By Christina Conry

The evening began with a presentation by Mikkelson, who discussed the origins of Snopes.com, the rising popularity of “junk news” and social media platforms’ lack of monitoring fake news. Content published on Snopes.com is dependent on what users are curious about. “We write about what most people are asking,” Mikkelson said, “and we hope our audience is able to discern between the frivolous and the important.”

Mikkelson spoke on the rise of fake news surrounding the 2016 election, which he attributed to people “discovering how to manipulate political discourse.” Suddenly Snopes.com was not only debunking Bigfoot myths but now also fact-checking intense rumors about presidential candidates. Now, with a president who consistently perpetuates fake news culture and an upcoming election in 2020, Snopes.com finds itself busier than ever.

Puget Sound Professor Seth Weinberger joined the stage to sit down with Mikkelson and interview him about his work in fact-checking politics in the age of Trump. Among Weinberger’s many questions was the inquiry of how fake news has been able to grow and become the threat that it is today. Mikkelson explained that the phenomenon is due both in part to the evolution of the internet and also to the competitive nature of media.

Every entertainment company, on any platform, is competing for people’s attention. We, as humans, are willing to spend less time on a single article, possessing an attitude that Mikkelson described as, “I just want to know if this is true.” As a result, people look to headlines and snippets for their information, not reading the entire story. “Social media gives you bytes of things... We don’t consume the whole meal anymore,” Mikkelson said. After discussing the need for a fact-checking system, Mikkelson went on to address the challenge of presenting such a site as objective. He began by highlighting that “traditional journalism understands that the job is to report, not interpret.”

Networks have been taken over by opinionated talking heads, with only a small percentage of airtime dedicated to actually reporting news. Mikkelson also discussed the hiring mentality with unsubstantiated sites such as Snopes.com, insisting that “the mentality of hiring bias to counteract bias does not work; we simply hire the best.”

Between April 12-14, the University of Puget Sound hosted a conference organized by Puget Sound’s ECO Club as well as other regional ECO Clubs titled Cascade Climate Conference. This year’s theme was “Social and Economic Justice in the Environmental Movement: Exploring how social justice and economic justice has (and should) interact with the environmental movement.”

The Cascade Climate Network is an organization made up of environmental clubs at the University of Washington, Western Washington University and Reed College. “The conference is an opportunity to make connections with students from all around the PNW and support each other’s campus and community actions. ECO comes away with new ideas and strategies after each conference, and have been inspired to do the timeline of environmental justice at UPS (2017) and Grizz’s Grub (2016)” said Lisa Grim, president of the ECO club. “The conference was put on by ECO club, and students attended from similar clubs at other Pacific Northwest colleges, including Western Washington University and Reed College.

The weekend started off with a screening of the movie “Ancestral Waters,” which was created by the Native Daily News and co-produced by Benista and Darren Moore, who were in attendance. The film focuses on the Puylulp Tribe’s fight against the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant being built in Tacoma by Puget Sound Energy, against land rights established in the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854.

The treaty involved several Washington tribes, including the Puyallup and the Nisqually. The tribes signed away most of their land in exchange for $30,000, designated reservations and permanent rights to use traditional hunting and fishing grounds. The LNG plant is being built on the Tideflats, which would directly impact the (already polluted) waterways that are technically Puyallup land. The Mooses spoke briefly on the film afterward and answered questions from the audience about the current state of the anti-LNG movement.

On Saturday morning, there was a panel titled “Intersections of Environmental, Social, and Economic Justice.” The panel consisted of three Puget Sound professors: Barry Goldstein of the Geology department, Rachel DeMotts of the Department of Environmental, Social, and Economic Justice and Decision Making department, and Bill Kupinste of the English Department. Each professor had their own specific interest in environmental issues and involvement with local organizations. They discussed the often-overlooked role of indigenous groups in environmental issues and the histories of the United States breaking treaties such as the Washington Medicine Creek Treaty.

(Continued on Page 2...)

(Continued on Page 3...)
Snopes.com founder visits campus
(Continued from Page 1...)

Weinberger's final question asked Mukelkson how he is able to ensure accuracy with Snopes.com. A larger component of the lack of publishing pressure. Each network and newspaper is pressured to get the breaking story out first, which inevitably leads to mistakes. As a site that primarily responds to these stories, there is reduced pressure and emphasis on focusing on credible sources to then confirm or reject the rumor in question. Mukelkson concluded his talk by stressing the need for people to become educated in media literacy and burst out of their "filter bubble" by seeking information from multiple credible sources rather than doing the disservice of confirming themselves to one news station or newspaper.

There will always be people who, when confronted with the truth, entrench themselves within their incorrect views even further, but Mukelkson says that social media platforms and entertainment sources will rise to the occasion and do their part to stop the spread of fake news.

Office of University Relations
Research hunts for potential donors

By Kylie Gurewitz

One department many Loggers may not have heard about is University Relations. This department is responsible for reaching out to alumni, parents, corporations, foundations and others to ask for contributions to the University.

Associate Research Director of University Relations Amelia Hooper described the goals of the department as "building and fostering a culture of philanthropy that results in the receipt of charitable contributions in support of the mission of the university." What does this mean, and how does this department accomplish this? To achieve these goals, University Relations has seven different departments: Alumni & Parent Relations, Annual Giving, Capital & Planned Giving, Corporate & Foundations Relations, Donor Relations, University Relations Information Services, and University Relations Research. Alumni & Parent Relations focuses on connecting alumni through networks, volunteer opportunities and Puget Sound resources to encourage alumni donations.

Planned gifts are an option for individuals to give to the University. According to the Puget Sound website, "Planned gifts are not the result of great wealth, but rather of a great desire to make a lasting impact." These gifts are generally used to support faculty or fund financial aid scholarships.

The Corporate & Foundations department is responsible for "raising funds from non-governmental sources to support priority initiatives including scholarships, research, programs, and projects to achieve the mission of University of Puget Sound," according to their official website. These donations go towards things like student scholarships, the Slater Museum and the Race and Pedagogy Conference that happens every four years.

"In these ways [donors] bolster our initiatives to improve access and affordability, and they help students earn a Puget Sound education just like they did. That makes the work very meaningful to us," Hooper said.

The University Relations - Research department works to identify and track potential funding sources. "The mission of the Office of University Relations Research at Puget Sound is to efficiently increase the university's opportunities to raise capital gifts from individual, corporate and foundation donors and to effectively share information internally that can enhance the university's profile and opportunities through its external application," the official website states.

According to Associate Research director Hooper, "There's a great segment of university friends and family who have a deep affinity for the university and the ability to make a significant donation, but who may not know what their giving options are. When we identify those potential donors, our contact staff are able to reach out and meet with them. Through those meetings the contact staff can share funding opportunities and priorities for the university, and the donors may find that one or more of these opportunities speak to them."

