

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY



Puck Drops on Hockey Season
Pages 14 & 15



Yik, Yak, Yuck?
Pages 8-9

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Issue 10

Peg O'Connor featured in the *New York Times*

Libby Larson
Staff Writer

The recent publication of Philosophy Professor Peg O'Connor in the *New York Times* blog, "The Learning Network," is generating awareness and an opportunity to delve into the philosophy of addiction.

"I've been a philosophy professor for almost 20 years, and I have been in recovery for 27 years, but it's really in the last maybe six years or so that the two pieces have intersected, come together, and it's made me love philosophy more," O'Connor said.

O'Connor's piece, "In the Cave" was originally published online in 2012, but has most recently been utilized as part of the Learning Network Series "Text to Text" which pairs an article featured by the *New York Times* with another text or source to develop a lesson plan.

"What means a lot to me, is that 'Text To Text' on the Learning Network is all about teaching, and as a teacher, and as a teacher of philosophy, I'm always thrilled when phi-



Steven Yang

Peg O'Connor's piece "The Cave" was published in the *New York Times*.

losophy is used and put into conversation with very relevant issues. It's one way to make philosophy really compelling to students, and to get them to see how it matters and why it would be important for them," O'Connor said.

O'Connor is currently work-

ing on manuscripts, and writes a blog for *Philosophy Today*. She also serves as a faculty member of the Chemical Health Advisory Task Force.

Athletics Director for Student Athlete Services and Assistant Director in Peer Education and Chemical Health Kari Eckheart

noted O'Connor's involvement in working with high risk students, and reflected upon the role of the Task Force.

"The goal is to have it be a broad group representing a variety of different places on campus. Peg has been that voice of the faculty. She's been involved

in chemical health for a long time here on campus, and so she brings a great perspective," Eckheart said.

"Addiction is a big issue that needs to be examined. It's something that's very relevant and college campuses across the country are struggling with these things, not just Gustavus"

—Scott Bur

Eckheart also noted that the Task Force recognizes the need to focus on the whole spectrum of chemical use on campus, addressing non-drinkers, those who choose to drink in a healthy

Peg O'Connor
Continued on Page 4

Study Abroad Fair educates students on travel

Laura Isdahl
Staff Writer

The study abroad fair took place last Thursday, giving students the opportunity to explore their options and learn about study away experiences that nearly 50 percent of Gusties partake in.

More than 250 students gathered at the fair to learn about studying abroad. Some knew what they were looking for, others were just beginning their search.

Study Abroad Advisor Jill Fischer led the fair in hopes of helping students along this unique learning experience.

"A person should study abroad because, especially today, we're very interconnected. I think it's really important to learn how to be a cross-cultural person that you can apply to your regular life, but also your work life. Study away is a natural extension of our liberal arts

education," Fischer said.

Studying abroad gives students an opportunity to learn in ways that may not be possible in a traditional classroom. Meghan McMillan '12 now works for the Danish Institute for Study Abroad (DIS), and was at the study abroad fair. She talked about the impact that studying abroad in Australia had on her.

"You empower yourself with so many more skills. You are able to learn not only about yourself, but about the country. You are never going to have a chance to live and feel like you are a part of that country," McMillan said.

Studying abroad can open doors for students to learn what they are passionate about and may even influence them in their job search in the future. McMillan's experiences while travelling influenced her while at Gustavus, leading her to working with study abroad students.

"I came back and just fell in love with study abroad and the



Leah Moot

Students have 120 study abroad options to choose from each year.

whole idea of going abroad and getting that experience," McMillan said.

There is a variety of study away options for students to explore. Unique to Gustavus are the three faculty led options to Sweden, Malaysia, and India. Besides these experiences, the

school works with other programs to give students as many opportunities possible.

Senior English Major Olivia Del Viscio is a CICE Peer Advisor and intern and studied in Rome, Italy last spring.

"We have 120 different program options so that students

have the ability to pick the program that works best for them," Del Viscio said.

Students must find a way to

Study Abroad Fair
Continued on Page 2

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Campus Safety Report

Monday, November 3

•Campus Safety reported theft of College property from Vickner Hall.

Tuesday, November 4

•Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Jackson Campus Center.

•Campus Safety responded to a possible medical assist on College grounds. A student was located off campus and transported to Rivers Edge by ambulance.

Wednesday, November 5

•Campus Safety responded to a

possible drug/narcotics violation in Sorensen Hall.

Thursday, November 6

•Collegiate Fellows responded to an animal policy violation in Norelius Hall.

Friday, November 7

•Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Norelius Hall.

•Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Nobel Hall.

Saturday, November 8

•Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol violation on College Grounds. One student was transported to the hospital by ambulance.

Sunday, November 9

•Campus Safety referred one student to the campus conduct system for an of-age/non-drinking area alcohol violation while in Rundstrom Hall.

•Campus Safety responded to an underage alcohol violation on College grounds involving one student.

•Campus Safety responded to an of-age alcohol violation involving one student on College grounds.

•Campus Safety referred one student to the campus conduct system for an of-age alcohol violation in Sorensen Hall.

•Campus Safety responded to an of-age alcohol violation in North Hall involving one student.

•Campus Safety responded to suspicious activity in the Jackson Campus Center. Two non-Gustavus juveniles were trespassed from campus.

