Faculty Committee reveals proposed Core curriculum changes
By Amelia Pooser and Mercer Stauoch

The University of Puget Sound’s core curriculum is changing. After five years of work, an official proposal for core curriculum changes has been published by a faculty committee. At the earliest, aspects of this proposal would be implemented in Fall 2024; we encourage all students to read the whole proposal via the QR code below.

Students shared their opinions on the proposed changes in an anonymous Google Form, and we also asked multiple faculty members for their thoughts. In the faculty interview, Dan Sherman and Sarah Freeman explained the goal of these changes: “We want to make the core more compelling for students and easier to navigate,” Professor Sherman said. He continued, “we’re learning and hearing that people would appreciate more autonomy in how they work their way through requirements.”

The first major change to the core is in the First Year experience. In the first semester, students will take a 100-level Writing (SW) course that students will take the spring of their freshman year. Several students reacted positively to this change, citing their displeasure with the current core. One student said students “come out of SSI being told that they’re now prepared to write anything they will need for the next three years and an immediately realize that they did not indeed learn how to write an A essay, just a mediocre one.” Another student added, “the professor can’t teach you how to write a great research essay when they are an Econ professor, so show you how to do a reflection paper when they teach math.”

Faculty agreed with this sentiment; Professor Sherman said that the new core would be “trusting the departments to offer more of the writing or communication skills in general,” in reference to the plan stipulation stating “students should instead revisit communication skills in the context of their discipline as part of their major requirements.”

Continued on Page 3....

University developing new Master Plan
By Kaya Heimowitz and Sonja Black

When Puget Sound students hear someone mention the University’s “Master Plan,” the first response is usually, “what even is the master plan?” A campus master plan is a five, ten, or 20-year plan for the future of physical spaces and buildings on a campus, and the University of Puget Sound’s is no different.

The previous master plan, which ends this year, overwrote the construction of Weyerhaeuser Hall, Thomas Hall, Harned Hall, the Welcome Center, the Field House, and the extension of the Commencement Walk through the entire campus, all over only two decades.

Currently, a local architecture firm, NAC, is beginning to construct a new master plan for the University. They are collecting data from students, staff and faculty about what is working and what’s not in terms of physical campus spaces, and what would be important builds to implement in the coming years. We attended a pop-up session held in Wheelock Lobby on March 22 and interviewed several NAC architects on the status of the new master plan.

Melia Blankenship, an architect working on the master plan, recognizes the difficulties facing the University. “The University has some issues, you know, that are affecting enrollment, which has affected revenue, so we’re taking a good, hard look at the next two to five years but keeping things in mind up to twenty,” Blankenship said. The architects are looking at empty and underutilized spaces on campus and collecting data on what people want them to become. They have met with over 50 student groups, a group of faculty and student representatives, and members of the President’s cabinet. The goal is to have a draft of the new master plan to present to the Board of Trustees in October. One of the largest topics of conversation among students and faculty is the lack of accessibility on campus. Blankenship recognized the importance of accessibility, saying, “I would say that’s one of the top five themes that we’ve been hearing out of all of our focus groups.”

Blankenship also mentioned a few other priorities for the Fall semester. A student diversity center, student collaboration spaces, and student lounges beyond those inside residence halls are priorities, as well as repurposing parking lots and Warner gym. The new master plan could also look at things like Wi-Fi connection across campus.

An idea popular with the President, faculty, and staff is the concept of “a two- or three-thousand-person Event Center, a place where all of campus could gather. And then the other benefit to that is it could be rented out for conferences and that type of thing. So, it could be a potential revenue source for the University, which is something they’re interested in,” Blankenship said. The event center could also become an option for future indoor graduation ceremonies. One of the potential locations for this event center is the parking lot next to Wyatt and the Warner gym. If a current parking lot is chosen to be repurposed, the new building would most likely create underground parking.

The architects hope that by talking to as many members of the campus as possible, the master plan will reflect the needs of the entire campus community. Students, faculty and staff could expect changes to occur within the next two to five years. Scan here to see the plan:

Underpaid and overworked: Staff face uphill climb toward compensation
By Albert Chang-Yoo

The 424 full-time staff members employed at the University of Puget Sound are the lifeblood of the campus. Anytime you go to the bathroom, eat a meal, or connect to the Wi-Fi, it’s probably because of a staff member working behind the scenes. For the past decade, staff have experienced sparse increases in compensation, causing financial turbulence, stress, and high turnover rates.

Recently, the Staff Senate Compensation Committee renewed their request for a 10% increase in the salary pool (the accumulation of all staff salaries). For the past six years, staff have seen minimal salary increases, ranging from 0% to 3%. In contrast, the Consumer Price Index (an indicator of inflation) has increased anywhere from 1.5% to 4.5%. This means that as of 2023, staff compensation is about 18.27% less than economic averages. According to a Staff Senate report from December 2021, “about half of staff could qualify for some form of state assistance for food, housing, or medical insurance if they are a single earner household with children.”

Among the staff members I talked to, nobody believes a 10% increase will actually happen. Even with a 10% increase, staff will still be underpaid. According to a longtime University staff member, who wishes to remain anonymous, staff wages “are not keeping up with the cost of living. That effectively means everybody’s taking a pay cut every year that they stay here. And there’s really no hope of ever catching up to that or even, you know, getting money to try to address those issues until the university is back to financial viability. So, morale is low.”

President Crawford also recently announced two major updates regarding staff members. First, an early retirement incentive was offered to all eligible staff members. Secondly, staff members were offered the option of reducing their work hours with a corresponding reduction in pay. Both are attempts to reduce the number of full-time staff members. It’s a step that parallels the faculty incentives introduced in the fall semester — with one caveat. Staff were offered six months notice, while faculty were offered only one year.

Staff members cannot achieve tenure, unlike faculty, and are at-will employees. This means they can be fired both without warning and without a stated reason. It also means that most staff members are hesitant to speak out against the University.
In the fall of 2014, the University of Puget Sound launched a new scholarship program for Tacoma Public School (TPS) students. This initiative, called Access Programs, has offered enrichment opportunities in partnership with TPS for grades 7 to 12 since 1995. The Access Programs provide various opportunities for pre-college programming, including weekly tutoring, college-specific skill workshops, and the summer academic challenge program (SAC). Recipients of the Access Scholarship are typically students from low-income families, communities of color, or first-generation college students. Access Programs is housed in the Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity under the supervision of Assistant Director for Access Programs Doris Tinsley. However, the program’s efficacy requires the collaboration of academic advising, housing services, enrollment, financial services, and various other units across campus.

For nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“We have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.

“You have a program, if you will, a fellowship, that guarantees the full amount of the student’s expected cost of attendance, including the average cost for room and board, books, fees, and so on,” Potter explained. “We also allow them to work a variety of jobs to help support their expenses, and there are grants available as well, or they can use part of their savings to offset some of the cost.”

