stakes our campus and community hold in the private prison system.

The program was divided into two parts: education to mass incarceration, identity (which addressed race and immigration as trans and queer identity in the prison system) and barriers to re-entry into society for people ending their prison sentences.

“I think it was a really heavy break,” Skylar Bihl said.

The 28 students involved with the program spent their four-week break learning about issues of mass incarceration.

The students got to work with the Young Business Men and Women (YBMW) organization, a non-profit in Tacoma that works with young adults who have been disenfranchised by societal systems of power and privilege. About 15 members of the YBMW joined students on campus and spoke with them.

“The best part of this experience is that we connected as people... It was the beginning of real relationships and I believe and hope this will not end with break,” Bill Bihl said.

“Incarceration justice is tied up in identity,” Bates, a student coordinator for the event, said. One topic covered was the question of how identity contributes to who is incarcerated.

Traits such as race, immigrant status, gender identity and sexual orientation, as well as socioeconomic status were all factors that led to disproportionate representation of certain minoritized groups in the prison system.

It was interesting to learn that Latin American people were the largest group of inmates held in immigration detention centers, said sophomore Nicolas Rothblacher.

The issue of mass incarceration is relevant to the campus community because it impacts all of us in some way. It may impact us because the school-to-prison pipeline influences who we see here on our own campus, who has access to higher education and who we do not see here... Or we may have a friend or family member who has encountered the prison system or we may have spent time in such a power-based institution ourselves,” Bihl said.

“Our school is indirectly supporting private prisons,” President of Advocates for Detainees’ Voices Amanda Diaz said. “More specifically our investment money goes through a separate outside company named Perrella Weinberg Partners, and they invest in a whole list of companies and one of them is GEO Group (the company that owns the Northwest Detention Center, which mainly holds immigrants and detainees and is located about 10 minutes from campus).

Our school may or may not invest in GEO but since we give our money to this company they spread that money around to their laundry list of companies.”

The school club Advocates for Detainees’ Voices aspires to help people incarcerated in the Northwest Detention Center. Their meetings are held on Wednesdays at 8 p.m. in the Student Diversity Center.

Another opportunity for students to get involved is through the Center for Intercultural and Civic Engagement. There are opportunities for students to work with non-violent offenders on non-violent communication and education.

The Freedom Education Project is another on-campus effort to address the issue of mass incarceration. In this program, Puget Sound professors teach at a Gig Harbor women’s prison and help inmates get their associate degrees while incarcerated.

“As inmates are not necessarily in there because they’re bad people, but because they’ve had a rough time,” Bates said, highlighting a major takeaway of the program.

The Alt. Breaks program began in the Fall of 2007 and aims to engage with issues surrounding sustainable food justice, immigration and citizenship and poverty in Seattle, among other things.

La Sobremesa dinner series shares food and culture

By Kaelie Coleman

Once a month, members of La Sobremesa Spanish Club convene over a homemade meal inspired by a Latin American country and learn about a culture largely removed from the University of Puget Sound. These monthly meetings not only provide students with delicious, homecooked Latin food, but also give attendees the opportunity to listen to a speaker that has personal experience with the region associated with the night’s cuisine.

“The point of the theme dinner is to bring pieces of these cultures—of these Spanish-speaking cultures—to campus and give members of the community more connections on campus, as well as to give people an immersion experience without ever having to leave the country,” Samantha Tigner, vice president of La Sobremesa, said.

“I went to Peru three years ago and these are the recipes I had there with my host family,” La Sobremesa Vice President Charlotte Parker cooked these dishes.

“It was cool to get a more modern look at life within Peru. It’s very exciting.”

In the coming months, La Sobremesa plans to continue the monthly dinner series to different Latin American countries. The next dinner will be held on Nov. 2 and will focus on Mexico.

The club appears somewhat limited in the number of cultures it can feature, as it doesn’t want to inaccurately portray any Spanish-speaking country by representing the culture with information from potentially unreliable secondhand sources. It is rare to find a student on campus from Latin America, making it difficult to get firsthand knowledge about life in other countries. La Sobremesa strives to create an environment where that information and experience can be shared while also providing some tasty cuisine.
Under 21 nightlife venues grow in Tacoma

By Claire Meyer

To the students under 21, this scenario may sound all too familiar. While there seems to be a multitude of activities for the more outdoor-oriented students here at Puget Sound, when it comes to nightlife there are few options for a young Tacoma resident.

