"I know coming into Puget Sound I had to have accommodations or I won't succeed," junior Emily Allen said. Allen, who struggles with health issues, depended on accommodation to access her education. Student Accessibility and Accommodation (SAA) is the office on campus that helps students who may face challenges in their academic lives.

"Our mission is to remove obstacles to a liberal arts education by providing support and accommodation to otherwise qualified students with both visible and invisible disabilities while they embark on their pursuit of knowledge," reads the mission statement of SAA. SAA is designed to assist in the education of students who face challenges with learning or test taking, including assistive equipments or interpreters. Accommodations for challenges are decided in a meeting with Peggy Perno, the director of SAA. Counseling, Health and Wellness Services (CHWS) can provide assistance in this process, if a student receives counseling from them or if medical treatment is administered according to Donn Marshall, director of CHWS and Associate Dean of Students.

SAA provides accommodations for a large part of the student body. "On average it holds around 20 percent," Perno said. Invisible disabilities, which include migraines, diabetes, bipolar disorder, severe anxiety disorders and many others, make up most of that number according to Perno. "They affect only a part of the population that we serve," Perno said, when speaking about learning disabilities. SAA also helps students with physical disabilities, both temporary and permanent.

Perno started at Puget Sound six years ago, and has made a lot of changes to the office. Most of her work was focused on streamlining the student experience to be able to provide better services for the student body. This included a staff increase, as well as the creation of the testing center in the basement of Howarth Hall. The testing center is a reduced distraction environment that gives students an alternate location to take their exams. "The testing center is absolutely great," senior Nate Ashford said. "I have no complaints about the testing center; it is one of the things that I believe the school does very well." Ashford has been using SAA since his freshman year. The process of getting accommodations requires medical documentation, having forms signed by professors and a meeting with Perno. "Honestly this process was really intimidating as a freshman, and at times it felt like I was under great scrutiny and had to justify myself," Ashford said.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. The ADA National Network website states, "The purpose of the law is to make sure that people with disabilities have the same rights and opportunities as everyone else. The ADA gives civil rights protections to individuals with disabilities similar to those provided to individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, and religion."

There was an amendment in 2008, called the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendment Act (ADAAA) which altered the definition of disability legally. Perno explained that the amendment led to an increase in students using SAA. SAA proctors over 2,000 exams a year, Perno explained. "Our customer service is excellent," Perno said. "We're very attentive to our students." Perno emphasized quick response times, being a good listener to the student and doing what they have to do for the student. "My favorite part of the job is working with students in this age group," Perno continued, "because that is the time where people change and that is when accommodations can make a big difference."

Part of what allows a student to qualify for accommodations is having a disability that challenges their education. SAA offers accommodations that can allow students to access their education. SAA is in charge of assigning academic accommodations, as well as medical singles and emotional support animals. Sophomore Sabrina Kelley went through the process to get her emotional support turtle, Bubbles, into her dorm room. "I mostly communicated with them over email," Kelley said, and she continued on, saying that her interaction with SAA was generally positive. Kelley took a medical leave of absence for mental health challenges near the end of fall semester in 2016. Before taking her leave of absence, Kelley did consider the testing center; she was gone for the entirety of spring semester 2017 and returned to campus this semester. Kelley did meet with Perno to try to get accommodations to help ease her transition into the rigor of Puget Sound. "SAA did make other accommodations that I had heard from everyone, my therapist, academic advising, friends, teachers," Kelley said. Kelley said she was not granted academic accommodation this fall, but was asked to return in the spring of 2018 to revisit the issue. There are limitations to what SAA can offer. This differs between high school and college education because there is a separate law regarding high school education mandating that every student be fully assisted in their education, called the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. "The accommodations in K-12 are much more extensive," Perno said. Accommodations have limitations at the university level, Perno explained; they’re not as all-encompassing as students might be familiar with at the K-12 level. "They do anything possible so that person can get their diploma," Perno said. "We don't guarantee that you're going to graduate." Perno said. "We do what we can to provide access; we don't guarantee that you're going to graduate." Perno said. The actual decision of granting accommodations can be the most contentious part of Perno’s job. Accommodations have to have the most positive impact on students’ learning while maintaining academic standards. Accommodations are designed to help students succeed, but have limitations to their scope. "Someone who has an anxiety disorder, and most times they can cope, and then there might be periods they have a panic attack or they are overwhelmed, and that might or might not happen during the semester," Perno said. "That would qualify for a flexibility accommodation."

The University sets aside funding for SAA in order to offer accommodations like equipment. "It’s expensive; however, we do it," Perno said. Assistance in this manner is somewhat limited, however. "We don't give out personal equipment," Perno said. "Any [assistance] in class, but anything outside of class, that's on them." For example, SAA might purchase equipment to make a classroom setting more accessible, but would not provide equipment for a student’s personal daily life.

(Continued on page 2...)
A closer look at Student Accessibility and Accomodation

(Continued from page 1...)

Payton Head: helping move America forward

By Keely Coxwell

“The idea of calling out privilege was to help students understand that in many different ways we are all privileged; we have access to higher education and are able to experience life in a way that many other people are not able to have,” Payton Head said. “I think that this is what is going to move us forward.”

On Nov. 16, Head gave a talk in Kiosk with challenger Chapel to about 40 people titled “Lessons from Mizzou: Moving America Forward.”

This presentation stems from my experiences at the University of Missouri and how it transformed into this national movement to fight for change on college campuses,” Head said. “We can use this as an example of how we can use the past to motivate the changes that need to be made.”

“Since I’m part of ASUPS senate, we all have to have dinner with him and get to know a bit about how he went about making Mizzou’s campus a better place for people of all identities. He mentioned a weekly talk/conversation night that focused on educating all students about understanding the perspectives of others and how to talk about racial tensions specifically in a constructive way,” Elena Staver, Senator at Large, said.

Head went to the University of Puget Sound website, Head was the president of the student government at the University of Missouri in 2015. Head’s presidency saw numerous protests and calls for better inclusion at the University of Missouri that ended in the resignation of the chancellor and University president in the fall of 2015, according to the University of Puget Sound website.

There were only two black student body presidents before me since the school was created. It was a really big responsibility to be representing over 28,000 students from all 50 states and over 120 countries around the world,” Head said. Head was elected president in the wake of unrest and riots in Ferguson, Mo. in 2014.

“There were demonstrations and protests that challenged the University to make things better. As student body president I wanted to help do whatever I could to support that movement, but also support all of our students who have differing ideologies, but more importantly bring us all together,” Head said.

