

The Tower

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CUATOWER.COM

Happy St. Patrick's Day Weekend Catholic U!

“Academic Renewal” Proposal to Consolidate Departments, Eliminate Faculty

By JIMMY CASSIDY
Tower Staff

The Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, the Departments of Art, Drama, and Media and Communication Studies will be consolidated into a new School of Music, Visual, and Performing Arts in the fall of 2018, according to a pending academic proposal submitted by the Office of the Provost.

The proposal, titled “Academic Renewal,” also calls for the elimination of approximately 35 full time faculty in different schools and departments, either voluntarily or involuntarily. In a newsletter sent to faculty on March 9th, University Provost Andrew Abela shared an outline of the plan, citing the school’s need to “be more attractive to

current and prospective students by strengthening the quality of the student experience, while at the same time containing costs.” The first resolution of the proposal would move the aforementioned departments into a new conglomerate school, while taking selected faculty from each unit with it. The proposed changes aim to cut costs and save \$3.5 million from reduced academic expenses.

In a March 14th email from the office of the Provost, students in the departments of Art, Drama, and Media and Communication Studies were invited to meet with Abela “to talk about some proposed changes in [their] departments.” Later that day, Dr. Stephen McKenna, chair of Media & Communication Studies, after

speaking with several media students who were confused about the significance of this meeting, sent an email out to all media majors strongly encouraging them to attend. In this email, he shared some of the relevant changes to the department in the Academic Renewal proposal, including the termination or departure of three of its five full-time faculty members and the shift to join with the art department.

Many negative reactions followed from students, current and past, who cited concerns about the value of their degrees, possible changes to curriculum, and fears that their department would cease to exist next fall. There was even a change.org petition asking to keep the department as-is that had amassed more than 630 signatures at the time this was written. McKenna

See **ACADEMIC RENEWAL**, page 3



COURTESY OF ABBY MOSER
Media professor Maura Ugarte works with junior production students during a class.

University Officials Answer Concerns at SGA Student Safety Panel

By ABBY ANDERKO
Tower Staff

On Wednesday March 14th, a panel of university officials that deal with safety on a daily basis sat down to speak to students about safety on campus. The seven panelists included Dr. Loretta Staudt of the Student Health Services; Sarah Williamson, Associate Dean of Student Conduct and Ethical Development; Amy Kerr, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Resident Life; Barry McCoy of the Department of Public

Safety (DPS); Kim Gregory, Associate Director of DPS; Thomasine Johnson, Director of the DPS; and Lawrence Morris, the president’s Chief of Staff and a member of the university’s emergency council.

Hosted by the Student Government Association, the panel began with introductions of the panelists and brief overviews of their roles here on campus. Then the room broke out into small group

SEE **SAFETY PANEL**, PAGE 3



COURTESY OF ABBY ANDERKO
SGA President Brianna Howard made opening remarks at the Student Safety Panel on March 14th.

University Admissions Shows Support for Applicants Amid Protests

By KATIE WARD
Tower Staff

The Catholic University of America has joined the nearly 300 other universities that have pledged to not hold the disciplinary records of prospective students, who have been penalized for peacefully protesting gun violence, against their application status.

audience of like-minded teenage students across the country.

Student protests across the country have developed in an unprecedented magnitude since the February 14th Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, which was the third deadliest school shooting in American history. Student survivors from the shooting started a “Never Again” campaign that has found an

In a February 23rd tweet, Christopher Lydon, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Marketing, said: “To our current applicants and prospective future applicants - Catholic University supports students who choose to stand up for their beliefs. #ParklandStudentsSpeak”.

Catholic University’s and CUA Admissions’ official Twitter accounts retweeted the tweet, which was met with some questioning due to its lack of a definite commitment to not penalize student applicants who have participated in peaceful

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NEWS

The Tower

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CRIME BLOTTER

3/06

When: 3/06/18

Where: Opus Hall

What: On the listed date, time and location, C-1 reported while on the internet, S-1 requested C-1 send a picture of a personal nature; C-1 complied. S-1 then threatened to post the picture on the internet, if C-1 did not send money.

Top Economic Advisor Announced

By Alexander Santana
Tower Staff

The next director of the National Economic Council (NEC) will be Larry Kudlow, the CNBC television personality, according to several sources and White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders. "Larry Kudlow was offered, and accepted, the position of assistant to the President for Economic Policy and Director of the National Economic Council," Huckabee Sanders said in a statement. "We will work to have an orderly transition and will keep everyone posted on the timing of him officially assuming the role."

"The president thinks very highly of Larry Kudlow," White House Deputy Press Secretary Raj Shah stated on Wednesday. "They had a great conversation on the phone yesterday" and added that "many people" wanted to succeed Gary Cohn in the role of chief economic advisor to the President. Gary Cohn, the former chief operating officer for Goldman Sachs from 2006-2017 resigned from his position as director of the NEC on March 8th.

Kudlow, 70, is a former chief economist for the investment bank Bear Stearns as well as for the U.S. Office of Management of Budget (OMB) under the Ronald Reagan Administration. The New York Times states Kudlow "was a zealous convert to the supply-side economic policies that swept the Republican Party in the late 1970s." It also states he is a "protégé of the supply-side economist Arthur Laffer" who Kudlow worked with on President Ronald Reagan's 1980 presidential campaign against incumbent Jimmy Carter.

THE POLITICS CORNER

Secretary of State Tillerson Dismissed

By Alexander Santana
Tower Staff

Rex Tillerson, the 69th U.S. Secretary of State and chief foreign affairs advisor for President Donald Trump since February 1, 2017 was abruptly dismissed from his post by the President on Tuesday, March 13th. Tillerson's term as Secretary of State officially ends on March 31st. President Trump quickly announced his choice to succeed Secretary Tillerson, the current Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Mike Pompeo. After 14 months as President Trump's Secretary of State Tillerson said he would "now return to private life, as a private citizen, as a proud American, proud of the opportunity I had to serve my country."