Though it has many charms and perks, Tacoma is a suburban town, and often finding exciting activities requires traveling the distance to Seattle. For those without means of transportation, this can seem like a challenging feat to pull off. One place that stands out as one of a kind is 733 Entertainment. Located in a beautifully and boldly colored old-fashioned building in downtown Tacoma, the building has three floors, each of which functions as a different space. On the third floor is a dramatic ballroom where many live music events, such as jazz, blues, or the occasional rock and roll concert by night. The first floor, however, is where they have the proper space for the majority of their events. These can range from comedy shows to live theater, VFX work, and television and radio production.

Although a few of their events might be designated for people under 21, most of their events are open to all ages. They are working to building a new building across from the original location to accompany their current location on Pacific Avenue.

“After the first floor, one will be facing the Pacific side of the block how our organization sees what can be done when real artistry,” Alase Frieson, manager at 733, said. “Apart from being an artist of the block, 733 is also notable for their mastery of technology.”

“Becoming a major resource to artists all around also means becoming a technology center,” Frieson said.

“When the three is more than just a space for live music. We’re transforming the building into a full service art space, where music, visual arts, film, and visual artists who energize those mediums can interact with commerce in a way that’s not just supportive, but supporting,” Frieson said.

If you are searching for a creative space to inspire you or even to display your work, 733 is the place to go.

“Ultimately, our mission is to become a beacon to creatives,” Frieson said.

While there are currently not many places as age-friendly as 733 serving Tacoma, it is a sign of hope for the opening of future venues.

The numbers are even higher on college campuses, where 30 percent of college students suffer from a diagnosable mental illness.

Sophomore Anna Goebel is leading a student group called the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) on the Puget Sound campus, which is working to bring a chapter of NAMI to campus. These chapters offer education to increase awareness about mental health issues.

“Our hope is to decrease the stigma surrounding mental illness, which is a major barrier to students accessing needed mental health resources, and to foster a campus community that is more supportive of students with mental illness issues.”

“Something that students can do to help fight mental illness is to educate themselves so they know how to talk about mental illness,” Dr. Christine Mourier, Chief Medical Officer of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, said. This will allow them to support their friends more effectively and help break the stigma surrounding mental illness.

“Stigma keeps people suffering in silence... we know enough now based in neuroscience to know solidly that mental health conditions are like any other,” Mourier said. “There should be no shame in getting help when it is needed.”

“Mental illness is more common than most people realize,” Mourier said. She went on to explain that 25 percent of Americans suffer from a diagnosable mental health condition.

FEATURES

October 30, 2015
trailfeatures@pugetsound.edu

CHWS struggles to provide for overflow of students

continued from pg. 1

In their junior year, Winston realized that counseling appointments were not working for them anymore, and chose to start taking selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitors (SSRIs), a medication that is commonly used to treat depression and anxiety.

The student went to CHWS because the clinic was able to offer them a prescription “right then and there,” Winston said. Yet, when spring semester ended, they were left without access to prescription refills because CHWS does not offer psychiatric services over the summer.

Unfortunately, when Winston began to run out of their prescription, they were faced with withdrawal symptoms and no access to the people that prescribed their medication. “This was hands down the most difficult experience that I have ever had in my entire life,” Winston said. “It was the scariest, most painful thing that I’ve ever done.”

In addition to the physical symptoms, Winston felt like they had been left to go through this experience without access to information or assistance from CHWS.

“I am a stronger person now because of it, but not being able to meet with someone at CHWS to even discuss the tapering [off of the medication] or discuss the going off of [the SSRIs] made it this incredibly isolating experience,” Winston said. “I had to do it all myself with no guidance from anyone. That would not have been the case if CHWS had all their resources available over the summer, which they didn’t because of the way our school budgets money for mental health and health and wellness.

Notably, Winston did mention that the staff was pleasant and seemed to do the best they could within a department that, according to other students, lacks the resources to accommodate the influx of students every year.

According to CHWS, some 20 percent of the student body utilizes the mental health services they provide, yet wait times are often unbearable.

“The first available intake is one month out,” CHWS psychologist Chris Evans said, “but during busier times in the semester you might have to wait an additional two to three weeks. We have seen more than 100 new patients this year… and we have seen just under 500 people just at the mid-point of this semester.”

“It is good that people see [CHWS] as a resource, but it is a challenge to see everybody who would like to be seen,” Donn Marshall, Director of CHWS and Associate Dean of Students, said.