"One of the challenges that I appreciate about University Relations Research is the work's capacity for change. Shifting donor demographics and the evolution of higher education means that fundraising isn't exactly what it was 20 years ago, and isn't exactly what it will be 20 years from now. It's exciting to be able to inform our strategies for finding funding based on giving trends and the changing landscape of philanthropy," Hooper said.

The following is a summary of incidents reported to Security Services occurring on campus between April 9, 2019 and April 15, 2019:

Security staff, after receiving reports from concerned students, responded to two separate medical aid calls in residence halls from concerned students, responded to two separate medical aid calls in residence halls from concerned students. The Security Safety Escort program was utilized to assist with the calls.

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Security staff took two separate reports from students who left on Union Ave and had their vehicles broken into. In both cases, windows on the vehicles were smashed and valuable items left in the vehicles were stolen. Both cases were referred to Tacoma Police and security staff will be increasing patrols in the area.

Crime Prevention Measures

Please continue to be mindful of Security as we enter the spring months. Secure your belongings, remove valuables from your vehicle and keep your residence secure by locking doors and windows. Remember to use the Security Safety Escort program. Vehicle and walking safety escorts are available by calling 253.879.3311.

Annual Bike Swap

The annual City of Tacoma Bike swap is Saturday, April 27, 2019 in the Thompson and Wyatt parking lots. This is a fun event for everyone. Come check it out, Security staff will be closing and clearing both lots of vehicles for the event. If you park a vehicle in the lot, please move it to the East side of campus (N.18th and Lawrence Lot or the WSC lot) by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26. Thanks for supporting this event and sustainability at Puget Sound.

Please Prepare Now

Vehicles may not be stored on campus over the summer months. Please investigate off-campus storage options if you will be away from campus this summer and are unable to take your vehicle with you. Additionally, bicycles may not be left locked outdoors on campus over the summer. Contact your Residence Life representative for summer bicycle storage options. Contact Security if you have questions.
focused on making ethical and sustainable choices when purchasing goods. The goal of the workshop was to educate students on how to research brands and products to determine whether or not their practices are eco-friendly and ethical.

Participants broke up into groups and researched different brands to eventually present what they had learned to the group. The groups looked into popular brands such as Clorox, Burt's Bees, Tom's of Maine, Fiji Water, Adidas, Nike, and more. Some resources for researching that were presented were: goodonyou.org, eco.rankabrand.org and guide.ethical.org.au, all of which feature search engines with data regarding sustainable and ethical practices within different companies.

One group chose to research Fiji Water and found several issues with the company, including a 2010 "Greenwashing" lawsuit. Greenwashing refers to the practice of manipulating promotional materials to make a company's practices seem sustainable when they generally are not. In this case, Fiji began marketing all of their materials as "the world's only carbon-negative bottled water," because of plans to become carbon neutral by 2017. The claim was not true when it was made, however, which prompted a customer to sue the group. The group also found that though the bottled water has become the country's largest export, only 53 percent of Fijians have access to clean water. Groups made similar findings about many other companies, which will hopefully inform their spending patterns.

Another presentation titled "Land Tenure and Agrarianism" took place. This presentation was given on Saturday afternoon by Puget Sound student Jonnah Kone. This talk was an "overview of my entire undergrad research," Kone said. With the help of three case studies that took place in West Virginia, Argentina and Brazil, Kone sought to explain "private land usage and what that means to the environment."

What all these case studies had in common was that they were examples of the "Modernization Theory, [which]… painted this picture of agrarian people being archaic," Kone said. He explained how rich countries exploit the natural resources of poor countries to become richer.

The West Virginia case study showed, with the help of the book "Ramp Hollow" by Steven Stoll, that "a good chunk of land on West Virginia was owned by people out of state," according to Kone. Most people didn't know who owned the land they were working on. In order to be part of the economy the land had to be used for mining.

The owner of the land would give workers houses and a plot of land to grow their food so that their pay could be lower. In addition, workers were only paid with a type of money that could only be used in the mining company's shop.

"To this day over 50 percent of the land of West Virginia is owned by people from out of state," Kone said. Therefore, there is still a detachment from people and the land.

In the Argentina case study, Kone focused on a nature reserve called "El Tigre." This reserve is an island where families with European descent live a very "islander life," according to Kone. There is still a detachment from people and the land.

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The government tried to destroy the lives of the inhabitants of the island by paying them $3,000 to $5,000 to leave so that a new town could be built for those trying to escape the solution, and crime from the mainland. In the end the government was not successful.

Instead the Delta Wetland Observatory was built. It is now a place for people to learn about life on the island and unite the mainland with the island.

In Brazil, Kone focused on the "Landless Workers Movement" which is "the largest social movement in Latin America," according to Kone. This movement put pressure on the government to expropriate land that was obtained illegally and give it to the social movement so that they could relocate it accordingly.

All these case studies seek to get the actual users and inhabitants of the land the rights and protection that they need. This is so people won't be abused and restricted like in West Virginia and Brazil, and so people won't be bought to leave their homes like in El Tigre Argentina.

The admissions office at the University does much more than just decide who is accepted and who is denied admission to the University. In order to achieve this, they have to adapt to new strategies and criteria in their search to make it as effective as possible.

"For us, we really see our job as admission as graduating students of Puget Sound," Shannon Carr, the associate vice president of admission, said. This means that when making a decision, the admissions office pays attention not only to the qualities that make an applicant a fit to the University's community and liberal arts teaching style, but also to factors that would ensure that the students admitted will thrive here.

The search for students is more focused now since "we have much more data to show us factors that influence retention over four years and obviously through to graduation," Carr said. This is an important new development not only for the admissions process, but also for the University as a whole. These factors help create a better community, for people that are happy with their school are more likely to work hard to obtain their degree.

In addition, the admission process this year showed that "while the number of applications is lower than what it was in previous years, the quality and mix of our students is growing positively or in the ways that we would want as a university," Carr said. Becoming more selective in the people that the admission office is looking for will help create a better environment for students to thrive academically. In order to achieve this, some changes had to take place.

Demographically, "we are looking to maintain our national focus. Right now most of our students are from the states of Colorado and west, but we are hoping to expand our focus and see more student applicants coming from the Northeast and the Southeast," Carr said.

Today it is very important for universities and colleges to have a diverse student body to create a sense that everyone could find their place at that particular institution. Therefore, the admissions office is looking to expand, not only nationally but also internationally.

"We are in the process now of hiring an associate director for international admission. We really would like to increase our presence internationally and bring more international students to our university," Carr said.

In addition to these changes, the University is also going to start being more proactive about reaching out to prospective students. "We are going to start working with students earlier in their high school career and try to cultivate a sense of awareness with students about University of Puget Sound," Carr said.

This way students can really get a sense of the type of place that the University is and apply knowing that this could be a good place for them.

Furthermore, for the past three years, the admissions office has been working on implementing a new tool called "Slas," which facilitates communication between admissions and prospective students.

