

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 8

**Student-run
Speech and
Debate team
begins season**

VARIETY - PAGE 7



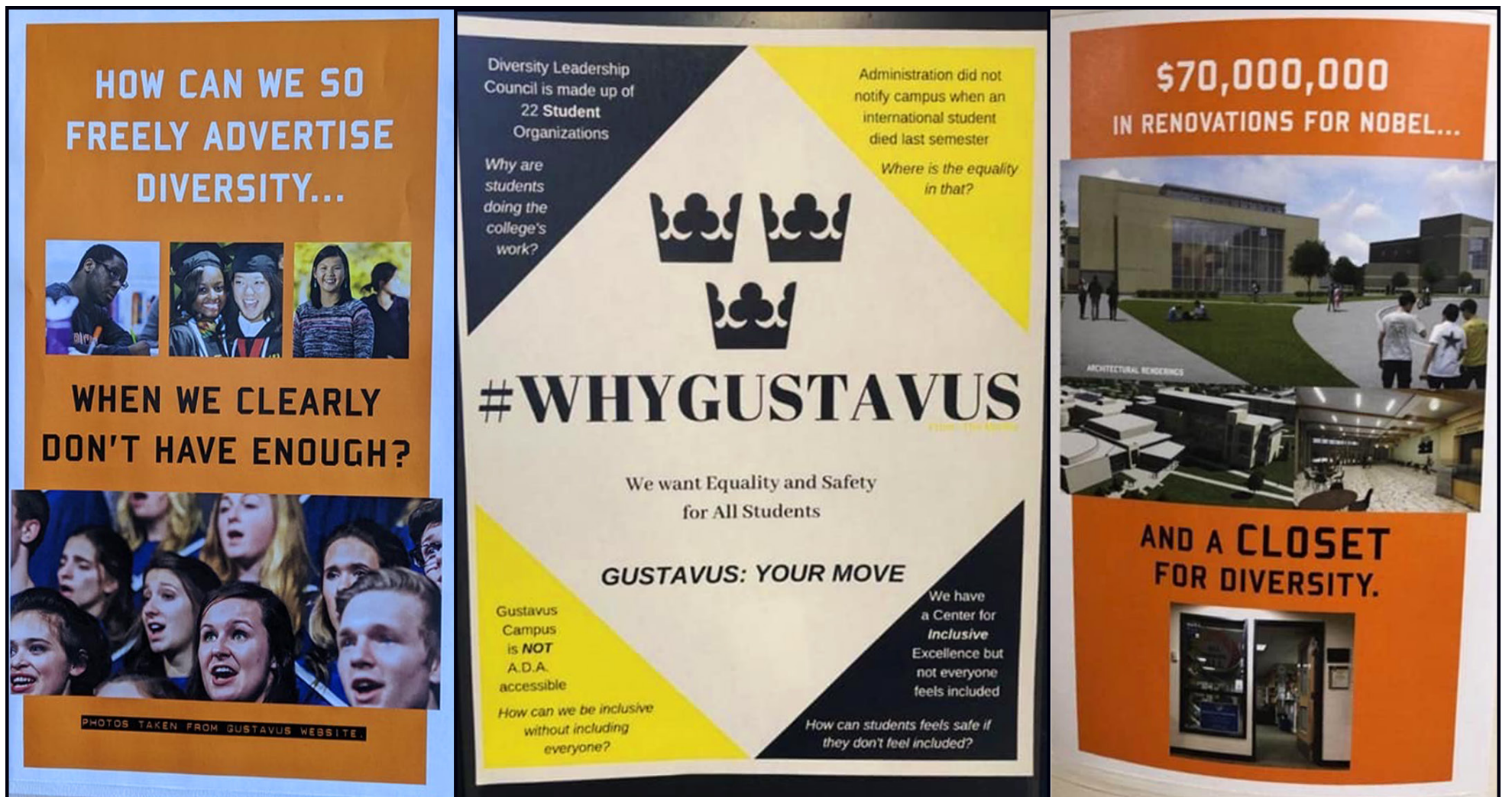
**Opinions on the
great poster
debate**

OPINION - PAGE 10 & 11



**Gusties Football
improves to 5-2
overall**

SPORTS - PAGE 16



Student-made posters highlight student concerns of diversity at Gustavus.

Submitted

Controversial diversity posters pop up around campus

Posters spark a discussion of campus diversity

**Marie Osuna
Staff Writer**

Last Thursday, as Give to Gustavus Day overtook the campus cafeteria, controversial posters started popping up around campus.

