

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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Defending the arts at Gustavus



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MAYDAY! Peace Conference addresses the press

Speakers unify peace-building and journalism

DeAnna Giles
Staff Writer

Author and journalist Thomas Friedman visits campus for the 39th annual MAYDAY! Peace Conference.

This year, the MAYDAY! Peace Conference Committee, with Dr. Mimi Gerstbauer as chair, tackled one of the biggest issues our world faces today: *The War on the Press: At Home and Abroad*. The conference was held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, May 1 in Christ Chapel.

The annual MAYDAY! Peace conference was established at Gustavus Adolphus College in 1981.

"MAYDAY! didn't just start with Gustavus. It is the international distress cry. If your ship is sinking you cry 'MAYDAY!,'" Gerstbauer said.

Barb Larson Taylor, Senior Director of Institutional Events in Marketing and Communication, said the conference was driven by a passionate donor couple, the late Florence and Raymond Sponberg, who believed in the power of the Gustavus community to go out to

"We wanted to address the very timely topic of the decline in press freedoms in our nation and world and a high-profile journalist, like Friedman, has a lot to say about it."

-Mimi Gerstbauer

make a difference in the broader community.

The Sponbergs made a generous gift to Gustavus in 1981 to help establish the MAYDAY! Peace Conference, a signature event of the college.

"The event continues because the work of peace-building is still needed and is a close tie to the college core value of justice and ACT's vision to equip students to act on the great challenges of our time,"



The MAYDAY! Peace Conference, established in 1981, addressed *The War on the Press: At Home and Abroad* and featured a live interview between Thomas Friedman and Roshini Rajkumar.

Katie Mattinen

Taylor said.

"Due to a personal connection Thomas Friedman had with a Gustavus alum, we wanted to address the very timely topic of the decline in press freedoms in our nation and world and a high-profile journalist, like Friedman, has a lot to say about it," Gerstbauer said.

Thomas Friedman is an internationally known journalist and author of *From Beirut to Jerusalem*, which won both the National Book and the Overseas Press Club Awards in 1989.

Friedman started off the conference with a live interview with Roshini Rajkumar.

Friedman writes extensively on foreign affairs, global trade, the Middle East, globalization, and environmental issues, which he talked about during the interview.

Rajkumar is a multimedia

content creator and licensed attorney. Her career as a TV broadcaster set the path for her current life as a talk show and digital host, executive coach, and mainstage speaker.

"[Thomas] Friedman made me actually think about journalism and truth telling and where the line should be drawn."

-Yasmine Dismuke

She is known for her irreverent but always informative and entertaining communication commentary.

"The committee considers significant anniversary years

and topics that have not been touched upon and issues that are timely based on world events," Taylor said.

The day celebrates the accomplishments of workers around the world. Usually, MAYDAY! is celebrated through festivals and spending time with family.

Junior Yasmine Dismuke and First-year Luna Besaiso shared their views on the MAYDAY! Conference.

"Friedman made me actually think about journalism and truth telling and where the line should be drawn," Dismuke said.

If one didn't make it to the welcome ceremony, the conference incorporated sessions throughout the day to keep students, faculty, and the community engaged in the goal of building peace in the world.

After the welcome ceremony, members of the community were given the opportunity to meet and have lunch with Friedman. The meet and greet included a Q & A session along with a book signing.

The conference continued with a film screening of *Page One: Inside the New York Times*, traveling behind the scenes of the newsroom and the inner workings of the media desk.

The conference ended with a journalism and peace-building forum with Professor Jane Kirtley, a professor of Media Ethics and Law at the Hubbard School of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Minnesota and directs *The Silha*

"MAYDAY!" continued on page 3

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Campus Safety Report

Monday, April 15

- No incidents reported

Tuesday, April 16

- It was reported that a student in Lund Center had fainted in class. The student recovered quickly and returned to class.

Wednesday, April 17

- No incidents reported.

Thursday, April 18

- A CF let a student into their dorm and found a policy violation for undocumented emotional support animals living inside Southwest Hall.

Friday, April 19

- Campus Safety responded to prank fire alarm in North Hall.

Saturday, April 20

- Campus Safety performed a welfare check at Sorenson Hall.

Sunday, April 21

- Campus Safety and Res Life Staff responded to an odor of marijuana in North Hall. Campus Safety referred two students to the Campus Conduct System.

Monday, April 22

- Campus Safety responded to North Hall for a suspicious incident.

Tuesday, April 23

- Campus Safety received a report of a suspicious conversation that was overheard by a third party. An investigation was not able to validate the information. Case inactive.

