Professor Sharma Denied Tenure

JULIA CRISTOFANO MANAGING EDITOR

On February 28 a group of faculty members received notice that they had been granted tenure. Shubhra Sharma, Vandana Shiva, Assistant Professor of Gender and Women's Studies, was not among them.

As current departmental chair for Gender and Women's Studies and one of only two full-time GWS department faculty teaching this year, Sharma's tenure denial came as a surprise to many in the campus community.

"I was concerned and confused when I heard the decision," explained Henry Sionick '16, co-chair of the GWS Student Advisory Board and GWS major. He continued, "I joined the Student Advisory Board last year because Professor Sharma really made it into a force in the GWS department where it previously hadn't been. I don't know what will happen to the work she has done if she leaves."

Aila Roth '14 echoed Sionick's concern and affection for Sharma stating, "Working with Professor Sharma throughout this past semester, attending countless lectures, and reading her literature on The Feminist Wire I was in complete shock when I heard that she had been denied tenure."

At Connecticut College, tenure is granted on the basis of "excellence in teaching, scholarship and service," rather subjective guidelines that leave a great deal of room for interpretation. This may explain why Sharma, who was told last year that she was on track for tenure and moving in the right direction, could encounter such a different response just 12 months later.

Three main bodies are responsible for granting tenure: The Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure Committee (CAPP), composed of five tenured faculty members, Roger Brooks, Dean of the Faculty, and President Katharine Bergeron.

Records of tenure, particularly of recent denials and appeals, are confidential material to virtually everyone except the office of the Dean of the Faculty, yet anecdotal accounts from professors suggest that tenure denials have been rare in recent years. "I think this is due to better mentoring and more honest appraisals," opined Dr. Joan Chisler, Chair of '43 Professor of Psychology. Chisler recounted that in the past there have been times when a department decides they cannot recommend a candidate for tenure. In such a case, they typically advise the individuals not to go up for tenure review, and those individuals instead leave the College when their contracts expire. "To deny tenure to an individual recommended by the department is very unusual," she said.

In the weeks following the initial denial, students rallied around Sharma, collecting over 300 signatures and some 70 letters of support from students, alumni, parents, faculty and staff. An appeal was filed with the CAPT committee to review the decision, but on April 9th Professor Sharma received a letter from President Bergeron stating that her appeal was denied and tenure denial would not be reversed. Students have refused to accept this as the end of the fight for Professor Sharma. A sizable group of students, spearheaded by members of the GWS department, Women's Center executive board, and others who have worked in a close, cross-disciplinary manner with Sharma have held several meetings over the past few weeks to plan a course of action. "I looked into the archives to try and find other cases like Sharma's but there doesn't seem to be a precedent for this situation," said Kelley Kobuk.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Retention and Rigor

DAVE SHANFIELD EDITOR IN CHIEF

The five interdisciplinary centers at Connecticut College are often promoted as the school's prized possessions. Often referred to simply by these acronyms such as CISLA, PICA, and CAT, the programs are seen as the embodiment of interdisciplinary study, a true application of the liberal arts education.

While CISLA's large enrollment establishes a somewhat visible presence on campus — this year's graduating class includes more than thirty students — other, smaller centers can seem shrouded in mystery to those who are not directly involved. The Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology, or CAT, is one such center; at the start of this year, eight students were on track to receive their program certificate along with a diploma at graduation. Though this number might sound low, each CAT class has typically only held five to ten scholars since its first graduating class in 1997. What is more surprising is that, unlike most or most of those original eight, only half have decided to follow through with their projects — the other four dropped the program at different points throughout the year. No, I don't think it's a pattern, I think it's a cycle," said Libby Friedman '15, the center's assistant director.

"Some years we have more applicants, some years fewer," I'm disappointed the other students didn't continue, but we're very happy about the students who have stayed with us."

The center's director, Ozgur Ileri, Associate Professor of Computer Science, joined the College
I entered this year under the assumption that my art wards trajectory that we’ve worked towards together.

All in all, I’d say I did the whole Conn Coll thing pretty well. And, not that my opinion is worth any bit more than anyone else’s, I do have a few tidbits of advice for all you juniors, seniors, sophomores and freshmen who are inclined to read them...

1. Have goals. Seriously, it’s just to easy to just float on by school like this, but give yourself a purpose. I cannot imagine that the real world is nearly as saturated with opportunity as this campus.

2. Don’t take no for an answer. That’s how you reach your goals, dude. But in all seriousness, it’s a small school, and even though we register for classes online and email our professors more than we go to office hours, there’s always a human being on the other end of any decision put before you. So if you don’t like the decision, find out who made it and change his or her mind.

3. Talk outside the library. You don’t have to be smoking a cigarette to step away from your work and just talk with your friends—or strangers—for fifteen minutes. Even if you’re talking about your work, take breaks, meet new people and learn about what your peers are working on. There are some freaking interesting people here.

4. Eat alone sometimes, dinner especially. This one’s mostly practical. You don’t have to wrangle a dozen friends together just to stuff a natty Ham meal down your gullet. Grab a New York Times and leave it unspiced on your tablet computer. Start off into space and take a moment for yourself. Nobody is going to think you’re a loser and if they do, it’s probably not because you’re eating by yourself.

5. Respect the Honor Code. Even if you don’t think anyone else does (but always assume that they do). But still lock your door. That’s just common sense.

Over & out, Dave

THE COLLEGE VOICE

"The views and opinions expressed in The College Voice are strictly those of student authors, and not of Connecticut College. All content and editorial decisions remain in the hands of the students; neither the College’s administration nor its faculty exercise control over the content."

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—Mel

="What are you doing after graduation?" It’s a question that makes me cringe every time I hear it. Recently, I’ve started reacting with a shrug, which leads whoever is asking to say, "Oh, should I not ask?"

"No," I say. "You can. But don’t have an answer."

As April comes to a close, I’m still wondering what my next adventure will be post-graduation. Not having a plan, not having a job, not having any idea of my future after Conn used to terrify me. When I began coming here, I naively believed that I would graduate with a well-paying, sophisticated career

1hank you for writing

Managing Editor Julia Cristofano for keeping me out of trouble (in my writing and otherwise), supporting me unconditionally (nobody will ever call me a benefactor), and never failing to impress me with his ideas, designs and cry over InDesign. Dave, in particular, has helped me achieve and plans can change more quickly than the mood at a Cro Dance. But new aspirations are set, and it’s healthier to be open-minded to unexpected opportunities.

With three weeks till graduation, I’m (weirdly?) calm. Euphoric, even. Any and all possibilities exist. Any and all adventures abound.

This past Sunday was the last standard college "party" night, wrapping up the semester with a rainy, frigid Canopy dance. This weekend is Floralia, then finals, then senior week and graduation. With so few adventures left to socialize on this campus, I spent (and failed) to have a successful food column. We’ve grown more than one late night in the office. We tried (and

One of Ayla’s most consistent parts of my four-year journey. Among the staff of The College Voice, the desire for improvement is not only palpable, it is recorded and documented throughout the 14 issues we’ve produced this year.

As April comes to a close, I’m still wondering what my next adventure will be post-graduation. Not having a plan, not having a job, not having any idea of my future after Conn used to terrify me. When I began coming here, I naively believed that I would graduate with a well-paying, sophisticated career in New York City. As I’ve grown up on this campus, I’ve learned that some expectations are never met, some goals are never achieved, and the things I thought would be better than life are quicker than the mood at a Cro Dance. But new aspirations are set, and it’s healthier to be open-minded to unexpected opportunities.

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It’s hard to focus on the present when the future is a handful of Camel cookies, a few school-sponsored free drinks and a piece of paper away.

At the same time, I’ve noticed that in the past few weeks, my attitude has begun to shift from that of a frazzled student independent to student twenty-something-year-old. It’s taken almost four years, but I finally feel a better publication; he’s made me a better editor.

The Voice has been the most consistent part of my time at Conn. I’ve had friends come and go, classes begin and end, majors considered and reconsidered. But since I walked into the first Voice meeting of the 2010-2011 school year, I’ve been back every Monday night.

Taking charge next year is former Opinions editor Ayla Zuraw-Friedland. Ayla joined The College Voice, the second semester of her freshman year. We bonded by posting pictures of cake via Pinterest on each other’s Facebook walls the following summer; I knew in that moment that she was a trustworthy individual.

Over the past three years, I’ve watched Ayla grow as a writer, editor and individual. We’ve praised One Direction and danced on the old, grimy Vibe couch on more than one late night in the office. We tried (and

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No pressure, but guys, but I think you can make the paper rock ‘n’ roll. Just don’t fall victim to the Spice Girls Pandora station. And take down that poster of Justin Bieber.

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Tonight will be our last meeting: tonight Mel and I will sing so beautifully: The rest is still unwritten.

I trust their judgment. I’m proud of the smart, sexy staff that has worked so hard this year to help us improve and improve, pitch ideas and cry over InDesign. Dave, in particular, has never failed to impress me with his ideas, designs and sometimes passive aggressive emails that whip the staff into shape when we hit a lag. He’s made The College Voice a better publication; he’s made me a better editor.

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FROM YOUR FUTURE EIC

During my semester abroad, while residing in a small, un-insulated cabin somewhere in the upper peaks of the Andes Mountains in Peru, I received an email from the local and realized there was no escape. I also realized that I didn’t mind that in the least.

When I joined the Voice as a first-year student, I made the mistake of sitting at a desk with what is possibly the grimmest sofa in all of existence that calls the Voice office home. I watched the barrier between the editors and the rest of the world in awe of their advanced maturity, wisdom, humor and obvious mastery of the English language. They joked, they criticized (both the school and one another), they casually mentioned jaunts to the mythic campus bar. These were the beautiful people.

And they still are. While the non-worthy feelings have subsided to a point where I can stand to stare directly at Dave, Melanie and Julia without being blinding by their shining example, all seriousness, I completely admire and respect them as college journalists, intellectuals, and, overall human beings. They turned the newspaper from a not-quite-charming campus tabloid to a legitimate source of news that I haven’t seen used to clean up spills in spo resident campus bars.

