

# THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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Issue 11

## The Diversity Center wraps up their search

Deven Kelley  
News Editor

The Diversity Center and Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services make it a mission and overall goal to provide leadership for positive and equitable change that creates a welcoming and supportive environment for Gustavus students, faculty and staff. The Diversity Center urges everyone to become involved in generating a positive atmosphere that is accepting and appreciative for difference.

Since the Diversity Center has various multicultural programs and services that aim to foster a sense of community and belonging for the Gustavus Students, it is ideal to have some sort of a Director in place to supervise and prioritize the Diversity Center's projects and work.

*"We are looking for someone who brings experience and expertise to our campus conversation. Someone who is passionate about supporting diverse students and who is excited to take the college to the next level"*

—JoNes VanHecke

Over the past month, Gustavus has been on the search for the new Director of the Diversity Center. The search committee has been working diligently interviewing candidates for the



The Diversity Center is positive, welcoming environment for all Gustavus' students, faculty and staff, located in campus.

Lindsey Taylor

position.

"We are looking for someone who brings experience and expertise to our campus conversation. Someone who is passionate about supporting diverse students and who is excited to take the college to the next level with regard to multicultural/diversity affairs," Vice President for Student Life and the Dean of Students, JoNes VanHecke said.

A slew of interviews have taken place this past week by the Diversity Center's search committee which is comprised of a variety of teachers, staff, and faculty. They began the review of applications in mid-November in order to start phone interviews right before Thanksgiving break. After the phone interviews, the search

committee was able to narrow down the pool to four candidates to invite to campus for further interviews.

This week, the four remaining candidates have been all over campus completing their on-campus day long interviews that allows them to meet with the search committee, student leaders, Student Affairs division Deans and Directors, key collaborators, and the Assistant Director of the Diversity Center, Kenneth Reid.

By having them explore campus and taking part in these more extensive interviews, it allows for open conversations and questions from students and employees. The next phase of the process is the review of feedback after the extensive

on-campus interview, reference checks and the search committee's final decision about the top candidate and who made be the best fit for the position.

"We're seeking someone who understands the importance of identity intersectionality and who can successfully collaborate with colleagues and students," VanHecke said.

The role of the Director of the Diversity Center is important to the Diversity Center and the college as a whole. With a Director in place it allows for previously started work in the Diversity Center to be continued and specifically gives Gustavus someone who makes the Diversity Center's work and projects their priority. The position has two primary respon-

sibilities, which are to provide educational opportunities for all students around issues of diversity, equity and inclusion, and to support students from under-represented groups.

The Diversity Center's search committee continues to review, analyze and choose the best candidate for the position of Director. The candidate they choose will best meet the standards and fulfill the requirements of the Diversity Center's mission and goals, as well as, uphold the responsibilities of a Director by making sure projects and work started in the past are completed so new projects can begin developing and expanding the Diversity Center even more.

## Student Senate stays busier than ever

### A semester in review

Deven Kelley  
News Editor

This year Student Senate has been taking a bigger initiative to be more accessible to the Gustavus community and their students. They have changed a number of different aspects since last year in order to accommodate student's wants and needs. Some of those changes even included the way senate interacts with the students.

"Instead of senators having

designated hours to be available in their dorms or in the lobby of their building, we changed our office hours policy this year, in which, now we have senators tabling every Monday from 5-7 p.m. before the Monday night senate meeting," Student Senate's Public Relations chair, Abbie Swenson said.

The Senate made this change in order for students to more conveniently voice their concerns, comments and opinions to the senate.

The Senate has been very busy this semester as the first couple

meetings of the semester centered on introducing the cabinet members, forming committees, and approving Administrative Director, Senate Speaker, and the Students that attend the open meetings. A complete list of Senate members is available on the Gustavus Student Senate webpage. After the first couple weeks of introductions, the Senate had the pleasure of having a couple noteworthy visitors stop in on their Monday night meetings.

