

# THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

Established 1891

September 11, 2015 Issue 1

## Historic donation makes Nobel renovation possible



Office of Marketing and Communication

The renovated Nobel will include flexible classrooms, updated research labs, and more open gathering spaces, as well as a connection to the Schaefer Fine Arts Building.

**Rachael Manser**  
News Editor

Gustavus kicks off the new school year off with the announcement of a 25 million dollar donation, the largest gift in the history of the College.

The money will be used as the foundation of an estimated 65 million dollar expansion and renovation of the Alfred Nobel Hall of Science.

"The donor has asked to be anonymous, but they are a local Twin Cities family with five Gusties, past supporters of the College, and have a real commitment to science and innovation," Vice President for Institutional Advancement Tom Young said.

The plans for Nobel have been in the works since 2012 and are currently being reevaluated.

The project consists of expansions to the North, South, and West ends of the building, as well as a complete renovation of the existing structure which includes the movement of the Wallenberg Auditorium to the South end, where it will be used as a venue space.

The South end will also incorporate a connection to the Schaefer Fine Arts building by the Anderson Theater and the addition of a black box theater.

Chemistry professor and so-

called 'Shepard' of the project Scott Bur explains the need for the all-encompassing renovation of Nobel.

"The way we teach and learn science has changed dramatically since I was in college. Content was delivered by the professor and we absorbed it and regurgitated it for tests, that's the way we learned. That's not the way we do it anymore because content is cheap and easily available. I think you need me to tell you how to work with that information. So the way we teach has gone more to an active style of learning and teaching," Bur said.

*"To see the college increase the size of gifts is really incredibly important and a wonderful testament to what our outside community sees as the value of the college."*

—Tom Young

These teaching methods include case studies, group problem sets, and research which require advanced labs and lots of work space.

"Wallenberg Auditorium is not designed for that and even the classrooms we have that are supposedly flexible are not actually very flexible space," Bur said.

Bur is excited to see the in depth learning this will allow for science students while they're at Gustavus and the

opportunities that it will open up for them after they graduate.

"For the students it's going to mean better teaching practices, better learning opportunities, and the labs are going to be revitalized in a way that we can start to incorporate real research projects into the curricular labs so that more students get hands

on real research experience. Once we have the new space, the things that we're going to be able to do will be phenomenal," Bur said.

However, science majors will

**'Historic Donation'**  
*continued on page 2*



Office of Marketing and Communication

The Nobel renovation and expansion will optimistically begin Spring 2017 and take two years to complete.



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Published weekly on Fridays, except during academic breaks, by the students of Gustavus Adolphus College. Subscriptions are available from THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY for \$40 per year.

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## Campus Safety Report

### Monday, August 31

- Campus Safety received a report of a suspected drug violation by a student in May 2015.

### Wednesday, September 2

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Jackson Campus Center. One student was transported to Rivers Edge hospital.

### Friday, September 4

- Campus Safety received a report of a theft outside Pittman Hall. The items were later recovered.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Johnson Student Union.

### Saturday, September 5

- Campus Safety responded to an alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. Three students were referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption.

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

### Sunday, September 6

- Campus Safety responded to a medi-

cal assist on College grounds at Hello Walk.

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:

Campus Safety Safe Rides Program – call x7000!

The Campus Safety Safe Rides van offers rides from 6:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. every night at the designated Safe Rides stop locations. Students calling the Safe

Ride number, (x7000), will be directed to the nearest location to be picked up by the Safe Ride vehicle. All pickup points are designated by posted yellow and black “Safe Ride” signs. After picking up students the driver will take them to their requested Safe Rides designated drop off location or the driver may stop and pick up more students on the way there if room is available in the vehicle.

For Safe Rides service call 507-933-7000 (or x7000 from a campus phone) to speak to a Safe Rides coordinator.

For more information, 24-hour medical escorts, or for walking escorts after 1:30 a.m., call Campus Safety at 507-933-8888 (x8888).

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### 'Historic Donation' continued from page 1

not be the only ones on campus to benefit from the renovation. The majority of students will take at least one class in Nobel during their time at Gustavus due to the general science requirement.

Theater and dance students will also have a bigger and better black box theater to use for shows.

The whole Gustavus community will be able to enjoy the events of the new theater, as well as upgraded venue spaces like Wallenberg and more study and gathering places within Nobel.

