By Ashley Malin

On Tuesday, April 5, Security Services conducted two forums from 4:00pm to 6:00pm in the Rainier Rotunda in Wheelock. The forum discussed Security Services’ presence and work in the campus community, including the recent enhancements they have made to their system. Security Services addressed student concerns about campus safety priorities and reviewed with students their safety measure responsibilities.

“I’ve been working on this project all semester,” Head of Security Services, Todd Badham said. “And we had these forums already scheduled. Ironically this incident happened and I met with the students that were affected in the area that day. At the meeting, some students said ‘will you be doing this for the broader community?’ And I thought that was a great idea. Certainly the subject matter [in the forums] was related, so it worked well together, I felt.”

Security Services updated students at the forum on recent changes to their system, which include increasing full-time staffing patrol and dispatch, and adding Keypad locks and spray for all Security staff. Electronic locks and cameras have been installed, which can cut through a door, and the dispatcher said, “The better we respond, the more lives we save,” Badham stated at the forum.

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Security Services holds open forum on safety

By Casey O’Brien

Each Spring, the ASUPS budget committee makes decisions about budgets for student clubs and organizations for the upcoming year. This year, the budgeting changed significantly, with many clubs receiving less money.

For this, explained President Noah Lumbantobing and current Vice President Peyton Anstine, twofold.

Firstly, ASUPS is being restructured to encourage clubs to utilize finance allocations, as opposed to relying solely on the budget granted to them at the start of the year.

“Historically, clubs understand and come to budget thinking that they need to get as much money as they can because they’re not going to get any money in the next year, and they want to be as safe as possible,” said Lumbantobing.

Clubs typically request the amount they perceive needing for all costs throughout the year, according to Anstine and Lumbantobing.

However, if the entirety of a club’s budget isn’t spent by the end of the fiscal year, it is transferred into ASUPS’ capital fund, which is only accessible for a limited range of things. Capital is designed for “big-ticket” one-time purchases, like microwave ovens. These purchases become the property of ASUPS to ensure continuity of items if a club were to taper out. Finances is designed to cover variable costs, such as the cost of attending a conference. Money not granted to clubs during original budgeting can later be accessed by any club through a finance request or a capital request, which Lumbantobing and Anstine see as more effective.

“It’s really about being more efficient with our money and getting the most bang for our buck, because if money is in finance and everyone can access that, as opposed to being squirreled away in a club that doesn’t end up using it, then it just rolls into capital and you can’t use it for operating costs,” Lumbantobing said.

“This gives more opportunity to have more access to funds,” Anstine said.

The second reason club budgets have changed is because ASUPS has chosen to fund scholarships this year. ASUPS provided $10,000 to both the Black Student Union and Latinos Unidos scholarships.

“We wanted to stand in solidarity with clubs and organizations and people on campus that are hurtful—there are people on our campus who are hurting, who are being hurt by our campus essentially, and people who cannot be on campus who are hurting—so this is a small way of saying we see that you are hurting and we stand in solidarity with you and we are willing to feel the hurt, and willing to feel it across our entire student body in order to make sure that the Board of Trustees and the administration feel that hurt as well. What I want to convey to the Board is that sense of collective solidarity and collective hurt for people who have been hurt by the University, essentially,” Lumbantobing said.

Clubs can appeal for more money in their budgets. Each appeal is ten minutes long. “Potentially it could be lengthened. We definitely had some difficulty this year in terms of the fact that we had some turnover in our administration, so we got a new Director of Business Services, so that pushed back the timeline for budget…so in the future I would hope for more time for appeals, however what we really need to get out of appeals is having a conversation about a breakdown of costs, and I think that some of the confusion is that people didn’t know why we were making these cuts. So I think communication and training on how to understand your budget needs to happen before the appeals process,” said Anstine. Clubs can also appeal for more money in their budgets. “We want everyone to feel heard, but we just have to get through a certain amount of appeals. And all of the budget committee are students, and we are already spending four hours in a room together.”

Continued on pg. 2

By Tyler Randazzo

Vivie Nguyen began her work as the new Director of Intercultural Engagement at the CICE on Wednesday, April 6th. We sat down with her to talk more about her approach to the job and the work ahead.

Tyler Randazzo: Can you explain your past experience working in University Diversity?

Vivie Nguyen: I went to school for counseling psychology, and did my grad program at UC Santa Barbara. During my time there I worked for the gender and sexual equity center as an intern and I had also TAed in the feminist studies department. Both [were] experiences that I enjoyed immensely. At the time I was training to be a therapist, but I recognized that I could put my skills—and also kind of my woman power, into serving communities of people—a lot of the people I saw in therapy, I think, were there because they couldn’t find community…and so I really looked into my academic experience and also these various jobs, to capitalize on that, and began to serve institutions at the community wide level rather than the individual therapy level. So, I left my PHD program—that I had my masters—[and] I left to do this work on college campuses. So that’s what brought me to DePauw University, where I administered the campus climate survey for the past three years that I was there. Before then, they didn’t really administer it in a way [like] we do here—every year, and really looking at the data, so I did that for the years that I was there. I recently just left, but I had implemented with a colleague of mine trans inclusive first year housing, [and] was working on changing bathroom facilities, as we have just done here. So, very similar to what I imagine I would be doing here, which is working on inclusion initiatives, working on trainings, [and] working on supporting historically underrepresented communities.

V: Was there anything in particular that made you want to work at Universities?

V: It was training, as a therapist, to work at Universities…this population and this sort of environment was [an environment] I always saw myself in and I just knew that to be able to do that on a college campus I had to get a PhD—it so was really a means to an end for me. Along the way, I discovered I could utilize a lot of those same skills and a lot of those same theories in a different way on a college campus. What I like about college campuses, and particularly this age group, is that I think people are given the space and the resources and the friends and the colleagues to fully experience who they are and be able to navigate the world with that knowledge, and college for so many of us is such a transformative time. [And] also, you know, how to respond to the things that we don’t like about ourselves, and how to come to terms with that. I feel that a lot of that has to do with how we feel validated.
Security Services holds open forum

"Being told what their gear is and that there's cameras up and more going up, that's something," first year Sean Wong-Westbrooke said. "I suppose that even if there's one percent chance [of gun violence] happening, people should be aware because people are very relaxed about it. We just showed the Shots Fired on Campus video and people were really shocked at how casual it was." At the forum, Security Services stressed students' roles serving as the eyes and ears for reporting incidents. "Any suspicious activity, knowing response procedures, and using personal crime prevention practices. "The better we respond, the more lives we save," Badham said at the forum.