It contains things like words and ideas, good words and ideas. For lack of a better word: it’s sexy and I can only hope that I can maintain this progress.

In terms of the “vision” I’m supposed to have for the coming year to make the paper my own, I don’t think I’ve gotten that far. I’ve gotten to the point where the idea of running this paper is only slightly less exhausting than eventual graduation. All I know at this point is that I have a pretty fantastic staff of enthusiastic editors, as well as a few old and new-ish from this year’s legendary staff.

I think Dan Sorkin in advance for creating an incantation of bubble-blowing men in the face of all DFH and Descriptions. I promise I will tag-teem you out when it gets to be past your bedtime. Thank you to Luca, Matteo, Elena and Hallie for their dedication to being graduating seniors and sticking around our quiet, chair-crowded office. Even though there are moments I consider stealing these people and Met’s diploma and making them stay forever, I don’t think there is anyone here that could have prepared me as a first-year for the better challenge that awaits you.

-Ayla

FROM OPINIONS

These sorts of pieces have one of two endings. The first kind ends happily—the message being that things at this school are improving, that we are being kinder to each other or more inclusive, that everyone is trying and things are working. The second kind is admonishing, usually, telling us that we need to change, things aren’t looking good, “there’s an angle here!” “Oh, it’s been said before—I know because I have for the coming year to make the paper my own, I don’t think I’ve gotten that far. I’ve gotten to the point where the idea of running this paper is only slightly less exhausting than eventual graduation. All I know at this point is that I have a pretty fantastic staff of enthusiastic editors, as well as a few old and new-ish from this year’s legendary staff.

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FROM COPY

People love referring to things as “an art.” For example, “editing is an art,” some editors would quip. I disagree. To me, art is fluid and irrational, adhering to rules set only by the artist (Dave can attest to that). The choice to set rules exists, and they can be dictated by inconsistencies: cultural climate, individual morals and precedent. Grammar, however, is consistent. It is elegant and relevant, and we should all take a moment to appreciate it.

Grammar allows us to be who we are by keeping us in check. We need its rules and regulations for the sake of professionalism, communication and consistency. Being able to express oneself adequately is the basis for everything. My love affair with grammar began during my freshman year of high school, when my English teacher implored us to her knowledge of the positive correlation between grammar and employment. I wouldn’t go so far as to say that having good grammar will get you a job, but having a grasp of the Oxford comma will keep your resume clean and concise. Language is, to say the least, very important to me because communication is also very important to me. Discovering channels through which we can reach one another in exciting and sometimes terrifying, but it allows us to embrace similarities and differences that we can learn two things and experience. Language is the tip of the iceberg in terms of modes of communication, and it opens up a world of experience that few have the

Access your own space. Explore your own channels. Deepen your knowledge and broaden your interests. Do so with proper grammar. It will only benefit you in the end.

-Hallie

FROM NEWS

The members of the dining staff based in Evans Hall, the 2014 vagina Monologues and of course, the third annual TEDxConnecticut College I was lucky enough to join. Of course, this office and its programs have served as a safe haven for myself and countless others; it also serves as a reminder of the passion so many people here have for the surrounding community regardless of ostensibly dominant “skinny.” New London blanket statements. The professors and students of the Department of Government and International Relations have brought the caliber of my education to an incredibly high point, which I am so appreciative of.

Trying new things my senior year was one of the best decisions I could have made. Two of these experiences both culminated in Events Hall. The 2014 vagina Monologues and of course, the third annual TEDxConnecticut College I was lucky enough to join. Of course, this office and its programs have served as a safe haven for myself and countless others; it also serves as a reminder of the passion so many people here have for the surrounding community regardless of ostensibly dominant “skinny.” New London blanket statements. The professors and students of the Department of Government and International Relations have brought the caliber of my education to an incredibly high point, which I am so appreciative of.

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Second Language Acquisition Class: learning through Community Involvement

ELLIE NANN STORCK
STAFF WRITER

Every year, after the excitement of Floralia and the rush of completing senior year, this is when the seniors reach the bittersweet end of their journey at Connecticut College and are given the opportunity to explore new experiences through the Senior Week Committee. This year, Senior Week, which is sponsored by the Student Union and supported by the President's Office, has been titled "The Final Tour '14." Leading the 2014 Senior Week committee is Professor Katherine Bergeron, a member of the English and Environmental Sciences faculty, who has been given the opportunity to bring English and Environmental Sciences students together to guide discussions of the arts and sciences.

One of the most notable events was a post-doctoral fellow at the Danell-Niering Center for the Environment, who went to RMMS to teach Russian to a group of Conn students in 2008. Since then, RMMS students have been in touch with their Russian students, and many have created new interdisciplinary connections through cross-listed courses at the university. Professor Neely, one of the newest English professors at the college, is teaching a course called "The interdisciplinary conversation," which is a second language acquisition class that students can take for credit. The course is being taught by Professor Neely and is interdisciplinary, as it brings together students from different departments who have an interest in the interdisciplinary nature of the course, especially through our five academic centers and the common choice of students to double major. She explained, "The interdisciplinary conversations and the real efforts in that direction are really exciting to me." She called her collaboration with the center "one of the most exciting elements of my year so far, seeing the incredible projects the Goodwin-Niering students do." As a group of students from different departments who wouldn't necessarily be talking to each other, they're excited about their work.

On joining our college community, Professor Neely explained her initial reaction: "I've been really struck by how friendly and welcoming the community is." She added, "Even on the first day of the year, everyone was hugging and talking to each other." She explained that doing physical movements in the arts and sciences, such as the "Lily Pad" dance, which is held on Saturday, May 17, at the Firefly Music Festival Gala for family and friends to celebrate the night before the 96th Commencement on Sunday.

The senior week co-chairs both share the sentiment that working on the committee has been a rewarding experience. "Working senior week has been absolutely phenomenal," said Tajeda. "I never thought it would result in closer bonds and connections with so many juniors." The committee meets weekly to plan and coordinate each event of the much-anticipated week that represents the culmination of senior year. "It has required a lot of time and dedication, but I know once it all comes together it will all be worth it," said Tajeda. "It has helped me realize just how much goes into planning night time events which has helped me understand the importance of the Student Union councils and the Office of Student Engagement."

Seniors, rest assured that because of the Senior Week Committee's dedication and hard work, you have a lot to look forward to in the coming weeks!
Floralia: A Recent History

Memories of the Past and Upcoming Excitement

SARAH LANGFITT
CONTRIBUTOR

The name is ever more graceful and harmonious than the actual day, the cacophony-filled blur of fun, or the people living it could ever be. Freshmen hear whispers of it beginning during Orientation; the legendary day that everyone has that one story about, starting with, “This one time last year at Floralia.” It is said with a slight grin on your face, the memory bringing a spark of both nostalgia and excitement to your eyes. This is the legendary day that leaves the campus (and its students) a wasteland strewn with the cherry red solo cups. But there’s more to the story than that; Annalise Keeler ’14 mentions how one of her favorite parts about Floralia is that “it’s a day to relax and be with the community.”

Last year’s Floralia, with its perfectly sunny weather, was a great example of the campus coming together under dozens and dozens of tents to enjoy live music and forget all worries of school work and upcoming finals.

Historically, Floralia is a celebration of Conn’s students: it was born from the mind of a sophomore, Tim Scull, Class of 1979. Floralia was the product of an independent study project in theater Scull was working to come up for tenure again at a look into the possibility for her contract to be extended or to hopefully voted to award Professor Keeler ’14 mentions how one of her favorite parts about Floralia is that “it’s a day to relax and be with the community.”

“Right after everyone takes a nap and the storm finally cleared up "my friends and I walked outside of nearby dorm to head to the Library Green, there was a beautiful rainbow spread over campus. It must have been perfect!” Even Fowlie’s ’14 favorite brief memory of Floralia from back in 2010: “Popping balloons with Hoodie Allen.” Let’s be honest, that’s pretty hard to top.

Floralia carries with it the carefree warmth of summer and the promise that finals will soon be over. The day so anticipated, whose survivors are left like the post-modern youths of the college days, watching the sunset go down as the smoke and noise clears in the background—the glorious victors of yet another ridiculous battle with reality. Floralia will carry its own composition relative to each individual person. Floralia can be anything you want it to be. Is it what you make it, which was Tim Scull’s idea all the way back in the ’70s.

Sharma's tenure denial. “Ideally, the best way to keep the momentum going is to keep Professor Sharma here and in the leadership position that she has always occupied, whose survivors are left like the post-modern youths of the college days, watching the sunset go down as the smoke and noise clears in the background—the glorious victors of yet another ridiculous battle with reality. Floralia will carry its own composition relative to each individual person. Floralia can be anything you want it to be. Is it what you make it, which was Tim Scull’s idea all the way back in the ’70s.

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Sharma the John S. King Excellence in Teaching Award, “given to a professor whom the student body has deemed to have shown an extraordinary commitment to students by promoting student participation and involvement both inside and outside the classroom.” Advocating for Sharma at SGA, Molly Longstreth ’15 declared, “Professor Sharma demonstrates the core values that Conn has ingrained in its students: integrity, academic rigor, and compassion. Through her teaching and mentorship, she has shown us what it means to be ethical, feminist, and activist individuals. The loss of such a powerful and beloved member of the faculty has brought about much concern about the future of the GWS department and the effect on the larger campus community.” “The work that Professor Sharma has done in the classroom contributes to the overall story that we are trying to tell on this campus and the culture shift surrounding gender-based issues and power-based personal violence,” said Darcie Polomski, Director of Sexual Violence Prevention and Advocacy. In a note to the appeal committee, Colleen Bunn, former Residential Area Coordinator and advisor to the Women’s Center, wrote, “By denying Professor Sharma tenure, the College is again demonstrating that they do not hold gender education as a priority on campus.” “By creating a dynamic where the students in the GWS department do not have consistent mentors and academic leaders, the academic work in the college goes down,” lamented Bunn. This is a particularly troubling observation given that the GWS department was identified earlier in the semester, during the curricular reVision week, as a department that exemplified inclusive excellence and a commitment to cross-disciplinary academics. Anaea Kalia ’16, co-chair of the GWS Student Advisory Board, voiced similar concerns about the larger implications of Sharma’s tenure denial. “Ideally, I think the best way to keep the momentum going is to keep Professor Sharma here and in the leadership position that she has always occupied, whose survivors are left like the post-modern youths of the college days, watching the sunset go down as the smoke and noise clears in the background—the glorious victors of yet another ridiculous battle with reality. Floralia will carry its own composition relative to each individual person. Floralia can be anything you want it to be. Is it what you make it, which was Tim Scull’s idea all the way back in the ’70s.