The Senate's Monday night visitors included, Nobel Lau-

reate, Eric Kandel, President Rebecca Bergman and new Assistant Director of the Diversity Center, Kenneth Reid. Dr. Kandel stopped in briefly on October 5 to invite the Student Senate to attend his Nobel Conference lecture. President Bergman stopped in on the October 12 meeting to answer questions surrounding Gustavus ACTS, talk about the expectations she has for Student Senate, and touch on the most difficult challenges and favorite aspects of her presidency.

One of her biggest challenges

is balancing her calendar and the busy schedule she has, but one of her favorite aspects of the presidency is being able to work with wonderfully idealistic, yet hardworking individuals.

The new Assistant Director of the Diversity Center, Kenneth Reid visited the Senate's Monday meeting this past Monday, December 7. He introduced

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## Campus Safety Report

Monday, December November 30

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Schaefer Fine Arts Music. An employee was transported by ambulance to the hospital.
- A faculty member reported receiving inappropriate communications from a former student.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Sohre Hall.

Wednesday, December 02

- Campus Safety received information from the Bias Response Team regarding a bias incident that occurred on Friday, November 20, 2015. The incident included bias verbal communication by an individual directed at two other individuals and has been referred to the provost's office for investigation and resolution and may also result in utilization of the harassment grievance process if involved individuals choose to pursue the matter.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Jackson Campus center.
- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Pittman Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Lund Center.
- Campus Safety responded to a suspected drug violation in North Hall involving three students and one non-student. One student was cited by the Saint Peter Police department for possession of marijuana and referred to the campus conduct system.

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

- Campus Safety responded to a alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. One student was transported to the hospital by ambulance and referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption.

- Damage to a light fixture was reported at Rundstrom Hall.

Thursday, December 03

- Collegiate Fellows responded to a possible alcohol violation in Gibbs Hall involving one student but the person left before Campus Safety arrived.

- Campus Safety responded to Norelius Hall for a medical assist.

Friday, December 04

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the Jackson Campus Center.

Saturday, December 05

- 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 in Norelius hall. One student was referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption.

- Campus Safety responded to an alcohol violation in the Lund Center involving one non-Gustavus student.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Christ Chapel. One visitor was transported to the hospital by ambulance.

Sunday, December 06

- Campus Safety responded to a vehicle accident in the Norelius parking lot. Campus Safety referred two students to the campus conduct system for underage consumption and possession of alcohol and the possession of paraphernalia and marijuana. One student was arrested and transported off campus for a DWI.

- Campus Safety responded to an alcohol violation on College grounds involving two of-age students who were referred to the campus conduct system.

- Residential Life and Campus Safety responded to a report of damage to College property at Sorensen Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Sorensen Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Pittman Hall.

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the International Center.

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:

The holidays are a great opportunity to enjoy time with family and friends, celebrate, and reflect. Here are some holiday tips to support your efforts for health and safety this season.

- Lock the doors and windows to your residence hall, house, apartment or office and take all keys with you.

- Take valuable personal property home with you. If you leave anything of value in your home or office, secure it in a locked closet or cabinet. Store your bike in a legal and secure location using a U-lock.

- Prepare your vehicle for any road trips and check for any safety issues like fluid levels or tire pressure. If you're leaving a car on campus, be sure you are parked in designated break parking.

- Talk to your roommates about when everyone is coming and going.

- If you stay on campus, keep an eye out for any suspicious persons or activities and call Campus Safety (507-933-8888) if you see anything that doesn't seem quite right.

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**'Student Senate'  
continued from page  
1**

himself and invited the Student Senate members to stop into the Diversity Center anytime in order for them to get to know him better.