As part of the Student Risk Management for the University started in fall 2015 Todd Badham, Head of Security Services, and John Hickey, Executive Director of Community Engagement & Associate Vice President for Business Services, have met with a variety of campus groups to address campus safety. Three groups consist of the Sexual and Gender Violence Committee, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, ASUPS Senate, IPCC, Panhellenic, Student Diversity Center Governing Council and Residence Life Staff.

The whole purpose of these meetings, which culminated in these forums is that we're looking at what we're tasked to do here on campus, what our mission is," Badham said. "And A: making sure that we're actually doing that; B: how are we doing it, should we be doing more, and then C: equally as important, are we providing the appropriate safety measures and equipment for our staff whom we're asking to provide this service, to do this frontline work out in the community.

The goal meeting with Staff Senate, faculty, and ASUPS Senate reflects a need to educate and engage the community in campus safety. "When you meet with different groups, you can capture a different perspective," John Hickey said. "Campus safety is a community responsibility.

Since the incident of the attempted armed robbery on Sunday, March 27, several parent groups have notified Security Services with concerns that Security officers should be armed. "In one in response to this incident, but were reflecting on the school year, in other words, they are aware that we've had three incidents on campus involving weapons, two of which, resulted in shots being fired," Badham said. "In those conversations, parents asked me if we considered arming our staff. I can't in good conscience say that we have a good department because we do, let them know that I'm very much aware of the seriousness and the concern of the frequency and that we're in fact taking a look at this.

At the forum, Security Services explained that violent acts have involved people outside the campus community rather than students. Despite several universities having already fully armed their staff, Badham said "I'm not inclined to think that this is the right step for us at this point.

Tasers and pepper spray are some of the tools whose use in the protecting campus community is currently being debated. A student attending the forum raised a question about whether pepper spray and tazers qualified as non-lethal defense.

As a result of student feedback, potentially installing text messaging Security Alerts is in the works. "As a result of student feedback, potentially installing text messaging Security Alerts is in the works. "As a result of student feedback, potentially installing text messaging Security Alerts is in the works. "As a result of student feedback, potentially installing text messaging Security Alerts is in the works. "As a result of student feedback, potentially installing text messaging Security Alerts is in the works.

Karen Morgan, vice president for student affairs and great respect for. And Mike Segawa, on the Student Affairs side of things, he's been really known in small circles, particularly in the Asian American community. A lot of the other campuses I work with, have spoken highly of him in terms of mentorship and guidance. And Michael Benitez just does phenomenal work, I'm really excited about that. Skyler [Bilh] and Dave [Wright] do such great, such great work. But I think that, being without someone in this position for a year had made them stray from constantly attending to the things that make their work very specific versus mine. So, I'm excited for them to be able to go back to that and for me to come into this position. There'a numbers of things that I've already changed in the student job descriptions that I think will be helpful. I'm excited to work with the Greek community here… I met with them, and they were sure receptive and wanting to start things already, and holding themselves accountable but also believing in what they're doing. I also want students to know that I'm here to serve all students. It's not just about the Greek community or the Greek community representing [or minorities], but everyone's race, everyone has a community, and that effects how we all navigate and interact with each other. The CICE and the yellow house is for all students, and we are going to move students from where they are, but we also envision them to think about who they want to become – not 10 years down the road, but people in the world, and enabling the spaces and the dialogues in order for that to happen.

Trail Interviews Vivien Nguyen

Continued from pg. 1

by our environment and by our loved ones, so that drove me to work kind of on the other end of the spectrum. I think that's exciting.

T: What in particular attracted you to the University of Puget Sound?

V: A variety of things. I am from California, so a lot of my friends are going to the West Coast of the Pacific Northwest. But I think that, for me personally, something that I saw in this campus that I hadn't seen on a lot of the campuses that I've worked or that I interviewed with, is that in other cases I think that a lot of schools are very reactive in how they respond to diversity and inclusion work and efforts, and here, I saw people who cared about these efforts outside of the people who work in the diversity office. And then it becomes, how do we turn that care into action steps…How do we create plans off of that, trainings, education?

T: Are there particular things that working at the CICE that you're looking forward to being a part of?

V: I'm really excited that the SDC is going to move. I think we've outgrown the current space. I think that's exciting.

T: Where is it moving to, the SDC?

V: There's these two houses, across the street, the blue one and the yellow one. And so there's moving there. Which is fantastic.

T: Yeah, I hadn't heard that. That's great.

V: I'm really excited about that. Skyler [Bilh] and Dave [Wright] do such great, such great work. But I think that, being without someone in this position for a year had made them stray from constantly attending to the things that make their work very specific versus mine. So, I'm excited for them to be able to go back to that and for me to come into this position. There'a numbers of things that I've already changed in the student job descriptions that I think will be helpful. I'm excited to work with the Greek community here… I met with them, and they were sure receptive and wanting to start things already, and holding themselves accountable but also believing in what they're doing, which I also believe in.

T: What are you most excited about in your new position?

V: I think that I'll be working alongside great people, who already understand... the work. In particular, Michael Benitez is somebody who I have great admiration and great respect for. And Mike Segawa, on the Student Affairs side of things, he's been really known in small circles, particularly in the Asian American community. A lot of the other campuses I work with, have spoken highly of him in terms of mentorship and guidance. And Michael Benitez just does phenomenal work, and they know how to do it... I think I'm going to be a real great relationship that I'm excited for.

T: Do you have a favorite experience so far?

V: Hmm. I think that the two weeks I've been here have been student admit days, so being able to meet and interact with perspective students, but also seeing how honest our students are about our experience, and also learning more about how much they've grown through their experiences where have been really telling and really fulfilling experience to hear them out and see how this office has been a part of their respective growth and development. And I think students who come here has been really cool.

T: Cool. Okay, my last question would be, is there anything you want current students to know about your position and what you do with your position at the school?

V: Mmm hmmm. I plan to capitalize on the moment that's already occurred at the school. I think that we are doing a really good job compared to other campuses, but I feel like every school can be better and I hope that we find ourselves in the moment that really pioneer this type of work. I also want students to know that I'm here to serve all students. It's not just about the Greek community or the Greek community represented [or minorities], but every body's race, everybody has a culture, and that effects how we all navigate and interact with each other. The CICE and the yellow house is for all students, and we are going to move students from where they are, but we also envision them to think about who they want to become – not 10 years down the road, but people in the world, and enabling the spaces and the dialogues in order for that to happen.
**Letter to the Editor**

**SENT ON APRIL 14**

**Dear campus community,**

The ASUPS budget season is upon us and in full swing. While frustrating for many of us, as I know it has been at times for some of you, it is the first step Vice President Lydia Bauer and I have taken on the marathon that will be our administration. I wanted to take a moment to clarify our guiding principles to help demystify ASUPS and the budget process, and to let you in on some of our plans for the coming year.