Head made a Facebook post that described in detail the everyday racism he and his friends experienced at Mizzou. The post went viral along with what was happening at the University.

“That post wasn’t just about my experiences; it was the experiences of my friends. So when the University did not respond to this in any way, it started the first demonstration on campus in 2015. It was the straw that broke the camel’s back and it was so much more than just students protesting hate words.”

What followed were multiple large-scale protests and demonstrations in a movement to get focused on the lawn of the University and taking part in hunger strikes.

“I think the most beautiful thing about it was that students were coming together from all different backgrounds to say, ‘We don’t want that on our campus but we can fight against it’,” Head said. “Doing that requires stepping out of your comfort zone and learning something new.”

The protests were heavily covered by the media.

“When the students came together, the media decided to paint this picture of the University of Missouri as a hotbed of racism and I think it’s because it sold papers, but the reality of the situation is Mizzou was a hotbed of racial disarmament because I think Head said. “That’s not saying that it’s okay, just saying that we have to understand the narrative we’re dealing with right now, we have to understand that we all have already, so that we can make it better for all of us.”

“I greatly admired how much he advocated for loving change despite the fact that others had hurt him so much,” Staver said. “He has a patience with the world that I admire.”

“Mizzou shows the power of student leadership and that’s one of the reasons that I am here today. Believe in you all, I believe in the students, I believe in the power that you all have when you can work together,” Head said. “You can fashion a movement, you can fashion a community and a culture here because... students choosing to have a culture that is accepting of differences is powerful.”

Head’s presentation served as a space for him to provide strategies to start and continue difficult conversations on campus, according to the University of Puget Sound website.

“I went in the first place to understand how to be a better white ally to people of color, and to understand how he initiated conversations and change on campus,” Staver said.

“We are in a different age; things are changing very quickly and I think that this country is starting to come to a reconnection point... where we have to decide where we want to be. It’s not up to the ones who are there now, it’s up to us. And even at your universities, you as students... are the largest stakeholders within your community, which means that you all have the largest collective voice,” Head said. “If you all aren’t working together then that kind of defeats the purpose of your work because now more than ever this work is essential; now more than ever you have to work together, especially when you have a smaller student body.”

“There’s a responsibility to leave this place better for the people coming after you,” Head said. “When you come to this University the idea is by the time you walk the stage for graduation you have a little bit better than how you came in and the University of Puget Sound is happy to have their name on your degree.”

“Continue to advocate, continue to hold each other accountable, continue to be comfortable with being uncomfortable. That’s truly how you are going to be able to move forward. And it’s difficult now because I could say, ‘Oh yeah, everybody just hugs each other,’ but that’s not the case. There’s a reality there that there’s a lot of work to be done, but it’s work that you all can achieve and all can accomplish and we can do together,” Head said. “There has to be a focus on community and that can come from the work that you’re doing on your campus.”

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THE PUGET SOUND TRAIL

december 1, 2017

By Andrew Izzo

Emily Allen got accommodations for the first time in her junior year.

“It took about a month or two and then I finally got the forms for the student to sign according to Perno,” Allen said.

She was a student who had an accommodation for ADHD for the first time that semester.

However, this semester Allen chose not to go through the process.

“I feel once you get them, they’re very good, but the whole process of trying to get them is very difficult,” Allen said.

“Students have had success with Perno said. ‘Students can petition and go above me. Recourse is important.’ The SAA website includes links to government organizations and the internal appeal process to get a decision made by SAA overturned.

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A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

There was an article published in the Nov. 10 issue of The Trail regarding an incident at Mt. Tahoma High School that bore some similarity to a News Tribune story on the same topic. This was unintentional, but The Trail has addressed this issue through education of writers and discussion with involved parties.

Please see page 10 for the full story on Mt. Tahoma High School.

The Trail is an independent, student-run organization funded by ASUPS. The Trail seeks to produce a credible weekly newspaper that serves as a comprehensive source of information relevant to its readership. The Trail acts as an outlet for the university, serves as a link between University of Puget Sound and the greater Tacoma community and provides an open forum for student opinion and discourse.

Visit trail.pugetsound.edu for the full mission statement.
By Marcelle Rutherford

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, Security Services hosted a “Conversations with Security” lunch event in the Murray Boardroom. This event was held during Common Hour in an effort to get students in touch with Security Services. Security Director Benitez was there answering questions and talking about his position, as was Michael Benitez, who serves as assistant director of Diversity, Inclusion and the Chief Diversity Officer.

The event opened with Benitez speaking about law enforcement and minority populations, and how there is often fear or hatred when students of color interact with or talk about security as a result of these broader issues. Benitez brought this up to illustrate the importance of transparency between the student body and Security Services, and how students should be as involved in their own protection and safety as members of the security team.

Those who were present saw the conversation as the beginning of something good. Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS) president Amanda Diaz ‘18 thought of it as a productive step forward for the community.

One of the biggest issues on campus is that different departments/groups/clubs/offices don’t ever talk openly about or bluntly about issues affecting our campus and I think Michael Benitez did a great job opening up a space for these conversations,” Diaz said.

Badham agreed that the conversation was productive, as it allowed students and faculty to better understand how Security Services functions.

“I welcome every opportunity to educate the campus about our department. I feel those in attendance were receptive, felt the experience was positive, and left with a greater understanding of our mission, philosophies, and work at Security Services,” Badham said.

Badham then spoke about the security mission, and the department’s desire to protect and serve 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Badham also discussed the notion of Diversity and Inclusion, and student and faculty involvement in issues of safety on campus. Additionally, he brought up the gap between Security Services and students.

In an interview after the event, Badham cited “professionalism, on-going discussions including the commitment to listening and transparency” as some of the work he intended to close the gap.

One of the most emphasized points of the discussion at large, from Benitez and Badham as well as members of the student body who were present, was the need to create an environment of trust between Security Services and students who identify as members of a minority group.

Benitez was very open and honest as to his personal position on police and law enforcement as a member of a minority group. He stated he would like to bring the conversation with Badham about how students of color interact with law enforcement. In turn, Badham expressed a desire to work with students and faculty about this issue.

“IT’s important that everyone understands we aren’t police officers. We are public servants. We hope to give students an understanding of how Security Services functions.”

“The officers honestly do an amazing job. I believe most members of the community view our position as inherently positive,’ Badham said.

Cole Tomkins, a student staff member who works with security services, has had a positive experience working with the group. He said, “Working with Security has been one of the best experiences of my life.” Tomkins added that he feels that “The officers honestly do an amazing job. I think they are constantly working to be fair to students. They ask questions when they know it’s appropriate to, and if there’s something that they’re not sure, they ask it.”

