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Student 'Our Gustavus' Campaign calls for financial transparency

McKayla Murphy
News Editor

One of the biggest issues facing today's colleges and universities is budget allocation. Students, staff, and administration may never completely agree on where money should be spent, how it should be invested, and where it should be restricted. However, in the case of a private college, such as Gustavus, reports stating exactly where- and how much- money is being allocated do not require public release.

As a result of these cuts, a student-led movement, 'Our Future, Our Voices, #OurGustavus,' has recently sprung up via social media sites.

"The thought is that, together our voices are louder than one individual and one individual group, because that's just the way it is. So 'Our Future, Our Voices, #OurGustavus,' was kind of coined after all of the cuts had been made on campus, and was kind of student's response to try to create a collective voice," Junior Nicole Ektnitphong said.

Recent increases in program,



Window paintings in the Evelyn Young Dining Room show support for the recently cut Gustavus Nordic Ski Team. Submitted

faculty, and funding cuts have caused particular concern over the issue of financial transparency at Gustavus.

Ektnitphong expressed the uneasiness she feels reflects the current mindset of the campus.

"The cuts have not just been happening this year, but it seems like it's been getting a lot more momentum with the

various cuts around campus. Last year, I became very aware of this issue of how we are handling our money, and the whole transparency issue. This year, to my knowledge, it is happening all over campus including The CICE Office, Diversity Center, Chinese classes, Nordic Ski Team, The Center for Vocation and Integrated Learning, and

then certain professors and faculty of course, and I am sure I could go on," Ektnitphong said.

Senior Anna McDevitt, one of the founders of the #OurGustavus movement, has been digging further as to why the cuts are happening.

"A change to involving students, staff, and faculty in administrative and budget deci-

sions from the start has the potential to be very constructive because that way, when the College is forced to make decisions and cuts like this we, as the Gustavus community, wouldn't feel so powerless and victimized by those decisions," McDevitt said.

An additional cut that has caused particular outcry among the Gustavus community is the cut of Chris Johnson, director of vocational reflection and integrated learning and associate director in the Center for Servant Leadership.

"As the result of Chris' ongoing efforts, vocational reflection is now firmly embedded in much of the curriculum and programming here at Gustavus. It is my understanding, based on conversations with administrators, that this was a factor in the decision to cut Chris from the College's payroll. But to terminate his position in the wake of such success is, in my opinion, very flawed logic. The importance of vocation is figuring out how your individual passions can best serve

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Activist Greta Christina advocates atheist anger

Libby Larson
Assistant News Editor

Atheist author, blogger, and activist Greta Christina delivered her lecture entitled "Why are you atheists so angry" in Wallenberg Auditorium on Thursday, April 10.

Christina's lecture was jointly sponsored by the Gustavus Secular Student Alliance, Queers

and Allies, and College Republicans.

Secular Student Alliance President and Founder Ryan Liebl addressed the organization's motivation for inviting Christina to the Gustavus campus, noting that Christina's stance on sexual justice and support for the LGBTQ community would also appeal to the campus population.

"The other unique thing is she's kind of a firebrand, like she's not your usual really nice Midwestern kind of person, but she's not going to make people feel comfortable at the talk necessarily if they disagree with her viewpoint. We thought she was compatible as a whole, but would also challenge people at the same time," Liebl said.

Christina opened the lecture

with an expression of religious and political issues, addressing the legal discrimination which has been historically directed toward atheists among a multitude of global social issues rooted in religion.

"To deny the role that religion plays in religious conflict is a classic case of ignoring the elephant in the room," Christina said.

Defining religion based in terms of a belief in the impact of the supernatural in the natural world, Christina addressed the issue of the lack of "reality check" in an entity based in faith and the intangible, stating that religion is consequentially "uniquely armored."

Christina stated that she believes moderate and progressive religions are harmful in their promotion of faith, which among other negative effects opens people to vulnerability in bad decisions.

She spoke about the power of anger as a tool in creating social change.

"I think I'm right to be angry. I think all atheists are right to be angry," Christina said.

Placing the element of anger within public conversations

about atheist activism, she described interaction with other religious or social groups encouraging atheists to tone down their anger and message, which she asserts removes power and energy from the atheist movement.

"To deny the role that religion plays in religious conflict is a classic case of ignoring the elephant in the room."

—Greta Christina

"Atheists are angry because we have compassion, atheists are angry because we have a sense of justice.[We are] not angry because there's something wrong with us, we're angry because there's something right with us," Christina said.

Christina encouraged atheists in the audience to "come out" to family and friends in an effort to create a more supportive envi-

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Office of Marketing and Communications

Atheist Activist Greta Christina talks to student audience about issues that atheists face.

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Campus Safety Report

Wednesday, March 26

- Campus Safety performed a welfare check on a student in Norelius Hall.
- Campus Safety received a report of two students cited by the Saint Peter Police Department on Saturday, March 15 for underage consumption and one of the students was cited for underage drinking and driving while on College grounds.

Thursday, March 27

- Two students while on College grounds were cited for an of-age alcohol violation.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Pittman Hall. A non-Gustavus student was transported to the Saint Peter Emergency Room. The non-Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for underage consumption of alcohol. A Gustavus student was cited by Campus Safety for underage possession of alcohol and a social host violation.

- Campus Safety took a report of theft in the Jackson Campus Center.
- A Campus Safety Officer responded to Beck Hall for a medical assist.

Saturday, March 29

- Collegiate Fellows documented an underage alcohol violation in Uhler Hall involving one student.

Saturday, April 5

- Campus Safety documented vandalism on College grounds.

Monday, April 7

- A Gustavus employee reported vandalism in Norelius Hall.

Tuesday, April 8

- A student reported the theft of unsecured personal property in the Lund Center.

Wednesday, April 9

- A Gustavus employee reported the loss of campus key to Campus Safety.

Thursday, April 10

- Two students were cited for underage consumption while in Pittman Hall.

Friday, April 11

- Eight students while in Uhler Hall were cited by Campus Safety for underage consumption of alcohol. Two students were cited for underage possession of alcohol. One student was cited for failure to comply with a College official. One student was cited for destruction/damage/vandal of property. Two students were cited for a College policy violation. Two students were cited for a social host violation.

Saturday, April 12

- Two students while on College grounds were cited by Campus Safety for drug/narcotic and drug equipment violations. One student was cited for an underage possession of alcohol.
- Two students while inside the Swanson Tennis Center gates were cited by Campus Safety for suspicious activity. One student was cited for underage consumption of alcohol.

Sunday, April 13

- Collegiate Fellows responded to an alcohol violation in Rundstrom Hall involving six students.
- Collegiate Fellows documented suspicious activity in North Hall.
- Campus Safety responded to a report of damage/vandalism in Sorensen hall. A fire extinguisher had been discharged.
- A Collegiate Fellow and Campus Safety officer responded to a noise violation in Arbor View Apartments.

Case dispositions are available online by viewing the daily crime log on the Campus Safety web page: <https://gustavus.edu/safety/incidents/index.php>

Tip of the Week:
SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

Minnesota Severe Weather Awareness Week is April 21-25, 2014. Each day of the week focuses on different weather-related hazards as follows:

Monday: alerts and warnings

Tuesday: severe weather, lightning and hail

Wednesday: flooding

Thursday: tornadoes (with statewide tornado drills)

Friday: extreme heat

More information on these topics is available on the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management website at <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/hsem/weather-awareness-preparedness/Pages/severe-weather-awareness-week-program.aspx>.

Two statewide tornado drills will occur on Thursday, April 24 (1:45 p.m. and 6:55 p.m.) and the Police Department will be testing emergency sirens at each of those times. During the test, outdoor warning sirens and NOAA weather radios will both sound in a simulated tornado warning. The first drill is intended for institutions and businesses. The evening drill is intended for second shift workers and families.

Severe weather information and campus shelter locations are located on the Campus Safety web page: <https://gustavus.edu/safety/tips/weather.php>

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Gustavus Relay for Life raises over \$45,000

McKayla Murphy
News Editor

Colleges Against Cancer, Gustavus' on campus cancer awareness group, held their biggest yearly event, Relay For Life, from Friday, April 11 to Saturday, April 12 this year. The group increased fundraising totals by almost \$10,000, from last year's \$36,000 to over \$45,000 this year. The event's 510 Gustavus participants worked in teams to walk from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. with the overall goal to raise money for the American Cancer Society.

The event opened with a Celebration Ceremony featuring speakers Sophomore Mandy Schlauderaff and Advisor Ann Volk and an introduction from the Co-Presidents of Colleges Against Cancer, Senior Hallee Adamsheck and Senior Abby Schnorr.

9 p.m. marked the Remember Luminary Ceremony, in which participants placed glow sticks in each participant-decorated luminary bag that lined the walking path. The luminaries displayed names of lost friends and family members as well as cancer survivors. The ceremony concluded with an emotional slideshow featuring participant-submitted slides with pictures and tributes to loved ones.

Participant and First-Year Jenna Muntifering expressed her thankfulness for the opportunity to participate in the event.

"I believe that it is a really important thing to do, it's important for us to all come together and support this cause. You can sacrifice a little sleep for a good cause," Muntifering said.

The night-long event also featured various events and activities to keep the participants entertained and awake. Some of the highlights included the infamous Chuck Norris challenge, in which students compete to consume the entire 8-pound Chuck Norris burger from Patrick's. This popular challenge alone raised around \$900, although none of the participants were able to successfully finish the burger. 4 a.m. Zumba and ice cream made by the Chemistry Club were also



Gustavus Relay for Life participants walk the course outlined with Luminaries at the 2014 Relay for Life.

student favorites. Adamsheck said that although the group had great success in 2013 in raising participation numbers, they saw a greater increase of fundraising correlating with this year's increase in participation.

"What we added or improved this year that we are the most proud of is our fundraising total, because last year we did a really good job increasing our number of participants, we increased it by 40 percent, there was 336 two years ago and last year there was 560, so we increased our participation a lot last year, but our fundraising totals didn't reflect that as much, and then this year our fundraising totals went up a lot and we broke our goal of \$40,000 before Relay even started and we are at \$45,869 right now," Adamsheck said.

Adamsheck also expressed the importance of creativity when it comes to fundraising. "I think one challenge with Relays on a college campus, no matter where it is just that it is on college campus, and you are going to struggle with fundraising no matter what because college kids don't have a ton of money, so you have to get creative with how you fundraise," Adamsheck said.

Creative fundraising events included a "Water Pong" tournament with an entry fee and "Bosom Buddies" with Delta Phi Omega, a bra decorating competition where the winner

was decided by monetary votes. The top team fundraiser was the Gustavus Tennis Team, raising a whopping \$13,681.

Schnorr stated that Gustavus Tennis makes Relay for Life one of their main volunteer projects. "Every year the tennis team does so much for us, and they raised over \$12,000 this year and every year they are such a big support for us and we are really appreciative for all the money they bring in," Schnorr said.