Note: 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:
 Winter Weather Notifications:

City of St. Peter Snow Emergencies
 If you live off campus, you might need to be aware of when snow emergencies are declared by the City of St. Peter and what parking regulations will be enforced during those snow emergencies. You can sign up to be notified of

snow emergencies through the Nixle website. More information is available at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/nixle-communication-system>. Information about city snow emergencies and parking in off-campus municipal lots is also available on the City of St. Peter website at <http://www.saintpetermn.gov/city-snow-emergency-rules-dont-get-tagged-or-towed>.

Parking On Campus:

Standard campus parking regulations are always enforced during snow emergencies. Green permit parking areas are always no parking between 2-7 a.m., and both rows of red permit parking in the Stadium (Beck) parking lot are also marked No Parking 2-7 a.m. Overnight parking for green permit holders is in the Motor Pool lot. For students without a campus parking sticker, temporary passes are available in the Campus Safety office for \$5/weekday.

School Closings:

If a decision is made to delay or cancel classes or close College facilities due to inclement weather conditions, announcements will be made promptly via the College's multi-layered emergency communication system. Please make sure your emergency contact information is updated at gustavus.edu/emergency to receive appropriate text messages and voice messages regarding school closings. The best place to check for updated information regarding school closings is the Gustavus homepage (gustavus.edu). The College will also attempt to alert as many media outlets as possible about school closings, however, the most accurate and updated information will always be found at gustavus.edu.

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Study Abroad Fair Continued from Page 1

narrow down which type of program will fit best, a process that emphasizes the individual.

The advisors are interested in helping each student find a program that meets his or her goals for studying away. Students can make an appointment with a Peer Advisor in the study abroad office to learn about the variety of options available.

"In our initial interview process, we sit down with the student to streamline what he or she wants to achieve while abroad," Del Viscio said.

The bottom line of the study abroad fair is clear.

"Plan early. With planning, we send all majors abroad. Come in and talk to us," Fischer said.

Students can get more information about studying away by making an appointment with a Peer Advisor to discuss their goals and options.

Interpretive Center will host *Let Love Serve* discussion

Rachael Manser
News Editor

Former Head coach of the Men's Tennis team Steve Wilkinson has inspired his students, athletes, co-workers, and so many others through his coaching and his life principles conveyed in his book *Let Love Serve*. Wilkinson's book will be discussed at a Soup and Sandwich Seminar from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 19 in the Interpretive Center.

Wilkinson explained the main philosophy presented in his book and how it can be applied to other aspects of life beyond sports.

"A lot of people focus on what they can't control. When it comes to sports, people focus on whether they win or they lose. If they could control that, everybody would win. They can't, so that shouldn't be the focus. When it comes to classes people tend to focus too much on grades instead of what they're learning. Again, the grades are not completely controlled by the student, they're controlled certainly in part by the professors and what they deem to be important," Wilkinson said.

"He is the most unique coach I've ever met."

—Neal Hagberg

Wilkinson, along with his wife Barb, created the Tennis and Life Camps in 1977 which they donated to Gustavus after he retired in 2009. Wilkinson explained the core values taught during these camps and how they led to the book.

"The unique perspective of

tennis and life as well as the Gustavus tennis program are what we call the three crowns. The first one is choose to have a positive attitude, it doesn't matter whether you have cancer, or whether you lose or whether you get an 'F' or whatever, you have a choice. Number two: don't give up, just because things are not going your way, don't quit. Number three is good sportsmanship which at the most important level is the golden rule: do unto others as you would have them do unto you, and when you focus on sportsmanship you're also focusing on service which takes you to the name of the book: *Let Love Serve*," Wilkinson said.

Director of Tennis and Life Camps Neal Hagberg '81 has known Wilkinson for 33 years and wrote the foreword to his book. He reflected on his experience working with him.

"He is the most unique coach I've ever met. He is really like a Zen master, he goes to the absolute simplest and profound solution to things. I think so many coaches and teachers want to look smart by making everything sound complicated, he is like 'here's what's essential, worry about that and let everything else go,'" Hagberg said.

Tommy Valentini '02, who Wilkinson coached during his time at Gustavus, took over as head coach of the Men's Tennis team after Wilkinson retired. He reflected on the impact Wilkinson's coaching has had on him and others.

"As a student athlete under his guidance, he changed the way I competed, he changed the way I saw the role of sports in my life, and really created an environment where I could

pursue my fullest potential. He's a beautiful example of what the Tennis and Life philosophy looks like lived out in the world," Valentini said.

The discussion of *Let Love Serve* will focus not only on the sports aspect of Wilkinson's philosophy, but on the ways it's applicable to life in general.

"He really truly lives out the philosophy and the values that he teaches. He's a beautiful example of what the Tennis and Life philosophy looks like lived out in the world."