The University of Puget Sound, like all private schools, is more expensive to attend than a state school. So how can students justify the cost of going to an expensive private university? One way to offset the cost is through scholarships. According to a Seattle Times article for nearly ten years, Access Programs has worked alongside TPS to increase representation of students by meeting students’ full financial needs. The Access Scholarship essentially makes up for educational expenses like tuition, fees, books, room and board, and student government fees. If Access Scholars choose a premium living space or an upgraded meal plan, they become financially responsible for the difference.
Sports scores and Schedule

**Scores**

**Men’s Baseball** (15-9)
- Mar 5: Loggers 16 - 7 Linfield University
- Mar 5: Loggers 7 - 6 Linfield University
- Mar 6: Loggers 3 - 2 Linfield University
- Mar 11: Loggers 3 - 4 Pacific University
- Mar 11: Loggers 12 - 3 Pacific University
- Mar 12: Loggers 3 - 7 Pacific University
- Mar 15: Loggers 7 - 2 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 15: Loggers 3 - 16 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 18: Loggers 11 - 1 Willamette University
- Mar 18: Loggers 3 - 1 Willamette University
- Mar 19: Loggers 4 - 2 Willamette University
- Mar 25: Loggers 8 - 4 George Fox University
- Mar 26: Loggers 5 - 6 George Fox University
- Mar 26: Loggers 5 - 6 George Fox University

**Women’s Softball** (7-15)
- Mar 4: Loggers 2 - 13 Willamette University
- Mar 4: Loggers 0 - 3 Willamette University
- Mar 5: Loggers 3 - 8 Willamette University
- Mar 5: Loggers 4 - 7 Willamette University
- Mar 11: Loggers 1 - 9 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 11: Loggers 7 - 5 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 12: Loggers 7 - 5 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 12: Loggers 3 - 6 Lewis and Clark College
- Mar 18: Loggers 1 - 9 Whitworth University
- Mar 18 Loggers 7 - 4 Whitworth University
- Mar 19: Loggers 0 - 10 Whitworth University
- Mar 19: Loggers 8 - 6 Whitworth University
- Mar 26: Loggers 5 - 7 George Fox University
- Mar 26: Loggers 0 - 13 George Fox University
- Mar 27: Loggers 3 - 8 George Fox University
- Mar 27: Loggers 2 - 6 George Fox University

**Women’s Tennis** (0-8)
- Apr 4: Loggers 2 - 5 Pacific Lutheran University
- Apr 5: Loggers 1 - 8 Whitworth University
- Apr 10: Loggers 2 - 7 East Texas Baptist University
- Apr 11: Loggers 1 - 8 Willamette University
- Apr 12: Loggers 2 - 7 Pacific University

**Upcoming Games**
- Men’s Baseball
  - Apr 1 vs Pacific Lutheran University (Double Header)
  - Apr 2 vs Pacific Lutheran University
  - Apr 5 at Lewis and Clark College
  - Apr 8 vs Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges (Double Header)
  - Apr 9 at Claremont-Mudd-Scripps Colleges
  - Apr 12 at Saint Martin’s University

- Women’s Softball
  - Apr 1 at Pacific University (Double Header)
  - Apr 2 at Pacific University (Double Header)
  - Apr 8 vs Linfield University (Double Header)
  - Apr 9 vs Linfield University (Double Header)

- Women’s Lacrosse
  - Apr 7 vs Whitworth University
  - Apr 8 vs Whittman College
  - Apr 9 vs Whittman College
  - Apr 15 vs Linfield University
  - Apr 16 vs Pacific University

- Men’s Tennis
  - Apr 1 at George Fox University
  - Apr 2 at Linfield University
  - Apr 7 vs Whitworth University
  - Apr 9 at Lewis and Clark College
  - Apr 15 at Whittman College

- Women’s Tennis
  - Apr 1 at George Fox University
  - Apr 2 vs Linfield University
  - Apr 6 vs Lewis and Clark College
  - Apr 15 vs Whittman College

**Athlete of the Issue: Becca Murphy**

By Andrew Benoit

Becca Murphy Fourth from left and the rest of the Logger’s Women Crew team poses after winning the Meyer Cup. Photo provided by Becca Murphy and with permission

This issue’s Athlete of the Issue is Becca Murphy a member of the Women’s Crew team which won the Meyer Cup for the first time since 2018, beating rivals PLU by over eight seconds. Becca put down the oars and hopped off the boat to answer some questions from The Trail.

Q: This is the first time women’s crew has won the Meyer Cup since 2018. What went right this year for you all to secure the win?
A: To be honest, this year has been quite tumultuous for our team, as we have suffered two team car accidents in the first three weeks of the season and have been battling injuries and illness constantly. But, in a head to head battle with our rivals in which both of us have new head coaches this year, this squad came out on top because of a team we’ve built through trauma bonding, persistence, and honesty and love and respect we hold for each other. We’ve kept us going and kept us pushing, and I couldn’t be prouder of all of us in the program.

Q: What do you think you bring to the team?
A: When I think of our team, I’d like to say I bring a certain energy inside and outside the boat. Although I admit my competitiveness gets the better of me sometimes on race or testing days, my philosophy with any team environment is that when it is kept light and everyone knows what is expected of them, the team will naturally become better. I generally try to do this by chatting it up with everyone and cracking jokes, trying to keep the team spirits high and keeping people hyped even in the dead of night during weekday morning practices.

Q: The Loggers beat PLU by over eight seconds, but that just means that next time there is that next goal of crossing the finish line with a double-digits lead and solidifying our team’s hard work this season with bigger and bigger wins to hopefully come.

Q: How much of the race is a mental game, as opposed to a physical one?
A: Even though you are pushing yourself as physically hard as you can during the 2k, it is most definitely a mental game over a physical one. At about 1000m in, if you start to think you won’t be able to finish, you’re doing it right. It’s at this point that you have to prove yourself wrong and keep pushing through, if not for you then for your teammates and just know that it will be over soon.

Q: What is your favorite memory from Logger crew?
A: My personal favorite moment from Logger crew was winning the Varsity 4+ race at the conference championship last spring. Coming into that race as the underdog and even the commentator doubting our ability to win during the race itself, it was a photo finish and just pure joy going over that finish line first, and I’ll never forget that feeling. Fast is fun.

If you would like to nominate someone to be the next Athlete of the Issue follow The Trail on Instagram @thepugetsoundtrail or use the QR code!

Continued from Page 1...

**Core Curriculum Changes Proposal**

By Amelia Pooser & Mercer Stauch

Core subject requirements will also become easier to navigate. Instead of specific required courses from five categories (HUM, ART, SOC SCI, NAT SCI/MATH), students will be required to fulfill classes from three condensed categories: HUM/ART, SOC SCI/HIST, and NAT SCI/MATH. The academic department has now downgraded classes from their department as satisfactory in filling one of these categories; any Psychology course, for example, would fill the SOC/SCI/HIST requirement.

Another large change to the core is the removal of the requirement to take upper division courses outside of students’ chosen major. One student who disliked this idea said, “I went to a liberal arts college to experience a well-rounded, holistic system. Any at an upper division course just means that next time there is that kind of check-box thing as opposed to, what do I want to offer? What do I want to do that students also want to do? And how can we bring those together?"