Last fall Marshall investigated mental health care programs in five comparable Pacific Northwest schools. He found that the wait time for a counseling appointment ranged from zero to 17 days. Puget Sound is on the highest end of the spectrum: this month, the wait time for an initial appointment is about 23 days.

Change is being made, slowly. On Tuesday, October 27, Marshall said that CHWS would no longer be psyching patients for four hours an evening on Tuesdays at least for the remainder of the Fall semester, with three hours for appointments and an hour for work in support of those appointments.

One student, who wishes to remain unnamed, recently had her first experience with CHWS counseling this month. She is planning on going back, but was not completely satisfied with CHWS.

This student waited a month between making her appointment and seeing her counselor. In that time, the situations surrounding her need for counseling completely changed. She chose not to cancel her appointment because she still felt she needed to see a counselor, but she had to work through her initial situation on her own due to the extensive wait time. She was also distracted from her positive experience by the structure of the CHWS front office. She felt uncomfortable revealing personal information to the staff without the sense of privacy for patients.

As a Perspectives Orientation leader, this person. CHWS would benefit from added space to keep conversations between active members and maintain a better confidentiality for students, asserts Winston.

According to CHWS, some 20 percent of the student body utilizes the mental health services they provide, yet wait times are often unbearable.

20% of the Puget Sound student body that utilizes CHWS mental health resources
25% of the American population suffers from a diagnosable mental illness
30% of college students suffer from a mental illness that makes normal life difficult.
HALLOWEEN PAGE DESIGN/MICHELLE LEATHERBY

COSTUME IDEAS FOR STUDENTS:

The Combat Zone is intended to be a satirical work. The views and opinions expressed by the Combat Zone do not necessarily reflect those of The Puget Sound Trail, ASUPS, concerned parties or the University of Puget Sound. Please submit compliments or complaints in the form of letters to the editor.

10 LAST-MINUTE HALLOWEEN COSTUME IDEAS FOR STUDENTS:

1 Jones Fountain
   Wear: all grey, add dead roses for extra flare
   Any time you take a sip, immediately spit it out.

2 My Academic Advisor
   Wear: something professorly. If you don’t actually remember what they look like because it’s been so long, when someone tries to communicate with you, interpret them as a slip of paper with the words “out of office auto-reply.”

3 Puget Sound Campus Wi-Fi
   Periodically freeze mid-conversation. At a Halloween party, quarantine guests you dislike and tell them they must download Sophos anti-virus.

4 CHWS
   Wear: Scrubs
   Hand out cheap, colorful condoms. If someone starts a conversation with you, interrupt them and tell them you’re busy until 2-4 PM a month from now.

5 The Endowment
   This costume is for someone staying home. When trick-or-treaters come around, ask them for a piece of their candy and throw it into a large pot of oil.

6 Why Bottled Water?
   Give everyone bottled water, but judge them as they accept it.

7 “Spooky” Logger
   Wear: flannel, suspenders, beard
   Carry a bloody axe. Make intense eye contact with others as you whisper the words “once a logger, always a logger” and “back hack, chop, chop.”

8 Sexy Sequoia Tree (ideal for people 6’ and taller)
   Wear: Sequoia needles all over your body, but leave your stomach bare, because you know, sexy.

9 The UPS Mallard and his Mallard Wife (Couple costume!)
   Wear: brown turtlenecks. Male mallard should wear green face-paint and a yellow beak. The female mallard should wear a grey beak. Waddle around. Never stray more than 2 feet from one another. Occasionally stop in the middle of campus lawns to rest.

10 Ghosts of University Presidents Past (group costume!)
   Great for groups of white men with a single token female friend. Look at the portraits in Jones Hall for reference.

Collins Memorial Library SHUT DOWN by Tacoma Police

PHOTO BY MICHELLE LEATHERBY'S NEW IPHONE

By SpaNish

Last Sunday, The Tacoma police showed up at Collins Memorial Library due to alleged noise complaints and because it sounded like everyone was having “way too much fun.”

“Everyone looked so happy. We found it a little hard to believe that there wasn’t just a little bit of partying going on in there,” head officer at the Tacoma police department Paul Smith said. According to students present at the scene, it was an understandable mistake as everyone seemed to be wearing anything black and many students were caught snorting Adderall off printers #1 and #2. “I usually just go to the library to meet boys,” first year Abby Kaufman said. “I try to look my best before the social event, so like, when the cops showed up, I can’t really say I was that surprised.”