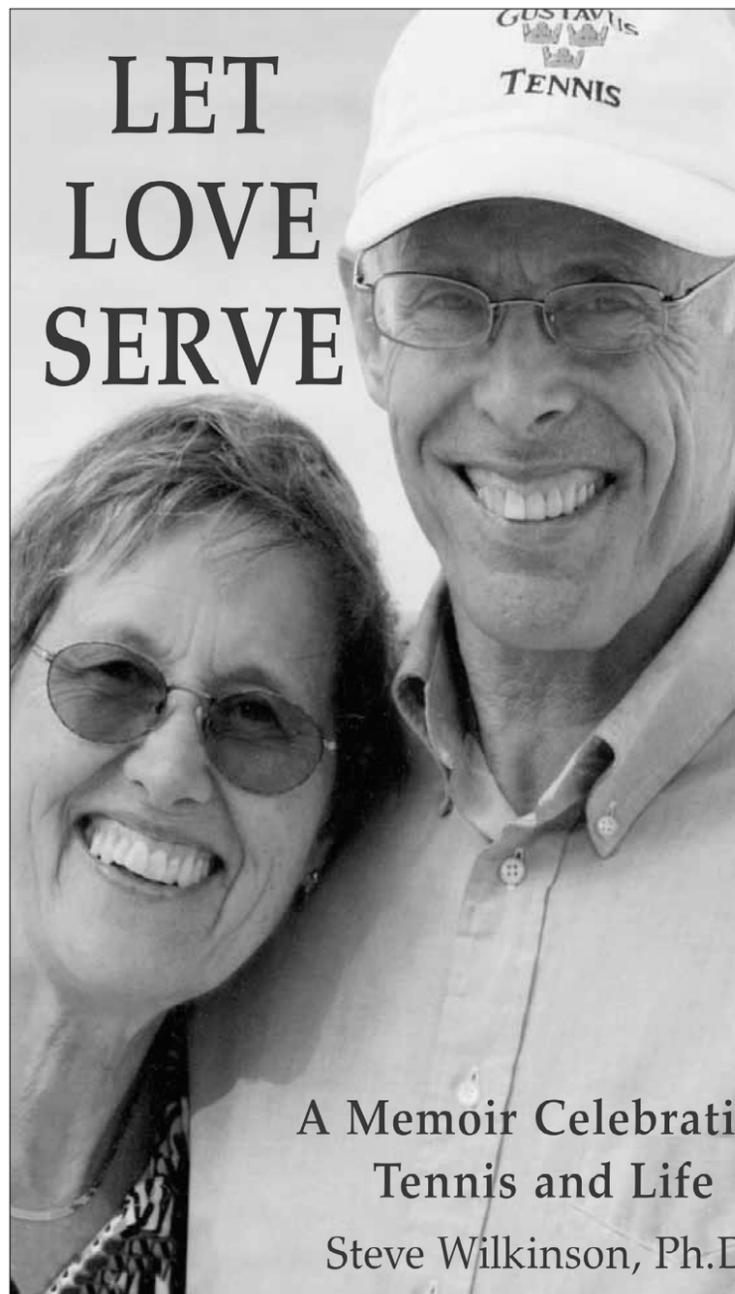
—Tommy Valentini

"*Let Love Serve* certainly deals with a lot of things tennis related, but I think even to the non-tennis fan the book is quite useful in terms of coaching and teaching in the context of any sport, in terms of living and facing challenges and building relationships," Valentini said.

Wilkinson's book reaches beyond the realm of sports.

"In relationships, it's real easy to focus on what others are not doing for us instead of focusing on what we're not doing for others, we have control over what we do for others, and we don't have control over what they do for us," Wilkinson said.

For more information about Wilkinson's book and the discussion visit the Gustavus website.



Submitted

More than 40 years of experience coaching Tennis has culminated in *Let Love Serve*.



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Peg O'Connor *Continued from* **Page 1**

way, and the higher risk students.

"I think it's healthy for us to look at the entire spectrum instead of just focusing on one area. If we just focused on addiction I think we'd be missing out on part of what our campus offers, but if we don't offer addiction too, on the other hand, I think we again are missing out on what our campus needs to be focusing on," Eckheart said.

O'Connor is involved with shaping next year's Nobel Conference, entitled "Addiction: The Science and Meaning of an Equal Opportunity Condition."

Chemistry Professor and Director of the Nobel Conference Scott Bur spoke about O'Connor's role.

"It's been interesting, because as a natural scientist, I have a particular view of what the Nobel Conference is, and what the mission of it is. She's really pushed me to bring it down to

a level where the people are going to be engaged, not just interested in something. And that's going to make it a little bit of a unique conference. She has challenged us to figure out how to make this really have an impact on a college campus in particular," Bur said.

"I see wonderful teaching opportunities with this Nobel Conference, and what a wonderful way to connect with student life and our drug and alcohol education and prevention programs."

—Peg O'Connor

Bur said that O'Connor's piece by the New York Times also reflects the relevance and importance of the study of addiction. Addressing other forms of addiction, Bur noted

the importance of the topic in a college setting.

"It's a big issue that needs to be examined. It's something that's very relevant and college campuses across the country are struggling with these things, not just Gustavus," Bur said.

O'Connor also addressed the importance of the topic for high school and middle school students as chemical use has been starting at younger ages. Her published writing and work on campus has served to educate those at Gustavus, as well as the larger community.

"We're a college campus, and actually this is one of the times where addiction, if it hasn't already taken hold, can take hold. So coming back to my role as a teacher, I see wonderful teaching opportunities with this Nobel Conference, and what a wonderful way to connect with student life and our drug and alcohol education and prevention programs," O'Connor said.

Geography Week to focus on 'The future of food'

Kaity Young
Staff Writer

The Geography Department will be celebrating Geography Awareness Week Nov. 16-22. This year's annually selected theme by National Geographic is "The Future of Food."