Diaz said. Tomkins added that the department is one of the most diverse on campus.

In the course, these issues are not always easily solved. Diaz highlighted that there is a lot more to be done in the future.

“Even the mere outfit and uniform that represents the department is something that historically has had a unsafe relationship with law enforcement, Security Services needs to find ways to repair that relationship with those communities. I think as Todd Badham alluded to when he said that this event was one in which they were beginning to repair those relationships, but I think the work needs to go farther. We need to continue educating the public and make it known that Security Services is here to serve, not to be feared or traumatized.”

I definitely think that Security Services can do a better job handling issues of bias and hate. The leadership at Security has worked hard to put together a solid team of officers. There are four new Campus Safety Officers and three new Dispatchers since last spring.”

The win comes after an 11-month campaign centered around issues such as affordable housing, education, public transit, public safety, and the environment, according to the Victoria Woodards for Mayor website.

Woodards’ opponent was Jim Merritt, a 70-year-old ex-councilwoman for the city of 52, she has experience serving in the military, being a chair on the Washington State Commission on African American Affairs, as well as being a city councilwoman, according to the Victoria Woodards for Mayor website.

The win comes after an 11-month campaign centered around issues such as affordable housing, education, public transit, public safety, and the environment, according to the Victoria Woodards for Mayor website.

Woodards’ opponent was Jim Merritt, a 70-year-old ex-councilwoman who has never held public office. They shared similar viewpoints on the local issues such as mitigation of homelessness, increasing public safety and increasing the number of middle class local jobs through growth and business. However, there are issues that were up for debate between the two candidates.

A hot-button issue in Tacoma recently has been the Long Beach Island Gas Natural Gas (LNG) plant proposed by Puget Sound Energy. This plant would be located on the historically industrialized but impoverished Tacoma Tide-FLats in the city of Tacoma.

According to Redefine Tacoma, a local organization against the plant, the Puyallup Tribe has been actively protesting it, as it is being built on their treaty land and poses significant risks to the bay. In addition, environmental concerns have arisen nationally over natural gas extraction, which is usually done by hydraulic fracturing of shale regions, also known as “fracking.” While Merritt took a stance against the LNG plant during the campaign, Woodards has not.

“We are feeling very confident in our staff and their ability to serve the community professionally. We will always be looking at ways to improve our services and make our team as good as it can be.”

Woodards believes the LNG plant will bring jobs to Tacoma, and that natural gas is a cleaner option than coal or other fossil fuels. She has the backing support of coastal/shipping-based labor unions as well. In an interview with Channel Q13 Fox in Tacoma, Woodards stated that although environmentalists have come out against the plant, “there are a lot of people who also support it, like the Longshoreman Union, who have endorsed my campaign, who believe that it’s better for their members on day one.”

An important part of Woodards’ plan is to increase Tacoma’s social safety net, which took a hit during the Obama-era recession. The plan involves investing money into social programs in the city aimed at education, substance abuse treatment and homeless mitigation, according to her website.

Woodards will be taking over for current mayor Marilyn Strickland in January of 2018.

By Ayden Bolin

Woodards will be looking for a new campaign manager. #VictoriaWoodards wins Tacoma mayoral race

Photo pictures Woodards during the mayoral debate held at the University earlier this semester.
To the heights ... if you’re white

By Sarah Buchlaw

"Ultimately, we want the University to reflect the world around us and at this moment, this University does not even represent the community that is Tacoma," senior Juan-Carlos Ortega Esquinca said. People of color make up 25 percent of this university’s undergraduate population, which makes little sense considering the fact that they represent 35 percent of Tacoma’s citizens. Despite proudly claiming to be diverse, Puget Sound is not doing enough to cultivate an environment in which all students of color feel valued and supported.

This oversight can be seen especially in the 8 percent of our student population that are Latinx. Since he transferred here last fall, Ortega Esquinca has become the Latinx Unidos (LU) scholarship officer, as well as the Associated Students of Puget Sound (ASUPS) director of marketing and outreach. He stated that his involvement in campus life is owed to the opportunities that LU and its former president, Amanda Diaz, have built for Latinx students.

Pamela Lara Perez, another senior and LU officer, similarly attributes her community engagement to Diaz and LU, adding that the inter-connectedness of clubs for students of color helps cultivate a space for voices like hers. Without a doubt, these statements are a great testament to the University’s identity-based clubs.

What does it say about our University’s level of inclusion, though, that students of color feel that their clubs are the only institutions looking out for them? Ortega Esquinca even said he does not think he would have stayed on track with his college degree if he had not found "the fruitful, thriving, and... empowering group of students" that is LU.

University of Puget Sound’s diversity statement boasts of their dedication "to achieve an environment that welcomes and supports diversity," and that “ensure[s] full educational opportunity for all who teach and learn here.”

The University’s recent campus climate survey tells a different story, reporting that a mere 13.3 percent of graduates had participated in a school-organized racial/cultural awareness program. Further, the study found that only a staggering 6.5 percent were active participants in a cultural/ethnic club. The fact that Latinx students make up only 8 percent of our student body means that in our average class of 19 students, there are not even two Latinx students. This cannot be the level of diversity that we as a university settle for.

Lara Perez shared the frustration of being that one Latinx student in an overwhelmingly white classroom. “Lots of times, I was the only colored person in the room so whenever there was a topic that concerned a person of color, or concerning Latinx communities... the professor would literally call me out, and be like, ‘what do you think of this?’

"Lara Perez recalls several incidences where she was singled out to discuss topics that had nothing to do with her culture in the first place. A professor, for example, asked her to share her knowledge on North Indian Gupta architecture with the class — Lara Perez is not Indian. Every Latinx experience on campus is unique, but this so-called ‘buidden of representation’ is something that Ortega Esquinca notices, too.

[Latinx students] feel like there’s this weight of responsibility to represent this community that you’re from. ... Some people just want to be here to be students, and I think that should to be something that is possible for everyone," Ortega Esquinca said.

Expecting the one person of color in the room not only to speak for their own complex community and culture, but those of all non-white people in the world is unjust and frankly absurd.

"The University is really proud of their numbers when it comes to incoming students, but what happens when we fail to look at the retention rate and the graduation rate of these students of color?" Ortega Esquinca asks. "[Students] are being really commodified for the numbers and not really like looked as, you know, people that the University needs to provide resources for."

Designating a financial aid officer to serve "students from underrepresented classes," allocating more financial aid to incoming Latinx students, and continuing financial support for Latinx students are some of the resources Ortega Esquinca suggests. He also emphasizes the need for counseling services tailored to students of color.