Wednesday, April 24

- Campus Safety responded to a welfare check in Sohre Hall.
- Campus Safety received a report of a possible keyed car.
- Campus Safety responded to Rundstrom Hall for a marijuana odor. One student was referred to the Campus Conduct Board for a controlled

substance and paraphernalia violation.

Thursday, April 25

- CF received a message from a resident that had a suspicious incident happen in Norelius Hall.

Friday, April 26

- No incidents reported.

Saturday, April 27

- Campus safety transported a student to Rivers Edge Hospital from North Hall.

Sunday, April 28

- Campus safety and residential life performed a welfare check in Rundstrom Hall.

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>

Tips of the Week:

In Minnesota, severe weather takes different forms depending on the season. In late spring through fall, severe weather

can include thunderstorms, tornadoes, hail, and straight-line winds.

Severe Weather WATCH: Conditions are right for severe weather to occur.

Severe Weather WARNING: Severe weather has been confirmed and is moving in a direction that jeopardizes the local area. **GO TO SAFETY IMMEDIATELY!**

Severe Thunderstorms: Rainstorms that include thunder and lightning, as well as possibility of various sizes of hail.

Tornado: Conditions are right for a tornado when a hot humid air mass collides with a cold air mass. Wind speeds of a tornado can reach 200 MPH.

Severe Weather Response: Be aware of your location and the location of the storm shelter in the building you are in. <https://gustavus.edu/safety/tips/weather.php>

If a Severe Weather Watch is Issued

- Listen to local radio and TV stations for further updates.
- Be alert to changing weather conditions.

If a Severe Weather Warning is Issued:

- If you are inside, go to the safe place in the building.
- If you are outside, hurry to the basement of a nearby sturdy building or lie flat in a ditch or low-lying area.
- If you are in a motor vehicle, get out immediately and head for safety.

As always, be sure your emergency contact information is up to date! gustavus.edu/emergency

Make sure your vehicle is locked and any valuables kept out of sight. Don't leave items in your car overnight if possible, but if you do, make sure your belongings are secure and don't make it easy for potential thieves by leaving your doors unlocked!

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Office of the Chaplains host events for Ramadan

Muslims reflect and pray during most sacred month of the year

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

The holy month of Ramadan begins on Sunday, May 5 and will be celebrated by Muslims around the world.

To celebrate, events surrounding Ramadan have been planned on campus through May 7. Last Friday, Senior Mahruk Khurram spoke about Ramadan, Iftar, and food.

On Tuesday, Dr. Fuad Naeem and Senior Suleman Asif spoke about the importance of Ramadan.

This Friday, May 3, Junior Mehreen Kamal will be speaking about how Ramadan is observed at the Bonnier Multifaith Center during Chapel break.

Concluding these events will be a Iftar Banquet on Tuesday, May 7, from 8:15 to 10:15 p.m. Registration for the banquet is on the Chaplain's Office website.

"Islam uses a lunar calendar, which means the timing of the month varies when compared to the solar calendar... the start date changes by about ten days each year," Dr. Marian Broida, the Interfaith Program Coordi-

*"Fasting is only the physical part of Ramadan, but I also reflect and pray to God more because it's a very rich month where everyone can gain so much."
-Hanaa Alhosawi*

nator, said.

"The Office of the Chaplains is sponsoring the Iftar this year... I've been working with students, Dining Services, and faculty to plan the event, as well as a number of other educational events for students and others on campus," Broida said.

"Ramadan for Muslims is the most sacred month of the year. Not eating or drinking for the month puts one in an altered state of mind, with a sense of stillness. Constant thoughts and worries are stilled, and one feels more contemplative and focuses in more on their heart and spirit," Dr. Fuad Naeem said.

"Since I am from Pakistan, the last I remember spending Ramadan with my family was four years ago," Senior Suleman Asif said.

"We wake up about 3:30 a.m. My mom usually wakes up earlier than that to cook food if she hasn't done it already before going to bed. As the sun rises, we hear the call to prayer from a nearby mosque and we make the intention of keeping a fast. My dad and I then go pray at the mosque in congregation while my mom and sisters pray

at home. Usually we go back to bed at around 6 a.m. and then wake up around 8 a.m. to go about our usual day," Asif added.

"This is a very significant month, because it's when the Quran was brought upon the prophet Mohammed and it's the month of forgiveness, cleansing, and reflection. Every year, I think I grow spiritually and I feel closer to God. I think I'm very lucky that I'm able to fast," Sophomore Hanaa Alhosawi said.