*"We changed our office hours policy this year, in which, now we have senators tabling every Monday from 5-7 p.m. before the Monday night senate meeting"*  
—Abbie Swenson

Throughout the course of the semester, a variety of resolutions were passed on the Senate floor and distributed to the Gustavus community through email. The resolutions include, the Fair Trade Resolution, Student Senate standing in Solidarity with Gustavus Students experiencing oppression and the Student Senate endorsement of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Curriculum Work.

The Fair Trade Resolution was passed applauding all the Fair Trade work being done on campus and Gustavus is now the first Fair Trade College in Minnesota. Student Senate also passed a resolution that calls all members of the Gustavus Community to (1) engage in thoughtful reflection on privilege, and (2) participate in conversation regarding how this Community may be excluding oppressed groups from full acceptance in our Community.

The last resolution the Student Senate passed was to aid in the college's efforts to endorse their consideration of an integrated educational emphasis on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

"Student Senate believes that a more deliberately folding diversity, equity, and inclusion into the academic experience of every student allows us to better align with our core values and particularly, the pillars of Community and Justice," Abbie Swenson said.

*"Student Senate believes that a more deliberately folding diversity, equity, and inclusion into the academic experience of every student allows us to better align with our core values and particularly, the pillars of Community and Justice"*

—Abbie Swenson

The Student Senate also



Student Senate gathers for a Monday night meeting discussing the issues' on campus and what can be done.

Megan Quirk

brought back Take Your Professor to Lunch event where students can claim tickets at the CAO desk and choose a professor of their choice to bring to lunch. The event was extremely successful last year and is proving to be just as successful this year as 75 percent of the tickets have already been claimed.

Since the Student Senate has been so successful this year with their accessibility regarding students' input, comments and concerns, the Senate is able to respond and take action as soon as possible. Students have brought up a variety of concerns

and the Senators and committees as a whole have been working diligently to change these aspects of the college. Some of the these ongoing projects include, improved Wi-Fi in the library, topic of visitation hours in on-campus housing, hydration stations in residence halls, mirrors in the weight room and additional Safe Ride vehicles on campus.

On top of all the positive changes Student Senate has brought to the Gustavus campus and it's students, it oversaw 11 budgets throughout the entire semester from 8 different

student organizations. These budgets were allocated for those student organizations in order to fund a wide variety of things including speakers, conferences, and items for campus events.

Student Senate continues to try and meet the needs and wants of the Gustavus students. Through their regular meetings with the Dean of Students and President Bergman, and a presentation to the Board of Trustees, Student Senate has been sharing some of the students' most pressing concerns with the college's leadership. Student Senate continues to strive

for excellence in accomplishing beneficial changes and acknowledging the needs, wants and concerns of the students of Gustavus.

"The Senate has been working diligently for the entire semester to hear the voices of the students, respond to their concerns, and act as avenue for change on our campus. In my opinion, we have had a busy but productive semester as a Senate body, and will continue to work on behalf of the students in the spring semester," Abbie Swenson said.

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# Gusties gear up for the 2016 election

**Deven Kelley**  
News Editor

On Tuesday December 8, students gathered in Gustavus' Konferensum, Campus Center for an election information meeting on the Democratic candidates of the presidential election in November of 2016.

The night was broken down into four sections that highlighted democratic presidential candidates, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. The meeting consisted of discussing the views of both candidates and overseeing their pros and cons. Students were able to voice their opinions on both candidates. The students also learned how, when and where to caucus as they were trained in on it. Gusties for Hillary were even able to phone bank for an hour of the two-hour informational election meeting. Gusties for Bernie sat down at the end of the meeting to discuss Bernie and his ideas.



Students gather on Tuesday night to discuss Democratic candidates in the upcoming presidential election.

Megan Quirk

*"I'm quite impressed that the Democratic Party has found both of these two because I think they're both really strong candidates"*

—Laura Carpenter

Both candidates are highly qualified and have a lot of experience. Hillary Clinton has an extensive resume, experience as the first lady and secretary of state. Bernie Sanders, also has an extensive resume, along with a lot of experience with economical and environmental issues and as a Senator in Vermont.