According to Ortega Esquinca, we need more professors like Oriel Siu, Jason Struna, Edwin Elias and Grace Livingston, who are working to make this university a safer place for Latinx students and other students of color. Lara Perez adds that building a more diverse faculty and integrating topics like Latinx art and literature into mainstream art/English courses rather than “othering” them are two more steps the school can take.

We are fortunate to have an administration that integrates our student government and media. That means, however, that ASUPS and The Trail have just as great a responsibility to fight these institutional issues as the administration. Lara Perez says that having Amanda Diaz, a Latinx woman, as our school president, as well as students of color like Ortega Esquinca and other students in ASUPS, is an exciting mark of progress.

Groups like The Trail may still have a ways to go. Ortega Esquinca stated, "The Trail, I feel like it has really undererved communities that are historically underrepresented on this campus. ... I think The Trail should really find more ways to incorporate the community a lot more than it has, ‘cause it really hasn’t... The Trail is something that is read by the community, too, so having their voice included, I think is, you know, a direction it really needs to look into."

It is important to acknowledge that our publication has more power at this university than others because it is a media source. The few clubs for students of color, like Latinx Unidos, have made incredible strides in the fairness of this campus.

Unfortunately, other, more privileged students, administrators and campus groups still seem absent from that work. Organizations that are predominantly white and more elevated in the institutional hierarchy must stand behind the pursuit of true diversity and equity.

The University of Puget Sound’s administration, faculty and media must commit to the diversity mission we tout so proudly: “full educational opportunity for all.”

Sincerely,
Ella Frazer
Opinions Editor

Letter from the Editor

CW: Sexual assault, sexual harassment, rape culture

Dear members of the campus community,

As rape culture in Hollywood and Washington D.C. becomes more visible, we are faced with the question of how to respond in our daily lives. Sexual assault and harassment allegations are coming forth at overwhelming rates, and the debate of whether or not consuming media created by abusers is ethical resources as well.

This is neither a new nor unpopular discussion, and is often connected to the filmmaker Woody Allen after he allegedly assaulted his 7-year-old adoptive daughter in 1992. Critics, filmmakers and the public have had different responses to Allen and his accusations and ongoing legal battles regarding assault allegations wagged at public figures such as Kevin Spacey, Harvey Weinstein, Roy Moore and Donald Trump.

It should go without saying that the first response to allegations of sexual misconduct should be to believe the victim, as the 2019 report from The National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women (NCPVAV), actual evidence of false rape reports versus media coverage, “suggests that the American public dramatically overestimates the number of sexual assault reports that are false.” NCPVAV stated 2 to 8 percent of all reports are false, which is this type of violence's problem to produce because rape is underreported, misunderstood and difficult to prosecute.

It’s widely not hard to imagine why; the NCPVAV report stated, “For example, we have all seen how victims are portrayed in the media accounts of rape. Misconceptions made against popular sports and cultural figures. The media accounts show us just how easy it is for us as a society to believe the suspect’s statements (a respected cultural icon) and both discount the victim's statements and disparage [their] character.”

But what comes next? When a beloved icon is labeled as a creep just for listening to their music, watching their movies, or supporting their athletic teams? Our responsibility as a campus community is to acknowledge our history while continuing to support them professionally.

It becomes difficult to understand how to act in response to allegations against public figures when these abusers are rarely held accountable for their actions. President Trump, for example, has been accused of sexual misconduct by at least 16 women — including a lawsuit regarding the rape of a 13-year-old child in 1994, according to NewswEEK. This lawsuit was dropped just days before the 2016 election, which Trump won. We are in need of an example of justice to break the narrative of denial personal scandals make against their victims have taken on, and we have yet to see this.

But justice for survivors is still not black-and-white, and this type of violence affects each survivor differently. Ultimately, the greatest form of justice for survivors of sexual misconduct is to end the cycle of sexual violence, and to do that we must first bring awareness to the issue.

Each individual must decide how to regard abusers in their lives, and this letter is not meant to explain how. Instead, I hope our readers take these steps to think about the effects survivors face in reporting and in life after experiencing violence, as well as the necessary consent in sexual and nonsexual situations.

Sincerely,
Ella Frazer
Opinion Editor
According to the Multi-Service Eating Disorder Association (MSEDA), 20 percent of surveyed college students reported having an eating disorder at some point in their academic career, although statistics vary. A stress-filled environment with newfound independence and an emerging self-discovery leaves people of all identities vulnerable to developing unhealthy coping strategies around food. While certain disorders (Anorexia, Bulimia, Binge-Eating) have since navigated asking friends for a support network. As someone who crisis mode, and in desperate need of thousands of miles from home deep in college. My sophomore year found me treatment for an eating disorder in emotional health.

Like many others, I went through treating an eating disorder in college. My sophomore year found me thousands of miles from home deep in crisis mode, and in desperate need of a support network. As someone who has since navigated asking friends for support, I know the power of friends during similar times, where I’ve learned about friendship and food.

Eating disorders start with a purpose. They’re a way to control your surroundings, meet an impossible purpose. They’re a way to control your body, and suppress the natural bodily curiosity of predators, or if it only serves to further mystify and suppress the natural bodily curiosity of children. It’s an incredibly tough decision that they are, or how seriously they are used. If this article has misrepresented these at all, please contact us about posting a correction. Another feature that struck me were the four entries that mentioned the total silence around genitals. “Just didn’t talk about them.” “I don’t remember the word penis being spoken of.” “We never talked about them, and they didn’t really, deemed inappropriate I suppose.” Part of the Happy Trail’s mission is to demystify the human body in order to combat the dangerous consequences of shame and silence.

The reason that I chose to explore the names we use to talk about genitals is what words are powerful indicators of our larger attitudes about whatever we’re discussing. Well, actually, I chose it because it’s fun. It’s fun to learn about other people’s experiences with regional dialects, I don’t know how slang-y with regional dialects, I don’t know how slang-y. Some of the words used were “boto” (Filipino), “yoni” (Marathi) and “pajama” (Spanish) were also submitted multiple times. Since I am unfamiliar with regional dialects, I don’t know how slang-y they are, or how seriously they are used. If this article has misrepresented these at all, please contact us about posting a correction.

An interesting part of the study came from the responses in languages other than English. Words such as “boto” (Filipino), “yoni” (Marathi) and “pajama” (Spanish) were also submitted multiple times. Since I am unfamiliar with regional dialects, I don’t know how slang-y they are, or how seriously they are used. If this article has misrepresented these at all, please contact us about posting a correction.

