

# The Tower

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*Thanks for a Great Year CUA! Good Luck with Finals!*

## Students and Faculty Give Input on Academic Renewal Proposal in Ad Hoc Meetings

By AMANDA McSHANE, JIMMY CASSIDY, KATIE WARD

Catholic University students and faculty gave their feedback and input on the Academic Renewal proposal in two Academic Senate ad hoc committee meetings on Wednesday, April 25th. The feedback revolved mostly around the aspect of the proposal detailing the removal of 35 faculty by next fall, either voluntarily or involuntarily. Some of the main frustrations and concerns expressed involved a lack of transparency in the whole process, a fear of what faculty removal would do to the reputation of the university, and the role of the administration in this financial dilemma. Names of faculty and some students have been redacted to protect the agreed upon confidentiality of the ad hoc meetings.

One recurring complaint from both the faculty and students dealt with inaccurate data from a main premise of the proposal to cut faculty to save money -- trends in higher education. The proposal cites a report from the Center for Education Statistics saying that the number of universities eligible to give financial aid fell for a fourth straight year by "5.6 percent from 2015-16 to 2016-17." The proposal does not note that the selected statistic is mainly related to data from for-profit colleges, while nonprofit institutions like Catholic have not experienced these sharp declines in the time period. This made many question the whole document's accuracy. Professors proposed that the lack of transparency and data inaccuracies should slow down, or even remove this Academic Renewal proposal process.

"If a premise is invalid, it invalidates the entire proposal," one professor said. More than 150 students at the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral levels attended the first ad hoc meeting in Hannan Hall Wednesday afternoon for a chance to share their issues with the current proposal. Many of the testimonies from students pointed out the potential devastating effects that removal of faculty in their academic programs would

have. It was acknowledged that some ideas sound great in the proposal, like increased research and mentorship opportunities, but that they lack practicality. Multiple students questioned how the removal of faculty, tenured or not, would enhance the university's reputation as "a global research institution." Other students mentioned that smaller departments or

See AD HOC MEETINGS, page 3



COURTESY OF DUANE PAUL MURPHY  
Undergraduate and graduate students met to give input on the Academic Renewal proposal in one of the ad hoc committee meetings in Hannan Hall on Wednesday, April 25th.

## SGA Senate Looks Ahead in Final Meeting of Academic Year

By ABBY ANDERKO  
Tower Staff

On Monday April 25th, the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate held its 10th and final meeting of the year. The meeting covered four new resolutions, spanning between a tabled resolution about student input on the new dining hall to replacing plastic bags with paper bags in the POD. The Senate also passed the new administration's executive budget for the 2018-2019 academic year and approved the new Treasury Board nominees.

The first resolution of the night brought before the Senate was Resolution 014, which was tabled in an earlier meeting and pertains to student input on the new dining hall. On January 22nd, the university announced its plan to open a new dining hall on campus by the year 2020. With the dining hall in its preliminary stages, sophomore Alex Santana proposed that the Senate request that the university administration create

SEE SGA SENATE, PAGE 3



COURTESY OF EMMA FLANAGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

The SGA Senate met in the Pryzbyla Great Room for its final meeting of the year on Monday, April 23rd.

## Vatican Writers Discuss Pope Francis Five Years After His Election

By KATIE WARD  
Tower Staff

On Wednesday, April 25th, the Institute for Human Ecology hosted a "Francis At Five: Examining the Pontificate of Pope Francis" panel of Vatican writers to celebrate and analyze the fifth anniversary of Pope Francis' papal election.

The event was hosted in Heritage Hall and attended by over 150 people. The panelists included John Allen Jr., the CRUX Magazine editor who specializes in coverage of the Vatican and Catholic Church; Adelaide Mena, a freelance writer and journalist who previously worked for Catholic News Agency and EWTN; E. J. Dionne, a political reporter from the Washington Post; and Ross Douthat, a New York Times op-ed columnist, author of Pope Francis and the Future of Catholicism. The panel was moderated by Dr. Joseph Capizzi, the executive director of the Institute for Human Ecology.

The panel first talked about the challenge of being a Catholic while covering the pope and retaining journalistic

integrity. The panelists agreed that it was challenging to tread lightly and write about their own church.

Dionne said the best way to write about the Pope was being the leader of a divine institution run by flawed humans, and Douthat explained that the job often felt like explaining and defending the Pope.

Allen explained that being a beat reporter for the Vatican, he had to treat it like the White House while covering the news.

"I never want to lose that sense of awe. It's easy to get jaded about it. You want to be able to approach this story with critical eyes, and tell the unpleasant stories you want to be able to recognize the popes are fallible," Allen said. "But I also never want to forget what it feels like to the average Catholic, what it feels like to see this figure, because that's different than an American president. It's qualitatively different, and I never want to lose that sense as I'm trying to tell that story."