The top personal participants included both co-presidents, Adamsheck with \$3,125 and Schnorr with \$860. Senior Laura Isdahl came in third with \$725. First-Year Claire Goblirsch, who has been 'relaying' for the majority of her life, said that she loves seeing all of the groups on campus come together.

"I like that everyone is really there as a community," Goblirsch said.

Schnorr said that she would love to see the Gustavus community continue to move towards and beyond the existing \$53,000 Gustavus Relay record.

"We are so passionate and we work so hard and it is awesome to see it reflected in the people that go. I think it's one thing that we kind of forget as we plan is that the event actually happens and everyone is affected by cancer, so it is so cool to see everyone come together to fight for one cause," Schnorr said.

Peace Studies Award brings life-changing impact

Jessie Yongrong Tan
Staff Writer

Peace Studies Award winners from 2013 gathered in the Presidents' Dining Room on March 24 to share their experiences with the campus. About 40 students and faculties joined the celebration, featuring presentations by award recipients Briana Bloom, MacKenzie Brill, Lars Ericson, Courtney Train and Avery Wallace.

Chair in Political Science and Director in Peace Studies Mimi Gerstbauer explained the purpose of the award.

"It is designed to help students do work or study related to peace, to help fund and support them to do that. That could be anything involves cost beyond normal study at Gustavus," Gerstbauer said.

The application for 2014 Peace Studies Award was due on April 10. Applicants submitted an application form and an essay that explained their project. According to Gerstbauer, three aspects are considered when selecting award recipients.

First, they evaluate how closely the project is related to peace studies. Then they make sure the cost of the project is not covered by the tuition at Gustavus. They also take the applicants' independence into consideration which means they give priority to candidates who develop a project by themselves.

The award winners' projects in 2013 show a wide range of

variety in geographic locations and issues of interests. They all revolve around the essence of peace. The projects range from Mackenzie Brill's trip to a national conference for college women student leaders in Washington, D.C. to Courtney Train's social justice program in India, from Lars Ericson's work in an orphanage and teaching in a secondary school in Tanzania to Avery Wallace's exploration in The Dominican Republic. Briana Bloom did not travel as far as others did. She stayed on campus and completed an independent art project related to peace studies.

Gerstbauer explained why the award can be used in so many different ways.

"Peace is not only the absence of war, but the presence of economic and social justice," Gerstbauer said.

Junior Courtney Train knew the wide range of meanings that the word "peace" carried, but a semester in India enabled her to be fully mindful of those issues.

"What I ended up coming out with is becoming extremely conscious of social justice issues, whether that's class, race, gender, sexuality, food, disability. These are things that I knew about and cared about but after going to India I have a completely different perspective, I am so passionate and have a clear understanding of what

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the needs of the world. So in cutting support for vocational reflection, we are essentially threatening Gustavus' core values that give meaning to the tagline 'make your life count,' McDevitt said.

Senior Annalise Dobbstein says that she is seeing more and more students become involved in this movement.

"I have heard other Gusties talking about how students did not get a voice in these decisions, which ultimately affect all students, faculty, and staff. Students are discussing how cuts are being made that directly affect them and that they were unaware that the cuts were going to take place, and why. Specifically, the Nordic Ski Team and the Finance Manager in the CICE office," Dobbstein said.

Dobbstein also highlighted what she feels is the heart of the issue.

"Overall, I think the biggest issue on campus is the lack of information and communication for students, faculty and staff. I know of many departments that had no idea that cuts were going to be taking place specifically in their department, and

the communication from the administration side was very poor at best. Many staff and faculty, as well as students still have questions of why certain issues and cuts are taking place and no one has been seeming to answer our questions," Dobbstein said.

"I think the biggest issue on campus is the lack of information and communication for students, faculty and staff."

—Annalise Dobbstein

Eknitphong summed up the reason behind the movement with the following statement: "It is a concern rooted in a love for Gustavus and I think that is what is so strong, is that we all go to school here for a reason, different reasons, but we are here and we love Gustavus, and that's why we are so concerned and we would love to know more about how these cuts are made that affect us and affect the people that we work with and we learn with, and I think that is not asking for a lot."



Gustavus Relay for Life 2014 Participants partake in 4 a.m. Zumba to stay awake.

McKayla Murphy

The inside scoop on Inside Out Day

Christine Peterson
Staff Writer

Do you know where your clothing comes from and what type of environment it was made in? On April 24, Gustavus is holding its first Inside Out Day. The purpose of this day is to have the student body wear their clothing inside out to promote fair trade.

Fair trade clothing is clothing that is made by producers who are paid fair prices in developing countries. The Book Mark now carries a line of fair trade clothing called Alta Gracia Apparel.

Last year on April 24, the Bangladesh factory fire occurred which sparked this nationwide Inside Out Day. Sophomore and student organizer of Inside Out Day Hayley Nemmers describes the event as more than just a memory of the fire but an action to raise awareness.

"It is in memory of that [Bangladesh fire] but also in conjunction with that, it's going to raise awareness about where our clothes come from," Nemmers said.

Director of the Academic Support Center Margo Druschel brought this new event to the Gustavus campus. She recently went to the Fair Trade Regional Meeting in Wisconsin and learned about the Inside Out Event.

Druschel is a fair trade activist



Allison Hosman

Students will wear their clothes inside out on April 24 to raise awareness support Fair Trade.

and sees Gustavus as a perfect campus to get involved in this campaign.

"When I started working at Gustavus, I saw how our Mission and groups like the Greens, the Kitchen Cabinet, the Big Hill Farm, composting, and the Book Mark were already doing a lot of Fair Trade and Local work. It only seemed natural that Gustavus would join the movement and become a Fair Trade College," Druschel said.

The Bookmark has partaken in this fair trade campaign by stocking Alta Gracia Apparel which is strictly fair trade clothing. This clothing line came to Gustavus in December 2013, and is currently 25 percent off.

Manger at the Book Mark Molly Yunkers has wanted to start this line since 2011 and is excited to promote it.

"Alta Gracia doesn't have the brand recognition of Champion, Nike, or Under Armour. But, it

is a wonderful product that I think definitely competes with other brands on comfort and fit. The story behind the label makes it even easier to promote," Yunkers said.

The goal of this event is not only to promote awareness of where clothing is made, but also to create a group determined to make Gustavus a Fair Trade College.

"And this is actually in all of a larger effort to make Gustavus

"When I started working at Gustavus, I saw how our Mission and groups were already doing a lot of Fair Trade and Local work. It only seemed natural that Gustavus would join the movement and become a Fair Trade College."

—Margo Druschel

a fair trade campus," Nemmers said.

This event also ties in with next year's Reading in Common book by Kelsey Timmerman, *Where Am I Wearing*. The purpose is to get the Gustavus campus thinking about where their clothing comes from and what conditions it was made in.

Contacts for the event include both Hayley Nemmers or Margo Druschel. The fair trade campaign is excited to see the campus come together, shirts on inside out, raise awareness about where their clothing comes from, and promote Gustavus to become a Fair Trade College.

'Atheist activist' continued from page 1

ronment for other atheists and to select a form of activism that is personally comfortable and productive.

Following the lecture, a question and answer segment permitted audience members to interact with Christina, including queries about the diversity of unbelief, why atheists should "come out of the closet," selective Biblical interpretations, among others.

One audience member inquired what Christina's ideal future for religion would entail, to which she responded in favor of an increase in atheism, removal of religion from government, and the eventual nonexistence

of religion globally.

Junior Kaity Young was in the audience and reflected on Christina's message following the lecture.

"I think it went really well, I was impressed with what she had to say. I like that she didn't really do anything that would make other people angry, she just expressed why she was angry, which I think was a good thing to do specifically on this campus because of all the backlash that there can be," Young said.

Young also addressed the importance in promoting such conversations on campus about atheism, so atheists may be perceived as more relatable to some members of the campus community.

'Peace Studies Award' continued from page 3

these issues mean in our world and how they play out and how power and money control basically the whole ideology of a country," Train said.

Train's experience in India was life-changing. It has transformed her and she has become more critical of western culture.

"I became a huge critic of

"I am so passionate and have a clear understanding of what these issues mean in our world."

— Courtney Train

capitalism. It doesn't mean that you hate America. It just means that you start to realize that borders are man-made and not real. The world does not have sections. We are all connected," Train said.

The impact and inspiration Train has got out of this experience are in line with the spirit of the award. Gerstbauer guessed that the award has been around 20 years. With \$2,000 to distribute a year, the Peace Studies Award has supported numerous students to learn about peace or engage in peacemaking projects.



Junior Lars Ericson



Senior Briana Bloom



Junior Mackenzie Brill



Senior Avery Wallace



Junior Courtney Train

All Peace Studies Award Recipients photographed by Agustin Murillo



Greta Christina during her lecture, "Why Are You Atheists So Angry." Office of Marketing and Communications

GUSTIE *of the* WEEK

Brady Lass
Staff Writer

One of the best things about Gustavus students are how they not only take action when it comes to the world around them, but also have vibrant personalities. Junior Computer Science Major Ian Elletson embodies both these qualities.

Ian chose to be a computer science major because he loves to program, and he likes math. One of Ian's favorite parts of being at Gustavus is the architecture.

"I think the columbarium is really cool, and I'm happy we can have such cool architecture like that and the Gustavus 150 memorial on our campus. I love walking down the path of all the presidents and looking up in awe at the statue. I like to know that there is a place for me to rest here at Gustavus," Ian said.

Ian is well known for his contributions as the Vice President for the Gustavus Secular Student Alliance (SSA). The SSA is an organization that attempts to help non-religious students on campus by having conversations about secular thought, growing a strong and visible non-religious community, and developing a safer environment

for secular students.

"I am involved because I enjoy the people who are also members, and I love the meetings. They challenge my opinions, and they challenge me to think. I feel strongly compelled to make the world more secular," Ian said.

Ryan Liebl has been one of Ian's friends since last spring when Ian began to attend SSA meetings regularly and help run the group. Liebl expressed his appreciation of Ian's work in the organization.

"Ian is extremely devoted to the cause of secularism, and I can always trust him to take care of any SSA business when I'm away. He's also a skilled discussion leader and is part of the reason SSA meetings are, on average, two hours and almost always enlightening and enjoyable. He's also designed the vast majority of the SSA's posters this year, given his photoshop skills," Liebl said.

Ian also has hobbies and interests outside of campus that are quite intriguing. While most roll their eyes when it comes time to mow the lawn, Ian has a smile on his face when revving up his mower.

"I enjoy mowing my lawn and walking barefoot in the freshly cut grass. There's nothing that gets my goat like lawn care. I like to grill (using propane!) on

a nice summer afternoon after mowing. I trim hedges for fun, too. Sometimes into animals," Ian said.

