

The Ticker

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BARUCH COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

NOVEMBER 21, 2016

OPINIONS 6

Students deserve to access facilities at all times (p. 6)



It is unfair that Baruch's gymnasiums are closed to the student population when sports teams and club events take

place. Since students pay tuition as well as other fees, they should have access to school facilities at all times.

BUSINESS 10

India demonetizes large banknotes (p. 10)



In response to the widespread corruption of counterfeit rupee notes in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed to get rid of 500 and

1,000 bills from circulation. The announcement caught the nation by surprise.

ARTS & STYLE 12

Roundabout's *The Cherry Orchard* takes stage (p. 12)



The Roundabout Theatre Company presents a new production of Russian writer Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*. It follows a family

on the edge of destruction and is an adaptation by Tony Award winner Stephen Karam.

SCIENCE & TECH 15

Sun exposure linked to lower depression levels (p. 15)



Sun exposure contributes to having a lower amount of mental health issues, discovered a study from Brigham Young University.

With enough sun exposure, found researchers, distress caused by other weather elements can decrease.

SPORTS 18

Bearcats 1-0 after defeating Panthers (p. 18)



The Bearcats were in heated battle against the Panthers of Binghamton-Southern, which ended with a close 76-72 final score.

The fourth quarter saw many lead changes, but Baruch was able to tap into their offensive chemistry late to pull out their first win.

Baruch event sheds light on what pollsters missed

BY ANGEL TORRES
COPY EDITOR



CAMERON STECK | THE TICKER

“Polls Apart—A Country Divided!” was hosted by the Baruch College Survey Research Unit and New York Association of Public Opinion Research on Tuesday, Nov. 15. The event sought to bring light to what the polls missed and to explain why Donald Trump's win in the recent presidential race was so unexpected.

The event featured a panel of professional poll researchers, or pollsters, as well as NY1 political reporter Grace Rauh.

Rauh, who covered Trump throughout the race, opened the event and introduced the panelists at 7 p.m. The panel featured Glen Bolger, Nick Gourevitch, David Jones and Gary Langer, all pollsters, except for Jones, who is a political science professor at Baruch.

Langer, the former director of polling at ABC News, took the floor with an extensive PowerPoint presentation. He still acts as ABC News' primary poll provider, but now through his company Langer Research Associates, which was founded in 2010. Langer began his PowerPoint by saying he wanted to address political attitude formation.

The event, which featured a panel of professional poll researchers, addressed political attitude formation prior to the election.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

FemCode promises to provide support for women in STEM

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR



PHOTO COURTESY OF FEMCODE

FemCode, a club that promotes the advancement of women in technology, is now an officially chartered club at Baruch College.

The club's main mission, as indicated on its official Facebook page, is to “foster a supportive and encouraging community as well as extra resources for women who are interested in pursuing a career in the technology field.” Members of the club are also working to educate men on the topics of unfairness and imbalance in science, technology, engineering and mathematics-related fields for women.

Ana Arias-Gonzalez, a junior majoring in computer information systems, started the club due to the lack of support she felt as a woman in her computer science class. Prior to attending Baruch, Arias-Gonzalez was a student at the University of Buffalo, where she took a computer science course as an elective.

“I was never actually interested in computers, and I intended to be a marketing major until I took the class,” said Arias-Gonzalez, who serves as the club's president. “The only problem was that in about a 70-person lecture hall, there were four women, including the teacher and myself. At times a 25-year-old man would come up to me and ask me for help because it was something I was into. But there wasn't that much support for women there.”

FemCode, which exists to provide women in the technology industry with encouragement and support, recently became an officially chartered club at Baruch.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

BCTC begins sixth floor computer lab renovation

BY VICTORIA MERLINO
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

BCTC announced its plans to renovate the main student computing lab on the sixth floor of the Newman Library Building through an email sent to all students on Nov. 10.

The renovation will expand the capacity of the lab, removing an interior wall on the north side of the floor to add space for student seating.

New computers will be placed at every workstation while a new printer alcove and new printers, scanners and other equipment will be available for student use. New carpets, chairs, tables and lounge seating will be added to the space as the lab is divided into separate areas to accommodate the differing needs of group work and indi-



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vidual work.

Electrical outlets will also be installed at every table.

During the course of the project, six new student collaboration rooms will be added to the floor,

with presentation and conferencing equipment available for student use in each of the rooms.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Fantastic Beasts charms audiences

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them opens with a faulty lock that comes loose, releasing an illegal magical creature in New York City, spurring a collision between Newt Scamander, a wizard from London, and Jacob Kowalski, a No-Maj.

A No-Maj is the North American term for a muggle, or someone who is unable to practice magic and is also not of magical descent. Scamander only notices the creature's absence when he hears a familiar sound: the clinking of coins. Scamander is played by Eddie Redmayne and Kowalski by Dan Fogler.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 13

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News Briefs

COMPILED BY
JONATHAN SPERLING

For the second year in a row, a team of City College of New York engineering undergraduates received the "Spirit of Competition Award" as a result of its participation in AIChE's ChemE-Car Competition. The San Francisco-based competition asked teams to build a car the size of a shoebox that was able to run on one or more chemical reactions, as well as stop after a specific distance. The students placed 11th overall in the competition, competing against more than 40 other teams that had qualified for the event.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Matthew devastating Haiti, the Undergraduate Student Government led a clothing and food drive from Nov. 10 until Nov. 17. In an effort to help the Haitian community that was left with nearly \$2 billion in damages and thousands dead, USG partnered with two nonprofit organizations. Members of the Baruch community were encouraged to support Project St. Anne by donating unused canned goods and food at several locations throughout the Newman Vertical Campus. USG also urged people to donate to Project St. Anne's GoFundMe campaign and purchase care packages via Grace International, Inc.

Baruch College will participate in the #CUNYTuesday event on Nov. 29, otherwise known as the global day of giving. The initiative, launched by CUNY, uses social media and collaboration within the CUNY system to benefit students across its 24 colleges. Participants are encouraged to donate to the charitable nonprofit foundations of the CUNY colleges via credit or debit card. Current students, alumni and friends of CUNY are all encouraged to participate. Donations can be made via the #CUNYTuesday online portal.

The College of Staten Island won a Santander Bank-sponsored competition last week, securing funding for a multitude of study abroad programs. The "100,000 Strong in the Americas Innovation Fund Award" will contribute to helping CSI nursing students study abroad. The award will also allow the college to invite international students to study at CSI. "Nursing students at CSI are going to be working in an environment where they have a broad demographic and multicultural setting," said Dr. Stephen Ferst, the executive director of CSI's Center for Global Engagement.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo released a set of ethics reforms last week that will allow for fiscal watchdogs within the SUNY and CUNY systems. The statement on ethics comes in the wake of several Cuomo administration officials being arrested and charged with rigging the awarding of SUNY contracts. More recently, New York State Inspector General Catherine Leahy Scott faulted the CUNY administration for allowing wasteful spending. "Spending practices at the City University of New York have raised several clear and immediate concerns, including a glaring lack of transparency," Scott said.

FemCode provides resources to women in STEM

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Upon entering Baruch, Arias-Gonzalez decided against her original intention to fulfill a marketing major and shifted toward computer information systems, which was the closest alternative to computer science.

She noticed that the Department of Statistics and Computer Information Systems had a faculty of about 25 members, but only a handful of them were women.

According to Arias-Gonzalez, along with Brooklyn College's Women in Computer Science club, FemCode is one of only two technology-based clubs that emphasizes female involvement in the entire CUNY system.

It is one of the goals of FemCode to partner up with various organizations outside of Baruch in order to create a larger impact.