First and foremost, Lydia and I are driven by the principle of equity, and counseled the budget committee as such. While we are not voting members of the committee, the committee was gracious enough to allow us a seat and a voice at the table and took that principle to heart. Part of pursuing equity is understanding the position that ASUPS finds itself occupying in the broad arch of history, and the unique institutional place that ASUPS sits at: We enjoy an institutional mandate, and institutional backing, which make us a uniquely powerful student voice at the University. When President Jones’ administration funded CHWS in the fall of 2015, the university heard ASUPS and increased funding for CHWS in the fiscal year of 2016-2017. The increase was a far cry from what CHWS requested, but it was a step in the right direction. Our actions ripple out, and the University listens to what ASUPS has to say. It is my hope that in the funding priorities Lydia and I have set, a loud and clear message is sent to the University. That the student body knows what our community desperately needs, and that we’re ready to put our money where our mouth is and lead the way for the University to follow.

Let us be perfectly clear: students in our community are hurting. The students who are not able to be in community with us are hurting. That is not acceptable to us. It is incumbent on the rest of us to stand in solidarity and rush to our peers’ aid. We must be willing to hurt along side our friends and classmates, and tell the university that they must fall in step with us.

The University has made it clear to us that our pain is not their priority. A multiple week wait time in CHWS, stretching to 6-weeks at times, does not indicate a priority. A near unchanging number of Black identifying students, attending our university since 1980, hovering around 2-3 percent, does not indicate a priority. Students of color who feel alienated by our campus do not indicate priority. Trans and queer students consistently feeling unsafe with our faculty and peers do not indicate a priority.

What is also clear to us; however, is that our pain is a priority to us students. A student body that has been pushing the University for change indicates priority. Queer and trans students fighting tooth and nail for gender-neutral bathrooms indicate priority. Hundreds of students walking out of classes to stand in solidarity indicate priority.

The pursuit of an equitable campus ultimately guided the Budget Committee in their funding priorities. We recognize that in pursuing these ambitious goals, and in pursuing a strong message to Jones Hall, we had to hurt. The ASUPS administration trimmed our budget, and clubs will no doubt feel some of that hurt. But it is my hope that the mild discomfort we feel in these respects will help to alleviate the decades of excruciating pain marginalized students have felt on our campus grounds, and help move us towards a future where all of our students are able to be safe, supported, and thrive in our class rooms.

We also sought a more efficient budget. With tens of thousands of dollars rolling over into our capital account each year from unused club budgets, making them essentially untouchable except for purchases of reusable property, we decided we could more effectively allocate that money where clubs could access them through out the year for other costs. We allocated funding to fixed operating costs in club budgets, with the hope that clubs would place finance requests for variable costs like airfare and lodging when needed in the 2016-2017 fiscal year. This means that funding for variable costs, which often don’t get fully used and roll into capital at the end of the year, remain accessible to clubs who need it during the year. In line with that, the Budget Committee’s recommendation includes a near doubling of the ASUPS Finance Account to some $30,000, an account accessible to all clubs throughout the year, so that clubs have access to more money for variable costs. Coupled with nearly $200,000 in our capital account, ASUPS continues to provide robust resources through out the year for club funding.

The Budget Committee’s recommendation is the most efficient and effective budget I believe ASUPS has produced in many years, and will allow us to sustain clubs and the ASUPS team while also supporting those in our community who have been under supported and unsupported for decades. It is the budget of a University student government that stands at the cusp of change, along with our University as a whole. I hope you will continue to join us, as you have in this past year, in pursuing equity and justice on our campus and in standing alongside our peers who need our support now more than ever.

In solidarity and hope,

Noah Lumbantobing  
ASUPS President  

Lydia Bauer  
ASUPS Vice President

April 22, 2016  
trailops@pugetsound.edu

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Noah Lumbantobing  
ASUPS President  

Lydia Bauer  
ASUPS Vice President

April 22, 2016  
trailops@pugetsound.edu
ASUPS election draws high voter turnout

By Nic Smit

Spring elections for the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) went better than any in recent history, with over forty percent of the student body casting their votes in the polls. Smart, dedicated decision-making for this year's elections helped make it a success.

"This year there was a lot more outreach, which was helpful in making us visible, and having laptops for people who maybe weren't connected to a computer," senior Nakisha Renée Jones, President of ASUPS said. "We had a booth in the S.U.B. and by Oppenheimer cafe. People tabled for hours on end and served ice cream and coffee to get people to vote, because it's important."

Food wasn't the only enticement, free water bottles and t-shirts were also in the mix. Election day narrowed down from a week-long event to a single day, which allowed resources to be better concentrated, and probably added a more spirited election atmosphere.

These voting incentives were new, and Jones attributes much of the success and ingenuity to the Elections Committee, chaired by the impassioned senior Jacob Roeder.

"I think that Senator Jacob Roeder put so much work into it," Jones said. "He poured his heart out into this election season and that helped get everyone on board and be a collective body doing it. That was something that made a big difference, at least from my perspective.

The Elections Committee did everything right this year, from developing strong new election plans all the way down to their well-focused election rhetoric.

Even people critical of the Elections Committee in the past were hugely impressed with their accomplishments this semester.

"This elections committee did the absolute best job it could do with the resources at hand, which was almost nothing," junior Kyle Song, Senator at large, said. "What happened in our ASUPS elections this spring was a success, it was not a big paradigm-shifting, resounding success, but still."

Chong emphasized an important point: a forty percent increase and a third of the senate seats up in class while others are very much opposed to it.

"I think a lot of apathy and disenagement with ASUPS comes from a reductio," Chong said. "ASUPS has proven, right? What most people see is an ASUPS whose candidates go to clubs only when they need the votes, and clubs coming to ASUPS only when they need to be seen as a bank account."

Chong also said that fall elections, where no executive seats are up but half the senate is, generally see a quarter of the voter turnout of spring elections. It seems reasonable to expect that most students don't understand what the Senate does or can do and thus lack any desire to vote. However, it's even worse than that, people hardly even run for the Senate anymore.