Liebl also expressed his views on Ian's personality and hobbies. He finds Ian quirky, but interesting.

"He's passionate about lawn care—especially mowing lawns and trimming hedges. His other hobby is yo-yo, and I've seen him do some amazing tricks. He's also surprisingly high-brow when it comes to butter and yoga. For whatever reason, he rather dislikes birthdays. He shares this opinion with me quite a bit," Liebl said.

"I enjoy mowing my lawn and walking barefoot in the freshly cut grass. There's nothing that gets my goat like lawn care. I like to grill (using propane!) on a nice summer afternoon after mowing. I trim hedges for fun, too. Sometimes into animals."

—Ian Elletson

Ian's work doesn't just lie in being in SSA and lawn care, however. He is also the representative for the Diversity Leadership Council (DLC). Co-chair of the Diversity Leadership Council Becca Eastwood has given her thoughts on Ian's work for the DLC.

"Ian has a very fun-loving personality. When he comes across something he is passionate about, he is not afraid to work hard to see it through. He has been a representative to DLC for about a semester and he is an invaluable member of the council. He contributes fantastic insight and is always ready with relevant questions.

"Ian has a very fun-loving personality. When he comes across something he is passionate about, he is not afraid to work hard to see it through."

—Becca Eastwood

Ian has also done fantastic things for the Secular Student Alliance. He has become an important spokesperson for the group and has worked incredibly hard to bring this perspec-



Allison Hosman

tive to the Gustavus campus.

He is not afraid of difficult conversations and simultaneously brings an open mind. Ian is also instrumental in the planning of Diversity Week (April 22-26) on campus," Eastwood said.

For his quirky personality and his work towards the Secular Student Alliance and Diversity Leadership Council, Ian is one Gustie that brightens the world around him.



Ian is proud of his passion for lawn care and yo-yo.

Allison Hosman



Ian wants YOU to be in Secular Student Alliance.

Allison Hosman

Gustavus Dance Company honored at ACDFA

Kim Krulish
Staff Writer

Lights, camera, dance! Accompanied by Theatre and Dance Department Assistant Professors Melissa Rolnick and Jill Patterson, 19 Gustavus dance students attended the annual American Collegiate Dance Festival Association (ACDFA) in Milwaukee, Wisc. March 14-18.

The ACDFA conference travels around the country and is held in a different city each year. The name of the conference will be changing next year to the American Collegiate Dance Association.

The students watched a total of 48 performances and took various unique classes. They spent the four days of the trip eating, breathing, sleeping, and living dance.

Students gained experience through watching performances, speaking to other students and teachers from other schools, dancing, performing, and hearing feedback on their own works and others'. Pieces were viewed by participants in the conference and three renowned artists, Gerri Houlihan, Gesel Mason, and Bill Wade, gave feedback on the 48 pieces, while faculty gave feedback on the informal concerts.

There were three options of classes for students to take each day, as well as two concerts per day. There were also master classes taught by the adjudicators. A lottery drawing determined who could participate because there was not space or time for everyone to take them all.

11 pieces brought by attending schools were invited to the Gala concert this year, and both of the pieces brought by Gustavus were among them. One piece was choreographed by Patterson and the other was

a student-choreographed piece by Senior Dance Major Johnny Bates.

Bates has enjoyed participating in the trip for the past three years.

"Presenting my choreography was my favorite thing. Having my work chosen to share at the regionals. It's a great experience, you make great connections with other schools around the region," Bates said.

The conference is not just for dance majors. Anyone who is involved in the department or has some experience in dance is welcome to participate.

"Even those who aren't putting dance as their number one choice for studies. It's a great couple days to just be yourself and have fun and meet people. You learn a lot too, just from watching other performances and speaking to teachers from other schools," Bates said.

First-year Dana Riebe also enjoyed her experience with the ACDFA trip and looks forward to continuing her participation in the future.

"I took a lot of different classes I'd never taken before. I took Indian. It was cool, it was intense because it was so different from everything I've done. I'm excited for next year, wherever it is," Riebe said.

Professor Melissa Rolnick has chaperoned the event before and will likely do so again. According to Rolnick, the trip is a good experience for the students. They take classes with dance instructors from multiple schools, many of which the students could not take elsewhere.

There is a range of experience to be gained for the students from attending the conference such as performing in front of the adjudicators, getting to dance in many different kinds of forms, hearing and receiving feedback, and the community that they develop with other each other.



The senior piece, "Then.Here.Begin," choreographed by Jill Patterson, was chosen for the Gala concert.

Allison Hosman

"Even those who aren't putting dance as their number one choice for studies. It's a great couple days to just be yourself and have fun and meet people."

— Johnny Bates

"It's an incredible, eye-opening experience. They really bond during that time," Rolnick said.

The students were able to compare their educations to those of other students from other institutions who attended. They were able to see what is happening in dance elsewhere around the region. That type of exposure is invaluable, according to Rolnick. The students were able to hear how people speak about dance and learn what is happening in the dance world.



Submitted

A duet choreographed by Johnny Bates, featuring Kate Schulze and Jordan Lovestand was selected to move on to the Gala Concert.

Participating in the ACDFA trip was good exposure for all 19 students. According to Rolnick, those that performed had the additional exposure of gaining national recognition. This recognition is important

for the individual participants, the ensemble, and the Dance program at Gustavus.

"In other words, we're doing something right," Rolnick said.

Fairy tale-inspired String Moves captivates students

Clara Wicklund
Staff Writer

The air fills with the swells and dips of a piano, two cellists, and a violinist, all moving in one, fluid motion. Students lean eagerly over the railings as a dancer gracefully bends and curls across the floor. The only moving things are the dancer and the strings.

String Moves, a concert put on by four professional musicians and a renowned choreographer and dancer, took place in the Torrey Atrium in Beck Hall on Sunday, April 13. Beck Hall was packed with students and community members.

The musicians included violinist Francesca Anderegg, cellists David Carter and Wilhelmina Smith, and pianist and Gus-

tavus professor Esther Wang. The interpretive dancing was done by Kim Neal Nofsinger.

The idea for String Moves came from the brilliance of Music Appreciation Professor Esther Wang.

"We picked this music because some of the music is from fairy tales. It incorporated movement like a fluttering leaf, a gust of wind—anything that inspired movement," Wang said.

The concert was part of a series for the Music Appreciation class and was held in the Beck Atrium. It was a unique space to hold it in, with different viewing vantage points, comfortable seating, and fabulous acoustics.

"It was strange that Beck Hall, a place where I had done countless hours of homework, had been transformed into a concert hall," Senior Kat Dahl said.

The concert was composed of eight different pieces, all with allusions to movement. The repertoire included "Divertimento," Suite from *The Fairy's Kiss*, composed by Stravinsky, "Sacher Variations," by Britten, "Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 119," by Prokofiev, "Sonata for Cello and Piano," by Debussy, "Pohadka (Fairy Tale)" and "On an Overgrown Path," by Janacek, "Seven Tunes Heard in China," by Bright Sheng, and "Pop Swatches," by Doug Opel. The pieces were of varying emotions. Some pieces were aggressive and sharp, while other pieces were flowing and sweet.

"The music for the most part carried a disjunctive theme throughout the concert, containing many odd pauses and thoughts," Sophomore Quad Kilander said.

Choreographer and dancer Kim Neal Nofsinger appeared in three of the pieces.

"I had been working alongside the dancer at the Interlochen Arts Camp for many years, but had never actually had the chance to work with him. I'd seen him dance, I'd seen his colleagues and his students, and I finally said, we've got to put something together," Wang said.

Nofsinger is the Artistic Director and founder of Shelter Repertory Dance Theatre. His choreography has been produced within the United States, China, Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, and Austria.

"I enjoyed how the music and the dancing complimented but did not distract from one another. The dancer internalized the music and used his body to show how sound moves," Dahl said.

Nofsinger was selected from over 120 works at the Minnesota Fringe Festival to receive Critics' Choice for Best Dance Production. One of his duets was also selected by the American Dance Guild as one of the phenomenal works produced in the U.S. in 1999.

"The interpretive dance component I felt had much of the same sporadicness as the music, as the dance seemed confused or conflicted, and visibly contained an internal struggle portrayed by the dancer," Kilander said.

The concert was a beautiful collaboration of musicians, dancers, teachers, community members and students. For one hour, Beck Hall was alive with music and movement.

Sharing cultures, Africa Night excites and educates

Ellyn Sheehy
Staff Writer

This year's Africa Night, held on Friday, April 11, packed in a night full of African music, dance, fashion, and food for students, staff, and spectators.

This annual event is sponsored by the Pan-African Student Organization (PASO), a student-led organization that is dedicated to celebrating African culture and using events as an outlet to educate the community.

Africa Night provides them with the opportunity to achieve this.

PASO Co-President Abdi Umur participated in Africa Night and appreciated the power of the event to inspire and inform the community.

"I think Africa Night is an extremely important event on our campus, where you can experience another culture without leaving campus. We enjoy bringing our culture to fellow students; it's like inviting someone into your house," Umur said.

Professor of French and African Studies and faculty advisor to PASO Paschal Kyoore stressed the importance of this event as well.

"It is the one time during the academic year when a student organization can share its passion for and knowledge of cultures or the African continent with the immediate and surround-



African-style dance excited guests throughout the entire evening.

Allison Hosman

ing community," Kyoore said.

Many aspects of African culture were displayed that night, including African dress, food, music, and skits. Co-Chair of Africa Night Awushie Fayose spoke of the large turnout for the event.

"There's always an enthusiastic response to Africa Night on campus. Usually about 400 people attend," Fayose said.

PASO brought culture to the

eyes of the spectators through the myriad of traditional dances and instruments presented throughout the show, as well as to their mouths with the variety of African cuisine. There were dance and musical performances from Cameroon, Senegal, and Nigeria. The food prepared combined the ethnic influences of Morocco, Ethiopia, and Somalia.

The fashion show portion was one of the highlights of the

night. Students walked onto the stage to the sounds of loud music and cheers from the audience. Each wore an outfit that displayed the unique style of clothing from a specific region of Africa. The fashion show succeeded in bringing together students both inside and outside of PASO, all were there to celebrate African heritage.

An important part of the show were the short skits per-

formed by the members of PASO written by former PASO Co-President Fedha Abera.

"For Africa Night I was in charge of the skits. People liked it [last year], so we brought it back this year. The skits are based on a day-in-the-life of an African family. There are a lot of comedic moments in them," Abera said.

These skits succeeded in bringing out potentially difficult subjects in a good way, as well as educating the audience on life of African immigrants and their children.

"The students acted out scenes depicting the sort of dialogue that needs to happen between parents and children of African immigrants in the USA," Kyoore said.

This event was as much about having fun as it was about educating the public.