As you can see in the graphic, the phrase “private parts” was used commonly (or there was a bias towards it because it was mentioned as an example! I told you it was unscientific). This was interesting to me because I can never decide whether “private parts” is a well-intentioned way to teach children that there are parts of their bodies that are to be kept private from potential predators, or if it only serves to further mystify and suppress the natural bodily curiosity of children. It’s an incredibly tough decision that I’m lucky to be able to discuss theoretically.

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As you can see in the graphic, the phrase “private parts” was used commonly (or there was a bias towards it because it was mentioned as an example! I told you it was unscientific). This was interesting to me because I can never decide whether “private parts” is a well-intentioned way to teach children that there are parts of their bodies that are to be kept private from potential predators, or if it only serves to further mystify and suppress the natural bodily curiosity of children. It’s an incredibly tough decision that I’m lucky to be able to discuss theoretically.

Another feature that struck me were the four entries that mentioned the total silence around genitals. “Just didn’t talk about them.” “I don’t remember the word penis being spoken of.” “We never talked about them, and they didn’t really, deemed inappropriate I suppose.” Part of the Happy Trail’s mission is to demystify the human body in order to combat the dangerous consequences of shame and silence.

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RDG brings welcoming creative environment and important conversation to campus

By Ally Hembree

On the weekend of Nov. 17–18, Puget Sound’s Repertory Dance Group (RDG) had its end-of-semester performance, “Light Up the Night.” The process leading up to the show began with frenzied auditions and culminated with the club’s performance featuring dancers with high energy and deep emotion. “Light Up the Night” was one in a long line of successes, selling out both Friday and Saturday. The show was put on by students with the help of Louise Douglas, Jeff Halbert, Jessica Frest Students Bus Company, Todd Badham, Mt. Tahoma High School, Tacoma Public Schools, and faculty advisors Marta Cady and Kelli Delaney.

The show featured songs ranging from 2008 pop hits to Rossin Murphy’s “Ruby Blue” and dance styles ranging from various levels of hip-hop to hip-hop. The choreographers for the dances also covered a diverse range of topics. Some dances, such as “You can’t Spell Magic” by the dancers get fun and funky on stage whereas others, such as Julia Beasley’s “Praying” and Andi Thomas-Sanchez’s “Pray You Catch Me” focused in on the power of female intuition, self doubt and sexual assault.

Puget Sound sophomore Julia Beasley, choreographer for the show, and the Repertory Dance Group’s President-Elect, chose to choreograph her dance to Kellie Westman said. “We weren’t sure what it was going to be like, but it kind of just all came together and it was so fun.”

Even though choreographing can be a daunting task, most choreographers found growth in the role. “I can’t think of a better way to kind of grow into yourself while also feeling support from the RDG community,” Winston said. Along with the dancers and choreographers, the officer team helps put the show together. Even though officer roles can be stressful, they are another way to get more involved in the club. “Because of how happy the club made me, I felt that I wanted to give back and help others feel this way,” Eddolls said. “As an officer, you work behind the scenes to make the events fun for everyone and help them put on a show they feel really proud to be a part of.”

While the club promotes body positivity and confidence, the club is not perfect. People come to RDG because they are looking for community and a safe space for self-expression, but in such a large club, that is not always possible. One of the struggles with being a choreographer is meeting deadlines and working under pressure. “There were parts where we were grinding on the floor, insinuating a lot of sexual activity and from my perspective, from someone who has experienced sexual assault on campus, it’s not okay and really uncomfortable, Hamilton said. “I think in dance there are positives and negatives, because for some people dancing like that is very therapeutic and can help them cope with whatever is going on in their life, and then there are other people where it’s triggering,” Hamilton said. Hamilton was also wary of the financial burden the club can have on its members. “I’ve had dancers talk to me about even though you’re not required to purchase anything for RDG, they feel uncomfortable and embarrassed if they don’t fit with the costume,” Hamilton said. “It’s not very likely that the choreographer is going to hedge on what they want to accommodate one dancer.”

Both Hamilton and Eddolls also discussed the lack of accessibility for male-identifying dancers. “Unfortunately, dance as an art form is stereotypically feminine and I think this stops people that do not identify as female from joining,” Eddolls said. “I want RDG to be as inclusive as possible, with all types of people.”

Where gender norms might limit diversity within the club, Hamilton highlighted a lack of respect from the audience of RDG for male dancers. “I would say that when guys do RDG it’s to laugh at them because they are in the beginner hip-hop and it’s funny when they try to shake their booty or attempt to fulfill these more feminine roles,” Hamilton said. “People go to the show to kind of make fun of that and that’s so frustrating for me to see because we do have a lot of talented male-identifying dancers that are not accommodated for.”

Despite these tensions, male-identifying dancers find joy in participating in the club’s final performance. “Definitely during the performance people will notice me because I’m taller and I’m male so I kind of stick out more, but I really do think they are inclusive,” Bigalke said. “I’m trying to get anyone I know to do it because it’s just a great time.”

Although the club has these shortcomings, it is still a place where students can comfortably come together. The feeling of community was echoed by Eddolls, who wrote in the club’s program that she has stayed with RDG because of the other dancers.

“The club is able to bring together both dancers and the Puget Sound Community as a whole. “I think the show itself is a really great way to get a lot of people from different parts of the Puget Sound community together,” Whitson said. “I feel like we go to a relatively small school with a relatively small number of events that everyone goes to and finds a lot joy in and I think it is just one of those classic specifically UPS experiences.”

PHOTO CREDITS TO: GABRIEL NEWMAN

Not everyone falls into the choreographing role on purpose, and some choreographers had to do it to help the club for necessity, but those interviewed have found it to be a rewarding experience. 3-time choreographer Haley Westman came into the role with her three-time co-choreographer Gabby Green for the show to kind of make fun of that and that’s so frustrating for me to see because we do have a lot of talented male-identifying dancers that are not accommodated for.”

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Advice from students back from abroad

By Angela Cookston

With Study Abroad applications due in just under two months, The Trail asked students who had recently or were currently studying abroad what they wish they had known before leaving overseas.

Eric Zeitz ’19 studied abroad in Salzburg, Austria during the Spring 2016 semester. Her first piece of advice had to do with being open to experience: “Say yes to more things.”

Cummiskey encouraged students to respect the places they travel to. “Try to be respectful of the culture. … Remember you’re trying to fit into their culture and you’re a visitor, don’t try to fit their culture to match your lifestyle,” she said.

Finally, Cummiskey also strongly advised students to keep a journal of their time abroad so that nothing from their experience would be forgotten.

