

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 16

Spotlight on
the LALACS
department



VARIETY - PAGE 5

Transnational
identity rises at
Gustavus



OPINION - PAGE 10

Gusties compile a
7-1 record at
Tucson Invite



SPORTS - PAGE 16

Groundswell Day addresses climate change

Sustainability is to become a campus priority

Mykaela Otto
Staff Writer

Friday, March 22, Gustavus will be Celebrating Groundswell Day. *Gustavus Groundswell: A Climate Action Coalition* is a day to showcase the care that Gusties have for the environment.

"We want to show this care, support, and urging for the Gustavus institution to prioritize projects, goals, and frameworks for thinking about all happenings on campus," Senior Alex Theship-Rosales said.

According to Theship-Rosales, Groundswell Day was conceived last December, right before Christmas break. The President's Sustainability Council, a group of faculty, students, and President Bergman, met and discussed the means in which Gustavus should shift the institution's priorities towards sustainability, especially in light of the upcoming Nobel Conference, which will focus on climate change in 2019.

"We want climate action to be an issue on the forefront of our sustainability goals and central to the college's decision making at all levels."

-Bri Jol

"We are hoping that this event will not only bring awareness about climate issues to students across campus, in numerous social and academic spheres, but will also demonstrate to the faculty and administration that students care about the multifaceted and interdisciplinary aspects of climate change. It is important to us to connect with various groups of people, and to help individuals see that this is not an individual or isolated issue," Junior Bri Jol, one of the student leaders of this event, said.

The term groundswell may seem like an odd phrase, but essentially all it means is a bottom-



Groundswell Day aims to make it known that the Gustavus community cares about climate change and to take action.

Katie Mattinen

up or grassroots movement of action and the manifestation of support shown by regular citizens: people that are not leaders in the institution.

"During the meeting, President Bergman repeatedly stated 'I want to see a groundswell of support from across campus,' especially from students. She wants to see that Gusties care a lot about furthering sustainability initiatives on campus in all realms: research, student organizations, making sustainable choices, everything," Theship-Rosales said.

"We believe that climate change is one of the greatest challenges we face in our world today. It has many forms and consequences, political, social, economic, environmental, but it ultimately affects us all in numerous ways, and we should all be striving to do something

about it, no matter what," Jol said.

"The goal of *Gustavus Groundswell: A Climate Action Initiative* is to demonstrate that we, as students, are invested in and support making changes that not only affect us today, but impact our futures and the future of the college. We want climate action to be an issue on the forefront of our sustainability goals and central to the college's decision making at all levels," Jol said.

The mission statement of Groundswell day is "to make it known that the Gustavus community not only cares about the interdisciplinary issues of climate change, but is also prepared to take action towards climate justice on an off campus," Jol said.

"We are prepared to be the change and step into our roles

as the generation that takes a stand for our communities and environment, but we cannot do this without support and part-

"[Climate change] has many forms and consequences... but it ultimately affects us all in numerous ways, and we should all be striving to do something about it, no matter what."

-Bri Jol

nership from those currently in positions of power, authority, and leadership; by the time we have reach those positions, it

will truly be too late," Jol said.

This is the first time that Gustavus will be holding an event like Groundswell Day.

"While we have a broader focus on climate change and action, fossil fuel consumption, food waste, energy usage, waste management, and climate justice are all aspects of our event. In addition, this event was initiated as a "preview" of sorts for next fall's Nobel Conference on climate change," Jol said.

The day will be filled with activities related to climate change awareness and initiative.

A full schedule of events can be found on the Gustavus website. Some of the events

"Groundswell Day" continued on page 4

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Campus Safety Report

Monday, March 4

- No incidents reported

Tuesday, March 5

- Campus Safety found the odor of marijuana in Rundstrom Hall, students were in possession of paraphernalia and narcotics, 3 students referred to the campus conduct system.

Wednesday, March 6

- Campus Safety received a slip-and-fall report for at the bottom of the Library stairs.

Thursday, March 7

- Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm in Rundstrom Hall. The alarm was caused by a student cooking in the basement kitchen.

Friday, March 8

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Campus Center for a employee that fell. The employee was escorted to the hospital for further evaluations.
- Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm at South West Hall. The alarm was activated from cooking smoke.

Saturday, March 9

- Campus Safety was requested to perform a welfare check for a student. A student was referred to the campus conduct system.
- Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm in Uhler hall
- Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm at North Hall that was intentionally set off.