"I'm quite impressed that the Democratic Party has found both of these two as I think they're both really strong candidates," Political Science major, Laura Carpenter said.

Even though the presidential election is still quite far away, students have not wasted anytime trying to be and stay informed and up to date on the candidates. Gusties for Bernie and Gusties for Hillary

have been tabling outside the cafeteria in order to provide opportunities for students to ask questions.

"I'd say Gusties are very political opinionated, it's just about getting them to speak out. I feel like a lot of them are pretty shy right now just because there's so many candidates," Carpenter said.

It might seem like the election is far away, but constantly staying up to date

on the issues and beliefs of the candidates can help when it comes to make an informed decision.

"People haven't really been thinking about the presidential election right now so it's hard to gear towards what'd they want in one," Communication Studies major, Adrienne Gruennes said.

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*"Take advantage of the events that happen, no matter who they're in favor of, ask questions and be engaged because it's that easy"*

—Adrienne Gruennes

Overall the Gusties for Hillary and the Gusties for Bernie are making waves and starting to gain a lot of ground in advocating for people to become more involved in the campaign. As a first time voter, it can be intimidating and confusing on voting for a candidate, however, they are a lot of opportunities on campus to gain access to information in order to sort out the best candidate to vote for.

"Get involved on campus, we try so hard to make it really easy for people to get engaged in the election," Carpenter said.

Minnesota allows voters the chance for same-day registration as well, where the voter can submit their ballot and register to vote all on the same day, which makes it extremely easy for everyone to cast their vote on election day and make it count. Gustavus will make it easy for the students to vote as well by providing transportation to the polls.

"Take advantage of the events that happen, no matter who they're in favor of, ask questions and be engaged because it's that easy," Gruennes said.

# GUSTIE *of the* WEEK



Megan Quirk

Ben's passion for swimming led him to become the Captain of the Gustavus Men's Swimming and Diving Team.

**Jaurdyn Dobler**  
Staff Writer

Sitting in the Courtyard Café, Senior Ben Miller reflects back to his first year at Gustavus and his proudest moment, when he made the conference swimming team and solidified his passion for swimming. Now the team's captain, Ben says that swimming has undoubtedly had the biggest impact on his college experience.

"Not only did I meet many of my close friends through swimming but also, swimming in college has made me perfect my time management and leadership skills, as well as learn how to develop more meaningful bonds with people," Ben said.

While swimming makes up a large component of his life, Ben's leadership ability extends past the pool.

"His role in the community is expansive and diverse. He is a leader in everything he does. He is an example of what every Gustie should strive for," Senior Jeffrey Nelson said.

In addition to being captain of the swim team, Ben is also Vice President of the Finance Club, a member of Student Senate as well as a Financial Economics major and Biology minor.

"I think that his involvement and desire to collaborate with campus groups and activities shows that he is very deserving of Gustie of the Week. He has always strived to be a leader in everything he does. He's a class act," Senior Tim Anderson said.

While he keeps himself pretty busy, Ben says that further-

ing relationships with those around him is also something he strives to maintain in his free time.

"I love hanging out with my friends whenever I have free time. Especially in the last semester that I have left here, I want to be there for my friends and spend as much time with them as I can," Ben said.