This proposal is slowly making its way through many levels of administration, including ASUPS, and the responses so far seem to be positive. As of Wed., March 29, there was a student forum on the core curriculum where students were able to provide more input on the changes. At this point, there is no certainty that any or all of the changes in the proposal will make it into the official new core, but this proposal represents the efforts of the administration to address many of the criticisms the current system receives.

QR code to proposal

NEWS
The Bachelor: Online detectives at work

By Veronica Brinkley

This season of “The Bachelor” has con-
culded, and fans are looking back at major
moments and confirming their predictions.
For those fortunate enough to be unaware,
ABC’s “The Bachelor” is a reality dating
show that has been on air since 2002 (a
running total of 27 seasons). This season,
white bread Texas electronics salesman
Zach Shallcross “the bachelor,” contest-
ants sought a lifelong commitment to mar-
riage with another member of the cast.
The season was full of the usual drama,
tears, and heartbreak (the holy trinity of
Bachelor Nation). Starting with thirty
women, Zach eliminates each one based
on his impressions during group and one-
on-one dates. After 27 seasons, the show’s
process is highly predictable, assuming
you know what to look for.
In fact, veteran fans of the show can often
guess who the Bachelor will choose just
by watching the trailer. This is what’s
called Bachelor sleuthing. Sophomore
Sophomore Wolf has been watching “The
Bachelor” and its partner show “The
Bachelorette” for years and has a knack
for predicting its outcomes. They taught
me a bit about how they predict Bachelor
outcomes through preview footage.
“the number one thing that you need to
look for when you are predicting the outcome
of a season is you need to identify which
locations they will be going to and in what
order. This is the only way that you can
figure it out,” Wolf said.
Who is shown at particular locations
gives fans a huge indication of who will
make it to the latter stages of the process.
The show’s locations are easy to infer,
and it follows a common pattern; the first
four weeks are always shot at the bachelor
mansion, the fifth week is usually in the
bachelor’s hometown, and then the
remainder of the show takes place interna-
tionally. During the bachelor mansion
episode, Zach does his initial eliminations.
“So when evaluating preview footage we
know that anyone not seen past the bach-
elor mansion is not likely to be important.
“If it’s at bachelor mansion it doesn’t
really matter cause it’s only going to be up
until week 4. In the beginning, we eliminate
those low-value shots,” said Wolf. From
there, Wolf and other Bachelor fans are able
to extrapolate who will be eliminated when
events take place, setting up a timeline of the
show’s progression. Of course, the final
weeks of the show are where the sleuthing
really begins. “When we move outside the
US, that is where things become very
important,” said Wolf.
As the ABC network releases weekly
previews, “The Bachelor” sleuths pick
their favorites and make various guesses
on who will be the final pick. “So we see,
towards the end of this season at a tropical
location, and we know that in the
very end, the final two is at a tropical
location, so now I know, I will be in the final two,” Wolf said.
They have found this season in particular to be fairly predictable so far, having guessed almost every major plotline correctly.
According to Wolf, the sleuthing com-
munity takes pride in their work, celebrat-
ing each successful inference. This is the
most important sleuthing of all, figuring
out who exactly will be Zach’s final pick.
For the next few seasons, the show will
derive unsatisfying endings that have led to a
decline in viewership. Because of this, Wolf
anticipated that this season would have
a different. We will find out!

Peril and Power of College

By Julian Finholm

I learned a lot, especially from the
perspective of people who are deeply
discharged and abused due to things
they have no control over. The docu-
mentary also angered me as it showed how
the people in charge abused their power
over others, therefore adding to the many
problems in the world today. This
experience taught me to fully confront
uncomfortable subjects so I can better adapt to the
changing social situations around me. Another
tool I got from the experience was the
ability I have to be more respectful and
more aware of what to do when adapting
to these kinds of problems.
Aside from adapting to various
problems, doing my schoolwork has also
improved my ability to craft a story in my preferred
way of expressing myself. The English
essays I’ve gotten back popped many
many bubbles in my brain that my writing was
good as it was and didn’t need editing.
For example, one professor returned a paper
with a comment pointing out that this pa-

ner was unchanged from when I turned in
my previous draft. The comment made me
realize I didn’t doubt myself when writing,
missing details and misspellings when I
turned it in for submission. This is when
I realized how important editing is to the
writing process. This experience taught
me that I need to pay close attention when
writing whatever I happen to be work-
ing on. If I rush these things, I’ll never
become as good of a writer as I want to be.
I want my stories to be as polished and
concise as they can be, so editing is very
important. I want them to communicate what
I want to say, and I don’t want it to be
lost in translation because of editing
erors. Basically, I want to be the best
writer I can be, so I want to be the best
student I can be.
When I’m working on things I like
to do, my mind is alert and always eager
to put my thoughts to paper. For a class
I took at the University of Puget Sound last
year, I wrote about my hometown of Gig
Harbor and how it celebrated Halloween
connected with the wider traditions of
Halloween itself. I loved that assignment
so much because I got to connect my cre-
ativity with my education. That’s because
I wrote about what I loved in a school
setting. Not only that but sharing that part
of myself with my peers allowed me to
bring some happiness into their world
as well as mine.
So, yes. I’ve found great expression
through my schoolwork. I’ve grown
mentally stronger. I’ve improved what
I’m good at. Not to mention all the joy
I’ve found in schoolwork. It makes me
proud to be a good student as I can do my
work and be who I am at the same
time. However, I do have one chal-
lenge. I said before, taking schoolwork
seriously, as I can, did help others improve
themselves, and also learn something
about themselves not known before.
Tacoma For All and the fight for tenant rights

By Kaya Heimowitz and Sonja Black

On Saturday, March 4, 2023, approximately 60 community volunteers gathered with Tacoma for All in order to prepare for the group's canvassing efforts, aimed at getting the Landlord Fairness Code on the ballot. The proposed code consists of regulations that protect tenants from unfair rent hikes, cold weather evictions and other dangerous and unfair rental practices that landlords currently engage in.

The proposed regulations are in direct response to the current housing crisis in Pierce County. According to the Tacoma For All website, rents in Tacoma have hiked up 43% in the last few years, with renters evicted at the highest rate in the state of Washington. Approximately half of all Tacoma tenants are “rent burdened,” meaning they pay over a third of their income on rent. If passed, The Landlord Fairness Code would function as a band aid, immediately helping people struggling with housing insecurity. It would especially help more vulnerable communities, like the elderly and children.

As part of the training, people spoke about personal experiences with housing insecurity and instability. Community members were also encouraged to discuss why they believed in the Landlord Fairness Code. One of the more commonly mentioned reasons was that a person can’t fight any other battle without first having secure housing. Volunteers also mentioned that housing is a foundation for people to then go on and work to improve their communities.

Zev Cook, a Campaign Field Organizer for Tacoma for All, explains that the organization is confident in getting the signatures they need to make the code a reality. “The real challenge for us,” Cook said. “is to be an opportunity for the city to present a significant housing insecurity get some degree of immediate relief.

The Landlord Fairness Code would pass, then Tacoma For All would like to advocate for social housing. Social housing is affordable apartments built and managed by the government for people with incomes ranging from no income to middle-class income. By establishing social housing, Tacoma would follow Seattle to continue working towards housing justice.