"We wanted people to appreciate the diversity of cultures through the choice of music, the fashion show, and the food. To learn certain things that might be trivia to Africans but which are knowledge that is lacking in a lot of people in this country. I think it went very well...the enthusiasm that the music and the fashion show provoked was a manifestation of how much the crowd appreciated what the students did that evening," Kyoore said.

Duluth showcases Homegrown Music Festival



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Clara Wicklund
Staff Writer

Thousands of festival-goers flock across the streets and parks of Duluth, Minn. and Superior, Wisc., with friends and a beer in hand. Some are in pursuit of their favorite local bands, and others are on their way to discover the new and upcoming music of the north.

For eight days, parks, restaurants, bars, and coffee shops will become music havens and open their doors to the public. Taking place April 27 through May 2, this is Duluth's 16th Annual Homegrown Music Festival.

"My favorite part of the festival is the variety of bands that play. There isn't a single genre that Homegrown focuses on. You get a great mix of music from hip hop to bluegrass," Duluth resident and Senior Andrew Choquette said.

The Duluth Homegrown Mu-

sic Festival features over 180 bands from across Northern Minnesota. It also features a few filmmakers and artists who display their work in the streets and parks. Much of the artwork is also available to purchase.

"Homegrown is unique because the talent and venues are local. Friends and neighbors perform at distinct Twin Ports venues: Duluth and Superior," Choquette said.

Some notable artists to have performed at the festival include: Trampled By Turtles, Low, Charlie Parr, and the Retribution Gospel Choir.

"Homegrown showcases talent from the area. People in the area may not realize the community talent of local musicians and artists without this festival. With so many venues and acts, there is something for everyone," Choquette said.

The festival was founded in 1999 by Scott "Starfire" Lunt,

which began as a celebration for his 30th birthday party. Lunt became a prominent figure in the music scene in 1997 when he founded Random Radio, a local music radio station. Through the radio station, he became acquainted with local artists around the Duluth area.

"It began as a simple birthday party with a handful of bands and a bunch of beer. Now it's a complete bureaucracy, run by a volunteer steering committee and a fiscal agent, featuring about 150 musical acts, along with a few filmmakers and other artists — and a bunch of beer," the Duluth Homegrown Music Festival's website said.

The festival originally began by hiring only ten bands and, overtime, grew from 10 to 70 to 150 bands. In 2005, Lunt sold the festival to Brad and Tim Nelson, who then donated it to the Bridge Syndicate, a non-profit organizing committee in

the Twin Ports after the festival became too big to maintain.

"Just from seeing how the festival has expanded, you can really tell that it has brought a lot of people together in a positive way that celebrates these local musicians' music. It has helped to engage the local community in supporting these artists and it provides a great musical setting," Duluth resident and Senior Tony Squillace said.

The festival offers a variety of ticket packages and a single wristband for festival-goers is also available to purchase, which allows access to any of the countless music venues in Duluth and Superior. The festival is a huge event, drawing in more than 2,500 people.

"Everyone, both artists and audience members are very cheery and are excited to join together as northlanders, and enjoy some good music, food and fun. The event is usu-

ally packed, as the Homegrown festival creates a pride and community among all who are involved," Thirsty Pagan Brewery employee and First-year Luke Israel said.

It is a festival jam-packed with art and music that showcases the outstanding talent within the community of Duluth. Both community members and non-community members are brought together in their love for the arts, and their support of the young artists and musicians coming from the Duluth/Superior area.

"This is such a great event because it kicks off the spring. It gets people out and brings old friends together. It is the beginning of all the wonderful summer music that is part of the few, short months of warm weather. Like spring, it brings hope, as well as displays the talent from our own backyard," Israel said.

Off the mainstream:

Alternative Student Press

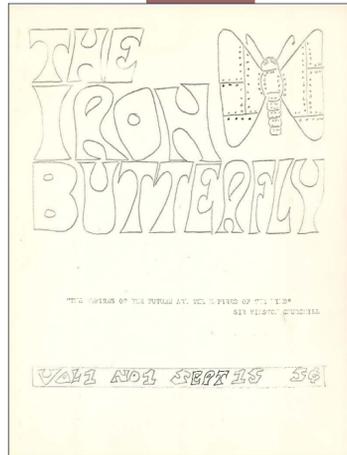
The Iron Butterfly 1967-1969

"Why an Iron Butterfly? Because THE WEEKLY can't handle ideas. THE WEEKLY is a dead chronicle because it's muzzled. Do you want to know what is being produced here on campus? Read the Iron Butterfly, better still, why don't you write for the Iron Butterfly? If you have an observation you want to share, a thought, or even a funny story, write for the Iron Butterfly."



The Gadfly 1961-1971

"It is our express intent to provide a voice of dissent, to attempt to lampoon the various tendencies toward mediocrity that we find prevalent on the Gustavus campus, to take up the lack left by a college newspaper that is unequal to the task of representing its student body, to provide for general availability some of the more witty and more penetrating observations that are heard round campus."



The Iron Butterfly fall 1969

"The Iron Butterfly is no longer as you knew it. It may never be recognizable again, because it will change. We have never stated we were perfect in our last attempts. The only absolute is more, perfection never ceases to perfect itself. We go on perfecting ourselves in the pursuit of ideas. Ideas can never be captured, they can only be pursued and expanded."



Independent papers give students more voices

Jaurdyn Gilliss
Features Editor

Students of an increasing number of alternative publications, largely started from scratch, are changing the definition of what it means to be a college journalist and revolutionizing how news at colleges and universities is provided and produced.

By offering an unbound, real-time take on news at Gustavus, these alternative student publications are able to go beyond what the mainstream, traditional publications are able to address.

Sophomore Sam Panzer co-founded one of the leading alternative publications at Gustavus, *The Fourth Crown*, after reading *The Onion*.

"I had the idea after a lifetime of reading *The Onion* really aggressively, and I was thinking that there was certainly a niche that could be filled on campus for a satirical outlook on campus events and topics," Panzer said.

It's difficult to make generalizations about the alternative campus media, with some extensive publications posting new stories daily and other smaller outfits publishing once or twice a week. Some, like *The Fourth Crown*, embrace aspects of new media that traditional journalists can't offer. Others, like the *Bi-fortnightly Anodyne* serve primarily as a venue for shorter-form, debate-style writing where students can write about what they're passionate about and experiment with writing in their own voices as opposed to objective news-speak.

"I don't like articles that can't get to the point. I build my content mainly around opposition. If I see something, I argue against it naturally. I hate reading articles where people can't pick a side," Founder of the *Bi-fortnightly Anodyne* Dempsey Schroeder said.

Students are also re-envisioning how to present their content. For instance, *The Fourth Crown* strictly presents their content through the web.

"We chose the web for ease on our end and accessibility on the viewer's end," Panzer said.

Their content tends to be built around different sub sections like campus life, news, sports, and commentary.

"We like to play on more constant components of the Gustavus experience. We don't have a specific formula for deciding what we want to write about but general constant themes in Gustavus life and a reactionary ear

to the ground outlook on anything that's happening are what we often write about," Panzer said.

These publications run on tight budgets. Schroeder's budget for the *Anodyne* for example, is entirely out of pocket.

"Printing costs are killing me, but I don't know how to do electronic things, and it's more romantic to me on paper," Schroeder said.

While *The Fourth Crown* operates entirely in the online arena so their only cost is the \$2 for their domain name, they've decided to try to reach student organization status next year in order to update their site.

"The biggest benefits to our publication right now is that we have virtually no restriction on content as long as we keep it under certain journalistic standards that we've set for ourselves, such as protecting intellectual property, recognizing the scope and effects of our reach, and writing with transparency," Panzer said.

He adds, though, that one of the biggest drawbacks is the restriction that writing articles that appeal to the student body has on their creative control.

"It can be a little bit of a restriction on the total weirdness of the writing we'd like to do," Panzer said.

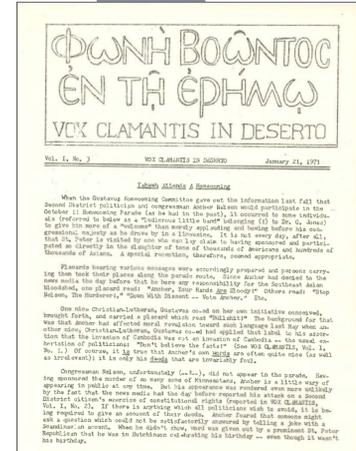
Meanwhile, from an administrative perspective, the rise of varying levels of journalistic rigor is emblematic of the increasing number of medium aside from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY offering news and opinions on campus happenings and the growing need for attention to student opinion from multiple directions.

"I certainly can't speak for administration as a whole, and I've never read either of these alternative publications, but there's certainly times when, and this is just social media in general, certain things will come to our attention in the Dean's office that we have to think about or look into to see if a particular post is one person's opinion or a larger group's opinion," Assistant Dean of Students Megan Ruble said.

While many alternative publications adopt innovative freedom and niche perspectives, they often mirror the aspects of honest and transparent student opinion like that of traditional publications.

Vox Clamantis in Deserto 1970-1977

"The solitary voice of one, crying alone, shouting, proclaiming. Bawling in The Wilderness. In the wild place that is America. In the barren desert that is Gustavus. A small, insignificant voice, becomes agitated and urgent. Magnified by the surrounding silence. Speaking not on God's behalf, but on behalf of the people. There is no collective voice. There is only the voice of one. Men speak separately and singly, even when they speak together."



The Gustavus Globe and World leader Sun Times 1975-1976

"Why do we write? It seems to me that this question deserves an answer because so many of us do. We write and hope to have other people, as well as ourselves gain a true understanding of what we are. In writing, we find the perfect medium for expression. The typewriter will not change the subject if you start to talk about what makes you sad and how you actually do feel when you are."

saint peter magazine 1971-1972

"Unlike other magazines, there is no obvious readership for the saint peter magazine. It is directed at no one. It is simply paper with ink on it, that is all. Saint peter magazine should not be taken as egotist, personalist, or sunburst. It should be taken for what it is worth, twenty five cents or a poster."



The Alternative 1984

"What have we learned? Perhaps not textbook journalism. We didn't learn photo journalism or tip setting problems either; we don't have the facilities of The Weekly. If you learn by doing, and many of us think you do, then we've learned how to use a tool called the Gustie Globe. We've learned that a newspaper is an uncomfortable collection of effort, desire, and ideation. The newspaper is the device by which we've learned."

Photos courtesy of the Gustavus Adolphus College Archives. To read the full copies of these alternative publications, visit the Gustavus Adolphus College Archives.

Colin it like I see it An Objective Objective



Colin Rieke
Opinion Columnist

Most of us are aware of several bias-related incidents and “hate crimes” that have occurred within the last several months. Although I don’t know all the facts, I know enough to say these incidents are examples of subjectivity and close-mindedness. There has been a flurry of responses to these cases, including responses by the GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY and by school administration. So the question is, how should we respond to such events?