The week will kick off with a special trivia night at Patrick's on Third on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

"One round will be geography questions and we'll have a group of students and faculty going to trivia that night," Department Chair and Geography Professor Anna Versluis said.

"The theme focuses on how geography allows us to effectively produce and distribute food for our quickly growing population," Senior Geography Major Kristine Molde said.

"Geography connects the physical sciences with the human relationship with the environment."

—Katie Feterl

On Friday, the Geography Department will be partnering with Dining Service to help educate students about where their food comes from. They will take the ingredients of a typical meal and showcase where the food was grown and how far it has traveled.



Geography Week includes activities like geocaching and a showcase of where caf food comes from.

Chris Bram

"We don't know what the meal is yet, but I'm excited to find out," Senior Geography Major Katie Feterl said. "We've requested an average Caf meal, so it will be interesting to see how far these things come from," Versluis said.

"We also have a guest speaker coming on Friday afternoon. The speaker is from St. Cloud State and will be talking about current affairs in Russia and Ukraine," Versluis said.

On Saturday, there will be a

Geocaching event starting at 1 p.m. in the Linnaeus Arboretum. There will be prizes at each cache, in addition to hot cocoa and cider in the Interpretive Center.

"Geocaching will be really cool for anyone who likes getting outdoors. We'll be using GPS to find a location outside and then finding a prize," Molde said.

Those within the Geography Department make a point of emphasizing that geography is

not what many people expect.

"Most people think of capitals and rivers and identifying countries on the maps, and, while that has its place, geography, frankly, is a lot more interesting than that," Versluis said. "We hope to increase awareness about geography, and to let students know that it is a major at Gustavus, and there are classes you can take."

Students echo their professors in the effort to show that geography has more to offer than map

memorization.

"Geography wasn't something I would have considered when I came here. I thought of it as capitals, but it's so much more interdisciplinary than I would have expected," Feterl said. "It connects the physical sciences with the human relationship with the environment."

"Geography Awareness Week aims to raise excitement and awareness about geography as both a field of study and a part of everyday life."

—Kristine Molde

In addition to the events being hosted, the Geography Department hopes that the week will help to bring attention to the effects of geography that students experience regularly.

"A lot of people don't realize their impact as global citizens or know much about geography in general, so Geography Week encourages people to think and learn about geography and how we're affected by it," Molde said. "Geography Awareness Week aims to raise excitement and awareness about geography as both a field of study and a part of everyday life."

Mental Health and Wellness fair promotes awareness

Thomas Wittwer
Staff Writer

The Psychology Department and a number of students are putting on their third annual Mental Health Wellness Fair Tuesday, Nov. 18 at the St. Peter Community Center from 6-8 p.m.

"We want the community to realize that many people experience psychological distress and there is help available to them"

—Marie Walker

The Mental Health Wellness Fair is a free event to educate people in the surrounding area about local mental health resources as well as about mental disorders.

Professor of Psychology Ma-

rie Walker is in charge of organizing the event.

"The mental health wellness fair is being put on to help prevent and raise awareness about mental illness. We want the community to realize that many people experience psychological distress and there is help available to them," Walker said.

There are a number of things attendees can expect to see at the event.

"There are three professional speakers talking on the topics of reducing stress, adoption and attachment, and eating disorders and body satisfaction. We will have music performed by Gustavus students, refreshments provided by Gustavus Dining Services, the Department of Psychological Science and the Center for Student Leadership," Walker said.

Any visitor also has the chance to win donated door prizes, and the opportunity to participate in yoga and meditation sessions put on by Gustavus students and faculty.

Senior Psychological Science Major and Student Coordinator of the event Emma Nystadius is

one of many students involved in putting the Mental Health Wellness fair together.

"I'm looking forward to learning about all the different organizations. I'm really excited to go around and see what all the different organizations are about each because there is such a wide variety," Nystadius said.

"What I like about the Mental Health Wellness fair is that it opens the door for conversation on topics that aren't talked about enough"

—Kelly Lindahl

As student coordinator, Nystadius is responsible for the things the students do in putting this event together.

"We contact a lot of people in Mankato and the St. Peter area to come to the event. We also look to get donations from local

businesses and restaurants for door prizes as well as hang flyers for the event," Nystadius said.

Junior Psychology Major Kelly Lindahl is another student helping put the Mental Health Wellness fair together and shared her thoughts on the fair.

"What I like about the Mental Health Wellness fair is that it

opens the door for conversation on a topics that aren't talked about enough," Lindahl said.

The Mental Health and Wellness fair is open to the public and welcomes anyone. Expand your knowledge about psychology and mental health while enjoying prizes, refreshments, music and more at the Mental Health Wellness Fair.

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GUSTIE *of the* WEEK

Jaurdyn Dobler
Staff Writer

Whether she's representing the student body in Student Senate, welcoming in first-years as a Greeter, making people laugh through Line-Ups, or exercising her passion for political science in the College Democrats, Junior Delaney Sweet brings her passion and enthusiasm everywhere she goes.

"Delaney works so hard for this campus. Her involvement and her attitude make her a stand out member of this community and I am so excited that she is getting recognized for everything that she does for Gustavus and its students," Junior Jessie Self said.

As a member of Gustie Greeters, Student Senate, Theta Xi Gamma sorority, Gustavus Ambassadors, a writer for the Fourth Crown, business manager for Line-Ups, and an Admissions Office employee, Delaney's accolades leave no room to doubt her impressive involvement in the Gustavus community.