"Elections are not competitive. Some of the senators that were elected about a year ago were elected on fifteen votes, because they were written in. A vast majority of positions remain uncontested in elections. I can only think of one that's competitive each year of the twelve we've been observing the freshmen."

"You know what that say? There's high enthusiasm each year from freshmen, and we are sapping that. The government is losing out on an ability to foster a culture of competitive democracy."

The senate is currently suffering more severely from student disinterest than the campus at large, like many other more immediate problems.

"I mean seriously, if one were to speak out against the PTSD of soldiers who fought in the war. And hated for not paying respects or honoring those who chose to fight in the war."

At the root there's a lack of care because there's a lack of understanding. If people knew ASUPS can accomplish important things, the need to use ice cream would go down because they'd cast their votes eagerly with the issue.

So, to progress in solving this problem, Jones explained the significance of the student government.

"ASUPS is an autonomous organization that is housed within the University of Puget Sound in a particular way. More importantly, ASUPS has a lot of power and leverage to the students who are interested in the leadership positions. So it would be very helpful if there was a broader reach into the student body for more involvement because then you're able to make decisions on how our school operates, in ways that you don't always have access to outside of ASUPS through committees, through positions. I've witnessed the ICEP can do anything, within but, it just needs the right people in order to make that happen," Jones said.

The Expressions Fund, created by ASUPS this year, is a concrete example of this decision-making opportunity put to use. It's similar to the Green Fee, as it's a fund to distribute to students who submit top project ideas. Instead of a funding campaign, students should be encouraged to submit ideas to the Expressions Fund. The Expressions Fund will be used for campus projects centering around diversity, inclusion and identity. Students can apply at any time.

ASUPS recognized that these sorts of projects lack any source of funding, and went to working remedying the situation. It goes to show that ASUPS can do meaningful work and produce meaningful change on campus.

In this turn means students should get more interested in standing government and cast their vote, or even run, to represent the student voice. ASUPS is only as good as its leaders, after all.

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**“Bury your gays”**

By Sophia Lugo

### SPOILERS FOR THE 100 AHEAD

The erasure of sexuality is very clear in a lot of popular media, yet on the rare occasion there exists the portrayal of marginalized sexualities and the stories given to them can also become extremely problematic. “Bury your gays” has become a popular term to describe the way in which a lot of the popular culture prefers to kill, write off, or otherwise erase their LGBT+ characters rather than provide strong storylines for them. Taking examples spanning many years, it’s very popular to portray these characters in ways that aren’t supportive or particularly positive.

It’s common to want your favorite characters to have a perfect and happy ending in their life. Obviously, that hope is not very realistic but a lot of shows do provide this fantasy for a lot of their main characters. Though they certainly face obstacles, the characters go through life experiencing things viewers might only dream of. It is uncommon; however, for writers to provide that same fantasy for a lot of minority characters in the same world. TV and movies for some people are a way to invest in a different reality; one that doesn’t include a lot of the hardships the real world does. Yet it seems as though minority characters can’t have this same escape in popular culture the way others do.

Tragic break-ups, disappointment and even death seem to be the only story lines available to these characters. Going through the list of LGBT+ characters portrayed in television or movies, it seems as though the common motif is tragedy. *The 100*, a fairly recent show, became a fan favorite on the CW Network after premiering in 2014. At the end of the second season, the main character Clarke enters a relationship with another female character, Lexa. Many were very excited about seeing the portrayal of a same sex relationship, especially between two extremely powerful and badass characters. Lexa’s leadership and power created a female character that many felt finally portrayed women in a very positive and new way, but halfway through season three, she was killed off. To a lot of fans, the decision to kill Lexa was unnecessary and rushed. Having such a strong and important character leave the show, especially in end, the relationship between Clarke and Lexa, erased the positive portrayal of LGBT+ couples on the show.

With the killing of a majority of LGBT+ characters in popular media, often times for the sake of “advancing” heterosexual characters’ storylines, it continues to be difficult to find the representation and portrayal of LGBT+ people. In the same month that *The 100* killed Lexa, four other popular TV shows also killed some of their only lesbian or bisexual characters. The list of popular TV shows participating in the same “bury your gays” trope is unfortunately very large.

Shows with such a huge fan base (*The Walking Dead*, *Jane the Virgin*, *The Magicians*, etc.) continue to limit their storylines and characters, enforcing a very heteronormative storyline and continuing to push for problematic environments in which queer characters cannot exist.

By Natalie Scoggins

**The value of kegel exercises**

Kegel exercises are reported to have many positive effects on the body, but it is important to understand what they are and how they function before discussing the benefits.

Kegel exercises, or kegels (pronounced KAY-gul after gynecologist Arnold Kegel, though KEY-gul is colloquial and generally considered correct), consist of contracting and releasing the pelvic floor or pubococcygeus muscles. They are primarily useful for preparing the body for and recovering from childbirth, but can be useful for anyone regardless of genitalia for a variety of reasons, including preventing/correcting incontinence.

The pelvic floor muscles can be located by stopping the flow of urine. Exercises are done by holding the muscle for five seconds and then releasing for five seconds, and repeating. They should not be done while urinating except to initially locate them, because this can cause UTIs and bladder damage (National Health Service). Kegels are often recommended to pregnant women because exercising the pelvic floor muscles helps with the birth process itself; fitness trainer Katy Bowman warns against kegels alone in childbirth preparation, stating that squats and other glute exercises should be done in order to balance out the inward pull of kegels, since the “push” is more important when giving birth. Kegels are recommended after childbirth as well to treat or prevent vaginal/uterine prolapse and to tighten the vaginal muscles.

Kegel exercises can help individuals with vaginas to attain orgasm through penetration easier and more frequently through increased blood flow and nerve quality, writes Dr. Kegel. Gaining control over the pelvic floor muscles also allows for pomegranate, or the contraction of the vagina around a penis or other inserted object for both partners’ pleasure. For a person with a penis, kegels can help correct erectile dysfunction as well as premature ejaculation. Vaginal kegels can be done without any extra implements, but also with kegel balls (not to be confused with Ben Wa balls, which are meant for sexual stimulation), vaginal weights, or “vaginal exercisers” with springs that can measure the pressure being applied. With enough practice, an individual can hold objects of varying sizes and weights in the vagina. The Guinness World Record for vaginal weight lifting is held by health instructor Tatjana Kozhevnikova, who is able to deadlift a 14 kilogram (30.86 pound) kettlebell using her pelvic floor muscles. Videos of vaginal weightlifting are available on Youtube.