"If I feel like next year we'll really be working in our communication plans better in that tool. We'll be thinking about the interactive ways that we can reach out and build up relationships with those students at that tool," Carr said.

The University will soon be able to see the payoff of the admissions office's hard work as new classes arrive at the University, bringing with them new qualities and characteristics that improve the community inside and outside the classroom.
How to be an individual within an institution

By Bailey Gamel

Opposing the actions of an institution does not equate to opposing the existence (or even all actions) of an institution. Many of us Loggers have been and continue to be very critical of actions taken by the University — and we should be critical; after all, by being students here, we are intertwining our own narrative with that of the University.

The University, like any institution, has parts of its past that are shameful. In recent memory, there have been incidents of blackface on campus. Incidents of racism and xenophobia have been swept under the rug. It is imperative that we not only recognize this but also take ownership for this. We must also take steps to correct past harms and prevent them from being further perpetuated.

When there are incidents on campus that are problematic, as students we must demand action. If we are part of the problem, we must own up to our own guilt and work to mitigate the harm of our own actions. I firmly believe that Loggers care about each other and the world around them. I firmly believe that Loggers care about each other; that is okay. We all come from different backgrounds that inform our world.

Criticism is wonderful because it allows us to say what we oppose about an institution or person's actions. However, all too often we stop there. We say our piece about why we dislike something but we don't provide an alternative. To be effective in our criticism, we must identify what we think a better alternative would be. Once the alternative (or alternatives, as the case may be) has been identified, we must take actions to create the alternative.

As college students, we are in the very cool position of being able to create institutional change relatively easily. At a school as small as ours, getting to appointments with people from the administration, such as one of the deans or even President Crawford, is much more doable than it would be at other schools.

If we are upset about something that has happened in class, our classes are small enough and our professors easy enough to access that we can take swift action to address situations we disagree with. Sometimes, the action that should stem from a criticism is education. If something problematic is said or done, we can create a space to educate people. Sometimes, follow-up action after incident must go beyond simple education. There are times in which it is necessary to create change within policy, procedure or even larger structural changes.

If you have an idea for change but you are not sure how to bring it to fruition, talk to people. We have structures in place on campus to help students implement the change they wish to see. It is easy to start talking to your peers. Chances are there are other people who feel the same way as you. Work with them to hear about their experiences. There is strength in numbers; finding others makes it that much easier to create change.

You can also talk to the Associated Students of the University of Puget Sound (ASUPS). ASUPS represents us and our interests. Find a senator at office hours, reach out to the executive team, even just go into the ASUPS office and talk to someone in there. It does not matter how you choose to initiate the conversation, it just matters that you do. ASUPS represents the student body and therefore what we want as students.

If you are willing to, you can always talk to faculty and staff as well. Based off of my interactions on this campus for two years, I feel comfortable saying that the overwhelming majority of adults on this campus want what is best for us as students. They are often willing to be sounding boards for our ideas at the very least. Many of them are also willing to provide insight and other assistance if they are able to do so.

Fight to make the change you want. If your first steps are not successful, do not give up. If you feel strongly about creating change, chances are other people are going to be willing to be by your side to help with the fight. Many of them might just be waiting for someone else to get the ball rolling.

If your attempts to create change are unsuccessful, do not lose hope. Sometimes creating change, especially large-scale, structural change is a fight that takes years and many people. You can instigate the change. If there is change already being fought for, you can make sure it continues to be fought for. At the very least, by working to create change now when you are here as a student, you have contributed to the institutional memory.

We have structures in place on campus to help students implement the changes they wish to see.

OPINIONS

April 19, 2019
olangen@pugetsound.edu

OPINIONS

PHOTO CREDIT TO COREY TORPIE

PHOTO CREDIT TO MIKE MORRECK
By Bennett Johnson

"Nipples are a vestige of our early, gender-bending days in the womb," says LiveScience.com.

If you want to know why I think LiveScience is problematic, keep reading. So yes, the majority of humans are born with nipples. But in America, what you look like or pass as determines if you can show your nips in physical and digital public spaces.

It wasn't always this way in the United States, and at the beginning of the 20th century and the beginning of #freethenipple. Fast forward to the beginning of the 21st century and the beginning of #freethenipple. This movement began as a way to humorously respond to gender inequality, while also highlighting serious differences in the ways the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Motion Picture Association of America police female breasts and perpetuate the gender binary onto bodies.

Social media platforms like Instagram, for example, prohibit "photos of female nipples, but photos of post-mastectomy scarring and women actively breastfeeding are allowed." So, this essentially means Instagram is sexualizing people they believe to be women with breasts, who are not mothers. Instagram thinks that large breasts automatically make someone female. I hate to break it to Instagram, but simply because we are out of the womb does NOT mean gender is any less "bendy" than it was.

In fact, nipples should be all the proof America needs in order to realize that gender is a social construct! The majority of embryos initially form with nipples, and it is not until the Y chromosome forms that our reproductive organs begin to change and function differently. Someone who really wants to hang onto the gender binary might say, "But Bennett! The difference in reproductive organs proves the binary is real!" To that I say, all nipples don't look the same, all nipples don't perform the same, but regardless all nipples are called nipples.

Nips, nips, nips! There are so many different kinds of nips! According to healthline.com, one person can have a variety of different nipples. They can be flat, protruding, inverted, bumpy, hairy, or there can even be a third nip hiding on the side.

So, some nipples look one way, some look that way, those nipples can get milk to come out of them while these nips over here can't. Why can't we use the same kind of language we use for our nipples the way we talk about what's between our legs?

Porn can be super idealistic, y'all; it doesn't all look the same. One vagina doesn't look like all vaginas and the same goes for penises. According to medlineplus, "the urethral opening (where urine comes out) can be anywhere along, above or below the surface of the clitoris ... and the urethral opening may be anywhere along, above or below the penis."

We all pee and we all poop and we all have nipples. Life is complicated enough without Instagram telling us where to cover up and what to subscribe to. It may be the popular belief that nipples are the last vestige of our gender-bending days, but in reality, our entire body is a vestige for whenever and whatever we want it to be.
Guest lecture analyzes politics of precarity in life of day laborers

By Juliano Estrada Donatelli

Apostolidis began his lecture on politics of precarity “When we listen for resonances between these workers’ experiences and our own understanding of social theory about precarity,” Paul Apostolidis said, “we can recognize certain moments when such workers are speaking not only to their own experiences but also the problems that are faced by worker people at large.”

Last Friday, Professor Paul Apostolidis gave a talk on his new book, “The Fight for Time: Migrant Day Laborers and the Politics of Precarity.” Apostolidis teaches political science at Whitman College but was recently hired to teach political theory at the London School of Economics.