Dionne and Allen agreed that after the scandals that

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# NEWS

## The Tower

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## THE POLITICS CORNER

### French President Macron Visits United States

By Alexander Santana  
Tower Staff

French President Emmanuel Macron and his wife, First Lady Brigitte Macron, visited the United States from April 23-25 as part of the Trump Administration's first state visit. On April 23rd, President and Mrs. Macron visited Mount Vernon, the home of America's first President, George Washington, as guests of President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump. President and Mrs. Trump hosted a tour and private dinner at the Virginia home for their French counterparts. The following day began with the State Arrival Ceremony on the South Lawn of the White House. Nearly 500 members of the United States Armed Forces from all five military branches were present for the traditional "Review of the Troops." Guests invited to attend the arrival ceremony included members of the President's Cabinet, Members of Congress, military families, and students from the Maya Angelou French Immersion School in Temple Hills, Maryland.

After the arrival ceremony, President Macron met with President Trump in the Oval Office. Presidents Trump and Macron later held an "expanded working bilateral meeting with the French and U.S. delegations" according to the White House. The White House stated this meeting included Vice President Mike Pence, Acting Secretary of State John Sullivan, Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin, Secretary of Defense James Mattis, Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, National Security Advisor John Bolton, Assistant to the President for Economic Policy Larry Kudlow, and U.S. Ambassador to France Jamie McCourt. The members of the French delegation included the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Economics and Finance, the Minister of Defense, and National Security Advisor, among others.

After the meeting a joint press conference was held with both Presidents. President Macron went on to visit Arlington National Cemetery for a

wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The day concluded with a state dinner in the White House State Dining Room. About 100 people were invited to the dinner, making it a smaller and more intimate affair than state dinners during previous presidencies. Some of the dinner guests included Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Paul Ryan, former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts, Apple CEO Tim Cook, News Corp's Executive Chairman Rupert Murdoch, the Vatican's Apostolic Nuncio to the United States Archbishop Christophe Pierre, and Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director Mike Pompeo, President Trump's nominee to be the next U.S. Secretary of State.

On the last day of his visit, President Macron addressed a Joint Session of Congress at the U.S. Capitol in the House Chamber. The address marked the "anniversary of the day that French General Charles de Gaulle addressed the Joint Session of Congress, specifically April 25th, 1960" according to the White House. In his address, President Macron discussed U.S.-French relations, nationalism, the environment, global trade, the Paris Agreement, the Iran nuclear deal, and other issues. Regarding isolationism, President Macron stated "closing the door to the world will not stop the evolution of the world. It will not douse but inflame the fears of our citizens." When he spoke about the Iran nuclear deal, which President Trump disagrees with, President Macron stated "Our objective is clear. Iran shall never possess any nuclear weapons," which resulted in applause from those sitting in the chamber. "Not now. Not in five years. Not in 10 years. Never." President Macron went on to add however that "this policy should never lead us to war in the Middle East. Let us not replicate past mistakes. Let us not be naive on one side. Let us not create new wars on the other side."



Courtesy of The White House



## CRIME BLOTTER

4/23-4/25

When: 4/25/18

Where: The Catholic University of America

What: Burglary

On Wednesday, April 25, 2018, between the hours of 3:30 a.m. and 4 a.m., the Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a call from a resident who awoke and observed an unknown subject urinating in their room. When the subject was challenged by the resident he fled the residence hall in an unknown direction. The Metropolitan Police Department was notified and responded.

The suspect is described as a white male, 5'9"-6', with big eyes, wavy dark-colored hair, and bushy eyebrows. He was described as wearing khakis.

When: 4/23/18

Where: Off Campus. Unit block of Varnum Street, NE

What: Robbery

The Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) reported a robbery in the unit block of Varnum Street, NE. On April 23, 2018, at approximately 1 a.m., MPD reported 2 suspects, one possibly armed with a gun, wearing all black clothing, robbed a cab driver. The suspects fled the area in an unknown direction. MPD is investigating this incident. No member of the University community was involved.

The suspects were described as: (1) Black male, 5'10" and (2) Black male, 5'9"

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U.S. ARMY

# NEWS

## Students and Faculty Ask for More Transparency, Clarity in Ad Hoc Meetings

AD HOC MEETINGS., from page 1

minors of only one or two faculty would be severely diminished, and possibly closed, if even one of their faculty members was laid off.

Although unsure of how their comments would be received, students were encouraged by the turnout and passionate responses.

"It says a lot about this whole academic renewal and how nobody in the CUA community is for it," said junior politics major Ayah Alkhafaji. "Administration needs to take responsibility and be honest with the community."

Faculty present at the second meeting expressed dissatisfaction at being called "surplus" and being kept in the dark about who in their department will be laid off. Many attendees said that the burden of the \$3.5 million deficit was not just the faculty's to bear, and suggested that the administration be reviewed for budgetary surplus like the faculty had been and possibly undergo administrative budget cuts. Faculty members also pointed out that it is difficult for the Academic Senate to fully represent the opinion of the faculty when only 20 faculty sit on the Senate, and 17 administrators sit on it. Other faculty members warned that the termination of tenured faculty would repel future faculty applicants who would be discouraged by the layoffs, and might lead to the unionization of faculty members.