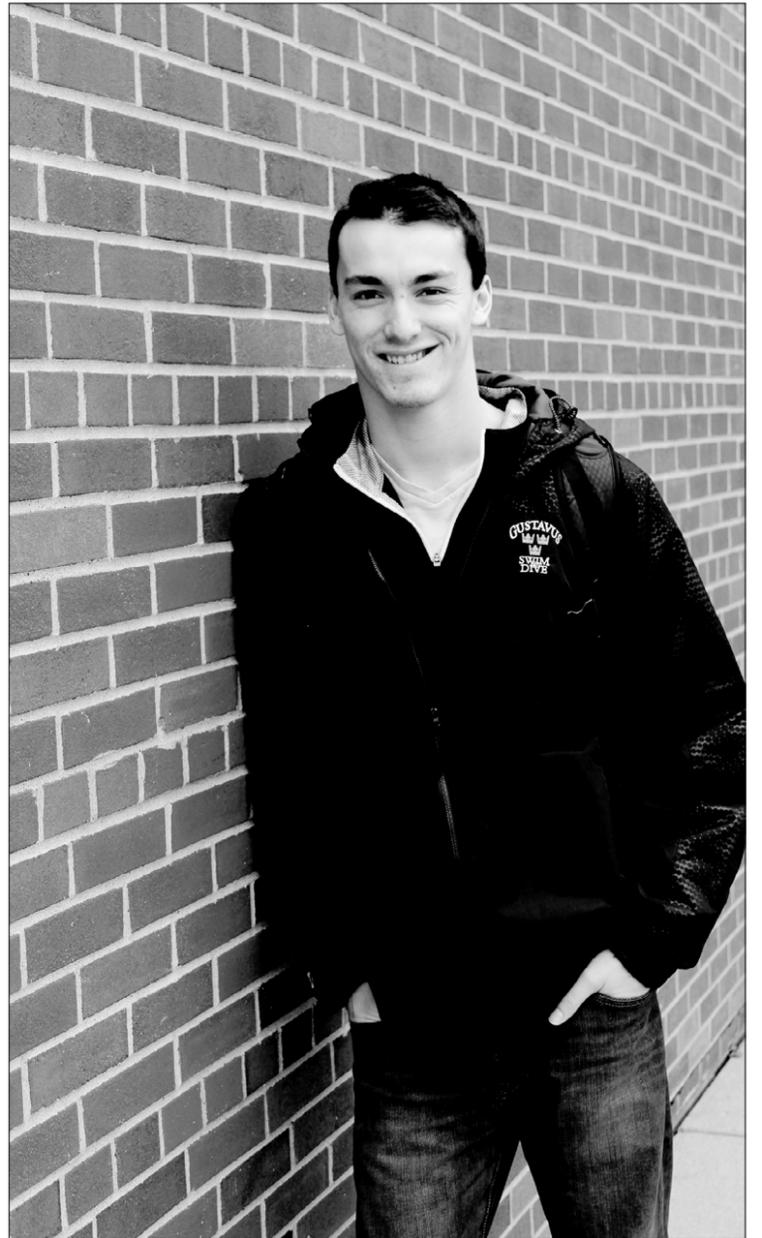
His desire to be there for his friends is one that doesn't go unnoticed.

"He is always willing to go

out of his way to help those he cares about and never shies away from working hard to achieve his goals. His work ethic and determination have served him well," Senior Jacob Stern said.

His easygoing nature along with his ability to be kind to others are traits that Ben's friends can't speak of more highly.

"When I first met Ben, I thought he was a nice, outgoing, and silly guy. After being around him for four years, I can



Megan Quirk

Ben's friends describe him as hard-working, genuine, kind, and easygoing.

verify that all of that is true. He is genuine, decisive, responsible, and really laid back," Nelson said.

Although usually pretty mellow, Ben's passion and work ethic remain at the forefront of his personality.

"While Ben often comes across as a very laid back person, un-

derneath his cool persona, he cares deeply about the people around him and the things about which he is passionate. He constantly seeks to achieve his best," Stern said.

After Gustavus, Ben has already secured a job with the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency. He plans to develop his skills and hopefully go on to financial consulting in the future. As he continues to reflect on his experience here, he says he's sad to leave behind friends but confident in how he's developed over the past four years.

*"He is always willing to go out of his way to help those he cares about and never shies away from working hard to achieve his goals."*

— Jacob Stern

"When I came to Gustavus I was really shy and reserved. College has taught me to become more outgoing and confident. It's prepared me to feel more comfortable being uncomfortable and to explore different opportunities. I'm both nervous and excited to take those skills to the next level," Ben said.