**Term of the Week**

**WLW**

noun/acronym

Woman-loving-woman. Used to refer to any woman who is attracted to women, regardless of whether they are lesbian, bisexual, pansexual, or so on.

Having this term allows for discussion on the intersectionality of sexuality and misogyny without overgeneralization/potentially offensive terminology (such as saying “queer women”) or erasure (such as just referring to lesbians or lesbians). WLW is a term coined by and for Black women. A more generic term that can be used by all people is “sapphic women.”
We Wanna Dance with Somebody!

RDG spring performance showcases student talent

By Emma Brice

“We Wanna Dance with Somebody,” Repertory Dance Group’s (RDG) spring show, was a great success. The show sold out on its opening night, April 15, and received positive reviews from everyone in attendance – both in the audience and on the stage.

The show’s theme this semester was a play on the song, “I Wanna Dance with Somebody,” by Whitney Houston.

“This theme/song choice has been floating around for a couple of years as it has become almost tradition to use the song during warm-ups/stretching at All RDG and Tech Week, so it made sense to use it for the finale and theme of the show,” Cheyenne Dewey, a senior at Puget Sound who has participated in RDG every semester of her college career, said.

Each student who asked about RDG had purely positive comments and encourages everyone at any dance level to consider joining the club.

“My favorite part of RDG is how supportive everyone is of one another. It’s such an inclusive club, not only in terms of style, but also in level. We have such a variety of members who come from all different dance backgrounds,” RDG President Molly Browning said.

“I love that RDG is about the fun and beauty of dance, organized and produced for the dancers by the dancers, and the audience gets to witness that magic,” Dewey said. “There is such camaraderie, excitement and new friendships blooming amid the stress of putting on an awesome production for the audience.”

RDG is only one among many of Puget Sound’s wide array of clubs available to students. It gives students of all dance levels and backgrounds the opportunity to try different styles of dance. All dances are choreographed by students, for students.

“Beginning dances are my favorite to watch because I love to see how much fun the dancers are having. Their smiles tell it all,” Browning said.

For anyone looking to join more activities in the fall, RDG should be on the list. Dancer placement is held at the beginning of each semester and is completely stress-free; anyone who shows up is automatically a member of the club.

“My favorite part of RDG is being able to try different styles of dance and it has been a great way to express myself. The community aspect of RDG is also fantastic – everyone is so supportive of each other,” Maddie Luther, a junior student at Puget Sound said.

Luther has been a member of RDG for three years and highly recommends the club.

“Anyone and everyone should join RDG because it allows you to explore different styles of dance in all different levels. It’s also really fun and a great way to meet new people,” Luther said.
Art show to highlight senior student talent

By Eada Gendelman

With the academic year nearing its end, many students are celebrating the completion of their senior theses. While most students had long, typewritten theses, these seniors did something a little different. Whether it be painting, sculpture or printmaking, the art majors graduated spent the last semester creating their own visual arts projects, and Kittredge Gallery will be featuring them from April 25 to May 14.

“This is a rewarding time for the studio art seniors and a time to celebrate,” Senior Studio Seminar professor Janet Marcavage said. “The senior exhibition is a culmination of students’ hard work over the past few years where they have explored ideas, learned techniques, developed their studio practice, and honed their individual voice and approach with materials.”

Each senior chose his/her own topic and a unique angle to portray his/her ideas and creative thoughts. Some of the theses showcased include reflective oil paintings, screen-printed armor, and hair sculptures.

“The Senior Art show is a great (and one of the few) opportunities for the community to see student artwork in a formal gallery setting,” studio art senior Carly Brock said.

These seniors have devoted an entire semester to this work, so it’s going to be a really strong show.”

As one of the art department’s biggest events of the year, students and staff worked together to organize an opening reception. All students and faculty are invited to experience the exhibit and enjoy refreshments on April 27 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

“Students will get to experience a wide range of visually exciting and challenging artwork by peers,” Marcavage said. “I hope students will be visually and intellectually engaged, seeing what is possible when there is deep engagement with material and concepts.”

Relieved to be done with their creative theses, seniors like Brock are excited to share their passion and dedication with the rest of the student body.

“There is a lot of hard work and passion that goes into the art department and this show is a great way to showcase that,” Brock said. “I’m looking forward to adding this series to my portfolio and moving onto other art opportunities that my time here has prepared me for.”

PHOTOS BY MAKAYLAA CLANCY

OPENING RECEPTION
April 27
Kittredge Gallery
5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SENIOR ART SHOW
April 25 - May 14
Kittredge Gallery
M-F 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sat. 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Featuring work by:
Maddie Peckenaugh
Leanne Gan
Matt Hufford
Dina Mustakim
Maia Raeder
Grace Best-Deversaux
Gabriela Yoque
Carly Brock
Rachel Kalman
Logger athletics hires Joseph Vari as new women’s head soccer coach

By Lukie Crowley

Women’s Soccer Begins New Chapter with Joseph Vari at the Helm

On Mar. 30, the University announced the hiring of Joseph Vari as the new women’s soccer coach, replacing Randy Hanson after Hanson retired with 20 years of strong coaching and 13 conference championships with Puget Sound.

Vari comes from Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee where he coached for seven years and put together a strong record of 75-43-14 (.621) over his time with the Lynx. Vari led them to Southern Athletic Association (SAA) finalists for 2012, 2014 and 2015. They shared the regular-season SAA title in 2012.

Vari is also distinguished for producing great academic success from his student-athletes, having five National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-Rhodes student-athletes at his time with The Lynx. He also had four NSCAA All-Region Scholar-student-athletes and brought them to be an All-Academic Team from the NSCAA for 2009 to 2014.

Vari explained why he was attracted to the University.

“In many ways Rhodes is very similar to Puget Sound so he will have a good head start in understanding our academic and athletic culture. He also possesses a strong administrative background which is also attractive as we welcome fresh eyes in looking at our entire department’s operations,” Hackett said.

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As you can see, Vari has great experience with coaching and making an impact with the players. Athletic Director Amy Hackett offered her thoughts on his experience and making an impact with the players. Athletic Director Amy Hackett offered her thoughts on his experience and making an impact with the players. Athletic Director Amy Hackett offered her thoughts on his experience and making an impact with the players. Athletic Director Amy Hackett offered her thoughts on his experience and making an impact with the players.

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First-year student Jackie Dierdorff (Bellingham, Washington) added some of her thoughts on what he brings to the University and the team.