“Sometimes I don’t even really have any homework,” English major Dilana Artinkansan said. “I just go because all my friends are going and I don’t want to be left out.”

According to the police report, there was a heavy investigation in which the police officers conducted a thorough search of the study rooms in the basement, but after a while they decided to leave without pressing any charges.

“I never actually go to the library when I have too much homework,” junior Jack Kelly said. “It’s just wrought with too much sexual tension.”

“We’ll let it go this time,” officer Smith said. “But next time, be a little careful.”

Brave student deletes Facebook app further, unexpected obstacles follow

PHOTO BY PETER DAVIDSON

By Hip Fun

It’s 2015 and hookup culture and app culture are rampant both on the University of Puget Sound campus and around the world. The two work in tandem to make life during and after hooking up pretty much unbearable. Junior Audrey Kaufman took matters into her own hands when she deleted her Facebook app off of her smartphone after discerning that Facebook stalking was causing her to become too emotionally attached.

“We were just hooking up, but then because of Facebook, I started to like him,” Kaufman said. In Kaufman’s opinion, app culture merely serves to exacerbate the shortcomings of hookup culture.

“It’s hard to not get emotionally attached when all you have to do is open the Facebook app on your phone to see things like their mom posting links about preventing premature balding to their wall. It’s so endearing. How could I not want more?” Kaufman said.

Pre-smartphone, Kaufman remembers a time when she wasn’t the type of girl who got attached; she was the type of girl who loved hookup culture. “I wasn’t always this relationship-desiring cling monster,” Kaufman said. “I used to be carefree and slutty in the most reclaimed and empowering way possible.”

After realizing that Facebook—specifically Facebook’s accessibility via the app on Kaufman’s smartphone—was the problem, Kaufman decided to take her life back. “At first I tried getting rid of my smartphone altogether, but I couldn’t find the shade of pink Razr I wanted on Ebay. So instead, I just deleted my Facebook app,” Kaufman said.

While Facebook was primarily accessible to Kaufman via the app, and deleting it was helpful initially, over time Kaufman found herself accessing Facebook on her smartphone through other apps. “I started going on Facebook using the Safari app on my phone. At first just to make sure I wasn’t missing anyone’s birthday, god forbid, but it wasn’t long before I was looking at pictures of him and his friends going hiking and trying out cool effects on his DSLR. He loves photography,” Kaufman said.

Smartphones are just too smart, and despite Kaufman’s best attempts, checking Facebook on her phone remains a part of her daily routine.

“Someone needs to do something about this,” Kaufman said while scrolling through pictures of her ex-hookup in a tank top at an EDM concert. “EDM is so dumb, but look, he’s so cute! And so tall. Ugh. I can’t delete Safari, my phone won’t let me.”

Kaufman insists that hookup culture cannot survive the information age, despite claims to the contrary of millennials everywhere.

“I’m a certified sociopath and even I’m getting attached to my hookups because of Facebook. How am I expected to not want to be in a relationship with someone who shared his little brother’s ice bucket challenge video and RSVPs to every Jamie xx event?” Kaufman said.

Kaufman has reached out to Apple about the Facebook app, but has yet to hear back.
**Students founding rogue newspaper**

**OffPath getting major hype**

**By Mad Punz**

A rival newspaper is set to release next semester, and it looks like the new publication, appropriately titled *OffPath*, should be stiff competition for *The Trail*.

The new newspaper features recognizable sections such as the news, features and food & fashion. In contrast to *The Trail*, however, the news section will be depicted entirely through a combination of pictures, hieroglyphs/emojis, and commentary by some of our most beloved childhood cartoon characters. Elaborating on this new concept, *OffPath* editor Leigh-Anna (pronounced like Leanna but spelled Leigh-Anna) said, “We wanted a forum that was more accessible to today’s audiences.

There is a notable absence of an opinion section. “Personally, I don’t care about anyone else’s opinion and I’m pretty sure nobody else wants to hear about anyone else’s opinion either. No one is going to change their opinion and I’m pretty sure no one else wants to hear about their opinion.”

*Webster’s Dictionary Definition: to live or travel in wild or uncultivated country*

“We’re going to be revolutionary,” Leigh-Anna reiterated several times throughout our interview.

“They just did—did they just light the f*cking trail on fire in front of Diversions?” Hey You said, “We plan on mogulizing.”

“Yeah, I thought he was like maybe a transfer student or something. I didn’t ask,” Tyler said, “and then Monday morning, we found out we were going to the same class, so we walked together.”

