Conn Stands on Stolen Land

CLAIRE RAIZEN AND MORGAN BENTKO

CONTRIBUTORS

When we think about the land on which Connecticut College is located, a few images may come to mind: the trees that have just started to bloom with the arrival of spring, the forests and trails of the Arboretum, the water surrounding Mamacoke Island and the sunsets that turn the whole sky orange and pink. An image that may not immediately arise is the land as a home for indigenous nations. As part of our ConnCourse BlackLivesMatter, we have studied modern social movements through several critical frameworks, one of which is settler colonialism, a concept intricately linked to the experiences of indigenous peoples throughout U.S. history. Settler colonialism is a specific form of imperialism, and current U.S. policies related to indigenous people should be understood in this context. The concept is based on Western ideals of progress and its “intrinsic goodness,” which subsequently justifies the destruction of cultures and people that are viewed as backwards and uncivilized, as was the case with Native Americans.

“Run Toward Fear” Panel Tackles Activism, Injustice

MAX AMAROLAS

ARTS EDITOR

The Connecticut College Division of Institutional Equity and Inclusion (DIEI) hosted a town-hall style gathering called “Run Toward Fear: Millennial Activism in the Trump Era” last Monday, April 24.

Despite the heavy police presence and security checkpoint at the entrance – likely due to a number of death threats sent via Twitter to intended panelist and Senior Justice Writer for the New York Daily News, Shaun King – the room was buzzing with excitement.

I got to the event fifteen minutes before the scheduled seven pm start time and was astounded to see the sprawling 1962 room already three quarters of the way filled with people, many of whom were from local community groups that had reserved seats in advance.

At seven o’clock on the dot, Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life Claudia Highbaugh walked onstage to deliver some opening remarks addressing the event before introducing Dean of Institutional Equity and Inclusion John McKnight.

“We are all students tonight,” McKnight said, encouraging attendees to embrace the free exchange of ideas and perspectives brought to the table by the panelists. According to McKnight, this event was important because it aimed to revitalize the energy behind activism and community engagement.

There was an audible gasp when McKnight informed the crowd that he had, “some good news and some bad news. He continued bad news firstly informing us that Shaun King had come down with an illness last minute and couldn’t attend the event. Miraculously, DIEI was able to replace King in a pinch with Yuseff Salaam, an activist and member of the Central Park Five.

In addition to Salaam, the panelists were Tamika Mallory, co-chair of the Women’s March on Washington; Greisa Martinez, Advocacy Director at the United We Dream Network; and Dr. Amer Ahmed, Director of Intercultural Teaching and Faculty Development at the College.

Maurice Tiner Elected Young Alumna Trustee

HANNAH JOHNSTON

NEWS EDITOR

Of the ten colleges in the NESCAC, Connecticut College is the only one with a specific election process for young alumni trustees. Other schools have trustee positions that are elected by any or all alumni, but Conn is the only NESCAC that reserves representation on its board of trustees for each graduated class of students within three years. Earlier this month, Conn’s class of 2017 voted to select Maurice Tiner ’17 as their Young Alumna Trustee. Nine students ran for the position, and Tiner won in a landslide with 42.45% of the vote. Though it has been in the past several years’ elections, a run-off was not necessary.

“I knew fairly early on that I was going to vote for Maurice because he’s one of the people whose services to the class and to the college I’m aware of...But I think it’s good that there were more people running because I think it shows that our class is going to remain engaged with the Conn community,” said senior Robert James Jones ’17.

Examining Mental Health Services Abroad

SHAWN SIMMONS

CONTRIBUTOR

For many years, the siren song of the College’s Study Away program has drawn students looking to expand their educational experiences beyond “the bubble.” It’s not hard to see why — the thought of earning credits while immersed in a new culture, speaking a new language, and interacting with new groups of people is hard to resist. However, there are more parts to the experience than what initially meets the eye, and students who seek mental health services can find themselves left in the dark. In fact, the overwhelming nature of studying abroad often increases the demand for these services. This is where things get complicated. How can we be certain that students abroad are receiving the quality care they receive on campus from Student Counseling Services?

A recent uproar at Williams College regarding the efficiency of mental health services abroad launched a full-blown investigation into the school’s policies surrounding this issue. Rachel Scharf, a sophomore at Williams, piloted a serial exposé looking at student experiences with study abroad programs both associated with and separate from the College. Each of the programs was officially approved by the College. Speaking with a number of students, Scharf found common shortcomings in nearly every program. Student counseling options tended to have extensive wait times.
Letter

To The Editor,

I am writing to clear up some confusion that has arisen as a result of inaccuracies in recent articles about the Barn. The Barn is closed this semester as a venue for hosting events; it remains open as a rehearsal space for all the bands to use. This closure does not limit the students who love being part of a student band from practicing in the Barn and performing in other locations on campus this spring. In fact, Student Engagement has worked with MOBROC to put on performances in Coffee Grounds and is assisting them in putting on an outdoor concert.

I understand the Barn is a special place to many students on campus, just as it stood out to me as a special and unique part of Connecticut College from the first time I set foot on campus. However, there are expectations, policies and procedures for any College-owned property that is managed by students, and the Barn was not in compliance with those expectations, policies and procedures as they relate to events. It also must be noted that the Barn was not designed or built as a concert venue – it is intended to be used as a practice space. The Fire Marshal sets a capacity number based on the size and use of a space with safety as a primary concern. The space is small, and overcapacity was the major concern that led to Barn concerts being suspended for the semester.

MOBROC is an important part of the campus music scene. I look forward to working with and supporting MOBROC the rest of this year and well into the future.

Sincerely,

Geoff Norbert
Assistant Dean for Student Engagement and New Student Programs

In Crisis and Conclusion (Editorial)

I had no idea how to write this last note. Maybe “no idea” is hyperbolic, but while I had compiled a couple of vague anecdotes to throw in, and I knew, generally, what I needed to say, I just couldn’t get the ball rolling.

Then Aparna forwarded me an email. The original message came from bluehost, the web service that runs thecollegevoice.org, and it stated that our account had been deactivated, our website taken down. The offered explanation stated only: “(reason: site causing performance problems).” The parentheses were included, though the phrase they encased had no accompanying sentence.

Naturally, I panicked. I had to finish putting the print edition of the paper together, but I sat staring at its draft on my screen, unsure how to proceed knowing of this crisis. And I remembered, of all things, a fortune cookie.

I got the cookie last week, and it advised: “Cut through organizational impediments and get some real work done.” Bypassing my critique of this and most fortune-cookie messages – that this wasn’t really a fortune, so much as a piece of generalized advice – I thought the cookie had a point, and maybe even exhibited some prescience, in this case. I focused and finished the paper, deciding to worry about the website once the Voice was printed.

This semester has been full of organizational impediments, as life always is. I kicked off my tenure as EIC with a pretty big one: I hopped off a plane from Nicaragua and into an almost entirely new staff. They accepted a sudden shift from the dependable leadership of Aparna and Sarah Rose to me, a frazzled new face. ‘I’ve been around, ‘ I swore to those who didn’t know me. ‘I know what I’m doing, sort of.”

I clearly don’t know what I’m doing in the technological regard – the cause for our site’s deactivation is a mystery likely to be solved only through painstaking customer service calls – but I am proud of what this paper has done over the past semester. We’ve had debacles from unsightly misprints to public administrative disapproval (though come on, Dean Norbert – no one ever said the Barn was closed as a practice space), but with a dedicated, trusting and intelligent staff, we’ve persevered. I’d like to thank everyone on the staff for their contributions, big and small, fluffy and in-depth, timely and otherwise.

And really, none of this is fair. Most editors-in-chief have to conclude their last issue of the year with a goodbye, but since I’m a junior, this is only a ‘see you later.’ That warrants another thank you to the staff, for letting me stick around another year.

So here I am, 12 articles, six editorials and one tanked website later. It’s been nuts. Bring on round two.