President Trump said to reporters outside the White House that he appreciated Secretary Tillerson's "commitment and his service, and I wish him well. He's a good man." He said the two of them "got along actually quite well, but we disagreed on things." Regarding Secretary Tillerson's replacement, President Trump said he thinks CIA Director Pompeo "will be a truly great secretary of state. I have total confidence in him."



Courtesy of NBC News

In his emotional farewell speech, Secretary Tillerson, 65, stated he would be delegating "all responsibilities of the office of the secretary" to Deputy Secretary of State John J. Sullivan and would stay until March 31st in order to "address a few administrative matters" and ensure a smooth transition for his successor. Secretary Tillerson mentioned how "What is most important is to ensure an orderly and smooth transition during a time that the country continues to face significant policy and national security challenges." He went on to say it was "privilege of serving beside" the members of the State Department "for the last 14 months." He also mentioned the American people and thanked them "for your devotion to a free and open society, to acts of kindness toward one another, to honesty, and the quiet hard work that you do every day to support this government with your tax dollars." He did not take any questions from the media once he completed his speech.

It was clear that Secretary Tillerson and President Trump disagreed on several issues relating to American foreign policy. "We were not really thinking the same," Mr. Trump told reporters referring to their opposing views on the Iran nuclear deal. Secretary Tillerson believed in continuing the Iran nuclear deal while President Trump did not. Secretary Tillerson believed the U.S. should remain a member of the Paris climate accord while the President thought the U.S. should no longer be a part of it. Both men also disagreed on how to handle the tense situation in North Korea and its leader Kim Jong-Un. According to the New York Times, "Mr. Tillerson believed in dialogue to resolve the North Korean nuclear crisis, but Mr. Trump repeatedly threatened military options."

Mike Pompeo, 54, has been serving as the 6th Director of the CIA since January 23, 2017. Before his appointment as director Pompeo was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for Kansas' 4th congressional district from 2011-2017. He is a graduate of the United States Military Academy, also known as West Point, and Harvard Law School. In his tweet announcing his choice of Pompeo for Secretary of State President Trump also announced his intention to appoint Gina Haspel, the current Deputy Director of the CIA, to succeed Pompeo. If confirmed, Haspel would be the first woman to lead the CIA in its 70-year history. Like Deputy Director Haspel, Director Pompeo must also be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. U.S. Senator Rand Paul, (R-KY), announced once he heard of the President's choice of Pompeo and Haspel that he would oppose both nominations. Pompeo was confirmed as CIA Director with a vote of 66-32 with Senator Paul voting nay.



Courtesy of NBC News

NEWS

Want to be a part of a community that values writing skills and cares about what's happening at CUA?



**Come join The Tower
Sunday at 7PM in Pryz 103!**

Students Voice Concerns as Academic Renewal Proposal is Made Public

ACADEMIC RENEWAL, from page 1

noted that he was criticized by some administrators for sending the explanatory email to his students, but made the decision to do so after asking himself what he would want a chair to do if one of his college-aged daughters were invited to such a meeting.

"The answer would be to share information as best as I have it. So I've been criticized for doing that, but perhaps I have a different opinion on the ethics of communication," McKenna said. "The students deserve to know ahead of that meeting."

Abela told The Tower in a phone interview that these moments of unease and frustration are exactly why he will host meetings with students involved in these department changes.

"The whole purpose is to serve our students well and serve them better," Abela said. "So people have ideas on how to improve or change things, and that's exactly why I wanted to meet them."

A copy of the provost's newsletter and the entire 18-page proposal was later made available to students and anyone interested on the university's website and via a schoolwide email from the Student Government Association (SGA), after significant requests for clarification came from the university community, on social media especially.

Abela highlighted the intention that no programs or courses would be cut as a result of the renewal project, and added that faculty personnel would be affected after teaching loads were adjusted.

"We're maintaining all the majors, not changing the names of any of the majors of any degrees, not changing the number of courses and sections offered, none of that is changing," Abela said. "Whatever you signed up for when you came in, it's what you will continue to get."

The proposal in its current form may need adjusting then, as the resolution states all programs in the existing Department of Art and Department of Media and Communications Studies will be moved to "the new Department of Art and Communications in this new school," for example. One main concern from students and faculty alike proposed that a program fused with Art in a performing arts school heavily

taught by adjunct instructors should not be considered something they signed up for. McKenna believes this combination does not make sense from an academic standpoint.

"From an enrollment perspective, students seeking a degree in communications or a media type field, first of all, don't go looking for them in schools of the arts," McKenna said. "There are some bachelor's of comm arts, but communication arts usually indicates something quite different from the kind of media-literacy focused, humanities education we deliver in this department."

One of the main objectives in the Academic Renewal Proposal is the goal of enhancing the university's reputation as a research institution, an effort that it hopes could increase annual grant funding and bring significant revenue improvements in the long run. It also describes the efforts made up to this point in cutting costs to avoid the reduction of faculty positions. Abela acknowledged that a main factor for the proposal is the same problem other universities are currently facing: increased competition in higher education and enrollment revenue challenges that come with it.

"This means that we have to simultaneously continue to strengthen the quality of what we offer, while at the same time reigning in costs," Abela said. "It is difficult to do both of those things at the same time, but we think this proposal does that, which is why we are bringing it forward."

In terms of a timeline, the proposal will be reviewed and voted upon by the Academic Senate, a group comprised of administrators and professors from a variety of majors and disciplines. That group met this past Thursday, March 15th, and will meet twice again in April and May, before a final vote from the university's Board of Trustees on June 5th. If passed, the proposal's changes would be implemented immediately for the 2018 fall semester. In between the Senate sessions, the plans will be reviewed by other committees and presented to affected student groups for feedback. One such student meeting will take place Wednesday, March 21st at 12 PM in the Pryzbyla Center Great Room.

Active Shooter Situation Protocol Reviewed at SGA Student Safety Panel

SAFETY PANEL, from page 1

discussions to speak on what they as the students believed is the biggest safety concern on campus. Out of the seven tables, four of them named an active shooter as their primary concern while the other three brought up issues of other students' risky behavior, student health, and emergency situations in general.