Sunday, March 10

- A CF wrote a student of concern report after receiving text messages from a student about another student.

Monday, March 11

- A CF reported that a student is harassing other students and will not stop.
- Campus Safety received

a slip-and-fall accident report from outside Campus Center.

- Campus Safety responded to Lund Arena Lot, a Gustavus visitor reported a hit and run vehicle accident, with no injuries.
- A student supervisor reported a theft of a fire extinguisher in Southwest hall.

Tuesday, March 12

- Campus Safety responded to Norelius Hall for the odor of marijuana, students were referred to the campus conduct system.

Wednesday, March 13

- Campus Safety responded to a Johnson Student Union for a Medical Transport.

Thursday, March 14

- Campus Safety responded to a motorist assist at the West fields.

Friday, March 15

- Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in the Lund Center. The student was escorted to Health Services for further evaluations.
- Campus Safety was notified about a suspicious incident in Beck Hall. The incident is being further assessed.

Saturday, March 16

- Campus Safety was called to the Student union for a of age alcohol incident
- Campus Safety escorted a student to River's Edge Hospital for a sore throat.
- Campus Safety responded to a alcohol violation in Norelius Hall. Three non-students and one student were cited for underage consumption by the SPPD. The student will also be referred to the Campus conduct board for underage consumption and possession.

Sunday, March 17

- Campus Safety was called to College view apartments for Medical Amnesty.

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 weather has done quite a number on us this year. Gustavus grounds crew does as much as they can to help keep our sidewalks and roads clear from snow but when the snow is melting and refreezing constantly they could use some help:

- Pay attention to local weather forecasts. By paying attention to the weather you can learn more of what to expect throughout the day.

- Be sure to wear appropriate shoes during this time.

- Allow yourself more time to get from point A to B just in case there are icy conditions.

- Be sure you are watching where you are walking and not distracted by those you may be walking with or by your cell phone.

- There are some areas that will be out of our control so please make sure you find alternative routes to get where you need to go.

- Make sure that there is a full bucket of gravel near the doors.

- If you see areas that are or could become dangerous, please call Campus Safety and we can check on the issue, 507-933-8888.

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Hillstrom Museum spotlights professor's work

Associate Professor Priscilla Briggs presents recent India trip photos

Jack Wiessenberger
Staff Writer

Associate Professor of Art and Art History Priscilla Briggs recently exhibited a collection of photos from her visits to India in a Hillstrom Museum gallery titled "For The Gods."

The exhibit was accompanied by a personal gallery talk last Saturday, March 16, in which Briggs walked visitors through her photographs. The event was attended by both Gustavus students and members of the local art community.

"It was about two years ago that we first discussed having this exhibit, around the time that Priscilla had her sabbatical and traveled to India," Hillstrom Museum Director and Instructor of Arts and Art History Donald Myers said.

The museum had worked alongside Briggs for quite a while in order to set up this gallery. However, a few of the photos displayed in her gallery were taken more recently.

"I went specifically to work on a photography project about globalization and its effects on culture and the environment in India," Briggs said.

"It made me think about all of the individuals and the lives that they lead with different cultural practices than I am accustomed to, and how there are differences yet also fundamental similarities between all people."

-John DeGonda

Many of Briggs' photographs reflect these themes. There is one photo in particular that serves as the exhibit's namesake.

"There's one particular photo titled 'For the Gods', which is also the title of the exhibit. The photograph is from a wholesale market that sells garlands of flowers sold to worshippers at the temples in Varanasi. In Hindu ritual, flowers offered to the gods represent the good that has blossomed in the worshipper," Briggs said.

"We worked closely together to plan the layout of the exhibit, trying to take full advantage of the special qualities of our exhibition space, including the sweeping, curved wall, the sight line through the Museum window from down the hallway," Myers said.

The majority of Briggs' photos were placed along the large curved wall of the museum.

"For each exhibition that I design, I take into consideration how the images fit into the space

and how they create a dialogue between one another. In other words, the groupings of images work to create a visual language. For this exhibition, there were groupings of images that each had its own conceptual foundation," Briggs said.

There were a few sections of the gallery that had a specific theme in mind.

"Although the caste system was made illegal by the Indian constitution, it is difficult to eradicate in reality because it has been embedded in the economic and social structure for centuries," Briggs said.