In order to reach the goal for signatures, Tacoma For All has set up shifts for volunteers to pick up for canvassing. Each shift is two hours long and occurs at various locations around the city. Since most Tacoma For All volunteers are workers and students, most of the shifts run in the weekday evenings or during the day on weekends. Students and other adults interested in volunteering can sign up at tacoma4all.org.

Life of a Music Student

By Ari Lauer-Frey

The music building may be the one building most students never enter during their time at the University. At most, they may know something about music students’ unorthodox class schedule or might have heard a song made by one of these students. The quad. With the somewhat mysterious School of Music is a community of individuals bonded by their shared dedication to a form of education that brings with it unique challenges and opportunities.

Movies like 2014’s “Whiplash” offer a sensationalized narrative of what it’s like to practice and study music at the college level. Even at rigorous music conservatories, when these stories are closest to the truth, they often exaggerate for the sake of dramatic tension. However, these dramatizations do highlight a certain intensity that seems common even within this area of study. However, these dramatizations do highlight a certain intensity that seems common even within this music program at this small liberal arts college. Chloe Montoya(’24), a music education major, says that there is a certain mindset of perfectionism ingrained in music that music. The culture of music and classical music is just to never be satisfied with yourself and there’s always something you can do better, so people get really devoted to their studies.

It remains indiscernible how much of this drive for perfectionism is produced institutionally by possibly outdated expectations of the relationship between individuals and their musical lives, and how much it is simply the result of these students’ high-level commitment. It seems likely that the student-athlete gives an example of this: “I mean, I have to miss three track practices, because there are ten things I’m involved in right now on my schedule, and there’s probably about three or four of them that are zero credit,” they said.

The life of many music students is characterized by an all-encompassing involvement with music. Their musical education and their musical lives, and how much it is simply a form of education that brings with it unique challenges and opportunities. Yet, it is also in this dedication to musical life that a remarkably close-knit and supportive community has grown. The massive amount of time, energy, and emotion poured into music creates a bond among these students, who share their dedication to the musical components of life. For many music students, those inside the School of Music are their closest friends. “You just find yourself spending a lot of time with this almost isolated little community,” Ben Kerr, a major in the Bachelor of the Arts in Music and a student-athlete gives an example of this: “I mean, I have figured out my routine, but I have to miss three track practices a week.”

In music theory and musicology noted, “Thank God for the CORE!” Though the school of music may in many ways operate as an insular community, it is still part of a greater structure of liberal arts education. This allows music students to engage with other areas of studies and other types of people, an opportunity that students at an institution solely focused on music may not have. That ability to imaginatively and critically connect music to other ways of seeing the world, I think, makes you a better musician and makes for a richer life. And if you’re in college, it’s really special opportunity to take in a lot of different ideas,” Brown said.

It is an exaggeration to say that the life of a music student is wholly different from everyone else on campus. They share many of the same difficulties and joys of college life. But their route through college is distinct. “In the science classes and the labs, it’s like career training, and that’s what being a music major is like. But the career itself is neither, and is basically part of why it’s so crazy,” says Vahey.
Spotlight on Sustainability Services!

By Sam Gerrish

We all know our University’s ubiquitous mantra: Loggers Live Green. But what does that mean in practice? Behind the scenes a team of students works hard to make the University of Puget Sound more sustainable.

Sustainability Services is a branch of Fa- cilities Services, but what makes it unique is that it is predominantly student-run. The team currently includes a project manager, a student manager, several field leads, an outreach lead, and a sustainability event assistant, all of which are work study positions filled by students. The primary responsibility of Sustainability Services is campus recycling. From the SUB to the president’s house, they manage the collection and sorting of recycling from all campus sources except Theme Row, where recycling is collected from bins on N. Lawrence St. by the City of Tacoma.

Recycling at the University is far more than just paper and beer cans; as stated by Sustainability Services, “in addition to processing the commingled, glass, cardboard, and electronic waste recycling on campus, Sustainability Services also diverts many unconventional items from the waste stream, such as Styrofoam, packing peanuts, metal, fluorescent and CFL light bulbs, batteries, clothing, and furniture.”

Prior to COVID, the group was limited to the management of recycling on campus, but they’ve since expanded to include outreach efforts as well, thanks to the work of seniors Alden Robert and Kaylynn O’Curran, who have worked for the department since they were first-years. When they were allowed to return to work in the wake of the pandemic, the lack of official staff management at the time meant that the students of Sustainability Services had the ability to reshape their own department. “It was very helpful in many ways because it allowed us to understand what was working for us, what wasn’t, and what we felt was lacking in our previous capacities,” said Student Manager Alden Robert.

In March of 2022 Lexi Brewer was hired as Director of Sustainability for the University, but the Sustainability Services team doesn’t feel limited by her management. “We have, even now I’d say, a lot of autonomy as students,” said Project Manager Kaylynn O’Curran.

Brewer is on the same page. “It really is student-run and student-led. I kind of feel like I’m in a support role to help them achieve what they want to achieve. But it is really the students who are driving things forward. And I’d like it to stay that way,” she said.

Although the students involved with Sustainability Services are paid employees of the University, the group is in some ways beginning to make up for the loss of the University’s Eco Club, which was one of the many student organizations that became a casualty of the pandemic. While the department is not as focused on activism as the Eco Club was, the decision to expand their work to include outreach came about as a result of the students’ understanding that educating the campus community is a necessary part of promoting sustainability. “Awareness is absolute- ly essential,” said Robert.

Sustainability Services has already hosted several events over the course of this academic year, including a film screening and a “renewing meeting” in the Maker-space, where students were encouraged to bring clothing and jewelry in need of repair. The department coordinates Grizz’s Garage, the annual start-of-the-year sale of second-hand dorm items at steep discounts. They are also in the process of conducting a food waste collection trial in order to gather the data necessary to determine the feasibility of making composting a part of their responsibility. This would be a huge step in University sustainability and has been a long time in the making. “A lot of people are really excited and want for there to be composting on cam- pus, and we do, too,” said Robert.

But proposing such a significant sys- temic change comes with many practical questions. “The food waste collection initiative has really just been focused on answering all of those questions so that we can put in a composting system once and for all that everybody on campus that has a stake in food waste disposal is satisf- ised with,” added Robert.

The process certainly hasn’t been with- out resistance. “Alden has been fighting tooth and claw to implement that at our school. At every step, there are people who tell him no, and he’s like, well, I’m gonna keep trying actually,” O’Curran said.

O’Curran herself is most excited about Earth Month and the plethora of events she has planned for the campus community. These include:

- Earth Month Extrav- aganza (Saturday, April 2 from 4pm-6pm in the Rotunda)
- Make a Bird Feeder with Peter Hodum (Tuesday, April 4 from 5pm-7pm in the Rotunda)
- Tote Bag Decorating Party (Friday, April 7 from 4pm-6pm in the Makerspace)
- Speaker Mary Anne Hitt (Tuesday, April 11 from 6pm- 7:30pm in Upper Marshall Hall)
- Loggers Pitch In Event with DIRT and Carrie Woods (Sunday, April 16 from 11am- 2pm in the Thompson Forest)
- Earth Month Trivia & Giveaway (Wednesday, April 26 from 12pm-1pm in Upper Marshall Hall)

The Sustainability Services team knows that there’s a lot of work still to do. Brewer hopes students will come to her with their sustainability concerns and wants their feedback during next month’s visioning workshop for the development of the University’s Climate Action Plan. A student last semester approached Brewer about stopping the use of pesticides on campus, and through their collaborative efforts, the University has ended this practice everywhere except for athletic fields, which have different maintenance standards. They are in the process of earning a Green Grounds Certification.