The talk was held in Wyatt Hall and organized by Professor Alissa Kessel from the Politics and Government Department, with support from other departments such as Hispanic Studies, Latin Studies and Global Development Studies. The audience was mostly students from Politics and Government classes, including Professor Karl Fields’ PG 328 course, which was cancelled for students to attend the event.

“I thought it was important because we are looking at issues of development and expoliation,” Fields said. “We’ve also read stuff over the course of the semester on workism and some of the ways in which employers use control to make the boss see how dedicated we are?” Apostolidis asked the audience. “How many of us get drawn into the game of trying to show that you are going to find the best job or are going to get promoted or are going to get a better salary?”

Apostolidis concluded his talk with a Q&A in which he spoke with audience members about his new work. 

Bookstore must haves

By Brynn Svennsngen

In addition to textbooks and course materials, the University bookstore offers essentials to students who can’t easily shop off-campus.

“I really like that the bookstore offers personal care products,” sophomore Jessica Weiss said. “I bought my face wash there.” Weiss doesn’t always have the resources to make it off campus and appreciates that the bookstore has a lot of options, specifically in the medicine and personal care sections.

Medicine: If you are suffering from the Puget Plague, check out the bookstore’s selection of cold medicines such as Dayquil, Nyquil, Zyrtec, Pepto Bismol and more. For headaches or other pain relief, the bookstore has a variety of options from brands like Excedrin, Aleve, Advil and Midol.

Personal Care: The bookstore carries personal care products and hygiene items from brands like Suave, Olay, Head & Shoulders and Dove. In addition to those products the bookstore carries soap, lotion and deodorant for students in a pinch. For dental health, the bookstore offers traditional toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as a wooden eco-friendly toothbrush that is a sustainable option.

Other personal care products include:

- first aid material like band-aids, gauze and tweezers
- a wide variety of period products in Essential Oils & Happy Lamps: If you are suffering from stress rather than a cold, check out the bookcase’s selection of essential oils and diffusers. If the lack of sunlight has gotten to you over the last few weeks, consider picking up a happy pen.
- Cleaning Supplies: For students looking ahead to the end-of-semester moveout, the bookcase’s cleaning supplies section will be particularly useful. They sell products like Clorox and disinfectant wipes, as well as laundry detergent, fabric softeners and dryer sheets.
- Technology Accessories: If you lost your headphones, flash drive or cables, don’t fear! The bookstore has a variety of each that will help any student in need. The array of accessories includes HDMI cables, travel adapters, and memory cards in 16GB and 32 GB sizes and more.

Calligraphy Pens: Unknown to many, the bookcase sells calligraphy pens in the art supplies section. If you are looking for a creative break from studying, try writing with one of these pens. They are cheap and come in a variety of colors along with accessories such as mat holders and straps, which are perfect for those walks across campus after yoga class.

Puget Sound Merchandise: There is still time to represent Puget Sound with anything from a baseball hat to a nice watch.
By Hana Morita

Managing a business is hard. Managing a business as a woman is even harder. As Hana Morita, owner of Quickie Too, can attest to, women are still not treated equally in the workplace.

“Women think of things men don’t think of,” said Morita. “Like men don’t always think about bringing kids to work, but you still get to be a mom on top of everything else. … Because when you’re in a traditional relationship with a man, they’re the ones making the household or parental role. … I still have to go home and clean.”

“I do have some help … You shouldn’t be the one bringing in the other people help,” said Morita as advice to young women who plan on becoming working mothers.

Work does not stop even when women return to taking care of their children. Thirty-two year-old Karen Pouget is currently in her third year as a mother and a teacher. Pouget commented, “I became a vegan last summer, and so I started going back when we came back to Tacoma because there aren’t a lot of vegan restaurants around here,” Anna Anderson, a regular customer and junior at the University of Puget Sound mentioned.

Morita also emphasized the importance of taking vacations. “I tell myself I’m not going to take any orders or call in when I’m away so that I’ll do that when I come back,” said Morita.

“Any time when there’s a dominant amount of people, I think it changes the situation,” said Pouget. “The atmosphere created by an all-female staff at Quickie Too. Feminists feel more empowered. Like the two ladies that work here. They love that it is just the three of us.”

According to Karen Haas, one of the biggest takeaways from living history productions is rooted in the fact that “what happened in the past has a direct impact on what our society’s like now. The Pacific Rim Museum, the Tacoma Historical Society, and THS are all involved in living history for the students’ benefit and for the teachers,” said Pouget.

According to Pouget, participating in the Living History Museum’s program was an amazing experience. “I was totally impressed by [the women’s] performance. They portrayed their parts with clarity and unquestioned believability. I was impressed by each as individual characters,” Moss said.

Haas first became involved with living history after attending an event at Fort Nisqually and learning they were looking for volunteers. Her re-enactment program is rooted in 19th century women’s studies. She spoke on today’s society simply as history, and why it’s important for people to learn about women from the past.

Haas detailed the importance of learning history to better understand historical figures as people and to trace their impact on today’s society. She also noted history’s salience within this particular historical moment.

“I’ve been doing re-enactment for years now, and I think it’s such an important part of what we’re trying to do in the THS,” said Pouget. “We’re trying to help people learn about who the people were—what were their lives like? How are things different because of what they did?”

According to Pouget, the Living History Museum plays a significant role in educating young minds on the history of local women. “We are frequently hosted by the Pacific Rim Museum for volunteers. Her re-enactment program was related programming.”

According to Pouget, the Living History Museum is “Leading Ladies: 21 of Tacoma’s Women Tales” book series, of which the newest title is “Leading Ladies: 21 of Tacoma’s Women of Destiny.” It was released in March in conjunction with the society’s newest exhibit, “Her Story.” Last Monday’s event was related programming.

According to Freedman, the THS plays a pivotal role in women’s studies and women’s liberation. “It’s part of the evolution of promoting” Tacoma’s story. The museum is the only one “actively researching, creating and showcasing material dedicated to just the city of Tacoma.”

Freedman outlined a close working relationship between the THS and the Tacoma Sound, including monthly programs typically held in the Murray Boardroom, which are always open to students.

Since the museum’s founding in 1990, students have also participated in several summer internships. “Through those internships, we are gaining valuable research and museum experience. Exhibits at the museum frequently include information collated from the museum library team, and students are always encouraged to visit, do research or just browse at the downtown museum, which hosts free admission.”

Moss believes that, from the Tacoma Sound’s perspective, students could “learn and relate to the people who built this city. They could see the place where they have grown up, the progress of generations, the connection of buildings, changes in the forms of transportation, dress, and living conditions through the history of the parts of the city as it is grown with where and how they live today.”

Freedman encouraged students to become more curious about the city of Tacoma by looking up street names, parks, trails, schools, statues and libraries. “There is a wealth of information in their phones and in their computer databases. Get curious and it is astounding just how much a student can learn,” Moss said.