Many of the photographs in the gallery showcased a pattern of economic, social, and also environmental issues India is facing today.

"The images of the forest are about the absence of people, the absence of the tribal people who have been evicted from their ancestral home," Briggs said.

'Absence' is an important idea in Briggs' exhibit. There are very few photographs featuring people.

"I thought the gallery talk was very interesting. Had I not been able to sit in and hear Priscilla tell the stories behind each of the pictures she took, I wouldn't have been able to understand them and appreciate them as much," First-year John DeGonda said.

Hearing Briggs explain the meaning behind each set of photographs seemed to give a whole new understanding of



Professor Priscilla Briggs gives a gallery talk on her photos from her photography project in India.

Katie Mattinen

the art to those in attendance.

"It made me think about all of the individuals and the lives that they lead with different cultural practices than I am accustomed to, and how there are differences yet also fundamental similarities between all people," DeGonda said.

Briggs' message about culture and society seemed to speak to her audience. It even increased interest in Hillstrom in general.

"As expected, the reception of Priscilla's work has been

very strong, and not only have I had visitors tell me directly how strongly they reacted to the exhibit but also there have been numerous positive comments made in the Museum's guest book," Myers said.

The museum offers visitors the opportunity to leave comments on their way out through a guest book. Reactions to Briggs' talk were very positive.

"I would love to go to Hillstrom again to see an exhibition, and I would encourage anyone

who hasn't been there before to explore it and appreciate the interesting art it has to offer," DeGonda said.

Students still have the opportunity to see 'For The Gods.' Briggs' exhibit will be open to the public only until April 18. However, Briggs is always looking to get students more interested in art.

"I would invite students to go see my exhibit. Also, I am always open to meeting with students who might want to discuss my work or the issues

ENACTUS partners with Dining Services to run a trial campus delivery system

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Evelyn Young Dining Hall implemented the first Caf Delivery Service.

This project has been in the works for two years and was designed to give "students... something that works and something that makes their lives easier... We hope that our system will create impacts for the campus and the community by making grabbing dinner on a busy night a little less stressful," Senior Alli Orta said.

The profits created through this system will go to the Saint Peter Food Shelf, a center for food distribution for those in need.

"We have the potential to raise up to \$500 for the Saint Peter Food Shelf," Orta said.

The service was "built entirely for students by students," Orta said.

"Our goal is to help more students get dinner and late-night snacks when they might

not otherwise want to venture out, which improves their experience and promotes efficient use of the meal plans we pay for... We designed this for students who work at night, for students with a big exam on Monday [and] for students that have just a little too much fun on the weekends to go to the Caf," Orta said.

Kevin Birr, Assistant Director of Dining Service Operations, and Steve Kjellgren, Associate Vice President of Auxiliary Services, and the whole staff partnered with the ENACTUS staff to "run the entire delivery process from ordering your food in the caf and getting it packaged, marking orders, driving delivery routes, and handling all consumer data, feedback, and processing," Orta said.

The system was created to "provide what students wanted: a wide variety of popular foods at a decent delivery cost, and the ability to use their existing meal plan," Orta said.

There were some initial roadblocks, like "being able to accept direct payment for the delivery

and offering a huge variety of choices in our system [but] we just kept brainstorming... we sought out partnerships with the Caf and the Bookmark to get over hurdles we couldn't do ourselves as a student organization, and we kept in touch with a ton of peers who contributed great thoughts, judgements, and support," Orta said.

This system was developed with the intent to fix "high

volumes of traffic in the caf at night and excess funds being left on student's meal plans... We hope that as we see an increasing number of students using our delivery system, the caf will see shorter lines during those peak hours, making in-caf services faster and our delivery service as quick as we can make it," Orta said.



Students were able to order pre-made meals, such as burgers, pizza, or chicken strips.

Katie Mattinen

Gusties are not without their snow days

Snow caused two campus closures and causes problems

Elsa Beise
Staff Writer

From snow storms to flooding, 2019 has already been packed with extreme weather patterns, as well as tough challenges for the Facilities Management team to conquer as a consequence of these conditions.

The first situation that Gustavus facilities employees had to deal with was the amount of snow that multiple winter storms brought onto campus.

This caused issues with parking zones, as well as other issues such as the removal of the mountainous snow piles.