“We have a lot more power as students I think than people believe, but a lot of the time — and this is something Lexi will say, too — a lot of the time it’s helpful for her to have those students there to push and kind of re-emphasize what she says,” O’Curran said.

Besides advocating, the easiest thing to do, according to the Sustainability Serv- ices team, is to be more mindful of what you’re recycling: check the little number within the recycling symbol printed on plastic, because only numbers 1 and 2 are recycled on campus. That means no Distillers cups, or plastic am- powder packs, for example. Contamination is an even bigger issue. “If you dump any food, any liquid, anything like that in the recy- cling, it is all trash,” said Field Lead Anna Laberge-Shusterman. “We have signs everywhere. If you’re confused just next time you’re going to throw something in your recycling down the hall, just look up. Chances are there’s a sign right there with pictures and enumerating exactly what you can and cannot put there,” she added.

Given the upcoming graduation of several seniors on the team, Sustainability Services is looking for new student work- ers passionate about the environment, both in the form of temporary positions related to Grizz’s Garage, and long term positions within the department. They’re open to input, and welcome students to get involved. “We’re happy to interact and we want people to ask us questions,” O’Curran said.
**Ancestral Waters 2022** chronicles Puyallup Tribe’s efforts to preserve way of life

Ten minutes from campus, sitting upon what used to be a thriving, biodiverse estuary, is the Port of Tacoma. From the North End, it’s easy to forget the port exists — at least, if you don’t head down Union away from campus, hit 30th, and see the billowing clouds rising from the smokestacks that dot the port. This sprawling industrial area is impossible to ignore for those who are closer to it. Puget Sound Energy’s liquified natural gas (LNG) facility is particularly concerning for members of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians, whose reservation borders the port. Not only does the facility source fracked gas, a practice with significant negative environmental impact, but threat of explosion also poses a significant safety risk for the area.

The tribe’s fight was the focus of the 2022 documentary “Ancestral Waters 2022,” which was screened at 6:30 pm on March 6 in Rausch Auditorium, sponsored by the Department of English and the Native Indigenous Student Alliance. The screening was followed by a discussion with the filmmakers — Darren and Benita Moore, as well as a representative from the environmental organization 350 Tacoma, Stacy Oaks.

This 2022 release is the second iteration of “Ancestral Waters.” The film includes more recent developments in the struggle by the Puyallup Tribe to fight the construction and operation of the LNG plant. This construction is occurring despite Puget Sound Energy never having obtained the permits necessary to complete the facility. The film also provides historical context for the conflict, touching on events such as the signing of the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854, which allocated tribal land to the United States in exchange for both the establishment of reservations and the recognition of traditional fishing and hunting rights for the Indigenous peoples of the Puget Sound area. The members of the Puyallup Tribe who are pushing back against the LNG plant emphasize that it impacts their ability to live according to their traditional ways — an ability that was promised to be guaranteed under the Medicine Creek Treaty.

“Ancestral Waters 2022” features the voices of the Water Protectors and activists of the Puyallup Tribe working to combat the LNG plant. The activism the Puyallup Tribe’s members conduct takes many forms, from direct action — such as the blocking of a major roadway to prevent the construction of the LNG plant — to spiritual and legislative action. Their efforts have not been entirely in vain, but the fight is far from over. Victories, such as Tacoma city council’s decision to fly the flag of the Puyallup Tribe, or to celebrate Indigenous People’s Day as opposed to Columbus Day, are certainly important to acknowledge. But these are by no means a greater solution, and in some ways, appear more like acts of appeasement. Still, the fight continues.

The Tribe’s legal appeal against Puget Sound Energy remains ongoing. Benita and Darren Moore hope that their film will raise awareness both within and outside Tacoma, and galvanize support for the movement.

Despite our proximity to the Port of Tacoma and Puyallup Reservation, this issue isn’t well-known by many members of our campus community. That’s what makes events like this one so important; they give members of our community a way out of the so-called campus bubble that they can, and should, take.

The Grand Cinema, Tacoma’s largest arthouse cinema, has four theaters inside its deceptively large building. Three of these theaters often agree to dedicate all showings of a particular screen to that movie and that movie alone, locking it up for several weeks. According to Neal, with only three or four movies playing at a time for a span of several weeks, customers quickly watch all the movies that The Grand is showing. So, The Silver Screen Society gets around this by presenting several different movies a week allowing moviegoers to have some of the world’s best cinema on the big screen. Neal compared it to a nightclub, where a different musical act plays every night. “The Silver Screen is designed to have something always available. It’s designed to be: ‘what’s happening at The Grand today?’ Oh, man... ‘Farго’ playing!” Neal said.

**Tacoma’s Grand Cinema brings conversation, culture and cinema with The Silver Screen Society**

By Benord Benoît

The Grand Cinema, Tacoma’s largest arthouse cinema, has four theaters inside its deceptively large building. Three of these theaters often agree to dedicate all showings of a particular screen to that movie and that movie alone, locking it up for several weeks. According to Neal, with only three or four movies playing at a time for a span of several weeks, customers quickly watch all the movies that The Grand is showing. So, The Silver Screen Society gets around this by presenting several different movies a week allowing moviegoers to have some of the world’s best cinema on the big screen. Neal compared it to a nightclub, where a different musical act plays every night. “The Silver Screen is designed to have something always available. It’s designed to be: ‘what’s happening at The Grand today?’ Oh, man... ‘Farго’ playing!” Neal said.

The Grand Cinema, Tacoma’s largest arthouse cinema, has four theaters inside its deceptively large building. Three of these theaters often agree to dedicate all showings of a particular screen to that movie and that movie alone, locking it up for several weeks. According to Neal, with only three or four movies playing at a time for a span of several weeks, customers quickly watch all the movies that The Grand is showing. So, The Silver Screen Society gets around this by presenting several different movies a week allowing moviegoers to have some of the world’s best cinema on the big screen. Neal compared it to a nightclub, where a different musical act plays every night. “The Silver Screen is designed to have something always available. It’s designed to be: ‘what’s happening at The Grand today?’ Oh, man... ‘Farго’ playing!” Neal said.
Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Wednesday that he would shutter all currently operating news outlets in India, and instead report on current events himself, so as to “protect the freedom of the press, and maintain the highest standards of journalistic integrity possible.” As all news outlets have since been shut down, this statement was recorded on what appeared to be a webcam and circulated via Twitter, with an addendum estimating that PM Modi would have newspapers and television broadcasts ready within the next week. In the statement, PM Modi elaborated on this decision:

“They say if you want something done right, you have to do it yourself. I was grievously saddened by the state of journalism in India before I took over; there was no freedom of the press, no unbiased, factual reporting! Journalism was inundated by noisy miscreants hellbent on blemishing the good name of my government. I had the Press Information Bureau tag fake news whenever they saw it, but those seditionists accused us of tagging articles that criticized the government! The absurdity! We’re the government, I think we’d know fake news about us when we spot it. But as if that wasn’t enough, they raised hell about us surveilling them. They’re supposed to be these watchdogs who advocate for transparency, why don’t they put their money where their mouth is and let us watch them? That’s why I’m so glad, after a trial run in Jammu and Kashmir, that I can now bring my famed neutrality and insightful political analysis to the national level. You won’t find a better source for updates on the actions and policies of the Modi administration than from Modi himself! I promise you, I will give you factual updates on my actions and policies right as they’re happening, and I will always speak truth to power, I’m very honest with myself!”