Kerr noted that recent emergency situations have helped in adjusting standard protocols when asked about residence hall safety.

"We've had a couple of emergency situations over the past couple years and those have been really awesome learning opportunities for us to see where the holes are," Kerr said. "You can run drills until you are blue in the face but the reality of it is that a drill is never going to be as real as a real situation."

Kerr added that a point of emphasis for both residence life and the dean of students is the importance of timely and efficient communication between the administration and the students. She used the example of the most recent power outages that occurred on campus on Sunday, February 11th to explain the importance of communication between students and the administration.

Although Kerr joked that she "read about the trauma that people experienced with their cell phones not being charged when they woke up", she also explained that that could inhibit them from learning certain vital pieces of information that could have been sent out electronically. In response to that, residence life staff members, residence assistants, and Community Directors alerted the administration of the outage when they woke up and posted signs throughout the residence halls to notify students.

Aside from safety in the residence halls, many of the students questioned safety operations during a potential active shooter situation. DPS Director Johnson went through several procedures during an event of this nature and the relationship between the D.C. Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and

Catholic's DPS officers.

In the event of any emergency event, a campus wide alert will be sent out either telling students to shelter in place or to evacuate their building. After this initial message is sent out and the MPD is notified, DPS will send out another alert with more information to ensure that students are receiving all of the useful and correct information they throughout the duration of the emergency.

Each building has an individual watch captain to be deployed to assist students on where to go in case of an emergency. The group is an unadvertised organization that comes out when an emergency takes place, putting on vests to assist those who either missed the alerts or are confused by the situation at hand.

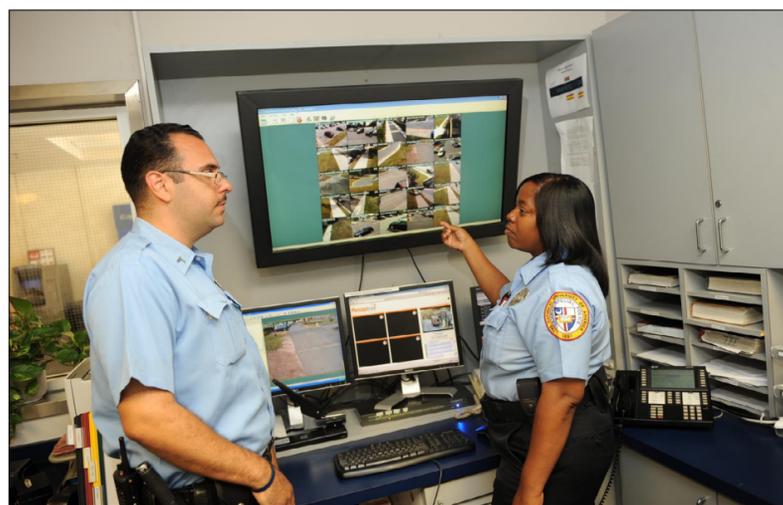
Captain McCoy went into department protocol and the joint relationship between the DPS and MPD.

"DPS being an unarmed department, our primary responsibility is safety, where we will confirm the situation," McCoy said.

The department's officers are instructed to set up a perimeter, safety zones, and coordinate with the MPD, whose role is to neutralize the threat as quickly as possible. McCoy noted a study done by the Department of Homeland Security that said an active shooter threat can be taken down in ten to fifteen minutes after the threat is alerted to the authorities.

DPS and the MPD have a very good relationship, with police officers constantly visiting campus, sometimes even eating in the Przybyla Center, to ensure student safety. Within the DPS headquarters, there is also a MPD radio which can be used to alert the thousands of police officers throughout the D.C. area to a crisis.

SGA President Brianna Howard concluded the evening by thanking the panelists for their time and expertise on the subjects as well as reminding students of the mantra, "Our Community, My Responsibility," which promotes the idea that students must take an active role in safety on campus.



COURTESY OF HER CAMPUS CUA

Catholic DPS officers are stationed in Leahy at all hours of the day.

NEWS

Students Participate in National School Walkout Day with Prayer for Parkland

By JIMMY CASSIDY
Tower Staff

Catholic University students met out on the Pryzbyla Center Lawn to pray for the victims of the Parkland school shooting on Wednesday, March 14th, one month after the tragic event that left 17 dead at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida.

The event, hosted by the CUA College Democrats organization, was the school's way of participating in a nationwide school walkout demonstration organized by Women's March youth group "Empower". Just under 3,000 student-organized walkouts took place across the nation according to the group, which recommended that the demonstrations last 17 minutes to honor the number of people killed in the massacre. Students were encouraged by organizers to leave class for the time period to participate. Across the country, some school administrations threatened disciplinary action for the walkouts, while others supported the demonstrations and let them proceed.

How to go about the walkout was up to each of the school organizers. The demonstrations varied in size and manner, ranging from small gatherings for prayers to honor the victims to larger, more public rallies protesting gun violence. Across the United States, national news outlets featured many of the events at high schools and colleges.

The demonstration at Catholic was a gathering to pray for the victims in the shooting. Titled "Parkland Prayer - Walkout at CUA," the event began and ended with a prayer led by Rev. Jude DeAngelo, OFM Conv. In between the prayers, CUA Democrats president Rachel Simoneau thanked everyone for coming together to honor those who were killed, and asked to keep them in their thoughts throughout the day. Simoneau read each victim's full name before Rev. DeAngelo followed with a blessing. About thirty students gathered for the demonstration in front of the Pryzbyla Center entrance.

"Thank you students for coming out and making a statement today. Hopefully these statements will lead to real change," DeAngelo said.

Simoneau and the CUA Democrats organized the prayer as a public act after meeting to discuss what would be an appropriate option to show

support.

"We tend not to have a strong, disruptive advocacy culture here at Catholic, but we knew we wanted to do something," Simoneau said. "The idea of a prayer was brought up because it's something that a lot of us think of as an important outlet for students to have a moment to reflect on what has happened and ask for change."