"If I had to give one word to describe her involvement in the Gustavus community I would say 'active.' The girl is always going. She cares about

this community and the people in it. Whether she is heading up a committee or working behind the scenes, she gives her best," Senior Mari Aune said.

Her exceptional work ethic isn't the only quality that makes Delaney stand out. It's obvious when speaking with anyone who knows Delaney that her personality is just as remarkable as her work ethic.

"When I think about her personality, I smile right away. I think that says a lot about Delaney's effect on people. She is very extroverted and humorous but it's paired with this beautiful down-to-earth heart. Delaney is able to be who she is without ever second-guessing herself. She can be silly, serious, caring, and you know no matter what side of her you are getting, it is 100 percent her. By doing this, she creates a space that allows for others to do the same," Junior Mia Cannon said.

But Delaney says that the ability to be herself hasn't always been easy to grasp. During her first year she had dedicated most of her time to the Varsity Tennis team. It wasn't until after she quit and joined other organizations that she really felt like herself.

"For awhile, I tried to mesh myself into Gustavus instead of using the skills I had to be

myself. Once I realized that Gustavus picked me for me and I didn't need to change or try to be something I wasn't, I was so much happier and have been happier ever since," Delaney said.

She opened up her time to explore other things and learned to be herself. Delaney said she really found her niche within the Gustavus community and was able to spend more time pursuing her passion for politics.

"I've been so lucky in my education. I went to the best prep school in Omaha and now Gustavus. I've been so blessed. But two years ago, during an internship in Washington D.C. with a non-profit Catholic school, I realized that other kids are not that fortunate. DC has the worst education system in the entire U.S. and I'm just astounded by this. Education and what kids learn in schools is the basis of the rest of their lives. It should be a right, not a privilege," Delaney said.

Delaney's current game plan for the future is first and foremost to work on Hillary Clinton's campaign in 2016. But after that she hopes to attend law school and eventually open a non-profit school for girls in the Middle East. While she's excited for future experiences,

Delaney says that her biggest focus right now is making the best of the time she has left at Gustavus with the people she's come to love, people who've all come to love



Caroline Probst

Delaney is active on campus, involved in Gustie Greeters, Theta Xi Gamma, Student Senate, Gustavus Democrats, and more.

and appreciate her.

"It's impossible not to smile around Delaney. She puts her energy into other people and it's contagious. She genuinely cares about issues affecting us and I think it's really important to have passionate people like

her at this school because she has the power to make a difference. I am absolutely certain that Delaney Sweet is going to do big things in her life and I can't wait to see what the future holds for her," Self said.



Caroline Probst

Before attending law school, Delaney plans to work on Hillary Clinton's 2016 campaign.



Caroline Probst

Friends describe Delaney as extroverted, humorous, and passionate.

Second annual Junior Jam unites class of 2016

Kim Krulish
Staff Writer

Gustavus' Courtyard Café is often a center for all kinds of events. The Café has hosted musicians, famous and renowned speakers, and many student-organized events. On Thursday, Nov. 6, beginning at 8:30 p.m. and running until 9:30 p.m., the second annual Junior Jam showcase filled the Café and the Campus Center with music and other talents from the members of the junior class.

Junior Jam was an event that allowed Gustavus juniors to showcase their talents and all students were welcome to attend. The junior class officers hosted the event and provided snacks and hot chocolate. Juniors who wore their "Class of 2016" shirts were able to enter a drawing to win a \$15 Chipotle giftcard.

"As class officers, we're supposed to hold events specifically for our class," Junior Health Fitness and Communication Studies Major Emily Marquette said. "We thought this would be a great way to showcase some of the talents in our class."

"We did it last year and it was a great success, so we decided to bring it back," Junior Psychological Science and Scan-



Dark Matter Theory received third place at the second annual Junior Jam in the Courtyard Café.

dinavian Studies Major Britta Johnson said.

Students were then able to vote for their favorite performance on the Gustavus Class of 2016 Facebook page and Twitter.

Religion Major Angela Donofrio and Health Fitness Major Christina Swensen performed two songs and won first place

in the event. Sociology and Anthropology Major Michael Quinn performed multiple songs and played guitar, winning second place. Dark Matter Theory, a group composed of students Micah Marshall, Will Scott, Micah Hoye, and Kevin Larson, performed and won third place.

"I enjoy performing," Quinn said. "It was an opportunity to present a skill or hobby of mine with hopefully positive feedback. As a musician you take any opportunity that you get."

Political Science Major Lisa Slaikeu performed a version of "Say Something" by A Great Big World that she had tweaked.

Slaikeu also played piano during her performance.

"As someone who has abilities in multiple instruments, I thought, 'Why not perform?'" Slaikeu said. "If you have a passion for music or an awesome talent, don't be afraid to share it," Slaikeu said.

Junior Jam gave students the opportunity to present their talents and to help themselves get started in the world of performance.

"It's a good launchpad," Quinn said. "No one's hyper-critical."

Steven Yang This year's Junior Jam hosted a variety of performances. One group, Tyler Bishop, Sam Endres, David Anderson, and Ben Bonser, performed a song from the movie *The Hangover*. The event was open to any kind of talent beyond musical. The junior class officers were happy with the turnout and hope to see the event be just as successful in the future.