Women in Technology and Entrepreneurship in New York is an initiative put forth by Cornell Tech that is offered to CUNY students who wish to take introductory computer science classes. Leaders of FemCode hope to integrate the club with WITNY.

Although FemCode officially became a chartered club on campus, the process was arduous since members of the executive board could not find suitable schedules and faced administrative issues along the way.

In order to gather people for their first general interest meeting, the members marketed posters with their faces and personal stories related to computer science.

Arias-Gonzalez said that her single-line story was, "I still get strange looks when I tell someone I'm a computer science major."

She said that it shocked her to see how many people had a specific notion of what someone in the field



PHOTO COURTESY OF FEMCODE

FemCode intends to join forces with other clubs and provide its members with tips for working in male-dominated industries.

"The only problem was that in a 70-person lecture hall, there were four women, including the teacher and myself ... there wasn't that much support for women there." — Ana Arias-Gonzalez

of computer science looks like.

During its first general interest meeting in the Spring semester of 2016, FemCode saw an overwhelming amount of interest.

"I was sitting there and I couldn't believe it. We had to get chairs from other places since people were standing," Arias-Gonzalez commented. She mentioned that the club received an encouraging shoutout from the Office of Student Life as well.

The executive board members of FemCode have planned various

events that are upcoming. They expect to have a "Diverse Women's Symposium," where they will invite women of different races and sexual orientations to speak to the members and other students about working in a male-dominated field. They also have a video game mixer coming up, during which the challenge would be to beat out a professional female gamer in order to win a prize.

In addition to expanding within Baruch, the leaders of FemCode would like to expand across the

CUNY-wide spectrum and join forces with other major organizations that teach coding.

FemCode has also reached out to other technology-based clubs such as Hack for Baruch and GirlUp in order to collaborate on events.

FemCode's final event for the semester will be a social that will aim to celebrate the fact that the club got chartered.

Arias-Gonzalez, for now, is focused on expanding the club to accommodate and appeal to as many students as possible.

Baruch professor leads discussion on South Africa

Dr. Matthew Eatough's presentation challenges stereotypes about South Africa and highlights some of its most vibrant cultural aspects

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ
MANAGING EDITOR

South Africa is sometimes thought of as a developing country that was once ruled by apartheid. To break that stereotype, Dr. Matthew Eatough, an English professor at Baruch College, gave a presentation titled "South Africa: 22 Years of Democracy," in which he discussed how South Africa has changed since its first democratic elections.

The event, which took place on the 14th floor of the Newman Vertical Campus, consisted of a presentation and a Q&A session. During the presentation portion of the event, Eatough discussed the cultural, political and social changes that have shaped modern South Africa.

According to his biography on Baruch's website, Eatough earned his doctorate in English from Vanderbilt University. He specializes in 20th and 21st century English literature, particularly in works written by British, Irish and South African authors.

The event's description on Baruch's website states that South Africa, "continues to be one of the most vibrant cultural and political spaces within Africa."

Eatough began the presentation by challenging the stereotype that South Africa has no modern cities. He spoke about Johannesburg, which is the largest city in South Africa. Unlike most cities, which are built near a body of water, Johannesburg was able to grow and commercialize because it is located near profitable gold mines. Now, Johannesburg is filled with skyscrapers and attracts more tourists than any other South African city.

However, the outskirts of Johannesburg are filled with townships, which are poorer areas of the



WWW.WIKIPEDIA.ORG

Johannesburg, which is the largest city in South Africa, grew exponentially thanks to its close proximity to profitable gold mines.

country that often have no running water or electricity. If a township is lucky enough to have a sewage system, there is a high chance that it is barely functioning. This, according to Eatough, is a good representation of the wealth discrepancy that the country faces to this day.

This discrepancy dates back to apartheid, when the country's black citizens were driven out of their homes and relocated into segregated townships. Without a work pass, people living in townships were not allowed to leave or move through cities populated by the country's white minority. Thus, 80 percent of the country's population was forced to live in an area that equated to 12 or 13 percent of the land.

Eatough also spoke about Cape Town, a port city that he referred to as "Little Europe" due to its architecture and large European population.

Next, Eatough explained the details of apartheid and the anti-

apartheid movement.

In 1948, the National Party gained power in South Africa. As a pro-white party, it soon began making changes to South African society. The National Party's main reasoning, Eatough explained, was that Africans were "behind" so they had to live in segregated areas to catch up with white society.

Thus, in 1950, contact between white and non-white South Africans was made illegal. The two groups were not allowed to have sex, marry or use the same facilities.

Between the 1950s and 1980s, a large global movement against apartheid gained pace. In South Africa, the African National Congress was created as an umbrella organization for the country's anti-apartheid movement. The ANC made anti-apartheid posters and organized large meetings that often led to the imprisonment of some of the participants.

Though Nelson Mandela is a

major figure in South African history, Eatough did not spend a lot of time recounting his life. Mandela, who was the leader of the ANC, was imprisoned in 1963 and was not released until 1990. In 1994, he became the country's first black president. Since apartheid ended, the country has been making big steps to maintain the people's quality of life.

For example, the shack-dwellers movement aims to get the townships connected to electricity, running water and sewage. However, the movement started soon after apartheid ended and many have criticized it for not progressing fast enough.

The country also went through a cell phone boom, as extending the phone lines was deemed too costly.

Twenty-two years later, South Africa is a mixed bag. While the country is embracing its immigrant communities, the country is still struggling to build a middle class.

President and Deans' Reception covers Baruch's current state

BY VICTORIA MERLINO
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

The Sigma Alpha Delta Honor Society held its annual "President and Deans' Reception" in the Newman Library Building on Nov. 15. Baruch College President Mitchel B. Wallerstein, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs David P. Christy, Dean of the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences Aldemaro Romero Jr., Willem Kooyker Dean of the Zicklin School of Business Dr. H. Fenwick Huss and Dean of the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs David S. Birdsell all attended the reception to speak with students.

The program opened with remarks from Wallerstein, where he spoke about the current state of the college as well as what may lie in the college's future. He first addressed the recent U.S. presidential election, reiterating the college's dedication to all of its students, no matter their backgrounds.

"Baruch is committed to being a protective and nurturing environment for all of our students, and that we will do our level best to help student achieve [his or her] full potential," said Wallerstein.

Wallerstein then detailed the current plans to improve the college, including the renovation to the 23rd Street building, the addition of a new student center and the renovation of the 25th Street Plaza. The Plaza is the first privately financed plaza in New York City's history and is set to include benches, a performance space and trees, explained Wallerstein.

"I think there is a lot to be proud of," concluded Wallerstein to the crowd of students. "You go to the best college in CUNY."

After Wallerstein exited the stage, Aldemaro, Birdsell, Christy and Huss each took to the po-

dium to give their own remarks to students.

First to speak, Huss explained Zicklin's mission of providing students with an education that mirrors what happens in real businesses and corporations, while still pushing to be a leader and innovator in the business education field. Illustrating this point, he highlighted Zicklin's new programming surrounding cyber security, digital marketing and other areas that keep the college's students engaged with the current job market. Huss also stressed the importance of partnerships, citing the college's recent agreement with China's Peking University to pair for a dual-degree program.

Next was Aldemaro, who inspired students with a short speech on how he came to be involved with academia as well as how he hopes to influence the Weissman School.

Birdsell noted the changes that the college has undergone in his 30-year tenure, reflecting back to when professors had to share cubicles, there was little scholarship support for students and the library was a trolley repair terminal. While the college has made tremendous strides already, argued Birdsell, even more can and will be done to build up the college's standing and reputation.