"The amount of snow gen-

"This season has been difficult with extreme cold temperatures... the polar vortex was challenging in keeping everyone warm [and] safe, and [to keep] equipment operational."

erated several challenges, but I would say the removal of the snow in general was the toughest. It was difficult for students to get their vehicles out of parking stalls, difficult for Landscaping Services to keep up with removal and difficult for Campus Safety officers to enforce parking regulations in a consistent manner," Director of Campus Safety, Carol Brewer, said.

Campus Safety is just one department that is influential in the decision-making process regarding weather conditions and actions after extreme cases.

"A Campus Safety representative is one person on a team of Campus Officials that makes decisions around weather challenges. There are several people that participate in making decisions about what activities

can or cannot continue during various weather situations," Brewer said.

Another influential department would include Landscaping Services.

The Physical Plant team is consisted of dedicated employees who endure brutal weather in order to keep the Gustavus campus running smoothly, efficiently, and, most importantly, safely.

"Several mornings started at four a.m. to work on snow removal and most of that work continued throughout the day," Director of the Physical Plant, Travis Jordan, said.

Jordan went on to talk about the brutally cold weather as another factor for the odd winter that the Saint Peter area experienced.

"This season has been difficult with extreme cold temperatures...The polar vortex [made it]...challenging [to keep] everyone warm [and] safe and [to keep] equipment operational. The Facilities Team did a great job working in very tough [and] difficult situations," Jordan said.

Other departments have also felt that this winter has differed from others, especially with the extreme temperatures, vast amount of snow and the fact that that snow has to go somewhere when it melts, causing problematic flooding.

"I definitely feel this year was different. We had the snowiest February ever and since it was condensed to such a short period of time, it was difficult to recover from one storm in time for the next one to begin. It created challenging conditions that most college-aged students had really never experienced before," Brewer said.

"This was a historical year of snow and cold, some of which we haven't seen since the late 80's to early 90's...it seemed like we just couldn't get a break from the storms," Jordan said.

There was so much snow in the removal process that the college had to hire more help in order to maintain safe access to some buildings as well as remove the snow in general.

"At times we were hauling



As the snow began melting, water started pouring from the ceiling in the Uhler laundry room.

Cole Trebellhorn

snow two to three days a week just to prepare for another snow storm that would take place over the weekend. Snow load became an issue [for the] Lund Center and we had to hire out the labor to remove nine to ten feet of snow off areas of the roof and skylights," Jordan said.

The teams are grateful for the collaborative effort that was required to tackle this winter season.

"Thanks to all who helped this season, it was truly a campus/team effort," Jordan said.

Students have also been impacted by this extreme winter weather season and the shifting between above freezing temperatures and negative wind chills.

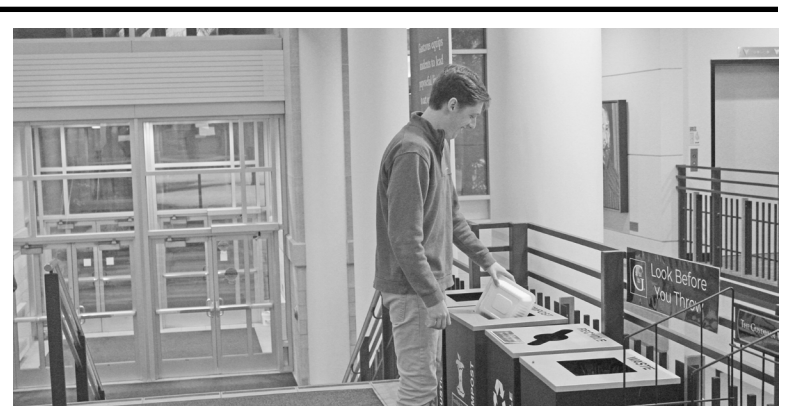
"I get worried when there is a lot of snow melting and then a sudden shift to colder temperatures because it is dangerous for my friends and other students to be out on the roads when the ice isn't as obviously visible on the streets," Sophomore Tyra Ericson said.

The melting of the snow also allows for more clarity in terms of parking areas and restrictions for the upcoming spring break.

"Now that we are experiencing melting, I encourage students to double check where their vehicles are parked. Most

parking lots have signs designating the end of the parking row, but not all. For those that might be parked in the driving lane because the stall lines were not visible will now be ticketed. Moving these vehicles will be

important. I also encourage students to pay attention to upcoming parking instructions for spring break," Brewer said.



Groundswell Day events push toward environmental actions, including composting.