"We're going to open up the building a little bit so that it has a little more open feel like Beck Hall, which I think will draw students in to spend time in the building beyond just being in classes and labs," President Bergman said.

She is also excited to see what the connection between Nobel and Schaefer will bring in terms of collaboration.

"This renovation will bridge to performing arts, so that's kind of fun to think about how the sciences and the arts will be connected and what can we do with that. Those connections are fairly common," Bergman said.

*Once we have the new space, the things that we're going to be able to do will be phenomenal."*

—Scott Bur

Bergman and Young also anticipate that the gift means good things for the College as a whole, explaining their excitement in terms of increasing monetary support for the College.

"It's a transforming gift for the whole College. That will mean that there will be

another donor out there who will potentially match that or more. In some ways I see it as a way to really build momentum for fundraising for the College in general. The phrase I've been using is that it raises all boats," Bergman said.

*"It's a transforming gift for the whole college. In some ways I see it as a way to really build momentum for fundraising for the college in general."*

—President Bergman

The largest commitment for the last Campaign Gustavus was just under four million dollars, and the first donation for this year's campaign was sixteen million dollars.

"To see the college increase the size of gifts is really incredibly important and a wonderful testament to what our outside community sees as the value of the college," Young said. "I think it's a wonderful legacy to have nearly 27,000 alumni and families cheering us on and supporting us every day we're here."

The donation was not the first designated for the renovation and there is still fundraising to do and financing to be figured out before the project can begin, but President Bergman approximates Spring 2017 as the breaking of ground of the expansion and renovation that will take approximately two years to complete.



# Gustavus Wind Orchestra has 'All that Jazz'



Gustavus Wind Orchestra was the smallest of only seven colleges chosen to perform at next summer's Collegiate Band Director's National Association's regional conference. Submitted

**Ana Hollander**  
Copy Editor

This summer the Gustavus Wind Orchestra (GWO) was invited to perform at the 2016 Collegiate Band Directors National Association's regional conference at Iowa State University.

The CBDNA is the recognized professional organization for collegiate band directors dedicated to enhancing the teaching, performance and study of music in the United States. The biennial regional conference will host directors from programs throughout the Midwest.

As an active member of CBDNA, GWO's Conductor James Patrick Miller was well aware of the opportunity for the band to apply to perform at the conference. The vigorous application process included the submission of a live, unedited

recording of GWO, a list of their past year's performances, and a proposal of the concert program they'd present if selected.

"The most important part is the recording. We send it to a committee of blind judges, who don't know who they are listening to, but just make their determination on who the top seven performances would be based on the submissions," Dr. James Patrick Miller said.

Selecting which recordings to submit can be extremely difficult. Directors must choose pieces that add up to 45 minutes, but also present the rigor and talent of their ensemble.

While Dr. Miller has spent endless hours reviewing every piece GWO has performed, one in particular stood out to him.

"This year it was pretty easy to choose because GWO played one major work, Karel Husa's 'Music for Prague,' on tour. It's

a big, very important, and pretty extraordinary piece. They performed it at a really high level," Dr. Miller said.

However, this piece only filled a portion of the allotted time. To help him decide what else to submit, Dr. Miller asked a few students to listen with him and offer their thoughts. Senior GWO clarinet player Laura Johnson was one of those students.

"We listened for technical accuracy but also aspects of performance like artistry, balance, and blend. Above all else we wanted to select pieces that represented the Gustavus Wind Orchestra and its tradition of excellence. After reviewing all of our recordings, we chose our performances of Karel Husa's Music for Prague 1968 as well as Arturo Márquez's Danzón No. 2," Johnson said.

After hearing a multitude of

recordings, and reviewing the other application materials, the judges selected GWO and six other ensembles to perform at the CBDNA conference, Gustavus was the smallest school chosen and the only one with just an undergraduate program. Dr. Miller was informed through an email in early July.

"I saw the title CBDNA. I didn't want to ruin my day because, even though our students are amazing, you never, ever anticipate actually being selected. Anytime you apply for a big conference you've been rejected so many times you just get used to being rejected. But I opened it up, began reading the letter, and I just started crying," Dr. Miller said.

*"I'm ecstatic that GWO has received such a prestigious honor. We have always known that music at Gustavus is exceptional, but now it's no longer the best kept secret."*

—Laura Johnson

GWO's program list has been created for the theme "...and all that Jazz," which will have a crossover of classical and jazz music.