-Maia

THE COLLEGE VOICE

“Other 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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Editor in Chief

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Senior Editorials

Honestly, I had never written a single article for the Voice before this year. I had barely even read five issues consecutively. But, being the good Gov student that I am, I was an avid reader of The Times. I discussed “news” in class almost every day. And by “discussed,” I mean I mostly listened to my peers talk about their perspectives and would later write about my own. Writing was my medium of choice when it came to expressing myself. Rather than fumbling through almost-coherent statements during class, I have always preferred writing in order to be clear and concise with my thoughts. So, when I saw a flyer advertising Section Editor positions for the Voice, I pieced this together and figured I’d go for it. It was going to be my senior year after all; what better time to throw yourself into an organization you’ve had no previous affiliation with whatsoever?

Clearly, I said something right in my (written) application. That, or no one else applied. Either way, I’m writing this editorial and trying to reflect upon my brief experience with the Voice. After I was accepted accepted as a section editor, our first meeting took place in the spring to prepare for the upcoming fall. At this point, most of us were unsure what role we would be assuming for the upcoming year. Aparna Gopal, the incoming editor-in-chief, had big plans for revamping the paper. She began the meeting talking about said big plan: to change copy-editing processes, meeting times, layout, page numbers, word counts, whole sections, you name it. I tried to keep up, not familiar at all with anything newspaper-production related. She then told us what sections we would be in charge of. Hoping to get the Opinions section, I was designated a News editor. Figures, given my background, I suppose.

That fall, I worked with Peter Burg, writing my co-editor. We would exchange pitches every Monday before the Writers’ Meetings. I remember scrambling to come up with pitches that were interesting to write about, looking for ideas. I would fret over everything—my pitches either.

Then it’s an even more daunting task. I don’t know anything about the topic, don’t have any ideas as to what I want to write about. An article is a big commitment, and if you don’t know what you’re getting into, you’re better off scrapping it altogether. But, I have to proceed. I remember the first time I pitched something. The article ended up being published on the front page, and I obviously sent a copy home to my parents, who were ecstatic to hear my efforts weren’t only being put toward drinking beer and flipping cups.

Too often at Conn I have found myself going through the motions. Doing what is comfortable and familiar. Being a good student, but never too involved. However, working on the Voice has made me wish that I had been more involved. Being involved takes more guts, more initiative, for sure. But it has been worth getting to know people I wouldn’t have otherwise and exposing myself to new perspectives. Working for the Voice has been a great opportunity that has allowed me to immerse myself in current events relevant to campus, the local community and beyond. It also hasn’t hurt my resume. My experience was short and sweet but full of meaning. In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone I was able to work with this year and the handful of friends (Asaf & Kelso) who never failed to get me involved.

Staff Picks

Art, literature and journalism recommendations from the staff of The College Voice.

Journalism: “The Climate March’s Big Tent Strategy Draws a Big Crowd” by Robinson Meyer in The Atlantic – recommended by Dana Gallagher, Perspectives editor

“Trump’s Latin American Model” by Erik Loomis in Boston Review – recommended by Maia Hibbett, editor-in-chief

“Escaping Poverty Requires almost 20 Years With Nearly Nothing Going Wrong” by Gillian B. White in The Atlantic – recommended by Max Amar-Olkus, Arts editor

Literature: “A Litany for Survival” (poem) by Audre Lorde – recommended by Hannah Johnston, News editor

Dog Songs (book of poetry) by Mary Oliver – recommended by Chloé Ford, Arts editor

“Northeast Regional” (short story) by Emma Cline in The New Yorker – recommended by Maia Hibbett, editor-in-chief


“Atlanta” (2016-present, TV series) created by Donald Glover on FX – recommended by Hannah Johnston, News editor
Community Bulletin

Queer Students Honored at Lavender Graduation

On Wednesday, April 26th, students, faculty, staff and administrators gathered to celebrate Connecticut College’s inaugural Lavender Graduation. A Lavender Graduation is a specific ceremony dedicated to graduating seniors who identify as members of the LGBTQIA+ community and is a tradition currently executed by hundreds of colleges and universities across the country. 23 graduating seniors walked in the ceremony on Wednesday night and, in total, 33 students received cords to wear at graduation. The ceremony also included the bequeathing of a special cord in honor of Anique Ashraf.

College Welcomes Eboo Patel

Eboo Patel, founder of Interfaith Youth Core and author of “Acts of Faith,” “Sacred Ground” and “Interfaith Leadership: A Primer,” visited Conn on Tuesday, April 25th as a part of the President’s Distinguished Lecture Series.

Hygienic Art Gallery Displays Work by Veterans

In its current exhibit, “Journeys Onward,” New London’s Hygienic Art Gallery is displaying over 100 pieces of art done by veterans, active service members and their families. The exhibit will run until May 27.

Opioid Epidemic Worsens in New London County

Fire and police officials in Norwich and Groton report an increase in heroin and other opioid-related deaths in 2017, putting the region, along with other parts of Connecticut, on track to surpass its 2016 records for opioid-related deaths.

Peggy Whitson Breaks Record for Time in Space

Astronaut Peggy Whitson has spent more than 535 days off-planet, meaning that she has broken the world record for most time spent in space. As a biochemist and NASA astronaut, Whitson has served as commander of the International Space Station.

Grindr Used as Tool for Harassment

Matthew Herrick is suing Grindr after his ex-boyfriend created a series of fake profiles under Herrick’s name and sent a total of over 1,000 messages to his home and workplace for sex. The ex also told the men to ignore any resistance from Herrick.

Jehovah’s Witnesses Banned in Russia

Jehovah’s Witnesses have officially been banned by the Russian supreme court, which classified them as an “extremist” organization. The group was ordered to disband and forfeit all property to the state.

Story Search

Do your best to fill in the blanks, then look for the answers scattered throughout the paper!

1) On a Delta flight, a ________ was returned to an air marshal after being left in the bathroom.
2) This week, President Donald Trump called North Korea’s leader, Kim Jong Un, a “________”.
3) Facing criticism from his financial advisors, Johnny Depp defended his right to purchase 15,000 ________ daily.

Sports Corner

Women’s Lacrosse (3-12)
- @ Mount Holyoke W 19-4
- Western Conn. St. W 17-8
- @ Bates L 9-12
- @ Wesleyan L 10-18

Women’s Tennis (7-8)
- @ Wesleyan L 0-9
- Bates L 1-8
- Hamilton W 5-4

Men’s Lacrosse (7-9)
- Regis W 16-3
- Bates L 14-16
- Wesleyan L 8-9
- @ Bates L 8-11

Men’s Tennis (6-9)
- Bates L 0-9
- @ Coast Guard W 6-3
- Hamilton W 6-3

Women’s Track and Field
- NESCAC Championship
  - @ Bowdoin College
  - 8th of 11, 37 points

Men’s Track and Field
- NESCAC Championship
  - @ Bowdoin College
  - 11th of 11, 12 points

Sailing
- @ Thompson Trophy Regatta (Women) 6th of 18, 329 points

The College Crossword

ACROSS

1. Fuel
2. 4. NBC show hosted by Chuck Todd, abbr.
3. Tool for piercing leather
4. Perform on stage
5. Newspaper wherein you read Michael Lohan’s gossip column
6. One often found in New York City
7. Aerodynamic shape of wings (British spelling)
8. Often found in a Tarantino film
9. One who manages the Ops. Section (e.g. Dana or Jen)
10. Group best known for their milk gallon sharp-shooting challenge, abbr.
11. Upper and lower campus
12. Kingdom
13. Cease living
14. Coeho ____, 2018 Commencement Speaker
15. Opposite of green
16. Often found in a Taranino film
17. Who manages the Ops. Section (e.g. Dana or Jen)
18. Boxer
19. Before
20. Make, as a living
21. Wander
22. Debbie Downer and Chaz Dean
23. Swedish furniture giant
24. Rainbow shape
25. Barely make, as a living
26. Surrounded by water
27. One who does not tell the truth
28. Barely make, as a living
29. Knitting medium
30. Thank you, to Jean-Luc
31. Barely make, as a living
32. Barely make, as a living
33. Barely make, as a living
34. Rainbow shape
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55. Barely make, as a living
56. Barely make, as a living
57. Barely make, as a living
58. Opposite of green