Luke Laurich

"Groundswell Day" continued from page 1

listed include; the climate justice march which will take place from 9:55 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. outside of Christ Chapel, phone banking from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the Gustie Den, and the creation of a sustainability pledge mural between 10:15 a.m. and 1:30

and 1:30 p.m. outside of the Caf in the Jackson Campus Center. The mural will be hung in the Nobel Hall expansion.

More information on these and other activities can be found on the Groundswell Day page of the Gustavus website. Students are urged to participate and learn more about sustainability both on and off of campus.



The college had to hire more help to assist in snow removal and to maintain safe access to some buildings.

Katie Mattinen

Exploring global citizenship through LALACS

Anh Tran
Staff Writer

Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies, referred to as LALACS, is an interdisciplinary program that is quickly expanding and growing in popularity at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Established as a minor, LALACS began offering its major in 2012.

"LALACS currently has 16 majors and 10 minors, and it keeps growing due to the interest of students to travel and learn more about Latin America," Chair of Latin American, Latinx, and Caribbean Studies, Ana Adams, said.

Both majors and minors of LALACS take classes in art, English, French, geography, history, political science, Spanish, sociology/anthropology, and religion. According to Dr. Adams, the program will continue to expand to offer classes in other fields.

Spanning across disciplines, LALACS focuses on Latin America, the Caribbean, and the US Latino population. Revolving around this subject matter, LALACS faculty applies high impact teaching practices to help students develop a global mindset and prepare them for future work in multiple fields and roles. LALACS reaches this goal through its focus on critical thinking and research, as well as practical experience. The program offers various internships, community engagement opportunities, and study abroad experiences.

"Our program also focuses on Latinx in the US, which provides our students an education on multicultural communities in and outside our borders. Experience and being able to work in multicultural settings are skills that employers look for," Dr. Adams said.

LALACS faculty members come from diverse backgrounds, from Spain, Venezuela, to Ghana, and from various disciplines, from geography to religion.

They bring into their classrooms the global perspective to which the program aims to expose their students. LALACS offers both language classes and humanities classes that explore the culture, literature, and film in multiple languages. Most LALACS students study abroad, because of the wide variety of opportunities, from exchange programs to faculty-led January Interim Experiences.

While Junior LALACS and geography double major Greta Dupslaff is spending the semester in Ecuador, Junior LALACS and English double major Frances Wetherall spent the fall semester in Ecuador and is now spending spring in Uruguay.

Due to the wide range of courses, both the major and the minor in LALACS pair well with other majors and minors. LALACS majors tend to pursue a double major.

"Electing a LALACS major has created significant connections not only to my Spanish



Katie Mattinen



Submitted

The diverse backgrounds of the LALACS faculty help them to emphasize intersectionality in the classroom.

minor, but also to my Psychological Science major. I have been able to work with individuals from cultures that differ from my own in a way that has propelled me to pursue graduate school to become a speech-language pathologist that specializes in working with Hispanic peoples. I truly believe that LALACS enhances all other fields of study, and teaches its students to celebrate the diversity that exists in our communities – something that I deem necessary in the world we live in today," one Senior LALACS and psychology Major said.

Besides extensive exposure to globally diverse languages and cultures, LALACS students also develop hands-on skills over their course of study at

Gustavus, through their research program, their capstone course, and their internship experience, coordinated and encouraged by LALACS faculty.

LALACS also organizes multiple curricular and co-curricular events on campus, from guest lectures, teach-ins, film festivals, to multi-cultural celebrations and performances.

Last semester, LALACS sponsored a teach-in on Central American Migration surrounding the fear about a caravan approaching the United States border. The teach-in was titled "From Central America to the US", and took place on Wednesday, November 14, 2018.

This semester, "[LALACS] started with the 4th Gustavus Latinx Film Festival, which is

co-sponsored by LALACS and organized by LALACS faculty. This year, it features five films by women. The film festival comes to us with thanks to funds from the government of Spain," Dr. Adams said.

The festival has been ongoing since Monday, February 25, and will conclude on Monday, March 25, 2019 with the film *El techo* [On the Roof] (Patricia Ramos, 2017; Cuba, Nicaragua). The film screening will start at 7:00 p.m. in Wallenberg Auditorium, Nobel Hall.

LALACS's upcoming events include three guest lectures, Café Flamenco, a Latin dance workshop, and an artist visit in April.

