

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 19

Weekly tales
from abroad



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Raising our voices
for equality



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Baseball wins first
MIAC championship
since 1980



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Gusties work to understand white privilege

20th annual White Privilege Conference inspires discussion on campus



Associate Professor in Biology, Margaret Bloch-Qazi, along with six other Gustavus staff, faculty and administration members, attended the annual White Privilege Conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Luke Laurich

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

In March, 2019, a group of faculty, staff, and administration attended the White Privilege Conference. On Tuesday, May 7, these members held a talk titled "Understanding and Interrupting White Privilege," in which they discussed the conference.

This year marked the 20th annual White Privilege Conference, which is hosted by the The Privilege Institute, a social justice-centered non-profit organization.

Their core values include consciousness-building, accountability and responsibility, providing intersectional content, and being purpose-driven in the fight for liberation, social justice, and equity. The mission

statement of the White Privilege Conference is to "provide a challenging, collaborative, and comprehensive experience," and to "empower and equip individuals to work for equity and justice through self and social transformation."

The conference was held from March 20-23 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

The discussion began with an introduction of the definition of white privilege, which was defined in one quote by American activist Peggy McIntosh as "the other side of racism."

"Privilege exists when one group has something of value that is denied to others simply because of the groups they belong to, rather than because of anything they've done or failed to do. Access to privilege doesn't determine one's outcomes, but it is definitely an

asset that makes it more likely that whatever talent, ability, and aspirations a person with privilege has will result in something positive for them," McIntosh

"Privilege exists when one group has something of value that is denied to others simply because of the groups they belong to, rather than because of anything they've done or failed to do."

-Peggy McIntosh

said.

Everyone who attended the

conference then shared their experiences at the conference.

A contemplative activity was introduced, in which everyone paired up and shared experiences with race on campus, after which a large group discussion was held to analyze any common experiences.

Participants then were asked to evaluate Gustavus' current level of multiculturalism. Different ideas of how to make campus more multicultural and tolerant were shared in six stages, each with a specific focus.

Associate Professor in Biology, Margaret Bloch-Qazi; Assistant Professor in Modern Languages, Literature, and Cultures, Carlos Mejia; Assistant Director of the Diversity Center, Janet Jennings; Director of Residential Life, Anthony Bettendorf; Chaplain and Director

of Campus Ministries, Maggie Falenschek; Multilingual and Intercultural Program Coordinator, Carly Overfelt; and Director and licensed clinical psychologist, Hannah Godbout, made up the group of Gustavus administration, staff, and faculty who attended the conference.

"This group is one of the reasons I so loved the conference. It was a great time to get to know colleagues better, it was a nice mix of faculty, administration, and staff, and we ate out at the best places," Assistant Professor of Education Lisa Dembouski said.

A number of sessions addressing a wide variety of topics were attended by Gustavus

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Campus Safety Report

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.

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.

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:

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

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Philosophy lecture sparks conversation

Dr. Kenneth Stickers shares ideas on the meaning of freedom

DeAnna Giles
Staff Writer

What do we mean when we talk about freedom? The lecture hosted by the Philosophy Department, "To Preserve Their Freedom: What Frederick Douglass and the Haitian Revolution Teach us About the Meaning of Freedom," took place on May 9 from 5-6:15 p.m.

"The event is a good demonstration of how Gustavus and the Philosophy Department has made an effort to educate students about oppression. I think as a Philosophy student

"In other words, if we really want to learn about freedom, we've got to listen to and recognize those whose freedoms were taken away."

-Laura Mueller

it is essential to apply what we have learned in the classroom and by inviting speakers we can transition into acting on what we have learned," Junior David Espe said.

"The issue of freedom and its preservation is incredibly important, both to philosophy as a discipline and just to people in general," Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Laura Mueller, said.

Mueller has been teaching here since the fall semester of 2016. Being the first event Mueller has planned at Gustavus, she invited Dr. Kenneth Stickers, who was her professor in graduate school and Master's thesis adviser. He spoke about



Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy Laura Mueller invited her previous professor, Dr. Kenneth Stickers, to speak about the meaning of freedom.

Submitted

how we can better understand what we mean by "freedom" by providing a different standpoint and historical perspective.

The lecture included an introduction of Dr. Stickers, why the meaning of freedom is important, and a question and answer session with the audience.