Citing the new construction and programs the college is initiating, Birdsell underscored the college's commitment to its students and asked for students to make a similar commitment to leadership and success.

Christy shared similar sentiments to the deans, speaking on the college's new programs, projects and shift toward a more global focus.

The second part of the reception involved a Q&A session with Alde-



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Wallerstein spoke about the current state of Baruch, the future of the college and the results of the recent presidential election.

maro, Birdsell, Christy and Huss that was moderated by Baruch professor Richard Wilkins. Students in attendance submitted questions prior to the dinner—around 85 in total—from which five were chosen. Questions that were repeated by many students or that echoed a "universal theme" were selected to be presented to the panel, explained Kerry Swoish, vice president of Sigma Alpha Delta.

The five questions ranged from the more student-focused, "What is the greatest investment I can make during my years at Baruch, which would give me a head start in the corporate world?" to the more personal, "If you had to start your career again, what piece of advice would you give to yourself?"

The final question, "What makes

you most proud to be a member of Baruch?" garnered glowing answers from the deans and provost. Aldemaro lauded the lack of student debt within the college's student population, while Christy and Huss praised the college's ability to give opportunities and change people. Birdsell explained how the wide impact the college had on students' lives made him proud, with students propelling themselves and their families forward toward success through the knowledge they gain at Baruch.

After the Q&A session, the event concluded for the night.

Swoish, an accounting major, stressed the value of the event and the importance of students being able to hear directly from college leaders.

"I think by hearing [from] your actual leaders, you're more likely to get involved and more likely to invest in the school itself ... Hearing about how those leaders are invested in you I think inspires you to do more [on campus]," said Swoish.

She also endorsed the sense of community events like the reception offer to students, saying, "[Baruch] can feel like a commuter school, [but] when you have these late night events like this, I feel like it really connects everyone."

While Sigma Alpha Delta ran the reception, the event was also cosponsored by Ascend Baruch, Ecuadorian Club, Baruch Toastmasters International, the Undergraduate Student Government and Baruch Women in Business, among others.

Baruch student entrepreneur manages luxury jewelry company

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
NEWS EDITOR

When he is not busy with his academic life, Ariel Neman works as the creator and designer of Regime NY, a luxury jewelry brand that has catered to some of the most recognized celebrities in the entertainment industry and beyond.

A junior and psychology major at Baruch College, Neman currently maintains a 3.6 GPA while also running his company, which sells unisex bracelets, necklaces and rings that are crafted in New York.

Neman first created the concept for the brand around two years ago, at the age of 18. Taking an interest in style, Neman believed that he would go into the clothing industry. However, he thought better of it after considering the difficulties involved in distribution, manufacturing and overseas production of clothing.

"I was searching up jewelry and I thought, 'there are definitely pieces I could create that would be different from everyone else,'" said Neman, who lives in Great Neck, Long Island. "I had the vision and I had the concept, so I made three or four pieces. I was really into the design part of it."

As time passed, Neman created additional pieces and felt the need to show off his work. In order to do just that, Neman brought one of his pieces along with him on a family trip to Las Vegas, Nevada.

He eventually found his way to a trade show in The Venetian Resort Hotel Casino that happened to be attended by the likes of actor Michael B. Jordan and rapper Soulja Boy.

"I was walking around and saw all these different celebrities right off the bat," said Neman, who was going into his freshman year of college at the time. "I had my necklace on me so I whipped it out and

started walking through the aisle ... toward the end of the show, someone approached me and he's like, 'I really like your necklace. Where did you get it?' We went back and forth and I said 'I made it' and he said 'No way, where can I get it?'"

Neman's interaction at the trade show would be the first of many throughout the early stages of his company. Neman went on to meet and build relationships with people in the music and sports industries. Throughout all of this, Neman received offers for stakes in his company, but he refused on the basis of wanting to control things on his own.

During his freshman year, Neman worked on building his portfolio and making more connections. In January 2015, Neman attended another trade show at the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center in Hell's Kitchen, where he managed to sell several of his pieces while walking around the trade show floor. At the show, Neman managed to spot rapper Joey Bada\$\$, whom he approached with a basic catalogue of pieces.

"I showed him the pieces and he was like 'I like this one, I like that one. When can you have it to me?' He took my phone and wrote out his email address and I contacted him ... he emailed me right back saying that 'he loved the pieces and the collection.' I sent a few pieces out to him and he instantly wore it at Coachella."

Neman continued to connect with managers and public relations firms in the entertainment industry. At a trade show later that same year, Neman sparked a conversation with a stylist who had worked with celebrities such as Chris Brown and Fetty Wap.

Neman was contacted a few days later by the stylist, who invited him to present a few pieces to Fetty Wap.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARIEL NEMAN

When designing his jewelry products, Neman considers the timelessness of the design as well as current trends.

Neman was driven to Patterson, New Jersey, where he was able to introduce himself to Fetty Wap and his entourage at an album photo shoot. After showing him a few of his pieces, Neman was invited to a recording studio where Fetty Wap was recording his new album.

"I'm never going to forget that moment, to be with one of the biggest artists in the world at the time," said Neman. "From that instance I knew I kind of made it at that point."

From there, Neman would continue to connect with and give pieces to celebrities such as Jamie Foxx, Justin Bieber, Nick Jonas,

Post Malone, Snoop Dogg and Wiz Khalifa.

When designing pieces for Regime NY, Neman is aware of the fact that trends are a large part of the fashion industry. However, in order to avoid his pieces becoming outdated, Neman creates timeless and unique jewelry while also creating some pieces that are "in" right now.

Although Neman has made a name for himself with Regime NY, he still makes school his first priority due to the fashion industry being so volatile.

For budding entrepreneurs, Neman advises that they be persistent

in their business actions, have a concept that is out of the ordinary and to show people that they are worthy of their attention.

"It is possible to do school and business. It is possible to do multiple things at once. No matter what, show that you are persistent. What got me to this point was persistence. If I didn't put myself out there I wouldn't have met anyone along the way," said Neman.

Neman stated that the launch date of Regime NY was tentatively set to Dec. 14. He plans to launch in Japan, Los Angeles and New York City.

Polls Apart analyzes election polls

BY ANGEL TORRES
COPY EDITOR

His idea was that people use their world views to influence their candidate choice without conducting enough research about the said candidate. They choose almost exclusively based on partisanship or devotion to their political party.

One of the major findings that Langer presented was that most of the people who voted were not pro-Trump—they were against Hillary Clinton. They identified more with the ideals of the Republican Party despite Trump being an unorthodox candidate.

Gourevitch was next on the podium. He opened with a quip about how he had the toughest job on the panel, since he was a democrat. He also stated that the reason he and Bolger did polls as opposed to Langer was to win campaigns, not just to collect data, so they had a more personal connection to the results.

Gourevitch, who is a partner and managing director at Global Strategy Group, worked closely with Priorities USA Action, a political action committee working with the Clinton campaign. At the panel, his focus of discussion was why the polls were so inaccurate. One of his ideas was that there was higher republican-supporter turnout at voting polls and less turnout from democratic voters. Another of his ideas was that many voters experienced shyness toward voting for Trump. These voters never admitted to polls who they were voting for but came out at the end to support the Republican Party.

Gourevitch's final point was that the Clinton campaign saw a shift in attitude late in the electoral race. The people working for the campaign, including Gourevitch, took Trump's pitfalls and negative



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The discussion panel featured expert insight on pre-election and exit poll results.

media attention as a sign that they were better off at the time. Gourevitch and the Clinton campaign expected to hold the lead even after the last of the email scandal was revived, which unexpectedly was not the case.