Dr. Miller has also been intentional about including his colleagues in this concert and will be sharing the podium with Dr. Karrin Meffert-Nelson and Dr. Heidi Johanna Miller. He has also invited former Director of Trumpet and Jazz Studies at Gustavus, Dr. Steve Wright, to solo in Richard Rodney Ben-

nett's Elegy for Miles Davis. Adjunct Assistant Professor of Music Chad Winterfeldt will play the organ in GWO's concluding piece, Maslanka's Symphony No. 4.

"I am excited for the organ piece," Senior french horn player Kyra Wicklund said. "Iowa State has a huge organ in their concert hall, unlike Bjorling, which will make this experience even more unique."

The students in GWO will have another unique experience in being part of the premiere performance of a piece composed by Katherine Johns Bergman '07. After working with Bergman in the Encore Wind Ensemble, Dr. James Patrick Miller was introduced to a few of her band pieces. Impressed by her work, Bergman was then commissioned to write a piece for GWO's tour, which will now be performed at the CBDNA conference.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. As a music education major I am incredibly excited for the opportunity to be surrounded by such high caliber musicians, conductors, and educators. But most importantly, I'm ecstatic that GWO has received such a prestigious honor. We have always known that music at Gustavus is exceptional, but now it's no longer the best kept secret," Johnson said.

Dr. James Patrick Miller, who shares in Johnson's enthusiasm for performing at the conference, said, "I am super excited, I am terrified also. One of the most difficult things to do is get up in front of your peers and do what you do, but it is also extremely rewarding. I couldn't be more proud of the students. They are going to love the experience."

## The GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY is looking for a News Editor!

We're looking for a professional, organized individual ready to take on a leadership role!

Experience with InDesign is encouraged but not required.

If that sounds like the job for you, go ahead and send us an email!

[weekly@gustavus.edu](mailto:weekly@gustavus.edu)





# GUSTIE *of the* WEEK

**Molly Butler**  
Managing Editor

Since transferring to Gustavus in the spring of her sophomore year, Megan has become a role model to many. For others, she has become a hero.

Megan found herself driving home every weekend during her time at the College of St. Benedict.

"It didn't feel like home," Megan said.

She made the decision to transfer to Gustavus where she would study Biology as well as Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies. Within her first semester, Megan only visited home once.

"Right away I met best friends. A lot of people cared about me and my experience here," Megan said.

She applied to be a Collegiate Fellow just two weeks after moving into her new home. Megan almost missed her interview because she still didn't know the buildings on campus. Luckily, Megan made it to her interview and was accepted. During her Junior year, Megan was the Collegiate Fellow in Uhler hall.

"I truly loved my job. There were so many people that made it a fun experience. I got to help

others grow and I grew too. Some of my residents moved on to be CF's. It was really rewarding," Megan said.

Megan's previous resident, Senior Psychology major Kelly Lindahl, decided to become a Collegiate Fellow after spending a year watching Megan work.

"Megan is so genuine and cares a lot about others. She was my CF last year and she went out of her way to help me throughout the whole year. The impact she had on me and the way she was able to positively affect my year made me want to be a CF and hopefully do that for others," said Lindahl.

Besides working as a Collegiate Fellow, Megan is the President of the Delta Phi Omega sorority, the Community Service Chair of Inter-Greek Senate, and the Sexual Assault Prevention Intern for the Dean of Students Office. When asked if she wishes she had more free time, Megan did not hesitate to respond.

"I chose to participate with activities I'm passionate about. It doesn't feel busy and it doesn't feel like work, because I'm really passionate about it," Megan said.

Megan exemplifies the spirit of liberal arts by drawing connections between her disciplines

and bringing curiosity and genuine effort to everything she does.

"She has the academic maturity to ask questions of how issues of health care, gender, and how our economy operates impact one another," Assistant Professor of Gender, Women and Sexuality studies Kristian Braekkan said. "Being able to bring together knowledge and understanding from different disciplines is not something most students attempt to do, but I see that as one of Megan's strengths."

Even after a busy school year, Megan doesn't take summers off. Two summers ago Megan went on a trip to Nepal with Doctors without Borders that would change her life.

"We went to do medical mission work. While I was there I delivered a baby who they named Megan," she said.

She grew incredibly close to the 17 year old mother, who calls Megan "sister" and the baby girl, who calls Megan "mama." They stayed in touch after Megan returned to the United States. So when Megan learned that they were affected by the earthquake in April, she decided to bring her new family home.