We should not respond to close-mindedness with a closed mind. Some believe an apology by the wrongdoers is not enough to fix the problem. I will not take a stance on the usefulness of an apology. Rather, having an attitude of “nothing can fix what has been done” will not fix the problem.

Avoiding subjectivity towards those responsible for the incidents is what will enable us to move on and for forgiveness to

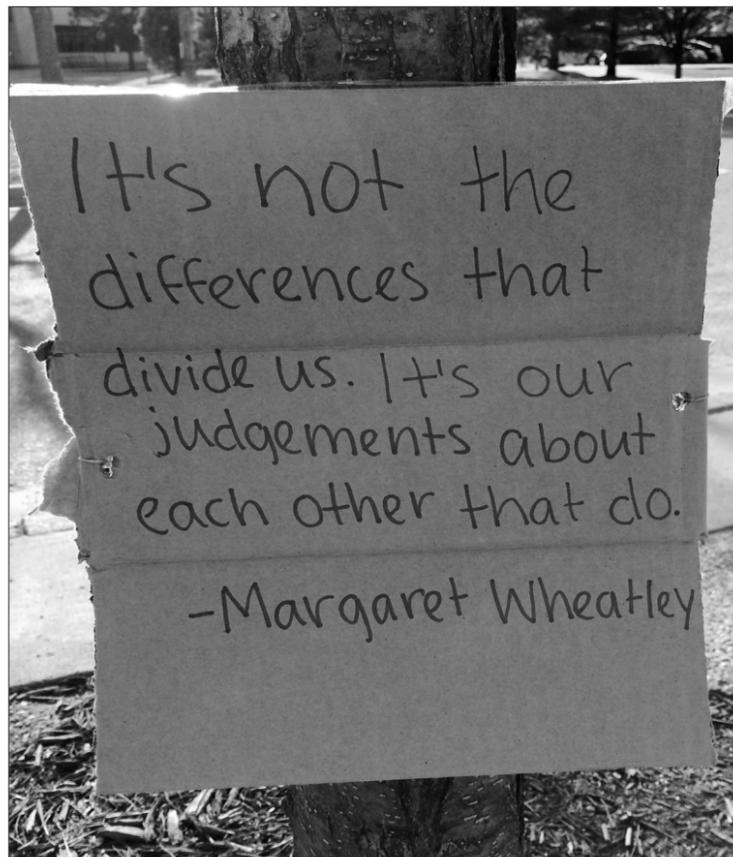
take place. Would the problem ever be fixed if you always hold a grudge against wrongdoers for their actions? The same applies to your best friend when they do something that upset you. Should you hold a grudge against your friend for what they have done?

You don’t have to believe what someone else believes in, and somebody else does not have to conform to your beliefs either. You don’t have to judge people even if they do bad things. What you can do is look through an objective lens and see things for what they are.

Objectivity and subjectivity can manifest in three different ways: in our thoughts, speech, and actions. The moral of this article is not to allow subjective thoughts lead to subjective words and actions.

I have a problem when we judge each other, when we treat each other differently because of our subjective mind-sets, when close-mindedness leads to hurtful actions towards one another, and when we view the world in black and white. A friend of mine refers to this perspective as tunnel vision.

Try being objective and avoid being subjective. Have an open mind and allow people to believe what they want to. Be willing to disagree. In fact, you can learn and grow by working through disagreements. Observe before you judge and think about your reaction to what you see. Then ask yourself “why do I feel the way I do?” Recognize instances of personal subjectivity. These moments



Imagine Objectivity as coffee and subjectivity as pop.

Colin Rieke

could arise when you notice a particular action, when you see somebody who looks and dresses differently than you, when you can’t stand a professor; and even when you’re being critical to a teammate during practice.

It’s important to realize we do not intentionally think, speak, or act subjectively. We are not always aware of the implica-

tions and power of what we say and do. I will be the first one to tell you that what we intend is not always what comes out. For example a couple weeks ago, I tried to objectively tell a teammate I disagreed with him. I ended up not getting the point across that I hoped to. As a result I hurt my friend’s feelings. This does not happen often, but it’s bound to happen to us all.

However, we can make an effort to be more aware of whether our words or actions could be harmful. I could have chosen to say nothing at all.

You can’t blame someone for non-intentional subjectivity. Things are different though if you intentionally choose to act subjectively. Don’t get me wrong, you can be subjective. You can be close-minded. You can choose to fill your head with all sorts of judgments. That’s your choice, but please don’t let those beliefs enable you to hurt someone else.

Even if you completely disagree with someone and that person has treated you poorly, you don’t have to treat them poorly. Instead, you can accept things for how they are. You can accept things that are outside of your control. You can choose to remain objective. Suspending subjective thoughts can at times be impossible though. In this type of situation, you can still choose to act objectively.

We should try our best to always interact with others in an objective manner. This means not making negative comments. This means only having neutral or positive things to say. It also means you can objectively and responsibly disagree. Although you may have a major disagreement with a friend, you can let them know you still care about them and that you still appreciate them. If a friend, or anyone for that matter, does not share your own beliefs, is that enough to consider them less of a person? Less of a friend?

Doctrines of Christianity and other religions tell us to love our neighbors. This means having only love for our friends even when differences and arguments arise. Martin Luther King Jr. in his famous speech on Loving Your Enemies asked “How is it that you can see the mote in your brother’s eye and not see the beam in your own?” In other words, how can you make a judgment about someone if your own subjectivity makes you blind?

You might think we have an obligation or a right to change people in light of disagreements. Subjective thoughts tell us others need to be like us. We should be hesitant to change people, even if that change would be for their own good. Change should be self-initiated and should come from within. If you do want to change somebody, you can do so objectively. You can lead by example. You can show others how to be open-minded. You can choose to express love.

It begins with a change of vision. When you choose to look through a lens of objectivity, you will see a diverse world of vivid colors, as opposed to a world of plain black and white. What sounds more appealing to you?

The Good, the Bad, and the Meh



Easter conveniently falls on 4/20 this year, blurring the lines between Liberation Theology and liberating your mind. Yeah, just let that sink in.



The weather gods are leading us to prepare for the worst holiday of all: the first day of bathing suit season.



So we traded snow for freezing cold wind and rain. Well-played, Mother Nature.

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The Greener side of the Fence

What “Return on Education” Really Means



Eric Schneider
Opinion Columnist

As a junior at Gustavus Adolphus College, I like to tell myself that I have learned a few things about the world and myself since arriving on this campus in the fall of 2011.

One thing I believe that I have learned at Gustavus is that life is a journey that is continuously unfolding, and the path we take may or may not be the path that we plan on taking when we start our journey.

Personally, the liberal arts experience at Gustavus has embodied this idea with the opportunity it gives students to expand their minds; to reach a higher level of consciousness than would be thought possible had they not been exposed to an area of study they might

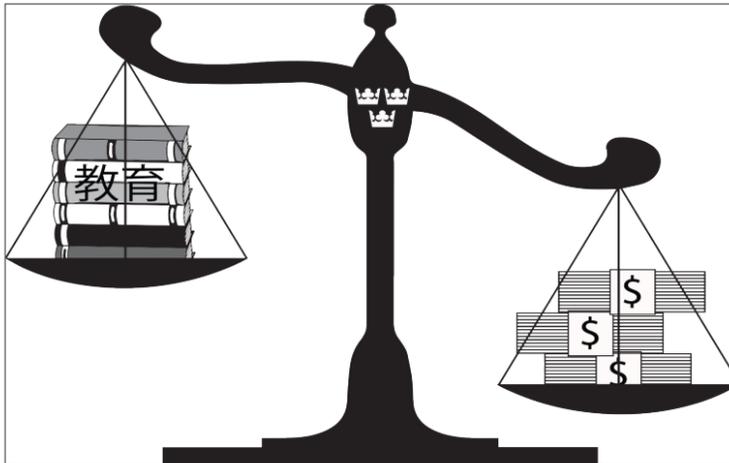
have written off as boring or irrelevant to their life.

As a Japanese studies major, I have been exposed to an under-represented history of the Asian continent, primarily in China and Japan. I have also had the privilege of studying the Japanese language for nearly two years, an experience that has indeed changed the way I perceive the world. I am preparing to study abroad in Japan at Kansai Gaidai University, an exchange program offered by Gustavus, during the spring semester of my senior year.

While I truly believe that studying abroad in Japan will provide me with an unforgettable experience, I also believe that the journey I am currently taking to prepare for this experience has helped me in my attempt to become a well-rounded individual.

Studying a foreign culture may or may not seem like something that is conducive to earning a higher salary after graduation whether or not this is indeed the case, the mind altering experience one encounters when faced with an unfamiliar culture to appreciate human existence for what it really is, a unique and mysterious journey.

This journey has led me to reassess everything I thought I knew about the world, and about myself. That being said, I have come to realize that Ameri-



Blake Van Oosbree

Is our evaluation of our education really valuing what matters?

can culture is simply not that extraordinary. This is not to say that the land that is America is not something beautiful, a place that Americans should feel privileged to inhabit, but the political, economic, and social systems in this country revolve around the exact same entity, and that is money.

It is for this reason that Chinese language classes at Gustavus is reportedly being curtailed in an attempt to ease the burden financially on both professors and students with the decision to “accelerate a staged workforce reduction . . . to three to four percent.”

According to Provost Mark Braun, “students voting with their feet,” and not enrolling

in level 200 and 300 classes at a high rate decided the workforce reduction, which includes cutting other courses in the Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures Department.

Although I may be slightly biased, discontinuing upper level courses of a language spoken by nearly a billion people on this planet just does not seem logical, especially with the reliance the United States now has on China in economic affairs. Although this is something Americans may not realize, China currently owns around eight percent of our national debt, a fact that makes perfect sense if you look at China historically.

It would likely be easy to blame the administration for

this error in judgment, but the simple fact is American society has made the decision for us, as it has conditioned us to worship money as the most important thing in the universe. American culture has taught us that we must do everything possible to increase our overall return, disregarding anything else, such as thinking for ourselves about the causes of the problems that affect society.

If you take a look around, you may realize there is more to life than how much money you earn at the end of each month. I have cherished Gustavus so much because the classes I have taken have opened my mind to new ideas; ideas that often go against the norms that society tells us are true.

Gustavus has taught me that humans are inherently fallible, that it is human nature to make mistakes. With that being said, I believe if you see making money as your main priority in life, it is a positive only when you want to use it for the right reasons, such as educating yourself and others. But if you are simply trying to accumulate money for the sake of accumulating more money, then I believe it is a mistake and something that may be realized by looking at reality from an authentically human perspective.

Snarksicles

Let's All Agree Not to be Hipsters



Laura Schroeder
Opinion Columnist

It started with *Twilight*. Then *the Hunger Games*. Now, it's things as silly as hating people who like a children's movie like *Frozen*. People who haven't even seen these movies or read the books state that they hate them simply because they're popular enough to cause a ruckus among most of society. People like them, so people post about them on Facebook, Tumblr, and Twitter and they talk about them and it's exhausting, right?