The next to take the mic was Bolger, Gourevitch's polar opposite. Bolger is one of the Republican Party's leading political strategists and pollsters, as well as partner and co-founder of Public Opinion Strategies—a firm whose clientele includes Fortune 500 companies. According to Bolger's bio on the POS website, he was named pollster of the year in 2009 after his involvement in Bob McDonnell's come-from-behind gubernatorial win in Virginia.

Bolger's focal point in his discussion was not the polls, like the previous two speakers, but the election itself. Bolger said that in the exit polls, four attributes were tested to see the motivation behind why people voted the way they did. Clinton won three of the four which were: "cares about me," "has the right experience" and "good judgement." The dimension Trump won, which brought him his win, was "can bring change." This factor had high ratings in the past with each

president-elect.

Jones was the last to the stand and he framed his comments around a question his students have been asking him throughout the week: "How could Trump possibly have won half the votes?" His provocative answer was that candidates in a campaign are increasingly irrelevant. This affirmed Langer's idea that voting was exclusively based on partisanship, instead of on who was the better candidate.

Following the floor time of all four panelists, Rauh opened the floor to audience questions.

With such a great turnout from professional pollsters, the event helped add detail to why Trump's win was so unexpected. One of the most repeated ideas was that voters seemed to ignore who was running and voted solely based on partisanship or dislike for the other candidate.

"Campaigns, while we like to pretend that they are about persuading people to your point of view, they are not. Campaigns are about reinforcing preexisting predisposition, motivating your supporters to act on your behalf and demotivating the other candidates' supporters from acting on his or her behalf," said Langer.

HSA celebrates Diwali with club hours kickoff

BY MAYA YEGOROVA
STAFF WRITER

Baruch's Hindu Student Association organized Diwali Kick Off during club hours on Thursday, Nov. 17. The event included a henna tattoo station, Diya decorating and a variety of Indian food.

Madura Lakuleswaran, a senior majoring in finance, said that Diwali is about coming together and celebrating family.

"This kickoff is to hype up our Diwali Gala. Everyone here can learn more about Hindu tradition from this gala. I want Baruch students to be exposed to Hindu customs, dance, food and stories. One of the cool things about this upcoming gala is that it will include a play performance."

Diwali is one of the most notable holidays in Hinduism. The festival is celebrated for five days, where the third day is renowned as the main Diwali festival, or Festival of Lights. Hindus light up Diyas, a type of oil lamp crafted as a way of paying respect to the gods, to decorate their homes. This is a part of Lakshmi Puja, when devotees clean their houses and prepare a meal to welcome Lakshmi, the goddess of wealth. Participants ask for blessings and desire to obtain health, knowledge and peace.

Additional jubilees include the exchange of gifts and the lighting of firecrackers. Mansha Sadh, a sophomore who is an accounting major, explained that Diwali is a holiday celebrating light. "This Diwali kickoff event is a precedent to our Diwali Gala on Nov. 21 .

We wanted to host a kickoff to reveal our heritage to students. I hope that they understand our rituals. We thought up the idea of

creating a Diwali kickoff in meetings. We brainstormed, thought about each individual's skill sets and gave members different roles."

When asked about her favorite part of Diwali, Sadh replied, "The henna—I did mine last night. I also love the art form rangoli, because everyone's creations are different."

Students had a variety of henna tattoo design choices at the event. Other students gave creating their own clay diyas a shot at the same table, including freshman Afia Adu-Gyamfi.

Adu-Gyamfi, an intended marketing major, said that she heard about the Diwali holiday and was impressed with the event's beautiful henna, candle-making, decorations and vivid colors.

"This event shows how diverse Baruch is and I like how the college embraces many cultures," she said.

Students and professors also lined up to taste the various assortments of food. HSA members offered jalebi, a sweet composed of flour batter in the shape of a pretzel that is a favorite during Diwali.

There were also opportunities to try cham cham, which is a dessert covered with coconut flakes, gulab jamun, which are milky balls softened with rose scented syrup and rasgulla, which are dough cooked balls made up of paneer, a South Asian cheese.

"My favorite part was the free dessert and henna," Michelle Teja, a freshman who is an undecided major, said. "I did not know about Diwali, and this experience shows how varied Baruch is."

HSA will host its Diwali Gala on Nov. 21 in the Multipurpose room from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The night will encompass dancing, music and singing.

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FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

Post-election events call for better organization and effort

A gripping post-election discussion organized by the Office of Student Life took place on Nov. 9 in the Bearcat Den to help students cope with the results of the election.

The event, scheduled only a few hours prior to its start time, was poorly organized and minimally advertised. The marketing effort did not go beyond OSL and Undergraduate Student Government's respective Facebook pages, meaning that a lot of people may not have known that the event was even taking place.

At 4 p.m., when the event was supposed to start, OSL was not there to set it up. The ill-timed posts led to scattered attendance during the discussion. At the beginning of the event, the number of people in attendance could be counted on a single hand.

Though attendance eventually increased, albeit slowly, the location remained suboptimal, as it had not been closed down to the general student population. Although the location was picked as a last-minute resort and is viewed as a shared public space on campus, it attracted chatter that belittled personal conversations and diminished strong emotional responses.

At the very least, students at the Bearcat Den who were not there for the event could have been asked to leave. The only interaction between the general students and the faculty members sitting in on the discussion took the form of a request to a nosy student to shut down his cellphone.

Granted, the event was put together on the very day that the election results had been released and most people anticipated an entirely different outcome. This is not a viable excuse, however, because the event should not have been planned solely because Donald Trump won the presidential election. No matter the results of the election, an event to discuss the outcome should have been organized ahead of time.

Despite the fact that Hillary Clinton received the predicted majority vote in New York, the percentage that voted for Trump should have been recognized. The majority of New York voted democratic, but this is never a reason to disregard the other New Yorkers who have cast a vote for another candidate.

It is important to realize that this was an election characterized by dangerous rhetoric and two of the most hated candidates in history. Therefore, everyone should have been given the opportunity to voice concerns and contribute to a post-election discussion. This event should have been coordinated earlier and with greater regard to everyone affected by the election results.

Anti-Trump protests fail to encourage discussion among protesters

The results of the recent presidential election have left many U.S. citizens in shock, especially in states that predominantly supported Democratic Party nominee Hillary Clinton.

The victory of Republican Party nominee Donald Trump has sparked protests in cities nationwide, as well as on social media. Many of these protests are misdirected and borderline hypocritical in their message.

Protesters choose to ridicule Melania Trump for posing nude in photoshoots. Protesters even held terrifying and rage-filled posters that called for the rape of Trump's wife.

Trump won the election based on the electoral vote, not based on popular vote, so some anti-Trump protesters have responded by protesting the Electoral College itself. If Clinton had won the election due to the electoral vote, it is doubtful that these same protesters would be chastising the Electoral College. In this way, they are misdirecting the protesting effort away from their disagreement with some of Trump's flawed policies and questionable cabinet appointments.

If protesters wish to be productive in their efforts, they must direct their energy toward rejecting the specific actions of the president-elect to evoke change.



REBECCA VICENTE | THE TICKER

Students deserve full access to ARC

Baruch facilities should be accessible to students more often since they pay tuition and student fees

Full-time undergraduate students at Baruch College pay \$265.50 per semester in activity fees as part of their tuition. These fees, according to the CUNY board of trustees, are used to fund the student health centers, athletics and recreation facilities and advisement offices on campus. All of these services help enhance the college experience at Baruch. Although the money goes to student services, these services are not always available for students to use.