These posters, which criticized the campus administration through statements such as "\$70,000,000 dollars in renovations for Nobel and a closet for diversity," were hung anonymously in various campus buildings and also posted on the "Overheard at Gustavus" Facebook page using the Give to Gustavus day hashtag, #fireup-therouser.

In addition to the Nobel poster, two more posters were seen and posted about on the "Overheard at Gustavus" Facebook page: one depicting a close-up

of what seems to be an all-caucasian Christmas in Christ Chapel choir with the caption "How can we so freely advertise diversity . . . when we clearly don't have enough?" and the other with various statements about diversity on campus with #whygustavus in the middle.

The posters were made for a special topics class, English 244: Queer Theory with Associate Professor Rob Kendrick, according to a Junior Evelyn Doran who is in the class.

"The assignment was to take what we learned from reading theorists like James Penney and Sarah Ahmed and apply it to our lives at Gustavus and beyond, either through engaging the community some way or analyzing a current event," Doran said.

"Several students in the class

decided to engage through posters, although I did not personally. I'm not sure who all the students that made posters are. What I can say with absolute certainty is that everything stated in the posters reflects the opinions of the individuals that posted them and information we gathered either in class or that students gathered on their own," Doran said.

While the posters were seen around campus in person, two students posted them on the "Overheard at Gustavus" Facebook page.

"I don't feel comfortable specifically commenting on the posters themselves, but I will say that when I saw them I felt like it was important to let others know and start a conversation, and that's why I posted it on the overheard page," Senior

Amanda Hoffman said.

Sophomore Grace Matson posted two posters on the site, and explained why she felt it was important to do so.

"I agreed with the posters. Especially on Give to Gustavus Day, I thought it was a clever and good way to bring up the issues that many students may not even realize were issues," Matson said.

These comments are coming after several months of work done by staff and students at Gustavus to ensure that welcoming and including everyone is a priority on campus. Over the summer, what was formerly known as the Diversity Center was renamed the Center for Inclusive Excellence, a change that was thought to make the place more welcoming for all. Additionally, student senate

recently voted to add a permanent inclusive excellence chair on their board.

Additionally, it should be noted that twenty percent of the student body is made up of racially underrepresented students, according to both the Gustavus website and collegefactual.com. This is consistent with the racial makeup of Minnesota as a whole, according to the US Census Bureau.

Matson also added that it was the first time she had heard about the information on the posters.

**Continued on
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Campus Safety Report

Sunday, October 13 <ul style="list-style-type: none">A student reported a suspicious incident while walking on campus between Campus Center and Sohre Hall.	Wednesday, October 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a suspicious incident at the Jackson Campus Center.An AD received an email from employee in the CARE Center about a suspicious person that came into their office.Campus Safety responded to a noise violation in North Hall; students were referred to the campus conduct system for underage consumption and possession of alcohol.	Thursday, October 17 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety received a call for medical amnesty from the Adolphson House.Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Folke Bernadotte Library.When doing health and safety checks a CF found a candle in a room in Prairie View Hall.Campus Safety discovered a policy violation in Norelius Hall.Campus Safety observed a conduct violation in College View Apartments.	Friday, October 18 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a mental health concern at Pittman Hall.Campus Safety responded to a medical in Pittman Hall.	Saturday, October 26 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a fire alarm in Sohre Hall.In Pittman Hall, a CF was approached by four residents because they were concerned about another resident. An AC went to help with the situation.
Monday, October 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety was called for a harassing phone call in Sohre Hall.			Saturday, October 19 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at the Swanson Tennis Center.Campus Safety responded to a suspicious incident.	Sunday, October 27 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a medical assist for an of age student in Uhler Hall.Campus Safety and a CF were informed of a loud noise complaint after quiet hours in Sorensen Hall.
Tuesday, October 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a damage of Gustavus property report in Pittman Hall.			Sunday, October 20 <ul style="list-style-type: none">No incidents reported	
			Monday, October 21 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a medical assist call at Carlson Administration building. An employee had fallen down some steps, the employee was checked out and didn't want any further medical attention.	
			Tuesday, October 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none">No incidents reported	
			Wednesday, October 23 <ul style="list-style-type: none">No incidents reported	
			Thursday, October 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to a medical assist in Campus Center.Campus Safety reported a GAC vehicle accident.	
			Friday, October 25 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Campus Safety responded to the Health Service Office to take possession of marijuana that someone turned in to their office.Campus Safety responded to a medical assist at Lund Center.A Gustavus student came to the Campus Safety office to report the loss of their parking permit.A CF was approached by a resident in Sohre Hall because they weren't feeling well and wanted to be taken to the hospital. Campus Safety was called to help with the situation.Campus Safety responded to Sohre Hall for a student with mental health concern. Student was transported by ambulance.Campus Safety responded to a report of underage consumption.	