“It’s nice to have someone come into our program who is familiar with how things work at this level and who is excited about continuing our team’s success on the field and in the classroom. We hold ourselves to very high academic standards and are excited that Coach Vari feels the same way. Coach Vari has also stressed that he doesn’t plan on turning everything that we know upside down but that he wants to evaluate where we are and see what we need to strengthen,” Dierdorff said.

Junior Grayson Williams-Krebs (Lake Oswego, Oregon) voiced her thoughts about Vari as the new coach.

“He’s a head coach from another good D3 program, so he understands the D3 experience and the pressure of being a head coach; he’s highly qualified. I’m excited to work with him,” Williams-Krebs said.

As the team is trying to replicate the success they’ve had over the past decade, Hackett explained what kind of impact she is expecting from Vari in his first year.

“We certainly want to continue our tradition of winning but we also have to give Coach Vari the opportunity to operate the program under his own philosophy and approach and with that we anticipate some changes in approach. He has a strong passion and drive in his coaching and recruiting so we are confident we can continue to represent Puget Sound as conference contenders in the future,” Hackett said.

Vari’s strategy as a coach is to have players that are problem solvers. The game is always changing, and you rarely get to do a set play, so it’s a player’s game. The athletes need to be able to figure out the problem as the game progresses, so we try and train the team to think critically. What will be new is the approach and the thought process of the team. The game will always be the same, but my style will be different than Coach Hanson’s. I’m looking forward to building upon the great job that has been done before and I hope to add my own personal touch to the program slowly,” Vari said.

There is a lot of excitement around the team heading into the offseason. It’s a new start, but their success will still be the same.

It’s a new era for the women’s soccer team, and Vari is going to bring some new strategy from his coaching.

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Upcoming Outdoor Activities in Tacoma

By Natalie Hereford

April 22
The Tacoma Nature Center is looking for volunteers to help with habitat restoration from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The work includes removing invasive plant species, planting new plants, and tidying the park area. No experience is necessary and the park even provides gardening tools.

April 23
From 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., the W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory at Wright Park will be hosting a relax and renew session. The event entails an hour of guided meditation among the flowers. It is recommended that you bring your own mat. To reserve a spot, call (253) 591-9330.

April 24
From 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Point Defiance Park is hosting an Herb Garden Work Party. The event includes preparing the garden for planting and maintaining the cleanliness and look of the garden.

April 30
Point Defiance will be celebrating the grand opening of their Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater Show. The event will be held Saturday through Sunday, April 30th to May 1st. The audience can feed birds and watch a live animal show.
SPORTS & OUTDOORS
April 22, 2016
trails@pugetsound.edu

U.S.A Women’s pro soccer player file discrimination suit over wage gap
By Zal Robles

On March 30 five prominent players for the U.S. Women’s soccer team filed a federal wage discrimination case against U.S. Soccer, the governing body in charge of the U.S. Women’s soccer team.

The five players to file the suit are Goalkeepers Briana Scurry and Hope Solo, forward Abby Wambach, defender Becky Sauerbrunn, forward Alex Morgan and midfielder Megan Rapinoe. The five players are part of the U.S. Women’s soccer team that was a gold medal winner at the London Olympics in 2012.

The suit includes six female U.S. national team players. The six players who have also filed the suit are Christie Rampone, Lauren Holiday, Heather O’Reilly, Kelley O'Hara, Morgan Brian and Karina LeBlanc.

The six players who have joined the suit were to join the lawsuit for additional names.

Scurry will be playing from 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Admission is free but donations are encouraged.

SPORTS RECAPS

By Nick Nestingen

BASEBALL
The Puget Sound baseball team (11-11 NWC) had a tough weekend. The Loggers were swept in a three game series against Occidental College and then lost to University of Redlands.

The series against Occi- dentals opened with a double header on Saturday Apr. 16. In the first game the Loggers fell 2-1. Collin Maier (Billings, Montana) gave up only four hits. Puget Sound lost the second game of the double header 10-2. The Loggers struggled at the plate and in the field. Both Chris Zerio (Pleasanton, California) and Nick Alarico (Honululu, Hawaii) led the Loggers at the plate. Zerio finished 2 for 4 with one RBI while Alarico finished 2 for 3.

On Sun. Apr. 17 the Loggers finished the series against Occidental with a 6-2 loss. Senior Nate Bakkes (Saratoga, Washington) hit his fourth homerun of the season giving a 1-0 lead. However, the Loggers collapsed in the 9th inning. Two consecutive errors at the plate and in the field allowed Occidental to score two runs and pull out the walk-off win. The Loggers lost the second game of the double header 8-2. The Loggers struggled at the plate and in the field. Both Chris Zerio (Pleasanton, California) and Nick Alarico (Honululu, Hawaii) led the Loggers at the plate. Zerio finished 2 for 4 with one RBI while Alarico finished 2 for 3.

TENNIS
The men’s (1-11 NWC) and women’s (1-11 NWC) tennis teams concluded the season with a match against Whitworth on Sun. Apr. 17. The men lost 9-0 while the women lost 7-2.

For the men Andrew Strudzenberg (Greeley, Colorado) put up a fight in his singles match falling 6-0 and then 6-3. For the women both Elizabeth Chao (Oakland, California) and Tressa Bidd (Boise, Idaho) won their singles matches. The women were swept in the doubles matches and the team of Chao and Nicole Bouche (Brier, Washington) suffered a tough 8-6 loss.

TRACK AND FIELD
The Puget Sound Track and Field team finished in fifth place at the Pacific Invitational on Sat. Apr. 17. Allanna Whitehall (Saratoga, Washington) broke her own school record for the 100 m dash running a time of 11.98 seconds. Elizabeth King (Portland, Oregon) won the pole vault clearing a height of 3.50 meters. Steven Brainham (Gulcl Bar, Washington) qualified for the NWC championships in long jump and high jump. Bra- nham placed third overall in long jump with a distance of 7.00 meters. He finished fifth in high jump with a height of 1.81 meters. The team is now done with invitational meets. The season continues for the team members that qualified for the NWC championships which will take place at Lewis and Clark College next weekend.

Sports + Outdoors

May 7

The Tacoma Nature Center will be holding a Spring Native Plant demonstration. Native plants being sold will be native to the Tacoma area.

May 8

The W.W. Seymour Conservatory will be presenting a music series event. Enjoy live acoustic music among the lush flowers that deco- rate the conservatory. This month’s featured artist is Folk singer/songwriter named Gina Billiveu. Billiveu will be playing from 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m Admission is free but donations are encouraged.