Megan Quirk

Ben has a job lined up with Office of the Comptroller of the Currency then plans to work in financial consulting.

# Straight Outta Compton knocks it outta the park

Brady Lass  
Copy Editor

Typically, August is not a good time for releasing films. There's rarely been any film released then which has received positive reviews, or a decent box office.

But the film that rose above those standards was *Straight Outta Compton*, a biographical drama directed by F. Gary Gray about the lifespan of the hip hop group N.W.A. A couple of the band members, Ice Cube and Dr. Dre, helped produce this movie that recounted some of the most controversial moments of their lives. Does the movie represent Compton, or should you head straight outta the theater?

The film spans from late 80s and late 90s. It first gives us a glimpse into the early lives of Eazy-E, Ice Cube, Dr. Dre, DJ Yella, and MC Ren. They live in an unsafe environment, surrounded by gang violence, drug abuse, racism, and corrupted cops.

All these men share an affinity for rap and hip hop music. They form the group N.W.A., but are slowly driven apart by personal relationships and record contracts. The movie also focuses on the impact this music has had not just on the genre, but on the people around them.

As with most real-life biopics there's been certain material cut from the film, such as Dr. Dre's acts of misogyny, but it is understandable why these parts were left on the drawing board when considering the whole of the film.

The movie had a lot of people and events to focus on, and occasionally feels a little overcrowded. At some scenes one could think that more could have been cut to have a balanced product.

But that doesn't completely detract

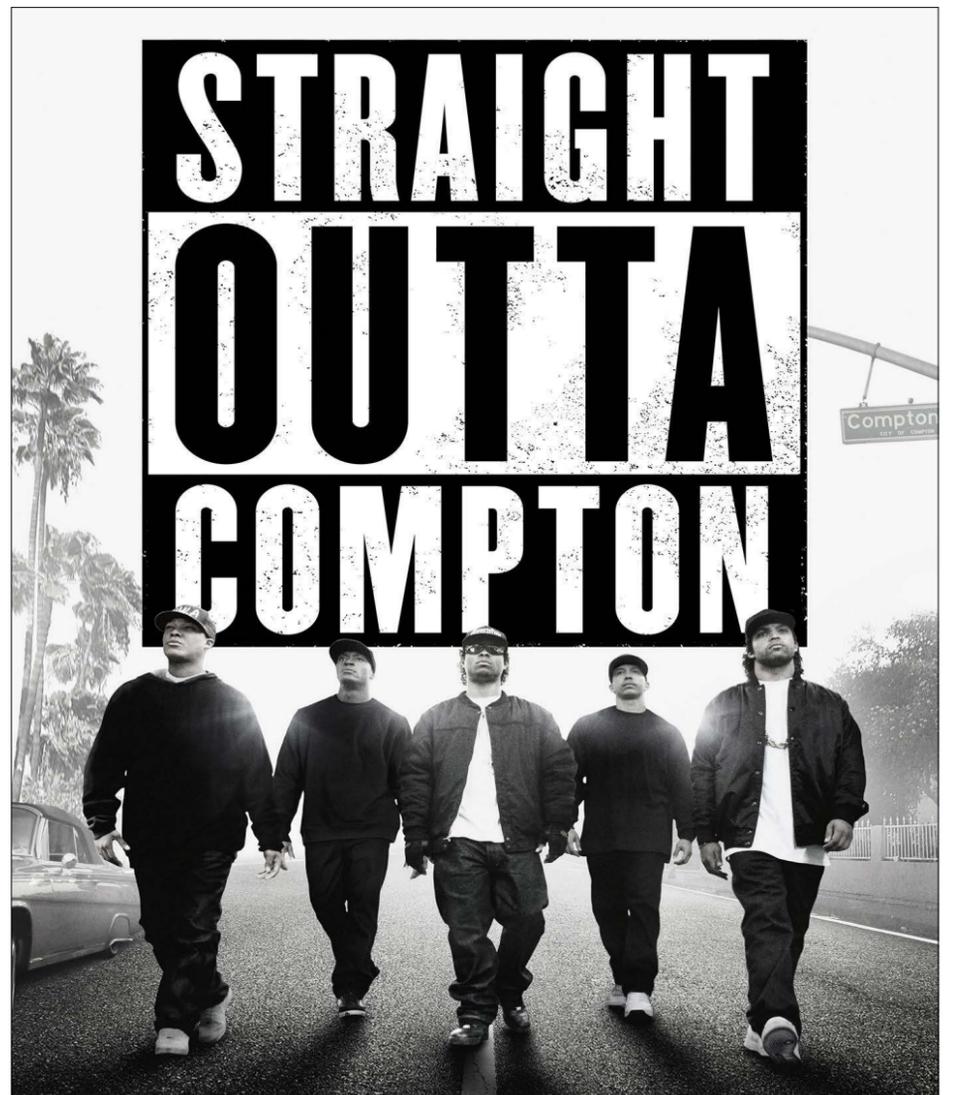
from *Straight Outta Compton's* overall quality. The director F. Gary Gray showed such confidence in a number of shots. He claimed that this movie is one of the best he's ever worked on and it's evident from the artistic direction, which brings out more of the characters and their environments. It also helps if you're a fan of the music of N.W.A., which the movie doesn't shy away from in the soundtrack.