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:

CITY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM - Want to be informed when a snow emergency has been declared in the City of Saint Peter? Then it's time to sign up for the City's community notification system...Nixle! Nixle is a community oriented notification system that is used by the city to provide alerts, advisory notices and other community information. You must sign up at www.nixle.com to be part of the system, and you can choose to receive notices via text, email, or both from City of Saint Peter Administration, Police, Recreation and Leisure Services, and/or the Public Works Department. Make sure you are signed up in the Nixle system in order to receive information about city snow emergencies. Gustavus Adolphus College is not involved in the city-declared snow emergencies. Be sure your emergency contact information is up to date at gustavus.edu/emergency to receive Gustavus-specific alerts, such as if severe weather affects the course schedule.

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Gustavus student radio successfully brought back on air

KGSM revived after semester long radio silence



Sophomore Preston Hanstad and Junior Carrie Bather host a podcast titled "Carried Away."

Katie Mattinen

Emily VanGorder
Staff Writer

The Gustavus student radio station, KGSM, successfully restarted last year after the latest in a series of setbacks, which have impeded its existence on campus for over the past twenty years.

"[Co-President of KGSM] Alma Jorgensen and I... wanted a fully functioning radio station and to make sure that KGSM as a student organization had a bright future," Sophomore and Co-President of KGSM Daniel Wang said.

KGSM has been restarted a number of times, beginning in the 1980's when its FCC license expired and was not renewed. A new wave of interest in the 2000's brought back interest in the station and during the 2005-2006 school year, KGSM debuted its first podcast. In 2007, the station experienced another setback when the KGSM computer crashed, taking down with it the only way to produce live broadcasts. In 2011, KGSM was given a new studio space inside Beck Hall, previously having been located in the Campus Center.

This new studio, however, was not supported through a budget and there was a general lack of training on the new equipment for interested students. The newest restart is directed towards producing quality work and collaborating with other groups on campus as a key resource for campus news.

There was an extensive to-do list for restarting the station, including acquiring funding from student government, fixing mechanical issues in the studio, and creating a KGSM executive board to be in charge of future decisions and changes.

"We have had to buy new recording equipment for the studio, and we have also had to work on rebranding the club as well as getting more publicity," Sophomore and KGSM Treasurer Kelly Heffley said.

"We were quite successful in preventing KGSM from dipping into irrelevance again... going forward, we want to expand on the social media and promotion side of radio, as we want to get more listeners to hear all of our wonderful shows," Wang said.

"We also have big plans in the works for 2022, which will mark the one hundredth anniversary of KGSM's inception.

This may seem like it's very far away in the future, but we want to have the club growing and thriving by then so we can have a really exciting one hundredth anniversary year," Sophomore and Risk Manager Solveig Stafford said.

"[My Roommate] checked out their tabling booth in the fall of my freshman year. Although he didn't end up joining, I always had that thought in the back of my head... I was interested in working in radio or broadcasting in the future," Wang said.

Later, at the end of fall semester freshman year, "I had a really long intellectual talk with a classmate and friend of mine and we both suggested that we could start our own podcast. Starting spring semester, we contacted the KGSM president... and I ended up joining KGSM," Wang said.

Music production is a hobby of his, which Wang has found ties in nicely with understanding how the electronics and microphones work in a radio studio setting.

"[I first heard about KGSM] through my friend Alma last year when she was hosting her Sohe not Sorry show. I was interested in having a show

last year but was unable to until this year since the station was down," Heffley, who hosts Panera's Box with Sophomore Anna Edblad said.

On Panera's Box, Heffley and Edblad play music and "talk about our weekly passions" Heffley said. It is hosted every other Friday.

"[I] host a Classic Alternative radio hour with my roommate called The Black Lodge. I will soon be presenting a Safe Sexy Fun Times radio hour out of the Center for Inclusive Excellence, and I've even used the radio station's resources to create a discussion livestream that served as a midterm project... The opportunities to be creative in KGSM are endless," Stafford said.