That morning, Tyler discovered his new roommate was Associate Latin Professor, David Harlin.

This fall is the first semester for the University’s new housing policy requiring professors to live on campus until tenured.

“Tyler’s a fine roommate and a good student. He’s the only one in my class who always gets his work in on time,” Professor Harlin said.

“We have this rapport going where I’ll ask Jordan how his courses are going, and he’ll say ‘good, except for this awful Latin class I’m taking,’ and we just laugh and laugh.”

“When I pressed her on whether or not she knew what the word mogul means and added that she could not, in fact, use mogul in that context (both grammatically and in definition) she stood firmly by her use of said word

“Also, our competition is everyone. We are competing not only with *The Trail*, but in two short months we plan to be categorizing ourselves among the likes of *The New York Times*, the *Washington D.C. Post* and *Wall Street’s Journal*,” Leigh-Anna said in reference to our current campus’s publications.

“This is just the tip of the iceberg,” Leigh-Anna said in response to some of the more pointedly newspaper-oriented questions.

“We plan on moguling.” I’m talking franchise. We want to expand into radio—KOP420—as well as branch into broadcasting. We have already started looking for an anchor—good-looking people please apply. We also want an app.

In a claim to maintain their coveted edgy image, *OffPath* plans to revamp current *Trail* sections, including “Hey Asshol3” and “Bushwhack***” for “Hey You” and “Happy Trail” respectively.

“We’re going to be revolutionary,” Leigh-Anna reiterated several times throughout our interview.

“Hey, Professor Jones: You know Jen from class? Yeah, look. She’s coming over later. If you could like. Not. Be in our room. Thanks. 

**Pass the Ramen, Professor**

**University professors now required to live on campus until tenured**

**By Michelle Loserby**

Sophomore student Jordan Tyler knew his roommate seemed a little old for the dorms.

“Yeah, I thought he was like maybe a transfer student or something. I didn’t ask,” Tyler said, “and then Monday morning, we found out we were going to the same class, so we walked together.”

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“We have this rapport going where I’ll ask Jordan how his classes are going, and he’ll say ‘good, except for this awful Latin class I’m taking,’ and we just laugh and laugh.”

“One,” Tyler said when asked about this rapport, “that happened once. And it wasn’t a joke. But hey, if he thinks I’m a good student, then I guess it’s worth living with my professor.”

Professor Harlin didn’t report the same kind of relationship with the rest of his dorm.

“Some students in this dorm just don’t seem to care,” Professor Harlin said, “Like my RA, Brad. I come back from my class, which he’s enrolled in, and he’s just playing Mario Kart in the common room. Alone. Like, come one, Brad. I would destroy you in Mario Kart if you just asked.”

Professor Harlin isn’t the only one to report qualms with a Resident Advisor.

“It was Saturday. I was having a scotch or five on my porch after several hours of grading. And this 19-year-old tries to come over and tell me I can’t do that,” newly-hired Physics professor Anne Mobley said.

Professor Mobley was written up for misconduct by her Resident Community Coordinator and will be required to meet with housing officials in the coming week.

“Several complaints about this policy have been expressed by professors and students,” Professor Jeremiah Tressel tried to appeal the housing contract earlier this month due to financial concerns, but was rejected.

“Tres, to pay back my student loans for grad school. I’d priced out a studio apartment nearby that would allow me to make my payments on time while teaching a couple courses here,” Professor Tressel said. “But I met with Jen Markman, and she said my financial situation was not dire enough to constitute living off campus.”

Markman confirmed this decision. “To Professor Tressel and everyone the complaining about how expensive it is to live on campus—we’ve done the math,” Markman said, “and we’re pretty sure this is less expensive than living off campus. Besides, you can’t put a price on this community.”

**October 30, 2015**

trailcz@pugetsound.edu
Halloween Haunts

Q & A with the Dramaturg from “The Force of Habit”

By Brianna Bolton

Though watching a play written in the 17th-century may not immediately entice students, watch this brilliant performance, the play highlights enduring themes regarding gender, parent-child relationships and the question of nature versus nurture.

Hannah Ferguson is a junior majoring in Theatre at the University of Puget Sound. After already familiarizing herself with Guillen de Castro’s work over the summer, she felt prepared enough to tackle being dramaturg for the recently translated play “La Fuerza de la Costumbre” or “The Force of Habit.”

Q: Is there anything you want people who are interested, or to get people interested in the play to know?