DOWN

1. Ogle rudely, informally
2. Pull pain
3. Mix
4. A bill of real time
5. Newspaper wherein you can read about 14, 16-, 40-, and 44-Across
6. Soap box
7. Fusses
8. Metal thread
9. Team coached by Garry Monk
10. Gene otherwise known as OF45
11. Imbeciles
12. Golf courses
13. Mousse alternative
14. Boxing great
15. LAX police
16. Mousse alternative
17. Boxer
18. Vaccine target
19. Swedish furniture giant
20. Barely make, as a living
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The answers to the crossword puzzle can be found scattered throughout the paper, and the key to the puzzle is provided in the answer key. Made by Eleanor Knauss; Answer Key page 8.
Coast Guard Academy Pollutes Thames River

JOHN SARGENT  STAFF WRITER

Over the course of New London's history, the Thames River has had to endure the harsh reality of being a major water source for a growing city. Whether it be from residential homes or Electric Boat and Pfizer Pharmaceutical, the Thames has witnessed its fair share of pollution and mistreatment. Despite its beleaguered history, the Thames has seen a revitalization, a rebirth that comes in the wake of an increasingly environmentally conscious world. However, sometimes the past won't fade away, and creeping reminders of the past can come back to haunt the New London community.

About two weeks ago, the Day published an article that shocked the community. Over the course of 20 years, the Coast Guard Academy, a fervent advocate for conservation and green initiatives, has been unknowingly dumping sewage into the Thames at a rate of roughly 130 gallons a day. After the discovery was made, the leak, which came from the institution's athletic facility locker rooms, was immediately shut off.

"Certainly you don't ever want to see contaminants and raw sewage get into a river, its technically illegal to discharge that into a body of water in Connecticut," said Dennis Shain, a spokesperson for the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection, or DEEP. "But, the Coast Guard is a great partner in helping with waste management and always has been, so surely they weren't aware of this occurrence." The DEEP was notified about the sewage leak immediately after its discovery, but unfortunately was not able to intervene as the investigation fell outside of the organization's jurisdiction. This instead fell into the hands of New London's Ledge Light Health District (LLHD). The LLHD is a branch of local government that presides over health issues in East Lyme, Groton, Ledyard, New London, Old Lyme, and Waterford. So, given their extensive local reach, the LLHD took this matter quite seriously.

I spoke to Ryan McCammon, LLHD's supervisor of environmental health, for some more detail. "Our first notification was on the 17th, when we first heard about it from The Day. There was an alleged discharge and we coordinat- ed with the Coast Guard Academy. By this point though, we learned that the issue with the leak was identified back in March, and the CGA had blocked the sewage leak and taken measures such as shutting off the water and even taking the handles off faucets in the locker rooms."

McCammon then informed me that this issue supposedly began in 1997, when the CGA was renovating their locker rooms. A contractor who was fixing some utility lines accidentally hooked up the main sewage line into the storm water drain. As a result, the discharge has been slowly leaking up to 130 gallons a day for nearly 20 years, which adds up to just under 1 million gallons.

However, despite the staggering effect this number, McCammon informed me that for such a large river, there wasn't much to worry about. "It's a small amount of liquid effluent for the river itself, it looks like a lot but on a daily basis it is fairly minimal. The flow of the river will help with flushing that out." Due to the massive flow that occurs in the daily ebbing tides, the Thames has a very handy self-regulating ability that helps it clear itself of pollutants. To that effect, the sewage that was mostly being dumped to the river wasn't as harsh as we know it. Instead, it was mostly "gray water," which is the water found in shower drains and from faucets, not the more disgusting "black water," which originates from the toilet.

Despite the embarrassment for the CGA, McCammon says that this in fact is a good thing. "My guess is that we might find more of it as we look at more facilities that might not have been required to assess their stormwater, and from this we can fix more problems," he said.

Starting in July, the DEEP is doing a major assessment of waterside facilities to make sure that their stormwater and sewage lines are properly running. This shocking discovery is the first step of many toward reclaiming the Thames and maintaining that it stays clean and pollutant free for the foreseeable future.

Freedom of Expression Task Force Presents New Policies

ALLIE MARCU LITIS  NEWS EDITOR

The Freedom of Expression Task Force stood before SGA on April 26th to present their tentative policies and direction. The task force has met throughout this academic year, initially with the goal of establishing a philosophical framework dealing was the Honor Code. The Honor Code has met throughout this academic year, initially with the goal of establishing a philosophical framework dealing...
Understanding Common Interest Housing

WILL KADISON 
STAFF WRITER

During the housing process, students get multiple opportunities to apply for different housing options. One way to get group housing is to apply using the common interest system, through which students can choose to live in groups based on a shared interest. Some students feel that the common interest system can be taken advantage of, but its stated requirements seem somewhat rigorous. During the application process, students must indicate their interest, host at least one event per semester, and prepare an end-of-semester evaluation.

When I approached the REAL office about common interest, they claimed that the process cannot be manipulated for personal benefit. "The application process creates a system for students to not take advantage of the system," the REAL Office stated. "Once we receive your application, we also need notification from a Faculty or Staff adviser to the group saying that they support your mission and programming ideas."

They noted the fact that the application process requires a large amount of motivation; the application has gotten more difficult in recent years. Unlike in years past, the application is now due earlier in the spring semester, and faculty advisers must now be present for the application interview. While the common interest process gives certain students first priority in choosing houses, the REAL office always saves at least half of the houses for the independent living process, which takes into account lottery number and a paper application. There is a slight issue with favoritism for the common interest program because applicants get first priority. However, because most of the apartments and houses are similar in size and floor plan, saving at least half of them for the independent living process aims to mitigate the problem fairly.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8
Students Fight for Gender-Inclusive Bathrooms

MAIA HIBBETT
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

A majority of bathrooms in Conn’s residence halls are labeled only with their purpose, their plaques absent of the typical stick-figure that dictates the gender of intended occupants. But in academic, recreational and administrative buildings around campus, gender-inclusive accessibility ends. Seeking to change this, a group of students affiliated with the LGBTQIA Center and Center director Erin Duran are working to replace signage, enact policy and raise awareness.

Shay Hicks ‘18 and Gray McCaffrey ’19, two former employees of the LGBTQIA Center and student leaders in the current gender-inclusive bathroom initiative, started the project last year under former Center director Jen Manion. According to Hicks, Manion dubbed them the “Gender Committee” and tasked them with confirming a list of gender-inclusive bathrooms on campus. Duran noted a final count of 45 gender-inclusive bathrooms, though Hicks and McCaffrey highlighted some confusing details that evidenced the need for more investigation.

“Most of [the bathrooms on the original list] were either off campus or just nonexistent,” commented McCaffrey, noting that one of the bathrooms on the list, located in Cummings, was clearly labeled “Men’s.” Another was at 33 Gallows Lane. “If I’m going to use the bathroom, I’m not going to Gallows,” McCaffrey said.

Slow, Hicks and McCaffrey continue their work by designing a poster campaign, whose goal Duran defined as, “to start a conversation and remind folks that this issue hasn’t fallen off the table.” Hicks and McCaffrey aim to include concrete and pertinent statistics. “Like the fact that zero people,” McCaffrey offered, “have been assaulted by a transgender person in a bathroom.”

The progress has been slow-moving, not due to a lack of communication and limitations on local and state levels. On campus, Hicks and McCaffrey attribute a lack of progress in part to the discontinuation of their employment at the LGBTQIA Center in Fall 2016, when Duran chose not to renew their positions. “I did various projects that weren’t really part of the job,” said Hicks, explaining that they designed the raincoat and long pants featured on Spectrum’s club apparel last year. Hicks added that under the assurances of Manion, they had anticipated continuing similar work for the LGBTQIA Center and affiliated groups this year.

“Manion’s big thing as they were going was like, ‘you guys are going to get your jobs,’” noted Hicks. As the current director, Duran was unable to comment on personnel decisions beyond that they “had nothing to do with the bathroom [initiative].”