"KGSM endeavors to give Gustavus students a solid platform and recording space for their voices to be heard", as well as providing experience for anyone who wants to learn more about or get into radio, broadcasting, or podcasting. "It is also fun when students have their shows up and running and their listeners start to interact with them through social media," Wang said.

"I think KGSM is relevant

to students on campus because everyone has a topic they love talking about, or music they want to share with people who might enjoy it. There is no limit to what you can have a show about on KGSM... it is exciting to have so much freedom in what we out on the air," Heffley said.

"Feel free to follow @panerasbox on Instagram and send us a DM... we can help get you involved," Heffley said.

"If you want to be inventive, share your interests and music preferences, have a platform for activism, get involved in a leadership role, or just want to know the technological workings of a radio station, this is definitely the club for you," Stafford said.

Anyone interested in joining KGSM and hosting their own talk show, learning how production works, or to play music for the livestream should attend the KGSM club meetings every third Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. in Beck 121. Interested parties can also reach out to Daniel Wang or Alma Jorgensen, or follow the KGSM Instagram page, @radiokgsm.

Walktober helps Gusties walk off stress

GustieWELL provides students with a positive outlet for stress



Walktober seeks to encourage students to stay physically active during times of stress.

Nate Habben

Jack Wiessenberger
Staff Writer

Stress is always something that's on the mind of Gustavus students. GustieWELL and the Peer Assistants (PAs) are aware of this issue and are constantly trying to find new ways to help. Over the month of October, the mental health awareness events known as "Walktober" were held.

"Research shows walking increases blood and energy flow to the brain, which improves acuity and function on a variety of levels. We created Walktober to encourage students to push pause, and venture around campus with a friend in hopes of not only taking their minds off daily stressors for a while but also to demonstrate the positive effect physical activity has on our mood," Director of Peer Education and Chemical Health Laura Herbst-Johnson said.

Such a thing as walking may seem simple, but it can have real health benefits according to the National College Health Assessment (NCHA). This was the second year Walktober was held.

"GustieWELL and the Peer Assistants developed Walktober last year, and we've been fortunate to have ongoing help and support from SAVE and the Health Service to make this series of events happen. Last year we had about one hundred students take part in Walktober, and 97 percent of participants reported improved moods after taking part in the walking events. That data is the reason we do this type of programming," Herbst-Johnson said.

Participation in this year's

Walktober nearly doubled from last year. Each of the five Walktober events is aimed at improving the participant's mood and spreading awareness about the health benefits of physical activity.

"I think Walktober will become a recurring event each year. Focusing on mental health, especially for stressed-out college students, is so important that I think Walktober could serve as an annual reminder to check up on how students are doing," Sophomore PA Shae Archambault said. Walktober started at an important time in the year. Every year, October is the month when courses typically give midterm exams to their students.

The first Walktober event took place on Oct. 3. This event featured a "Poker Walk" where students would find the offices of such organizations as the PAs and GustieWELL. For each location visited, participants received a playing card in the hopes of ending the walk with a good poker hand. This was done with the intent of getting students more familiar with entering these places. Two other Walktober events had a similar idea behind them. The Scavenger Hunt (Oct. 17) and Trick-Or-Treating (Oct. 31) also had participants visit these offices. The two other special occasions featured in Walktober were both walk and talk events.

"The two walk and talk events were meant to be thought-provoking and growth producing. When we pause and intentionally think about habits we'd like to establish and goals we'd like to achieve, then share them with a friend, we verbally commit to making better deci-

sions," Herbst-Johnson said.

The total of five Walktober events were similar to those offered last year, and were aimed at the same goal.

"All these events were put on with the purpose of getting students out and moving around campus during the month of October, which is normally a stressful time with midterms. Additionally, it helps point students towards other mental health and general health resources on campus," Archambault said.

The PAs worked to make the Walktober events as educational and helpful as possible and look forward to it being an annually occurring event. On top of the health benefits offered by the events, prizes were also offered

to participants.

"The prizes for Walktober were actually really sick-the grand prizes were a pair of Vikings tickets and a \$150 shopping spree to the Bookmark. In order to be eligible to win those, students must participate in at least four of the five events throughout the month. Additionally, each week there were prizes like gift cards given out to three participants so there were a lot of opportunities to win," Archambault said.

The prizes were an added incentive used to attract more participants to the events. The PAs hope that by participating in these events that habits will be formed and healthy behaviors will be carried out by students past the month of October.

"The month of October can start to feel overwhelming for our students as it gets closer to midterms and the chaos of life starts to kick in. Stress and anxiety are the top two academic impediments for our students," Herbst-Johnson said.