Baruch's gymnasium facility, which is made up of two parts, features three full basketball courts in its main gym and one in its auxiliary gym. Students who are looking to practice their jump shot or play a quick game of basketball in between classes can just walk two floors down to the basement and join a pick-up game or find an open court in which to shoot around.

Located on the lower three levels of the Newman Vertical Campus, Baruch's Athletics and Recreation Complex plays host to many formalized sports programs and community recreational activities. Private organizations, public institutions and non-profit organizations can rent out any of the six ARC facilities at an hourly rate throughout the week, including weekends. NBA teams that are scheduled to play at Madison Square Garden or Barclays Center are sometimes sighted at the main gym holding practices the day before the official

match.

Due to the occupancy of the gyms, students sometimes change in the locker room and head downstairs only to find a sign on the door saying that the gym is closed. Although students can join a mailing list to check for the gym's open hours, these schedules, along with the ones posted in front of the facilities, are hard to rely on, as they are often subject to last-minute changes. Students must also clear the gym when Baruch's sports teams need to practice for any upcoming matches, meets or competitions. On other days, the gym is used as a venue for club activities such and events. As a result, many games are stopped short and students are left in dismay.

Moreover, many students who have utilized Baruch's athletics facilities quickly come to the realization that the fitness center can be one of the most overcrowded areas on campus. It is easy to find students who are dissatisfied with the lack of equipment and overall size of the center. During club hours, it is nearly impossible to find an open machine to complete a workout.

With the student population at Baruch growing each year, the available space in these facilities continues to decrease. This is a dire issue that requires attention.

An obvious remedy for the basketball gym would be to open a new facility for student-athletes, professional sports teams and

community organizations. This will enable students who are not on an athletics team to use the current space more freely and comfortably. Baruch's sports teams would also benefit from the changes, with more space to practice and work on their skills. The new facility could also incorporate state-of-the-art equipment and technology.

One solution for the overcrowding issue at Baruch's fitness center would be to create partnerships with local gyms such as Blink and the New York Sports Club. These gyms are located within walking distance from the campus and could make a profit from students who are serious about staying fit on a daily basis. Baruch already works with several small businesses in the Flatiron District to offer discounts for its students in places such as restaurants and cafes. This can easily be expanded to local gyms in order to offer similar savings to students.

On-campus recreation centers and programs are vital to a student's learning and overall college experience. These facilities provide students with a place to meet other students on campus and learn new skills outside of the classroom. It is critical for the ARC facilities to be upgraded in order to satisfy the wide-ranging fitness goals of the diverse population at Baruch.

-Paul Joh
Finance '18

The Ticker

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Hong Kong should retain its democracy

Hong Kong is in an existential crisis. For nearly 20 years since its sovereignty was transferred from the British Empire to China in 1997, citizens of Hong Kong have existed under the idea of "one country, two systems." Although Hong Kong is a part of China, it will retain its political and economic autonomy for 50 years.

Hong Kong does, in fact, have a separate economy that operates under a capitalist model as opposed to the socialist one under which the rest of China operates. Hong Kong is also free to act as its own entity among various international government organizations. However, these days are limited.

In 2014, Beijing attempted to impose certain restrictions on the democratic elections in Hong Kong, which spurred countless movements of opposition. Two elected officials were removed from their posts after the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China decided to offer

their own interpretation of Hong Kong's Basic Law.

The idea of a democratically elected official being removed from office purely for political reasons could stir more uneasiness. This same situation would have resulted in mass outrage if even one U.S. senator was removed from office because he or she simply had different political ideologies.

The democratic peace theory is the idea that democracies are less likely to engage in armed military conflicts with other identified democracies. It is imperative that Hong Kong's democracy remains intact and unadulterated. The political movements which have already begun must not stop until true reform occurs. Doing this will help foster better relations between the East and the West and, ultimately, encourage peace.

China needs to show benevolence and make possible realistic concessions, such as respecting the autonomy of Hong Kong and the

sovereignty of its people. Tossing out the results of an election shows that there is much progress that needs to be made on both sides.

There are many scholars who call for Hong Kong's independence—a proposal that would reignite tensions between Beijing and Hong Kong while inflicting a grave future for the latter's citizens. Instead, realistic solutions need to be brought to the table and be given serious consideration.

It is necessary to indefinitely extend Hong Kong's autonomy. Hong Kong also needs to find ways to show China that having its own political and economic systems does not make it an ideological threat and that the two can indeed exist together. The future of both Hong Kong and China are dependent on each other's success. One only hopes that peaceful change is on the horizon.

-Seamus Kirk
Political Science '17

Open discussion helps resolve differences

THE USG REPORT



DANIEL DORNBAUM

In my role as president of the Undergraduate Student Government at Baruch College, I often struggle with ways to best represent our students. There are students who have certain life experiences which I may never understand. However, I know that I cannot be a good representative of the student population without fully understanding its problems and opinions. In an effort to bridge that gap, I speak with fellow Bearcats to gain a better understanding of how they approach their issues.

In the heat of this election cycle, I found myself frustrated when I heard opposing views expressed by people with whom I could not agree. Admittedly, I raised my voice toward family, friends and even strangers when trying to express my own thoughts. Sometimes during exchanges, I would automatically jump to conclusions and tune out of a conversation after hearing certain statements with which I did not agree. I admit that it was not the best tactic to gloss over valid arguments just because I disagreed.

We must embrace tough talks with those who do not see eye-to-eye with us. You have the ability to filter information and completely

surround yourself with viewpoints similar to your own. You can unfriend and unfollow people who do not share similar values.

Due to the near-infinite amount of content online, you are also bound to find articles or blogs that support your mindset. This can be appealing to sort through, but being blind to a diverse set of opinions and ideas leads to ignorance.

This election has exposed a clear divide in our society and we must make it our job to mend that divide. By having these tough conversations, we will heal. If we shut people out from these important dialogues, however, we will be driven further apart and fail to understand our differences. Even after listening to the other side, you may still disagree, but you will have learned more about why people on the other side feel a certain way. To disagree respectfully is a much more powerful statement than automatically demonizing someone who has different beliefs.

Oversimplifications and generalizations of people set us back, but by having open conversations, generalities fall away. This is vitally important to the success of our school and our nation. The divisive rhetoric that has fueled, and at times, defined this campaign cycle cannot continue. I ask you to have these hard conversations and difficult discussions. It is the only way we can heal and advance as a society. We are all on the same team so we have to start acting like it.

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Trump's win calls for more activism

THE POLITICKER



REUVEN GLEZER

Donald J. Trump's victory in the most recent presidential election undoubtedly came as a shock to everyone who watched the results pour in on Election Day, as most people expected the win to go to Hillary Clinton.

It is difficult to imagine what the Clinton campaign felt immediately after the results were finally announced. However, upon watching her concession speech in the wake of Trump's victory, one can probably envision the depth of disappointment she and her team felt.

Her own political chances seem to be over, having lost twice to underdog candidates in tight races. The next four years of this country's future have been given to a man who can only be described as the least-qualified presidential candidate in the recent history of the United States.

During the rush of analysis and confusion that ensued, plenty of explanations were presented to try and rationalize Trump's victory. Whether his victory was a result of a faulty Electoral College system, the unexpected flood of once-ignored poor, white voters who wanted him in office or the FBI's ridiculous timing in announcing more email investigations, the race is over now. Trump is the president-elect and the face of

the United States, the person who represents millions of U.S. citizens to foreign countries. He is now called upon to lead the country into what can only be called an uncertain future.

It is not unusual to be afraid of future politicians. Protests against a Trump presidency erupted in many major cities across the United States following the results of the election, even in New York City, where 69 protesters were arrested during a march in Union Square.