Hicks expressed perseverance despite the setback, noting: “[McCaffrey and I] have both been doing our best to do what we can for the Center, even though we don’t work there.” In addition to the poster campaign, these efforts have translated into an initiative to convert all single-occupancy bathrooms on campus into being gender-inclusive.

To achieve this, the working group is developing a gender-inclusive sign for bathrooms, which Duran said requires modification “as simple as removing the human from the sign.” Once finalized, the sign will go to Facilities, directed by Trina Learned, whose support Duran, Hicks and McCaffrey all affirmed. “If we can get the sign to [Facilities],” Duran added, “I’d love to explore with Trina to see if [changing the signs] is something that can get done this summer.”

Longer-term efforts toward gender inclusiveness in bathrooms will rely on more than just signage. Duran explained that he and the students working on the project drafted language to be incorporated into student, faculty and employee handbooks to ensure gender inclusivity. “Essentially,” Duran said, “it would be Connecticut College affirming the rights of community members to use the bathroom that is most in line with how they identify.” Language proves key in these efforts, as slight discrepancies in terminology have peppered this and many bathroom conversations, Duran clarified: “I am a proponent of gender-inclusive versus gender-neutral, acknowledging that gender might be a core part of some people’s identity.”

While administrative support has been high, a majority of on-campus resistance has stemmed from the faculty, according to McCaffrey, who was informed of faculty skepticism by Manion last year.

With the current state zoning regulations, faculty disapproval of gender-inclusive restrooms is moot in the context of multi-occupancy facilities, but Hicks and McCaffrey continue to express hope for the future. “My main thing,” McCaffrey said, “is Bill Hall.” With three multi-occupancy bathrooms in Bill — two for women and one for men — McCaffrey suggested that one could easily be made gender-inclusive, leaving two gendered bathrooms for those who want them.

“Personally,” they added, “I think they should all be gender-neutral, but I’d start with just one.” “Student support is something that could help us too,” McCaffrey added. Hicks agreed, hoping that the upcoming poster campaign will raise awareness and garner support among the community.

Illustration by Amanda Chugg

Freedom of Expression Task Force

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

that they presented their ideas before Dean of Students Victor Arcelus as the original “Gender Committee” last year. Arcelus voiced support of their cause, though nothing ultimately came of it.

“I think that’s the worst of it,” McCaffrey added, “things not getting done.” While administrative support has been high, a majority of on-campus resistance has stemmed from the faculty, according to McCaffrey, who was informed of faculty skepticism by Manion last year.

With the current state zoning regulations, faculty disapproval of gender-inclusive restrooms is moot in the context of multi-occupancy facilities, but Hicks and McCaffrey continue to express hopes for the future.

“Maybe our thing is that we don’t have it here,” McCaffrey said, “but at least we’ve started the conversation.” With three multi-occupancy bathrooms in Bill — two for women and one for men — McCaffrey suggested that one could easily be made gender-inclusive, leaving two gendered bathrooms for those who want them.

“Personally,” they added, “I think they should all be gender-neutral, but I’d start with just one.” “Student support is something that could help us too,” McCaffrey added. Hicks agreed, hoping that the upcoming poster campaign will raise awareness and garner support among the community.

Illustration by Amanda Chugg

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Freedom of Expression Task Force

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the poster. Rather, if the content violates policies of the Student Handbook, a bias incident may be filed so the person responsible for the content may be held accountable. The policy provides the space for statements to be made but also for conversation about such statements to be had.

The task force expresses wishes to maintain transparency throughout its process and invited the community to give their input. The task force’s work takes place in the context of increased freedom of expression issues on college campuses, making it timely and appropriate. The changes that will take place are still a ways off in the future, nevertheless, students, faculty and staff should be aware that conversations concerning freedom of expression are being had on campus, and policies will eventually be put into place.

Illustration by Amanda Chugg

Graduate Program in Journalism.
Catching up with Maurice Tiner, Conn’s Newest Young Alumni Trustee

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Tiner ran against eight other students for the position, two of whom were SGA President Ramzi Kais’s ‘17 and SGA Vice President Virginia Gresham ‘17. When asked why she was running, Kais and Gresham both expressed that they wanted the opportunity to continue their work in advocacy for the student body.

“I think that Conn works best when students and alumni are included in the decision-making processes made at this school, particularly at the board level,” said Kais. Gresham explained that the Young Alumni Trustee position is “important to the board because those who hold the position provide a different perspective as to how the College could change in the future and don’t have to donate money to be in that decision-making space.” The YATs have the same voting and committee power as every other member of Conn’s board of trustees, which gives them extraordinary influence as young recent college grads in their 20’s.

Many seniors are excited about Tiner’s win. Derrick Newton ’17 campaigned for him and said “I thinkubuntu really cares for this space [Conn], and I think he’s the best person for the job. I’ve seen his commitment since day one, and it has been nonstop consistent. I’m so glad that he was willing to continue [his work] post-grad.”

Kais and Gresham also voiced nothing but praise for Tiner. “I think we all knew that Maurice was going to win from the minute he announced his nomination. He has impacted our class in the most positive of ways during the past four years, and it’s wonderful knowing that he’ll be representing our class on the board,” said Kais.

Tiner’s work as an advocate for the student body is undeniable, and it has been felt by his classmates on both community and personal levels. Luisiany Perez ‘17 said of Tiner, “He’s very attentive. He listens a lot to what people need and he, just in our friendship, is always there to give someone a shoulder and advice.” Perez also expressed her confidence in Tiner’s ability to work hard and keep going, “even if he gets super super exhausted you still see him pushing himself extremely hard and make sure the voices of the students are heard.”

After hearing this praise from other students, the Voice sat down with the winner himself, Maurice Tiner. In the following interview, Tiner discusses his win, his love for Conn and his bright future.

TCV: What inspired you to run for young alumni trustee for the class of 2017?
MT: I think a few things. After having a conversation with Annie Scott, who is a trustee currently [where] she was telling me about the role that she plays and what people need and he, just in our friendship, is always there to give someone a shoulder and advice.

MT: I thinkubuntu really cares for this space [Conn], and I think he’s the best person for the job. I’ve seen his commitment since day one, and it has been nonstop consistent. I’m so glad that he was willing to continue [his work] post-grad.”

Kais and Gresham also voiced nothing but praise for Tiner. “I think we all knew that Maurice was going to win from the minute he announced his nomination. He has impacted our class in the most positive of ways during the past four years, and it’s wonderful knowing that he’ll be representing our class on the board,” said Kais.

When interviewed, students who did not participate in the common interest program voiced concerns of fairness. Several opposed the idea of common interest program participants choosing housing first. However, for the most part students were not upset. Lucas Guliano ’17, lives in a Winchester Road apartment through the independent living process. He said, “It doesn’t upset me that they’re doing it. It’s ultimately what trustees do, to push specific departments to kind of rethink the processes they’re doing and what trustees think they’re doing. It’s a little more power to make decisions about what position the school moves in.

MT: I think because I have been so involved in so many facets of the campus community. I’ve been involved in student government, I’ve sat on different committees and hiring committees. I think I’ve already started to do the work – sitting in committee meetings to push specific departments to kind of rethink the work they’re doing and what trustees think they’re doing. And I think I have a little more power to make decisions about what position the school moves in.

MT: I’m setting up meetings with Chakena and Blake Riley ‘14 [Young Alumni Trustee ‘14] soon to hear their perspective, and I’ll reach out to Eleanor Hardy ‘15 [Young Alumni Trustee ‘15] too, so when I get there I know I have voting power, I know I sit on committees and give my experiences to help advocate, but if I sit down with the winner himself, Maurice Tiner. In the following interview, Tiner discusses his win, his love for Conn and his bright future.

TCV: What goals do you want to accomplish as you enter into your first year on the Board of Trustees?
MT: My first year I want to get acclimated on what specifically a young alumni trustee does. I know I have voting power. I know I sit on committees and give my experiences to help advocate, but if I sit down with the winner himself, Maurice Tiner. In the following interview, Tiner discusses his win, his love for Conn and his bright future.