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Retention & Rigor in the Center for Art and Technology

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

in 1998, but Friedman has been managing the day-to-day operations of the center since she took her post in 1996 after having graduated from the College in 1980. She is responsible for recruiting students, helping them through the center’s application process and advising them on their projects since they’ve been accepted. “I’m very much into the logistics,” said Friedman. “I ask them what they envision their final project to be, and then work backwards from there.”

When Tony Knapp ’14 arrived at Conn, he was strongly interested in technical theater, though he says “less as an artist than as a technician problem solver.” The Center for Arts and Technology seemed like a good way to merge his interest in lighting, sound and technology, so he applied and was accepted to the program during his sophomore year. However, Knapp says that he “didn’t really have anything much to do with the program until senior year; and then I kind of sat down, picked a project, and realized at some point that I was an awful artist—mainly because I’ve never been an artist.

Though all of the interdisciplinary centers induct students during their sophomore year, CAT is different from the others in that it focuses heavily on the students’ senior year projects. Students apply with a general idea of the types of projects they might pursue, but these rough concepts are usually far removed from the projects the students end up with. Up until senior year, much of the students’ involvement in the center consists of advising, making sure that students are registering for classes that align with their own goals and the center’s requirements, and ensuring that students are getting valuable, intensive experiences through their summer internships. “But the goal and beauty of the program,” said Friedman, “is the senior year project.”

Because of so much of the work up until senior year is preparatory and does not relate directly to the students’ final projects, the weight and rigor of the yearlong assignment can come as a surprise. “When that reality hits some students, they may find that their project is no longer aligned with their interests,” explained Friedman.

During what Friedman describes as “an intensive year of independent study and research,” CAT students would come together for a weekly seminar run by Ross Morin, Assistant Professor of Film Studies. The seminar serves as a workshop, where ideas are discussed and students are given the opportunity to both present and defend their projects to a group of peers and advisors. CAT project “requirements may come from any major and each work with a multitude of different advisors, the seminar provides some continuity among student experiences and connections among their projects. However, both students who dropped and those who followed through with the program say that the seminars tended to be extremely frustrating. “People were much more critical this year about projects’ prospects,” said Bruce Haik ’14. “The truth is a lot of time you explain your idea to the seminar, and people don’t get it but are trying to be critical at the same time. People get upset about it. I think that the advisors themselves need to be part of the seminar in some way, so you get that sort of band-aid for your ideas—especially early on.”

Despite this, Haik continued with the program, saying, “as we’ve approach the end I’ve become less frustrated. Most of the people quit during the first period where there was a lot of heated discussion.” For its CAT project, Haik compiled 800 pop songs from the past four years from four different genres. Using Python—a computer coding language—Haik created a running file of the lyrics from all 800 songs that he could manipulate to perform analysis, like finding out which words are most commonly used in each genre.

“You can enter a set of lyrics and it can tell you what genre those lyrics are most connected to. You might find a country song with lyrics that are more reminiscent of rap, but because of the song’s other qualities it’s in the country genre,” explained Haik.

Haik, along with Georgia Naumann, Sara Rosenberg and Dan White, supervise the four seniors who will be graduating as CAT scholars this year. “The four students—although we would of course like [the program] to be bigger—are very solid. They’ve accomplished amazing things, they set out with goals,” said Friedman.

Friedman and Haik both described a “breakthrough” point, where students’ projects begin to take shape, and they can move through their individual studies more swiftly without having to worry about defending their ideas against criticism so adamantly. For Junda Juuda ’14, though, the breakthrough did not come soon enough.

First and foremost, I left the program because my goals had shifted and they weren’t in line with the program,” said Juuda. But Juuda also expressed exasperation with the slow rate of progress that occurred as a result of having no many different sources of feedback and direction, Juuda, who admits that he wasn’t “super confident” in his project to begin with, felt as though he “was being pulled in all different directions.”

Knapp echoed this sentiment, adding, “I’ve talked to people outside and inside the department—CAT is cognitive of how hard this is to make a good project. They just aren’t confident of a solution. If you really get your butt in gear and figure it out on your own, everyone is willing to help if you ask the right questions of the right people. But if you don’t know the right questions to ask, that dropping looks pretty good.”

“It is a problem in some ways,” said Friedman, speaking of the discrepancies between students’ goals and ideas and the feedback delivered through the seminar. “But in the work world—the real world—you have to wear many hats. To be getting feedback from so many different people is very beneficial.”

“We talk to alumni all the time who are talking about the amazing training and experience they received through CAT. The working world is all about synthesizing information. That’s what employers are looking for—different perspectives, people who can work in a team, and thinking like a real good training.”

Dan White considers his experience with the program to be “one of the more positive.” White came into the program with a very clear idea of what he wanted to do—create an audio-based video game for the blind. Unlike those who joined the hoping for something else, White approached the center with a fully-fledged concept, which he has brought to realization throughout this year.

White recognizes the intensity of the demands the center places on its students. “If I didn’t have something that I was personally invested in, I wouldn’t have stuck it out on the project,” he said. “But I didn’t mind working on it late into the night, I enjoy coding and I’m visually impaired myself.”

Of the seminar, White mentioned that Professor Morin holds people to high standards—more so, he believes, than in past years. Additionally, Morin “comes it things with more of an arts perspective. If you’re a technical person, that can be very jarring. He expects you to know why you’re doing something. We [that stayed] can really defend why we do what we do.”

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Students Reflect on Trips to Taiwan and Japan

MARINA STUART
STAFF WRITER

On April 16, students from two classes within the East Asian Studies department gathered in the atrium above Harris to share their experiences about visiting Taiwan and Okinawa, Japan over spring break. The symposium was sponsored by the Academic Resource Center.

The Taiwan trip was led by Señor Lecture in Chinese Tsek-wah King and included students from the Intermediate Chinese class. "We chose to take these students because they are pre-adult students who have been studying the traditional Chinese characters, which are only used nowadays in Hong Kong and Taiwan," said Professor Watanabe. "This was an opportunity for the students to see and use these characters, which are familiar with them." This trip was arranged through the Traveling Research and Immersion Program (TRIPs) at Connecticut College, and is traditionally done every four years, however this time it had been eight years since the previous trip.

The trip to Okinawa was led by Visiting Assistant Professor of Japanese Takehiko Watanabe for his course centered around Post-World War II Japan. "I wanted to take them to a smaller Japanese island, one with more diversity within the culture," said Professor Watanabe. "Okinawa has a different culture and different problems parts than Japan, and I wanted to show that to the students."

While on the Taiwan trip, each student had to focus on a different project while away; and each April poster dedicated to his or her topic at the symposium. Projects included "Theater in Contemporary Tai-" by Annie Glidden ‘16, "Tea Time: Taiwan’s Tea Culture" by Lily Ky ‘16 and "Taiwanese Street Food: More Than Snakes, Bugs, and Monkey Brains" by Eirik Wu-Leung ‘16.

As Wu-Leung said about his topic, "There were some students who took advantage of the traditional Chinese characters which have a very sacred religion. It is important to show their stories to the students." Watanabe echoed his student's opinions. "I was very inspired by the survivors of WWII and wanted to show to their stories to the students. Also we also went to a small, untainted island off of Okinawa, which has a very sacred religion. I think that students really enjoyed learning about that as well." Sara Gildersleeve ‘15 went on the trip hoping to learn more about the relationship between Japan and Okinawa. Her project was titled "Okinawan Identity as a Political Force" and focused on the political and economic forces that influence the Okinawan identity today.

What she found, however, was a trip structured around learning about all the different aspects of Okinawa and hearing stories from all sides of the issues there. "We went to a cave where Okinawan school girls worked as nurses during the Battle of Okinawa in World War II; at one point we turned off all the lights to experience what it would have been like for those girls. Afterwards we went to a peace memorial and then heard a survivor's testimo- ny. I couldn't imagine being there trapped in such a claustrophobic space." Said Gildersleeve. "My most profound moment on the trip was how much my views about the world changed, the general picture was more complicated, and the more I heard, the less I knew."*

Student Occupation of Taiwanese Legislature Comes to an End

SCOTT KALUNZY
CONTRIBUTOR

This article is a follow-up to a previous article on the occupation of the Taiwanese legislature. The students who have been occupying the legislature in Taipei by Taiwanese students have come to an end after more than 24 days of continual protest and intense political maneuvering on the part of both the protesters and the government. Though the issues at hand have been kicked temporarily down the road, the dynamic and unprecedented events of the past six weeks will no doubt affect the political trajectory of Taiwan and the East Asian region for years to come.

Taiwanese student protesters forced their way into the legislature in Taipei on March 18 to protest a controversial trade agreement with mainland Chi- na. The agreement, called the "Cross-Strait Services Trade Agreement," was signed between representatives of the Taiwanese and mainland Chinese governments in Shanghai in June 2013. The agreement was controversial in Taiwan from the outset, with many, especially the younger generation, fearing that closer economic integra- tion with the mainland would compromise Taiwan's econom- ically and put Taiwan's demo- cratic political system in danger of being undermined by politicians in Beijing.