In an email sent by Simoneau on Tuesday, March 13th, the student organization noted that it had received assurances from Associate Dean of Students Stephanie Davey that students would not get in trouble for leaving class for a walkout nor would College Democrats be penalized for planning this event.

"Different schools are doing different things, and we know there can be a number of connotations towards protests and rallies," Simoneau said. "Although our event was different, we wanted to check to make sure it was okay with the administration."

Students who participated were glad the event was organized to show support and be involved in the national conversation.

"I think it's really important to stand up for what you believe in and take a stance publicly," said junior Leigh Calotta. "My peers and I standing together in prayer remembering those who have died in Florida is not only respectful and right, but we walked out of class and took time out of our day to show we are sick of losing lives of innocent students."

Others didn't see the point for such a demonstration, also citing disapproval for Campus Ministry's involvement after the university tweeted out a picture highlighting the partnership.

"I find it baffling that people think they can somehow thwart gun violence by 'walking out' of class," said senior Mary Margaret Olohan. "I'm not sure what you aim to accomplish by missing expensive classes, and am disappointed Campus Ministry is engaging with College Democrats on this political matter."

The students who participated in Catholic's own 'walkout' hope that their prayerful participation in the national event can inspire more civil conversation on the matter of gun violence.

Catholic Joins Almost 300 Universities in Supporting Right to Protest

ADMISSIONS
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protests.

James Dewey-Rosenfeld, the university's dean of undergraduate admissions, supported Lydon's statement and said that it reflected the official stance of the Office of Undergraduate Admission.

"Peaceful protests during marches or walkouts will not negatively impact an applicant's admission decision or an incoming student's admission status with the University," he told The Tower.

Lydon's tweet and the university's endorsement of it put the university on the National Association of College Admissions Counseling's growing list of 293 universities that have made statements promising support of applicants who have received disciplinary backlash from their schools for participating in peaceful protests. The list includes multiple Ivy League schools and many Catholic institutions, including Villanova University, Boston College, and Georgetown University.

The public statements and tweets from Catholic University were posted only a month before thousands of students will march on the capital

with the "March For Our Lives" campaign. The GoFundMe page, created by one of the Parkland students, raised almost \$3.3 million in 22 days, and \$2.7 million in first week alone. Half of the proceeds will go to the march, taking place next Saturday, March 24th, and half will go to relief for the families of the Parkland victims.

A petition on the march's website calls for a ban of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, and closing the loophole in gun sales that allows criminals to buy guns. The mission statement opens with "Not one more. We cannot allow one more child to be shot at school. We cannot allow one more teacher to make a choice to jump in front of a firing assault rifle to save the lives of students. We cannot allow one more family to wait for a call or text that never comes. Our schools are unsafe. Our children and teachers are dying. We must make it our top priority to save these lives."

The university's recent sign of support will assure any prospective Catholic students marching in D.C. that their right to peacefully protest is protected.



COURTESY OF JIMMY CASSIDY

The prayer for the victims began at 10 AM on Wednesday, March 14th in front of the Pryz.



COURTESY OF KATIE WARD

While students were away for spring break, this crosswalk was put in after the SGA Senate passed a resolution on the matter.

QUILL

TOWER EDITORIAL

Departing Departments

Recent announcements have been made that the university will decide in June whether or not to merge several departments and layoff many staff members in an effort to save several million dollars. While this is not the first time The Catholic University of America has raised proposals to save the institution money, this particular proposal by the Provost's office has been especially disconcerting for many students, faculty, and staff in the last few days on campus. From the establishment of the new School of Music, Visual and Performing Arts as a result of the Benjamin T. Rome School's closure to the creation of the new Department of Art and Communications, a theme of structural changes might be coming. Who's to say the few language departments will not be gathered into one school, cutting costs with less deans and administrative assistants? One looming concern from this strategy is that academic conglomeration might start to deteriorate the school's individualized intellectual spaces of varied interests. The education model, while promised to be enhanced by the proposal, seems to become less and less holistic with each faculty and department reduction. Furthermore, with the employment termination of approximately 35 people and the hiring of part-time teaching adjuncts, this consideration could jeopardize the quality of education and research between students and faculty within a certain department. Also, part time adjuncts are susceptible to being fired without any reason since they have no tenure and lack necessary benefits as university employees. While these proposals offer new renovations to classrooms, investment increases in

teaching development support, and create an endowment for the humanities, the qualitative standard of an undergraduate degree may be doomed for a significant amount of undergraduates on campus in the near future. As the proposal moves along through the Academic Senate, we shall see if student feedback will either alter the drastic modifications or be ignored by university bureaucrats. There should be a sense of hope that the students and employees impacted by these proposed decisions should speak up at the upcoming proposal meetings, as well as the presidential town hall, so that way other potential solutions can be brought forward.

At the end of the day, it's always a bottom line issue. Cutting costs while maintaining high academic standards is an extremely difficult task to execute without flaw. That being said, the recent proposal seems to represent a shift of focus to deemed areas of academic, and more importantly, financial growth. It is not fair to call one major a "moneymaker" while others should head toward the chopping board. It is a threat to a comprehensive standard of higher education that Catholic has offered since its founding. The university should be committed towards supporting departments that are not always glamorous, because well-supported departments will operate more effectively, to then bring in driven, passionate students in higher quantities. The burden of declining enrollment numbers and increased competition from schools of similar reputations is not being shared adequately, and the faculty and, in turn, students are feeling its effects.

GUEST POETRY

Cameron Hosseinian
Class of 2018

Addiction

I feel the bump
Resting on my chest
That throbs and throbs
Beating on my breast.