Quickie Too restaurant brings vegan comfort food to Hilltop

By Eli Harris

University hosts Tacoma’s Living History event

April 19, 2019
sbuchlaw@pugetsound.edu

FEATURES

By Hana Morita

Managing a business is hard. Managing a business as a woman as a color of woman and a mother is not any easier. Despite the demanding difficulties of these intersected identities, Ali Howell, the manager of Quickie Too A Vegan Cafe, effectively runs the staple location for many vegan eaters from Tacoma and around Washington.

Together with her mother Niombi, Howell operates Quickie Too, which is open every day except Tuesdays.

“Afi Howell said as advice to young women who plan on becoming working mothers.

Work does not stop even when women return to taking care of their children. Thirty-two year-old Karen Pouget is currently in her third year as a mother and a teacher. Pouget commented, “I became a vegan last summer, and so I started going back when we came back to Tacoma because there aren’t a lot of vegan restaurants around here,” Anna Anderson, a regular customer and junior at the University of Puget Sound mentioned.

Morita also emphasized the importance of taking vacations. “I tell myself I’m not going to take any orders or call in when I’m away so that I’ll do that when I come back,” said Morita.

“Any time when there’s a dominant amount of people, I think it changes the situation,” said Pouget. “The atmosphere created by an all-female staff at Quickie Too. Feminists feel more empowered. Like the two ladies that work here. They love that it is just the three of us.”

According to Karen Haas, one of the biggest takeaways from living history productions is rooted in the fact that “what happened in the past has a direct impact on what our society’s like now. The Pacific Rim Museum, the Tacoma Historical Society, and THS are all involved in living history for the students’ benefit and for the teachers,” said Pouget.

According to Pouget, participating in the Living History Museum’s program was an amazing experience. “I was totally impressed by [the women’s] performance. They portrayed their parts with clarity and unquestioned believability. I was impressed by each as individual characters,” Moss said.

Haas first became involved with living history after attending an event at Fort Nisqually and learning they were looking for volunteers. Her re-enactment program is rooted in 19th century women’s studies. She spoke on today’s society simply as history, and why it’s important for people to learn about women from the past.

Haas detailed the importance of learning history to better understand historical figures as people and to trace their impact on today’s society. She also noted history’s salience within this particular historical moment.

“I’ve been doing re-enactment for years now, and I think it’s such an important part of what we’re trying to do in the THS,” said Pouget. “We are frequently hosted by the Pacific Rim Museum for volunteers. Her re-enactment program was related programming.”

According to Pouget, the Living History Museum plays a significant role in educating young minds on the history of local women. “We are frequently hosted by the Pacific Rim Museum for volunteers. Her re-enactment program was related programming.”

According to Pouget, the Living History Museum is “Leading Ladies: 21 of Tacoma’s Women Tales” book series, of which the newest title is “Leading Ladies: 21 of Tacoma’s Women of Destiny.” It was released in March in conjunction with the society’s newest exhibit, “Her Story.” Last Monday’s event was related programming.

According to Freedman, the THS plays a pivotal role in women’s studies and women’s liberation. “It’s part of the evolution of promoting” Tacoma’s story. The museum is the only one “actively researching, creating and showcasing material dedicated to just the city of Tacoma.”

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Freedman encouraged students to become more curious about the city of Tacoma by looking up street names, parks, trails, schools, statues and libraries. “There is a wealth of information in their phones and in their computer databases. Get curious and it is astounding just how much a student can learn,” Moss said.
Puget Sound Sounders men’s tennis is “kicking ass” this spring season, according to Sidney Alwen, a first-year man’s player. The men’s program, on the other hand, is off to what can only be described as a rough start. Nonetheless, spirits are high as Logger tennis looks forward to the remainder of the season.

In 2019, Puget Sound tennis has faced the expected challenges and excitement of a recent change in leadership. Newly-appointed Head Coach Matthew Simons spoke about the transition: “The hours have been long, but the reward has been priceless. We have had some challenges, but overall the heart, courage, and determination I have seen are tremendous.”

Since the spring season kicked off in February, Puget Sound’s women’s tennis team has won eight of their 14 competitions. According to Logger Athletics, they have had a run of four straight victories in recent weeks, including 8-1 at Whitworth (March 23), 8-1 at Pacific Lutheran (April 5), and 8-1 against College of Idaho (April 7).

The women’s team has also faced some tough results. In early March, they lost against Whitworth in a nail-biting competition (final result: 5-4). To help the team overcome this, Simons recalled, they lost the last remaining spot in the conference tournament in a tie-breaker against Whitworth last year. Simons reflected on this season’s defeat: “Sometimes there are losses that end up being the best thing for the team — this was one of those losses. A team shows what they are made of not by wins and losses, but how they respond in adversity.”

Indeed, Puget Sound Women’s tennis averaged themselves. On Saturday, April 13, their dominant performance against Whitworth resulted in a 7-2 win. The win launched the Loggers into second place in the Northwest Conference (NWC).

Simons acknowledged the different circumstances facing his two teams. “Both teams are at a different place in their journey. In regard to the women’s team, we intend to make the conference tournament and continue to work on our plan and see where it takes us,” Simons said. “The men’s team has a different set of challenges and goals.”

It appears that building the men’s team started this season off slow, but we are continually getting better and picking up momentum.”

The ultimate goal for Simons is for both the men’s and women’s programs to establish themselves as top teams in the Northwest Conference, and to do so as a unit. “Changing the culture of a program does not happen overnight,” Simons said. “This is a long-term process that men and women have been amazing at coming together as a team.”

First-year Avery Honaker expressed similar appreciation for the solidarity between the two teams. “Practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays have been a highlight for me because they’re a combined practice (women and men), and we get to practice as a full team,” Honaker said. This team spirit goes further than uniting the two programs, according to Honaker. “I think that would be an outsider, a ‘freshy.’ This was not at all true at all. I was welcomed with open arms and treated as an equal,” Honaker said.

Alwen echoed this sentiment: “I love the culture. They’re an incredible group of well-rounded, friendly people. I came for the tennis and stayed for the team.”

Simons expressed great optimism about the remainder of the season. “We are exactly where we need to be and we look forward to finishing the year even stronger than we started.”

Looking forward, Logger tennis has only one more conference match against tomorrow, Saturday, April 20, the men’s team hosts Pacific Lutheran. They will see how well travel to Lakewood on Sunday and look to clinch a conference tournament spot. The whole program could use your support!

Puget Sound Outdoors holds womxn and nonbinary climbing trip

By Serena Hawkey

“Do you like inclusivity, body positivity and empowerment?” This is the line that heads the “Women and Nonbinary Climbing” Night email that Puget Sound Outdoors (PSO) sends out a few times per semester — a welcome sight for many individuals who can feel excluded by the binary climbing spaces] is to open and nonbinary climbers.