"Islam highly suggests that in order to stay true to the spirit of steadfastness during Ramadan, we do not ask for a lighter workload from our employers or school. However... most offices and schools close earlier in the day. We try to pray as many of the five daily prayers that we can. Reflection is basically on the blessings that Allah has provided us with. In the evening... we can have an informal prayer... as soon as the sun sets, we break our fast with food. Generally, people eat food that is most central to Ramadan... since most of those are snack foods, around 8:30 p.m., we have a very late light dinner. The male members of the household are required to go and pray an additional Taraweeh prayer around 9:30 p.m. in the mosque and that usually concludes our day," Asif said.

"Fasting is only the physical part of Ramadan, but I also reflect and pray to God more because it's a very rich month where everyone can gain so much. Back home, I am surrounded with other people also fasting with me, so it's easier to get into a rhythm when there's other people doing it too. Ramadan... brings people together," Alhosawi said.

Eid-ul-Fitr is the end of Ramadan, which is celebrated "in different ways in different cultures," Dr. Naeem said.

"Islam is the most multinational religion in the world. Everyone fasts and celebrates Eid, but how one celebrates differs a lot. In Pakistan, people dress in new clothes for morning prayers. Afterwards, we eat a little, and then go and visit all our relatives with sweetmeats... overall, it's a great time of celebration," Dr. Naeem said.

"[During Eid] we go to the mosque and pray a specific prayer in the morning, which is very beautiful. It's like celebrating accomplishments people have done during Ramadan," Alhosawi said.

"Back home, we always make sambusas... we go to a prayer after Iftar, and pray special prayers we only do during Ramadan. A Muslim person is required to give Zakat if they make a certain salary, and a percentage of that salary is cut and given back to the community. I think it helps the community to balance," Alhosawi said.

Zakat is one of the pillars of



Senior Suleman Asif was one of the speakers who spoke about the meaning of the Holy Month of Ramadan for Muslims at the event during Chapel break on April 30, 2019.

Katie Mattinen

Islam, which sees people donating their wealth to those who are less fortunate.

"Ramadan is time for cleansing the soul, and feeling sympathy for others who don't have the luxuries we have, like drinking fresh water or [having] food every day... it's more meaningful after having fasted," Alhosawi said.

"I plan to celebrate with my family, so I am going home to Saudi Arabia for three weeks before coming back to Gustavus to do research over the summer," Alhosawi said.

"We usually change for the better. I have noticed that I become a lot more patient as the month goes by. I also get into a routine of praying regularly that often stays for the next couple weeks. During the month, we realize that a lot of people are not able to feed themselves as we do outside this holy month so we tend to give charity a lot more. The month ends with the celebration of Eid-ul-fitr. Eid is biggest Islamic event... the festival involves special prayers in the morning followed by visits to close family members for food. People dress really fancy and apply henna to decorate their arms," Asif said.

"Generally speaking, one should be transformed. Ramadan plants a seed of stillness. Muslims abstain from food and water, but also from negative thoughts and actions. This shouldn't just disappear overnight. The spirit of Ramadan should remain, and lead to more reflective and charitable thoughts and actions, and promotion of one's higher self," Dr. Naeem said.

"Ramadan is a facet into lives of Muslims, which are about spirituality, contemplation, and reflection. This contrasts with the stereotypes of a harsh, oppressive religion. Ramadan is

something people, even if they are not very religious, love to do. It establishes harmony and balance... something not usually portrayed in Western media," Dr. Naeem said.



Friedman received an honorary degree from Gustavus

Katie Mattinen

"MAYDAY!" continued from page 1

Center for the Study of Media Ethics and Law.

"We hope attendees left having learned something new or thought about something in a slightly different way and of course we hope that people leave inspired to go make a difference in building a more peaceful community and world," Taylor said.

Dr. Mimi Gerstbauer is finishing her three year term as

committee chair and welcomes Dr. Glenn Kranking of the History Department to take on the role beginning of 2019-2020 school year.

"Peace happens when you have benign hegemon [a power that keeps the peace], engagement in trade and commerce, and where democracy is present," Friedman said.

"Next years May Day theme is student activism. We would love to see many students involved in next year's conference planning," Gerstbauer said.

Department of Religion celebrates book publications

Jack Wiessenberger
Staff Writer

Four professors in the department of religion were recently celebrated for their book publications. Dr. Casey Elledge, Dr. Thia Cooper, Dr. Blake Couey, and Dr. Marcia Bunge each published their books within the last couple of years and were recognized at the reception on April 30, 2019.

A small group of professors and students gathered for the publication event, which was planned and directed by Associate Professor Sarah Ruble. She also was responsible for introducing each author at the ceremony.

"The event was a reception to honor four members of the department who have published books in the past couple of years. In our field, publishing a book is a major accomplishment. In religion, books are an important part of advancing knowledge. It is not uncommon for people to spend years on the research and writing of a book. The study of religion is the study of everything," Ruble said.