"Rosa Nelly, President and Coordinator of the Committee of the Families of Disappeared

Migrants of El Progreso (CO-FAMIPRO), is coming from Honduras to give a presentation on campus with the organization Witness for Peace. We rarely get on campus a representative coming directly from Honduras to talk to us. We are lucky Rosa Nelly is willing to share many years of experience working directly with migrant families," Dr. Adams said.

"We are right now finishing the details of a Afro-Brazilian Jazz Pianist who will be coming April 11 and April 12. She will give a concert in Chapel and go to some classes," Dr. Adams said.

This event is co-sponsored by LALACS and organized by Raymond and Florence Spenberg Professor of Ethics in Political Science, LALACS, African Studies, and Peace Studies.

With these events, LALACS not only immerses its major and minor students in multicultural and multidisciplinary experiences, but also brings global perspectives to Gustavus and thereby attracts students' interest. Growing numbers in student enrollment come with growing numbers of students graduating with degrees in LALACS. LALACS alumni bring their skills to work in many different fields and positions, all requiring global sensibilities seeing the world from standpoints other than their own.

"[LALACS] prepares students for today's world. Our graduates are able to interact with diverse populations and understand their cultural backgrounds and languages. Because of this, they will be able to provide valuable contributions to diverse fields and lines of work. It provides critical knowledge and cultural skills that serve as the foundation for careers in public service, business, humanitarian work, law, and health care, among others," Dr. Adams said.

"Alumnus Bjorn Kjelstad graduated in 2017 and continued researching and gaining experience and getting into very interesting and relevant projects, as a researcher and writer for *Insight Crime*," Dr. Adams said.

Alumnus Oakley Clark '18 is a LALACS minor who works as a student programs specialist at Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University. He utilized LALACS's emphasis on Social Justice in pursuing the minor during his time at Gustavus.

"I'm so happy I've had the opportunity to minor in LALACS as it has granted me an interdisciplinary approach to understanding not only Latin American culture and society but also my own identity as an American. LALACS has prepared me to interact with a whole hemisphere of people—a genuine manifestation of what the liberal arts are supposed to be and do," Clark said.

GUSTIES of

Matt Rasmussen



Nate Habben

Rasmussen is a 1998 graduate of Gustavus, majoring in English.

Sofia Boda
Variety Editor
with contributions from
staff writer

Maddy Smerillo

As a Visiting Assistant Professor in the English department, Matt Rasmussen reminisces on his time as a Gustavus student as the awakening of his dedication to the art of poetry.

From the poem he included in his initial application to Gustavus, to his first poetry reading at the now-defunct Chestnut Tree Café during his college years, Professor Rasmussen used college as a springboard to transform his passion for poetry into an academic focus.

"[Poetry] was something I was passionate about before I got to Gustavus, but here is where I truly embraced poetry and became serious about writing and reading it. I'm not sure what it means to be "serious" about poetry, but I guess I started to think of myself as a poet, or as a potential poet at least," Rasmussen said.

Studying under experienced poets and Professors Phil Bryant, Joyce Sutphen, and John Rezmersk helped to transform Rasmussen's conception of what it meant to be a modern day poet.

"Reading their work while sitting in their classes made poetry seem like it was something alive and real and hanging right there in the air as opposed to something found in an old, dusty library or an antiquated English textbook," Rasmussen said.

After graduating in 1998, Rasmussen decided to enter the Peace Corps as a volunteer teacher. He served in Papua New Guinea from 1999 to 2001, before attending Emerson College in Boston from 2002 to 2004 to work on his Masters of Fine Arts in Creative writing.

Once he got his degree, he moved back to Minnesota to teach as an adjunct professor at several colleges and institutions around the state, including Rasmussen College, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Hamline University, and The Loft, a literary center in the Twin Cities. He finally settled at Gustavus, where he currently instructs students in classes ranging from Introduction to Creative Writing to Advanced Poetry Writing.

Aside from his teaching career, Rasmussen is an accomplished poet, author and entrepreneur. His book, *Black Aperture*, was awarded the 2014 Minnesota Book Award for Poetry and was a finalist for the National Book Award. *Black Aperture*, described by *Parnassus Review's* Hilary Vaughn Dobel as "spare, haunting, and beautiful" is comprised of poems inspired by the suicide of Rasmussen's brother in 1991.