Attendees of the meetings also voiced concerns with the transparency and timeline of the proposal. The short timeframe that

was provided to attend meetings and complete surveys did not properly allow for the largest participation of students and faculty.

A separate ballot was presented at the meeting, created by two Arts and Sciences professors, to all Arts and Sciences faculty. The ballot was created to determine support of discarding the current Academic Renewal proposal and the development of a more thorough plan. Many other faculty members expressed their opinions during the meeting that the whole proposal should be abandoned and a new proposal should be created with more faculty input and a more indisputable data-collecting study.

The meetings allowed the student and faculty voice to be heard as Academic Senate members sat in and took notes for the ad hoc committee's report. The committee report must be submitted to the Academic Senate so they can review the feedback before voting on the proposal again on May 9th. Also involved in the report will be feedback from an anonymous survey sent out to all parties involved on April 20th. The survey lasted six days until it closed April 26th. The quick turnaround time caused many to worry at how much their concerns would actually get to the voters on the proposal, and others to take serious issue with the swiftness of the process that could end with a June 5th Board of Trustees vote.

## Francis at Five: Analyzing the Pope's Five Years at the Vatican

FRANCIS AT FIVE, from page 1

erupted in the Church in the early 2000s, the pace of covering the papacy changed and the coverage of the Church got tougher, and continues to be a journalistic challenge. Douthat added that it shaped conservative willingness to criticize Francis.

Capizzi then turned the discussion towards the topic of the pope's "Francis effect", a term coined by the media after his 2013 election which conveyed how Francis' humility, humor, and mercy made him attractive to the people. Mena admitted that it is still premature to determine the statistical nature of the Francis Effect, but that if there is a Francis Effect, it is that because of the election of the Argentinian pope, the global north can no longer ignore the global south.

Dionne agreed that although a focus on poverty isn't inconsistent with the past popes, it is more important with Francis. He continued to say that Francis' origin from the south has created in him a deep affection for more traditional forms of piety, and he has made Catholicism, through his mercy-based leadership, into a "people's religion".

Capizzi mentioned Francis "casting a wider net" to be less divisive, and asked whether he has succeeded in bringing solidarity and correction to the Church. Douthat answered that this slow unification is not unique to Francis, but that Catholicism should ultimately be an alternative to the left

and the right, not partisan to one side.

After the discussion, the panel looked to the audience for questions. Audience members asked about decentralization of the Church and the pope's support of the economy, before asking again about the place of the left and right in the Church, and the "ominous language of the 'liberal Catholic' and 'conservative Catholic'".

"The language is reductive and creates a parallel between the Vatican politics and secular politics that doesn't exist," Douthat agreed. "But those are the terms people understand."

Dionne admitted that there was something flawed about the language used, and that Francis was in fact not a liberal but a radical, bringing attention to the slums instead of the political stage.

Capizzi began the evening by encouraging panelists and audience members alike to have a conversational and inquisitive dialogue. The moderator expressed satisfaction with the way the event turned out.

"I hoped to bring together some of the most prominent Vatican writers, with some different perspectives, and answer some questions people had," he said. "Just a friendly conversation on the Pope Francis pontificate's success in achieving goals and meeting challenges – constructively, by serving the poor and justice and leading with mercy, and less constructively, by dividing some Catholics over doctrine."

## Senate Proposes Dining Hall Input Opportunities, Tutoring Options at Meeting

SGA SENATE, from page 1

"surveys, town halls, and any other practicable mechanisms for Catholic University students to properly express their opinions concerning this new addition to their campus and student experience."

When it was originally proposed, the resolution was debated as potentially redundant and too specific. When it was proposed a second time, similar concerns were raised, but the resolution passed because many believed it would create another avenue for student feedback.

However, in its wording, the resolution was still believed to be undermining the duties of the Senate as the representative body of the students. In particular, Aaron Mackisey of the School of Music voiced his concerns about the wording.

"I think while the desire of the resolution is correct, I think this is something student government already does," Mackisey said. He interpreted this as "just telling student government to do its job."

Alexandra Kilgore of the class of 2021 replied by saying that the proposal is proof that it needs to be passed.

"We are lucky to attend a university that values student input, and so I think as representatives of the student body we should create visible mechanisms to ensure that input is consistent," Kilgore said.

The second resolution of the night, Resolution 020, was proposed by newly-appointed Melissa Zentz of the School of Social Work. This resolution proposes that the Senate work with the Center for Academic Success (CAS) to add a monthly Greek and Latin subject lab. Subject labs are group tutoring sessions that can be held either weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly to assist students in subjects in which they may find difficulty.

Leigh Calotta of the School of Nursing supported this resolution as she is a tutor herself, but also proposed that rather than forcing the resolution onto the CAS, that SGA reach out to specific departments and professors to collaborate on creating these programs. By having the backing of professionals, the resolution would be more practical and easier to implement. Zentz and co-sponsor Mackisey agreed, stating

that the SGA and the Committee of Academic Affairs will assist the CAS in hiring tutors for the new programs.