The newly published books were displayed on a table next to trays of refreshments and wine.

The atmosphere of the event was friendly and intellectual as each author stood next to their work and discussed it with colleagues.

"My book offers an analysis of early Jewish afterlife beliefs, especially the hope of a future resurrection of the dead. This is an important topic because belief in resurrection became especially important to Christianity, and later to Islam," Elledge said.

This book was his fourth and second on this topic in particular. Oxford University published this book, titled *Resurrection of the Dead in early*

Judaism.

"Expect the unexpected and keep an open mind to what you may encounter. This keeps the academic study of religion continually exciting because there is always something new to learn," Elledge said.

This was his philosophy when it came to writing his most recent book.

"Sex can be a way to know God. God created humans with a desire to be in relation with each other. From this understanding, sexual desire, sex, and partnerships are re-imagined positively. Good sex is enjoyable and mutual, an aspect of communion," Cooper wrote on the back cover of her book titled *A Christian Guide to Liberating Desire, Sex, Partnership, Work, and Reproduction.*

Cooper researched on the topic of sex, which is somewhat

"In our field, publishing a book is a major accomplishment. In religion, books are an important part of advancing knowledge."

-Sarah Ruble

controversial in the church. In this book published by Palgrave, she argues for a positive, faith-involved view on sex.

Couey also spoke on his book, *Biblical Poetry and the Art of Close Reading*: "The publication is a collection of essays. Fifteen biblical scholars each wrote a chapter on a different poetic text from the Bible, explaining how the meaning of the text is inseparable from its literary artistry," Couey said.

Couey explored the ancient form of Christian poetry, known as psalms, in his work.

"The essays build on recent

advances in our understanding of biblical poetry and engage a variety of theoretical perspectives and current trends in the study of literature. They demonstrate the rewards of careful attention to textual detail, and they provide models of the practice of close reading for students, scholars, and general readers. I've published one other book, which I wrote entirely myself, and in some ways, it ended up being harder work to put together and edit other people's writing," Couey said.

The book offers a better understanding of biblical poetry to a wide audience. Couey worked with professor Elaine James of St. Catherine University on this book. It was published by Cambridge University.

"*Nordic Childhoods* strength-

ens interest and research in the fields of both childhood studies and Nordic studies by exploring conceptions of children and childhood in the Nordic countries," Marcia Bunge said.

She collaborated with University of Oslo Professor Reider Aasgaard and author Merethe Roos on the book.

"The book also examines texts intended specifically for children, including textbooks, songbooks, and children's literature. By bringing together scholars from multiple disciplines who raise distinctive questions about childhood and take into account a wide range of sources, the book offers a fresh and substantive contribution to the history of childhood in the Nordic countries," Bunge wrote on the back cover of her

book.

Bunge spent a significant amount of time in Norway studying and preparing her book.

These four professors have spent years researching and writing on their specific topics.

The department as a whole is continually looking for new works that further explore the study of religion.



Dr. Casey Elledge, Dr. Thia Cooper, Dr. Blake Couey, and Dr. Marcia Bunge were celebrated for their recent book publications.

Cole Trebelhorn

CAB's big spring speaker rescheduled twice

Samantha Walters
News Editor

This spring's Gustavus big speaker, Tarana Burke, was scheduled to speak at Gustavus early during the spring semester. However, the event was postponed twice.

The Campus Activities Board (CAB) hoped to bring a speaker to raise awareness about sexual assault and about the 'Me Too' movement.

However, the speaker had to be rescheduled because Burke received the Trailblazer Honors award honored by Nancy Pelosi.

This award recognizes persons and entities who have made significant contributions towards minority empowerment and civil activism.

"I hope there is some young, black, queer, or trans kid who

has better and brighter ideas for how to end sexual violence, for whom my presence is blazing a trail right now," Burke was quoted saying in a Me Too Movement Facebook post.

Burke began using the phrase "Me Too" on social media in an effort to empower through empathy among women of color who have experienced sexual abuse. Burke is creating a documentary titled *Me Too*. Burke was rescheduled to speak on April 11, 2019, but again had to reschedule due to the spring snowstorm.

"It is absolutely incredible that Tarana Burke started this huge movement that has raised awareness and support throughout the world. She is the perfect example of how one individual can do something to create change," Junior CAB Arts and Entertainment Executive, Emily Scroggins, said.

"It is important to CAB that

they are able to facilitate conversations surrounding sexual misconduct and domestic violence. We hope that you continue to be flexible and join us for these critical conversations," Director of Campus Activities, Andrea Junso, said.