Mainland China views Taiwan as a breakaway province and has made clear its intention to integrate the island into the sphere of influence, using force if necessary. Despite a recent improvement in relations be- tween the two sides of the Taiwan Strait, many Taiwanese remain dis-trustful of mainland China.

The leaders and students participa- ting in the occupation, now called the "Sunflower Student Move- ment," decided on April 7 that their controversial occupation of the par- liament would end. However, 16 political issues surrounding the protests, however, are far from re- solved. In making the decision to leave the legislature, protest lead- ers made clear that the decision was the result of a shift in strategy, not a change in goals. When first oc- cupying the legislature, they had made clear that their goals were twofold. First, they intended to force the government to withdraw or severely modify the trade pact between Taiwan and mainland Chi- na. Second, they wanted all future deals with Beijing to be put under close scrutiny by a supervisory body that would deter- mine if and how the deals would compromise Taiwan's political system, economic strength and na- tional security.

Republic of China (Taiwan) Presi- dent Ma Ying-Jeou had made clear that while a future mechanism for reviewing cross-strait agreements would be considered in the fu- ture, the Taiwan Relations Act, which the students had been calling for, could not be negotiated, and had to be accepted as-is. However, Wang Jin-Ping, the legislative speaker, had promised to delay ratification of the pact until a clear review pro- cess was decided on. Therefore, the students decided that enough of their demands had been met to jus- tify ending the protests in the Yuan, although they have promised future demonstrations of a more tradition- al nature in the future.

Connecticut College Professor of Government and International Relations Ken Mooney said, "The Politics of Interdependence and Conflict across the Taiwan Strait, has studied the development of economic and political interaction between Taiwan and mainland Chi- na. He attributes the protest to a failed "psychological adjustment to a new reality," in which Taiwan, once an economic powerhouse of the Asia-Pacific region, is now falling behind rivals like Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea. In his opinion, economic integration is inevitable amongst a worldwide movement towards globalized mar- kets. Even without the passage of a trade pact, Taiwan believes, Taiwan will still like to become more and more politically and economically dependent on mainland China. The new pact, he said, is an inevitable result of global economic move- ment that will have to be passed eventually if Taiwan is to remain competitive in the global market.

Nevertheless, many Taiwanese remain deeply skeptical about the effects of the trade pact on their way of life. The trade pact has an expected positive contribution to GDP of just 0.03% over ten years, and would involve an influx of mainland media and capital that some fear would serve to slowly force Taiwan to come under the control of the mainland govern- ment. Many in Taiwan are deeply concerned that along with this re-

integration will come an eventual erosion of the civil liberties and rights Taiwanese have gained over decades of struggle and civil action.

The date the protesters vacated the legislature, April 10, was chosen because 35 years ago on that day the United States enacted the Taiwan Relations Act, which suggested - but did not guarantee - that the United States would come to Taiwan's aid in the case of an invasion by China. Nevertheless, many Taiwanese were wary of this move, fearing that the "Taiwan Issue" could damage relations between the world two largest economies, and its impact on the uncertain future of Taiwan. Views on the pact and the protests are still in flux, with both being found controversial and undemocratic by certain sectors of Taiwanese society. Municipal elec- tions, scheduled for November, will give the Taiwanese people a chance to voice their opinions on both is- sues. Until then, it may be impos- sible to say if it was the government or the protesters who won this latest round of political upheaval in Tai- wan.*

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All Souls, 19 Jay Street, New London. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
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Off-Campus Housing Policy

KAT BARKER & LILY PLOTKIN
CONTRIBUTORS

The Debating Conns Off-Campus Housing Policy

Colin Lang Staff Writer

Conn is a residential college with on-campus housing guaranteed all four years; we all came here well aware of this fact. The 2014-2015 housing lottery booklet clearly states, "Students are expected to live in residence at the College unless they are expressly granted permission by their parents, guardians, spouse or dependents within a 50 mile radius of the campus." For the past several years, however, due to a housing crunch, a select few full-time, senior status, students, who are not married and have not had kids, have been able to rent homes in the New London area independent from the College. For the '14-'15 academic year, seniors are no longer able to rent homes in the New London Police Department. There is a slight chance that off-campus housing would have open housing during the summer; however, it's unlikely that it would only last for a month. We don't anticipate needing to release seniors from their campus housing contract as we have in the past few years. Nons

If you have never lived off-campus, your initial thoughts are, "How wonderful! I could cook for myself! No Harris food! I could live with my friends and not be bothered by fire drills or noisy, drunk strangers." The idea of off-campus housing for our school could be healthy for the ever-senior students, but I came to Conn because I wanted my academic experience to be meaningful. Living within New London neighborhood could encourage more students to become active and engaged community members. However, only 20 students currently live off-campus and 171 lives on campus and only 1,712 of those make a more conscious effort to engage with the community. For the past seven years, seniors have been able to rent homes in the New London area. Conn Students, we danced the night away in the '90s pop music. This "unusual adventure" sparked our interest to find out more. We talked to a good friend of ours, Georgina Namnaa about the issue. Keep in mind, this is our roommate who comes home practically every day with a new flyer from a restaurant we have never heard of or an event on campus. So, whether you've had three years or less than a month left in New London, find your places in New Lo!

The Places You'll Go, Here in New Lo

LILY KAT BARKER & PLOTKIN

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sities, provide guidance for accurate grade translations. Often, they are presented in the form of a scale (for example: if a student earns a 63, that converts to a B in the American system.) Foreign programs can choose to do conversions themselves and send in the final grades in the form of an official transcript or send the grades in their raw form along with a clear system that determines how grades should be translated.

That being said, the grades themselves cannot be changed by Conn administrators. This is stated in the Connecticut College Study Abroad Handbook: "The College will not change the grades or number of credits awarded by another institution and/or a program instructor." The grades they receive come in the form of a legal document and cannot be touched except to do the standardized conversions. There is no F or N or dark magic done to the grades received, other than to look at a chart and enter the corresponding American grade. More often, they aren’t changed.

After all is said and done, some students are left more unpleasantly shocked than pleasantly surprised by what they see on their new transcript. Sometimes, regardless of whether or not they worked hard through the semester, their grades just seem lower than expected.

It is a natural first reaction to take it up with the Office of Study Away. The issue seems to be that the whole grading system is not fully integrated into the Conn system. The Study Away Office seems to be under the impression that all students are given a summary of the grading system by their program or university during orientation. This is not always the case. However, it is up to the university to provide them at a certain point, not Conn. Though we are aware of the fact that our final grades will be factored into our overall GPA, the process behind it seems shady: It doesn’t help that when we email the Office we are, more often than not, told that everything will be fine and to not worry. In the eyes of the Study Away office back here it is understood.

It should really be like looking at colleges all over again. There are so many resources to inform yourself about whether the program is right for you.” said Parson.

An element of the experience of Study Away as a whole is being surprised by how you find yourself. For some, the culture itself is confusing and new (“Culture Shock” is one of many issues covered in the Study Away manual.) Kensey, as well as fellow juniors, Abigail Stevenson and Will Pisanho, say that they felt relatively unprepared for their transition into UCT. “We were really not given any information about the grading system or other aspects of the university program,” said Pisanho. It is unclear whether the Study Away Office gave these students any indication that past students had issues studying at UCT. This would have been worth mentioning during the application process.

That said, I agree with Parson that it is really the student’s responsibility to do all the possible research on their selected program to be sure that they go in with at least a rudimentary sketch of what their experience might look like. It is a privilege to have the option to study abroad, so the process of finding a program that fits your needs should be taken seriously. Part of the search should include looking at the size of the university, the location, housing options, and offered courses, among other things. For sophomores in college, the process should really be more independent, more than when students applied to college, and that should come with the basic responsibility of knowing the fundamentals of the program.

Pisanho, Kensey, and other students that recently returned from study away passed a resolution in SGA that may lead to policy changes in a way that would allow students to take their classes abroad as Pass/Fail rather than for a grade. This idea has some merit allowing students to take their classes Pass/Fail would alleviate some of the academic stress added to the initial anxieties of immersion in another language. This could give students more opportunity to travel and fully commit themselves to exploring the culture.

Colby College does not count credits taken abroad toward the students’ overall GPA as stated in their student handbook: “The policy to grant credit, but not factor grades into the GPA for non-Colby programs stems from the inherent impossibility of controlling the curricula of all the programs that we approve for credit transfer.” It is a fair point that counting credit hours is important to give students some indication on how their grades have been performed at another institution that cannot be exactly equivalent to Colby College. It is unclear whether the credits are taken abroad, and the Conn experience if we are physically leaving campus to experience the outside world. Why should grades from classes we take elsewhere be so fully integrated into our Conn records?

Again, though, how useful can this resolution be if, as the Study Away handbook mentions, even if we were to be given merely a chunk of noncommittal, Pass/Fail credit on our official Conn transcripts, graduate schools and employers are still perfectly within their rights to expect some kind of measurable impact on the students to provide an additional transcript from their foreign university that shows the current system. After reading the conference, or to maintain the current system. After reading the Study Away handbooks of nearly all of the NESCAC schools, I found that all of the programs are inherently the same. They all expect their students to take charge in deciding to study away and making their own experience while still being mindful of academic challenges in the midst of new, cultural ones.

Lost in Translation

Difficulties with the transfer of credits taken abroad

It is a privilege to have the option to study abroad, so the process of finding a program that fits your needs should be taken seriously.
Calculating Worth:
Conn’s Value As More Than a Price Tag

SARAH HUCKINS
STAFF WRITER

Two weeks ago, a friend told me about one of the hardest questions she’s faced as a Tour Guide. She was showing a prospective student and her parents around campus when the student’s mother asked, “What makes the Conn experience worth $60,000?” The story was told over dinner amidst light conversation, but after leaving J.A., the question stayed with me, gnawing at the back of my mind. The question, or rather my lack of an answer, shook me. I was disconcerted that after four years I couldn’t clearly articulate a response, even to myself.