The lecture serves to give Gustavus students insight to the many avenues of freedom, using Frederick Douglass and the Haitian Revolution, that historians may not explore.

Dr. Stickers is a Professor of Philosophy and Africana Studies and Interim Director of the Center for Dewey Studies at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Mueller and Dr. Stickers have been collaborating for a few years for Dr. Stickers to do a talk here at Gustavus.

"A lot of Dr. Stickers' research is on philosophy of the economy, liberation, and Africana and African-American philosophy and he recently published two books: *Utopian*

Visions Past, Present, and Future: Rethinking the Ethical Foundations of Economy, and *Philosophy in the Time of Economic Crisis: Pragmatism and Economy*," Mueller said.

Philosophy faculty members invite speakers and organize public lectures based on what they're teaching or researching or who they think might be, important for students to hear.

"The event is a good demonstration of how Gustavus and the Philosophy Department has made an effort to educate students about oppression."

-David Espe

Previously, Professor Alberto Urquidez organized a talk by Dr. Tommy Curry, another one of Dr. Stickers' former students.

"I went to Dr. Curry's lecture and I enjoyed learning about a new field of philosophy. Philosophy of race and gender should continue to develop and expand as an essential part of a liberal arts education," Espe said.

This year's lecture shared with the Gustavus community, what 'freedom' means and what it entails. The lecture was just one place out of many to enrich students' mindset on the topic of freedom. The purpose of the lecture was to get people to "recognize that an awful lot of the dialogue concerning free-

Submitted

dom has been pretty one-sided, so we aren't getting the whole picture," Mueller said.

"When we talk about freedom, we also have to think about the other side of it, the "underbelly" of freedom," Mueller said.

Mueller wrote about an example of how living in St. Peter and learning at Gustavus—which used to be Dakota land—gives us the opportunity to live free, work, vote, and debate controversial ideas. However, people who were here long before the settlers lost a lot of their freedoms and their lives.

"Most of the people who have historically talked about freedom, or who have made laws and policies guaranteeing freedom, are the people who benefited from this darker side," Mueller said.

Policies made from the darker side Mueller previously talked about are the issues our society faces today.

Dr. Strickers' gets his inspiration for his talk from another philosopher and activist, Angela Davis. In Davis' work, she suggested that those who have struggled for freedom can teach us more about it than those who haven't.

"In other words, if we really want to learn about freedom, we've got to listen to and recognize those whose freedoms were taken away," Mueller said.

Philosophy, the study of the fundamental nature of knowledge, reality, and existence, helps us navigate our concepts, ideas, and actions, and helps us get to the very foundations of all of those aspects of life. The issue of freedom brings many questions to mind for Mueller.

"What are we doing when we act freely? How can we all live together politically and still be free? How many of my actions and thoughts presuppose that I'm free?" Mueller said.

Dr. Stickers had been wanting to meet Mueller's students and see what Gustavus is like.

"To have someone who was my teacher, and now is my colleague and friend, here interacting with my own students, means a lot personally, and I think reflects an intergenerational transference of knowledge," Mueller said.

Hopefully you didn't miss this lecture hosted by the philosophy department. The concept of freedom is very broad, and this lecture presented the opportunity to clearly define freedom.

"I wanted to gain more knowledge and hopefully develop more skills to keep educating my peers and others that I interact with," Espe said.

"If we only listen to the dominant voices, only listen to the voices we want to hear or are used to hearing, then we aren't getting the whole picture. I think that's pretty important for everyone to learn about," Mueller said.



Dr. Kenneth Stickers is a professor of Philosophy and Africana Studies and Interim Director of the Center for Dewey Studies at Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Annual George Hall Lecture honors student research

Jack Wiessenberger
Staff Writer

The department of religion recently hosted its annual George Hall lecture. The event took place May 9 in the President's Dining Room. The lecture was given by Dr. John Person, a Gustavus graduate from 2002.

"We hold the George Hall lecture every spring to honor student research in the Religion Department and to celebrate the achievements of graduating seniors. Last year, Rabbi Jeremy Fine [from] the Temple of Aaron Synagogue in Saint Paul was our speaker. We typically host speakers who are religious leaders in the scholarly or public realms," Associate Professor of Religion Casey Elledge said.

For the annual lecture, the religion department reaches out to former students who have excelled in their study of religion. This year, the department chose Person.