The current date scheduled for Burke to speak is May 6, 2019 at 7 p.m. The event will take place in Christ Chapel.

According to Scroggins, the event will be more of a moderated conversation with Burke rather than a speech.

The Gustavus Women's A Cappella group (GWAC) will also be performing at the event.

"I hope this event will spark a sustained dialogue on campus not only about sexual assault and domestic abuse, but also about ways that we can support survivors," Scroggins said.



Tarana Burke was honored for this year's International Women's Day and received the Trail Blazer Honors award.

Ramona Rosales

Preview: Vocal Jazz Ensemble Showcase

Anh Tran
Staff Writer

This weekend, the Vocal Jazz Ensemble members will be showcasing and celebrating the work they have worked on since the beginning of the spring semester.

The concert takes place at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, May 5 in Björling Recital Hall, featuring guest vocalist/pianist Christine Hitt. This event is free and open to the public.

While previous Vocal Jazz Showcases took place in the Courtyard Café, this upcoming showcase will be in a more formal setting. However, Dr. Masa Ishikawa, director of the Vocal Jazz Ensemble, expects a typical jazz audience, that enjoys and interacts with the music and the musicians.

The showcase consists of two parts: Vocal Jazz solo and Vocal Jazz ensemble.

The first part—Vocal Jazz solo—features Vocal Jazz members performing their own jazz standards solo, with a rhythm section. The second part—Vocal Jazz ensemble—features the Vocal Jazz Ensemble performing three pieces as a group, both with a rhythm section and a capella.

Solo standard pieces for the Vocal Jazz Solo portion includes: “Ain’t Misbehavin’,” “The Way You Look Tonight,” “Stormy Weather,” “Don’t Know Why,” “Someone to Watch Over Me,” “Nature Boy,” “My Baby Just



Luke Laurich

The Vocal Jazz showcase will feature guest artist Christine Hitt.

Cares for Me,” “Angel Eyes,” “It’s Only a Paper Moon,” “When I Fall in Love,” and “Cheek to Cheek.”

For this section, First-year Music Education Major Anya Menk will be individually singing and playing the piano for her own re-harmonized rendition of the piece “When I Fall in Love.”

“The pieces [for the ensemble section] are “Gingerbread Boy,” “Do Nothin’ Till You Hear From Me,” and “Peace.” “Peace” is my favorite piece; it is arranged by our director, Masa Ishikawa. He took the original piece written by Nora Jones and completely reimagined it, and it is so fun to sing,” Menk said.

In the second half of the

concert, guest artist Christine Hitt will join the ensemble in two pieces “Do Nothin’ Till You Hear from Me,” and “Peace.” In addition, she will be singing her solo piece—“Wade in the Water.”

“Members of the ensemble come to rehearsals regularly (Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m.) and practice the repertoire outside of class. Practicing vocal jazz is different though because a lot of it comes from listening to jazz a lot and internalizing the feel of the music. In vocal jazz, we have the opportunity to “scat,” which is essentially just vocal improv over chord changes—it is really fun to mess around with different licks and melodies to

make the scat solos unique and different,” Menk said.

Besides Menk, the Vocal Jazz Ensemble includes ten other singers and the rhythm sections.

“My favorite part of vocal jazz is the people in it. Rehearsals are so enjoyable when the people are so amazing to work with. We’re so lucky to be able to work with our wonderful director, Masa. He goes the extra mile to ensure everyone in the ensemble is confident in their parts and he has done so much work for the group as a whole. Vocal jazz is that time in the week where I can just sing and have a great time with great people and make some great music,” Menk said.

The ensemble has five sopranos: Kristi Manning, Audrey Powell, Jocelyn Jaimez, and Alanna Rein; three altos: Stella Hadjiyanis, Anya Menk, and Nora Mohamed; two tenors: Andrew DeLuca and Nathan Thompson; and two baritones: Andrew Peterson and Caleb Gampson.

According to Dr. Ishikawa, these jazz singers come from very different backgrounds.

“Some of them already had choral experience before joining Vocal, while some of them play instruments in other ensembles and had never sung before they joined Vocal Jazz. And this makes working with them an exciting experience, because they are all drawn to vocal jazz because of their shared inter-

est,” Dr. Ishikawa said.

“I have been in Vocal Jazz this whole year. I actually saw Vocal Jazz perform last year when I was still in high school, and I remember thinking “I want to be in that.” Vocal jazz has always been the realm of music that I enjoy the most—I wasn’t able to pursue it until I got to Gustavus, and I am super thankful that there are so many wonderful opportunities for music students here at Gustavus,” Menk said.