I see her walking
With another man
So I look their way
And raise a hand,

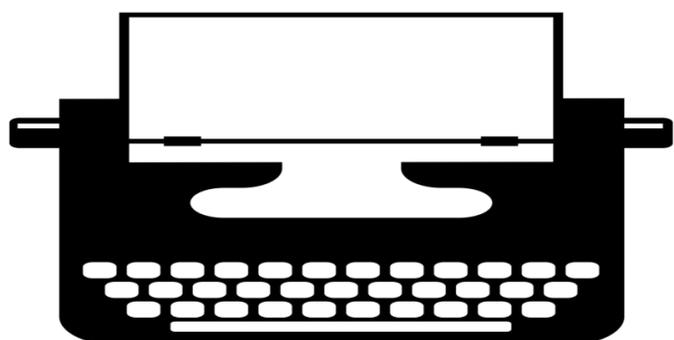
To that fold
That covers my heart
And inside I find
That which starts

With a simple light
And a burning glow
I purse my lips
And breathe slow.

She looks at me
Through the smoke
Remembering
When her heart broke

On the day she found it
Hidden inside regret
"I always knew it" she said
When she found my cigarette.

Share your own thoughts! Write for the
Quill, The Tower's Op-Ed Section!



Submit Quill pieces at 40murphy@cua.edu

GUEST COMMENTARY

Daniela Sol
Class of 2018

Instagram and Female Sexuality

The objectification of women has taken a new detour as the multiple realms of social media lend themselves to women being perceived as objects of desire. I had a very intriguing conversation with a group of girlfriends about the topic, since it's been drilled into my mind what I consider obtrusive or helpful to what feminists all over are trying to fight. The male gaze, which originally was a term used to describe women how were seen and presented in the arts by artists (predominantly men), has taken a new form as it's emerged in social media platforms like Instagram.

I started questioning why I felt annoyed that people, for a general example, Kim Kardashian, would post pictures of their semi-nude bodies and claim themselves to be feminists. For me, my priority as a woman is to be taken seriously because of who I am, not how I look. I've worked for my gratification to be based solely on who I am intellectually, spiritually, artistically, etc. And I question whether these women, who claim these certain expressions of their "sexiness", are helping or weakening my argument?

As I heard the opinion of various women on the topic, I felt that my whole ideology was shattered. As a woman, shouldn't I support women who love their body and feel free to show it? Yet I knew that my starting thought made sense too. In the conversation, the idea of a "difference" existing, a "line" being crossed, came up a lot. But what is that line? Some claimed that you can tell when a woman is expressing her sexuality compared

to when they're using it for something else (likes, promotions, sales, male approval, etc.).

It's important to understand the fact that the male gaze is very much present in social media. And it's important to understand how a post should not be done to please it. Instagram can easily share itself to be dominated by the male gaze and it is up to women to change that. As women, we should understand the significant importance our bodies have and uphold. These posts won't shatter the ideologies feminists all over are trying to fight: objectification & equality.

Then again, as women we fight for our rights, for our lives not to be controlled, and to basically do whatever the f*** we want. When done for others, to please others, or to get an Instagram like, it debunks the whole argument. In the end, don't we want our worth to be quantified by the substance of our talent, ability, creativity, or whatever other form of expression presents itself on social medias like Instagram, not our body?

I love seeing confident women owning their bodies and celebrating their womanhood when it is precisely done for that: the expression of their own individualism. Before we prance around saying "You go girl!" it's important to understand the significance behind what we're chanting for and to completely understand it. It is then that we are fighting the objectification of women. If not, it's just further lending the female figure to be objectified.

Weekly Comical Cartoon

Submit Cartoons and Drawings to The
Tower's Op-Ed Section, The Quill!



By: L. A. Bonté

For more comics visit FilbertCartoons.com

Courtesy of Anthony Labonte-FilbertCartoons.com

A&E

Book Review: *The Rules Do Not Apply* by Ariel Levy

By: DANIELA SOL
Tower Staff

The Rules Do Not Apply is a must-read for every woman out there; it takes you through the various experiences women go through. This tells the story of Ariel Levy, a thirty-eight-year-old reporter for The New York Times, who talks about her moments in love, motherhood, and work. This book tells the heartbreaking and warming journey of a woman who simply wanted it all, no matter the rules.

What's intriguing about this book is how relatable it is. Women have shown acclamation for Levy's story and have empathized with her. She touches on various events which possibly every woman has lived at least once in her life, or probably will. And even if you've not, you'll still feel her journey truly and deeply. It's refreshing to read about all these moments from a female voice.

"Ariel Levy seems to be living out the un-lived lives of an entire generation of women simultaneously. Free to do whatever she chooses, she chooses

everything," said Alison Bechdel, a cartoonist and writer, about The Rules Do Not Apply.

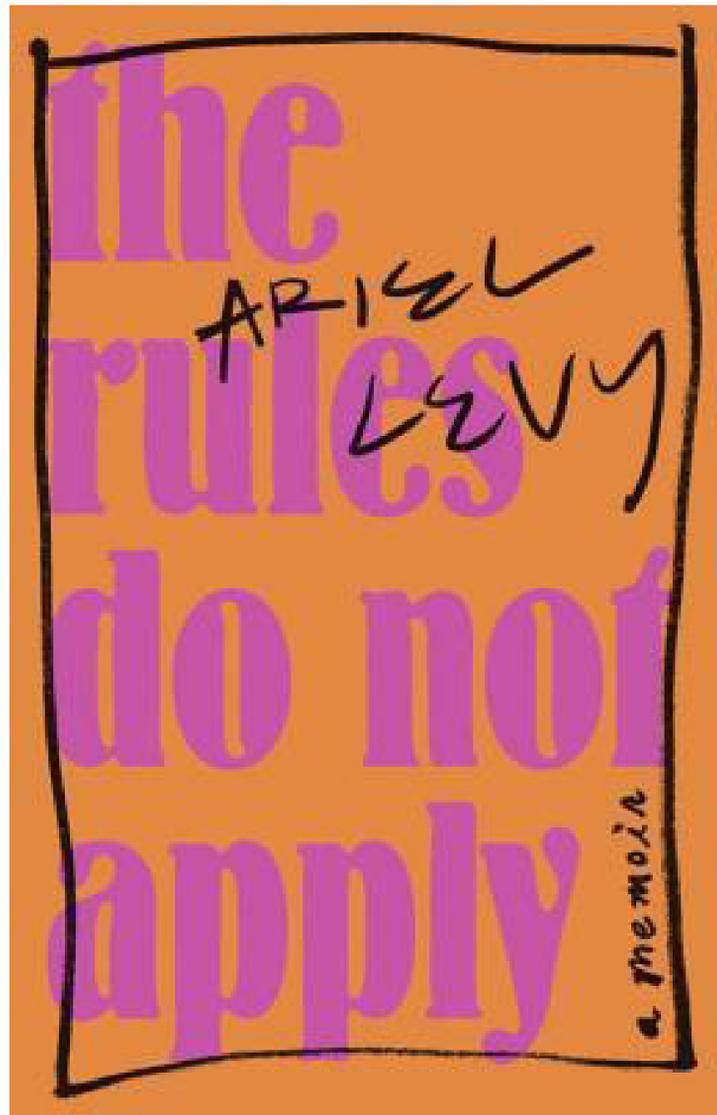
The book's main characters are all women, except for Levy's dad. The female characters of the book are all shown in a light for which, even when they're doing something wrong or considered immoral, judgement is never an option. Her flowy narration, plus her choice of words, are so personal that not much is left to do but to empathize with every character. Of course there are times where you most definitely disagree with certain decisions and characters, but the narrative is too raw and intimate to not touch your heart.