Inspired by this, junior Ella Hampson started this group last year as a way to create a positive space for women and nonbinary Loggers in a typically male-dominated sport. PSO has had iterations of this group before but never with the same organizational capacity as this one. “I feel that there is a lot of value in creating a non-judgemental and inclusive space where women and non-binary people can explore the sport of climbing and be supported by like-minded people,” Hampson said.

To kick off spring sports, climbing is dominated by men. Woman and nonbinary Loggers have noted that the entire sport can lose its appeal when all gyms and outdoor climbing crags are teeming exclusively with very fit men. Hampson said. “I thought that women and nonbinary individuals do have, rather than those they don’t. Unintentionally, senior Ana Siegel’s first outdoor climbing trip was entirely women, and she remembers how empowering and unimimidating it was, especially for a first-time experience. Since then, my most favorite moments in climbing have been with my girlfriends and especially in a sport that is largely dominated by men. I feel so lucky to have such a strong community of women climbers to climb with. I think it’s important to have entirely women/non-binary climbing trips because that community of climbers is one that should be both celebrated and grown,” Siegel said.

Hampson agreed that strong, women/nonbinary climbers to look up to helps her stay confident in such a “bromantic” culture.”

“It’s also a great place for people to come to find role models and community while pushing themselves to grow in ways they don’t always feel comfortable otherwise,” Hampson said.

Outdoors, who is a sophomore, echoes Siegel and Hampson, noting that the program is “important because it works to break down barriers of exclusivity in the outdoor industry and creates a space where all identities can explore and be celebrated. By leading entirely women/non-binary trips it alleviates the pressures that masculine energy can create within the outdoor industry.”

The group currently meets monthly, but next semester Hampson is hoping to host it weekly or bi-weekly. The next (and final) woman and nonbinary climbing night will be hosted from 6-7 p.m. on May 2 at the campus climbing wall.
Women underrepresented in athletic department leadership  

By Tayla MacPherson

In a press conference on April 4, Muffet McGraw, Notre Dame’s head women’s basketball coach, said, “We don’t have enough visible women leaders. We don’t have enough women in power.” A video of the interview was published on the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) women’s basketball Twitter account. The interview question was prompted by her statement “to never hire another male coach.”

Without question, the discrepancy of women in leadership positions within all areas of sports is immense. Within the Northwest Conference (NWC), a considerably liberal area of the United States, four of the nine athletic directors identify as women. At the University of Puget Sound, only two of the head women’s sports – lacrosse and softball — are coached by women.

Puget Sound athletic director Amy Hackett described the small pool of women to choose from when hiring. “It should always be part of the conversation. Is it an easy process to create more balance? … No, for a number of reasons. But athletic directors are always looking for a stronger gender representation among staff,” Hackett said.

In the last 20 years, the salary change in women’s sports has increased competition in the field of coaching women’s sports. After this salary change, men recognized the financial benefit and started shifting their attention towards women’s and men’s sports.

Emery Bradlina, a senior cross country and track and field athlete, is coached by a woman at her school. She reflected on McGraw’s comments regarding critical gender equity in athletic positions of power. “I think a key point that she makes is that the discourse of the ideal, contemporary, gender equitable athletic arena pointing to progress through Title IX, or the ‘first female governor,’ and all the other examples she gives, is inherently at odds with the broader ideological discourses that socialize the predetermined gender roles she mentions,” Bradlina said.

Bradlina is referring to McGraw’s statement that women in power need to become a societal norm rather than a surprise. Hackett recognizes the immense steps society has taken towards growing “the industry of women coaches.” “The NCAA and other organizations have been trying to grow the market,” Hackett said.

Puget Sound head softball coach Kellyn Tate is one of the two woman-identifying coaches who coaches a women’s sport. She described the power of woman-to-woman mentorship relationships. “I have often thought I could do a better job of supporting women; I think about that in all realms of sports. I think women need to do a better job of supporting one another, which is why we need to better educate the future,” Tate said.

All three interviewees recognized a pattern that may describe the discrepancy with women leaders in sports. Society often stereotyped the “normal” American family household as a stay-at-home mom and a working father. This working father often coaches his son or daughter as a young child. As Coach Tate said, “Girls are used to growing up being coached by men.”

Some may argue that because of these societal stereotypes the discrepancy of gender in sports leadership roles is increasing.

“I think it is this naturalization of the binary gender roles that continues to reaffirm masculinity as more equipped to embody successful leadership regardless of which gender is being led,” Bradlina said.

As this conversation continues, people like McGraw, Hackett, Tate and Bradlina hope that these stereotypes diminish. For now, as Coach Tate said, “My number one goal is to help mentor other women into mentors by supporting one another.”

Logger track and field teams take second at Shotwell Invitational

By Sam Watters

Saturday, April 6 saw a powerful performance put on by the Loggers’ Men’s and Women’s track and field team. During the JD Shotwell Invitational, held on campus at Baker Stadium, the Loggers sprinted up the leaderboard and placed second in the event overall.

With school rival Pacific Lutheran University at the line after two Pacific Lutheran athletes.

In the women’s 4x400 meter relay event.

With the season nearing its conclusion, this meet was certainly a staple in the Loggers’ dominant performance throughout the year. Combining the practices put on by the dedicated coaches and the physical skills brought by the athletes, the track and field team are continuing to work on form, speed and strength.

The two closest upcoming events to mark on the calendar are the Lewis and Clark invitational held on Saturday, April 20 in Portland, Oregon, and the Northwest Conference (NWC) Championships on April 26 and 27 in Parkland, Washington.
**By Hanna Woods and Linnea Stoll**

On March 15, the Combat Zone published the headline “Isiah Crawford faces hate. The image was” accompanied by a drawing of President Crawford’s face photoshopped over the groundhog’s head. The drawing of Dr. Crawford’s face had exaggerated features and looked much more like Barack Obama than Dr. Crawford. This piece was racist, and readers were understandably disturbed, offended and alienated.

This week’s Combat Zone spread seeks to transparently acknowledge what happened and why. We believe it is necessary to fully discuss in educational and institutional settings the community’s understanding of racism in media and how it relates to our context and campus.

It is important to fully understand why this piece is racist. Both the text of the headline and the photoshopped image insert a black person into the role and body of Colorado and erase their humanity. Subtle expressions of this stereotype are no less serious than explicit ones; they reflect the full weight of the stereotype’s history and the fundamentally racist and oppressive intentions behind it.

Beyond the implications of imbuing a black person with animalistic qualities, there was the issue of the drawing of President Crawford’s face. The drawing itself is cartoonish in style with slightly exaggerated features: an elongated chin and face and an enlarged smile. Due to these exaggerations, the identity of the face does not obviously belong to President Crawford and instead closely resembles drawings of Barack Obama.