What distinguishes the Vocal Jazz Ensemble from other vocal ensembles is that the Vocal Jazz ensemble performs with a rhythm section, consisting of a piano, bass, and drum.

For the solo portion of the showcase, Dr. Ishikawa will be on the piano, Timothy Hirsh on the bass, and Jonathan Hickox-Young on the drums.

For the ensemble portion, Austyn Menk will be on the piano, Zander Boettcher on the bass, and Jason Smith on the drums.

“I look forward to the music. I am so excited to hear our guest artist, Christine Hitt, from Eau Claire. She is an accomplished jazz musician, and we are very lucky to be able to work with her and hear her perform. It is also very exciting to present the repertoire we have been working on this semester; it’s really great to see the progression of the music and how far we’ve come from the start of the semester,” Menk said.



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GUSTIES *of* Ehsan Ali Asghar

Maddy Smerillo
Staff Writer

Senior Financial Economics major and student from Pakistan, Ehsan Ali Asghar, is a passionate, driven and multifaceted individual known for his involvement on the Gustavus campus.

Asghar has taken leadership roles on the Gustavus campus in a number of ways throughout his time here. A few of his involvements include being a Co-President of Student Senate and Vice President of Recruitment for the Mentoring Program, interning in the Community Based Service and Learning center, serving as an HR & Finance intern, doing service through Big Partner Little Partner, working at the Information desk, being a Gustie Greeter, acting as the Chief Information Officer for Finance club, participating in the Muslim Student Association, and he is a member of the Epsilon Pi Alpha.

Asghar was very passionate about becoming a Gustie Greeter. However, when he got his letter, it didn't say if he got into the program until the fourth line.

"After reading the first two lines, I closed my letter and started walking back to Pittman. I remember walking back and bumping into [my friend] Charlotte, who had also applied to be a greeter, but we both didn't talk about it. I told my roommate that I didn't get in," Asghar said.

But, after reading his letter

again that afternoon, Asghar realized he did in fact get into the program. "I couldn't believe it," Asghar said.

In addition to the good and humorous memories, Asghar does face challenges on campus.

Being an international student comes with a variety of obstacles. Asghar has expressed feeling the need to find a balance between adapting to United States culture and also staying in touch with his roots.

He said that the biggest challenge he has faced has been speaking English as a second language, something he confronts very regularly.

Despite these obstacles, Asghar has expressed serious gratitude that his college experience has been a smooth one. Coming from Pakistan, Asghar made quite the trek to attend school at Gustavus.

He attended a summer school the summer before his senior year of high school at Oxford University, where he met individuals going to the University of Minnesota, and began to think about Minnesota as a place he might consider going to college.

"I always knew that I wanted to go to a small school, and some of my friends ended up coming to Gustavus," Asghar said.

When asked what they thought about Gustavus, his friends had "nothing but good things to say." It was at this point that Asghar knew he should apply. Asghar never took a tour of Gustavus due to

the fact that he lives so far away. "I had a very good feeling about it. It was hard to convince my mother because I am an only child, but I guess [my parents] knew that I really wanted to go to school in the US," Asghar said.

As for advice he has for students at Gustavus looking to pursue positions of leadership, Asghar encouraged students to "just go for it, because doesn't matter who you are or where you come from." "It is important to remember who you are as a person and what you believe," Asghar said.

"Students should always push [themselves] because no one else is going to do it for you," Asghar said.

His last piece of advice was to not complain about things you're not willing to change. As leaders, he believes students have the capability to make their community better; if something is wrong, you have the power to do something about it.

After his upcoming graduation, Asghar hopes to travel. "The dream would be to land in a job that will allow me to travel and live abroad for little while," Asghar said.

Through all his involvements and the challenges he has faced, Asghar has been guided by his desire to make his family proud. "I hope to make my mother proud one day, because she is the real reason [behind] who I am and where I am today," Asghar said.



Asghar hopes to have a career that involves travel.

Nathan Habben



Asghar has served as a Gustie Greeter for three years.

Nathan Habben

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.

the WEEK

& Kylie Lamberty

Lily Winter
Staff Writer

Senior Kylie Lamberty is on the cusp of graduation, and she has never been so excited about the future. Lamberty entered Gustavus in 2015 and has spent the last four years taking on leadership roles on the soccer field, in the classroom, and throughout the entire Gustavus campus, as Lamberty served as one of Student Senate's Co-Presidents.

"I always knew I wanted to play soccer at Gustavus," Lamberty said.

Before college, Lamberty played for her own high school team, but loved the sport so much that she also began playing for a club in her hometown of Sioux Falls. At Gustavus, Lamberty plays as a forward and has served as captain of the team for the past two years.