"My book is about my brother's suicide so I am sometimes approached by people after readings or online who have also lost someone close to them to suicide. It always humbles me to hear that they connected to something in my work, but also reminds me that suicide is something that surrounds us all, often in silent ways," Rasmus-

sen said.

"Poetry seemed to be a place where grief wasn't something terrible you had to rid yourself of, or a process to go through so you could be "normal" again, but more something natural and strange and beautiful and difficult and impossible and surreal and all the things I was feeling at the time," Rasmussen said.

In addition to his success with *Black Aperture*, Rasmussen's poems have been published in *The Literary Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Water~Stone Review*, *Revolver*, *Paper Darts*, and *Poets.org*, among other works. He also is the founder and editor of *Birds, LLC*, his independent poetry press.

Rasmussen feels humbled and fortunate to be the recipient of so many awards and accolades.

"My accomplishments have mostly come about as a result of doing something I really love, writing poetry, so honestly, I feel more fortunate than proud when it comes to many of the things I've accomplished or what would be considered my accomplishments," Rasmussen said.

As for advice he has for students interested in writing poetry, he recommends networking with other poets and diving into the world of written poetry.

"Read poems. Go to poetry readings. Find people who are also poets and share your work with them. Take a poetry class. Gustavus has a poetry club which anyone can join," Rasmussen said.

Do you have a suggestion for a Gustavus student, professor, or staff member who could be our next Gustie of the Week?

If so, send their name, position on campus, and a short description of why you think they should be recognized to weekly@gustavus.edu for a chance to be featured!

A representative from the *Gustavian Weekly* will be in contact with you via email if your suggestion is chosen to be featured in an issue of the paper.



Nate Habben

Rasmussen's poetry collection, *Black Aperture*, was selected as the winner of the 2012 Walt Whitman Award from the Academy of American Poets.

the WEEK

& Lucie Holmgreen

Monali Bhakta
Staff Writer

One of the most beloved and kind-hearted souls at Gustavus teaches in the Psychology Department.

Lucie Holmgreen is a clinical psychologist who teaches Abnormal Psychology, Research Methods, Personality Psychology, along with an upper-level seminar called the Psychology of Sexual Assault.

The reason why she believes students major in Psychology is because it is fascinating and a lot of people innately interested in the topic.

"We have really great faculty in the department, and there are a lot of things you can do with a Psychology degree. People coming out of our department majoring in psychology go into a wide range of fields where they use their background. Some of them get graduate degrees, but not all of them. Most of them use their psychology degree at the undergraduate level and it helps them in all sorts of fields that they go into," Holmgreen said.

She thinks the department functions smoothly, and would characterize it as egalitarian, and everyone gets along well. The reason she went into the psychology field was because of her interest in it when she was young.

She completed her undergraduate years at Ohio State, and then went to Marquette University for her Master's and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. She continued to immerse herself into the field by doing an internship in Albuquerque, New Mexico at a V.A. hospital, and finally finished a fellowship at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

"Think outside your comfort zone, but also take care of yourself. I would tell people to consider their social and emotional well-being as a very critical component to their academic success."

"Various people in my family had on occasion visited mental health providers and had positive experiences, so I was just inspired by psychologists from a really early age. I loved what they got to sit around and think about all day. When I first started graduate school, I thought I wanted to be

a clinician, but I realized for me that I really liked teaching and research," Holmgreen said.

She has realized that people are complicated, and researchers are just beginning to understand the kinds of things that affect behavior.

She has also learned that change is possible, but can be difficult. In a way, she has been surprised by the degree of repetition required for people's mindsets to change.

Clinical psychology is a science which teaches research and theory, so she wants her students to actually know how it feels to live with mental illness.

She wants them to leave having a deeper sense of empathy and compassion for individuals who struggle with it, while also teaching about how prevalent it is among themselves.

Holmgreen uses innovative education techniques by having them write about their personal experiences and also taking surveys with detailed questions.

"It's really important to me that they don't lose sight of that. The subject we're talking about is real human beings with real pain and real struggle," Holmgreen said.

In her Psychology of Sexual Assault class, she wants people to come away with having more questions than answers by learning how complex the subject matter and literature in this area is.



Ingrid Iverson

Holmgreen earned her Master's and Ph.D. at Marquette University.

She has been involved in raising awareness against sexual assault and harassment by speaking at the Wellness Fair, along with several student organizations on campus.

This includes talking about treatment options or approachable resources to cope with traumatic stress after these incidents, while also making it clear why sexual harassment is not okay under any circumstances.