But the next day the answer came to me. I was in Castle Court as the sun set, watching Mayra Valle’s senior thesis dance piece, and I thought to myself that this day was the perfect example of the Conn experience, and what it is truly worth. It had been a quintessential spring afternoon but students had flocked inside, eschewing the radiant sunshine to fill Evans Hall. For the better part of the day, I sat alongside my peers listening to inspiring and thought-provoking TED talks, dashing out to attend a friend’s senior voice recital, finally ending up at the Dance Department Concert.

It was a predominantly sedentary day, but one that highlighted the incredible abundance of talent and dedication amongst my fellow Camels. Standing there in the twilight, letting the circulation come back to my feet, I realized that for me, Connecticut College is defined by the incredible students and the opportunities the school provides them to pursue and showcase their passions. But the question still niggled me. Conn may cost $58,780 a year, but does that really indicate its worth?

Reflecting on my four years at Conn, it is difficult to quantify the value of my experience. You can break down the cost of room, board and tuition, but it’s much harder to account for friendships, bonds and shared experiences. To answer the question of what makes the Connecticut College experience worth $60,000 a year implies that I agree that the Conn experience is indeed worth $60,000. This is hard to say. Can I really put a price on the relationships I have made and opportunities I have been afforded as a result of being a Camel?

Conn is an expensive school. It makes sense for prospective students and their parents to think critically about the cost of attendance. But to equate Conn’s worth with its price tag seems to me to undermine its true value. Important to consider are the unquantifiable aspects of the Conn experience. The inspiring friends and peers I’ve had since my first day at Conn, and will continue to treasure after graduation, the professors who will continue to serve as mentors long after I leave the classroom, the moments that have long since passed but will remain forever in nostalgic reminiscence; these elements of Conn transcend the cost of attendance.

Applications open for:
FOREIGN LANGUAGE FELLOWS

Nominate yourself or another student to serve as a Foreign Language Fellow in 2014-15. Fellows earn a stipend for organizing events related to the languages and cultures studied at Connecticut College.

For more information, contact Laura Little llittle@conncoll.edu (102 Blaustein)

Energetic and organized students or native speakers of German, French, Spanish, Italian, Arabic, Russian, Japanese, and Chinese are encouraged to apply. Fluency in the language is welcome, but not required. Nominations will be accepted through April 30. The Foreign Language Fellows are part of the Mellon Initiative on Global Education.
MELANIE THIBEAULT
EDITOR IN CHIEF

I was disappointed last spring to hear that NBC had canceled Go On after only one season. Starring an older Chandler Bing and that kid from Everybody Hates Chris, the show centered on an eclectic Bing and that kid from Everybody Hates Chris. But its premise has remained hesitant, anxious about what counselor — Forster called it a "friend." But are students more reluctant to attend group meetings at smaller institutions, such as the NESACs, or is this a bigger challenge of encouraging students to share and open up with peers that span colleges and universities of all population sizes?

At least at smaller schools, "the odds are greater that you will run into roommates, siblings, and classmates," said Sandy Lee, director of Counseling Services at Trinity College.

A sense of security may be lost at smaller colleges, which may hinder students from signing up for a session.

I may or may not know when I walk into the session. Forster legitimized my thoughts: "You can walk into the group and know someone there, which is anxiety-producing. The group has to deal with that and figure it out if it's going to work or not." I respect and adhere to the Honor Code and believe that many of my peers do as well, but human nature allows for mistakes and slip-ups. And so, I have yet to attend a session of group therapy. I have seriously thought about it, excavated for a slot a few weeks ago. But the day before, I called to cancel.

Timing was the initial conflict I felt that I had work when the group was planning to meet. But when debating whether or not to reschedule for a group on a different afternoon, I decided against it. I was afraid. I didn't know which of my classmates would be sitting on the couches when I walked in; I didn't know if I wanted to open up to people I had met and had classes with or lived with or dined with. The smallness of the Conn community is something that I treasure and is one of the main reasons that I chose to enroll. But sometimes that smallness feels a little too small.

I know that I am not alone in this feeling.

Many higher-education institutions are implementing group therapy in addition to offering one-on-one sessions with a counselor. At UConn, which have populations closer to 20,000, may have groups with 20 people as opposed to five or six. At these places, there are fewer chances that a student will run into someone that he or she knows, though of course, it's still a possibility.

According to a mental health professional at the University of Hartford, attendance is difficult even at this bigger institution "due to a host of factors, including finding a time that works for multiple people's schedules and setting the idea of being in a group, which can be more anxiety-provoking for some people." Even at bigger schools, students worry about the idea of sharing with others.

Forster assured me that she has never had any issues of confidentiality breach in any groups at Conn. "Once students are in the group, they recognize that everybody signs an agreement, that everybody is there to get support, and everybody is anxious about it," she said. "We know that everyone will keep things confidential."

Three criteria on the group agreement form that students must sign when they join a group include: "to keep what is talked about in the group and who is in the group confidential," "to attend week by week," and "to attend at least three meetings" and let the group know if you decide to stop attending.

Forster believes that the hesitancy of students to attend groups lies more in the practice of sharing than in anxiety about who will be in their group. Counseling services encourages students who attend groups to try not to censor themselves, which might be easier said than done. Even if students feel comfortable with counselors and counselors in their group, it might be a personality trait or internal anxiety that hinders them from fully delving into a discussion of their feelings.

Despite the initial hesitations, group counseling can offer students many benefits that one-on-one counseling sessions can't. For example, at Conn's Counseling Services, "You can interact with peers and don't feel alone in the process, and get good, realistic feedback and support," said Lana Spoltore, Director of Connecticut College's Counseling Services.

"But you can also challenge your beliefs," by hearing other people's perspectives.

In an article for the International Journal of Group Psychotherapy, Dr. Elliot M. Zeisel describes group therapy as "a verbal gym where you can strengthen certain emotional muscles and emerge with a better defined capacity to process your emotional life as it unfolds." Hearing from group members "contributes to personality integration and maturation," he continues.

The notion of relatedness is important to the success of any group. It's an opportunity to have relationships of the same age... it's an opportunity much different from the classroom experience," said Margie Bowen, a psychologist intern at Conn's Counseling Services.

"It's a much more intimate, interpersonal experience. Groups can even develop friendships and support systems that last outside of the classroom," Forster said.

That said, each group must decide how to deal with interactions outside of meetings. "The students get to decide how to have them if they run into each other outside of group," Forster said. "Is it okay to become friends? Each group decides, and it can be different every time."

The characters in Go On began to infiltrate every aspect of each other's lives, turning into a modern-day Brady Bunch as they got into all kinds of hijinks, probably inappropriate considering the context of their connections. But their ability to form relationships outside of the group is important for both the plot of the show and the development and personal healing of the characters. Realistically, and for students on campus, the lines between group and every interaction outside of group seem more complicated given the size of Conn and Trinity, the lines between group and every interaction outside of group seem more complicated given the size of Conn and Trinity, the lines between group and every interaction outside of group seem more complicated given the size of Conn and Trinity, the lines between group and every interaction outside of group.

For a true group process to work, attendance needs to be consistent. "It's difficult to balance of several forces: if you're there one time or if the membership is changing," Forster said. "It's important that when people agree to be in a group, they are committed to coming every time."

In "Emerging Trends in College Mental Health," Dr. Ken Marsh writes, "We stand at the threshold of several forces: increasing number of students, with increasingly severe emotional problems; students and families who look increasingly to campuses to provide mental health and other supportive services for their students..." Given the increased demand of mental health services at colleges and universities, an added benefit of group counseling is that it provides students with a guaranteed opportunity to meet weekly. When a handful of counselors are in high demand, students may not be able to meet them quite as regularly as they need.

Simply put, the reason that more students don't take advantage of (free) group therapy is a lack of awareness that such services are offered. According to Forster, most people get stuck in a rut and don't even know that the counseling services team. To my personal dismay.

Groups at Conn focus on general process support, meaning that students can discuss anything and everything that is important to them and their mental health. There is one group solely for women, which has run successfully every semester since 1999 when counselor Tina Forster joined the College's counseling services team. To my personal dismay, an LGBTQ group has yet to start up due to a lack of participants. But according to Forster, general support groups are the ones that work best.

"Groups are a place to share, and get and give support," said Forster. "Understanding that is the whole group process — what you can learn about yourself during the process is safe confidential space. It's an interesting and powerful experience."

The success rate of these group sessions fluctuates each semester for a variety of reasons, including how well the group is liked to each other and current student population and the timing of the sessions. My hypothesis for why more students haven't taken advantage of group therapy focuses on possible group anxieties and anxieties surrounding confidentiality issues, especially on smaller campuses like Conn's. Despite being perceived by many students as a place of comfort at Conn to give group counseling a chance, I have remained hesitant, anxious about what
The tent was empty, except for a couple of random-looking political activists and four middle-aged musicians playing a #1 hit from the year 2000. The 2014 Reuners for Life no longer comprised the usual student body; in fact, it was only the second year that the Student Foundation was able to put on a concert of bands playing for the benefit of cancer research. And by including the almost-forgettable "She F***ing Hates Me" by Puddle of Mudd on their setlist, they all but admit that they're not even in it for the music; they're in it for the attention, the screaming girls and boys (who all seem to be desiring a attention) for their peers, and the money.

I wandered around the tent on the first Friday of the month, but I didn't see any of my classmates. It seemed like the entire world was out of town. And it was a welcome change.

The Elvish of this war was clearly Lance Armstrong. Boy, did he make it to punch testicular cancer in the balls? As a result, we have "fighters," "survivors" and implicitly, "losers." In this war, that enlists hundreds of thousands of people, we can take different sides. Relentlessly, "Pink Ribbon Culture" has often been criticized for the commercialization of this "fight or die" attitude to cancer (specifically breast cancer), while many people with metastatic conditions simply hope to live a normal life, without the disease. That's what the pink ribbon is supposed to stand for. But I guess it makes sense, when you think about it. Pop music is a way for people to express their feelings, whether they can express them themselves. That's what the pink ribbon is supposed to stand for.