The Peer Assistants believe that keeping Gustavus students physically active even during times of stress is an important issue. Walktober was created specifically for this purpose.

Continued from page 1

"I know a lot of students didn't like the poster or agree with them, but they seem to be more upset about the posters being put up rather than why the posters were put up. Conversation and discussion is an important step towards change and this is the first step," Matson said.

This conversation is key, since the poster fiasco quickly escalated in the comments sections of the posts. Numerous students were outraged that the posters were taken down, however, it should

be noted that the students had not gone through the proper channels to get the posters approved. The advertising on campus guidelines—available on the Gustavus webpage—clearly states that all posters hung on campus must be stamped by the information desk and include the name of the organization or class that is sponsoring them. The diversity posters did not meet these guidelines.

On another level, though, some of the "facts" on the posters were not facts at all. The #whygustavus poster claimed that Gustavus is not ADA accessible (accessible for those with disabilities) when, in fact, it is. A facility being ADA accessible is not an option; it's the law. Gustavus is legally in compli-

ance with this law.

Regardless of how you feel about the posters, this issue is a hot topic for those on campus and conversations will likely continue through the rest of the school year. Students who are concerned about diversity on campus are encouraged to reach out to their class representative and schedule a meeting, support inclusive excellence programming around campus, and continue finding ways to advocate their message without violating policies.

The Center for Inclusive Excellence was contacted to comment but failed to respond.

Preview: J-Term 2020 Study Abroad Trips

Grace Worwa
Staff Writer

This coming January, Gustavus students will disperse to locations all over the world through this year's ten J-Term IEX programs. Gusties were eager to get involved in the 2020 J-Term experiences, according to Assistant Director of Study Away Programs Bryan Messerly.

"We had several of the courses filled up to capacity and several of the courses with a waitlist," Messerly said.

One such program is the Australasia Olympic Quest, led by Health and Exercise Science faculty Bonnie Reimann and Aaron Banks, which takes students to Japan and Australia to study the link between sports and culture in those locations.

"Students will go and visit various sites related to the Olympics and related to sports, and while they are doing that, they'll be reading materials about where they are going," Messerly said.

Another program, the Camping Safari, led by Cindy Johnson, allows students to investigate conservation biology through the observation of endangered species in Tanzania.

"They [will] be going and seeing these large mammals that are related to conservation and that are endangered," Messerly said.

These are only two of the ten programs taking place in January 2020. Others include the study of queer urban communities and social justice in Berlin and Amsterdam, Renaissance art and architecture in Italy and the connection between landscape and culture in Iceland.

According to Messerly, all these programs are similar in how they emphasize the experience component as the principal learning-tool in their curriculum.

"The key is they are going to use the ability to physically go to places and see things and meet people to understand and dive more deeply into the material," Messerly said.

J-Term study away is a good option for students for many reasons, one being that it satisfies one of the two J-Term IEX credits required of all Gustavus students. "All these programs will fulfill one of the two J-Term requirements that students need, so on a practical level, these programs work with every student's four-year plan," Messerly said.

In addition, J-Term is a good opportunity to study away for many students simply because it fits into their busy schedule.

"It's a time that most students have available in their schedule," Messerly said.

"Even students who have tightly structured majors or students who have a lot of on-campus activities are typically able to find time to study away over J-Term," Messerly said.

J-Term IEX programs also serve well as an introductory travel experience for those who



Submitted



Submitted

Top: Students spend January 2019 in Indonesia. Bottom: Participants in the 2019 Hawaii J-Term program pose with a local musician.

are unsure about committing to a three-month semester abroad.

Not only are they shorter in length, but there is more Gustavus support available to students while on a J-Term trip.

Students who study away for a semester will likely "be with students from other schools around the U.S.," Messerly said, whereas "on a J-term, students will be with faculty members and with Gustavus students, so there's more Gustavus support."

Students can learn more about those programs at the J-Term 2021 Study Away Fair this coming March, where the professors who are leading the trips will be available to discuss them further in-depth.

"The J-Term fair is prob-

ably the best way for a student to learn about these programs," Messerly said.

Applications for January 2021 will open in early spring.

"Once they are open in March, students will be able to go on to our online website, which is Gustavus.studyabroad.com. There they will be able to find a list of our current J-Term programs," Messerly said.

The application includes six to seven documents that need to be read and signed electronically, an application fee, and a recommendation as well as a couple of brief essay questions.

As for students worried about expenses, they should not discount the J-Term programs as a possibility.