"We hold the George Hall lecture every spring to honor student research in the religion department and to celebrate the achievements of graduating seniors."
-Casey Elledge

"We were excited about hosting Dr. Person's lecture this week. He was an outstanding student at Gustavus and,



Rabbi Jeremy Fine from the Temple of Aaron Synagogue in Saint Paul was the speaker at last year's George Hall lecture. Bethel Synagogue Center

since graduation, his scholarly journey has taken him to the University of Chicago, the University of California Los Angeles, Japan, and New York. His work exemplifies the quality preparation that Gustavus offers undergraduate students in the academic study of Religion," Elledge said.

Elledge was not alone in his excitement regarding Person's lecture on campus. Several other professors from the department of religion were enthusiastic.

"Person graduated with a double major in religion and International Management. Dr. Person wrote his senior thesis on 20th century Japanese intel-

lectual history, with a focus on modern Japanese philosophy. Dr. Person went on to do graduate work in the same field at the University of Chicago's East Asian Studies program, receiving his Ph.D in 2012. He is currently an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York, Albany," Religion Associ-

ate Professor John Cha said.

The religion department was happy to have Dr. Person speak at the George Hall lecture this year. However, this was not Dr. Person's first time speaking at the event.

"In 2002, the Religion Department hosted Dr. Masao

"We typically host speakers who are religious leaders in the scholarly or public realms."

-Casey Elledge

Abe, an internationally known philosopher from Japan. John Person acted as translator for Professor Abe. Dr. Person is fluent in Japanese," Cha said.

Person has studied Japan extensively. His expertise lies in the area of Japanese intellectual thought, especially relating to ideas of fascism.

"Person joined the East Asian Studies faculty in Fall 2014. His research focuses on modern Japanese history and intellectual thought, especially related to the development of fascism," the State University of New York at Albany website says.

Person's lecture was titled From Gustavus to the Study of Fascism. This area of study has been the staple of Dr. Person's research and teaching career.

"White privilege" continued from page 1

employees, including "Answering the Call: Exploring Post-Traumatic Master's Syndrome and Embodied Racial Justice," "The Privilege to Use B.S. (Bad Stats): How White Privilege Perpetuates Biases Against Black Students Schools," "Toxic Feminism: When Intersectionality Isn't Enough," and "Black Girl Magic: Empowering White Moms and Educators."

"I attended a range of sessions including the keynote-Ritu Bhasin and Heather Hackman were two of my favorites—and several workshops with titles like "Creating Socially Just Organizations: Dismantling Institutionalized Racism and White Supremacy," "A Social Justice Warrior's Survival Guide," "Strategies for Creating Inclusive Community at Predominantly White Institutions," and, what was maybe my favorite one of all, "Our Stories Become Us," Dembouski said.

A number of presentations and demonstrations, including films, TEDx Talks, projects, presentations, books, and guides were incorporated into the

three-day conference.

"Our participation at the White Privilege Conference was aligned with Gustavus' strategic plan... with goal number one being to diversify and expand the Gustavus community," Professor Margaret Bloch-Qazi said.

"Our participation at the White Privilege Conference was aligned with Gustavus' strategic plan, with goal number one being to diversify and expand the Gustavus community."

-Margaret Bloch-Qazi

"More specifically, the Gustavus group goals were to develop and expand understanding of white privilege and its impacts on the lives of the Gustavus community, build a community... around issues of equity and inclusion, and to better understand how race impacts the Gustavus experience,"

Bloch-Qazi said.

"I loved the conference, took away a ton of great things from it, and I recommend it highly to anyone who'd like to see for themselves... I felt fortunate to get the chance to go, and encourage anyone to jump at the chance to go themselves, should that opportunity present itself," Dembouski said.

Reactions among Gustavus employees included "appreciation for the opportunity to be challenged to explore privilege at both personal and institutional levels, the time and space to interact with other Gustavus employees around issues of race and privilege, and the wealth of resources gained to bring back to the [Gustavus] community," Bloch-Qazi said.

"Issues of privilege affect all of us, so it is valuable to identify it in our own lives as well as in the Gustavus community and wider world. Gustavus is doing many excellent things to support diversity, equity, and inclusion. I look forward to seeing how Gustavus' commitment to social justice and excellence leads us to grow stronger," Bloch-Qazi said.