June 18

Jefferson Park will be hosting a Tacky Tie 2-mile fun run at 9:00 a.m. for all ages. The race encourages participants to wear their wackiest of ties and showcase them to the community. Until June 12th, registra- tion is $10.00. Between June 13th and June 18th, the cost of registra- tion will be $15.00 and on the day of the race it will go up to $20.00.

May 7

Wright Park will be holding its Cinco de Mayo running race. There will be two races, one for adults and the other for children, both at 10:00a.m. The adults will run a 5k and the children will run a 1k. Until May 1st, registration will cost $20 for adults and $10 for children. From May 2nd through May 9th, registration is $15.00 per person and on May 7th the cost is $20.00.

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OPINION: No, you’re immature! I’m telling!
By Yolo Ono

Dear Bio Ethics Club,

You guys (and girls and non-binary members) are wrong. I do not smell like farts. If anyone smells like farts, it’s my mom. And that’s only because she has a condition. And by the way, just because I still play with action figures and dolls, DOES NOT MAKE ME IMMATURE. I guess you’re just too grown up for that too though, huh?

I recess.
Bio Ethics Club, I am writing this letter to inform you that your false accusations that I am immature are baseless and unfounded in any logical area of thought. And because you have called me immature and hurt my feelings so many times, I told on you. That’s right. I told Mr. McFly that you are picking on me and being mean. I told him that you come up to me and steal my jacks and lunch money, which is also my Logger Card, which is also required to get into my dorm! I even told Mr. McFly to get out of his office because I smell like farts. Sometimes even adults are bullies. But no matter. This is not the end. Oh no, this is not the end.

Bio Ethics Club, did you know there are at least five more teachers on this college campus? And they all have office hours at least once a month. They’re eager to listen. They want to learn. They want to punish. Boys (and girls and non-binary members), I’m playing the odds here. Eventually, I’ll find one who will listen to me. I’ll find one who doesn’t think I smell like farts. I’ll find one to bring your terrible club to justice.

Until then, good luck sleeping, because your days here are numbered. And by that I mean less numbered than the number it will take you all to graduate.

Au revoir,

Tonal Rhombas

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Real life review: My Fish Tank

By Barm Skalpz

My Fish Tank stars Watney, a red and blue beta, and Kevin, a small snail. The film could be described as “fourth-wall-breaking,” like Ferris Bueller’s Day Off or Deadpool. However, the tank is a cylinder and not a rectangle, so there aren’t any walls that could be numbered and/or broken. Rather than referring to a fourth wall, I will say that the movie’s main actor is aware of the audience, but just kind of tubs against the plastic nearest to the audience or “food blobs,” as Watney would probably refer to me. Kevin remains largely indifferent while he slowly crawls around on the plastic plant that acts like a screen hog in most scenes, requiring the other characters to move around or literally crawl over it just to stay in frame.

The hardest aspect to track in My Fish Tank is the motivations of the characters. Both actors seem to just wander aimlessly around the set, as if they are just fish in a tank. Watney can’t decide if he wants to be on the bottom of the tank or the top, and Kevin just moves too slowly to discern any real character development. The use of ambient noise from the filter does create an interesting soundscape, but the lack of any other noises makes it get dull very fast.

My Fish Tank is dirty. There is algae growing on almost everything, and the characters are portrayed as animals. The biggest shock of the whole film is when Watney reveals that he was responsible for the death of Kevin’s parents, Danny and Arin, and that he wanted to raise Kevin as his own son. What was nice about this reveal was that it didn’t use any flashbacks or memory sequences; it just let Watney tell the tale while seemingly swimming around.

I was definitely not expecting Stan Lee to make a cameo as a tiny scuba diver coming out of the replica of Squidward’s house, but there he was. I guess the plot of My Fish Tank was actually from a Marvel comic all along, and I had no idea. Overall, I enjoyed watching My Fish Tank; it was a relaxing piece that didn’t make you think too hard as an audience member. Should there be a My Fish Tank 2? No, I don’t really want to see that. I would just want to take care of two tanks, as I already barely have time to take care of one.

My rating: One snail out of three
Puget Sound’s multicultural book drive

By Courtney Seyl

The Multicultural Book Drive was created to help find books to give to students from traditionally marginalized backgrounds. The aim is to find books that they can relate to, something that can speak to their own identities and situations. Around campus from April 1 to the April 15 were boxes with signs for the book drive asking for new or gently used books from a comprehensive list. “The book drive was inspired by the need for more books that feature protagonists from a variety of marginalized backgrounds,” Skylar Bihl, the associate director for Civic Engagement, said. It was during the Race and Pedagogy Conference in 2010 that a talk addressed these concerns, specifically the lack of access to these types of books. Not only are these types of books difficult to obtain, but there is difficulty in publishing and a lack of support for minoritized authors, limiting what is available to readers. “The book drive was one small idea that could help address these concerns. Our Puget Sound Big Siblings program that matches Puget Sound students with Tacoma youth from a variety of minoritized backgrounds, so this seemed like a good way to provide the mentors and mentees with a book to read and discuss over the summer. Additionally, it is a way to supply the need for more literary resources which represent many people,” Bihl said. On the Multicultural Book Drive information page there is also a link to a video about Marley Dias, a young girl who started the campaign #1000blackgirlbooks. She noticed a trend in the books she was reading at school: they were all about white boys or dogs, or white boys and their dogs. Less than 10 percent of books published in 2015 had a black person as the main character, according to a yearly analysis done by Cooperative Children’s Book Center at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dias’ goal was to gather 1000 books by February and she far exceeded her goal. Now she is wanting to challenge schools to change their curriculum to more books with minorities as the main characters.

The book drive ended April 15th but there are many other ways to contribute. If you want to see more links from the list, found using the link below, the CICE/ Yellow House will be happy to accept them.