Through her church Megan was able to raise an incredible \$18,000 to bring the mother and child to the United States. They are currently in the process of getting their Visas and will move into Megan's home.

"We are hoping they will be here before Christmas," Megan said.

This year Megan is the Area Coordinator in Rundstrom Hall. The walls of her apartment are



Caroline Probst

While in Nepal, Megan helped deliver a baby who would be named after her.

covered with pictures of baby Megan. She is excited to take on the new responsibilities of her position, and to continue to excel academically.

"Currently, Megan and I are exploring research about the gendered division of labor. It forces her to catch up on literature from disciplines outside her two majors, but as with everything else she does, she approaches it with a smile," Braekkan said. "Some of that is probably a very healthy personality trait, but I also think she truly enjoys the process of learning.

That is rare in today's society where students are trained to think about outcomes rather than the underlying processes."

In the future, Megan hopes to continue working to serve others.

"Ideally my plan is medical school and focusing on women's health," Megan said. "My hope is to become a Doctor for Doctors without Borders and do more mission work. I love helping people and traveling, so it's the best of both worlds."



Caroline Probst

Megan wants to continue traveling with Doctors without Borders.



Caroline Probst

Megan is the President of the Delta Phi Omega sorority and the Sexual Assault Intern for the Dean of Students Office.



# The *Jurassic Park* sequel is fun but flawed

**Brady Lass**  
Staff Writer

In 1993, director Stephen Spielberg and science-fiction author Michael Crichton were responsible for one of the most influential cinematic experiences ever put on the big screen, *Jurassic Park*.

Using a balanced combination of practical effects and CGI that still looks good by today's standards, the filmmakers were able to bring dinosaurs back to life in a way that no one had ever seen before and became a monster at the box office.

Sequels were made, but neither could capture the magic of the original with their mediocre storytelling, lack of memorable characters and not utilizing the dinosaurs to their maximum potential.

After the failure of *Jurassic Park III*, the fourth installment was put into development hell for over a decade, but the wait ended up being worth it for Universal Studios as *Jurassic World* made over one billion dollars and has become one of the highest grossing movies of all time.

But did this overdue sequel deserve that money, or do we still have to wait for a good *Jurassic Park* sequel?

Over twenty years after the original *Jurassic Park*, John Hammond's dream is fully realized in the colossal theme park, *Jurassic World*. Feeling that the charm of witnessing dinosaurs in real life has taken its toll on the attendance, operating manager Claire Dearing (played by Bryce Dallas Howard) and her team decide to genetically engineer a new dinosaur called the Indominus Rex.

She goes over safety procedures on the weekend her nephews come to visit the park as their parents are going through a divorce.

As expected for the audience, despite the characters insisting that they are safe, hell breaks loose as the Indominus Rex outsmarts the humans and escapes into the park.

To save her nephews and the citizens, she enlists the help of raptor trainer Owen Grady (played by Chris Pratt) to stop this overpowered force of science. Unfortunately Owen's got problems of his own, as Vic Hoskins (portrayed by Vincent D'Onofrio) uses the opportunity to try and convince everyone that his plan of weaponizing Owen's raptors for military use is a good idea.

Unlike the previous two sequels, *Jurassic World* has a fresh idea in exploring what would happen if the park was fully completed.

The concepts for rides (albeit highly questionable) were entertaining to see in motion. The film captures the idea that humans are not easily satisfied with what they are given even if it involves bringing the dinosaurs back from the dead.

Even though Claire is an annoying character to watch at first and her character arc is very predictable, it is entertaining to watch her actions evolve as the film goes on. Chris Pratt also brings his charm to Owen's character similar to how he did for Star-Lord in *Guardians of the Galaxy*.

Owen's subplot involving his bond with the raptors and his attempts to train them were also a highlight, as the surreal showing these terrifying creatures be treated like zoo animals. The park even has its own Shamu that makes some great kills amidst the chaos.

The best part, without question, is the movie's climax, where the gloves come off to take down the Indominus Rex for good, including the return of an old friend (which I will

not spoil). Unlike *Godzilla* there are some interesting characters and ideas to keep you slightly invested before the final show-down. As far as the special effects go, they are hit and miss. Aside from one scene, they rely more on CGI than practical effects and while some of the designs are cool, some don't feel as believable as the 90s dinosaurs did.