Tales from Abroad

Kris Reiser
Guest Writer

I was originally interested in going to Malaysia because everyone I knew who had done a study abroad had gone to a European country where the cities were pretty similar to the cities here in the United States. I thought Malaysia would offer an experience less touched by globalization and more unique to the places I would normally visit. Malaysia turned out to be completely different, but not in the ways I expected.

There are the physical differences: Malaysians drive on the left and here we drive on the right, when we left Minnesota and arrived in Malaysia we experienced a 100 degree Fahrenheit change, and while the Gustavus campus is overrun with squirrels, the campus I studied at in Malaysia had monitor lizards the size of small children instead. Because of all of these differences, being in Malaysia became a spectator sport. My friends and I would go to bars and vent about the weird professors, the cats in the cafeteria, or the lack of Pandora and Spotify.

But not every difference is as laughable as finding geckos in the bathroom. In Malaysia there is not equality of race and religion under the constitution, which leads to tense interracial and interfaith relations between subsets of the population. Participating in class was hard because my first reaction to anything could be condensed to: this is wrong because I'm an American and this isn't how we do things in America. Being able to discuss Malaysian politics without turning into an ethnocentric jerk was surprisingly difficult.

For me, this changed with our home stay weekend. During the semester, we were staying in dormitories, but for one three day weekend we were driven out to a rural village and placed with a host family. My family consisted of a matriarch, her husband and sister, her five kids, and her first grandchild. They were relatively comfortable in their village and the kids were all in the process of leaving the nest.

The weekend was the first time I really had been given an opportunity to ask Malaysians personal questions, or talk with people who weren't scared to butcher English as

long as I wasn't scared to butcher Malay. On campus, it was hard to strike up conversations with students, and if someone did talk to me it felt like I never received a personal answer. Seeing the equivalent to suburban life and experiencing an informal society was when Malaysia stopped being the equivalent of a double decker bus tour and started feeling more accessible.

The saying "You start growing when you leave your comfort zone" is what encouraged me to study abroad. I fulfilled my goals of finding experiences that were completely new. I would encourage anyone to study abroad and if you have questions drop by the CICE to talk with a peer advisor!



You start growing when you leave your comfort zone.

Submitted

Tales from Abroad is an ongoing section in which Gustavus students share the highlights of their study abroad experiences.

Students direct Gustavus Theatre Galleries



Dan Vruo
Staff Writer

Every year the Theatre and Dance Department gives students the opportunity to present their work. Alternating between the two arts, this year theatre students will showcase their talents in the Gustavus Theatre Galleries. The showcase will feature three plays with two of them being student directed.

That Time, originally written by Samuel Beckett, will be directed by Junior Theatre Major Thomas Buan. Samuel Beckett is regarded as one of the most influential writers of the 20th century, and is seen as the father of modern absurdism. Beckett is known for writing long plays but became more minimalist in

his later career. *That Time*, for instance, is only 20 minutes long. Featuring just a face with narration, *That Time* details a man's life as he remembers while dying. The dying man is played by Senior and Computer Science and Classics Major Adam Thornburg. For Buan, looking at the single moment in which an entire life is remembered hasn't been the easiest. Buan has looked into the textual analysis, and discovered the short play is hard to deviate from since its production has been shut down before for not following the direct quality withheld by the original production throughout history.

Buan has previously directed a 10 minute play in a directing course last year, but appreciates the chance to lead a play once more.

"It's been fantastic. Having the director's experience has been great. Having control on what happens on stage while not being on stage is a liberating experience. Continuing with the role, next summer, Brady Mueller and I will be putting a bid on the Minnesota Fringe Festival. Brady will be writing it and I will be directing it," Buan stated.

The second play, *Gray Duck* was written by Theatre Professor Amy Seham and will be directed by Senior Theatre Honors Hannah Enright. Ranging from 45 minutes to an hour, the play focuses on recent college graduates. Providing an honest depiction of being lost and having passion for something but not exactly knowing how to do it in the real world.

Given that *Angels in America* was cast in the spring, this play provides first-years with the first opportunity to be featured on stage. Auditions were held during the second week of school. Since then, Enright and her cast of first-years have been rehearsing. The main cast includes a very passionate main character with doubts about their abilities, a snarky artist, a laid back computer nerd, and a hopeful film composer, all living within the same building. The entire set will be in a greyscale going along with the title and each character will be featured in a different color scheme. Just like Buan, Enright has taken the directing course in addition with having directed some camp plays. However, this will be her first time directing an official play. Learning a lot

from the entirety of the process, Enright shared her excitement with directing the play and working with first years.

"It's fun in being in something more like a mentor position. It's exciting to see the first-years deal with mature themes that they are probably more than ready to deal with. Nearing that post-grad stage myself, I have learned a lot about myself and how I work to be able to communicate, envision, and put forth something even better than ever before. This show is very me in a way and that's why I like it. If anything else this show is able to communicate that being aware of the challenges we are all going to face in the future, it'll be alright as long as you have friends, family and believe in yourself, you will be successful," Enright said.

The last play being performed is *So Whatta We Got Here*. Lasting for about an hour, *So Whatta We Got Here* will investigate 15 artists defining themselves against the back drop of a societal versus individual context. Created by Artist-in-Residence Brian Evans '07, the show will look at how the individual selves work as a whole. Split into five sections that Brian

choreographed to represent the society, the 15 characters will all express themselves through art. Whether it be through dance, reenactment, costume design, etc., each artist will have their moment before fading back into the overall group. Sophomore Sociology/Anthropology Major Sadie LaPlante, for instance, will express herself through dance.