TCV: Last year the board voted not to raise tuition. More controversial issues come up, how will you handle that - especially issues that really affect students and that they’re passionate about?

MT: I will always advocate or speak up from the position that I’ve been in, so I think that’s important. I can’t speak for everybody, so I will always advocate from my experience and from the experiences that I know about of the students on campus. I think it’s important to say now how I would advocate for a specific issue because I don’t know things about the school that I’m sure that I’m not supposed to know because of confidentiality. I have to approach everything from a holistic standpoint so I can’t only advocate for my experience, I also have to understand that this is an institution that’s backed by alumni, parents, families, donors etc.

TCV: If you had unlimited power and resources, what’s one thing you’d like to see change at Conn?
MT: I think I would want to figure out a way in which students that don’t necessarily have the financial backing or the financial resources to be here don’t have to work so hard with other jobs to financially support themselves. I think that’s been the number one challenge for me, I’ve had to work so many jobs just to maintain myself at this institution. So if I could advocate or change anything with unlimited power and resources, I would definitely recommend the school be a place of socio-economic backgrounds not to have to struggle as much.

TCV: Have you figured out what you’re going to do after graduation?
MT: Yeah, so I’ll be going to Yale Divinity school, I got a full scholarship, so I’m excited to begin that work. I want to go into the ministry, but within an academic setting like Conn. I would love to be a school chaplain, dean of religious and spiritual like - something like that. I also want to work with youth directly at the church.

TCV: Are you excited to graduate?
MT: I am, I think I’m ready for the next phase in my life, but I will miss being in direct proximity to my close friends - I think that’s what I’ll miss the most. But I’ll still be very connected to Conn because of the YAT position, so I don’t think I’ll have the opportunity to really miss Conn that much, especially since I’ll be right up the road [in New Haven, CT].

MT: I have a feeling that now I’ll have a little more power to make decisions about what position the school moves in.

TCV: Last year the board voted not to raise tuition. More controversial issues come up, how will you handle that - especially issues that really affect students and that they’re passionate about?

MT: I will always advocate or speak up from the position that I’ve been in, so I think that’s important. I can’t speak for everybody, so I will always advocate from my experience and from the experiences that I know about of the students on campus. I think it’s important to say now how I would advocate for a specific issue because I don’t know things about the school that I’m sure that I’m not supposed to know because of confidentiality. I have to approach everything from a holistic standpoint so I can’t only advocate for my experience, I also have to understand that this is an institution that’s backed by alumni, parents, families, donors etc.

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TCV: Any specific message you want to send to students as our new Young Alumni Trustee?
MT: I would love to be a school chaplain, dean of religious and spiritual like - something like that. I also want to work with youth directly at the church.
CC Divest Triumphs with “Put a Price on It”

LAUREN BARETTA  STAFF WRITER

We’ve done it. April 14 marks the validation of student voices and a recognition of the reality of climate change. Connecticut College is one of 22 universities to sign the “Put a Price on It” campaign promoted by both Our Climate, a millenial mobilizing NGO, and the National Geographic series, “Years of Living Dangerously.” The campaign urges politicians to take into account the externalities associated with carbon overuse through cap and trade and tax incentives. It encourages students to lead the movement, as climate change will impact younger generations more prominently.

It is not coincidental that Moriah McKenna ’17, a member of the GNCE, and Jillian Ouellette ’17, Senior Fellow of the Office of Sustainability, led our campaign at Conn. McKenna explained, “you're the ones who are going to have to live through this thing,” testifying to the relevance of young environmental activists. She explained, “the goal [of the campaign] is to get a lot of colleges to sign on and then to keep on promoting this at all different levels of policy. So

Free Speech Concerns Persist at Berkeley

DANA GALLAGHER  PERSPECTIVES EDITOR

A few weeks after the University of Berkeley Republicans invited Ann Coulter to address the student body, university officials rescinded the invitation amid predictions that her appearance would spur violent protests. With the subject of the proposed speech yet unknown, Coulter has emerged as a central figure in the free speech debate. Her announcement was a symbol of free speech for pundits on both sides of the political aisle. Senator Ber- nard Sanders, for instance, has admonished partisan individuals opposed to her speaking. However, Senator Elizabeth Warren, for her part, has argued that students suffering Coulter should “let her speak.” Conservation firebrands have been more pointed in their critiques of protestors. Todd Starnes, a reporter for Fox News, has likened Coulter to “red meat” being “thrown to the pack of liberal jackets.” Even the ACLU, a group that opposes Coulter’s position on almost any policy issue, tweeted that events surrounding Coulter’s cancellation represent “a loss to First Amendment rights.” Although violent protests have plagued a number of universities hosting conservative speakers this year, the drama at Berkeley is particularly striking given the university’s history as a haven for free speech.

Berkeley emerged at the epicenter of the Free Speech Movement and popularized marches and demonstrations across college campuses during the 1960s. This time, the anger and frustration of the political climate, they proclaimed, “speech has become dangerously confined. The silencing of conservative firebrands has played out on campuses across the U.S. For instance, at Middlebury College, a crowd attacked and sent political scientist Charles Murray to the hospital. In addition, a libertarian Institute scholar who has defended current police tactics was “mobbed” at Claremont McKenna.

The anger and frustration that liberal students feel at the appearance of conservative speakers is understandable. Colleges that invite particularly controversial speakers to campus seem legitimize their views. An attempt to silence adversarial speakers, however, could have serious repercussions. Facing threats to her safety, Ann Coulter becomes a figure of sympathy. Media coverage surrounding her speech, as a result, becomes less critical. The narrative focuses on the faulty organizing tactics of liberals at the expense of bringing to the forefront Coulter’s offensive political positions. The silencing of Coulter represents a fundamental misdirection of liberal goals to create a more open and accepting society. Coulter channels the political climate, they must first acknowledge and engage with ideas that may be contrary to their values. (Ouellette)

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Drug Scheduling Does More Harm than Good

BILLY MEACHEM
STAFF WRITER

The United States’ so-called “War on Drugs” and its strict prohibition of many psychoactive substances has resulted in a mandatory prison sentence and a fine up to $25,000 for a first offense. MDMA and ketamine too hold long mandatory prison sentences for possession, and in many states the length of these sentences rivals that of violent possession. Compounding the problem, LSD and other controlled substances have been proven to carry dangerous health consequences. Despite the apparent need for the scheduling of these drugs that they are “unsafe for use,” “addictive,” and “currently no accepted medical use in treatment,” these psychodelics have demonstrated an untapped capacity for psychological treatment. In addition, legally in Europe and South America, LSD has been shown to reduce symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and major depression in studies conducted by dozens of researchers, scientists, therapists, and psychiatrists as far back as the sixties, and it frequently works, often in doses as small as 100-200 micrograms. The same can be said of psilocybin, which is also a natural substance that can effectively cure post-traumatic stress disorder and even nightmares. The British Association of Psychopharmacology’s Journal has published numerous studies documenting the positive effects of MDMA assisted psychotherapy on chronic treatment-resistant PTSD. Doses of LSD as small as 25 micrograms—not enough to have a psychoactive effect—demonstrated the ability to cure cluster headaches, a disorder causing excruciating pain. The same can be said of the other lysergic acid diethylamide compounds, such as DOM, which is currently under consideration for medical use by the FDA.

In light of all the above, the argument that these-mostly naturally occurring—drugs are safe and non-addictive remedies for suffering is caused by the current regulatory environment. In states where these drugs are legal, the ability to prescribe and use this medication is not a given. Instead, patients are forced to travel to other states to access the substances they need, and the long waits can mean considerable suffering. The same can be said of other substances that are legal in states that have legalized marijuana. The difference is striking. Marijuana can be used in order to lessen the pain and swelling caused by glaucoma, as well as improve vision in those who are suffering, as shown in a study done by the American Academy of Ophthalmology. Cancer patients, patients with eating disorders and sufferers from the side effects of medication or surgery can often find that certain strains of the drug, particularly indica, instigate the desire to eat. This can be life-saving in patients on chemotherapy, patients with anorexia nervosa and with stomach cancer or other ailments of the digestive tract. Other studies done by the American Cancer Society have shown that smoking sativa strains of marijuana can actually kill cancer cells in some patients. Marijuana is currently being studied in states where it is medically legal in order to help mitigate long-term mild to moderate depression, reduce joint swelling in rheumatic users and alleviate PTSD in veterans and survivors of assault. The US Department of Veterans Affairs even has dispensaries and guidelines for prescribing.