This invokes the serious concern whether the artist could distinguish between President Crawford and Obama, calling to mind the racist assumption that all black people look alike, that one black person in a position of power can be interchangeably used for another. This is especially important considering that one of the fundamental structures of racism is that people of color are defined by their group, while white people are defined as individuals. The inherent harm in assuming all black people look alike is the subsequent implication that all black people are alike, and can therefore be reduced to a small number of defining stereotypes.

Moreover, there is a long history of exaggerating black features to the point of being grotesque, for the express purpose of mocking and dehumanizing black people. Examples can be found in abundance—both historically—such as blackface and cartoon characters like “Little Black Sambo”—and recently, such as Mark Knight’s caricature of Serena Williams. That our cartoon was made without regard to or knowledge of this history is incredibly painful, and is part of an ongoing pattern of white ignorance and denial.

The option to not consider such factors is a product of white privilege, and the ability to describe such a mistake as “oversight” continues to harm communities of color by denying any sort of racist responsibility. This is not simply a matter of not knowing—the ability to not know comes from systemic racism that caters to the comfort and sensibilities of white people. We hope that, by publishing this spread, we can attempt to counteract some of the option of ignorance. This is only the beginning of an institutional and individual learning process, and we invite the Puget Sound community to engage with us in reflection.

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**By Hanna Woods**

I pitched the headline for the racist piece. I believe it is very important to transparently examine what happened, what went wrong and what we can do differently.

Hopefully, taking the time to thoroughly process and identify opportunities for growth and change will help me and anyone reading this is symptomatic of whiteness operating at Puget Sound and within an entirely white Combat Zone section. To take more responsible creators and avoid generating harmful material.

Reflecting on this incident has caused me to discover several blind spots and habitual problems within my process. I believe my fundamental misunderstanding is to think that I could never have any reason to think that the headline had implications with respect to racial identity. To pitch a piece to the entire campus without taking the time to think about how it might affect people of all identities is careless and neglectful.

I see that all creators (all white creators) must engage in an important task of always asking: “How could this material impact a non-white student on campus who has done something racist.”

This is not a practice to be turned on or off depending on whether or not race is explicitly relevant. Race is always a factor. It is only due to my white privilege that I am capable of being oblivious to the role of race in a piece. The experience of creating racist satire complicates my understanding of the fight against racism. However, the failure to consider the effect of race in determining the target is a powerful and privileged one, not a vulnerable one.

What power and privilege look like can vary a great deal depending on the context, the speaker, the scope and style of the piece, but power and privilege can be used to degrade people or demographics who are unfairly disadvantaged.

When I wrote the piece, I assumed Isiaah Crawford would be an appropriate high status figure for the piece, but because power is intertwined with identity, the application of the “punch up rule” is not so simple. This is not to say that people of color should never be the targets of racist humor—but because identity complicates power, targeting a person of color for a joke requires careful thought on the part of the creator and must not be done recklessly.

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**By Linnea Stoll**

I am the creator of the racist image. Looking back on my process, I can see multiple moments of painful ignorance—both in my life and in the text of the headline—of the history of racist cartooning, and in my failure to consider the effect of race in satire. Visual comedy, in particular, must always be treated with careful consideration, as visual associations are made much faster than written ones.

Intent does not matter nearly so much as what the cartoon looks like, because the audience will be much more connected with ideas in the minds of readers. My failure to recognize this privilege held on a personal and institutional level. After much education, and looking back on historical examples of racist cartooning, I am deeply mortified at the carelessness with which the cartoon was made. I encourage readers to examine the history of racism in offensive and educational cartoons.

A good example of visual satire gone wrong can be found in Barry Blight’s 2008 New Yorker cartoon, which depicts the Obamas in militant Islamic gear. Though the cartoon was made with the intent to satirize such opinions, it unintentionally reproduces racist tropes in the mind of readers.

On a personal note, the publication of this cartoon has been an incredibly eye-opening and humbling experience. One of the most important things I’ve gathered is that, through my inability to escape responsibility, I had had to directly and carefully confront my own biases and assumptions. Though my initial instinct was to claim ignorance and guilt, I am working to put my ego aside and do the work of reparations.

I’m incredibly grateful to all the people who have helped me take stock of my personal and professional failures, who have taken the time and energy to teach me about systemic racism. Though my initial instinct was to claim ignorance and guilt, I am working to put my ego aside and do the work of reparations.

I’m incredibly grateful to all the people who have helped me take stock of my personal and professional failures, who have taken the time and energy to teach me about systemic racism. Though my initial instinct was to claim ignorance and guilt, I am working to put my ego aside and do the work of reparations.

Within the beginning stages of confronting my own racial role and responsibility, so I openly welcome and invite additional feedback.
Are Puget Sound arts and humanities majors destined for unemployment?

By Arielle Harvey

In the midst of an increasingly competitive job market, a general sentiment has emerged among parents and grandparents alike that a degree in the arts or humanities is, for lack of a nicer word, worthless. But should our baby boomer and gen-X’er’s loved ones’ bleak outlook really influence our decisions? By choosing degrees like English or history, are we really doomed to be unemployed?

When it comes to career outlook, the real problem with arts and humanities majors isn’t a lack of options; it’s an abundance of them.

“There’s not a lot of limits for what they can do, but that makes it hard to get started because … most people like having a more narrow path to get started on and the path isn’t narrow for those individuals,” Jake Nelko, Puget Sound’s assistant director for career advising and career readiness instructor, said.

It’s true, Puget Sound arts and humanities alumni pursue a range of careers in a variety of fields related to their chosen major.

“In any degree at Puget Sound, students are building skills and competencies that are really relevant for a dynamic changing world and workforce,” Director of Career Services Alana Henges said.

Recent alumna Golan-Streib, who graduated in 2015 with a degree in Spanish language, literature and culture and a minor in Latin American studies, now works as a legal advocate for the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project in Tacoma and provides detainees with legal information before they have to face an immigration judge.

Golan-Streib found that her major and time at Puget Sound helps her with her job directly by allowing her to communicate effectively with clients in Spanish and to understand myths about migrants. Golan-Streib’s education also taught her about diversity and respect.

“I feel like I learned basic skills of respect and respecting others coming from different cultures. … I feel like that’s something that UPS really strives to teach their students — so to really respect diversity and to be interested in learning about others and where they come from,” she said.

Golan-Streib didn’t always know what she wanted to do after graduation. She applied for an Americorps program called AYODAH, a Jewish Service Corps in Washington D.C. The program opened her eyes to the opportunities her major could bring her and eventually led her to her current job.

“If you have an opportunity to do either volunteering or internships or work, whether it be on campus or off, I think it can be really challenging if you’re getting your first job ever right out of college and have no work experience; people can be afraid to take a risk on you,” Golan-Streib said.

For many, an internship with your dream job seems like just that, a dream, especially coming from a small liberal arts school like Puget Sound. Recent alum Ian Fox knows how disheartening it can be to pursue something you love and face rejection.