This year was the 20th annual White Privilege Conference hosted by the Privilege Institute.

Luke Laurich

Spotlight on: Senior Studio Art Major Exhibition

Anh Tran
Staff Writer

The Senior Studio Art Majors Exhibition launches in the last month of every academic year, showcasing the work by senior studio art majors at Gustavus Adolphus College. A part of the studio art curriculum, this annual juried exhibition serves as the platform for graduating studio art majors to share and celebrate the work they have culminated over their years at Gustavus Adolphus College.

The Senior Studio Art Majors Exhibition 2019 is titled *Fruition* features multi-media, multi-cultural, and multi-dimensional artworks by senior studio art majors Nicholas Beck, Emily Dzieweczynski, Sarah Link, Gino Sahagun, Christopher Schneider, Prabhjot Singh, and Megan Weaver.

Senior Classics with Greek and Art Studio Double Major Nicholas Beck has five pieces on display, through which he hopes to convey "an honest understanding of structural elements in nature." The collection consists of two graphic and ink sketchbooks, blue graphite, graphite, and red graphite on papers.

"These pieces come from a body of work dedicated to anatomical studies," Beck said, and contain his observation of life.

"Each mark of my pencil reflects the movement of my eye as it bounces across form. My drawings range in time from quick impressions to long, controlled studies. Sketchbooks are particularly suited to allow drawing to be a process of



"Fruition" will run until June 1 in the Hillstrom Museum of Art. Katie Mattinen

research and discovery, rather than the creation of individual results or products. Larger surfaces provide space for the development of a time-intensive study with a singular focus," Beck said.

While Beck elaborates through artworks his observational study of the external world, Senior Psychological Science and Art Studio double major Emily Dzieweczynski communicates her curiosity for human empathy in her multi-media pieces.

"My portfolio moves between science, art, and technology in content and form. It questions the lengths and limitations of these fields when they intersect at the concept of empathy," Dzieweczynski said.

Her works include three mixed media pieces, a water-

color on board, and an ECG paper.

Featuring furniture pieces, *Being Close* and *Empathy Reading Room* offer visitors interactive spaces to directly examine and communicate with the artworks themselves and their central concept—empathy.

Being Close consists of a bed, speakers, books, and sound generated from a DVD player. The Hillstrom Museum of Art instructs visitors to "lie down on the mattress, avoiding the speaker embedded in the center, and listen to the low-level audio playing through the speaker while paging through the accompanying books."

"The work remains interdisciplinary as it explores these facets of empathy. It considers how interfaces—physical material, digital platforms, our own

skin—can act as barriers to empathy, abstracting the body, or conversely how they can transcribe, transfer, and transport emotional remembrances and experiences, requiring intimacy and vulnerability," Dzieweczynski said.

Similar to Dzieweczynski, Senior Management and Studio Art double major Sarah Link also explores an abstract concept throughout her artworks on display—transparency.

Her works in the exhibition include two oil on canvas pieces and a meticulously forged and arranged bronze. All three of them draw inspiration from a Gustavus yearbook.

"This year, my attention has been held by a Gustavus yearbook from 1971. After viewing the first couple pages of the book, I realized just how much the school and its level of transparency has changed since the 70s, and not necessarily for the better," Link said.

The senior chose images from the yearbook and reinterpreted them in her paintings, using yellow ochre and a 70s color palette, highlighting nostalgic imageries, such as "glasses, hairdos, or Adidas stripes on shoes," Link said.

"The photographs I used from the yearbook as inspiration were abstracted to obfuscate their original content and context. This process shines light on the superficial way photos are taken and shared today," Link said.

"My work employs the human form, abstract figurative forms, and the layering of colors ... as formal elements to support [her] expressive in-

tent," driven by her "experience as a woman of color and [her] reflection on solitude, relationships, and femininity," Biology and Studio Art double major Prabhjot Singh said.

"The organic collage of acrylic paint and the texture of the oil on canvas adds a quality of rawness to the work. To deepen my connection to the acrylic works, the buildup is done directly with my fingers, allowing me to physically move the paint and place the imagery on the surface in an intimate way," Singh said.

Last, Biology and Studio Art double major Megan Weaver explores "the portrayal and presence of women in the male-dominated art world. Through my work, my inquiry spans a large frame of time, and a diversity of two-dimensional media."