Despite this endorsement, the rest of the federal government has been slow to accept these findings. Although many states have now legalized marijuana for recreational and medical use, because of its status as a controlled substance, it is difficult to grow, buy or travel with marijuana, and one can still be arrested for carrying it into states which ban the drug. In many instances, users such as cancer patients of LSD, patients who are forced to purchase the substance illegally to remain healthy and sane.

In addition to these regulations are, they are enforced by the policies in place for psychedelics. The US Department of Justice reports that trafficking any substance possessing “drug abuse potential” can result in up to 40 years in prison. Possessing one or three tabs of acid for personal use can result in a three-year prison sentence and a fine up to $25,000.
Reflections on 30 Years: A Runner's Profile of Coach Jim Butler

Stolen Land

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

Americans. However, the genocidal project of settler colonialism is not the mainstream narrative of Europe’s involvement in the New World. Instead, the myth of the “doctrine of the discovery” persists. This idea purports that Europeans had a right and even a duty to settle the land that became the United States. Central to the logic of settler colonialism is the belief that it was American Indians who were occupying land and that the whites had a right to dispossess them. For example, at the foreign policy level, the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 was justified under the guise of the United States’ duty to spread democratic and Western ideals. Therefore, global manifestations of settler colonialism include U.S. military intervention around the globe and U.S. support for the settler-colonial state of Israel.

On a local scale, there are four Native American nations that inhabit New London County: the Mohegans, the Niantics, the Mashantucket Pequots and the Eastern Pequots. Most archaeological and linguistic evidence reveals that the indigenous peoples in this area were indigenous to the area before Europeans arrived, and the New London County region is thought to have had the most concentrated population of Native Americans in Connecticut. Today, if one travels out of town, there are signs informing them that they are on Pequot land points to the success of the structure of settler colonialism. Settler colonialism is a part of hegemonic spaces, is inseparable from Conn students’ extracurriculars and is part of the daily lives ofsettler-colonial state of Israel.

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Reflections on Hybristophilia: Investigating Dangerous Affinities

JOHN CHATIGNY
CONTRIBUTOR

When I first heard of "people attracted to serial killers," I thought the idea to be preposterous. "Sexual attraction to murderers?" I thought to myself, "that can't be a real thing, can it?" Well, dear reader, I've done the research. I can say without a doubt that it is, indeed, a real thing. It's called Hybristophilia, which I defined on Wikipedia as a paraphilia in which sexual arousal, facilitation, and attainment of orgasm are responsive to and contingent upon being with, or close to, someone who has committed an outright, mannered, violating, lusting, known infidelities or crime, such as rape, murder, or armed robbery.

In the opening paragraph of its page on the subject, Wikipedia coyly states that "Hybristophilia is accepted as potentially lethal." It was a fun touch, I thought, that the only remotely negative line to be found on this page about sexual attraction to serial killers was that it "could kill you." My reaction to this sentence (after the initial "no kidding"), was who "accepted" hybristophilia as "potentially lethal." After a brief time spent musing over the potential existence of the "fetish police," I dug a little deeper and discovered that it wasn't accepted by an almighty being who decides what does/doesn't go in the Big Book of Things People Find Hot. Instead, Gordon, Wilbert Anthony and James E. Elias present some clues in their 2005 paper "Potentially Lethal Modes of Sexual Expression." Unfortunately, there is no 2017 version. If all only people were as accepting of paraphilias as these men are. My mother once spent ten minutes on the phone with me expressing the distress she felt about the fact that my older brother was dating a girl with "tattoos." While her reaction was a little extreme, I can only imagine what the three authors of this paper would be like as parents.

"Hey, Dad. I'm going on a date with this person."

"Sure thing son, just as long as you know that it's totally down with committing to crime. Aggressive hybristophiliacs feel as though they can save their lovers from themselves. They believe that, through the overwhelming forces of love and romance, serial killers such as Charles Manson will abandon their murdering ways, and live happily ever after. The passive hybristophilac is attracted to criminals, yes, but not to crime. Aggressive hybristophiliacs on the other hand, are totally down with committing crimes. They are willing to do whatever it takes to get the murderer to love them. As for the causes, well, "Many hybristophiliacs seem to be attracted to men behind bars because of their fame and notoriety in the media. Some believe [they] are living vicariously through the men and like the thrill and attention." Additionally, "Women equate forceful and aggressive men, who are also charming, to an ideal masculini-ty based on power and roughness." In other words, these people are attracted to men who are more or less the opposite of me in every way.

When looked at through these lenses, Hybristophilia seems, to me at least, a little less ridiculous. Serial killers are the apex predator. People who act on sheer impulse with no regard for the outside world. As much as I hate to say it, there is something slightly sexy about that. Like a "rebel without a cause," except the rebel has a cause, and the cause is murdering people. I mean, Christian Bale was in American Psycho, and he's one of the best looking people on Earth. The motive of "saving" the killers is also an honorable one, though thinking that some- body who believes killing and eating people is a normal thing to do can be changed through the power of love is a bit naive, in my opinion. I am not trying to shame anybody based on what they find arousing, nor am I trying to make light of the tragic events that these psychopaths perpetrated. This article is a simple narration of my journey from ignorance to enlightenment. I thought my brief foray down the hybristophilia rabbit hole, while unsettling and slightly disgusting, was very interesting. Hopefully you feel the same.

Writing a paper?

Need help...

...finding sources?

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Free Speech at Berkeley

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

under President Clinton, "the narrative assumes a cultural plot against the free expression of right-wing views in which academe, mainstream media—every facet of the establish-

ment—is organized against them. " Ultimately, by acquiescing to the demands of protesters, Berkeley played into the right's narrative.

Disagreement, voiced through peaceful means such as debate and protest, sustains our democracy. Some liberals' inability to tolerate differing and offensive viewpoints without resorting to violence represents a troubling political development. Violence, by further fanning the flames of partisan divisions, reflects a breakdown of efficacy in government. If resorting to violence represents a troubling political development. Violence, by further fanning the flames of partisan divisions, reflects a breakdown of efficacy in government. If

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

under President Clinton, “the narrative assumes a cultural plot against the free expression of right-wing views in which academe, mainstream media—every facet of the establishment—is organized against them.” Ultimately, by acquiescing to the demands of protesters, Berkeley played into the right’s narrative.

Disagreement, voiced through peaceful means such as debate and protest, sustains our democracy. Some liberals’ inability to tolerate differing and offensive viewpoints without resorting to violence represents a troubling political development. Violence, by further fanning the flames of partisan divisions, reflects a breakdown of efficacy in government. If we cannot respect peaceful disagreement, then we undermine the sense of mutuality that binds citizens to their government. Referencing the threats levied against Ann Coulter, Senator Joe Manchin, and Senator Warren advised liberals to make their views known through channels more powerful than violence. In an interview with Jake Tapper, Warren noted that if protesters “don’t like [Coulter], don’t show up [to her speech].” By denying Coulter an audience, and thereby an opportunity for her coverage, college students would set the tone for the political climate they wish to see on the national level.

A librarian at Shain Library or Greer Music Library can help you sort it out in a one-to-one research consultation.

Call 860-439-2655, email refdesk@conncoll.edu or visit https://goo.gl/nuHkh9
Conversation with Robert Honstein

Robert Honstein is a Boston-based composer who has recently conducted the American Composers Orchestra, Cabrillo Festival Orchestra, Albany Symphony Orchestra and New York Youth Symphony among others. He is a founding member of the New York-based composer collective Sleeping Giant.