"I will take away being more comfortable with my creations and being able to perform it. It's a rare opportunity to express one's self and their vulnerability. Being in a group that ultimately wants to express themselves to an audience, whatever that art may be, is liberating in representing what so many diverse students are able to do here at Gustavus," Sadie said.

As all three shows are free for students as long as they order their tickets. The three shows will be showcased at various times throughout the weekend of the 20th to the 22nd. *Gray Duck* and *That Time* will be featured in the Black Box while *So Whatta we Got Here* will be in the Kresge Studio. Students should not miss out on this wonderful theatre tradition here at Gustavus.

Get on Up for the father of funk



Brady Lass
Staff Writer

It certainly is an interesting time to see *Get on Up*. James Brown, cast by Chadwick Boseman, is a controversial singer with a life worth seeing on film. Other than various television crime dramas, Boseman's also known for portraying the legendary Jackie Robinson in 2013's *42*, so he's no stranger to biopics about influential African-Americans in pop culture history. This time Boseman is joining director Tate Taylor, known for *The Help*. Does Boseman and the cast bring their best in *Get on Up*, or do they lack what this godfather had: soul?

The film focuses on the life of James Brown, one of the founding fathers of funk. As a child, Brown's mother left him with his abusive father, who later went to war. James grew up under his aunt and developed an appreciation for music. He was later arrested for stealing a suit and met Bobby Byrd. They become good friends and



Chadwick Boseman plays musician James Brown in *Get on Up* directed by Tate Taylor.

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gained fame after forming the group known as "The Famous Flames." From there, *Get on Up* focuses on Brown's success, his failures, his relationship with Byrd, and his family issues.

Get on Up showcases Brown's life and emphasizes that he was not the perfect person. He had quite a few shortcomings with his attitude and actions and the film did address some of this. However, I think they might have held back. Whether it was keeping the PG-13 rating or fear of disrespecting Brown's legacy,

there should be moments of special impact for showing his successes and failures. The flashbacks were also confusing. The plot is pretty straightforward and the audience does get to see the singer's history and the social times he was part of.

What really makes the film memorable is Boseman's performance as Brown. He does the 'Godfather of Soul' justice and makes up for anything that might seem uninspiring. He brings a sense of personality and intensity to the singer that

is much needed for the film to succeed. Most of the supporting cast does a fantastic job as well, such as Dan Akyroyd, Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer. Though you're likely going to see Nelsan Ellis as Bobby Byrd the most, as he plays off very well to Boseman's Brown; the two have very good chemistry.

Even if it's not completely accurate, *Get on Up* was a good watch. It may have been better if the intensity of Brown's life was taken the extra mile, but it did showcase the highlights

and how he grew up. The film is particularly memorable thanks to the performance of Boseman, who has recently been confirmed by Marvel Studios to star as the superhero Black Panther in phase three of the Marvel Cinematic Universe. Boseman and the supporting cast are the primary reason to see this movie. Not everyone may like it, but for the most part, *Get on Up* please, please, pleased me.



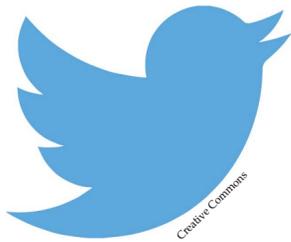
Yik, Yak, Yuk?

Being anonymous gives students a sense of power that doesn't always help the community



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Facebook
Created in 2004
1.23 billion active users
Features: Status updates, picture sharing, instant messenger, networking groups, event publicity, business pages, games.



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Twitter
Created in 2006
232 million users
Features: 140 character status updates, picture sharing

Erika Clifton
Features Editor

When students are asked "Why did you come to Gustavus?" a common response is "I loved the feeling of community." It is one of our five core values clearly printed on a pillar in the Evelyn Young Dining Room. What happens when something on campus could be destroying that sense of community?

Confession sites and mobile apps have become a popular trend within the last few years. The Facebook page Gustavus Love Confessions started in 2013 and allowed students to anonymously post their secret crushes to a Google Docs form and then the administrators of the page would post the confessions as a status to the Facebook page. Those administrators of the page have the ability to filter the posts and only put up posts they deem appropriate and reflect what they want the page to be about.

"Gustavus Love Confessions is about building people up. There is an expectation and a filter," Junior Logan Boese said.

"Gustavus Love Confessions: the intent of it is to share positive feelings toward somebody," Director of Campus Activities Andrea Junso said.

Since the school year started, a new mobile app has increased its popularity among college students. Yik Yak is also an anonymous way to post your feelings, but it doesn't have administrators monitoring it. Each "Yak" pops up instantly which is very similar to Twitter. Each Yacker's phone keeps track of your own Yaks and replies. Other Yackers are able to see Yaks from people within a 1.5 mile radius of their location. If someone likes a Yak, it can get up-voted. The higher number of up votes, the higher it gets posted in the newsfeed. If a Yak gets down-voted five times, it will disappear from the newsfeed, but stay in your Yaks.

The creators of this app also added a level of competition to social media. The more you Yak, reply to others,

or get up votes on your Yaks, the more points you collect. This provides users with a way to compete with friends and post things that they think they get more up votes.