And it seems like that Sixties, music didn't matter that much any of Europe's best galleries that the exact same place - albeit our youth is still celebrating it. Youth will remain on the setlist. appeal isn't so cool. This might seem obvious, but we have to remember that this is a world that is globally connected. No one is immune to this phenomenon.

While I was wandering around the tent, I noticed that the T-shirt I bought in the gift shop was the camel version. Was this a coincidence? I decided to use this as an opportunity to discuss the phenomenon of borrowing and copying in the music industry.

It seems like that T-shirt was the camel version. I wonder why artists are so willing to use these tricks, and turn the human race into a predictable money-maker, the music just has to be good. And, at times, it was.

The Relay Tent, located inside the library, was getting too loud. So I walked down to the Flora stage, where the same band would be playing three weeks later on a different Saturday, in size and temperament. I wondered why a cancer prevention fundraiser was so radically less attended compared to an event on the same day of the week, at the same time, at the same place - albeit our favorite day of the year. I missed that maybe the fight against cancer was more like Wicked Peach than any of the other bands. And, anyone, though. Stay with me here.

The original Bluesman of Can- ada, whose given name is not known, declared the "War on Cancer" at a time when wars with positive results were desperately needed. The invention of the Cover Band was a logical but short-cut to popular appeal. Some Cover Bands have become famous in their own right, but the majority of them that play the songs the way they originally sounded, will never be successful outside, say, the "Rhode Island, Massachusetts and South-eastern Connecticut area." Wicked Peach is certainly an example of this. Some of their ad- cepters were because "they play songs I like without trying to make it their own." The Cover Band is not without the music, Wicked Peach is not music; it's entertainment. They haven't contributed a single original note to the music industry, but they certainly get 200 hundred drink '90s.

Fundraising for and awareness of cancer has skyrocketed since the idea of fighting cancer became paramount. It's marketable. It's popular. It sells. But it can distract us from the amazingly complicated science and the ambiguous emotional issues related to the illness.

And by including the almost-forget-table "She F***ing Hates Me" by Puddle of Mudd on their setlist, they all but admit that they're not even in it for the music; they're in it for the attention, the screaming girls and boys (who all seem to be desiring a attention) for their peers, and the money.

Based on their place in our hearts, it is fair to consider Wicked Peach the poets-urpose of Connecticut College. This indicates that original thought is less valued here than one would expect to find in an intellectual think-tank like ours. Perhaps it's why we teach the rules of capitalism in so many of our classrooms but not ways to alter it, or why we put up muni- cals written by misogynists in the 1940s about misogynists in the 1940s on our walls. But I guess it makes sense, when you think about it. Pop music is a way for people to express their feelings, whether they can express them themselves. That's what the pink ribbon is supposed to stand for.
16 Teams, 4 Rounds, 1 Cup

The road to the Stanley Cup

With the NHL Playoffs underway, 16 teams will vie for the Stanley Cup in a grueling two-month tournament, which is considered by many to be the most exciting in sports. Unlike the NBA, the NHL playoffs are extremely unpredictable due to the greater level of parity between teams and the greater focus on complete team efforts rather than that of individual players. Each year, the teams that survive the Stanley Cup Playoffs provide the greatest all-around performance in every facet of the game, while limiting physical and mental mistakes. This season has seen an imbalance between the East and West conferences in terms of Cup contending teams.

Out West, six teams realistically have a chance at hoisting the cup come June. Leading the pack is the defending champions Chicago Blackhawks. The Hawks have put together another solid season, yet their dominance in the conference has been significantly diminished.

The other top teams out West have closed the gap between themselves and Chicago and it appears as if Chicago's less than stellar goaltending will finally catch up with them. Don't expect a repeat performance from the Hawks.

The west is also home to two young up and coming teams, the St. Louis Blues and Colorado Avalanche. What both teams lack in experience they make up for with immense talent and exceptional coaching. The Blues are led by Americans David Backes, TJ. Oshie and Kevin Shattenkirk, among others. Expect a deep playoff run by the Blues, who are hot entering the playoffs and have the depth to beat anyone.

Next we have a match up of perennial cup contenders in the Los Angeles Kings and San Jose Sharks. Both teams are blessed with elite goaltenders, a necessity for anyone hoping to make a deep playoff run. Expect an upset win by San Jose and don't be surprised if they end up making it out of the west.

The Sharks are led by aging veterans and have the depth to beat anyone.

Lastly we have the Anaheim Ducks. an offensive juggernaut led by MVP candidate Ryan Getzlaf. The Ducks finished with the West's best record but have dealt with goaltending trouble all season. Coach Bruce Boudreau has decided to start rookie Frederick Andersen, who has less than 30 games of NHL experience in place of starter Jonas Hiller. Expect this to cause the Ducks trouble down the stretch.

On the other hand, the Eastern Conference has a more limited group of possible contenders, led by the heavily favored Boston Bruins. The Bruins lack a clear superstar forward but have a very strong group up front and are always a threat to score. Manning the blue line is veteran defenseman Zdeno Chara. The NHL's tallest and most feared player plays significant minutes for the Bruins and is always an imposing figure to opponents. In net, the Bruins have the year's best goalie Tuukka Rask, who will be itching to avenge last season's Cup loss to Chicago.

Next up, we have the Pittsburgh Penguins, a perennial playoff team led by superstar forwards Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin. The pair led the Penguins to a Cup back in 2009 and will be hungry for revenge after being embarrassed by Boston in last year's playoffs. The bounce-back season by goalie Marc Andre-Fleury gives the Penguins hope moving forward but questions remain about whether the team is well-rounded enough to take down Boston.

Lastly, we have the New York Rangers, who struggled earlier this season, but have since adjusted to first year coach Alain Vigneault's new style and been one of the best teams since the turn of the new year. Led by young shutdown defensemen Ryan McDonagh, the Rangers have had one of the best defenses all season, and their offense is following suit since the acquisition of playmaking forward Martin St. Louis. Superstar goalie Henrik Lundqvist possesses the ability to take over any game at any moment, making the Rangers a very dangerous team moving forward.

Out West, I expect St. Louis to move onto the final. The Blues have four solid lines and a talented core of young defensemen. With the acquisition of Ryan Miller at the deadline, the Blues have put the pieces together to make it all the way. In the east, I expect Boston to prevail so long as they play the way they have all season long. The Bruins have great experience and leadership, and always seem to limit their mistakes when it counts. Come the finals, expect the most complete team to win it all. All bets look like Boston could take the cup over St. Louis.
Suits and Gowns: Why rugby is more fun in formal garb

DYLAN STEINER
STAFF WRITER

The Camel sailors have braved a rough and prolonged winter on the Thames River to propel the success of their Fall season into the Spring. The team now steers toward a pinnacle national regatta after the academic year concludes in order to secure a spot as one of the top 20 teams in the country for the ICSA Dinghy Championship.

“We finished the Fall season strong with one of our best performances at a New England Championship in several years and a ranking of 13th in the country,” said Benjamin Meyers ’15. “With the return of a few juniors from abroad this spring we have been working hard with several top finishes in some of the early regattas of the season by both the co-ed and Women’s teams.”

Two seasons of racing in one academic year requires the team to maintain consistency and energy every day on the water. Practicing with the Coast Guard Academy’s sailing team has provided a unique training opportunity to work drills and simulate racing strategies. This season on April 6 the extremely competitive New England Team Racing Championship proved particularly challenging for the Camels; only four colleges achieved national berths.

“The hardest regatta of the season has been Team Race New England’s,” said junior Lee Bushnell. “Although it was at Conn where we have more knowledge of the venue, we had wind from directions we rarely see and shifty conditions it made hard to get races off. We sailed hard but were unfortunately not able to make it into the final round.”

Although the team-racing season is over and with it, hopes of qualifying for the ICSA Team Racing National Championship, the fleet racing season continues. On April 20, the Women’s team finished 12th out of 17 teams at the New England Fleet Racing Championship under ideal conditions, while the co-ed team finished in ninth place at the CGA-hosted event.

“Looking forward, we will be graduating five seniors who all play an integral role on the team, but with some of our younger teammates stepping up to fill their shoes we hope to hold on to our top 20 ranking next year and continue to build on the improvements we have made as a team this year,” said Meyers.

This year, the team has dealt with the dinniest tuxedos you may well ever see. But most of all, expect a tradition with character like no other at Conn.

SAILING ON TO NATIONALS

LUCA POWELL
SPORTS EDITOR

There are few activities that accompany themselves like rugby and drinking. Perhaps boose and cigars. Shoes and socks. Maybe, even, Tinder, and a lonely night in a 4-walled bedroom. But signed, sealed, and delivered, a rough game of rugby and a cold brew have had an eternal companionship.

But boose can only ever accompany the sport dynamic and fraternal qualities. On the morning of Floralia, the Suits and Gowns game is everything that makes rugby a 4-walled bedroom. But signed, sealed, and delivered, a rough game of rugby and a cold brew.

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This year, the team has dealt with the dinniest tuxedos you may well ever see. But most of all, expect a tradition with character like no other at Conn.
Can the United States win the World Cup? Playing in the “group of death” with teams like Portugal, Germany and Ghana, the US proceeding past the group stages will be no easy task. All three teams have brilliant players on top-notch club teams but also operate well as an aggregate team. Even if the US manages to escape group stages, the team may not have the depth to compete with teams like Spain, Brazil, or even Belgium. Though striker Jozy Altidore has had an amazing run of form with the US national team, scoring eight goals in 14 appearances in 2013, Altidore has had a horrific season with relegation bound Sunderland, only scoring two goals in 35 appearances. Stars Clint Dempsey and Michael Bradley, have moved from top teams to MLS squads. It is uncertain how the weaker competition but increased playing time will affect their international performances.