She mentioned how a student approached her for help with advice in creating a support group for international students.

"It's become apparent to me that a lot of our international students here struggle and are not always super happy for many reasons. So that's another thing that I've been trying to work on in whatever ways I can," she said.

In terms of advice she would give to those dealing with mental illness, she talked about how the Counseling Center is a great place.

Holmgreen believes it is important for students to reach out to a Professor, or trusted friend as the first step.

It is also important for people to notice when they are struggling, and being aware of

how they are feeling different than they are used to.

Because of the stigma around mental health treatment, she thinks there is a limited amount that Gustavus can do from the top-down.

She strongly believes these initiatives should come from students themselves, hence the great idea for the international student support group.

Like in any other higher institution, she believes there is a high demand for mental health services, and we should have additional staff members who are able to devote a sufficient amount of time to their students.

In terms of her academic teaching, one of the most important pieces of advice she gives to people is to read lots of different perspectives about a particular topic they are interested in.

"Think outside your comfort zone, but also take care of yourself. I would tell people to consider their social and emotional well-being as a very critical component to their academic success. Nobody does well academically for long if they are not taking care of themselves in other ways," Holmgreen said.



Submitted

Holmgreen believes that a Psychology degree can help prepare students for careers in a diverse range of fields.

Celebrate National Women’s Month with Gustie icons

History has presented many with the idea that men created the world- that without them the world as we know it wouldn’t exist. However, there are important people missing from their story -women. For centuries, women have worked behind the scene with little recognition for all the work that they have done, and continue to do, to contribute to the world we live in. Seeing as it is National Women’s Month, let’s celebrate some great Gustavus women.



Jillian Locke is a Political Science Professor and the program director of the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies department. Katie Mattinen

What women in your life have you looked up to?

“There are too many to count so I always struggle with this question. I tend to look up to women who show a kind of fearlessness. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Congresswoman and former Presidential candidate Shirley Chisholm come to mind immediately. Even though she’s younger than me, right now I am also looking up to Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Coincidentally, they are all New Yorkers, which I guess makes sense since I definitely have a soft spot for New York City and have co-taught a J-Term there.” -Jillian Locke



Young started working at Gustavus when her husband was hired as an athletic coach. Submitted

Evelyn Young, known as “Ma” Young, was a 1933 Gustavus graduate. She worked with the Gustavus dining service for thirty years. Not only is Young remembered for the many people that she fed, but she is also remembered for her kind spirit. Gustavus remembers Young by having named the dining hall after her.



Rebecca Bergman is the first women to be the president of Gustavus. Katie Mattinen

What is it like being the first female President that Gustavus has ever had?

“It is an honor to serve as the President of Gustavus and help build on the legacy of over 150 years of mission-driven work. From my time as an undergraduate student at Princeton to working at Medtronic to leading here at Gustavus, I have been fortunate to live at a time when opportunities for women to serve as senior leaders in both for-profit and not-for-profit organizations are increasing. For me, being “first” at something comes with a responsibility to bring my best self to work every day, to set a high personal standard of excellence, and to represent the institution with the utmost professionalism. By my actions and interactions, I hope to pave the way for other women to seek and achieve leadership positions to which they aspire.” -Rebecca Bergman

While there is a great importance in looking at the present and the future, there is even greater importance to look to the past. Here are a few iconic Gustie Women from our golden past.



Marinari joined the Gustavus faculty in 2015. Katie Mattinen

What do you hope comes from your representation of being a woman as part of the Gustavus faculty, and how will this affect the future of Gustavus and our female student body?

“As an immigrant and a first-generation college student, I hope the students who share my background realize that they can accomplish everything they set their minds to. I also hope that all students see that my passion and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion drive almost everything I do on this campus. Lastly, I hope students realize that we are stronger as a community when we include everyone’s voice. I am not sure what the effect of all of this will be, but I know it’s important for me to lift other people up just as it is for the women in my life I look up to.”

-Maddalena Marinari



Rundstrom worked at Gustavus for 48 years before she retired in 1942. Submitted

Gustavus’ very own Rundstrom Hall is named after Inez Rundstrom. Rundstrom worked at Gustavus as head of the French department and as a Mathematics professor for 48 years. She devoted a lot of time to her students, the college, and to her faith. Gustavus remembers Rundstrom’s name through the dedication of its first women’s dormitory after her.