After clarifying with himself, as the sole journalist who could cover the address, that this was not a farce, PM Modi then elaborated on his qualifications for the role:

“I won three Pulitzer Prizes, five Peabody Awards, and taught Walter Cronkite everything he knew about journalism. Moreover, all three of these claims have been verified by an independent fact-checker – myself! I can attest to my own self-sufficiency. By the way, if you still doubt that I can speak truth to power, the Pulitzer Prizes were for my heroic coverage of the Modi administration’s equally heroic actions to protect the hordes of grateful farmers, who amalgam in New Delhi to express their support for our agricultural reforms, from nefarious outside influence by cutting their interests.”

Critic outside of India, previously expected to have decried this move as cementing Modi’s authoritarian grip on India, have apparently been too stupified by the sheer brazenness of the move to register any sort of protest: attempts to interview them have been met with blank stares. In light of the comatose state of journalism around the world, PM Modi has since publicly offered to take over their jobs as well.

---

Logger Chatz

I’m in need of some guidance, per se, with bald men. Something about the way their head skin folds just makes me want to stick my fingers in like a bowling ball and swing their limp bodies around. It’s not a sexual thing, I think.

Sounds like it might be a sexual thing. I bet you also have a thing for Stanley Tucci, The Rock, and generally super-peggable men. I don’t kinkshame but maybe re-focus this particular interest — pegging should give you some of the leverage you’re looking for.

My housemates wont leave me alone. all i want to do after a long day of school and work is to enjoy some hoof shaving tiktoks in my bed. But, oh no, my housemates want me to hangout with them in the livingroom. After a long week of school, a friday night is perfect for a hot shower and some pizza. ALONE.

But no, they want to go out and ‘do something.’ I just want to rest and be ALONE, but they wont let me... what do i do?

I just looked up “hoof shaving tiktoks” and I want to know if you’re like a legit horse girly or just a bit of a funny duck, lmk i’m curious. If you want to be alone, just show them these videos and tell them you want to shave their hooves.

I’m a senior, and I just realized I’ve never been outside of campus... I don’t have a car and want to explore south Tacoma. How do i meet people who want to have fun?

Try putting an ad on craigslist, keep it simple with as few details as possible, you don’t want people to think you’re a weirdo who overshares on the internet. Defintely keep the wording of looking for people ‘who want to have fun,’ ex: “Looking to explore. I want to go outside my comfort zone with people who are down for a good time.” Happy fishing!
The Happy Trail is The Trail’s sex column that seeks to inform the community on issues related to sexuality and gender by addressing these topics in an education-based way. Our mission is to make the campus a safer place by normalizing and demystifying topics like safe sex practices, sexualities, kinks and polyamory, while shedding light on topics like trans rights, sexual and domestic violence, gender inequalities and intersectionality. Happy Trail correspondents are not medical professionals; if you have a medical concern contact CHWS or a local clinic. Otherwise, direct your sexuality and gender questions to vagray@pugetsound.edu.

Readers can respond to Happy Trail articles in the form of a letter to the editor sent to trail@pugetsound.edu.

Continued from Page 7....

Tacoma’s Grand Cinema brings conversation, culture and cinema with The Silver Screen Society

By Andrew Benoit

With the Silver Screen Society entering into its second week, Neal has been proud of its reception so far. He is particularly fond of the screenings for Hitchcock’s “Vertigo.” “People from all walks of life came to ‘Vertigo’ to see what it is all about or remember what it is like to see it on the big screen. And there was so much excitement about it,” he said. It’s easy for students to engage with the wonderful opportunities that the Silver Screen Society offers. Most showings at The Grand are totally free for students or EBT card holders, as part of a program through TacomaCreates. While Neal jokes that he hopes people will buy popcorn (Neal is particularly proud of The Grand’s popcorn, claiming it to be a step above) when they see a movie for free, he is genuinely very passionate about the accessibility of The Grand for students. He urges students to take advantage of this opportunity and see some of the world’s best cinema, totally free. “I’d like nothing more than for students to come and see some of the greatest movies of all time, and some of the silliest movies of all time and some of the weirdest movies and then talk about them,” he said.

The illusive G-Spot: A guide

By Amelia Pooser

Do you think you know what the G-spot is? It remains an elusive mystery to most and it is not hard to understand why. Female pleasure remains a largely under researched area with many contradictory views regarding the G-spot. Some believe that the spot does not exist, while others believe that the area does nothing for vaginal stimulation or pleasure. The G-spot or Grafenberg spot, named after Ernst Grafenberg, was “discovered” by the German doctor in 1953. Anatomically the g-spot is, “about an inch or so inside the vaginal opening on the upper vaginal wall — closest to the bellybutton. The G-spot is sexually sensitive and swells slightly during arousal and feels raised or bumpy” according to Planned Parenthood.

One of the problems with this definition is the G-spot might be better described as an area in actuality. An area that includes the clitoris, urethra, the female prostate gland, and many other tissues that swell when stimulated. However, it is important to note that only some women are able to experience general pleasure from the area. Statistically, only 20% of women can orgasm from vaginal stimulation alone and only 10% can orgasm from G-spot stimulation. This is a very small population of people and so, although the G-spot remains an infamous “pleasure center,” it should not at all be considered the height of female pleasure. One consensus among most sex researchers and activists is that the semantics around the G-spot are creating an unhealthy, goal-orient ed view of sex. The G-spot is not a “magic button,” and while every one should explore the area, it is important to understand that some people will experience pleasure from G-spot stimulation and others will not. Believing that the G-spot is some magical immediate orgasm button is false and this can lead to disappointment, shame and anger if one or both partners if a “G-spot” or penetrative orgasm is not reached. The primary focus should instead be on pleasure, having fun and being present with your partner.

Now this does not mean that people should ignore the G-spot, it just means that people should explore and enjoy what brings them pleasure, whatever that is. For some the G-spot might be a focal point of their pleasure and for others it means absolutely nothing. No orgasm is particularly superior to another.

One way to explore if the G-spot might give you pleasure is with sex toys. Just like the G-spot, sex toys work for some and not for others, so please note that these will not work for everyone. For those who are interested, a penetrative sex toy with a curve pointing “up” is a good place to start. Good luck and have fun!