The final two resolutions of the night involved changes to the dining experience. Resolution 021, proposed by Antoine Rask of the School of Theology, sought to change the bags that are being used in the Provisionals on Demand store (POD) from plastic to paper bags. The motion aims to make the university greener and help the environment as paper bags are biodegradable. This resolution passed.

The second, and most debated resolution, Resolution 022, was proposed by Jeremy Volz of the School of Philosophy. Volz took issue with the student dining experience in the Student Restaurant, specifically, the repetitiveness of the music played, the content on the televisions being inappropriate, and a need to turn down the fans for making some dining areas too cold and windy.

A lot of senators voiced concerns that this resolution was unprofessional and more fueled by personal preference. Raquel Garcia-Geary of the School of Social Services spoke out against the resolution's personal nature.

"I think it's a really unprofessional resolution, specifically talking about the music but also the television," Garcia said. "I just think that there is a lot of opinion in that."

Resolution 022 failed to pass, but Kilgore, a co-sponsor, vowed that she will bring the matters back up if she gets the chance to be a student senator next year.

To close out the meeting, all five of the senior senators were given the chance to speak to their colleagues, saying how much they enjoyed serving with them and how the SGA makes a difference in the Catholic University community. The meeting ended with the Senate committee heads awarding Vice President Jon Paul Weiss a Certificate of Excellence for all he has done in the past year for the Senate and the university in general.

The SGA Senate will resume its efforts next academic year under the leadership of Vice President-Elect Weston Kirby, with a new senate to be voted on in September.



COURTESY OF EMMA FLANAGAN PHOTOGRAPHY

SGA senators look over their agendas before the final senate meeting of the academic year on Monday, April 23rd.

# QUILL

## TOWER EDITORIAL

### Farewell to the CUA Class of 2018

With college being a time when you learn and grow, and open and close so many doors, the class of 2018 has lived through a hell of a lot of moments.

Let's begin with our beautiful LCs, which started at 9:10 AM Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. What the heck was that? After a night out at McFadden's (which closed because a guy got stabbed) our little freshman selves had to get up Friday morning to see that random kid who started as a seminarian and then found love and exited the religious life. It's crazy to think that when we started here, upperclassmen lived in trailers in front of Curley, the bookstore was in the Pryz where Murphy's is, and we took classes in Marist! Everybody went to a tailgate at the Duf and gave us false hope that people actually went to sporting events here. Who could forget the rush of the bouncer handing the ID back to you in front of Town Tavern saying "you're good to go"? And not just bouncers, but the \$5 fee upperclassmen made you pay to get into darts. Speaking of \$5, let us not forget the man, the myth, and the legend, Five Dollar Dave. This friendly stranger brought the class of 2018 to and from bars, hockey games, and house parties in a freaking school bus as if high school hadn't just been left behind us. Monroe Street Market had just opened that summer, and little did we know that it would essentially become upperclassmen housing.

Whether it was the massive snowstorm or multiple campus lockdowns, people loved staying inside in Opus during sophomore year. Opus was nothing but eventful, and friend-

ships were ended just trying to get in. Luckily, we all came back together for a once-in-a-lifetime experience as we saw Pope Francis ride through campus and speak right on our Basilica lawn. Our university was in the national spotlight as we hosted his first papal visit to America.

There are a couple things that we could rely on during our time here. One, St. Patrick's Day would always be an absolute blast, and two, tuition would always increase.

Our antics at the Pryz after a darty probably should've gotten us in trouble, but instead gave us some of the best memories of ye ol' faithful always welcoming us with some fries, grilled cheeses, and mediocre pizza.

Shoutout to the people who you could have a blast with on Saturday night and then give a casual head nod to at Sunday mass. In the long run, we'll appreciate more and more the faith aspect of our community and education.

The days of late-night monumenting have passed, but there's still time to cross things off our D.C. bucket lists, and we need to appreciate this city before we all leave.

This campus will look a lot different in ten years, and we'll say "we wish we were students now", as former alumni have said to us. But change is good. The place will change but our memories won't.

Class of 2018: best of luck in whatever you go for, but if you ever feel like you just need to watch some nuns play basketball, you know you have a home at Catholic.

#### GUEST COMMENTARY

Aleah Bousquet and Duane Paul Murphy

## Divestment Right Now!

The universe's as well as the Milky Way Galaxy's only known habitable terrestrial planet capable of supporting organic life is on the verge of collapse. Our own world is being polluted by air, land, and water at an accelerated rate.

Since the industrial revolutions of the 19th and 20th centuries as well as the current rate of globalization in the 21st century, the rapid expansion of non-renewable energy resources such as coal, natural gas, and petroleum oil has started to cause worsening effects on the environment. From the oil spills off the oceanic waters of Alaska's Prince William Sound and the South's Gulf Coast to the controversial pipelines in the Canadian Great Plains as well as the American Midwestern Heartland, these particular substances have not only emmitt dangerous pollutants that are known climate warming greenhouse gases, but also contaminate our soil for food and our water for drinking or hygiene.