Nah. Well, maybe. The site BuzzFeed quizzes about “Which *Frozen* character you are most like” have circulated just enough for me to get annoyed at seeing Olaf's face. But this obsession

with *Frozen*, *Twilight* and other popular films doesn't discredit the awesomeness of said films.

Sure, *Twilight* wasn't that amazing of a book or a movie, but it obviously had something that made people like it. There's a love story, which is intriguing. That forbidden love storyline will live forever. There are some nice word choices used throughout the series. Maybe too many philosophical quotes about animals, but hey, give the people what they want. What would we tattoo on ourselves if not for *Twilight* quotes? *Twilight* had something to it that was interesting and maybe even good. Which isn't something to be embarrassed about.

Even if it's not such a great book, it's still entertaining. Not everything you read needs to stimulate your brain to its fullest capacity. There's a reason *Twilight* is popular and there's a reason *Frozen* is popular.

Not only does *Frozen* have amazing music, it has a wonderful and unique plotline. Yes, there's a love story. Big deal. You try to get an audience interested in something that circles around just hate and dread. But the main love plot isn't romantic. I won't give it away, but it's pretty freaking wonderful how they twist it at the end.

Elsa's character also portrays what can happen if depression



Creative Commons

There's a reason sparkling Roberts are so interesting. Even Honest Abe follows him, just not on Twitter.

and anxiety are not treated correctly as a child. Ignoring it and

telling her to hide it only makes it worse and makes her afraid

she's going to hurt other people. There's fact behind why “Let it Go” is so inspiring and catchy. She's letting go of everything that held her back. It's kind of obvious. But still, it doesn't make it bad.

Personally, I'm sick of people refusing to devote their time to something simply because other people like it. Really, are we there already?

If that were true, no one would have caught on to this whole “women voting” idea or the fact that maybe slavery wasn't such a good idea. Granted, that's a stretch, but you get where I'm going. There is a reason things like *Frozen* are popular. And it's not terrible.

We all have our guilty pleasures when it comes to television or books. I don't think we should.

If we were accepting of people liking romance novels or reality TV, maybe we wouldn't have to have a phrase like “guilty pleasure.” It would just be an interest.

Let people read *Fifty Shades of Gray* if that's what blows their skirt up. It's a book. It doesn't define their personality for the rest of their life.

Ye Olde Stop 'n' Shoppe Do We Need A Shift?



Sam Hoppe
Opinion Columnist

I think that we shouldn't exclusively focus on those in poverty. I think that we should not focus so much on other people suffering. Instead, I think that we should focus on athletic achievements and on the entertainment industry. I want to hear about Adrian Peterson breaking records, about who won the Oscar for Best Leading Actor, about Apple's new iPhone 8 (or whatever number they are on).

The past week you may have seen the pieces of cardboard hanging from trees around campus, outlining the problems involved with poverty. While some of the statistics may surprise us, a lot of it is nothing new.

Even still, many of us will feel injustice or empathy when confronted with some of these statistics. However natural these feelings are, it does lead me to wonder as a simple philosophy major usually does. Mainly, I

question whether we need to shift our focus? Not from our current lives to those suffering in this world, but shift from our over-focus on the suffering in the world. I wonder if by focusing so strongly on the plight of others we actually bring about negative consequences.

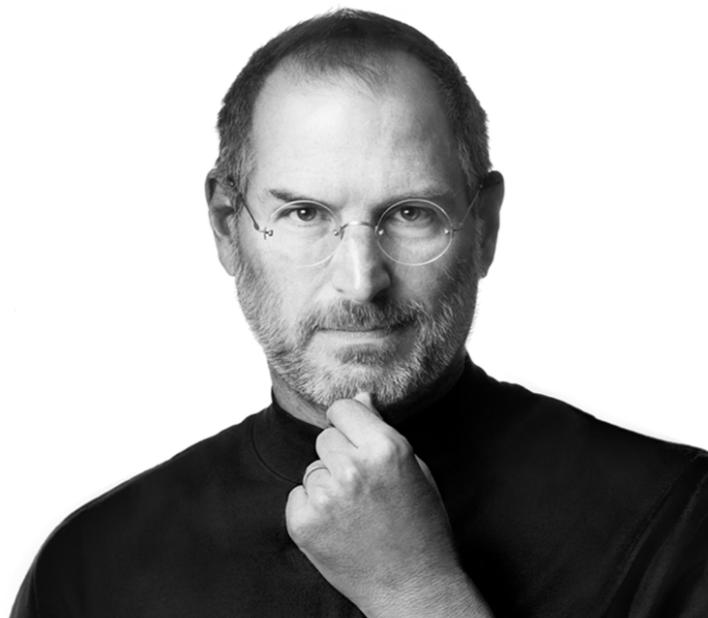
Mainly, I question whether we need to shift our focus?

Not from our current lives to those suffering in this world, but shift from our over-focus on the suffering in the world.

One of the largest, by far, is when we focus so strongly on those who are less well off we create an "us vs. them" mentality, with those suffering versus those not suffering by ignoring any potential virtues people who are in the "well-off" category.

For example, you can argue that people who are rich should be helping out the poor more, but have you considered that maybe the reason why they are rich is because of their own talents and strengths?

Can anybody deny that Steve Jobs was a tremendous leader and visionary who helped grow one of the most successful businesses ever, that Bill Gates through his own hard work and determination created a tremendous company, or that Mark Zuck-



Creative Commons

Emphasizing the needs of the many doesn't require the stifling the talents of the few.

erberg revolutionized social media through Facebook? It has become a common stereotype that all rich businessmen and women, in the "1 percent," did not inherit their wealth (in wealth transfers as a proportion of wealth has fallen by ten percent in 20 years).

Nonetheless, the fact of the matter is that these people, who are often seen as the "enemy" of the poor, in fact possess numerous qualities that are valuable. To ignore these qualities is to simply ignore reality.

Let's not forget numerous other "well-off" people who are seen as a potential enemy.

Professional athletes are often criticized for being overpaid and not very useful for the advancement of society.

Let's hold on a minute, as somebody who played sports throughout all of high school and as somebody who grew up idolizing athletes, I'm sure many people did, felt inspired by their athletic achievements.

When people see a clutch performance in the playoffs, it can be inspiring. It inspires us to be better. We recognize genuine excellence on the part of the athletes. There are so few people who are able to become great in sports because it takes

a tremendous amount of discipline, work, and mental toughness.

What about actors and the entertainment industry? Is not the advancement of the arts incredibly important? Who hasn't had their mind put at ease by a comedy such as *How I Met Your Mother*, or somebody who hasn't been inspired to be a hero by watching *Batman* or *Superman*? Who after watching *Breaking Bad*, can honestly tell me that this classic Greek tragedy warning us of the dangers of Hubris is not important? These are incredibly important things.

When we focus so strongly on just the plight of those suffering we lose sight of the virtues that are necessary for the highest human excellences. We lose sight of the greatest battle, the one within ourselves for self-development.

Nobody will improve if we do not improve. We remain stuck in one place. We don't focus on the development of our own character, or even inquiring into what it means to live well as a person. We stop striving to become better and instead focus all our energies on those who are less fortunate than ourselves. Certainly one can help those less well off, but we must not lose sight of the goal of self-actualization, for to do so would be the most tragic thing of all.

Letters to the Editor

Response to "Who's Feminist."

The societal construct of masculinity as "Tough, rough, emotionless, and physically fit" is stereotypical and damaging to the male population as a whole.

The definition of Feminism is "the doctrine advocating social, political, and all other rights of women equal to those of men".

If we as a population are striving for equality, we cannot afford to perpetuate the thought that men are not sexually assaulted. They indeed are and it is a little discussed fact within our society.

Men are held to the view that they "run faster, jump higher, (and) are naturally stronger" as compared to women.

To generalize men in this way neglects and abandons the men who have only some, or none of these traits.

The race, sexual orienta-

tion, or age should not matter in the case of sexual assault. These factors should not invalidate the traumas the victim has experienced; if he has been assaulted, then we should provide him with as much care and support as we would a woman in the same position.

The unifier between men and women in this case (and in any case) is that they are both people. Gender should not decide who we as a society believe when they come to us with stories of traumatic experiences. If we expect men to always be able to stand up for women, then who can we expect to stand up for men?

I Am We Are Ensemble

In response to the faculty and staff positions eliminated.

I'd like to know what criteria the school administration used for eliminating positions and specifically which positions/people have been cut.

I think the entire student body deserves to know which of their favorite professors and Gustavus employees in general are going to be leaving.

Also, from what I've been told, people in positions which were eliminated did not have adequate time to find new jobs elsewhere. How can Gustavus be alright with adding to the job market crisis at the same time they are spending so much money on making the campus prettier?

I don't know about the rest of the students at Gustavus, but I came to college to learn - that's the whole point of college. If it's an issue of attracting more students to enroll at Gustavus, how about you stop gumming up the works for existing students,

faculty, and staff and giving this school a bad name in the sphere of private colleges?

Take care of what you already have instead of wanting more, more, more, or else prospective students will find out how little you seem to care about the existing students and they'll keep going elsewhere.

The professors and staff members at the school (in the Study Abroad office, for example) are what makes the education of the students possible, not necessarily legions of administrators and fancy big screen TVs on every corner.

What are you spending my money on, Gustavus, and who are you forcing out of the Gustavus community into joblessness because of your poor spending habits?

-Chelsea Farr '15

IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE...

A day goes by without something dramatic happening on campus, students ask: "what do we do now?"

Massive paper shortages at the registrar's office as a record number of first-years change their majors from Pre-med to Communications Studies.

Easter gets interesting at the Vatican when Jesus actually shows up to the party . . . with a keg . . . of wine.

* The Calendar Page is considered editorial. The opinions expressed herein are not the opinions of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY, but you know what, THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY? It's about damn time you take responsibility those you hire!

Sunday, April 20

Zumba with Paige

Lund 224
7 p.m.

It's an amazing thing to see your dreams come true before your eyes. Zumba War 2014 is that very realization for me.

Zumba with Hayley

Lund 224
8 p.m.

YES. YES. YES. TWO ZUMBAS. ONE NIGHT. ONE SURVIVOR.

Monday, April 21

Greek Week

All Week

Διαβάστε το τέταρτο στέμμα για την πραγματική αλήθεια για περίπου Gustavus!

Gustavus Philanthropy Week

All Week

It's going to be a tough week for Gustavus friend, Phil N. Thropee, who has thought for months that this week was devoted to his birthday.

Gustavus Student Senate Meeting

The Board Room
7 p.m.