"I think [the creators] are brilliant. They have gamified social media. You give an opportunity to earn points. People are competitive. They were smart to latch onto that," Director of Residential Life Charlie Potts said.

When students start to compete and rely on the anonymity of Yik Yak, the types of Yaks become less humorous and start to criticize specific individuals and student organizations on campus, which leads to dozens of posts of the same negative nature which can be harmful to fellow Gusties.

"Would you say those things if your name was attached to it? Or is it only in the cloak of anonymity that you are willing to say some of the hurtful things that get said. What does that mean for us as a community?"

—JoNes Van Hecke

Gustavus is not the only campus that negativity has crept into. Upon Yik Yak's release in 2013, cyberbullying became a huge problem at middle schools and high schools. Creators of the app, Tyler Droll and Brooks Buffington altered the app to include geo-fences, which are invisible bubbles around the areas of middle and high schools and block the use of the app within the bubble. According to *The Huffington Post*, about 85 percent of high schools and middle schools in the United States have been geo-fenced.

By allowing only "adults" to have access to the app, the hope was to decrease the amount of bullying and harassment. However, the negativity seems to continue across college campuses, causing certain schools to ban the app all together.

"People aren't realizing the connection of what is done and what is felt," Boese said.

A student-created organization has brought attention to the negative atmosphere that Yik Yak is creating at Gustavus. Students Against Yuk (SAY) is a group of students across campus that have started the "Take Back the Yak" campaign and are encouraging students to think about what they are posting and to bring Yik Yak back to humorous and appropriate Yaks. They will even offer students a Frost-Your-Own if they are willing to show SAY their own top Yaks.

"It's really about getting the ball rolling. When you see those negative Yaks, down vote them. It's taking those first initial steps to reverse the stigma, trying to eliminate those negative Yaks. Empowerment is going to be needed to make that shift to a more positive space to Yak," Senior Eric Pothen said.

"This is 100 percent student driven. I love the fact that Gusties looked at what was going on and said this is not who we want to be and they actually did something. That's the kind of Gustavus I want to live in every day, where you are the change you want to see in the world. This random group of students said we can say something about this and I think that is literally the embodiment of an ideal Gustie," Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students JoNes Van Hecke said.

Allowing students to be anonymous doesn't always have a negative impact. It can create an open environment for discussion for those not comfortable enough to share their opinions out loud.

"There is some really good research out there about how anonymous social media can be a powerful tool from less-privileged identities that are more comfortable being anonymous," Potts said.

In 2010, Frank Warren was chosen as the Campus Activities Board's Big Speaker. His project, PostSecret, had people from around the United States mail their secrets on postcards to Warren. He then selects some of the secrets and has published them in six different books. Before Warren came to Gustavus, the campus participated in their own version of his project.



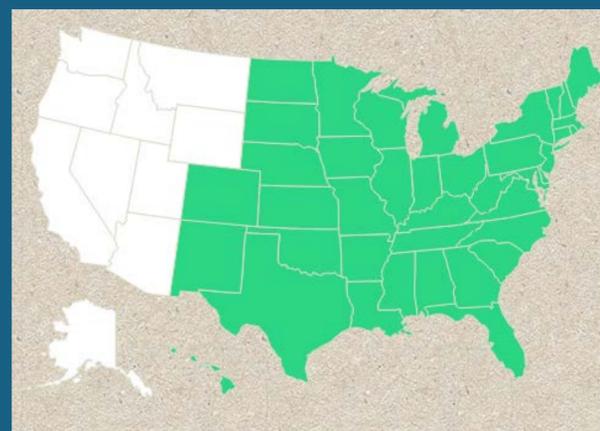
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Yik Yak
Created in 2013
250,000 users
Features: unlimited characters in a Yak, anonymous status updates based on your location.



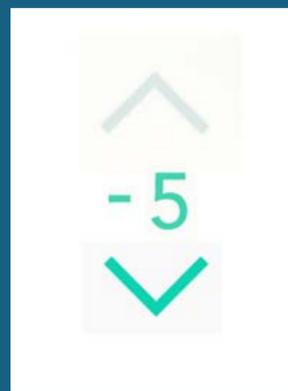
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PostSecret
Founded in 2005
80,000 users in the online discussion forum
Displayed over 2 million secrets through books, online, and museum pieces.
Features: community mail art, published books of secrets, discussion forums.



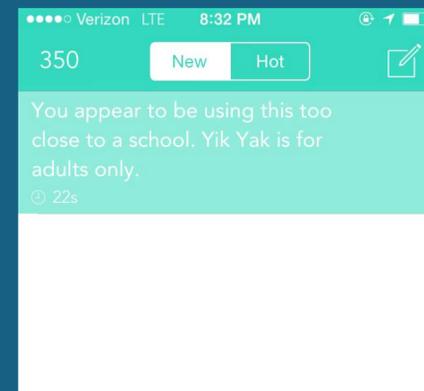
Erika Clifton

Creators of Yik Yak have geofenced 85 percent of the high schools and middle schools in the United States to help decrease the cyberbullying.



Chris Bram

When a Yak gets 5 down votes, it is deleted from the newsfeed.



Erika Clifton

By creating geofencing, it allows only adults to see and write Yaks.



Chris Bram

Students Against Yuk (SAY) are curious to see if students will take away their anonymity and show them their top Yaks for a Frost-Your-Own.