Honstein’s piece “This is Not Mother Nature” will be performed by the Connecticut College Orchestra on May 4 at 7 PM in Evans Hall in a program that also features Maurice Ravel’s Mother Goose Suite, the first two movements of Ludwig van Beethoven’s Symphony No. 6 in F Major “Pastoral,” and two arias from George Frideric Handel’s Giulio Cesare sung by Stephanie Fosse.

The piece is being performed by the Connecticut College Orchestra, Albany Symphony Orchestra and New York Youth Symphony. Robert Honstein, the composer, will work with the composer himself. The following is an excerpted version of the interview; for the full text, visit thecollegevoice.org.

**The College Voice:** So I’ve read your blurb about the background of the piece, but could you just reiterate it for our readers?

**Robert Honstein:** Well, I wrote it in 2011, and during that summer I was inspired at an artist residency in Nebraska. There was a dam that caused a huge flooding in the area. It was a whole community that was under water, and it completely destroyed the community. That was the summer that was written about in the piece.

**The College Voice:** Was there a specific location that you were thinking about when you were writing that piece?

**Robert Honstein:** Yes, I was thinking about Nebraska, specifically the area where the dam was. It was a dam that was built in 1906, and it was a man-made flood that happened in 1993. It was a flood that affected 10,000 people, and it was a flood that caused a lot of damage.

**The College Voice:** Did you visit Nebraska while you were working on the piece?

**Robert Honstein:** No, I didn’t go to Nebraska while I was working on the piece. I didn’t want to go there and see the damage. I wanted to write about the experience, and I wanted to write about the experience of having a flood.

**The College Voice:** So your movement can kind of function as a painting narrative about a specific kind of experience, and you’re saying, “This is not Mother Nature,” and you’re talking about the idea of climate change.

**Robert Honstein:** That’s not at all what I’m trying to do. It’s more of an impressionistic piece. It’s more of an impressionistic piece that’s about the experience of having a flood.

**The College Voice:** In the piece you’re talking about climate change quite a bit. How do you think that fits into the piece? Do you think this is more of a piece about man-made natural disasters, and that some of this flooding ultimately can be traced back to changes in the climate that have been happening?

**Robert Honstein:** We can look at this as a piece about the potential sort of crisis that can happen from that relationship.

**The College Voice:** And you’ve talked about climate change quite a bit. How do you think that fits into the piece? Do you think this is more of a piece about man-made natural disasters, and that some of this flooding ultimately can be traced back to changes in the climate that have been happening?

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“Circuits” Artistically Engages New London Community

DYLAN O’HARA
CONTRIBUTOR

The Marquee Gallery filled with Conn students and faculty and New London community members on April 14, as observers gathered to celebrate the opening of the show “Circuits: A Community Exhibition” curated by Bianca Scofield ’17. The Marquee Gallery space is slim and long, aiding the cohesive appearance of the pieces. Upon entering, my eye was immediately drawn to the white casts of various busts hanging from the ceiling in the middle of the gallery space, made by Anna Peterson ’17. On either side of the hanging casts were a projection made by Noah Landy ’17 and a transparent box holding an at first unrecognizable figure by Donglin Li ’17. At once, the variety of the art forms jumped to the forefront of what made the exhibition fascinating and beautiful.

Scofield is part of The Ammerman Center for Arts and Technology, an academic center that seeks to explore the connection between the arts and technology. The required senior capstone project includes the creation of “innovative and engaging exhibitions, performances, publications and public presentations.” “Circuits” was just that. The title of the exhibition, a reference to the neural circuits of the human body and the construction of electrical circuits, perfectly embodies the ways in which the human body and technology interact with one another. Scofield says that the name came to her one night as she was drifting to sleep, and it stuck.

The pieces submitted showed off the different ways in which artists understood Scofield’s unique curatorial statement, which sought to expose the ways in which technology is “empowering our abilities while simultaneously shaping our perceptions.” One of the successes of the show is this call to action, which neither restricted the kind of work Scofield was looking for, nor the ways in which each artist was able to bring to life how they felt the human body’s connection to our technological world should externally manifest itself.

Jill Yaun ’17 produced a print, which was comprised of four layers, each a different letter. All together, the piece was colorfully illustrated with the interlocking letters “P,” “T,” “S,” and “D,” corresponding to the piece’s title. The final product was a technicolor soldier, his arm raised in salute. Yaun is one of many artists who chose a two-dimensional medium like printing or photography, but about half of the show also included various forms of sculpture and projection. Li’s work featured a ceramic infant. An unearthly light blue color, it immediately appeared in the piece’s eye as its gaze turned to the right. Yaun’s work featured a ceramic life that represents the connection between life and death.

Out last semester, and this is one of them.” The scope of artistic influences represented at “Circuits” was a hallmark of this gallery experience. If one success was the creation of a fascinating curatorial statement, the other surely was the involvement of the various communities that contributed to the show. Some of the submissions came from high school artists, other local colleges’ artists, and local artists from New London.

Scofield, in her words at the gallery opening, tearfully thanked her professors and those at the Ammerman Center who continued to push her. Deserving of her applause, Scofield’s exhibition does just this. In seeking out submissions that were created and represented the communities where they were produced, Scofield’s “Circuits” stands out as an example of the ways in which art can make a statement.

Scofield says that, “Just how many people showed up... That was the very best part.” Let’s hope that more academically-sponsored events like this one can continue to attract crowds and integrate Connecticut College with the richly talented and diverse greater New London community.
Senior Dance Majors Conclude with “Proximity”

CHLOE FORD
ARTS EDITOR

The Dance Department's Senior Capstone Performance, "Proximity," swept students, faculty, and staff into Palmer last weekend. The show featured choreography by senior dance majors Ashley Barattini, Marisa Bryant, Marina Gearhart, Danielle Kaplan, Erika Martin, Emily Sorensen and the Cambrano brano as well as choreography by faculty member Lisa Race and guest artist Shen Wei Dance Arts. Students of all class years participated as dancers, as well as on the student production staff as light and sound board operators, stage managers and ushers. The production staff was guided and trained by Shawn Hove, the production manager and member of the Dance Department faculty.

The show opened with Lisa Race’s piece, choreographed on all senior dance majors, titled, “What’s The Alternative?” The lights came up on one dancer running in place, his face frozen in a smile. He ran as though he did not know where he was going, or if he was going anywhere. Every few moments, he turned his head abruptly to the side, looking toward the wings, in search of something or someone. After many cycles — looking forward with a smile, head turning forward, looking back, head turning again — other dancers joined him on stage. He then stopped running and whispered, "Sometimes, I get sad.”

He proceeded to describe his sadness, its depth and its causes. He spoke of current events, of politics, and how the weight of it all can drag one down. But after making contact with another dancer onstage, and stated, “This makes me feel better.” In the face of it, he continued with, “They make me feel better.”

Race’s dance explored the power of human interaction. There were two dancers in support of the piece when the dancers paired up and embraced, and they would remain in embraces along long stretches of time. The dancers held each other up, tall, lent strength. It was quite beautiful to watch.

This theme bled into the works of students. Each work explored, in some sense, the concept of relationships, touch, interaction, support. One of the pieces in the program was Danielle Kaplan’s piece, "How Far Will We Float? An Autobiography,” explored, as she stated in the program, "the emotional turbulence that is the undergraduate experience.”

Though her piece was non-narrative, the dancers used each other’s support and contact as a big part of her work. In Marina Gearhart’s piece, “Is This Fehettion? Or Will It Last?” the dancers dressed all in white, limbs and faces streaked with paint, collaborated and shared energy as they moved through the space.

The movement each choreographer crafted was powerful on its own. But underneath the movement, projecting the movement forward, were the relationships between the human beings onstage, between the choreographer and the dancers, between those backstage and those performing, between those in the audience and those involved in the show.

The relationship between the faculty in the Dance Department and the student choreographers was also evident. It was clear that each student had found his or her own choreographic voice through studying with professors at Conn. There was a clear connection between the movement of Lisa Race and the movement in the student’s pieces, though it was also clear that each student had taken the knowledge provided here and stretched it in his or her own direction, made it personal.