"We have limited J-Term funds through our office and students can apply for those," Messerly said.

There are also international scholarships offered through outside organizations, including the Gilman Scholarship, which is available to all students who receive a Pell Grant through Gustavus.

There are also other scholarship opportunities available depending on the student's study away destination.

"Our office can help students with learning about these opportunities and putting together an application," Messerly said.

Students concerned about cost can also take advantage of the wide price range of the J-Term programs that are offered.

"The estimate overall cost ranged from \$4,500 up to about \$8,000," Messerly said.

"That's a big range, so if a student is interested in studying away, it's important to look at the different programs and look at which ones will be in their budget," Messerly said.

At any point in the process of applying and preparing for study away, Messerly encouraged students to visit the staff in the Center for International and Cultural Education with any questions.

"There's a lot that goes into it, and it can be overwhelming and daunting, but it's our job to help students get through that and figure it out in a way that's less stressful," Messerly said.

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Elisabeth Cherland

Michaela Woodward
Staff Writer

Visiting Assistant Professor in Music, Dr. Elisabeth Cherland, has found herself more grounded in her roots since coming to Gustavus.

"I'm really thrilled to be here in Minnesota and at a Lutheran institution," Cherland said.

Originally from Saskatchewan, Canada, Cherland continues to carry on a generations-long love of music as a singer, violinist, educator and now her role as the conductor of the Choir of Christ Chapel and the Lucia Singers.

"My dad is a choral conductor. In fact, I'm a fourth-generation conductor. It's kind of the family biz," Cherland said.

She pursued her passion for music and storytelling through her Bachelor's degrees in Music and English, and a Doctoral degree in Choral Conducting. Prior to taking up her role at Gustavus, she taught band and choir in public middle and high schools in South Dakota for seven years. At Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat in Washington, Cherland was the Village Musician.

"That is probably the best job title I'd ever hope to have," Cherland said.

However, in coming to Gustavus, she feels a strong connection to her position here and what she can accomplish with it.

"I had that feeling of, 'Oh, there's my job,' and I just hoped they'd feel the same," Cherland said.

Upon taking up her new role,

she feels welcomed and supported by both the students and faculty, noting the closeness and variety of experiences within the department.

"The music department and the ensembles feel a little like family. It's a pretty supportive place. The professors, the conductors, and the college itself wants students to be able to do a lot and have a lot of different experiences. I love that students get as wide of variety of experiences as possible. I've been really impressed with how everyone works together to make it happen," Cherland said.

This focus on community is something shared by the students as well.

Senior Hannah Deyo positively remarks on her time working with Dr. Cherland as Chapel Choir Co-president.

"Working with Dr. Cherland has been an enormous pleasure. She brings something new to the Choir of Christ Chapel that was not previously there and I think that we sound amazing. I am so excited to continue to grow and work with her to make choir the best experience possible," Deyo said.

Looking towards how she hopes to influence the choir community at Gustavus, Cherland notes the importance of the position she holds.

"I'm proud that I'm a woman in a conducting position and that I'm able to model female leadership in a typically masculine role. I'm glad that I can have an impact in that way," Cherland said.

As her academic background

includes experience in gender studies, Cherland sees the music program as an opportunity to engage students and the larger community in broader discussions.

"I'm looking forward to lots of beautiful musical moments and getting to create wonderful music and experiences. I'm also looking forward to being able to use the music to have some bigger conversations about what is going on in the world and how the arts can impact us," Cherland said.

In particular, she sees herself engaging in social justice work through choir and potentially returning to her love of storytelling through music.

One of her specific interests is the choral setting of Emily Dickinson poetry which she believes would be a fun challenge to work with in her choirs.

"I love Emily Dickinson poetry. Choral composers are always looking for good settings, and she is really hard to set and set well," Cherland said.

Though settling into her new role has been busy, Cherland is looking towards the future refreshed and eager to further her work, finding her students just as engaged.

"I've been impressed with the students here and their willingness to be open and welcoming to myself and to trying new things," Cherland said.

Outside of her commitment and passion for musical excellence, she enjoys singing and reading and looks forward to settling into the St. Peter community with her family.



Cherland is originally from Saskatchewan, Canada.

Nate 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.



Cherland is passionate about telling stories through music.

Katie Mattinen

Catching up with the Speech and Debate Team

Anh Tran
Staff Writer

Previously a co-curricular organization, the Speech and Debate Team became a student-run organization in the fall of 2018. Since then, the group has witnessed tremendous growth in membership and multiple successful tournaments. It not only nurtures the art of public speaking at Gustavus Adolphus College but also connects Gusties with the open and supportive community of speech and debate enthusiasts across the United States.