Her body of work featured in the exhibition includes an acrylic and embroidery floss on canvas, two oil on canvas, an embroidery floss on denim, and an acrylic on canvas pieces.

Her embroidery floss on denim piece—*The Humility of Flowers I & II*—won the Art and Art History Department Purchase Award. This piece portrays feminine figures, highlighting the association between women and flowers.

"My use of stereotypically-feminine pinks stems from my fascination with color association and my desire to illuminate my identification as a female artist in a comically overdone manner," Weaver said.

The exhibition will remain on display from May 4 to June 1 in the Hillstrom Museum of Art.

Tales from Abroad: GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY Edition

Parker Lindberg
Staff Writer

This semester, several staff members of the GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY are studying abroad. We reached out to them this week to learn about why they chose to go abroad and what their experience has been like.

Opinion Editor Patrick Meadows is currently studying in Sweden.

He chose the Semester in Sweden program as a way to explore Swedish culture as well as learn about the roots of the college and his own heritage. Sweden also has a lot to offer in terms of scenery such as beautiful beaches and glaciers.

When he first arrived in the country, Meadows describes being a little nervous.

"I wasn't sure if my Swedish would hold up that well after taking the classes two years ago, but I was surprised by how many people spoke English here. I was also extremely tired after dealing with jet lag, so it was tough to feel scared when all you want to do is sleep," Meadows said.

Meadows said his favorite



Sophomore Corinne Stremmel enjoys Swedish Fika with her friends. Submitted

activity so far has been learning how to dog sled. He even got the chance to practice with professionally trained dogs under the Northern lights.

One thing that has bogged down the trip for Meadows is the lack of independence that students on the trip face. In such a large group, it sometimes leads to annoyance and impatience.

Overall, Meadows has really enjoyed the experience so far and recommends studying abroad to any student that is

considering it.

"Just do it. If you are unsure about it, I can assure you it will be an amazing experience. The trip is what you make of it and I strongly encourage you to go abroad if you have the opportunity. Plus, Gustavus has so many programs and partners that you can find pretty much whatever and wherever you are looking for," Meadows said.

WEEKLY Photographer Abby Anderson is currently studying in Spain. Anderson said that she chose to study abroad because

she wanted to step out of her comfort zone and into the Barcelona program in particular because of the beauty of the city and its internship opportunities.

When she arrived in Spain, Anderson said she was sad to be away from her friends and family but excited to explore her new home.

One thing she said that she doesn't enjoy about Europe is the outrageous amount of pigeons. "They're always flying at you in the streets!"

The biggest thing that Anderson is looking forward to when she gets home is sleeping.

"While studying abroad you want to do everything all the time! I'm excited to be able to relax and have nothing planned for a little bit," Anderson said.

Anderson said that studying abroad has been such a fun experience that has helped her to learn things about herself and how to deal with different situations.

Another staff member studying abroad is Features Editor Corinne Stremmel. Stremmel's decision to study abroad was partially influenced by Professor David Jessup when he asked her when he semi-jokingly asked her when she

was going to study abroad.

She took that suggestion to heart and signed up for the Sweden program.

Stremmel said her initial feeling when she arrived was "oh my god, what have I done?"

However, that disappeared quickly and she's really enjoyed the trip. Her favorite experience so far has been traveling to Jokkmokk and seeing the Northern Lights.

She says that she doesn't really miss being on campus much.

"It's hard to compare being on campus to being in Europe. That's really an apples vs. oranges situation. I do, however, miss the staff at the WEEKLY," Stremmel said.

Stremmel says that one thing she absolutely can't wait for when she gets home is to eat an American cinnamon roll because they have "a special, unhealthy quality that can't be replicated in Sweden."

She also misses her friends and family and being able to live by her own schedule.

We at the GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY wish good luck and safe travels to these three for the rest of their study abroad experiences.

GUSTIES *of* Brianna Jol

Maddy Smerillo
Staff Writer

Junior Biology and Environmental Studies Double major and Geographic Information Systems Minor Brianna "Bri" Jol is an avid environmental sustainability advocate and active student on the Gustavus campus.

Jol is involved in various organizations, including the Environmental Action Coalition, the Nobel Planning Committee, the Building Bridges planning team as a member working for Public Relations Outreach, in the Arboretum as a student worker, with Gustie Greeters as a coordinator for next year, and in the biology department as a Teaching Assistant.