Eric Zeitz ’19 studied abroad in Taiwan during the Summer 2017 semester. “I wish I knew the prices of street food before leaving,” he said. “I also realize just how much I have thought for granted, how precious it is, and how much I have taken for granted on what to practice English. The program is academic, but the friendships developed are meaningful and often insightful.

Between the familiarity of campus and the comfort of a newfound tight-knit Hwa Nan clique, I feel at home. At the same time, it’s impossible to avoid seeing some stark differences. Conversations with my Hwa Nan buddy, Sandy, ranged from the ethics of Mao Zedong (she aligns with the Chinese Communist Party-approved opinion of 70 percent good and 30 percent bad) to the ubiquity of WeChat, a Chinese app that essentially replaces censored social media (she was shocked to hear that I had never heard of it).

Many of my experiences on PacRim have forced me to acknowledge some unrecognized aspects of my identity as an American liberal arts student. For two and a half years, an education at Puget Sound has pushed me to exercise curiosity and challenge ideas, especially ideas that have been institutionalized. This sort of anti-establishment is not much of an option in Fuzhou, or anywhere else in China.

As I realize just how much I have taken this freedom of thought for granted, I also realize just how precious it is, universally.

“All of these students who studied abroad have sounded slightly less like the naïve foreigner I was,” he said.

Lastly, he reflected on the people of Taiwan: “I wish I knew how friendly the general population of Taiwan is, and capitalized on making more random friendships!”

Angie Inn ’18 studied abroad in Copenhagen, Denmark for five months. She stressed the importance of solitude while being abroad. “Take time to be alone, whether that be on your commute to school, traveling or a weekly trip to a donut shop,” she said.

Andrew Seaton ’17 studied abroad in Saint Petersburg, Russia for an academic year. He spoke about being smart and safe in a country you are not your own. “Learn public transport because you are guaranteed to use it: exchange money after you arrive and not at the airport. Make copies of your passport and credit cards and carry in a Ziploc bag (everywhere else you can get by with a USA driver’s license),” he said.

Both Cummiskey and Zeitz spoke about what to pack and what not to pack when studying abroad. “Don’t overpack/bring your whole wardrobe/everything from home. You’ll be home so soon,” Cummiskey said. Packing good shoes is a must, she added.

Zeitz spoke about a difference between Tacoma and Taiwan. “I wish I knew that I really didn’t need heavy jeans or any jackets during the summer,” he said. “I also wish I knew that, unlike Tacoma, everyone uses umbrellas instead of raincoats.”

Both Harman and Cummiskey said that traveling to surrounding areas can be fun, but emphasized how important it was to spend time exploring the country you came to study in. “Something I really regretted by the end of it was that I felt like I hadn’t spent enough of my free time in Austria,” Cummiskey said.

The advice of these students who studied in many different places for varied amounts of time might help students who are currently planning to study abroad. Study Abroad applications are due Jan. 31, 2018.

Abroad View: Our sister campus in Fuzhou, China

By Olivia Langen, PacRim Program, China

Imagine a Jones Hall with eves strung by round red lanterns and bricks densely overlapping each other. Around the corner is an old building with “Trimble” engraved above the entrance. Walking through the old campus of Fujian Hwa Nan Women’s College (our sister school in Fuzhou, China) feels like walking through a slightly alternative reality of Puget Sound — a vivid parallel to my interactions with students here.

Fuzhou is our first stop in China, and my first experience in a communist country. On the bus ride from the airport to campus alone, I counted 10 large roadside banners inscribed with propaganda to cherish the jia geng, or “home country.” The next morning, we paired up with Hwa Nan students who signed up to show us around the city and practice English. The program is academic, but the friendships developed are meaningful and often insightful.

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Banff Mountain Film Festival a success once again
By Zachary Fletcher

The Banff Mountain Film Festival made its annual stop in Tacoma on Monday, Nov. 27 and Tuesday, Nov. 28 during its 2017/2018 World Tour. The festival is based out of Banff in Alberta, Canada, the home of Banff National Park in the heart of the Canadian Rocky Mountains. Originally launched in 1976 by the Banff Centre, the festival brings education and inspiration to both seasoned and novice travelers alike every fall.

The festival brings a showing of various films about the outdoors culture on its tour, giving its audiences an insight into mountain life, sports and the resulting environmental and cultural impacts. After the festival in Banff concludes in November, a select group of films are chosen to go on tour around the world. Tacoma’s event is organized and set up by the Mountaineers, Edgeworks and Puget Sound Outdoors (PSO).

Assistant Director of Student Activities for Outdoor Programs Justin Canny speaks of the increasing role of PSO in this event over the course of its history in the Tacoma area and on Puget Sound’s own campus.

“PSO staff and leaders have helped out with the event by giving feedback to assist with film selection, putting up signs in Tacoma, staffing the PSO information table and directing folks on the evening of the show,” Canny said.

The event used to be held on campus, but the demand for a new space and increased interest brought the festival to the downtown area.

In the last 12 years we have moved from one screening on campus for about 250 people to two nearly-sold-out screenings for 700 people,” Canny said. “We also moved off campus because Schneebeck Concert Hall is prioritized for music event use, so the dates were difficult for us to book two years in advance, which was required for our contract with the Banff Centre,” he added.

Mindy Roberts, an organizer for the Banff film festival, also speaks of PSO’s increased role in getting the event going in Tacoma.

“PSO leads the solicitation of local giveaways that are so popular from stage, as well as physical advertising,” Roberts said. She also speaks to the increased popularity demanding a new space for the event.

“Originally, the Tacoma festival was hosted at [Puget Sound], until we outgrew the biggest facility and kept selling out. We’re at the Rialto Theatre, which is about double the capacity. It’s a terrific historical theater, and the people who work the festival are awesome,” Roberts said.

Swimming team ahead of opponents
By Tayla MacPherson

The Logger women’s and men’s swim teams have started with extreme promise this season. The women’s team is 4-0, whereas the men’s team is 1-1.

Both teams are filled with experienced and strong swimmers who continue to hope to improve and continue winning throughout season.

Sophomore Greta Dunn (LaFayette, Colorado), discussed the team objectives that the Loggers established before the start of the season.

“Our expectations for this upcoming season was to place higher than we did last season. We are trying to make a stricter team culture by having more all-around team involvement, so we have implemented an academic mentorship program, study hours and some outside-of-swimming bonding events,” Dunn said.

Last season the women’s team finished third and the men’s team finished first. So far this season, the women’s team is tied for first alongside Pacific Lutheran, while the men’s team is third in the Northwest Conference behind Whitworth and Pacific Lutheran.