A: I think it is reflected in the play. In my translation work over the summer, I was working with this old dictionary, in the same period as the play. The Spanish word for “costumbre” the Spanish word for habit it is a phrase close to “habit does not incite passion.” So the idea is that the routine, the repetitious, the norms don’t make passion. The time when the main characters feel the most passionate is when they first come out of their habits enough to be willing to experience new things. To neither say this is right or healthy, but it is interesting especially in terms of love is when they are operating out of their nurturing.

Q: As a medium, what does theatre bring that other forms of art or round table discussions can’t?

A: “Theatre itself is such a good medium for this because it is so much about spectacle. And about seeing and being seen. There isn’t a fourth wall… in the sense that the characters get to speak directly to the audience… which gives it the sense that it isn’t happening in a vacuum at all. Which allows the audience to act as a cohort in some senses.”

Q: What general themes of nature and nurture appear in the play?

A: “It is definitely a theme that humans keep coming back to. Like, how do we learn what we learn, why do we look the way we look, why do we act the way we act. Especially because these questions are heightened by the fact that our behavior is at odds with society, with our family, and with our love interests.”

Show opens on Friday at 7:30p.m., Saturday (10/31) at 7:30p.m., Thursday (11/5) at 7:30p.m., Friday (11/6) at 7:30p.m., Saturday (11/7) at 2:00p.m., Saturday (11/7) at 7:30p.m.
Breast Cancer Awareness Awareness

By Natalie Scoggins

In mid-autumn, it seems that pink ribbons become attached to every possible surface and item, from bumper stickers to coffee cups to those rubber wristbands that went out of style ages ago but resurge yearly. October is, after all, Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Awareness, though, is not as simple as mere visibility. The American Cancer Society (ACS) writes that Breast Cancer Awareness Month has been nationally recognized since 1985, beginning as a partnership between the ACS and a drug company belonging to AstraZeneca in order to promote mammograms as the best preventative or early detection method. Since then, charity walks, advertisements and even online gaming campaigns have aimed to fundraise and increase awareness of breast cancer, and the pink ribbon has been almost universally adopted as the awareness symbol. Yet breast cancer isn’t the number one killer of women. While it is one of the most common cancers for women, heart disease and lung cancer are far more dangerous, with colorectal cancer contributing to a large number of deaths, 2013 Center for Disease Control data reveals. So why is breast cancer the one that gets celebrity endorsements and a latte of the month at coffee shops? Breasts are, in American society, tied innately to sexuality and sex. Breasts are sexy, and sex sells. (It’s a strange dichotomy, though—vaginas are generally far more sexual, so why don’t reproductive cancers and pap smears get the same kind of treatment? Save the cervix!) This focus on sexuality and statements like “Save the Boobs/Tatas/Boobies” Second Base” make it casual and more likely to get a laugh or raised eyebrow than a dollar, and trivialize the intense physical and emotional pain that many cancer patients and survivors go through. This way of thinking sees people who have lost their breasts despite recovering, or going into remission as failures of the system to save what’s left. The ACS also ignore men and nonbinary persons, who are also at risk. They also rarely note the possibility of breast cancer in transgender people taking hormones, regardless of the gender they are assigned at birth. The ACS also notes that no individual research has been conducted on the issue. When companies advertise that proceeds from a product go to breast cancer awareness funds, they often donate pennies or fractions of pennies. Some companies just hop on the wagon of making their products pink, so people assume they’re raising awareness, when in reality, even if they are increasing visibility, the sales don’t go towards any sort of research or funding. What’s more, many products are made with chemicals that have been linked by the ACS and FDA as possible carcinogens. This practice has been termed “pinkwashing” and is criticized by websites such as ThinkBeforeYouPink.org and documents such as “Pink Ribbons, Inc.” Simply wearing something pink or drinking from a water bottle with a pink ribbon on it are minor symbolic actions—they may encourage people to be aware of breast cancer, but what does that mean? Without further resources, awareness does not help. Despite their slogan being “For the Cure,” awareness organizations such as Susan G. Komen aren’t the most effective in actually finding a cure: CBS News states that group cut ties with (and therefore funding for) Planned Parenthood in 2012 and parys its CEO a salary estimated at over $700,000. Only 15 percent of their donations goes to research to find a cure, while 18 percent goes towards advertising and fundraising itself, according to Reuters. 40 percent does go to education, so the organization does have some positive impacts, but much of the education involves little more than telling people to be aware. In order to actively and effectively play a role in breast cancer awareness, there are many more actions one can take beyond buying pink things or PayPaling a few dollars to Komen. Consider donating to research organizations such as the Breast Cancer Research Foundation, which is rated at 100 percent for efficiency and 94 percent for financial accountability by CharityNavigator.org and for whom over 90 percent of donations go directly towards scientific programs. Consider volunteering with or donating to local nonprofits or women’s health centers, or groups such as Planned Parenthood, which offer accessible information and resources.