Furthermore, extraction methods have been known to exacerbate conflict and disrupt the lives of indigenous peoples as well as cost financial resources to obtain such scarce resources that will only

last less than 100 to 200 years as the population and the demand of natural resources worldwide. With renewable energy resources such as wind, solar, biofuels, hydroelectric, geothermal, and nuclear fusion, they are more abundant than fossil fuels and nuclear fission power. Also there are more jobs and economic demands for renewable energies due to the falling prices of oil and natural gas worldwide. Where does Catholic University stand on this issue?

It's likely that not many students are aware of the answer. In addition, with receiving money from one of the Koch brothers, pro-fossil fuel industrialists, it seems that the university is ignoring its own commitment towards a greener campus. Thus, let's begin this conversation. Let's talk about divestment, and the benefits it brings in terms of security and environmental factors. This is a conversation we should be having at all levels of this university - from students to faculty to executive positions. Let's choose to live up to what Pope Francis has put forward for us in terms of a future environmental vision. We serve in obligation to the environment, and to each other.

#### GUEST COMMENTARY

Liz Shoemaker  
Class of 2020

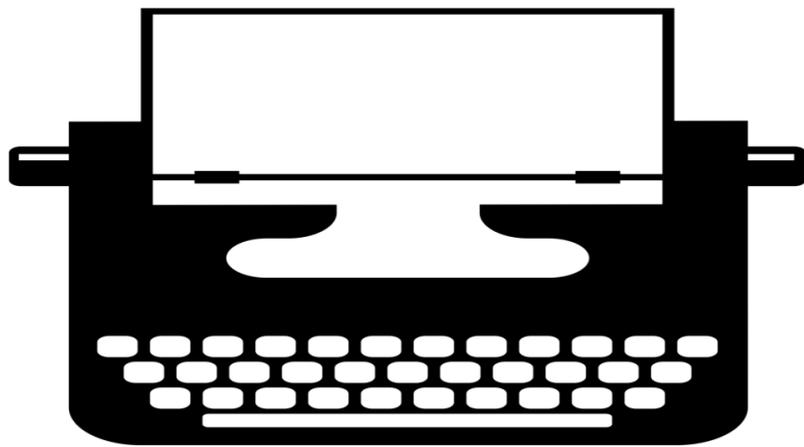
## Record Store Day in the Digital Spotify Age

April 21st, 2018 was the eleventh annual "Record Store Day." It is a day where music lovers flock to the record stores to celebrate vinyl, pick up special releases, and see in-store performances. It is an event that bands and fans alike look forward to every year. This year, there were well over 150 special, in-store only releases from a wide array of bands across all genres of music. Fans were able to buy anything from a Taylor Swift record to a Led Zeppelin record and just about everything in between. The really interesting part about Record Store Day, though, is that by all trends of current culture, this day should not be the success that it is. At this point, almost everyone has subscribed to one streaming service or the other. Face it, everyone is either sworn to Spotify or Apple Music. That really makes you wonder what the place of Record Store Day is at this moment in music consumption. Why does anyone bother buying vinyl records when we have all the music we want right at our fingertips all the time? Sure, I could make the argument that the sound quality of vinyl is better, but I think it is more than that.

I go to Record Store Day because it brings back the tradition of what record stores represent. Ask anyone who was interested in music before the dawn of the digital age. They will almost all tell you the same thing. Record stores were a music community experience. Being in the shop with a crowd, seeing what others were buying,

what was playing on the speakers in the store, getting recommendations from the staff, that is what record stores were in their heyday. So, I go to Record Store Day to have just a little piece of that. Listening to music through my headphones on my own streaming account is a very personal experience. It is my own music choices that I'm curating for myself. And, dare I say, getting a weekly playlist made for me by the Spotify or Apple Music algorithm isn't the kind of personal connection for which I am searching. Record stores, on the other hand, provide the opportunity to talk to other audiophiles. Who knows, one of them could even recommend you check out a band that later grows to become your favorite. There's also a real scene created by everyone being there together. I have been given countless flyers to go see up and coming local bands while I was browsing in a record store. It's a great place to start immersing yourself in the local music scene. And, most importantly, it is not an exclusive event. It is not a prerequisite to be the biggest music fan or vinyl collector in the world to attend events like these. Record Store Day and record stores at large may even be the best places to help expand your musical knowledge, and it all comes from the created and shared musical experience between friends and strangers. Record Store Day is a celebration of that. It is a meaningful moment, and I am very thankful that it is here, eleven years strong.

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



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## A &amp; E

## Burning Man Comes To Life at The Renwick Gallery

By: Daniela Sol  
Tower Staff

A city built annually in the middle of the Black Rock Desert in Nevada, Burning Man has been over the past years a sensational show where artists and a unique clique of people have gathered together to embrace their own kind of utopia. Burning Man is a place where self-expression, de commodification, and the arts is all mixed as a community loses itself amidst a desert.

It has been a festival that's embraced people for more than thirty years, making it a crucial point in America's history and culture. With self-expression being a primary focus, the art pieces are one, if not the most, impacting experience at the Burning Man city. In the past years these pieces have evolved, becoming works of a grand stature and impact, all installed in the middle of the desert where electricity is not easy to access.