What ultimately made the movie for me though, were the stars themselves, who demonstrated such raw emotion when it came to tackling their characters. Even if not everything about their person is featured in the movie, they went all out on their character's strength and flaws.

Ice Cube was portrayed by his own son, O'Shea Jackson Jr., and isn't the novelty of the situation that makes him shine. I've seen Ice Cube a lot in both the music industry and films, so I went in with the mindset of how weird it would be to see someone portraying a relatively well known actor, and I was pleasantly surprised at how well he pulled it off.

Some people are going to assume it's because of his genetics, but everyone else here is playing someone they aren't related to, and they put the right amount of intensity within their performances as well.

*Straight Outta Compton* was a very entertaining watch thanks to its confident direction and engaging performances. The movie emphasized what made this group stick out above the rest, even if it was a little overcrowded at times. Even if you may not like their music, they still have quite the story to tell.



*Straight Outta Compton* portrays the struggles and triumphs of the music group N.W.A.

## Tales from Abroad

Allison Hosman  
Guest Writer

India is such a beautiful place; it is really hard to write down all of my thoughts about the last few months I have spent here. From rickshaw rides to the market, trying to figure out how Indian traffic works, drinking chai and hearing the call to prayer from a nearby mosque; it is difficult to pull out separate events to share with you. It all blends together into something life-changing and uniquely important in my own life journey.

I've made my way around the southern parts of India along with seven other Gustavus students and nine students from Concordia on the Justice, Peace, and Sustainable Communities Semester in India. We were based in Bangalore for most of our time there but we have spent a significant amount of time travelling to various sites around India.

Our classrooms have been living rooms, open fields, school yards, train cars, crowded streets, and dining rooms. Those are just some of the spaces we have been learning in over the past few months. It's one thing to sit and discuss social issues in a group but it's a whole other experience to go out and meet land rights activists, child brides, manual laborers, vegetable peddlers, and or-

ganic farmers in and around the Indian countryside.

We've been to Mysore, Koppal, Anatur, Zahirabad, Wayanad, Shillong, and Thanjavur for field visits. We all split off for our mid-semester break and I travelled with a few friends to Darjeeling in West Bengal. We entered multiple communities and met with people to discuss issues of human rights, sustainability, economic justice, social change, environmental degradation, globalization, and the ethics of development.