As good as some of the ideas and moments in the film are, there are characters and subplots that either felt unnecessary or just not thought out well.

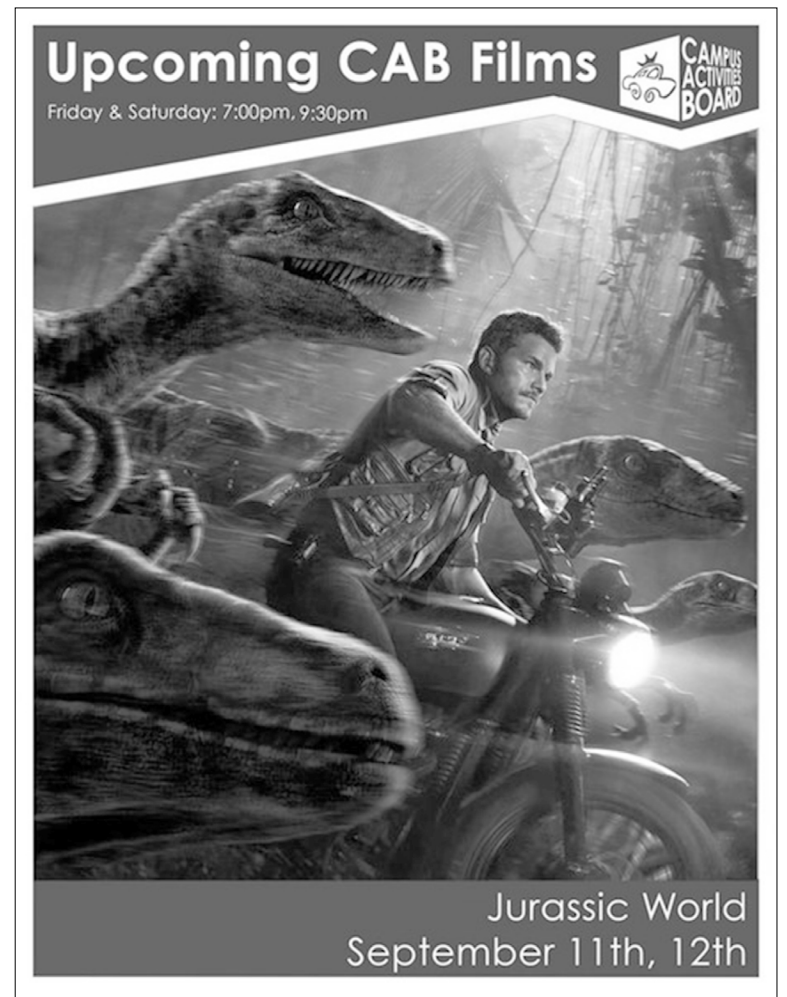
The brothers themselves are carbon copies of Hammond's grandchildren in the original (one's a dinosaur fanatic and the other can fix stuff), and the only purpose they serve is to make Claire worry about someone and get some shots of dinosaurs chasing them.

They try to have this emotional subplot where the boys are dealing with their parents getting a divorce, but aside from complaining about it in one scene, it goes nowhere and just serves as temporary mood swings, as if they didn't have anything better to talk about during the vacation.

While Vincent D'Onofrio portrayed a compelling villain in *Daredevil* earlier this year, his plan and overall character in *Jurassic World* is laughable. Maybe they needed some excuse for the shot in the trailer where Chris Pratt rides a motorcycle next to some raptors, but they didn't need to push this character and his insane idea so much.

If anything they could have just cut him out and had the characters resort to Owen's raptors as a last resort without the push for one of the dumbest military ideas ever put on screen.

Sure, it's likely done to echo the "dinosaurs are not tools"



theme, but they could have gone with a different villain with a motivation that makes more sense.

As with most movies containing killer animals, plenty of head scratching actions are made, such as when the CEO chooses to fly a helicopter during an emergency situation despite there being plenty of more qualified people to fly the chopper.

As it stands, *Jurassic World* is a fun popcorn movie. Even if it suffers from having some pointless and poorly thought out characters, it still had decent acting, special effects, and had

a fresh feeling with its concepts while blending in a bit of nostalgia.

It doesn't capture the charm of the original, but then again, it's nearly impossible for sequels and remakes to do that these days. At least it is more or less the *Jurassic Park* sequel I've wanted after the bitter taste of *Lost World* and *Jurassic Park III*.

Here's to hoping the sequel will put the characters to better use.



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