The protests were, without a doubt, a massive show of solidarity against Trump's brand of hatred and fear-baiting that got him to the White House in the first place. They were telling of the power of the people who were willing to defend the more vulnerable members of U.S. society. The protesters that night were not just willing to be arrested, but they were willing to be hurt in the name of someone other than themselves.

The next four years will be a rocky road. Trump and his vice president, the notorious anti-feminist and anti-LGBT Gov. Mike Pence, have a Republican Congress behind them and the power to appoint at least one conservative justice to the Supreme Court. Rights that have been won by the least-represented U.S. citizens, such as the right to same-sex marriage and to abortion, will be challenged with a vigor like never before. The nature of what it means to be a U.S. citizen will be fundamentally questioned in the next four years.

This country has faced crises before, from the Civil Rights Movement to the Stonewall riots to the suffragette protests, but the election of a right-wing populist like Trump is arguably one of the greatest crises in recent mem-

ory. Trump, with all his huckster sheen and ridiculous personality, will not be what the United States represents.

While he was voted in by nearly half of voters who showed up to the polls, the future needs to be considered. Those who avoided voting because they saw Clinton as a guarantee and Trump as a joke need to be sternly reminded that the joke is not funny anymore.

Most importantly, those afraid of being hurt by Trump's radical supporters need to be reminded that his supporters are U.S. citizens as much as anyone else is, and that there will always be people to protect all sides, regardless of views.

This election was a failure of love and empathy, and only love and empathy can fix the cracks this election has made in the nation. The United States was built on a legend that it is a land for everyone fleeing persecution. Given a second chance, citizens can build themselves up from nothing no matter where they come from. Now is the time to stop repeating this legend and work to turn it into a reality.

In times of fear and uncertainty, life has a way of going on. It is the responsibility of citizens to make sure that life goes on for everyone, not just for a select few. Everyone has just as much of a right to be understood and considered as anyone else, whether one has to consider the opinion of a poor white U.S. citizen who voted for Trump or of the child of immigrants who saw Clinton as a sign of hope. This especially applies to those who have taken Trump's victory in stride.

Trump's victory meant loss to many others. It was a loss not just for Clinton, but for every U.S. citizen who hoped to move past the nation's past failures.

Print news faces possibility of extinction

The downsizing of various major publications calls into question how much longer the papers will last

Journalism, as our parents knew it, is a dying breed. With advertising rates falling or remaining flat, newspapers are struggling to keep up with online competition. As recently as 25 years ago, the Sunday edition of *The New York Times* was filled with content and a multitude of advertisements, giving the paper a hefty weight. It had a multipage spread of advertisements for a wide variety of employment opportunities. *The New York Times* had foreign bureaus, a large staff and a long list of stringers.

The digital revolution and a 24-hour news cycle has thrown broadsheets and tabloids into a struggle for survival, as they scramble for readership and advertisements. Major newspapers now have to rethink how to report news.

As major publications fight for survival, they are forced to lay off staff and cut back departments simply to stay in business. These publications try to beat out competitors, major corporations and investors like Warren Buffett who see the lure and potential of media and newspaper.

Downsizing is a worldwide phenomenon in journalism, as mainstream newspapers offer buyouts, integrate features into hubs and turn them into new centers of reporting. More importantly, they have integrated digital technology to create a ceaseless news cycle.

Technological development also puts blogs in the spotlight, which have evolved into a tool for viewership. Sites like *The Huntington Post*, *Salon*, *Slate*, *Vice* and *Vox* are emerging as serious rivals as purveyors of general culture, general news, investigative reporting and science.

Throwaway daily papers such as *am New York* and *Metro* are stiff

competitors. They condense the events of the day at no cost to readers because they are buoyed by advertising.

The influence of Facebook, along with other social media networks, must be discussed as well. Social media networks encourage gossip and mean-spirited foolishness. They serve as a platform for the ill-informed as they post articles and react to videos and political propaganda. As a result, Facebook has transformed into something akin to a news source for many people.

Meanwhile, traditional publications, like *The Guardian*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*, are scrambling for ways to beef up revenue and readership. The goal of these newspapers is simply to survive.

So far, *The New York Times* seems to be one of the only major newspapers that is reconstructing its efforts in the newsroom to fit the needs of the modern age. Its website is highly compatible with most mobile devices, which is an appropriate feature in an age when millions are turning to their handheld devices for information. U.S. citizens are living in an electronic age that is dominated by giant sites like Google and Amazon. In other words, the United States is in the midst of social engineering.

Cutbacks, layoffs and buyouts hurt. The alternative, however, is to transform traditional newspapers into blogs in order to create a profitable stream. However, this option seems to weaken the stream of coverage. Foreign, national and local coverage suffers during this age of the internet—they are much narrower in focus. Articles that appear in print are often regarded as

stale news, a problem that blogs and the never-sleeping eye of the internet easily remedy.

On the one hand, *The New York Times* is well-known for its investigative reporting, which is a huge investment in time and money. It is worthwhile to ask if major publications can afford to continue such an investment.

Even Rupert Murdoch's print publications are on the financial ropes, as the industry fights for its existence. These publications are fighting an uphill battle as literacy levels decline and attention spans diminish due to television and magazines. Reconfiguring newspapers to face modernization in the 21st century will not be easy as there is not much leeway for experimentation.

Newspapers are living in a moment of history where they can capture an audience only by reporting entertaining news, such as news about the most recent presidential election. In other words, it may be more beneficial for newspapers to report news that the public gets from browsing social media or by watching sparse television, rather than the investigative journalism that they have done in the past.

With falling revenue, major newspapers cannot survive. Radical changes in U.S. politics also do not offer bright hopes because the news is up for immediate coverage by competing sites.

Society is entering a form of dead journalism where rumors overpower trust and truth, a fact that reminds readers that they are not reading news coverage, they are reading fiction.

-Robert Cambria
Journalism

Abortion laws must pass

Women deserve to have a safe abortion if they want or need one

It has been 43 years since the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a woman's right to have an abortion, yet alarmingly, the procedure is still not accessible to thousands. Many impoverished women are unable to obtain the service due to provisions such as the Hyde Amendment. The Hyde Amendment restricts federal funding for abortions and makes them unavailable through government health programs like Medicaid.

As a result, low-income women are without any means of affording a legal pregnancy termination. It is vital for the U.S. government to end this exclusion of abortion in government sponsored health programs so that women of any socioeconomic background can gain access to a legal and sometimes necessary medical procedure.

Low-income women are more likely to have an unintended pregnancy, which makes them the prime victims of provisions like the Hyde Amendment. Abortions can cost over \$1,000, meaning that they are nearly impossible to afford for someone living below the poverty line. Even abortions that take place in the first trimester cost about \$430, which is more than double what uninsured women typically spend on healthcare.

Those against the inclusion of abortion in government health programs often cite abortion as a personal choice rather than a medical imperative. These individuals believe that government should not provide funding due to a lack of necessity. Although abortion is indeed a personal choice, it is necessary that government health programs such as Medicaid provide funding for the procedure.

First of all, it is inconsistent to exclude abortion from cover-

age. Medicaid covers other seemingly unnecessary procedures that fall into the category of personal choice. Both vasectomies and tubal ligation are currently included in coverage, meaning that the federal government has no objection to funding these procedures. Given the coverage of these unnecessary procedures, it seems that the only reason to exclude abortions would be on the grounds of a moral objection, which is not supported by any federal legislation.

It is also of great interest to the government to provide impoverished women with easier access to abortion. Low-income women are less likely to be able to afford the expenses typically associated with birthing and raising a child. This often results in the financial burden falling onto the government. This could cost the government money in foster care, social services and welfare programs.