The last major narrative comes from how Landon Donovan fits into the equation. He and brilliant tactician, Jürgen Klinsmann, have had their spells of disagreement, however it is undeniable that Donovan, at 32, is and continues to be the greatest player in U.S. Men’s National Team history. Other teams have players, who have resumes as long as Sergio Ramos’ discipline record (soccer fans know what I’m talking about), The USMNT, on the other hand does not have a single world-class star. They rely on a solid team dynamic and excellent coaching. Their stars align when they are on the pitch together. Yes they are underdogs, but we as fans wouldn’t have it any other way.

The Potential Dark Horse Germany, Brazil and Spain are naturally the favorites based on their talent pool and excellent coaching. Though not making the trip to South Africa in 2010, Belgium has developed into quite the team in the past four years. The sheer abundance of diverse Champions League quality talent thrusts them into the conversation. Eden Hazard (LW, Chelsea) is like a medi- -um sized elephant lead a stampede. His tree trunk thighs caution you from challenging him when the ball is at his feet, but his twig like calves remind you that he is capable of switching direction if you get too close. Any observer, regardless of soccer IQ, can understand his intelligence, power and grace.

Other Players to Watch Marco Reus (MF Germany), Sergio Agüero (ST Argentina), Diego Costa (ST Spain), Paul Pogba (MF France), Arjen Robben (RW Netherlands), Daniel Sturridge (ST England), Luka Modric (MF Croatia), Xherdan Shaqiri (MF Switzerland).

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AYLA ZURAW-FRIEDLAND
to their success. Franz expressed her excitement for the upcoming championship meets and the opportunity for the team to have strong competition so that she can be pushed to perform at her best.

The team is heavily comprised of first-years and sophomores, and thus it is exciting to contemplate not only the improvements that have occurred this season, as there have been numerous personal records set and reset, but also the growth that will occur in the coming years. As Tiger wants to regain Jordanesque dominance, it starts between his ears.

But Anna Laurence ’16, Ariana Bees ’16 and Nicole Adam ’16 proved their fortitude, coming in first, second and third place, respectively, and all three qualifying for the New England Division III Championship meet. With times of 40:26, 41:20 and 41:26, they were averaging approximately 6.5-minute miles. Laurence highlighted the mental aspect of the race, saying, “Running 40 minutes around the track can get monotonous, but if you go into it with the right mindset, and take it one lap at a time, it really isn’t as bad as it seems.” The 10K set the tone for the rest of the day, a day that resulted in numerous top finishes and culminated with the Conn Women winning the eight team meet.

In the SK, Emily Winter ’16 placed first with a time of 19:16. Bella Franz ’16 and Caroline Leonard ’16 went one-two in the 1000m, both qualifying for the NE DIIIs with times of 2:16 and 2:18. In the 1500m, Ashley Curran ’17 and Kelsey McGinnis ’17 placed fourth and sixth, respectively. In the field events, Lauren Kennedy ’17 placed third in the javelin, with Sam Pevear ’15 placing first in the discus and third in the hammer throw. Alex Campana ’14 placed third in the long jump and sixth in the triple jump. These scores, along with many more, led Conn to its 134-point victory.

This meet was a perfect example of how every point, every single second, matters. Entering the last event of the day, the 4x800 relay, Conn was tied with Roger Williams. Ashley Curran described the climactic finish of the meet in which Anna Guay ’17 passed the anchor leg of the Roger Williams team in the final 200 meters, boasting them by two seconds and placing one spot higher. This strong finish led Conn to win the meet by one point.

Winter pointed out that the home meet was another highlight of an overall great season. She explained that this season the team has a greater breadth in talent when compared to years past, and that the Women’s team depth across events has strongly contributed to their success. frame stressed her excitement for the upcoming championship meets and the opportunity for the team to have strong competition so that she can be pushed to perform at her best.

The team is heavily comprised of first-years and sophomores, and thus it is exciting to contemplate not only the improvements that have occurred this season, as there have been numerous personal records set and reset, but also the growth that will occur in the coming years. As Tiger wants to regain Jordanesque dominance, it starts between his ears.
Bisteccharoo!

Festival fanatic Molly Bienstock offers her take on how to do this summer’s music festivals right.

MOLLY BIEENSTOCK CONTRIBUTOR

Have you bought your tickets yet? ‘Tis the season to spend the money you’ve saved on a weekend or two of music and an unpredictable company at the summer’s best music festivals. Unbelievably incredible beats await you to have to know where to find them.

There’s, like, a ton of people who are on tour for the first time as a whole, and there’s even more that will return next year.

All MOBROC bands are responsible for organizing shows and bringing in the big crowds. McConnell enjoys the “support between the groups,” adding, “it’s really cool that [MOBROC] is student-run. It’s student-supported, too.”

Canopy might not be a “blood-pumping band,” as McDonnell points out, but these talented individuals know how to work a crowd, even during an acoustic set. The concert on the eve of President Bergeron’s inauguration was one of Canopy’s best shows. It’s no secret that Bergeron’s favorite Death Cab for Cutie, so Canopy learned some songs for her.

And for us,” said Amato. “We did the song to the Internet for extra festival information.

Another sweet festival in the month of July, worth a quick trip to upstate New York are Kendrick Lamar, The Shins, Death Cab for Cutie, and the MOBROC set at Floralia. Have you bought your tickets yet? ‘Tis the season to spend the money you’ve saved on a weekend or two of music and an unpredictable company at the summer’s best music festivals. Unbelievably incredible beats await you.

One of the features of Canopy that I appreciate the most, Storms said, “is that several different graduating classes are represented in the band; freshmen, sophomores and juniors. I think our spread across classes is what makes us special.”

Some seriously swaggalicious features in Bonnaroo’s lineup...
Breakfast on Bank Street
(and elsewhere, too)

CASEY DILLON
STAFF WRITER

Breakfast is the best meal of the day. no matter what time it is. Luckily for Conn students, there are a number of restaurants that serve so-called "breakfast foods," (a.k.a. the only foods) around the clock. Muddy Waters Café, Bean & Leaf and Washington Street Coffee House are among the closest restaurants to campus with some of the best breakfast food. If you're looking for less of a coffee shop and more of a diner, you can check out Norm's, Grouton Townhouse and Mystic Diner. But what else does the shoreline have to offer?

This semester, a small group of friends and I decided that we would go out for brunch every Sunday, as a last-ditch effort to explore the region that we have called home for the past four years. After trying out a number of places in New London, Waterford, Grouton and Mystic, I think we've found our favorite: when Pigs Fly off of Route 1 in Waterford. When Pigs Fly is the second restaurant opened by Sarina and Gwen Mcnugan. The restaurant's name refers to their reaction when asked if they would open another restaurant, though it seems that the second time is the charm in this case! It might be the self-serve coffee, or the super friendly staff, or the awesome breakfast specials, but the small restaurant decked out in cute flying pigs pamphlet card won our hearts.

For slightly more than the price you might pay at a diner, the staff at When Pigs Fly serves up hefty portions of breakfast favorites and fun, new spins on classic dishes. A number of their dishes feature the ever-popular avocado, including their Breakfast Quesadilla, a mixture of scrambled eggs, veggies, and bacon in a crispy tortilla shell. Their pancakes are completely customizable – fresh cranberries and blueberries take the plate-sized dish from great to OMG.

The Weekly Specials board always makes ordering the hardest decision ever. The variety of French toast, omelet, pancakes, and "healthy" options are always interesting and sound incredible – think peach bread French toast, s'mores waffles, and peach pecan pancakes...yum! If you haven't yet made it to this incredible restaurant, the pigs are flying – go now!

Other notable mentions:

Somewhere In Time, located in Mystic, is the first restaurant opened by the McNugans. It has the same menu as its sister restaurant, but its distance from campus and slightly poorer quality of service makes When Pigs Fly our top choice.

The York Café on Montauk Avenue is a tiny little place with big character. Doreen Brott, the owner, is extremely outgoing and genuinely cares about serving her customers with excellent food and a good time. The major downside: it's definitely hard to get a table. Get there early, and be prepared to wait.

Kitchen Little on Mason's Island in Mystic is all-ways delicious, though it’s new-ish location does not hold the same charm as it did on the main drag near the Seaport. The servers are really friendly, and the food arrives quickly and deliciously.

Sweetie's Bakery and Café is located on Bank Street and is well-known for its delicious, gourmet desserts. Our little brunch group hasn’t checked out Sweetie’s yet, but we have heard some raving reviews about their homemade sausage and bread!

George Rickey (1907-2002) is an American kinetic sculptor. After completing a degree in History from Balliol College in Oxford, England, Rickey traveled through Europe and became fascinated by the art he encountered. Against the will of his father, who was an executive at the Singer Sewing Machine Company, Rickey went to Parri to enroll in painting and drawing classes at Academie L’Hote and Academie Moderne.

After returning to the United States some time later with an interest in sculpture and appreciation for art, he taught art classes, maintained an art studio and was socially active in the New York art scene. According to his obituary in the New York Times, Rickey served in World War II and was assigned to "work with engineers in a machine shop to improve aircraft weaponry, an experience that re awakened earlier interests in science and technology."

When he was discharged, Rickey returned to the United States and studied at the Chicago Institute of Design where he first began to experiment with geometric form and movement, and in 1949 he used glass to make his first kinetic sculpture.

"Two Lines Oblique" (1969) was installed at Connecticut College in 1969 in the middle of Castle Court shortly after the Joanne and Nathan Cummings Arts Center was completed. Sometime prior to 2001, the 55-foot tall work was moved to the top of the Castle Court stairs so that it wouldn't interfere with the flow of traffic through the courtyard.

Crafted from stainless steel, "Two Lines Oblique" is a dynamic piece, featuring rotating arms that react with movement in the air. While the two steel arms look the same, one of them is intentional ly one inch shorter than the other, and in 1994 was bent from contact with another object. In a 2008 kinetic sculpture exhibition, curator Brigitte Miesmacker from Sculpture Site Gallery commented, "The George Rickey work... is a classic example of the monumental works composed of blades that became Rickey’s best known legacy. The long, tapered blades used as pendulums are a wonder of empirical engineering: lightweight sheet stainless steel is wrapped around a structural core and lead weights are distributed unevenly to slowly down the blades individually, a procedure Rickey used to create as much as a tenfold difference of temps within the same sculpture."