“I applied for NPR internships probably like four or five semesters in a row and I never got it … I also applied for this fellowship, I didn’t get it. It was just like failure after failure. … This is something that will not stop for me or anyone. We’re just gonna keep getting rejected over and over and that’s part of it. The point is trying and just to keep on going,” Fox said at a Career and Employment Services event on Feb. 5.

Fox, who graduated in 2014 with a degree in English and politics and government, now works as project manager for Public Radio Exchange. Through his journey to public radio, Fox found that his liberal arts education and humanities degree helped rather than hindered him.

The second job that I had at the Pew Charitable Trusts, my supervisor explicitly hired people from liberal arts schools. … People in the workforce really do see the value of a liberal arts degree, and that’s something I think is really worth talking about, is that it’s not a lack of options, it’s an abundance of them.

You’ve got to have some competitive advantage in some way — but that can be anything. For a lot of people it is the fact that they went to Columbia and for some people that’s all they have. But you can just do it in a different way. Go in with a lot of expertise and passion about an industry and just know your stuff — it can really be that simple," Fox said.

Fox and Golan-Streib prove that employers really do find arts and humanities majors from small liberal art schools valuable. It all comes down to working hard, taking opportunities and not giving up even after a few, or many, failures.

Janku Land already finding its place in Tacoma culture

By Evan Welsh

In the opening month of this academic year, an obscure little store opened its doors inside King’s Books, offering new and used vinyl records, vintage clothing and an array of island-of-misfit-toy-like chotskies. Since their grand opening on September 28, Janku Land has cultivated a space by and for Tacoma’s music and vintage lovers.

“Janku Land is pretty much run like a small weirdo antique mall inside the King’s Books Building — it was an idea that was conceived while I was touring with a band last summer. I saw old friends in their hometowns opening businesses like a record store, print shop, coffee shop and venues. I always liked the idea of staying in your town and finding a way to grow and help support it,” Taiga Miyama, the founder and owner of Janku Land, said.

On a normal day, one can go through King’s Books’ front door, take a couple steps to the right and be immediately greeted by fantastic music spinning on Janku Land’s turntable. There is a myriad of musical options available at Janku Land, including new and used vinyl LPs, cassette tapes and CDs.

The vintage clothing selection is as good as any other previously established shop in the Tacoma area, and Janku Land’s selection of oddball items, like mugs, toys and art, gives the store a unique feel. But Janku Land also offers more than just retail — they often put on all-ages shows and events at the shop, in their space as well as in the back of King’s Books.

“I wanted to use the space to have all-ages shows and events inside the building,” Miyama said. “I also don’t want to hog the calendar in the building, but limiting the amount I do make me focus more energy on making the thing run properly,” Miyama said.

The focus on making fewer events as great as possible has been incredibly successful for Janku Land. I’ve been fortunate enough to go to many of the events at Janku Land, and both the Afro-Punk documentary screening and the Criminal Code (a band featuring Miyama on guitar) mentioned Criminal Code show, as well as shows featuring Convenience Nasti and legendary industrial-noise group The Body.

Janku Land, although only opened for less than a year, feels like a long-time member of the Tacoma community. They’ve been able to foster a safe place for people of all ages in the thriving Tacoma music and vintage scene.

“I don’t think I would do an event if I didn’t think it was giving back in one way or another. I won’t do anything that’s not all-ages either. We just try and offer a space that is non-pretentious, comfortable and safe for everyone. The regulars we already have are the best. We have people from all around that drop by and we are super thankful of everyone that stops by,” Miyama said.

Despite all of the early success, Miyama and Janku Land are not taking any of it for granted and are dedicated to growing Janku Land without losing any of the qualities that have made it what it is.

“I got a lot of ideas but I’ve learned to focus on one thing at a time. I would like to see it grow but I don’t want to rush and get sloppy. This is my first time doing a business and I’m honestly just learning too,” Miyama said.

Janku Land feels like they’ve already solidified a space within the Tacoma community. If you walk in at least one event there is a chance they have a mixture of events they have going on, or what cool new records and clothes they have for sale, you can visit them online at jankuland.com or you can head down to the store Wednesday through Sunday between the hours of 12-7 p.m. at 218 St. Helens Ave.
Kavi Ade: Poet, activist and ‘gender genie’ performs at Puget Sound

By Carlisle Huntington

“I only want to be a spirit, a genie of gender, a body that is born again with each sunrise.” For poet, activist and self-described “gender genie” Kavi Ade, this is what it means to be black, queer and trans: to be as limitless as you are liminal, to be a site of both creation and destruction.

On Friday, April 14 in the Rasmussen Rotunda, the Center for Cultural and Civic Engagement (CCEE) brought spoken word poet Ade to campus for a night of poetry and conversation. Ade described their work as “a lamentation, a leaning in to what haunts the spirit of a black, queer and trans body.”

But more than lamentation, Ade’s work is just as much an exploration of what it means to occupy the spaces between binaries. Whether these be the spaces between man and woman, hate and love, or the personal and political, Ade’s work picks apart our societal expectations on every level and puts them back together in a beautiful mosaic vision of what a person — and a society — can be.

“My work deals a lot with systemic violence and interpersonal violence and the ways those two things converge at the meeting points of my identity,” Ade said. In this way, all of Ade’s work is not just about intersectionality, but depends on it. No one piece, whether political, Ade’s work picks apart our societal expectations between binaries. Whether these be the spaces between black, trans and queer: to be as limitless as you are liminal, to be a site of both creation and destruction.

“A high school is when I realized I was trans so then it became a lot about trans-ness. Because like blackness — I’d been black my whole life, so I didn’t really think about it the same way,” they said. It wasn’t until Ade got to college that they experienced what they called their “political awakening” as a person of color. “I really think because I grew up in Philadelphia — Philadelphia is like 47 percent black and also heavily non-black POC. So going to college was its own culture shock,” they said.

“My work挑 apart our societal expectations on every level and puts them back together in a beautiful mosaic vision of what a person — and a society — can be. Ade said.

For Ade, that something was moving back to Philadelphia and becoming a community organizer. Specializing in youth activism, Ade began coaching for the city’s local youth slam poetry team. “It was phenomenal. I worked with some really amazing young poets and just like saw them do incredible things,” they said.

But now, as the political situation in America is growing less hopeful and the news begins to take a toll on their mental health, Ade is taking a step back. This was their second to last stop on what will be their last tour in the foreseeable future, before they move to Lisbon, Portugal with their partner. “My wife is Arab and Muslim and so we’ve been basically — for the last few years, trying to figure out somewhere we can live in the world that’s not violently anti-black and violently Islamophobic, because we have to navigate all of our identities. So yeah, I’m giving America a break. I’m giving myself a break from America,” Ade said.

But no matter where Ade’s life takes them, their poetry will undoubtedly continue to inspire and move those around them. Their performance last Friday was a pristine balancing act of grief, hope, anger and love, one we can surely all learn from in these trying times.