The Happy Trail brings conversation, culture and cinema with The Silver Screen Society

By Andrew Benoit

With the Silver Screen Society entering into its second week, Neal has been proud of its reception so far. He is particularly fond of the screenings for Hitchcock’s “Vertigo.” “People from all walks of life came to ‘Vertigo’ to see what it is all about or remember what it is like to see it on the big screen. And there was so much excitement about it,” he said. It’s easy for students to engage with the wonderful opportunities that the Silver Screen Society offers. Most showings at The Grand are totally free for students or EBT card holders, as part of a program through TacomaCreates. While Neal jokes that he hopes people will buy popcorn (Neal is particularly proud of The Grand’s popcorn, claiming it to be a step above) when they see a movie for free, he is genuinely very passionate about the accessibility of The Grand for students. He urges students to take advantage of this opportunity and see some of the world’s best cinema, totally free. “I’d like nothing more than for students to come and see some of the greatest movies of all time, and some of the silliest movies of all time and some of the weirdest movies and then talk about them,” he said.

The illusive G-Spot: A guide

By Amelia Pooser

Do you think you know what the G-spot is? It remains an elusive mystery to most and it is not hard to understand why. Female pleasure remains a largely under researched area with many contradictory views regarding the G-spot. Some believe that the spot does not exist, while others believe that the area does nothing for vaginal stimulation or pleasure. The G-spot or Grafenberg spot, named after Ernst Grafenberg, was “discovered” by the German doctor in 1953. Anatomically the g-spot is, “about an inch or so inside the vaginal opening on the upper vaginal wall — closest to the bellybutton. The G-spot is sexually sensitive and swells slightly during arousal and feels raised or bumpy” according to Planned Parenthood.

One of the problems with this definition is the G-spot might be better described as an area in actuality. An area that includes the clitoris, urethra, the female prostate gland, and many other tissues that swell when stimulated. However, it is important to note that only some women are able to experience general pleasure from the area. Statistically, only 20% of women can orgasm from vaginal stimulation alone and only 10% can orgasm from G-spot stimulation. This is a very small population of

Developments with male contraception

By Lucas Takiff

Why are most of the options for birth control made for people assigned female at birth? A portion of it is due to sexism within the science community, which comes as no surprise. On top of that, there are also biological variables responsible for a portion of the disparity, like the high number of sperm that can be produced every day. Thankfully, new ground is being broken here as both hormonal and non-hormonal male birth control make promising steps forward.

At the University of Washington, a new hormonal gel combination of testosterone and progesterone is being developed by researchers looking promising. When applied to the shoulders, it is found to drastically lower sperm count. Historically, the ways testosterone was modified were toxic for the heart, liver and kidney. There were also increases in the chances of developing prostate cancer. None of these previous problems are applicable to the new gel. There have been minor side effects found concerning weight gain, changes in libido, acne, and mood swings, however, these side effects are comparable to the hormonal side effects found in female birth control.

In the non-hormonal side of research, scientists have been working with retinoic acid receptors to inhibit sperm production temporarily. When researchers inhibit these receptors in mice, they are able to make them temporarily sterile for four to six weeks without provoking side effects. Leader of this study, Gunda Georg, Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota, makes sure to note that, “Because it can be difficult to predict if a compound that looks good in animal studies will also pan out in human trials, we’re currently exploring other compounds, as well.” These other compounds are going to be much easier to work with after the research they are currently conducting and will hopefully get the white whale that is oral male contraception.

With reproduction rights in a perilous place right now, it’s more important than ever we stay informed and continue working toward a more progressive society. Stay safe and smart, Loggers.

March 3 Crossword Key

Across

1. Mask
6. DisneyWorld
9. CHWS
10. Cancun
11. Dionysus
12. Condom
14. GirlsJustWantToHaveFun
17. VolunteerWork
18. Greeks
19. FortLauderdale
20. SouthPrairies

Down

2. SexOnTheBeach
3. AmericanMedicalAssociation
4. Florida
5. Fifty
7. Margaritaville
8. Patrick
12. CasinoPool
13. MTV
15. Fifty
16. HairOftheDog
Underpaid and overlooked: Staff face uphill climb toward compensation

By Albert Chang-Yoo

Low wages have mired the University’s ability to retain talent. In 2022, turnover was around 25%, as Tacoma’s increasing housing market priced out University staff. In an anonymous October 2021 feedback survey, staff members described the situation as “exhausting” and “like treading water in rough seas with no land in sight and getting a pool noodle tossed from a helicopter while they fly away.”

It’s not like the staff want to leave the University. “I don’t know one person that was happy about leaving for another job,” Nan Martin-Clapp, Staff Senate Treasurer and Student Employment Coordinator, said. “You have folks in dining and loved what they were doing,” she explained. “But the school was small – they could not not take the opportunity elsewhere to get paid a higher wage.” All the staff I interviewed expressed genuine love for the campus community.

Martin-Clapp arrived at the University 16 years ago. She said that previous staff members told her that pay raises often were consistently higher than the 2% increases that we are receiving now, but that changed after the 2008 financial crisis: “It was in ’08 when we remember our increases flattening out.” This follows a trend of colleges and universities struggling, first from the financial crisis and now from the pandemic.

Compensation is a crucial matter for staff who remain. Digital Services Librarian, Ben Tucker has worked at the University for 11 years. “Everybody who’s still working here is absolutely dedicated to this university and to our students, it’s really important. That’s why we’re here,” he stated. “However, we also need to make sure that we take care of ourselves and our families. And that means advocating for ourselves in terms of compensation, advocating for reasonable conditions in terms of our workload, and other related issues,” Tucker elaborated.

Theresa Williams-Chow is the Ad- ministrative Support Coordinator for several language studies. According to Williams-Chow, the challenge is fairly distributing pay increases amongst the staff salary pool. “So, there’s a lot more people who work here who make very little and very few people who are here who make a lot,” Williams explained. A 2% increase is distributed to the entire salary pool, not the individual staff member. The problem is, as Williams put it, “when you make $18/hour – it’s not a lot of money. 36 cents does not make you want to stay at a job versus if you’re making $200,000 a year… we would actually really like everybody who’s at the bottom of the salary scale to have more of a bump.”

The University is still facing financial challenges as a whole, reflecting a rough economy and national education numbers. Tucker acknowledges the reality. Yet, he also offered a counter: “I will continue to argue that we should be investing more in our staff and faculty – to retain and hire the best folks we can, to reward our staff who are still here, and to make the most of student experience.”

Spring Fling with Sin Fronteras

By Emma Apgar

On March 24, Sin Fronteras hosted a Spring Fling for those who missed prom, homecoming or a formal due to COVID-19 — though doors were open to any who wished to attend. With drinks, snacks and music, the Tahoma Room on campus was lively. It took a while for the crowd to grow, but within an hour, there was a crowd of almost 30.

Students enjoy a Sin Fronteras dance. (Photo Credit: Emma Apgar)
Honoring People and Salmon at Kittredge Gallery

By Ainsley Feeney

Something fishy is happening at Kittredge Gallery — in the best way possible. Through April 16, the University’s resident art gallery is presenting “Honor: People and Salmon,” a multi-medium art display featuring the Pacific Northwest’s most famous fish. This exhibit is presented by Northwest Artists Against Extinction (NWAAE) and Save Our Wild Salmon Coalition in an effort to combine art, advocacy and ecology.