Term of the Week
demigender
/d-em-i gen-der/
 adjective
Being only partly of any particular gender identity. May be any percentage of a gender, but not completely of any one gender identity. It is indeterminate of the sex a person was assigned at birth. Associated with nonbinary identities, and frequently with genderfluidity. Usually used as “dem” + gender of the person.

Demigirl/demigirlwoman: feeling partly like a woman, but not completely.

Demiboy/demiboyman: feeling partly like a man, but not completely.

eg. Blake is a demiboy, meaning he identifies only partly as a man. While he might also identity with any other variety of gender identi- ties, he is a demiboy.

The importance of Planned Parenthood & its funding

By Sophia Lugo

The organization Planned Parenthood (PP) has been garnering more media coverage recently, specifically regarding its funding. More people need to realize that despite Planned Parenthood being the only way many women’s opportunities for better health and well-being. PP was essentially founded in the 1920’s when Margaret Sanger and her sister opened the first birth control clinic in New York. Later incorporating new organizations and groups like the American Birth Control League, Sanger successfully formed the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Inc. Since its formation, PP has come to offer many different services to women in America, many of which are especially important to those in minority groups. Planned Parenthood gives access to multiple health services, some services vary by location but many offer things like STD testing, breast exams and other general services like vaccines and pregnancy exams. According to their 2015-2014 annual report, PP provided almost half a million breast exams and 2.5 million points of care across the United States. This gives women, even those with low income and no health insurance, access to important resources and materials that they would not otherwise receive. PP also aids in lowering teen pregnancies by helping teens gain access to contraception. In the same report, PP stated that “teenage birth, pregnancy and abortion rates [were] at their lowest levels in 20 years.” This drop in teen pregnancies and abortions is attributable to PP’s help in encouraging more sex education and providing better access to birth control.

Through programs like the Chat/Text program, teens can receive better answers to questions they have—something they might not be getting at home or at school. Sex education is severely lacking in a lot of schools, and PP is fighting to provide more information to teens and young adults. Through programs like the Chat/Text program, teens can receive better answers to questions they have—something they might not be getting at home or at school. Yet, it is not these services and programs that are causing the great debate on whether Planned Parenthood should continue to receive federal funding. No matter your personal stance on abortion, Planned Parenthood provides a number of very important services that many would have no access to otherwise. Taking away women’s access to counseling and health services would not be a success for those who otherwise don’t have access to neglect their mental and physical health, a point more people need to understand and consider.
Kayak Club holds intercollegiate race

By Nick Nestingen

On Saturday Oct. 18, the University of Puget Sound Kayak Club hosted and organized a race between 24 students from eight different schools. The event was sponsored by World Kayak, Outdoor Adventure Center, and Northwest River Supply and Stolquist.

The race had four different sections with a total of 12 Puget Sound students participating (six men and four women). The different sections included intermediate women’s, advanced women’s, intermediate men’s and advanced men’s. In the intermediate women’s section, sophomore Rose Triolo (Salt Lake City, Utah) finished first at 0:11:37, and sophomore Amaya Rodriguez (San Francisco, California) finished second. Liam Horner (Bellingham, Washington) and Brian Freeman (Honolulu, Hawaii) took second and third, respectively.

The advanced women’s section had the Kayak Club co-leader, senior Carson Lyness (Salt Lake City, Utah), competing against her teammate, first-year student Sophie Kornick (Carbondale, Colorado). Lyness won with a time of 0:11:54.

The advanced men’s section had three different Puget Sound students competing against sophomores Calvin Bauer (Purcellville, Virginia) and Cooper Fitch (Canby, Oregon) took second and fourth, respectively, while junior Kaelan Hendrickson (Albuquerque, New Mexico) took sixth place.

In the intermediate men’s section of the race, a high school student from Garfield High School won with a time of 0:10:28, beating out the two Puget Sound students who participated in the section; seniors Lain Horner (Bellingham, Washington) and Brian Freeman (Honolulu, Hawaii) took second and third, respectively.