Jol is a prominent environmental advocate in the Gustavus community. She knew she wanted to focus in some way on environmental science before she even came to college. In her senior year, "college was on the back burner. I only looked at two schools, the University of Washington Seattle and Gustavus," Jol said.

Those two options were very different, but each offered a program in environmental sciences that was appealing to Jol.

Ultimately, Jol decided to stay closer to home so that she could be better connected to her brother as he grew up.

She had heard great things about the Nobel Conference and had found many "serendipitous connections" to Gustavus with-

in all different areas of her life.

As a result of her coursework here at Gustavus, Jol has learned that "everything is interconnected" and there are ways to bring environmental action and social justice back into every action and connection students make.

One of the main places at which Jol has learned about this interconnection was in her Climate History class with Professor David Obermiller. It was there that Jol learned the importance of integrating social awareness with environmental initiatives.

When asked about her favorite memories in her involvements on campus, Jol described the initial formation of the Environmental Action Coalition (EAC).

"Before EAC had even formed, the number of people interested in creating a coalition to work toward greater sustainability awareness, climate justice, outreach, and creating a community was just exciting. I remember being there with 30-35 people sitting together talking about this," Jol said.

One of the group's first efforts was to increase waste awareness at the 2018 Nobel Conference.

Members of the EAC "stood around at the Nobel conference and Homecoming to help clarify where different waste was going. It helped us get our footing as an organization," Jol said.

Jol felt this was a very exciting opportunity, as the group had gotten their iconic green shirts only days before. This

project encouraged EAC members to learn about waste systems on campus, while also having an opportunity to educate the rest of the student body to make change.

After graduation, Jol hopes to participate in an "environmental education program or learning centers," where she would "have a chance to try the education aspect of climate change and talk with young people to see what they are thinking about our planet."

Additionally, Jol knows that she wants to be outside. She seeks to apply the skills she has learned and bring them into the actual environment to make change and learn more about our planet and our future.

Jol works regularly with first-year students as a Gustie Greeter. "[First-years] should try something new and explore different areas to see the inner-workings of different parts of the institution by meeting different people and interacting with different policies," Jol said.

Jol encourages students of all years interested in making a difference in environmental protection to look for connections to make our way of life more sustainable.

"No matter your department or interest, you can connect to environmental sustainability and climate justice. Don't look for how you can change your interests or mold them to fit what we already have, recognize that you have environmental interests see who you can connect with to make change," Jol said.



Jol helps new students adapt to life on campus as a Gustie Greeter.

Nathan Habben



In the future, Jol hopes to have a career where she can educate young people about climate change.

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!

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the WEEK

& Nathan Baring

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Staff Writer

Nathan Baring is a first-year Political Science and Biology double major who is one of the twenty plaintiffs of Juliana vs. United States, a national youth climate lawsuit first filed in 2015.

He and twenty other plaintiffs are represented by the non-profit organization, Our Children's Trust, which has filed several lawsuits against all levels of government, arguing how they have been infringing on youths' and future generations' rights to a stable climate system.

In this lawsuit, plaintiffs are holding the United States government accountable for allowing activities that have significantly harmed their right to life and liberty with the goal to convince this higher body to be aware of the greenhouse gases that are being released from capitalist societies like the United States.

Baring first became involved with this lawsuit due to his work from the past.

"I found my first calling when I was thirteen in Fairbanks, Alaska where I'm from. When I went to the state capital in Juneau, we were doing a Climate Change science lobbying summit that was in March 2015. That was when I first became interested in politics, such as using systems that we have to enact changes that we want to see," Baring says.

He was able to interact with

state legislators, and he was so enthused by these interactions that he decided to go back the next day to schedule additional meetings to discuss this important issue.

"I've always been more drawn to places where I can have dialogue with people that really don't think like me at all. That includes people from the opposite side of the political spectrum."

This made him realize that because children do not have voting power, adults do not take them seriously.

Children are often lectured for not knowing what they are talking about or are just speaking on behalf of their elders which is not the case at all.

Nathan tried multiple avenues of civics until he reached the legal system as a plausible option for pursuing a fight to bring awareness about climate change.

It was not long before Our Children's Trust reached out to him, and countless other amazing youth to be part of this initiative.