Coach Myhre has been a part of the Puget Sound swimming program for 28 years. He discussed the challenges and excitments with the men’s swim team.

“For the men’s team we felt like we had a very dynamic but potentially successful group of talented young men, but smaller group. Their work ethic and commitment, and the way they have embraced their potential is awesome,” Myhre said.

The women’s team has a deep squad of 30 girls, yet the men’s team only has 14 swimmers. Coach Myhre recognizes the challenge of only having 14 swimmers for the men’s team but also states that a smaller team may help with a greater level of individual improvement. Additionally, both teams are very close in and out of the water.

Dylan Reimers, a sophomore from Rocklin, California, discussed the team’s dynamics.

“Our water we are really close and eat most meals together. Also, many swimmers who live off campus live with one another. The majority of the time we choose to spend time with each other,” Reimers said.

The squad has a very rigorous practicing schedule, practicing sometimes twice a day with lifting as well. The team nationally spends a good amount of time with one another. With that, the team is still able to keep a competitive and caring culture.

Kai Haven, another sophomore (Seattle, Washington), discussed the team culture in the water: “In the water, we are very focused on getting our set in, but we are very comfortalbe with competing against one another, since we are always wanting a faster time and to move up a spot.”

The Loggers have had a promising season so far and hope to continue to their momentum into the end of the season. Coach Myhre has high hopes for the team.

“The current women’s team is the deepest team I have coached at Puget Sound, out of 28 years of coaching. Now that we have seen all of the competition sets are fluid. As a standard goal we want to be successful and have a positive team culture. I want to help them reach their ultimate potential as an athlete and as a student.”

The Logger’s next meet is the Logger Invitational on Dec. 1 and 3.
**SPORTS & OUTDOORS**

**Sports Recaps**

*By Tayla MacPherson*

**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

On Wednesday, Nov. 15, the men's basketball team faced the Evergreen State College. The Loggers were able to continue their winning streak against the Geoducks by a score of 87-80. The Loggers had 20 points in the first half, and were able to maintain their lead throughout the game. Bergeron tied the game at 69-65 in the final moments, but the Loggers were able to hold on for the victory with a final score of 87-80.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

The women's basketball team opened their season with a 70-54 win against St. Martin’s University. Unfortunately, St. Martin’s outscored the Loggers 74-54. The Loggers' top scorer of the game was senior Claire Fitzgerald, who scored 21 points. The women's basketball team will continue their season against four conference opponents.

**SPORTS FOOTBALL**

**Logger football ends up-and-down season**

When Senior Katie Shammel stepped onto the field for the first time, she knew she was a part of something special. Shammel was the starting quarterback for the Puget Sound football team, and her performance on the field was a testament to her hard work and dedication. Shammel was able to lead the team to victory against a formidable opponent, proving once again that she is one of the most valuable players on the team.

**Senior training aid reflects on time with team**

Senior training aid reflects on time with team. Even at a school the size of Puget Sound, it's about putting your time in, even if it's not the most glamorous. With assistance from her coworkers, Shammel managed to grow into the role. While the training workload diminishes, the void of the graduating senior and new leadership from the coaching staff will be felt. The Loggers look to next season with hope and excitement for the impact the new leadership will have on the team.

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*By Gaby Marrese*

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*By Kevin White*

**Senior training aid reflects on time with team**

When Senior Katie Shammel (Ashland, OR) arrived at a first year, she assumed that she'd get "any other work-study job" before getting the role of training aid. But when she stepped up for her first work-study job, the was thrust into the role. Shammel began her first year with no direct supervision. Her training of the Loggers football team, she was considered "an asset to the team," which has resulted in a successful returning next season. Considering the amount of time and effort that goes into training athletes, Shammel has been able to successfully manage and lead the team.

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Now that football season is done, the training workload diminishes, but Shammel will be working until graduation. She says "winter and spring are extremely low-key compared to the fall. I guess the rest of the year [I'll be] enjoying my time in the training room...cause it'll be the last months I have in this place, and it's really become a place for me, where I'm comfortable and where people respect me."

These past few years have seen the Loggers fight their way back into relevancy, and Shammel has been along for the odyssey. Shammel's hard work and dedication to the job is representative of Puget Sound's training staff. Without the work of staff and student-athletes, our sports programs would be sorely hindered. Whenever you go and watch our teams perform at their best, remember that the training staff and aids played no small role in that success.
Look for what water bottle you carry and see what the future will hold for you!

**Swbell:** This is your year, Swbell. All the hard work and dedication you put in is gonna pay off when you get a B on the final and are admitted into psychology class. Congrats, Swbell!

**Nalgene:** You've got a busy week ahead of you, Nalgene. Make sure to be very superstitious and not step on any cracks in the sidewalk, and always keep your Nalgene 3/4 of the way full in case the apocalypse begins.

**Hydro flask with stickers:** Keep your hydro flask full for the coming weeks. Your freshman year roommate spread a rumor you have ringworm and everyone believes it. Also, make sure to go into office hours in the next week; you are failing three classes.

**Hydro flask without stickers:** Wow, Hydro Flask without stickers! You probably should slap some stickers on your water bottle because in the next week you will lose it and need to prove it was yours. Also be sure to brush your teeth with some new dents, so mentally prepare for that.

**You're not carrying one:** You will die of dehydration in the coming weeks.

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**Klean kanteen:** It's been a tough couple of weeks for the Klean Kanteen, but do not worry. Soon all the hard times will be replaced by happy times in the new year. Also buy more barbies; they will come in handy.

**SIGG:** Don't focus so much on making eye contact; it scares some people. And get that rash checked out; it's been almost four months since it started.

**One from Puget Sound:** Congratulations on adopting your second cat! Make sure to stock up on cat food, a scratching post and lots of toys, because Chester is gonna be a real stinker.

**Mason jar:** Make sure to match your Smartwood socks, Birkenstocks and Patagonia. This coming week lends itself to you as a real place for personal growth: cut off toxic friends and #dab on

**Mag:** Drinking water from a bucket as a real power move.™

**Reusing an old plastic container:** You unscrew and green when you refilled your old plastic bottle at one of the few water bottle refilling stations on campus. But that will fade and be replaced with people giving you IV saline drip for using a plastic water bottle and 2) lectures about how the chemicals are entering your water bottles. Either way make sure to call your mom and get that ointment prescription refilled.