"My least favorite thing about soccer is all the running, but as a sport it is so rewarding. I love how you really get to know your teammates because you learn how they move. When all the pieces fit together it is so beautiful. It takes so much work to get a goal, so when it does happen, the moment is so magical, and we know we only did it because of our work as a team," Lamberty said.

"I first met Kylie four years

ago at our Gustavus Summer Soccer Camp. It was the summer going into my senior year of high school, and I was considering going to Gustavus. Kylie immediately took me under her wing. She was so kind to me, included me in everything, made me feel welcomed, and told me all I needed to know about Gustavus. Before the camp was over, I knew that Gustavus was the place for me, and truthfully it was because she showed me that", Junior Abby Mullenbach said.

"As a teammate she is our source of advice, our listening ear, our shoulder to cry on, and our personal supporter and motivator. She really is the ideal teammate, and she is able to be this for every person on our team so effortlessly. She is able to make a unique connection with everyone, and she uses that connection to motivate them on and off the field," Mullenbach said.

After one of her teammates was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, Lamberty was eager to rally with the team to create a charity game to support their beloved team member. The team still participates in charity games to raise money for cancer research.

Soccer coach Laura Burnett-Kurie is beyond proud of the work her forward has done over the last four years.

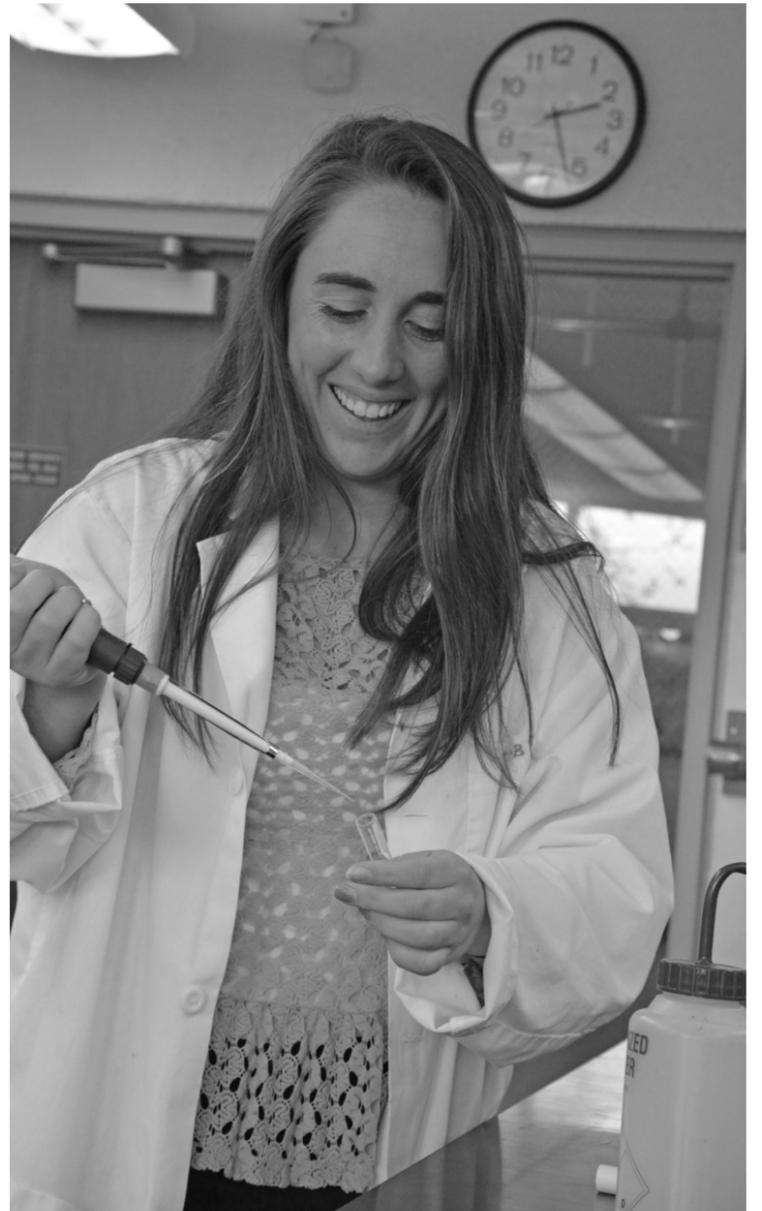
"We constantly talk about who we want to be as people and as a program, specifically about the positive contributions we can make within the greater community. Kylie has embraced this focus and helped turn our vision into a reality. She continually finds opportunities to volunteer, provide emotional support to her teammates, and represent herself and our team in a positive way on and off the field. I know Kylie will do great things in her future and her legacy will live on in our program," Burnett-Kurie said.