When I walked into Kittredge after class one day, I wasn’t sure what to expect. I didn’t know much about salmon, and I certainly didn’t know the cultural importance they held in this part of the country. I was greeted with salmon in all different forms: paintings, drawings, sculptures and even photos. The centerpiece featured four paintings by Eileen Klatt, all illustrating extinct salmon species. Their beauty, combined with the heartbreaking context of extinction, summed up the theme of “Honor: People and Salmon” exhibit.

On the wall to the left, there are several pictures of Indigenous people who are deeply rooted in Northwest salmon culture. Lit-up salmon sculptures hang from the ceiling. A salmon suspends from the wall featuring water pipes going through it, with the poignant message, “Damn me dam me no more.” One wall features depictions of orcas as well, such as in Sue Coccia’s “Granny Orca Spirit.” If a person like me, with little to no knowledge about the Pacific Northwest’s relationship with aquatic wildlife, walked into this exhibit, they would quickly feel the reverence towards these animals as well as the danger that they face.

A placard on the wall with a message from Britt Freda, the artist and curator of “Honor: People and Salmon” and the NWAAE Creative Director, helped contextualize the exhibit. Part of it states, “I believe these advocate artists — who seek to evoke support for restoring salmon and orcas and the many communities that honor and cherish these emblematic species — believe that their art has the power to seep into the hearts of those who interact with their works.” Freda’s words rang true for me as I exited the gallery that day. Art’s ability to change hearts and minds is, in many ways, incomparable. To hear about the “Women with nets” or the “Extinct Walla Walla River Chum Salmon” is one thing; to see them is quite another. After attending the interdisciplinary panel held in Kittredge later that week, I was able to hear from the artists, activists and ecologists who made this exhibit possible. I heard Puyallup people speak about salmon in their native Twulshootseed language and learned about the importance of salmon and orcas to the Puyallup people. I heard about the connection between science and activism. And most importantly, I learned how to better honor salmon and the people who honor them.

Salmon sculptures hang in Kittredge. Photo credit: Ainsley Feeney

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sunday, April 2nd, 4-6 pm
Earth Month Extravaganza
Rotunda
Join Sustainability Services and enjoy snacks, a stasher bag giveaway, and music from KUPS

Friday, March 31 @7:30 pm, Saturday, April 1 @7:30 pm, and Sunday, April 2 @2 pm
Scenes from the Opera House to the Cabaret!
Schneebeck Concert Hall
Ticket prices are $15 general; $10 seniors/military/students with ID/Puget Sound faculty and staff; $7 Puget Sound students. Tickets are available online and will be sold at the door.

Monday, April 10 at 7 p.m.
Rita Moreno visits and delivers the Susan Resneck Pierce Lecture
Schneebeck Concert Hall
In Memoriam: Wren Gollin

The Trail holds Wren and their loved ones in their thoughts. Their passing has left our community reeling. To our peers, please take care of yourselves — be gentle with yourself and others — remember that grief looks different for everyone. If you or someone you know is struggling in any capacity, please refer to the resources below. The following notes were submitted anonymously to a Google form asking community members to share any sentiments they wished to best remember Wren.

A Celebration of Life is being held at 1 pm on Sunday April 2 in Kilworth Chapel. All are welcome.

"I didn't get to know Wren all that well, but they were in my passages group for the first week of school. From the start, you could immediately tell Wren's passion for art and creativity through their unique style. I remember asking Wren to show me their tattoos; and they were so excited to show me each one and explain their meanings. If I remember correctly, Wren designed most, if not all of them by their self. We ended up having a few classes together and I soon learned how kind-hearted Wren was. They were outgoing and had a contagious smile that I enjoyed seeing in class everyday. I truly wish I could've gotten to know Wren better and tell them how loved they were; they deserved so much."

"Wren, I miss you"

Resources

- Residence Life: 253.879.3317
- Eric Hetland, Director of Student Support, 253.879.3365 ehelland@pugetsound.edu
- Dave Wright, University Chaplain, 253.879.3818 Wheelock Student Center 6219 chaplain@pugetsound.edu
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline/Nacional de Prevención del Suicidio
  - Call/Chat resources in English & Español at suicidepreventionlifeline.org
  - English: 800.273.8255
  - Español: 888.628.9454
  - Deaf/Hand of Hearing: 800.799.4889
- Online Chat: suicidepreventionlifeline.org/chat
- The Trevor Project: Specific support for LGBTQ+ folks
  - Call, text, and chat options at www.thetrevorproject.org/get-help-now
- Crisis Text Line: text Hello to 741741
- All Addictions Anonymous (AAA)
  - Includes ALL obsessive, compulsive patterns such as drinking alcohol, using drugs, gambling, sex, self-harm or injury, food, anorexia, bulimia, sugar, smoking, codependency, etc., anyone can certainly increase this list, and all are welcome.
  - For more info or to join, contact Colleen Carette (206-351-7769 | carette@pugetsound.edu) or a student representative (818-370-9583)

PEER ALLIES SCHEDULE (SPRING 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONDAYS</th>
<th>TUESDAYS</th>
<th>WEDNESDAYS</th>
<th>THURSDAYS</th>
<th>FRIDAYS</th>
<th>SUNDAYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Amelina (she/her)</td>
<td>11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Evie (she/her) - available 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on 3/1</td>
<td>9-11 a.m. Maria (she/her) - starting 3/22; not available 3/29 or 4/26</td>
<td>10 to 11 a.m. Evie (she/her) - not available 4/13, 4/20, 4/27, 5/4</td>
<td>10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Maria (she/her)</td>
<td>5 to 6 p.m. Evie (she/her) - not available 4/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 to 2 p.m. Maria (she/her)</td>
<td>11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Amelia (she/her) - until 4/6</td>
<td>3:30 to 5 p.m. Evie (she/her)</td>
<td>11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Amelia (she/her)</td>
<td>1 to 3 p.m. Maria (she/her)</td>
<td>5 to 6 p.m. Evie (she/her) - not available 4/30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Even though our differences felt monumental at the time, I would give anything to realize how small those differences ended up being. You were and will forever always be such a bright and vibrant character. You were always there when I needed someone and you gave the best hugs. You had some of the best motivational advice I had ever heard (especially when I needed it the most) and I will forever cherish and deeply miss the times we would color our hair together listen to throwback K-pop music and just enjoy each others company. You meant the world to me and I would do anything to get you back. I hope you rest easy wherever you may be."

"I had biology and chemistry with Wren and they brought so much energy into everything they did! They were incredibly charismatic and excited to learn about anything and everything. They often chided in about their favorite topics and would be giddy to talk about it with the professors. They were kind to everyone and were always there to tell a funny story or crack a joke. Whenever labs were tough, they could sense the low energy and empathize with the class by being lighthearted during an often overly serious time. Wren will always be someone I look up to for their enthusiasm to learn and the energy they put into everything they did."

"They were my first and closest friend here at school, we spent so many days together they've become a sort of blur. I miss them everyday and every time I open my door I hope to see them there. I just want people to know it's okay to struggle it's okay to not be okay and it's okay to ask for help. You are loved."