The Renwick Gallery in Washington D.C. has opened an interactive exhibit called *No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man* with the cultural movement's most significant pieces, chosen by the gallery's curators. Nora Atkinson, the

museum's Lloyd Herman Curator of Craft, organized the exhibit together with The Burning Man group.

"This was a unique opportunity to look at Burning Man as really a part of the American story as this creative laboratory that's linked with maker culture, that's linked with technology, that's linked with many of the innovative minds in our country, and that is sort of an outside part of the art world that hasn't been looked at before in a museum setting," Atkinson said.

Atkinson explains how this has been the largest exhibit the gallery has put together so far, filling all the museum's rooms entirely with installations. The exhibit is not only displayed in the museum itself; statues and installations have also been placed in designated spots throughout the neighborhood.

Burning Man has since its beginning been a form of secret society, or at least an exclusive destination where everyone is welcome but not everyone can go. The fact that the Renwick Gallery and The Burning Man have prepared this exhibit for the public is an

exciting time for all artist aficionados.

Most of the festival's art is only enjoyed by those privileged enough to get to go, but the relevance of the temporary city has been such in American culture that it has become relevant in the country's arts. This is why the Renwick is excited to present these artists who volunteer to create art for The Burning Man community and give them further exposure.

Gabriela DeLeon is an interior designer living in Miami who is a loyal participant at The Burning Man community.

"It is a temporary society in which people live by these principals and it is actually successful without money or nothing," said DeLeon. "The fact that all the art is gifted and supplied is amazing. It is all about participation."

Atkinson explains how this concept of participation is going to be respected within the exhibit since people can interact and even add to it as they walk along the big art installations. The exhibit *No Spectators: The Art of Burning Man* will open to the public March 30 all the way to January 21st.



COURTESY OF THE RENWICK GALLERY  
MARCO COCHRAN, TRUTH IS BEAUTY, 2017 PHOTO BY: RON BLUNT

Season Two of *The Handmaid's Tale* is here on Hulu

By: Daniela Sol  
Tower Staff

It is a hard task for a director and scriptwriter to properly interpret a book, especially when that book is a classic. Yet Hulu nailed it with its series of *The Handmaid's Tale*. Fans of the book have religiously followed the series and have, overall, called the series a success.

What has spectators on their toes is the fact that season one covered the whole book and ended with the book's same ending. So nobody really knows what's going to happen in the upcoming season premiering on April 25th.

Created by Bruce Miller, the series has already won awards in both The Emmys and The Golden Globes, proving its fandom. The series has mostly been a favorite amongst women making it a monumental stepping stone for women's rights.

The book itself was and has been a monumental symbol for women's empowerment, and the series followed this theme

and has the book's loyal lovers even more captivated with everything *The Handmaid's Tale* represents.

The uncertainty of the series and what Miller will bring forward to the table is intriguing. He has proven himself to understand what Atwood meant with her book, so it will be interesting to see what he has to further offer and show in the dystopian world of Gilead.

According to *The Washington Post*, what has fans pumped about the upcoming season is the fact that the book ends quite abruptly and readers are left with rage and lots of questions that only add to the infuriating injustice seen in Gilead. The need for justice in the story is craved.

With the show, people now can get all those questions (hopefully!) answered, or at least keep getting a taste of *The Handmaid's Tale*.

The book lends itself to keep creating more, since Gilead is such a mystery and has so much more to

give than what Atwood gives snippets of in her writing. It is safe to say that Miller has more than enough creative freedom and more than enough material to work with and keep crafting the successful series he has already started.

What is also crucial, for the season and the show, is the fact that it was released when the #MeToo movement was taking place in Hollywood. One of the book's main themes is the use of women's bodies as political instruments in the horrific way it is presented. This is a theme that is significantly relevant today since sexual harassment cases and allegations have, both in Hollywood and politics, sprung up and awakened a repressed voice amongst women, making the series a thousand times more symbolic than it already is.

The new season of *The Handmaid's Tale* premiered this Wednesday, releasing two episodes, and will continue to release an episode weekly until January.



COURTESY OF HULU



Want to write for A&E?

Email Daniela Sol at [67sol@cua.edu](mailto:67sol@cua.edu)!



# SPORTS

## Baseball Sweeps Juniata In Weekend Matchup

By Jared Prenda  
Tower Staff

The Catholic University of America men's baseball team picked up three Landmark Conference wins this past weekend. The wins came on a sweep of the Juniata Eagles in a double header on Saturday, April 21st and a follow up game on the 22nd at Roger J. Talbot field.

The first two games ended with late game heroics as junior Bailey Lewis and freshman Michael Doody each hit walk-off doubles. Lewis' hit came in the bottom of the eleventh to seal a 5-4 victory in the first game and Doody's capped the game at 6-5.

The scoring of the first game started early as senior Jake Crist hit his first of two home runs on the day in the bottom of the first to tie the game at 1-1. Crist would go on to drive in 4 RBIs in the two contests. Juniata came back, however, to score 2 runs of its own in the top of the third inning, but a sacrifice fly

from senior Brennan Cotter and Crist's second RBI in the bottom of the inning brought the game to 3-3.