Being in the audience at a dance performance at Conn means that you will be asking questions; you will be moved; you will be thinking about the power of the human body and the power of creating through contact and interaction. You will leave the show feeling as if the movement of a performance can be used to tell stories, but also how much strength it holds even when it does not represent anything larger than itself.

Eclipse Impresses for the 42nd Time

CAM NETLAND
STAFF WRITER

There are memorable performances every year at Conn. Recitals, danc- es, capstones, bands, films and more. And then there is Eclipse.

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Trials of "Our Trojan War"

SADDA CHEYAN
STAFF WRITER

I don’t like arriving at the theater late or leaving early; I know from personal experience that it’s disruptive. I faced great discomfort on a recent field trip with Professor Nina Papathanasopolou of the classics department to see Aquila Theatre’s production of "Our Trojan War" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in Brooklyn, New York. The show was an intimate retelling of the ancient Greek war story Odysseus-Circe myth from Circe’s perspective.

Unfortunately, it couldn’t be helped—we had endured an hour and a half of traffic on the New England Thruway before crossing the Whitestone Bridge en route to Brooklyn. Fortunately, the ushers at BAM were gracious enough to allow us to enter the auditorium en masse.

"Our Trojan War" uses the setting of a raid by American soldiers on a home in a remote Middle Eastern village to draw parallels between the Greek classics and contemporary wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. The home depicts an opacity of the falsehood of the enemy, a disconnect that "Our Trojan War" highlights.

The play was created with input from members of Warrior Chorus, "a national initiative that trains veterans to present innovative public programs to Americans based on classical literature." Several of the cast members were veterans, and one could sense through their performances the influence of their experiences overseas. One of the most powerful pieces that was shared was a reworking of the Odyssey-Circe myth from Circe’s perspective. In this story Odysseus and his men are reenvisioned as lost soldiers, unable to return home because they’d grown too accustomed to being in a state of war. Circe claims she turned these American soldiers ashore in order to give them rest and help them forget their troubled past. In a talkback following the performance, actress and former US Air Force journalist and combat videographer Adrienne Brummer, who portrayed Circe, explained that the reinterpreted story had its roots in the current opioid crisis, which affects many veterans.

We were also able to engage in conversation with Aquila Theatre founder Peter Meineck who adapted the texts for the production. Meineck had previously given a lecture on campus in Fall 2015 during which he discussed his work with veterans. Given the nature of "Our Trojan War," as a piece devised by veterans collaborating with Meineck, I asked him whether the election has encouraged performers to react by creating their own works of theater. I was thinking back to the concluding piece of this year’s WE Initiative show "She Is a Tempest," which was created by its performers as well as other discussions I’ve been privy to among various campus performing arts groups about the possibility of producing pieces created by their performers next season. Meineck pointed out to me that the great controversies of the election are something we all need to react to and encouraged me to produce something that can represent what I stand for.

What I enjoyed most about "Our Trojan War" was that it gave me and others in the audience who aren’t aware of the issues that confront veterans a chance to understand what it means to have served our country, and why it is so important to honor and support the men and women of the armed forces.

I was interested in the difference between the large amount of support we give to people who send long distances to fight for us overseas and the disappearance of those support structures when they return home, a disconnect that "Our Trojan War" explores.

While I certainly can’t compare my own experiences to the brutality of serving in a war zone, I see an interesting parallel between taking a long journey on a bus with terrible suspension along I-95, which is hands down the worst part of the Connecticut shoreline, and seeing a play about people who journey to fight in foreign lands far from home.
Tinti Was Here, at Conn

SOPHIA ANGELE-KUEHN
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

"I'm going to try something new," announced Hannah Tinti to the small audience assembled at her public reading event in Ernst on April 17. Her statement the crowd with a cliffhanger that would go unresolved until the end of her reading. Tinti '94, a Conn alumna and an award-winning author with a new novel titled The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley, waited to reveal her surprise until she explained the inspiration behind her latest novel.

Earlier in the evening Tinti and Professor Blanche Boyd held a public conversation that introduced Tinti's book. Boyd, an award-winning professor of English and writer-in-residence at Conn, has recently submitted the draft for her latest novel. Both writers, though at different points in their lives and careers, were ready to share the "great advice and experiences with writing at the event aptly titled "Writers Helping Writers." The audience seated in Ernst Common Room was indeed eager to learn, yet sat away from each other, hesitant.

"Everyone who moves up one seat gets a tattoo," said Tinti, waving a stack of custom-designed temporary tattoos in her hand. It was black and white, featuring a hand-drawn whale with an arched back under a sky of stars and "TINTI WAS HERE" written down its spine. Students quickly got up. Even Boyd offered her arm.

The tattoo references a whale that makes a sudden appearance in The Twelve Lives of Samuel Hawley. Worried that the whale would seem like a cliché, Tinti said she had temporarily removed the whale from her story at first thinking, "You're not a good enough writer to have a whale in your book; you're not Herman Melville." But she realized she could disrupt expectations and use the cliché by having the main character shoot the whale with a handgun, ending its appearance.

"Keep the whale," Tinti told the crowd, smiling.

At Conn, Tinti similarly trusted her impulses by featuring taxidermy animals in her short stories. She is a former student of Boyd's, though at first she had been on track to becoming a biology major. "But then I signed up for [Boyd's] class, and realized [writing] was the only thing you could do... I wouldn't be here without Blanche."

Since her graduation from Connecticut College, Tinti has made significant achievements in the writing world. She co-founded the groundbreaking literary magazine One Story eight years after leaving New London. The magazine boasts more than 15,000 print subscribers, making it one of the largest circulating literary magazines in the country.

[The founders of One Story] wanted something

fun and easy and not intimidating to read, something you can tuck in your pocket and read anytime," explained Tinti. "Someone said to me, 'It's the only literary magazine I end up reading.'"

The modest paper magazine publishes only one short story a month. Once an author is published, he or she can't be in the magazine again. This "puts the focus on short fiction" and lets new voices get their chance to be heard in the challenging field of writing.

"A reader is just trying to get all of their thoughts down," explained Tinti. "Add road signs so readers won't get lost in the story, but can just enjoy the scenery."

Due to her experience at The Village Voice newspaper, Boyd takes a different approach: "Write for the smartest people in the room, and everyone else will follow."

One Last Playlist for the Seniors (and Those Will Miss Them)

HANNAH JOHNSTON
NEWS EDITOR

1. Setting Sun - This, the Silent War
2. Lot to Learn - Luke Christopher
3. Roots - The Melodics
4. So Far Away - Carole King
5. Finish Line - Chance the Rapper
6. Stand By Me - Ben E. King
7. If You Leave - Nada Surf
8. Don't You (Forget About Me) - Simple Minds
9. Higher - Rihanna
10. A Little Bit of Everything - Dawes
11. I'll Be There - Jackson 5
12. Time After Time - Cyndi Lauper
13. Rivers & Roads - The Head and the Heart
14. Shine - John Legend & the Roots
15. I've Got a Crush on You - Ella Fitzgerald
16. Perfect Day - Lou Reed
17. Birds Fly South - The Mastersons
18. I Try - Macy Gray
19. December, 1963 (Oh, What a Night) - The Four Seasons
20. Holy - Jamila Woods
21. Nothing Can Change This Love - Sam Cooke
22. Livin Thing - Electric Light Orchestra
23. Our Own House - MisterWives
24. Buy U a Drink - T-Pain •

As the public reading concluded, Tinti revealed her big surprise. She stood up and explained that she had taught herself how to play the ukulele, which she usually brings out during these events, yet because of the small group size, she go solo this time.

"Can you guys do this for me?" she asked, snapping with a slow, steady rhythm. The audience imitated her.

The sounds pierced the air of Ernst Common Room.

"My love, my love is a mountain side / So firm, so firm it can calm the tide. " It was Little Willie John's soulful 1960 song "My Love Is." Tinti easily kept up with the rolling notes: "My love for you is a mountain side / Stand so firm it can calm the tide / That's why my love, my love is a mountain side."

At the end everyone applauded, surprised and slightly stunned. Tinti sat down, relieved. She admitted to being terrified because it had been the first time she had sung a cappella at a reading event, which was precisely why she had done it.