“Public speaking is some people’s number one fear and that’s what we do for days. To me, having it at Gustavus means that people can get out of their comfort zones and get a little scared, yet it helps them develops skills that they’ll have for the rest of their lives.”

- Senior Amanda Hoffman

“It was me and Thomas Sullivan who started the program as a student org. We were the only two people on the team. We went from two people to six people, and now we’re at eighteen. We tripled in size after a year,” President and Co-Founder Senior Amanda Hoffman said. After its transition from a co-curricular into a student-run organization, the team reorganized its structures, learned new ways to manage its resources and kept itself constantly open to new recruits and opportunities. “We have one team meeting on Tuesdays and two one-hour practice sessions later on in the week. The team meetings are, essentially, buckets of information to make sure that members know what is going on for the next couple of weeks. The practice sessions are where we work on refining members’ debate skills, interpretations, expressions, speeches that they write, as well as giving them on-the-spot speaking talents,” Hoffman said. Besides being the current president of the Speech and De-



The student-run Speech and Debate Team poses at the Vocal Viking debate tournament at Bethany Lutheran College.

bate Team, Hoffman also serves as the team’s coach. She has forfeited her right to compete in debates, so that she can enter the tournaments as a judge, benefiting the team not only developmentally but also financially. “I am the person who works the most with the team, and our advisor Phil is our coach, too. He’s really supportive and willing to work with students,” Hoffman said. Having trained hard for the first half of the semester, the team came back from their first tournament of the academic year with success. “We just came back from a tournament last weekend. We were at the Vocal Viking in Bethany Lutheran College. We had five people in debate and four people in individual events. We had a pretty good presence there. We had one person, Sophomore Ben Menke, take third place in speaker points for debate and another person take fourth place in after-dinner speaking. I would like to give out a big shout-out to Ben Menke, our treasurer for this semester. I have worked him so, so hard,” Hoffman said. Excited with achievements, the team moves forward, searching for more opportunities to

compete as well as new members who would be interested in the activity or in learning it. “We’re always taking new members. You don’t have to start at the beginning of the year. We’ve had some people join us at the end of December and then go on to compete in the first weekend of the Spring semester,” Hoffman said. Hoffman encourages those who are interested to contact her through e-mail and join the team. “Come whenever you want. You don’t need to start out with experience. You just need to have the willingness to learn and to try,” Hoffman said. The Speech and Debate Team President emphasizes the “learning” aspect of speech and debate. According to her, speech and debate is a learning process in which the participants push themselves out of their comfort zones, to expand their experiences and to refine their self-expressional skills. The team serves as a space for its members to be vulnerable together and to grow together. “Public speaking is some people’s number one fear and that’s what we do for days. To me, having it at Gustavus means that people can get out of their comfort zones and get

a little scared, yet it helps them develops skills that they’ll have for the rest of their lives,” Hoffman said. “Being a part of the team and competing has really helped me in other areas. I feel like I can express my opinions more effectively, and I have a more open mind about new ideas,” Hoffman said. Focusing on the “learning” aspect of the activity has positively influenced how the team is designed. According to Hoffman, the learning process does not exclude anyone, even the coach herself. “Everybody who has come to the team has offered such unique and different perspectives. There have been people who have four years of speech and debate experience come to the team, and there have been people who have never heard about speech and debate before but want to do it. I have been doing speech and debate for thirteen years. I started when I was in fifth grade and I have been passionate about this activity for all of my life. It’s also a great opportunity to learn from the students while also being a student myself,” Hoffman said. Working with members of different levels of experience

allows Hoffman to step back, rethink, and reshape how the team should be run. In addition to immersing Gusties in the art of public speaking, the Speech and Debate Team also introduces its members to the larger community of speech and debate. “The entire speech and debate community is just really supportive. We competed against the University of Minnesota, University of Concordia Moorhead, Bethany University, MDSU, SMSU, Bethany Lutheran College, MSU, and there has not been one person that I have met on the speech and debate circuit that hasn’t been accepting and willing to teach me. It’s like a big family and it’s awesome,” Hoffman said. The Speech and Debate Team looks forward to presenting their fall 2019 Showcase at 7 p.m. on Tuesday Nov. 12 in the Courtyard Café. “Come to one tournament, see how it is. It’s like potato chips; you can’t just have one. I went to one tournament when I was in fifth grade, and look at me now, in sixteenth grade, still kicking. If you’re interested, come to one of our meetings on Tuesdays in Lund 207 or just shoot me an e-mail,” Hoffman said.