Neither side would manage to score until the eleventh, when Juniata looked like it would steal the first game as they scored a run, making the game 4-3. The CUA veteran Lewis responded brilliantly as he scored sophomore Christian Jones and freshman Andre Perez on his double, ending the game at 5-4.

The Catholic team stumbled early in the second half of the doubleheader, falling into a 5-1 deficit through the first four and a half innings. Crist launched the CUA comeback with his second homer of the day in the bottom of the fifth, scoring classmate Jack Hennessey. Junior Ryan Tracy scored his own RBI to bring the game within one, 5-4.

The team would pile on home plate as Doody scored classmates Perez and Cole Campbell, ending a 5-run

rally to win the game 6-5.

The Cardinals' pitching staff was more than dominant as they combined for 20 strikeouts. Six of which were recorded by rookie Ethan Risse in his 7 innings of work in the first game. Senior reliever Jack Ropelewski earned the first win while striking out four batters of his own in his 1.2 innings of work. Junior Mason Belcher struck out seven in 4.2 innings of work as he got the start in the second game. Sophomore Eric Moore earned his first win of the year by striking out three.

The Cards wrap up their regular season this Sunday, April 29th as they host St. Mary's (Md.) home at Catholic. First pitch of the first stanza is scheduled for 12:00 PM while the second game will start at 3:00 PM. The team sits with a record of 29-5 (12-6), finishing atop the Landmark Conference standings, giving them the top seed in the postseason.

## CUA Cardinals



### Upcoming Events

#### Women's Tennis

Landmark Tournament Tues., May 1 TBA

#### Track and Field

Landmark Conf. Championships Sat., May 5 10:00 AM

#### Softball

at Hood (DH) Sun., Apr. 29 1:00, 3:00 PM

Landmark Tournament Fri., May 4 TBA

#### Baseball

St. Mary's (DH) Sun., Apr. 29 12:00, 2:30 PM

Landmark Tournament Fri., May 11 TBA

#### Women's Lacrosse

at Elizabethtown Sat., Apr. 28 1:00 PM

Landmark Tournament Wed., May 2 TBA

#### Men's Lacrosse

Elizabethtown Sat., Apr. 28 1:00 PM

CATHOLICATHLETICS.COM

## Softball Sweeps Juniata To Wrap Up Landmark Conference Play

By Jared Prenda  
Tower Staff

The Lady Cardinals softball team finished its Landmark Conference play with a 7-5 (17-13) record following a weekend sweep over Juniata. The team will be taking the fourth and final spot of the conference playoffs.

Senior Alyssa Keane stood out as she went 3-of-6 in the two games, recording 7 RBIs including a grand slam in the first game. Keane has delivered a strong performance throughout her final season for the Cards, hitting career highs in home runs (5) and RBIs (24) on 27 hits. She has done all of this while making 20 less appearances at the plate than last season.

Keane earned her first RBI in the third inning of the first game, when she singled up the middle to drive in

two runs. Rookie Juliet Lodes drove in an RBI of her own in the top of the fifth before Keane blasted her grand slam to win the game at 7-6.

Junior Kelly Lynch recorded her 10th win on the year throwing for 5.2 innings of work. She was relieved by freshman Allie Lajeunesse who struck out 3 batters in just 1.1 innings of work.

The second game was an equally-efficient offensive contest for the Cardinals, as they began their scoring in the third inning. Colline proved patient as she drew a bases-loaded walk to score a run, while Keane ripped another single to drive in another run before the close of the inning.

The game remained at a 2-2 stalemate until the fifth inning when

junior Rebecca Marks hit an RBI single scoring rookie Taylor Forgen for the game winning run. Catholic would score two more runs in the seventh to end the game at 5-2.

Sophomore Sabrina Scott started for CUA in the second game and delivered 3 strikeouts in her complete game on the mound.

The Cardinals close out their regular season with a two game doubleheader at Hood College on Sunday, April 29th. The team will use this as one final warm-up game before plunging into the postseason. The team is slated to play on the road against the highest-seeded team from the Landmark Conference as they're locked into the fourth seed.



COURTESY OF CATHOLICATHLETICS.COM  
Senior Alyssa Keane went 3-of-6 in two games with 7 RBIs and a grand slam.

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# THE REAR END

## GLOBE TROTTERS: CHERISHING A SEMESTER IN COSTA RICA

By Megan Krakie '20

My experience abroad in Costa Rica has undoubtedly been the greatest of my life! SOL is an incredible program that has helped me dramatically improve my Spanish and exposed me to new cultures and perspectives. I have made lasting friendships and learned lessons about myself that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

What's amazing about SOL is that there are excursions and planned activities that open your mind and help you gain a new perspective on the world. It really is a full-immersion program, both in Spanish and culture. At the end of our first week we visited Volcan Arenal and La Fortuna Waterfall, and went ziplining. It was so much fun and the first time I really felt the sense of adventure of being abroad. At the end of the fourth week, we went to Manuel Antonio, one of Costa Rica's most stunning beaches. It was amazing to bond with the other students in the program as we swam and hiked together. We had plenty of free time and I went parasailing at sunset, which was one of my favorite experiences abroad. Our longest excursion was to Nicaragua at the halfway point of the program. We spend four days there and learned all about the local culture and how different it was from Costa Rica. It was absolutely gorgeous, but also very eye-opening, as Nicaragua is currently going through economic and political difficulties. My favorite part of that trip was visiting Café de las Sonrisas, a café and restaurant that is funded by selling hammocks made by Nicaraguan people who are deaf and were turned away from work elsewhere; it was an impactful experience I will never forget.