"We've been at the District Court too many times to count,

not all of them were oral arguments but just motions back and forth. Literally the day after my finals are done in June, I'm flying to Portland for another trial, on the way back to Alaska," Baring said.

Baring feels extremely supported by the organization and the youth involved in this case. He also appreciates how the general public has been so encouraging for all the youth involved.

"I feel like there's a lot to be said when you know that you are on the right path, such as when you know your legal argument is sound, and what you are fighting for is justice. I don't think there's much that can daunt you in that situation. You amplify the voices of historically marginalized communities in this issue. You have a new vision for the world and elevating those communities that have been disproportionately impacted by climate change," Baring said.

The main reason why Baring decided to come to Gustavus was because he liked the campus size, and was drawn to the reputable Biology Department.

Being an invested member of the Environmental Action Coalition has allowed him to foster his inevitable passions and motivation to bring this issue to the forefront.

He believes the EAC is a testament to taking deliberate action, whether it is planning a climate march, or lobbying legislators, or organizing the



Baring marches with non-profit environmental advocacy group Our Children's Trust.



Baring serves as a plaintiff in the landmark lawsuit Juliana vs. United States.



Baring first became involved with environmental action efforts in his hometown of Fairbanks, Alaska.

Submitted

Groundswell event.

"I feel like there's a lot to be said when you know that you are on the right path, such as when you know your legal argument is sound, and what you are fighting for is justice."

For Baring, this was an impactful, and meaningful day where 300 students marched from Chapel to the Campus Center to show the Administration this was something everyone cared about.

Another important organiza-

tion he is part of is the Diversity Leadership Council, commonly referred to as DLC.

Baring believes it is an incredibly important organization for bridging divides between students, considering there can be a disconnect between underrepresented voices and what the campus is doing to factor everyone's narrative into the community.

After Baring graduates from Gustavus, he has a definite, ambitious plan mapped out for the future.

"I am definitely on the pre-law track...I'm planning on working for three to four years in my hometown in Alaska...frankly, I've always been more drawn to places where I can have dialogue with people that really don't think like me at all. That includes people from the opposite side of the political spectrum," Baring said.



THE 1998 PROPOSED PRE-PRODUCTION SKETCH FROM THE ARCHITECT



The Nobel Hall of Science was built in 1963 and is named after Swedish Philanthropist and inventor Alfred Nobel. Courses with a focus in the natural sciences - such as biology, chemistry, geology, and geography - have been held here.

1963

OLD NOBEL



The Charles C. Jackson Center addition was added onto the O.J. Johnson Student Union in 2000. This area served as a "welcoming door" to the campus and to guests. Inside the Jackson Center, students can find The Evelyn Young Dining Room, Health Services, The Diversity Center, and more.

1999

CAMPUS CENTER ADDITION



The Gustavus Stadium was built in 2007. This field provides Gustavus and the Saint Peter community with a unique and attractive space to enjoy the multi-sport field. There is a lower and upper level, enough seating for up to 2,500 people, and a stadium tower with accommodations for working press, coaches, and guests of the college.

2007
STADIUM



The renovated Nobel Hall of Science is expected to be done in the year 2020. All natural science classes will still be held there, but additional interdisciplinary programs in bio-chemistry/molecular biology and environmental studies will take place there as well.

2020
NEW NOBEL

INTERPRETIVE CENTER

1988

INTERNATIONAL CENTER

2000

The Melva Lind Interpretive Center was built in 1988. This building, named after French Professor and Dean of Students Melva Lind, can be found at the entrance of the the Linnaeus Arboretum. The Interpretive Center is used by the Arb's staff, Environmental Studies, and in 2007 for The Johnson Center for Environmental Innovation

The International Center, was completed in 2000. The building was named after the class of 1930 and Gustavus President Edgar M. Carlson for his work improving international relations and taking the school through a massive transformation. The International Center combines three separate programs: The Crossroads program, the Swedish House, and the Center for International and Cultural Education.

Beck Academic Hall, named after Warren and Donna Beck, was built in 2011. This building is home to academic departments such as Communication Studies, Economics and Management, History, Psychology, and Sociology and Anthropology.

2011

BECK

2018

CHAPEL ADDITION

Christ Chapel added bathrooms upstairs in the foyer of the building in 2018. These bathrooms were put in to make the building more accessible and accommodating to everyone.