I imagine that the behind the scenes action in Gustavus' Student Senate is similar to the political world of *House of Cards* but replacing tensions with China with tensions about The Dive.

Tuesday, April 22

Earth Day Rally for Clean Energy & Jobs

State Capitol
4 p.m.

Sure, we might have cut down hundreds of trees to get the word out, but it's for THE MESSAGE, PEOPLE.

Senior Class Wine Tasting Event

Alumni Hall
7 p.m.

Scores of Gusties will fight their natural instinct to slap the bag.

Lecture by Prof. Olof Hedling, Lund University

Confer 127
7 p.m.

Holy s@#\$, that is the most Swedish name I have ever seen.

Swing Dance

Alumni Hall
9 p.m.

Somebody definitely needs to unveil the Charleston within the sweaty walls of The Dive.

Wednesday, April 23

New Faculty Mentor Mentee Social

St. Peter Room
4:30 p.m.

I'm thinking the Dean's office needs to check out this event for hazing.

Lecture by Dr. Philip J. Deloria

Wallenberg Auditorium
7 p.m.

DR. PHIL IS COMING TO CAMPUS?

Thursday, April 24

Theology + Graduate School = Possible?

Luther Seminary
8 a.m.

I mean it's possible, but I am still pretty sure that Theology + Graduate School ≠ Good Paying Job.

Parking Forum

Alumni Hall
2:30 p.m.

They better not take anymore parking spots away for fuel efficient cars, or I will pick up a Prius and toss that motherf@#\$er out of my way.

Feit-sty Not Really Horoscopes

Aries

Who will learn the Rouser first: Timeflies or Jack Ohle?

Taurus

Is baseball season over yet?

Gemini

Room Draw wasn't like *The Hunger Games*. No one volunteered tribute to Complex.

Cancer

If we cut Nordic Skiing, who will become our trusty messengers during a winterpocalypse? Will we leave this job to mere runners?!

Leo

Why make your parents proud with classwork when they can just see your drunken Spring Break pics instead?

Virgo

I'm still not convinced that it won't snow again . . .

Libra

This whole Spring Break to Easter Break schedule should probably be expanded throughout the entire year.

Scorpio

Overheard Building Bridges idea at Gustavus: Bringing justice to the motherf@#\$ers who ruined the last episode of *How I Met Your Mother*.

Sagittarius

Revive The Dive? Excuse me, I Revive The Dive every time I show off some sick new dance moves.

Capricorn

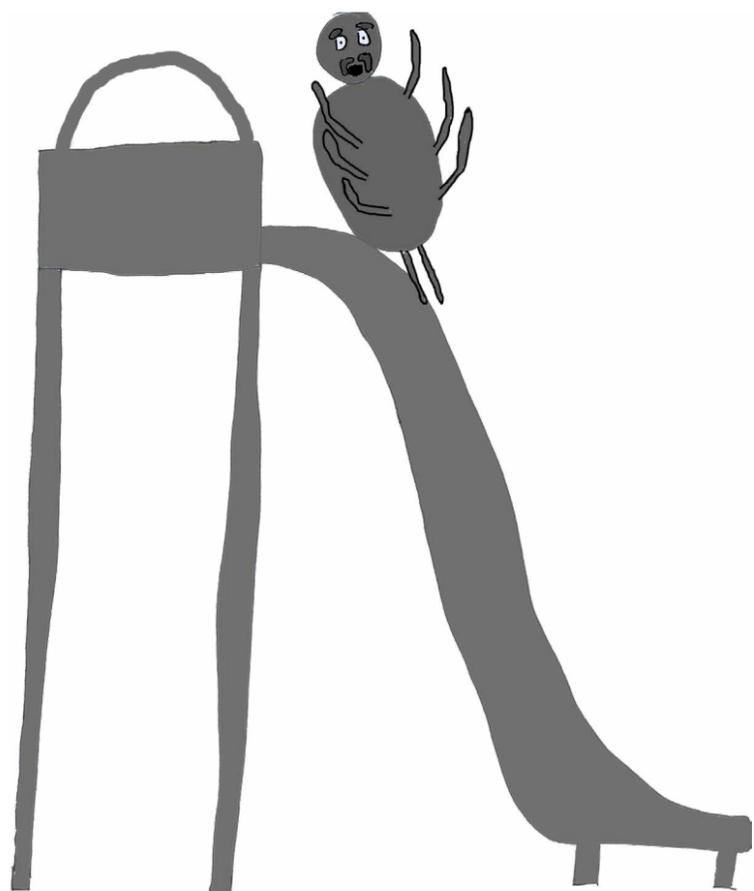
Any graduates that say the real world is hard haven't been watching the same *Real World* I have all these years on MTV.

Aquarius

Sometimes you need to revel in the magic of the everyday. Here's to you, stop lights.

Pisces

We all know Ohle banned the streakers during Midnight Express, so he could do it himself as a final hurrah.



Manspider is enjoying this senior slide like you wouldn't believe.

Wild look ahead to second consecutive trip to playoffs

Tommy Dahl
Staff Writer

The Minnesota Wild will be playing in the Stanley Cup Playoffs for the second consecutive season. The seventh-seeded Wild (43-27-12), who have been red-hot as of late, will face the second-seeded Colorado Avalanche (52-22-8) in a best-of-seven first round series.

After a minor collapse with a few weeks left in the regular season, the Wild seemed to find a new gear in the final push for the playoffs. With an impressive 6-1-1 record in its final eight games, the Wild pulled off several key wins over top NHL teams including Boston, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, and St. Louis.

Games one and two of the playoff series between the Wild and Avalanche will be played in Denver, followed by two games at Xcel Energy Center in St. Paul. The teams will return to Denver for games 5 and 7, which will only be played if necessary, and game 6 will be at Xcel Energy Center.

Many Wild fans are relieved that the Wild is matched up with the Avalanche instead of the St. Louis Blues in the first round, after the Wild failed to win a single game against the Blues this season. However, Michael Russo, Wild beat writer for the Star Tribune, noted a number

of talented Avalanche players in his blog that suggested that the series will be a tough one for the Wild.

"Guaranteed Calder (Rookie of the Year award) winner Nathan MacKinnon, 18, is already one of the most threatening players in the West. Gabriel Landeskog is a rock-solid two-way forward, as is Ryan O'Reilly. Bloomington's Erik Johnson has had a terrific season on the blue line," Russo writes.

After finishing with the second-worst record in the NHL in 2013, the improved depth of Colorado's lineup has been a major factor in the Avalanche's bounce-back performance this season.

The Wild, who were knocked out in the first round of the 2013 playoffs by Chicago, have also acquired a great deal of depth on offense in the last 12 months. With the additions of youngsters Nino Niederreiter, Justin Fontaine, and Erik Haula, as well as the most recent acquisition of elite winger Matt Moulson, the Wild has the firepower necessary to make a significant run in the playoffs.

Another component of the Wild to pay special attention to this postseason is its goaltending. In a whirlwind of injuries and inconsistent performances, the team has cycled through six netminders. While it seems that Coach Mike Yeo has been hesitant to confirm anything in the past few weeks about



Last year's Stanley Cup Playoff winners, the Blackhawks, hoisted the Stanley Cup high at a parade after their win last season. The Blackhawks are back in the Playoffs this year, along with the Minnesota Wild.

which goalie will be the starter throughout the playoffs, it is likely that the Wild will ride 33-year-old Ilya Bryzgalov, who was acquired in March from the Edmonton Oilers. Bryzgalov, who has had a career filled with ups and downs, boasts a 7-1-3 record since his first game with Minnesota.

According to Yeo, Bryzgalov's level of play combined with the Wild's defensive effort as a team has been a key factor in the squad's recent success.

"Bryz has done a fantastic job since he's been here, and his teammates have done a fantastic job in front of him," Yeo said in an April 13th press conference posted on the Wild's official website.

Other Wild players to watch this postseason include forward and leading point-scorer Jason Pominville, defenseman Ryan Suter, and fan favorite Zach Parise, who has taken on a primary leadership role in this season's effort.

Should the Wild advance past the first round of the Stanley Cup Playoffs, they will meet the winner of the Chicago/St. Louis series in early May.

All games can be watched live on Fox Sports North, NBCSN or CNBC and can be listened to live on KFAN 100.3, the official radio home of the Minnesota Wild.

Women's golf: Improving their technique every day

Kelsey Hering
Staff Writer

Being involved in a sport is not something everyone would see as a privilege, but this does not hold true for the women's golf team. For Junior Sam Falk, the numerous trip opportunities as well as their new facility are some of the things that make her grateful for the program.

"We have one of the greatest golf programs in the nation and I would argue that with anyone. The benefits that come with this program are unreal," Falk said.

This year the team traveled to Arizona in March, followed by a trip to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. Not only did they enjoy getting away from the cold, but Junior Lauren Johnson said it served as a learning and bonding opportunity for the entire team.

"As a result of our spring break trip, not only has our game improved, but we have become so much closer," Johnson said.

Both the men's and women's teams are coached together by Scott Moe and assistant coaches Randy Stuckey and Jordan Hawkinson. Lauren Johnson says all three coaches bring different elements of knowledge and creativity to the team.

"They are always willing to help us work on our game and



Junior Lauren Johnson followed through a shot at a tournament this fall. The women are excited about the opportunity the nice weather gives them to get back on the green.

make course decisions," Johnson said.

It's each element of knowledge that has given the team the confidence to take everything their coaches say to heart.

"Our coaches know the game of golf very well so when they give feedback I strongly take it into consideration and use it to my advantage," Falk said.

Coach Moe says the most enjoyable thing about coaching the golf team is that every single day on the course is different.

"It is different every day and each player is different, so you have to coach the individual,

and you develop a great relationship with the student athletes. Over the four years, they grow so much as players and as people. It's a very rewarding experience," Moe said.

It's that experience that drives him to teach his team new things every single day.

"A golf team needs to have the motivation to try new things, even though it might not work right away, and this group has done a nice job of putting our teachings into play, which continues to motivate us," Moe said.

Just like other spring sports,

the women have had to undergo a constant battle against Mother Nature, but despite how brutal Mother Nature has fought, a small ray of sunlight gives the team enough motivation to last them an entire 18 holes on the course. Despite the cool temperatures, the team is always optimistic and pride themselves on believing in one another.

"Every girl on our team has so much potential and we're all so supportive of one another making our team chemistry awesome," Falk said.

The team has made it their mission to make it to Nationals

this year, and to do that they plan to be on top of their game at their next four tournaments.

"We have one of the greatest golf programs in the nation and I would argue that with anyone. The benefits that come with this program are unreal."

—Sam Falk

Coach Scott Moe has no doubt that the team is capable to go all the way this year.

"It is a difficult road to the NCAA tournament in May. We have very strong competition within our region and conference, but I believe we can play well enough to get an at large bid and play great at Nationals in Florida," Moe said.