Kyara Craven
Staff Writer

As October continues to progress, the weather begins to chill, the leaves start to change color, and we enjoy the undeniable crisp fall that permeates the air here at Gustavus. With the chilly weather that comes during the month of October, it is the ultimate time to celebrate all things spooky before we welcome in a thankful season next month. That means skeletons, spiderwebs, and all things that go bump in the night; nothing says October more than a good ghost story.

We, as Gustavus students, know this campus like the back of our hand--or we at least know the basics. If asked where something is, it is rare that a student couldn't point you in the right direction. However, there are a few places on this campus that hold a spooky back story that some aren't aware of. Moreso, these unique backstories breathe life into the buildings and surrounding areas. So grab your popcorn, turn the lights off, grab your favorite flashlight, and get ready for some of the skeletons that hide in Gustavus' closet.

Horror on the Hill



Once upon a time, on a dark and cloudy night, a student worked their normal shift at the library. Eyes lidded and thoughts of sleep swirling in their mind, the student did their final rounds of the library. The student made their way down to the basement level of the library, and upon entry looked out over the dimly lit area, deeming it acceptable--including the Native American horse rider that was riding through the stacks of books. The next morning, the librarians entered the building and found books scattered on the floor in certain sections of the library. Now, most will say that it was just students who were knocking books over; however, most pranks on campus have a lifespan of about four years. This particular prank lasted for ten years until the tornado swept through the Gustavus campus. Afterward, the library was renovated, so the stacks were moved further apart to allow for greater accessibility, as well as for Native American horse riders to pass through.

We all know and love Old Main. During the day, its tower stands tall; often it is the first sight that many Gusties see as they return back to Gustavus. At night its bright light illuminates the quiet campus. For those who work in Old Main, they would say that the work is never really done; sometimes they have to stay quite late, but not forever. Yet, the same can't be said for the night guard who, according to some, continues to make his rounds, even though he has been dead for years.

The story goes that one night, one of our Chaplains was working late in his office in Old Main. Chaplain Elvy had succumbed to exhaustion and fell asleep at his desk, when suddenly, the voice of the security guard work him up and told him to head home. Elvy agreed and began to pack up his things. The next day, he asked the secretary who the janitor was that worked the previous night, and she told Elvy that there wasn't a male janitor even scheduled to work in the building. The secretary did show him a picture of a man who worked on the janitorial staff, and Chaplain Elvy identified him as the janitor who he saw the previous night. However, Chaplain Elvy stopped cold when she told him that the man he identified had died ten years

ago. So, if you ever see any lights flickering in Old Main, say a silent prayer that there is still someone looking over our philosophy department.

Legend has it that back in the 1930s, a young boy drowned in the pool. This was before the pool was moved and installed in Lund Center; the pool was located in the Campus Center during this period of time. Because of the move, some say that the spirit of this young boy can no longer find the locker room. He will spend the rest of time searching for the locker room. So, if you are ever in the Campus Center late at night and you have a towel, offer it to this lost soul; no one should be left wet and cold for the rest of eternity.

One well-known Gustavus ghost story is about the ghost of the Rundstrom chapel. We all know where Rundstrom is. We also know to avoid it like the plague during the winter because it becomes a slippery death trap. Rundstrom is very unique in the sense that it has its own chapel, and it happens to have a permanent resident that resides in the basement. It is said that long ago, there was a woman who committed suicide in this very chapel. Her ghost allegedly roams the halls of the dorm at night. So, if you're thinking about taking a late night shower--and you live in the basement of Rundstrom--make sure you say hello to the friendly ghost in passing.

There is a rumor that there once was a group of students who dreamed of pulling the pranks of all pranks. And what's the best prank, you might ask? Anything that involves farm animals, of course. One dark night, these students brought a cow up to the third floor of Old Main and left it there for faculty to find and deal with in the morning. Now, getting the cow up the stairs may seem like the hard part, but in reality the difficult thing about the situation was getting the cow downstairs. As many of you may know, cows can in fact go up stairs, but they do not have the ability to go down stairs. Unfortunately, as a result, the poor cow was shot and killed on the third of Old Main because it could not be led down to ground level. It is said that the cow's spirit still roams the halls, and if you listen closely, you can still hear its distant and haunted mooing.