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The reason I wanted to make this race happen is that our club has been growing and improving a ton in the past few years and it seemed like a perfect next step to host our own race to meet other college boaters, strengthen the college boating community and to push our own boaters,” Lyness said.

Triolo voiced similar thoughts.

“I had a great time paddling with all the other college boaters. It was a great way to get all of us in the same place. I’m looking forward to coming back during the race in the future and hopefully attending more collegiate races!”

The race was a huge success and it looks like there will be similar races in the future. Lyness added some thoughts on the subject.

“It was also super cool to see the intercollegiate race be half women, half men and have a strong Puget Sound representation in the advanced race. I really hope this can become an annual event and for other college boaters host their own events,” Lyness said.

This is just the beginning for Kayak Club races, and they can’t wait for more.

SCENES & OUTDOORS

FOOTBALL

Loggers football earned a win at home against the George Fox Bruins, winning 43-35. Senior Kevin Miller (Seattle, Washington) had 18 receptions and 187 receiving yards. Senior Peter Petter (Klamath Falls, Oregon) also finished the game with a career-high 158 receiving yards and nine receptions. Loggers football finished with a record of 2-1 in the Northwest Conference.

The next day the women’s soccer team had two wins more to their streak. On Wednesday, Oct. 21 a goal by junior EmmaDonals (Los Altos, California) gave Puget Sound the winning point to upset Pacific Lutheran University. That weekend the Logger women have gotten yet some tough competition, but they managed to get 23 digs, bringing their streak for lose consecutive games with double-digit digs. The losses continued into the next week for Logger volleyball. The women’s volleyball added two more wins to their streak. On Wednesday, Oct. 21 a goal by junior EmmaDonals (Los Altos, California) gave Puget Sound the winning point to upset Pacific Lutheran University. That weekend the Logger women have gotten yet some tough competition, but they managed to get 23 digs, bringing their streak for lose consecutive games with double-digit digs. The losses continued into the next week for Logger volleyball. The women’s volleyball added two more wins to their streak.

Wrap-up of the 12th man

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While Seahawks fans may be a little too loud and proud, the newfound arrogance of the 12th man may simply be a product of the excitement of fans finally getting to witness their favorite team succeeding after years of suffering not only watching the Seahawks, but also watching Pacific Northwest sports as a whole for their entire lives.

With the Seattle Super Bowl victory being the first championship in the Northwest region since the Sea Guls Super Bowl win in 1979. As a result of the Seattle Super Bowl Super Bowl victory, a whole generation of people got to experience the feeling of rooting for a winner for the first time in their lives. The 12th man is finally getting the payoff for all the seasons that ended poorly and are enjoying their time at the top of the mountain while they can.

So, Seahawks fans, continue to wave your flags, wear your jerseys and talk smack like Richard Sherman. And 12th man haters, take solace in the fact that about 80 percent of the students on this campus despise the Seahawks and their fans just like you do.

Loud, proud and obnoxious: The 12th man on campus

By Nick Nestingen

Three years ago, Seahawks coach Pete Carroll made the daring decision to start rookie Russell Wilson over popular free agent Matt Flynn. Seahawks fans, popularly known as the 12th man, had no clue about the roller coaster ride they were about to experience.

At the same time in August of 2012, members of the Puget Sound class of 2016 said tough goodbye to their friends and families as they left their childhood homes for the first time to embark on the college experience. Those who were NFL fans from out of state had no clue about the right game they were about to experience in the next three years.

Since Pete Carroll’s fateful decision to start Russell Wilson, the Seahawks have a combined 36-13 record since 2010. They’ve won three playoff appearances, two NFC championships, one Super Bowl title and the 12th man has exploded from a local badge of pride to a nationwide phenomenon. Coincidentally, during this time the Seahawks grew in popolarity across the country, animosity towards the Seahawks and their fans grew across the country as well. The Puget Sound campus, with 12 percent of the student body being from states other than Washington, was no exception to this trend.

“When I lived back in California the Seahawks were a team I really didn’t know much about,” self proclaimed “pigeon” (Seahawk) hater senior Marshawn Lynch’s legendary touchdowns run in the playoffs registered as an earthquake on local sismometers.

However, the recent run of success has made the 12th man unbearable to some.

“Seahawks fans have serious trouble admitting shortcomings in their current team,” Brisebois said. “And they are loud and in-your-face.”

“They are irritating and arrogant,” senior Dan Nakamura (Honolulu, Hawaii) said. Nakamura added that the fans rarely show up for other fans or other teams.

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