**Greaser:** Ever since that first Bon Iver album came out you've carried a greaser. You are irritated that they have become mainstream, so you covered it with stickers and tried to avoid the plague of business. However, you have failed and are just one more pawn in corporate America's game. Make sure to get your gym shot and stay away from Greasy; he has mumps.

**Disposable and accompanying shame:** Even if you were running late to class and just grabbed one or it was given to you as a gift this is a major faux pas and with it comes the status of a social pariah and exile for the coming semester.

**Waterbottle backpack:** You are always prepared, and people love that about you. You crave travel, deep connection and Instagram fame. All will come with time; take life one lifestyle blog post at a time.

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**Rusty bucket:** You are a true individual, but watch out for tethas — the rusty bucket you use is actually a relic from the Civil War. You shall not do anything that has the idea of conforming, and worship Wes Anderson. Watch out for paddles this week, and remember to buy a cup or two from Urban Outfitters.

**IV saline drip:** You've got it all figured out. IV. People seek you out for legal help and advice all the trip, and you are never dehydrated. In the coming week consider listening to a new podcast or learning how to subtract.

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**WRITER SEEKING WRITER:** Seeking fame, love, and a 401(k)? Well, you need to do more than write for the Combat Zone. This is not your last chance to make it big. Apply before next semester to bring unbounded joy to everyone you meet. If you feel that you can't meet any of these requirements, blow a kiss to trailcz@pugetsound.edu. Any questions specifically about the Combat Zone can be directed to trailcz@pugetsound.edu. We would love to have you!
Passion, growth and discovery at Real Art Tacoma

By Evan Welsh

In the bowels of Wyatt, Professor Joe Shapiro, Associate Professor of English at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, introduced us to a well-known professor who has been writing about the U.S. novel and how the U.S. novel talks about the working class. The third novel Professor Shapiro talked about was called “Looking Backward: 2000-1887” by Edward Bellamy. The methodology with which Bellamy chose to show people mobilizing was more political in nature, thus a little different from the ideas of Gantt and Whitaker.

Whittaker’s and Gantt’s novels revolve around the Knights of Labour, an organization in the United States focused on uniting workers of all races, genders and occupations in opposition to their rich employers. “They were the quintessential cooperative of the labour movement in the 19th century U.S.,” labor historian Leon Fink said, according to Professor Shapiro.

The Knights believed that workers, through unification, could overthrow the wage system in the United States and create a “cooperative Commonwealth.” “Only the cooperative commonwealth, only a society in which workers emphasized joint ownership and control over industrial enterprises, could offer everyone a condition of freedom,” Shapiro said.

Whittaker and Gantt’s novels revolve around the means through which workers could arrive at this fabled cooperative commonwealth. “These aren’t the best books, but they are books that I think that back then wouldn’t have been in the history of working-class culture or the ways in which U.S. culture play in creating a better world,” Professor Shapiro explained that Gantt and Whitaker were not only searching to record history, but to influence it themselves afterwards because the authors status as second-class citizens and then mobilize to change it. The two novelists set out to realize a working-class class consciousness. Neither novel guaranteed ways of achieving the collective commonwealth, but they argued that by working together, the working class could actively influence society through protests and unions.

Senator Izzy Anderman expressed her delight at the talk as well as the question and answer time afterwards because the talk was full of people who were genuinely interested in learning about class and labor organizing prior to the Russian revolution and America’s widespread fear of communism,” the said.

In an interview, we asked Professor Shapiro why it was important that people know that there was literature meant to mobilize the working class of the 1880s. Professor Shapiro began by stating that authorities on history used to claim that class, and thus inequality based on class, simply did not exist in the United States. Historians justifiably this idea of a classless state because they claimed that in a meritocracy such as the United States there was room for social mobility. Furthermore, the fact that there did not exist a working-class class protest is a sort of foreign input from like Europe or Russia is not true. It’s just not true. So part of what I’m trying to do with talking about ‘LARRY LOCKE’ and ‘Breaking the Chains’ is to make sure we’re getting the story about class in the United States right,” Professor Shapiro said.

Professor Shapiro will continue to look at the role of radical anti-capitalist novels in generating and developing awareness. In the book he is writing, tentatively titled ‘Radicalism and the U.S. Novel in the Long 19th-Century’.

The organization hopes to expand its outreach as much as possible. Real Art Tacoma’s Tom Long, who introduced us to the venue, said he is looking forward to "more involvement, more related events ... more cool stuff, more young people learning, more young bands finding their footing."

Real Art Tacoma was created and is kept alive by the people of the Tacoma Art community looking to give voices and opportunities to its younger members and anyone who is willing to learn.

For two years, Real Art Tacoma has provided an inclusive space for expression in the south end of Tacoma. By the looks of it, this all ages passion project has many more years of growth and discovery to offer.

Real Art Tacoma is located at 5412 S 5th Tacoma Ave and everyone there lights up when they see new people come through the doors. It’s the perfect place in the south end to experience more of the local Tacoma music scene without having to worry about being old. You can sign up that you volunteer at Real Art Tacoma by looking up the upcoming event calendar through their website, realarttacoma.com.
Home and personal identity in new exhibition at Kittredge

By Brynn Svenningsen

How do you express home? How would someone represent Tacoma as home? In his new exhibition in Kittredge gallery, artist Christopher Paul Jordan is exploring this. Interestingly enough, he is doing so by collaborating with his teenage self, using photos he took while in high school in his current artwork.

Jordan’s exhibition in Kittredge, "Latent Home," is joined by artist Gustavo Martinez’s exhibition, titled "Guardian, Warriors, and Allies." The works of these two artists deal with extremely different subject matter. Jordan’s work is inspired by Tacoma and its impact on his own sense of home, while Martinez uses his imagination and with extremely different subject matter. Jordan’s work is inspired by Tacoma and its impact on his own sense of home, while Martinez uses his imagination and personal identity and exploration is affected us all. … My avatar was calm and collected; it was a methodical act full of nurturing motherly love,” Martinez wrote.

The connection of his artwork to his personal identity and exploration is represented through each piece of the exhibition. There is a continued use of animalistic art pieces to represent one’s avatar. This can be seen in some of Martinez’s past work and in his work in Kittredge. The Mesoamerican-inspired ceramic work of Martinez and the multimedia work of Jordan could not be more different. Despite this, the differences in each of the exhibitions play off of each other. While walking through Kittredge Gallery, the viewer sees two very different styles of art, each by a local artist. Jordan’s art shows the dilapidation of Tacoma and his experience in finding home, while Martinez’s widely creative sculptural art portrays his personal exploration.

Both shows will run until Dec. 9 and can be viewed Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or on Saturdays from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

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