SOL also made sure to expose us to more local places and things to do. We explored downtown Heredia, the city we all lived in, and Costa Rica's capital, San Jose. After we became familiar with how

to navigate our way around, we went out all the time to go to local markets, get coffee, and go to local art and food festivals. There was always something unique and fun to do. One of my favorite local trips was to the Toucan Rescue Ranch, a sanctuary for sick and injured animals to be rehabilitated and released back into the wild. It was the first time I saw a sloth, and they were so cute I actually cried!

One of the reasons I think SOL is so incredible is that there was the perfect balance of free time and planned activities, and we were always encouraged to make the most of our time by travelling independently. For our free weekends, people would come up with different things to do and places to go, and whoever wanted to join was welcome. I went on a ten-mile hike at Volcan Barva, took a beach trip to Jaco, visited one of Costa Rica's most important Catholic sites in Cartago, hiked for two days in Monteverde, went to Volcan Irazu high above the clouds, and swam in the turquoise waters of Rio Celeste. Between our excursions and travelling independently, I was able to experience everything Costa Rica has to offer.

One thing that I cannot praise enough is my host family. SOL does an amazing job of finding the best host families for its students. My host mother is one of the most incredible women I have ever met, and her family is amazing. They all immediately made me feel welcome, loved, and cared for. My experience would simply have not been as good without them!

If you are considering studying abroad, I cannot recommend SOL enough. You will be cared for and encouraged at all times, make lifelong friendships, learn a lot about yourself and what you are capable of, and have the best time of your life!



COURTESY OF MEGAN KRAKIE

Catholic sophomore Megan Krakie (center) got to try parasailing with other students at Manuel Antonio beach during her time in Costa Rica.

### CUA GLOBE TROTTERS

Are you studying abroad next semester and want to share your story? Maybe you want to hear about your friends studying in a foreign country?

Submit a piece to Globe Trotters!

Email [stevensra@cua.edu](mailto:stevensra@cua.edu)



Rio Celeste in Tenorio Volcano National Park of Costa Rica

## GLOBE TROTTERS: HAVING A BALL IN BARILOCHE, ARGENTINA

By Eleni Haberis '19

During my time studying abroad, I have gotten the opportunity to split my semester and live in both Buenos Aires, Argentina and Santiago, Chile. I've been able to see different parts of Argentina, Uruguay, and Peru, but my favorite place that I traveled to was Bariloche, Argentina. Bariloche is in the foothills of the Andes mountains and is considered part of the Patagonia region which, believe it or not, is more than just a store that all the Catholic University boys shop at!

I traveled with a friend of mine from my program, which I enjoyed because we were able to set our own schedule and activities without feeling pressured to follow a formal group schedule. We did not have an agenda, so we followed the suggestions that the man working at our hostel gave. On our first day there we took a chairlift up to the top of a mountain. We essentially had no idea what we were going to see, we just heard it was cool. Once we passed above the tree line we were able to see what we were getting ourselves into, and my jaw dropped. Beautiful blue lakes, all resting between mountains that didn't even look real. It

felt like we were in a National Geographic catalogue! We spent hours at the top just sitting on rocks and taking in the beauty of nature. Afterwards we took the chair lift back down the mountain, rented bikes and rode the 17-mile bike trail through the mountains. Although this was tiring – I hadn't been on a bike for probably six months before this – I did not even notice and felt nothing except exhilaration, because our surroundings were so amazing. Even pictures could not do it justice.

The next day we decided to go for a hike – at this point we considered ourselves adventurous nature girls, so why not. We were some of the only ones on the trail and went up about 6,000ft. This was one of the most serene experiences of my life; I felt so close and connected to the earth. We spent the entire day on the mountain and then had to go home and pack for our flight the next morning. The only thing I would've wished for was more time! I am beyond thankful for this experience and all the other ones I have gotten while I have been abroad, and I cannot wait for more.

## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

AA MEETS ON  
THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM

CALDWELL HALL 331B



COURTESY OF ELENI HABERIS

Catholic junior Eleni Haberis split her semester up living in Buenos Aires, Argentina and Santiago, Chile, but one of her favorite trips was to Bariloche in the Patagonia region of Argentina.

# IT'S BEEN A GREAT YEAR! THANKS FOR READING!

WE CAN ALWAYS USE HELP AT THE TOWER, CONSIDER GETTING INVOLVED!

MEETINGS ARE SUNDAYS AT 7 PM IN PRYZ 103