One of the most important subjects Levy explores in her book is motherhood. She narrates her relationship with her own mother as well as her own personal experiences. Levy and her mother share a unique bond; in a way Levy is her own mother re-invented. The bond between them is strong and this strength is narrated in all its genu-

ine self throughout. Her mother lost both breasts to breast cancer, plus was the primary breadwinner of the family (she made more money than Levy's father), making her a respected, strong female character. She also talks about her own unique journey with motherhood as she battles with pregnancy and her career, having to make tough decisions in order to fulfill her dream of becoming a mother at the age of thirty-eight.

As Levy says in her book, "I wanted what we all want: everything. We want a mate who feels like family and a lover who is exotic, surprising. We want to be youthful adventurers and middle-aged mothers. We want intimacy and autonomy, safety and stimulation, reassurance and novelty, coziness and thrills. But we can't have it all."

The Rules Do Not Apply, is a memoir discussing all the unique, difficult, amazing journeys women partake in. This is a book that will be impossible to put down.



COURTESY OF PINTEREST.COM

The Shift in Hollywood for Women

By: KATARINA IVANCIK
Tower Staff

March is National Women's History Month, and right now in Hollywood, female directors, producers, and actors are making history. For decades the movie industry has been a male dominated field, but within the last several years women have come forward to revolutionize the way Hollywood makes movies.

Most recently this shift has been seen in the #TimesUp and #MeToo movements. Actresses have been stepping forward and shedding light on the sexual harassment within the entertainment industry. The promotion of the movement has flooded social media and is represented on the red carpet by actresses wearing black in solidarity with victims of sexual harassment. Speaking out against producers and directors has the potential to destroy careers, but for the first time the women of Hollywood are fearlessly putting their jobs on the line in favor of change. This behavior has been going on for too long, but the tide is turning in Hollywood and the women of the industry are not afraid to make waves.

In 2017 Patty Jenkin's Wonder Woman became the biggest blockbuster ever to be directed by a

woman, breaking the domestic box office record for women directors. Additionally, Wonder Woman is the most successful superhero movie starring a female hero. For years producers have said that a superhero movie starring a woman could not be successful whenever the public has asked why none of the female heroes had a movie. This prediction did not stop Patty Jenkins and Wonder Woman from excelling at the box office and proving them all wrong.

Another female pioneer of the industry is Reese Witherspoon. She owns a production company called Hello Sunshine, which is dedicated to telling female driven stories on different multimedia platforms. It will continue sharing it's inspirational content in conjunction with Witherspoon's other company, Pacific Standard. Pacific Standard is responsible for critically acclaimed films such as Hot Pursuit and Gone Girl. Women creating more and better opportunities for other women is affecting the gradual change being seen in present day Hollywood.

The 2018 Oscars featured some fantastic female driven movies such as I, Tonya, Lady Bird, and The Shape of Water. One of the

nominees for best actress, Saoirse Ronan is a prime example of a young actress making her way in Hollywood, breaking the mold, and forging a new way. In the entertainment world it had been established that in order for a woman to be a successful actress she had to be willing to exploit her body. Ronan has been nominated for an Oscar three times now and she did it without a sex scandal or leaked nudes. This is what the future of Hollywood should look like.

In the last several years things

have been changing, but there are still things that need to be addressed. For example, although the rampant sexual harassment has been outed, there needs to be a plan to make sure that it is not able to continue or resurface in any capacity. The industry must continue to allow women producers, directors, and actors to have the same opportunities as men. The recent shift in Hollywood has revealed the possibilities of the future but there are still things to accomplish before the playing field is truly even.



COURTESY OF GLAMOUR.COM



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SPORTS

Federal Investigation Looms Over the Fun of March Madness

By Jared Prenda
Tower Staff

This. Is. March. For your average sports fan, this is the most wonderful time of the year and for one month underdogs take the national spotlight, big name programs fall under the national eye to see how legit they are, and players become legends and leave their mark on the game forever. This is a different NCAA National Championship Tournament than ones held in years past, however. This year's bout of March Madness has a dark cloud surrounding it in the form of an investigation by the FBI into top programs and players across the country.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's inquiry into the widespread issues of illegal benefits within programs came to prominence on September 26th, 2017, when the findings of the investigation were revealed. Four assistant coaches in prominent programs were charged with bribery and wire fraud for giving illegal benefits to top players in the country to get them to play for their teams. An even wider spread issue is that representatives from various athletic companies and sports agencies often worked with these coaches to get top prospects to sign deals with their companies when they left the NCAA to play professionally.