Although not accepted by all, abortion has been legal in the United States since the *Roe v. Wade* decision in 1973. Therefore, the perpetual controversy surrounding the issue must not have an effect on the women's ability to obtain a pregnancy termination.

The United States is far behind the rest of the world when it comes to this issue. In a study, researchers from the University of California and Ibis Reproductive Health found that in an analysis of 80 countries, only 21 provide as little federal support for abortion as the United States. It is about time that the U.S. government provides women with the rights and opportunities that they were granted decades ago.

-Michael Giusetti
Marketing Analytics '17

Taxpayers should not fund stadiums

Sports appeal heavily to their fanbase but athletes cannot demand citizens to pay for new stadiums

Sports are part of the fabric that makes up the lifestyle of many U.S. citizens, but the amount of attention that sports get in this nation is concerning. Sports can bring us together after tragedies and are able to fill us with emotions ranging from sadness to absolute joy. Despite these benefits, sports are revered too highly in the United States.

The United States has 2,492 sports stadiums and that number is only increasing. Stadiums now include murals from famous artists, party suites and even pools. While these are all nice amenities, they are also very expensive. In order to pay for these additional luxuries, money from taxpayers is collected. The majority of stadiums are built using taxpayers' money.

Between the years of 2000 and 2010, 51 new stadiums were built, which costed taxpayers \$12 billion. Thirty-one of the 32 NFL stadiums were built without using any taxpayer money. The city of Detroit approved the spending of over \$400 million in taxes on a new hockey arena for the Red Wings, even though the owner of the Red Wings has a net worth of \$5.8 billion. Buying these stadiums may have contributed to the significant debt that cities like Detroit and Cincinnati went into only a few days later.

Not only are these stadiums built on public funds, but the teams are allowed to keep virtually all the revenue that is made. These funds are tax-exempt municipal bonds, which are ordinarily expected to be used for schools and road construction. These bonds allow cities to take out loans and pay them back later with interest. These funds, however, are often misused and allocated toward

helping finance these stadiums because teams claim they cannot fund the work themselves.

It is even more deplorable and unprofessional that teams threaten to leave if they do not get a new stadium built. The St. Louis Rams recently relocated to Los Angeles for this very reason. It was also speculated that the Oakland Raiders and San Diego Chargers were going to do the same.

In 1996, the Minnesota Twins threatened to leave and ran a very controversial advertisement in an attempt to gain support. It depicted a player from the Twins visiting a child with cancer. The advertisement said, "If the Twins leave Minnesota, an 8-year-old from Willmar undergoing chemotherapy will never get a visit from Marty Cordova." This advertisement proves that sports teams have shamelessly squeezed out fear from their cities and fans to get them to succumb to their demands. These actions also demonstrate how arrogant and self-involved athletes can be when they know that their fans adore them so much.

The common claim teams make is that these stadiums will somehow work economic magic. Team members claim that erecting stadiums will have a ripple effect that will bring in more revenue and business to not only the stadium, but to surrounding businesses and the city itself. This could not be further from the truth.

The Econ Journal Watch conducted a 20-year study on the economic feasibility of building sports stadiums. The study "found no substantial evidence of increased jobs, income or tax revenues." In a conversation with John Oliver, one economist stated that instead of building a billion-dollar stadium,

it would be more effective to fly a plane over a city and dump one billion dollars on the people and let them pick up the money and spend it.

An economist from Stanford University also concluded that the same NFL stadiums do not generate significant local economic growth and the incremental tax revenue is not sufficient enough to cover any significant financial contributions by the city.

Fans are reaching a point where they show cult-like devotion to their favorite teams, blindly ignoring the costs to support them. The city of Cincinnati is buried in debt stemming from the stadiums of the Cincinnati Bengals and the Reds. In order to pay for this debt, the city has been forced to sell a hospital, delay school payments and cut over 1,000 jobs.

There is nothing wrong with being a fan of any professional sports team. It is an easy way to bond with family and friends, since it creates a very special connection. The problem comes

when fans seem to be totally fine with their favorite team holding a city accountable for a huge investment into a stadium. These teams bank on the fact their fans will pressure politicians to get their way, which an obvious indicator of a feeling of entitlement.

It is important to realize that U.S. citizens are often too preoccupied with sports. They are a fun diversion, but there are more important things happening in the world. Taxpayers' money should not be allocated toward the creation of these stadiums when there are more important priorities.

-Davin Singh
Digital Marketing '18

Penn State needs to prioritize student safety

Pennsylvania State University has been hit with a much-deserved \$2.4 million fine by federal investigators. This penalty resulted from an investigation that cites Penn State's failure to report former assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky's cases of sexual abuse and harassment. This fine is beyond justified.

Investigators concluded that Penn State had failed to comply with the Clery Act. This act mandates that a university must quickly send out alerts when a threat on campus arises. According to the act, the university must also disclose all annual crime statistics. The Clery Act was named after Jeanne Clery, a student at Lehigh University who was raped and murdered in her dorm in 1986.

When the Sandusky investigation started in 2011, Penn State and former head football coach, Joe Paterno, denied knowing of any criminal acts committed by Sandusky. This was hard to believe. Although Penn State has a reputable academic program, it is the football program that turns Penn State into a household name.

With two national championships and four conference titles, it is hard to believe that the university did not know what was going on under its roof. It is especially difficult to fathom since winning championships brings huge amounts of money to the school. It seems convenient for the school to disregard criminal acts in favor of huge sums of money.

The fine of \$2.4 million is a result of many violations. When it came to Sandusky, Penn State acted negligently. The school allowed a sexual predator to be around children and on school property

even after he retired. Most shockingly, Penn State did not report any of this activity. The biggest reason for the fine was Penn State's failure to submit crime statistics. The lack of attention to the issue left current and prospective students in the dark regarding the safety of Penn State's campus.

When some victims came forward, the claims were brushed off. Children were violated and their innocence was taken away by the hands of a cherished coach. The university decided to give out settlements to the victims but it can never reimburse a lost childhood.

It is hard to say whether or not Penn State has done enough to repair the damage. In addition to the settlements, Penn State has also implemented initiatives to instill compliance and promote better ethics. It clearly hopes that these new initiatives will prevent another event like this from repeating itself. Time will tell if these steps will actually prove useful.

At universities where the athletic department is worshipped, inappropriate actions committed by athletes or coaches can be easily swept under the rug. Penn State believed that it could put this issue in the past, but the school was terribly wrong.

The university officials were expected to act in the best interest of the students, but they chose not to. Universities must place a greater emphasis on safety for the average student, as opposed to the protection of a few individuals who have committed terrible wrongs. It is their duty to make sure their students are protected from harm.

-Seun Elemo
History '17

Pledge requires revisions

Students should not be mandated to recite the Pledge of Allegiance

In an accepting and progressive age when taboos have often become normalized, the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance still poses a great conflict. The problem is not patriotism but those who shame people who do not wish to recite the pledge.

Since its inception, the Pledge of Allegiance has been present in many facets of everyday life. It is recited in schools, before the beginning of major sporting events, at the beginning of government meetings and during military ceremonies. In schools, the Pledge of Allegiance is forced on students when many of them simply do not understand what they are pledging themselves to—they may not even understand what a pledge is. This blind and forced devotion is wrongful and imposing.

The pledge itself is not entirely the problem, however. For those who do understand it, they are declaring their loyalty to a country that stands for patriotism and freedom for all its constituents, under God. For people who believe in the U.S. government but are not religious, this can pose an issue. The United States cannot be a free-thinking and accepting political nation for all of its people when its pledge has religious ties.