Moe says it's not about the number of wins or losses, rather it's about the effort put in.

"I have no reason not to believe in our team. If they put forth the effort every day, we will enjoy success," Moe said.

Track and field outdoor season begins with Lee Krough Invitational

Megan Tuttle
Staff Writer

Both the men's and women's track and field teams competed in their first outdoor meet of the spring season. The 14th annual Lee Krough Invitational took place on Saturday, April 12 at the Gustavus Track and Field Complex. A mix of conference and non-conference teams including Bethany Lutheran College, Martin Luther College, Minnesota State University Mankato, UM-Morris, Saint Mary's University, Southwest Minnesota State University, and the College of St. Scholastica traveled to Gustavus to compete.

"We have a pretty tough conference so our goal is just being able to improve upon what we did at indoor conference. We had a pretty solid indoor season but we're looking to improve on that."

—Nick Carlson

Although there was no official scoring at the meet, Gustavus men kicked off the outdoor season with a total of 22 individual top three finishes. Senior Cameron Clause finished first in the pole vault and long jump, and took second in the javelin. Senior Blair Riegel took first in the triple jump and had two other third place finishes in the 200-meter dash and the long jump. Junior Leighton Becher won the steeplechase while Junior Nick Carlson took first place in the javelin. First-year Sam ReMine finished second in the 400-meter dash. The Gustavus throwers earned both second and third place finishes from Senior Ryan Obele and Senior Pat Tracy, respectively. Obele also took second in the hammer throw and third in the discus, while Tracy placed third in hammer throw.

The women earned multiple



Junior Marit Henckel placed third in the steeplechase at the track and field team's first outdoor meet this season, the Lee Krough Invitational, which was hosted by Gustavus.

top three finishes as well. Junior Haley Kemper took second in the 400-meter dash, and Sophomore Marit Sonnesyn finished second in the 5,000-meter run. Junior Marit Henckel placed third in the steeplechase. Gustavus' top jumper was Senior Anna McDevitt, who took second in the triple jump. The throwers had five women place in the top three; Sophomore Sara Swanson took second in the shot put, Junior Jill Kalis was runner-up in the discus, and Junior Rachel Colter placed second in the javelin. Sophomore Hayley Solheim and Junior Elizabeth Weiers each had a third place finish in the shot put and hammer throw, respectively.

After a successful indoor season, Clause is still working to improve. Clause placed fourth in the heptathlon at the 2014 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships. The Gustavus athlete took second place in both the 1,000-meter run and the pole vault earning All-American honors. Over spring break, Clause stayed on campus in order to compete in the Wartburg Select in Waverly,

Iowa, where he took first place in the decathlon, breaking the school record with a score of 6,491 points.

"I know there's a lot of places where I can still improve on that, which is really good. I'm just trying to keep my motivation going because school's coming to a close, and its coming to crunch-time. I just have got to stay focused and stick to my workout regiment and just believe in what I'm doing," Clause said.

Both the men's and women's teams have high goals set for the season, specifically focusing on peaking at the right time. A goal that the team as a whole carries from season-to-season is to have at least one athlete qualify for every event at the MIAC Championships, as well as bring a bigger team to the meet.

"We have a pretty tough conference so our goal is just being able to improve upon what we

did at indoor conference. We had a pretty solid indoor season but we're looking to improve on that," Nick Carlson said.

In addition to setting competition-related goals, the team has committed to creating a better team atmosphere in order to enhance performance. Often, teams from different schools separate the men and women for training. However, Gustavus track and field trains as one team which creates an even closer team.

"It's hard when there's different event groups but we try to cheer each other on. You can always see Gustavus kids cheering on other event groups, which you don't see other schools doing a lot so that's really nice," Kemper said.

Senior Leah Brossoit agrees that the team has been successful so far in emphasizing the team atmosphere.

"We really stress teamwork.

The coaches have really made an effort to stress the importance of teamwork, so I think we're a lot stronger that way," Brossoit said.

McDevitt reports that the energy level of the team has been much higher compared to last season, and the team is excited to begin outdoor competition. Coming off of indoor season, the Gusties are excited about the weather, seeing they have been able to practice outside almost a full month earlier than last year due to the snowfall.

"We weren't even outside at this point last year, we've had this whole week outside and it's been super fun. People are just super excited to get going for this last month and a half," McDevitt said.

The team is set to compete Saturday, April 19 at the Carleton Relays in Northfield, with another home meet the following weekend.



One of the track and field teams's standout performers is Senior Cameron Clause. On Saturday, Clause finished first in the pole vault and long jump (pictured) and took second place in the javelin throw.



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Nordic skiing transitions to club team

Linnea Moat
Sports & Fitness Editor

On March 26 the Gustavus nordic skiers were informed that the nordic program at Gustavus would transition from a varsity program to a club team next season. At the meeting, the team was told that this change was made in the best interest of the future of the college.

"At the first meeting we had, we were told that our team was being cut, and that Gustavus was no longer going to support nordic skiing. They told us that they wanted to focus on sports that are part of the MIAC, which nordic isn't. They said that they don't feel they can support every team, even though they would like to, and ultimately they felt that the nordic skiing team would not benefit the future of Gustavus," Junior Skier Tyler Gustafson said.

According to the press release posted on the College's Athletics webpage that day, Gustavus has had men's and women's varsity nordic skiing programs for fourteen years. In the 2004-05 season, the MIAC discontinued its sponsorship of nordic skiing, due to a lack of MIAC schools with varsity nordic programs. For the last ten years, Gustavus' nordic teams have competed in the Central Collegiate Ski Association (CCSA). After this change to the



The men's (right) and women's (left) nordic skiing teams will both transition from varsity to club status before next season.

Gustavus program, St. Olaf is the only MIAC institution with a varsity nordic skiing program.

On April 11, the skiers met again with President Ohle and Athletic Director Tom Brown to discuss the change. At this meeting, the skiers had a chance to ask questions that had arisen since they were originally informed of the decision.

"Friday's meeting with the president was a good discussion, and we were able to get some of our questions answered, but there were still some decisions that were made that are difficult to understand," Gustafson said.

While the nordic team will no longer be a varsity program, Gustavus will retain nordic as a club sport. This change will open the door for more Gustavus students to participate in nordic skiing, as those who

may not have been ready to commit to varsity athletics may be enticed by the change to club status. The club team will still be able to compete in some of the same meets they have previously competed in as a varsity program, but as a club team they will not be able to compete at the NCAA National Championship meet.

"As a club sport, we will still be able to compete, but the races we compete at will depend on the athletes, and that will all be determined in the fall," Head Coach Jed Friedrich said.

Friedrich himself is in a transition period, as he will still coach the nordic skiers and help lead the club team next season, while entering his new role as the equipment manager for the Athletic Department.

The team has experienced a roller-coaster of emotions since

the change was announced, but is currently trying to look at the decision in a positive light.

"We're trying to stay positive. This has been very hard on us, it's been hard on our coach, but we're trying not to be bitter because that doesn't solve any problems. The skiers who remain at Gustavus will be dedicated to the club team and they will still try their hardest," Senior Skier Marian Lund said.

"The club team next year will be what we make it. The change has been really disappointing, but it's not in our character as people to give up on what we love," Junior Skier Scott Williams said.

At the meeting on April 11, the skiers proposed the possibility of maintaining NCAA eligibility to Brown and Ohle, despite the lack of funding from the Athletic Department. This

would allow the nordic team to compete at the same races they competed at when they were a varsity program, including the NCAA National Championship meet. Because the team is no longer funded by the Athletic Department, the skiers would need to fundraise on their own in order to travel to and enter these races. The possibility of the team retaining NCAA eligibility despite their lack of funding by the Athletic Department is currently being considered by administration, and a decision should be made by the end of the week.

Be sure to pick up next week's issue of THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for a follow-up article on the results of efforts to retain NCAA eligibility, as well as more information on the nordic team's change from varsity to club status.

Men's golf heads into final stretch of spring season

Zac Isaak
Staff Writer

The Gustavus Men's Golf team has had a difficult spring season. The men had their first taste of action March 24-25 when they played in the West Cup Tournament in California. The men placed 13th out of 17 teams competing in the tournament.

"Many top teams in the country were present and provided a big challenge for our guys, considering it was our first time outside as a team since last October. We could tell that we were not as sharp as we needed to be, to compete at that level," Head Coach Scott Moe said.

Senior Tyler McMorrow finished the West Cup with the team lead as he placed 11th in the tournament. Behind McMorrow were Seniors Matt Jensen and Andrew Oakes.

During Spring Break, the team traveled to Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, where they spent time training and competing in a dual against Flagler College. No scores were recorded for this dual.

The team then competed April 10-11 at the Augustana

Invitational, where they placed 7 out of 17 teams who competed at the Invitational. The Gustavus men had a stronger showing at this event, which was led by Senior Matt Jensen, who finished with a score of 156 (+12). This score gave Jensen a 21st place finish overall at the Invitational.

The Gustavus men will compete in two more events in April before wrapping up the spring season. First, they will host the Bobby Krig invitational on April 21-22. They will then compete in the Saint John's Invitational on April 26-27 to conclude their season. The goal for the men is to finish this spring season strong.

"We want to finish strong at our own event, the Bobby Krig Invitational, and the St Johns Invitational. We have some outstanding seniors on this year's team, and I really hope we can put together a great performance for them. They have been great ambassadors for Gustavus and our golf program. I am very thankful for their contributions on and off the course," Moe said.

Despite the rocky start, the Gustavus men are still hopeful for a potential NCAA National Tournament bid, which is al-



Senior Andrew Oakes hopes to finish off the team's spring season on a high note, but the team will need to play to their full potential in order to do so.

ways one of their top goals for the season.

At this point last season, the Gustavus Men's Golf team was dealing with inclement weather conditions that caused significant issues for the men. This year's weather conditions are an improvement from last year, but they still haven't been the greatest conditions to play under. Practice time outside

has been hard to come by and the team has had to spend more time hitting golf balls indoors, including in the golf simulator at the Lund Center.

"Last May, we played when it snowed, and our team ended up winning that tournament. There is very little weather that our team isn't willing to play in," Sophomore Andrew Brandt said.

As the season draws close to its end, the Gustavus men will play their best to finish the spring season on a high note. Staying relaxed and playing to their potential will be some of the keys to success for the team.

"I think the big keys to our success will be just simplifying things and going out and playing golf. We are all very talented golfers, we just need to relax and go play. I think we have been trying to force things and make things happen, but it hasn't worked out for us and I think just playing the way we know we can is going to be a big key," Oakes said.

Confidence and spending time outdoors will also be huge keys to success for the Gustavus men this spring.

"The more practice we get outside will be a key to our success. If we can find our stride in the near future here that would be great as we only have a few tournaments left this spring. I have confidence that everyone on our team can put up numbers that will contribute to winning golf tournaments," Brandt said.