A February 23rd article by Pat Forde and Pete Thamel posted on Yahoo! Sports named programs such as Duke, Kentucky, Texas, Michigan State, USC,

Alabama, and reigning national champions North Carolina as schools involved. It also named high profile student-athletes such as Miles Bridges (Michigan State), Collin Sexton (Alabama), and Wendell Carter Jr. (Duke) as players who received such benefits.

This issue has normally been the worst kept secret in the world, as most of the public already assumed players were receiving such benefits, and to this point the NCAA had typically held a "don't ask, don't tell" attitude on the issue while cracking down on smaller infringements. But the FBI has brought to light how widespread the issue truly is.

One assistant charged in the investigation is Emanuel "Book" Richardson, formerly of the University of Arizona, which is a 4-seed in this year's tournament and many fans' pick to win it all. Richardson has since been fired by the Wildcats, but a February 25th article by Mark Schlabach claimed that the investigation uncovered a damning conversation between head coach Sean Miller and Christian Dawkins, a former sports agent at ASM who has been charged as a result of the investigation. Miller has since been cleared, but he allegedly discussed paying \$100,000 to freshman center Deandre Ayton to ensure he signed with the team. Ayton is one of the front-runners to win player of the year honors and is widely accepted as one of the top picks in this

year's NBA Draft. Both Ayton and Miller have been cleared of this incident, but the cloud still hangs over the program.

Normally this would not concern most fans due to the lack of consequences handed out by the NCAA. This all changed now since the University of Louisville became the first program in the modern era to be stripped of a national title as the NCAA vacated its 2013 banner as the result of the sex scandal. The team was also forced to forfeit 123 wins spanning from 2012 to 2015 and pay roughly \$600,000 in fines to the NCAA. These sanctions are due to a prior investigation into the school which discovered the program's use of prostitutes and strippers in order to recruit players. The school is now under the eye of the current FBI probe as it has been discovered that at least one coach has worked with representatives from Adidas and a management company to allegedly pay \$100,000 to Brian Bowen so long as he signs with them once he left UoL. This investigation forced the Cardinals to fire controversial Hall of Fame level head coach Rick Pitino in mid-October.

These are a few examples of the widespread corruption surrounding college basketball and the NCAA and has triggered many controversies in public opinion, but primarily the debate on the payment of student-athletes to avoid such corruption. The NCAA has been

firm in its commitment to keeping the amateurism of student-athletes and do not plan on paying these players. Many players in the NBA have sided against the NCAA, most famously with the comments of Lonzo Ball, a rookie for the Los Angeles Lakers and former UCLA Bruin.

"All the money they generate for the programs and stuff, it's kind of an unfair system," commented Ball. "Everybody knows everybody's getting paid and that's how it is. Everybody's getting paid anyway. You might as well make it legal."

This cloud is surrounding the tournament, yet it does not seem to be retracting from the enjoyment that millions across the country are experiencing. There will still be plenty of heartbreaking and bracket-busting upsets, such as the 11th seed University of Loyola-Chicago's buzzer-beating three-pointer

to eliminate 6th seed Miami. There will still be the meteoric rise of players carrying their team deep within the tournament, and at the end of it all, one team will still be cutting down the nets in San Antonio. But this tournament can best be summarized by Alex Kirshner of sbnation.com.

"Sure, this tournament is somewhat clouded by the chance the NCAA might strip the winner's title. The FBI's ongoing investigation is probably going to lead to some powerful figures spending time in prison. The NCAA is likely to follow up by disciplining teams and people in far less serious ways. This month's games will feel like a mirage, a sham, a sideshow, or maybe just a hilarious farce."



Freshman Center Deandre Ayton of Arizona cutting the net following his PAC-12 Championship win. IMAGE COURTESY OF GETTY IMAGES

Try And Beat *The Tower's* Bracket!

First Round March 15 16 Second Round March 17 18 Sweet 16 March 22 23 Elite 8 March 24 25 Final Four March 31 Championship April 2 Final Four March 31 Elite 8 March 24 25 Sweet 16 March 22 23 Second Round March 17 18 First Round March 15 16

March Madness 2018

FINAL FOUR SAN ANTONIO

South

- 1 Virginia (31-2)
- 16 UMBC (24-10)
- 8 Creighton (21-11)
- 9 Kansas State (22-11)
- 5 Kentucky (24-10)
- 12 Davidson (21-11)
- 4 Arizona (27-7)
- 12 Buffalo (26-8)
- 6 Miami (FL) (22-9)
- 11 Loyola-Chi (28-5)
- 3 Tennessee (25-8)
- 14 Wright State (25-9)
- 7 Nevada (27-7)
- 10 Texas (19-14)
- 2 Cincinnati (30-4)
- 15 Georgia State (24-10)
- 1 Xavier (28-5)
- 16 Texas Southern (16-10)
- 8 Missouri (20-12)
- 9 Florida State (20-11)
- 5 Ohio State (24-8)
- 12 South Dakota St. (28-6)
- 4 Gonzaga (30-7)
- 13 UNC Greensboro (27-7)
- 6 Houston (26-7)
- 11 San Diego State (22-10)
- 3 Michigan (28-7)
- 14 Montana (26-7)
- 7 Texas A&M (20-12)
- 10 Providence (21-13)
- 2 North Carolina (25-10)
- 15 Lipscomb (23-9)

West

- 1 Michigan
- 1 Michigan St.
- 16 LIU Brooklyn
- 16 Radford
- 11 St. Bonaventure
- 11 UCLA

East

- 1 Villanova (30-4)
- 16 Radford (23-13)
- 8 Virginia Tech (21-11)
- 9 Alabama (19-15)
- 5 West Virginia (24-10)
- 12 Murray State (26-5)
- 4 Wichita State (25-7)
- 13 Marshall (24-10)
- 6 Florida (20-12)
- 11 St. Bonaventure (26-7)
- 3 Texas Tech (24-9)
- 14 Stephen F. Austin (28-6)
- 7 Arkansas (23-11)
- 10 Butler (20-13)
- 2 Purdue (28-6)
- 15 CS Fullerton (20-11)
- 1 Kansas (27-7)
- 16 Penn (24-8)
- 8 Seton Hall (21-11)
- 9 NC State (21-11)
- 5 Clemson (23-9)
- 12 New Mexico St. (28-5)
- 4 Auburn (25-7)
- 13 Charleston (26-7)
- 6 TCU (21-11)
- 11 Syracuse (21-13)
- 3 Michigan State (29-4)
- 14 Bucknell (25-9)
- 7 Rhode Island (25-7)
- 10 Oklahoma (18-13)
- 2 Duke (26-7)
- 15 Iona (20-13)

Championship

Michigan St. vs Michigan St.