According to the 2009 Sculpture and Decorative Arts Conservation Services LLC report, the mirror arms were moved into storage for the winter months. The report continues to fast the sculpture is a pure-consumers artwork condition due to a bent arm and extremely dusty surface in storage. The report recommends, The report states that "the sculpture should be straightened, the hole repaired, the fastener replaced, and the entire piece should be reassembled and cleaned. If possible, the piece should be brought to the Rickey workshop and repaired and balanced, as the latter can be quite tricky."

Additionally, "During the survey, some members of the staff recalled that the arms moved too quickly for safety during windy weather and its position within the courtyard may have enhanced this wind effect. It may be for this reason that the sculpture was placed in an area with more trees. However, the sculpture should be relocated back to the center of Castle Court as it was apparently designed for this setting, and as an environmental piece, the location is part of the sculpture. When divorced from its original setting and motion, this piece cannot be really understood."

While the report does not continue past 2009, "Two Lines Oblique" has since been restored and brought back to an appropriate condition, although not in the artist's intended location. As members of this campus community, we ought to be good stewards and take care of our belongings as demonstrated by the recent conservation of Two Lines Oblique. curvature and geometry can use this kind of attention, but we must consider how their existence benefits our campus and reveals the historical significance they stand to serve.
Let me Take a #Selfie
How nobody’s favorite DJ become everyone’s favorite concert

CALI ZIMMERMAN
STAFF WRITER

In a great Seinfeld episode, the gang uses the phrase ‘yada, yada’ to abridge stories and downplay suspicious behavior. The colloquialism is still mostly used in a similar fashion, and it is pertinent to the story in this article. This is not to say that what happened on a rainy Tuesday is of the utmost interest to the readers of The College Voice, but instead to protect those moments left in privacy categorized under ‘yada, yada, yada.’ The gossip that could flow throughout this article is not the target. Instead like the gang in Seinfeld, this is a tale of hodgepodge camaraderie.

sentimental (slight exaggeration) and I got ready to take a #selfie. Not even the monsoon outside could diminish my good mood. Around 8:30 p.m. four mini school buses pulled up outside of JA. As much as it seemed they were preparing to take us to the asylum; these buses had been ordered to ship the hordes of Conn students to Foxwoods.

I would say one of the most impressive aspects of the night was the way Conn students self-organized. Several students spearheaded the campaign for buses, and the rest should owe a great deal of gratitude to them. As the students boarded the buses, the raucous laughter continued. No one was out of breath yet. We were about to confine ourselves to the deepest, darkest hollows of Foxwoods, lost in a wolf pack of despair and high rollers.

The four buses pulled up to Foxwoods releasing the animals. The club was jammed like they were part of the latest 300 movie. Looking at the faces of the staff at Foxwoods was my personal favorite. Their mouths agape and the sheer look of awe said it all. "This is the weirdest school field trip ever," one pack bemoaned to the bathroom and everyone fixed themselves from the rain. After that, pandemonium broke loose.

The kindest words were said amongst the crowd of students. "I don't even care about The Chainsmokers; this event is just fun to be with everyone." That sentiment stayed true for the rest of the evening. My fellow students and I swarmed around Shrine outnumbering the rest of the non-CNBC rabble, inarticulate enough to not even consider a concert on a Tuesday night, in body mass and positive attitude.

Glitter fell from the ceiling as the Chainsmokers preformed and we rhythmically jumped to the beat. That previously mentioned positive attitude rang true, till about 1:30 a.m. Then the tiredness set in. The look of the aftermath was similar to the beginning, except everyone was soaked in sweat instead of rain. Confetti stuck to the students making them look like a colorful group of Dalmatians. Shoes and makeup slipped off with ease. There was a new atmosphere amongst the group of Conn kids determined to find any place to kneel or sit as we waited to get herded like sheep back into the buses.

The bus ride back was joyous as everyone started nostalgically thinking about the night. Back at Conn the mood was still elated, but the exhaustion had finally overpowered everyone. I have never felt closer to my class; physically, in the tight dance space of Shrine, and mentally. We bonded, we conquered and we took a #selfie.*

Julia Cristofano
Managing Editor

Warning: contains spoilers

Sting in our beds, struggling to stream Netflix on the Coni Internet, there is a tendency to look at the actors and actresses in our favorite shows as having attained success instantaneously, somehow jumping straight from childhood onto the silver screen. We don't think of them as college students, majoring in political science at a liberal arts college like our own, working for international business firms and volunteering for the Clinton/Gore campaign in the summer. However, this is exactly the path that Sebastian Arcelus found himself on as an undergraduate at Williams College. He described his time at Williams as "an amazing four years" and even decided to forgo studying abroad to spend as much time at Williams as possible, saying that small schools "light a fire under you."

Arcelus explained that growing up in a politically charged family has given him a lifelong interest in politics. It wasn't until after graduating did he believe that a "career in the arts might be possible." He explained, "I didn't lose that fire to make a difference, but [looked] into making a difference through the arts."

Arcelus, who plays Lucas Goodwin, The Washington Herald editor on House of Cards, is the brother of our very own Dean of Student Life Victor Arcelus. "I was always fascinated with politics and that whole world," said Arcelus in an interview with The College Voice. "I always thought that Lucas had potential."

"I became interested in the role of journalists, being able to "blow the whistle" and create real change. Journalists," he said, must find "[their] way through the noise... and really get to the heart of a social discourse. Journalists have an amazing ability and platform to do that."

As an actor, Arcelus recognized that he has a platform to create change, as well. He continued, Lucas "is a man of reason, practicality and idealism but he gets swayed away from his own center by the basics of love and rational thought."

This is referring to Goodwin’s downfall in the second season where he is imprisoned after he tries to illicitly obtain information about the death of Zoe Barnes. When asked if he thought this was the end for his character, Arcelus was hopeful that "there is an avenue through which Lucas can reappear" in the second season, but admits the writers and playwrights are "very secretive, so none of us really know.

While we do have limited evidence as to the fate of Lucas Goodwin, Sebastian Arcelus’s career is certainly on an upward trajectory. The actor is currently in New Orleans working on the film adaptation of Nicholas Sparks’s novel The Notebook alongside Michelle Monaghan and James Marsden. But despite his success, Arcelus hopes to honor his connection to Connecticut College. Be on the lookout for an on-campus event in the future featuring the House of Cards star.**

Additional reporting by Dana Sorokin and Hallie Grossman.
Highlights from the Senior Art Minor Show

The senior Art minor and all student show ran from March 24-April 1, with a reception on Wednesday, April 16. In case you missed it, here are some highlights from an impressive exhibition.

The Voice's own Julia Cristofano depicted the inner workings of the human body through anatomical drawings, prints and a delicately embossed paper spine. Cristofano is an EMT who had planned to major in Biology and has "always been interested in the medical aspects and the physical makeup of the body." She commented that through her art, she's "tried to capture both physical systems but also the deeper parts of ourselves: thoughts, feelings, emotions, that our physical forms alone can't convey."

Emily Silber also explored the human body in her project, Wallflower. Silber used body paint to create black and white patterns on her mostly-nude subjects (her "very patient and adventurous friend") who stood against a background painted in the same pattern, almost completely blending in. She then photographed them straight on, their faces stoic, with black circles around their eyes adding intensity to their gaze. Silber commented that the purpose of her work was to make a statement about conformity and individuality. She achieved this by photographing male and female subjects of varying body types, but simultaneously covered by paint, in black-and-white, both obscuring and highlighting some of their most distinctive features.

Hilary Nigrosh's work is made up of both photographs, and paintings inspired by photographs. Across the gallery, I immediately recognized the faces of Anne Frank, Amelia Earhart and Sharbat Gula, the Afghani girl with green eyes from the cover of National Geographic. Nigrosh painted likenesses of these photographs on a much larger scale and incorporated text that suggests what each woman might have been thinking. Nigrosh's approach humanizes images that have been reproduced countless times over several decades, both through the artist's touch and the imagined thoughts of her subjects. Nigrosh wrote in her artist statement, "With the vast expansion of technology, images are so easily reproduced that we can easily misrepresent and misinterpret the stories behind them. It can become hard to discern whether the subjects even wanted to be photographed, not to mention recognized to the point of fame."

The other component of her work, Family Snapshots Reimagined, is a series of photographs which originated as old family slides from the '50s and '60s that Nigrosh found in her basement. Nigrosh then turned the slides into prints in the darkroom and toned them, again adding her own touch. Nigrosh explained, "I was able to further capture a moment in time through my own lens. These ordinary family snapshots offer a glimpse into a past that I am both connected to and disconnected from," she explained.

Phoebe Papademetriou also explored nostalgic representations of ordinary moments in her project titled Where We Are Now. Her photos are snapshots from daily life, cooking dinner with friends, hanging out in her apartment and giving a friend a haircut. She said of her decision to focus on the senior year experience: "We're entering into this adult world, where we live on our own and cook for ourselves, but we're still very much kids. We do these things, like cutting our friends' hair, but it's pretty clear that we have no idea what we're doing."

Papademetriou's work features recognizable spots around campus, like Cro Bar, as well as the interior of her Winchester apartment. "I wanted them to be recognizable, but not too specific to my own life," she said. "I always like to leave things out so that the viewer can kind of imagine their own story of what's going on in the image." She focuses on the best parts of senior year: enjoying the company of friends and appreciating our time as much as possible, without a sense of anxiety about what's coming next.

Congratulations to the senior Art minors for all their hard work, and for giving the campus community an opportunity to appreciate their explorations of what it means to grow up, to be an individual and to represent and express oneself in a meaningful, authentic way.