Another way Lamberty contributes to the athletic community at Gustavus is through her work with SAVE, or the Student Athlete Volunteer Educators program.

In this role, Lamberty acts as a resource and a mentor to her team in general, but especially incoming freshmen.

"College sports are so different than high school sports when you factor in the different stresses of college," Lamberty said.

"When you're in high school all day, you go to so many classes and then sports after school. In college, you have to be much more aware of how you juggle your free time with homework, clubs, volunteering, classes, and a social life. It's so different and I really want to help people make that high school to college tran-



Nathan Habben

Lamberty will begin a job as a reinsurance broker after graduation.

sition easier in any way I can," Lamberty said.

Lamberty is also known around campus for her impact as one of Student Senate's Co-Presidents.

"We first met through Student Senate our sophomore year and then we had some political science classes together. She was that one student who talked about how bad her test went and used to end up getting 102/100-I don't know how she managed to get that, but somehow, she did," her Co-President, Senior Ehsan Ali Asghar said.

"Kylie always is there for everyone, and that's the best part. It does not matter if she is talking to the board of trustees or she's talking to a custodian; She's the same person with everyone, which I really appreciate. Other than that, she is always up for bringing some new ideas to make Gustavus a more inclusive place like her idea to

create the Gustavus Leadership Coalition," Asghar said.

With a job awaiting her after graduation, once Lamberty walks across the stage on June 1, she will move to Minneapolis to take on her role as a reinsurance broker.

With a major in biology and a minor in Political Science, Lamberty's personal goals within her educational pathway have always been finding ways to help others.

As a reinsurance broker Lamberty will help companies transfer risk so they are better equipped to aid others in time of catastrophe.

Excited to take on this new position, Lamberty hopes her new job will help her gain skills that will one day let her work in a non-profit setting in the business sector.

"The end goal is to be able to help as many people as possible," Lamberty said.



Submitted

Lamberty served along Ehsan Ali Asghar as Student Senate Co-Presidents.

Diversity Ball 2019 shines a thousand lights on Gustavus

Kyara Craven
Features Editor

When it comes to humanity, there is no such thing as simple. It seems impossible to claim to just be a man or woman, just be from your native homeland, or just show interest in a preferred gender. You could be an Afro-Latinx woman raised in Wisconsin with conservative political views, or you could be a single, agnostic, transgender man. There are a number of ideologies surrounding gender, religion, sexual orientation, and many other subcategories that all intersect at varying degrees to make a person who they are and that create a life that should be celebrated. This past weekend, Gustavus celebrated and recognized all of these aspects of identity at the annual Gustavus Diversity Ball which took place at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St Paul on April 27, 2019. The theme for this year was "Night of a Thousand Lights." THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY interviewed award winners and got their thoughts about Diversity and its role on campus.

When asked, Senior Tenzin Jangchup defined diversity as "anything or anyone that consists of different backgrounds, interests, cultures, experiences, etc., and they intersect in a way that promotes an increased knowledge of something known or unknown."

It is concluded, from different theologians, that seeing your neighbor as a "Child of God" demands that we treat everyone with the same respect and love that one would show the Lord himself. It can also be concluded that this fact does not always hold true in our society. Often ridiculed for their diversity, people begin to hide different parts of themselves. Promoting parts of your-

selves can be hard, but in order to make a difference you have to be willing to be true to who you are. "My experiences shaped me to always promote inclusion and with that comes diversity. I've always wanted people to feel as if they matter, so growing up I would talk to anyone who came my way regardless of their sexual identity, race, and mental space," said Junior Yasmine Dismuke when asked how her experience motivated her to promote diversity on campus.

As important as this night is for promoting diversity, it is also a night to celebrate the students who promote all aspects of life.

"I think that it was really cool cause like it encompasses all of the work that I have done for the past four years, and I think to be recognized by my peers is really impactful. It makes me feel seen. I was really happy, and [it was] unexpected because other really cool people were nominated as well" said Senior Daniella Habib, winner of the President's Award for Values in Actions award. This award recognizes a student who diligently and passionately works to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus; this student actively strives to carry out the Gustavus Pillars of Justice, Community, Excellence, Service, or Faith. This nominee especially exemplifies the pillars of justice and community.

"I am honored to have won the Champion of Cultural and Ethnic Understanding Award. It means a lot to me that Gustavus is moving forward in recognizing individuals who work hard to promote, protect and preserve diversity on campus," said Junior Brittney Johnson, winner of the Champion Cultural and Ethnic Understanding Award. This award is given to students in an effort to recognize their commitment to fostering intercultural understanding and dialogue at Gustavus.