*It all blends together into something life-changing and uniquely important in my own life journey.*

Something that has become very clear to me is how much each and every one of us is connected – from the CEO to the beggar, the garment worker to the website developer, the study abroad student to the child laborer working eighteen hour shifts.

We aren't only connected through economic channels. We all have a level of compassion, kindness, and shared humanity that we can wield while working collectively to envision and create a more just, peaceful, and sustainable world.

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



Allison spent a life-changing fall semester studying and traveling all over India.

Submitted

# Kinetic Tapestry showcases student choreographers and dancers



Dennis Lee

The ninth annual Choreographer's Gallery presents a wide variety of themes and voices that come together as a whole under the title 'Kinetic Tapestry.'

**Kim Krulish**  
Staff Writer

The end of the fall semester is here and with it comes final tests, projects, papers, and performances.

For a number of students in the Theatre and Dance Department, it is time for a showcase of dances that they have been working on since the beginning of the semester. The Choreographer's Gallery, *Kinetic Tapestry*, will be performed on Dec. 11 and 12 at 8 p.m. and on Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.

Directed by Associate Professor Melissa Rolnick, *Kinetic Tapestry* features

the work of student choreographers and their dancers. All dancers who auditioned for the Gallery show were cast, including a few first-years, resulting in a great diversity in experience.

This is Rolnick's ninth year teaching at Gustavus and she has been directing the Choreographer's Gallery since its inception in 2007. The show is performed every two years, with other shows taking over during the off years, such as last year's Theatre Gallery.

"The title is a metaphor for the notion of many voices that speak the same language of movement coming together to make a constituent whole," Rolnick said.

McKayla Murphy, a Senior Commu-

nication Studies major with minors in Dance and Management, is one of the student choreographers. Her piece in the show is titled "Finding Peace", and is relatable to many college students in that it is about struggling to find direction in the world filled with many tensions.

"The Gallery is a really unique experience that people don't get as much at bigger schools," Murphy said. "It's a really close knit group of people. It's a very fun and supportive environment to work in. It creates a really good relationship between everyone."

The gallery is a learning opportunity for the choreographers, as well as a chance for the dancers to improve their performance skills.

"It's been really fun to watch my dancers grow," Murphy said. "They've really grown as a unit."

Maggie Kennedy, a Senior Dance major, is performing in two pieces in the show. She is in Audi Dickey's piece "Interrupted Lives" and Laura Johnson's piece "Sunday Blues on a Saturday Night," which are very different in theme and content. She is also doing the lighting design for a third piece.

*"The title is a metaphor for the notion of many voices that speak the same language of movement coming together to make a constituent whole."*

—Melissa Rolnick

Kennedy described Dickey's piece as having an innate feeling of being trapped in an uncomfortable situation. The piece is sporadic and deep with music that surprises the audience.

In comparison, Johnson's piece has a more upbeat vibe with 70s jazz music

and is even humorous at times.

"It's fun to be able to do two very different pieces," Kennedy said. "I like being able to experience that."

The students began with an idea to work with but as they progressed, that idea shifted and changed along with them as their pieces came to life.

*"The Gallery is a really unique experience. It's a very fun and supportive environment to work in. It creates a really good relationship between everyone."*

—McKayla Murphy

"I love witnessing their development," Rolnick said. "Seeing them come into themselves as choreographers, artists, and visionaries and making the work come to life."

Tickets for the Choreographer's Gallery are available online at [gustavus-tickets.com](http://gustavus-tickets.com), by calling 507-933-7590, or by stopping at the Information desk on the lower level of the Jackson Campus Center. Gustavus students and staff are entitled to one free ticket. General admission tickets cost \$9 and \$6 for seniors. Any tickets not sold before the event will be placed on sale at the Anderson Theatre box office one hour prior to the show.

"I'm really proud of what we've created," Kennedy said. "I think people will really enjoy the Gallery."



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Coordinate a Secret Santa or White Elephant Exchange

VIEW CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

*Bake Christmas cookies*