Tie-breaker

74-68

Total Points

First Four - March 13-14

16 LIU Brooklyn (East) vs NC Central 16 (Midwest)

16 Radford (East) vs Texas Southern 16 (West)

11 St. Bonaventure (East) vs Arizona State 11 (Midwest)

11 UCLA (East) vs Syracuse 11 (Midwest)

Name: _____

PrintYourBrackets.com

THE REAR END

GLOBE TROTTERS: UP FOR WHATEVER IN ESSEX

By Jerry Santiago '19

So, my experience studying abroad could be called unusual to say the least, but not at all dull. During the first week in my host university (University of Essex), I met with a person called Reinis, who one of my friends back at CUA recommended I contact to help me get accustomed to life in Essex. Right away, the guy offered to help me with anything I needed and invited to join his lacrosse team. At first, I was hesitant to join lacrosse, since I have never played before and I thought it would be too much of a commitment for an abroad student like myself. However, I'm always a proponent of trying new things and seeing where they lead to, so I accepted his offer. I went to Essex's lacrosse practice and right away all the players started greeting me and welcoming me into the team. We had conversations, practiced on our skills, and started making jokes. I was very thrilled with the team and I agreed to keep coming to the practices and to their socials. At their socials, I met with all the male and female players and the members of the lacrosse club. The socials were a hilari-

ous experience, because in each social there is a theme. Whether it's Harry Potter, babies and grandpas, or gender bender, we all dress up to the theme, have a party in a house, and go to the club. I really connected with my fellow lacrosse mates in these events and they quickly accepted me as part of the group and even let me play in one of the games against a rival university. Yet, my interactions with them were not limited to lacrosse only, since then I found myself being invited to their houses and hanging out with their friends and expanding my friend group around the University. I also got to travel with them to other towns in England and around Europe. Just last week me and some guys, including Reinis, went for a 5-day trip to Stuttgart, Germany, where we visited towns and watched a soccer match. Next month, the entire club is planning on going to a tour in Croatia and obviously I'm going! This just goes to show that you never know what opportunities lay awaiting when you take the big step of studying abroad and being open to new things!



COURTESY OF JERRY SANTIAGO

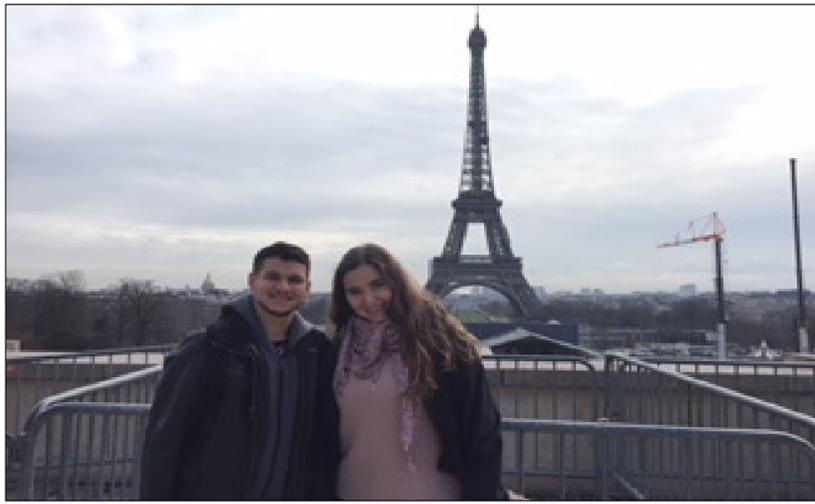
Catholic junior Jerry Santiago took a chance and joined a lacrosse team while studying abroad at the University of Essex, and he's sure glad he gave it a shot.

CUA GLOBE TROTTERS

Are you studying abroad right now and have a story or moment to share? Maybe you want to hear about your friends studying in a foreign country?

Submit a piece to Globe Trotters!

Email jcassidy@cuatower.com



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AA MEETS ON
THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM

CALDWELL HALL 331B

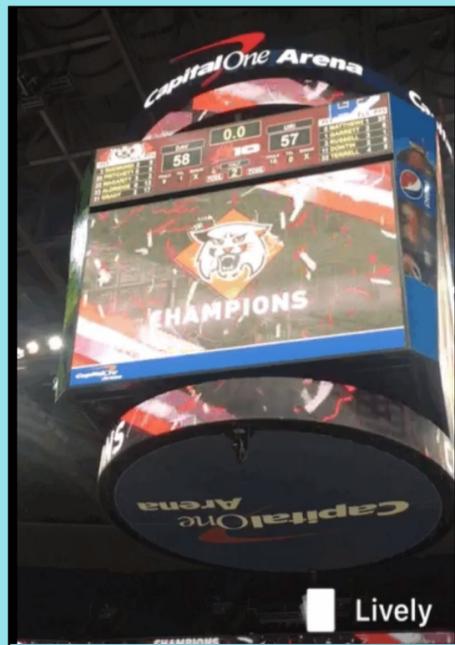
Top Tweets

"A PRIEST JUST SAID "RESTING BITCH FACE" IN HIS HOMILY IN FRONT OF EVERYBODY AT ADORATION. TWICE. #CUA #what #didIhearthatright"

- Jon Kirby
@JMKirbyMusic7

"When you watch a school smaller than @CatholicUniv win the A10 Tourney..."

@CatholicU_Cards #CUA "
- Bill Durdach ----->
@BillDurdach



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