For more information and the list of books wanted visit: http://www.pugetsound.edu/student-life/service/youth-programs/multicultural-book-drive/

Internet cat video festival

The Grand Cinema hosts an event that lets people laugh at what they love

By Georgia Gustavson

The room never seemed exhausted of laughter, and it was at its loudest when cats were at their most mischievous. “As creatures, cats take themselves very seriously, and I think filming them at their most ridiculous moments feels good because it takes them down a peg,” a proud “cat dad” in the festival’s documentary section said. Earlier he emphasized that his cat is definitely the boss, and perhaps creating these videos is a form of sweet vengeance for owners. Not only that, but it helps create a community for cat owners, who, unlike dog owners, aren’t given routine chances to interact with one another. Solitary cat owners can never just go out and take their cats for walks, and meet other cat owners. The internet then becomes a space for cat owners and lovers to come together and celebrate their passion. Indeed, this audience seemed more comfortable with one another than many other kinds. They were united by their excitement and lightheartedness; middle-aged women in matching cat ears huddled together and giggled, while families conversed with their children about why a cat walking around with an ice cream container on top of its head “must be conflicted because I bet it tastes so good,” an exuberant older woman from a row behind them commented. An excited woman who was there alone clambered for an empty seat, making quick, easy conversation with her new neighbor about how the person in front of her initial seat was “the tallest man in the world.” There was something quickly, and imaginative in a free, childlike way about their banter. Seeing cats in odd scenarios, having to analyze their expressive yet imaginative faces seemed to put people in and at ease, creative space where just about anything goes as far as commentary. Something else the festival thrived on was satire. One audience favorite was a parody of a French film noir starring a cranky cat whose space was being invaded by other animals, complete with brutally scathing and hilarious subtitles. Another favorite was a death metal video in which a cat ran across a table backwards during the drum blasts, and the fattest, most horrified and wide-eyed looking cat imaginable rotated its head with its mouth open whenever the vocals screamed. At one point, there was an epic montage of cats being scared by bananas, played off as a great story of overcoming your fears when the last cat readily devoured one. Beautiful animated shorts also supplemented the night with a little bit more nuanced forms of creativity, though anyone there should hardly care. On a more meaningful note, the hosts of the night made a point to use the festival as a platform to advocate for adoption from the Humane Society, and give credit to their collaborations with the society along with the online community the Irresponsible Kitty Committee, who were hoping to use the festival to do some good for kittens. As the festival ended everyone felt a bit relieved and at ease. It was getting dark. All of us have overbearing seriousness in our lives to attend to, and especially this time of year it can feel like far too much sometimes. This cat festival was ultimately in all of its lovely nonsense, a killer way to laugh at ourselves and the world. It was time to go home and snuggle up with some real life bratty cats, and lovingly smirk about how ridiculously silly they are when they don’t even know it.
Visual poet Krista Franklin visits campus

By Olivia Langen

Interdisciplinary artist Krista Franklin conducted a visual poetry workshop on April 15, where students and community members gathered in Wyatt Hall to participate in free-writing exercises and create their own collages. Franklin hails from Dayton, OH, and is now based in Chicago. Her work ranges greatly among different media including poetry, collage, letterpress, cyanotype, printing, installation and sound.

Recently, visual poetry has been one of her main focuses. “When I was in Ohio, I was writing very intensely, and I had a moment when I de-spaced everything that I wrote,” Franklin said. “I had a whole stack of paper on the ground in my apartment on the floor. I took the scissors to them because I just hated everything that I had written. I cut up all of these different words, I didn’t know what went with what anymore, and I started to reconstruct poems from the cut-up stuff that I had sliced from my own poems. That was the moment that started me on visual poetry.”

Visual poetry, as Franklin explained in her workshop, works as a balance between visual art and textual expression. “I didn’t have a language or a name for it when I first started making it,” Frank- lin said. “I had a language, a name or a for me. I had a language, a name or a for me.”

“I think sometimes this thesis can be looked at as a sort of showcase of what we know or what we’re good at, and there’s nothing wrong with that; it’s great,” Katagiri said. “However, I think it’s special that we didn’t just stick to what we know. We took STF’s challenge and another learning experience.”

Most of Katagiri’s theater work is in acting/ performance, and outside of the required courses, mostly auditions for acting roles in the main stages and pedagogy work for Theater Experience or acting classes. Her role as director of Rajiv Joseph’s Gruesome Playground Injuries, which ran from Apr.1-2, was a first for her. “I had been going back and forth on the possibility of directing for a while, but I wasn’t finding anything that really ‘fit’ for me,” Katagiri said, describing her experience planning the festival alongside her fellow seniors. “Then Gruesome happened, and, boy, was it a game changer.”

Gruesome Playground Injuries follows the tumultuous relationship between protagonists Kayleen and Doug over the course of 30 years. The destructive duo are only drawn together once every five years (conveyed non- destructively), but in each encounter we not only see how the inconsistency stains the relationship, but also how their shared trauma strengthens it. “Ultimately, it’s a horrific love story,” Katagiri said.

But this was only the first of the three productions in the festival, the second being senior Jake Biscuit’s production of Craig Wright’s Recent Tragic Events, which ran Apr.15-16, and the third being senior Sophie Schwartz’s production of Will Eno’s Gnit, which will run Apr.22-23. In all three productions, Katagiri said, the seniors took advantage of their small number to take risks with what they knew and what they could learn. “Sophie and I generally consider ourselves actors and took on directorial roles; [senior Darrin Schulz] took on acting instead of production or tech; and Jake took on directing instead of tech, all of these choices being huge steps for us,” Katagiri said. “We also didn’t let our desire to stick together keep us from going out on these limbs to try something new.”

With only four seniors in the theater department — given that past years have had as many as fifteen seniors at a time — the fact that this year’s Senior Theater Festival contains three shows was one such huge step.

“Typically, the festival runs for four weekends with a different show produced each week (a total of four different shows),” Katagiri said. “However, with only four seniors this year, it’s a wonder we even managed three. There was always the option for each of us to work on a different show, but for one thing, that would’ve relied a bit on all of us wanting to direct.”

In spite of the flexibility and possibility opened up by the small number of senior theater majors running the Senior Theater Festival, Katagiri admits it came at a certain cost. “Our small numbers made making initial decisions really simple and smooth, but it also made it difficult to fill production roles, especially for someone like me who was usually on the performance side of things and not familiar with who leaned toward production roles,” Katagiri said, nevertheless admitting that the class never found a way to make it work. “My team ended up being made up of a lot of firsts (first time director, first time designer, etc.), but we pulled together and ended up with a beautiful production that I couldn’t have been happier with.”

Gnit — the only remaining show in the Senior Theater Festival — will be performed in the Norton Clapp Theater on Friday, Apr. 22 at 7:30 PM and on Saturday, Apr. 23 at 2 PM and 7:30 PM.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND THEATER DEPARTMENT

Senior Theatre Festival: intimate and a success

By Daniel Wolfert

With the unusually low class size of four, senior theater and natural science double major Bobbiho Katagiri sees this year’s Senior Theater Festival — the annual series of spring theatrical productions spearheaded by the year’s senior theater majors — as a ripe opportunity for them to expand their skills. “Sophie and I generally consider ourselves actors and took on directorial roles; we pulled together and ended up with a beautiful production that I couldn’t have been happier with.”