Disagreements around participating in the pledge have also led to extreme circumstances as of late. In October, a Mississippian mother told WHJL-TV that her son's principal forced him to stand for the pledge, threatening the boy with demerits and suspension. The conflict was resolved when the superintendent of the school's board rightfully said that the district had no policy that forced students to stand for the pledge.

An Oshkosh City Council mem-

ber exercised her right not to stand for or recite the pledge during a meeting, citing her anger over the results of the recent presidential election as the reason. She said that she had a hard time hearing some of the words of the pledge due to the outcome of the election.

Refusing to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance or in the national anthem causes negative responses because many people see it as a sign of disrespect to those who serve and die for the United States. This, however, is a big misconception. U.S. quarterback Colin Kaepernick received many negative responses for refusing to stand during the national anthem. He claimed that he took a stand against racial discrimination, but many saw the act as disrespectful.

This misconception sprouts from the thought that whoever does not show devotion to the U.S. flag immediately has no respect for the nation. This clouded thought process twists the image of people who are merely expressing themselves. Kaepernick may have the greatest respect for those who have died protecting U.S. citizens. Standing against racial injustice in a time when it should not even exist is much more important than acting in the way the masses deem appropriate.

In the wake of Donald Trump's win in the presidential election, a revision of the Pledge of Allegiance is needed. The United States needs to show its people that it truly is a nation impartial to gender, political background, race or religion, where all of its people will be protected and kept safe no matter the circumstance.

-Angel Torres
Actuarial Science '17

Trump ignores environmental issues

Trump plans to withdraw from the Paris Agreement and undo progress to stall negative climate change

President-elect Donald Trump and his transition team have spent the last few days strategizing for his four upcoming years in the Oval Office, despite massive protests across the country. Myron Ebell of the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a libertarian think tank, has been chosen as Trump's leading figure in transitioning the Environmental Protection Agency.

In an article for *Forbes Magazine*, Ebell claimed that climate change is not necessarily caused by humans and may even be beneficial. This is a direct contradiction of geoscientists' findings. The National Academy of Sciences has long acknowledged that climate change is caused by humans and has the potential to create cataclysmic destruction, especially in the developing world.

Ebell is perhaps most notable for his denouncement of Pope Francis, following a call from the Vatican for the world to address the destruction of the environment. Ebell called this address "theologically suspect," arguing that it was largely "leftist driven."

Trump is no stranger to denying scientific consensus himself, taking to Twitter on Election Day in 2012 and making the ludicrous argument that "the concept of global warming was created by and for the Chinese in order to make U.S. manufacturing non-competitive." In Trump's 2015 book, *Crippled America*, he writes that clean energy is "an expensive way of making the tree-huggers feel good about themselves." Beyond the topic of climate change, Trump is also notorious for being an "anti-vaxxer," making the claim on Twitter in 2014 that vaccines cause autism in children.

Trump and Ebell's outright denial of science has informed the potential policies of the upcoming Trump administration. Trump has promised to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, a climate change accord of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change that only went into effect four days before Election Day.

Under the Paris Agreement, almost 200 parties, including China, the European Union, India and the United States, pledged to keep the global temperature rise of the 21st century between 1.5 and 2 degrees Celsius, with the long-term goal of phasing out fossil fuels. The Paris Agreement even drew the support of oil and gas giant ExxonMobil, which released a statement calling the accord "an important step forward by world governments in addressing the serious risks of climate change."

Under the Paris Agreement, there is a four-year period before any of the 109 ratifying parties can withdraw. A member of Trump's transition team anonymously told Reuters that Trump is searching for a means of bypassing the four-year withdrawal period. Trump's attempt to expeditiously withdraw from the Paris Agreement undermines the unity that the accord succeeded in building after a year of planning.

In addition to Trump's plan to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, his proposal for his first 100 days in office includes a promise to "lift the restrictions on the production of...shale, oil, natural gas and clean coal," all of which are harmful to the atmosphere. Even burning clean coal, despite its name, emits considerable quantities of greenhouse gases.

Trump also pledged to "lift the Obama-Clinton roadblocks and allow vital energy infrastructure projects, like the Keystone Pipeline, to move forward."

The Keystone Pipeline is already complete and functional, but its extension, the Keystone XL Pipeline, has been disputed since its proposal. Once completed, the Pipeline could potentially carry 830,000 gallons of oil from Alberta to Nebraska, making fossil fuels more immediately available and decreasing U.S. reliance on the Middle Eastern oil market.

Trump and the Republican Party have touted the project as a creator of jobs on a massive scale. Such a project has been estimated to generate 42,000 jobs. However, following the pipeline's two-year construction period, only 35 of those jobs will remain. In addition to damaging the ecosystems that it crosses, the pipeline would double oil production in Canada by 2030. Trump's kindling of fossil fuels goes directly against the global effort to curb greenhouse gas emission.

The International Renewable Energy Agency reported a 5 percent increase in worldwide employment in the renewable energy sector from 2014 to 2015, with over 8 million people employed. Even China, the nation that Trump pledges to gain an advantage over, plans on tripling its solar power capacity by 2020. Renewable energy promises to be an economically fruitful solution to the potential dangers that climate change presents and, unless we see radical change in Trump's plans, the United States will get left far behind.

-Samuel Liff
Philosophy '19

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Business

India demonetizes large banknotes to eradicate black market

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR

India's current Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the removal of certain bills from circulation in an attempt to eliminate counterfeit money. After having withdrawn both the 500 and 1,000 rupee notes from the economy, people flooded the banks in the hope of exchanging and depositing new bills. People intended to deposit their remaining 500 and 1,000 rupee notes into their bank accounts, but the machines had reached their acceptance limit after only two people. Hundreds of ATM services went down in India.

ATM lines reached irresolvable, long queues and crashed within minutes after the first couple of people deposited money. Some people were left entirely without cash for a few days after the announcement. Different groups of people started to come out, confessing about hidden money. Indian homemakers, for example, labeled "India's desperate housewives," had to tell their husbands about the money that they had stashed in clandestine in order to use for protection if necessary.

Credit is not a viable option in many parts of India since the dominant monetary transactions take the form of cash. The usually bustling markets in the streets of Mumbai went silent after the change was publicized.

The government revealed soon after that a new note—the 2,000 rupee note that has a current value of about \$30—has been introduced,



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In an attempt to eliminate counterfeit bills in India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced plans to take all existing 500 and 1,000 rupee notes out of circulation.

although ATM machines have not yet been configured to dispense those.

According to an article from Reuters, "In the past five years, circulation of all currency notes grew 40 percent, compared with 30 percent growth in Asia's third-largest economy. The growth in 500 and 1,000 rupee banknotes was even steeper; 500 rupee notes grew 76 percent between 2011 and 2016, while in the same period, 1,000 rupee notes rose by 109 percent."

Out of the fear that the 500 and 1,000 rupee notes would get nullified and invalidated, some bosses urged their employees to refuse

to accept those notes on the job. Almost 40 percent of the Indian economy relies on cash exchanges in order to thrive. Small businesses and insubstantial companies are the ones that primarily contribute to cash flow in India's economy.

The removal of the two bills was an attempt to crack down on corruption and counterfeit currency at the hands of the wealthy. It was expected to bring in billions of dollars in unaccounted wealth into the open economy.

The black market in India, which expands the divide between the rich and the poor, has been on the government's agenda since

2014, when the current ruling party discussed options to eradicate it. Certain measures have failed, and Modi has resorted to this drastic change in order to bring the money out of dark shadows and into the formal economy.

Despite intentions to target wealthier and more corrupt individuals, it seems as though poorer people were hit the hardest. As a result, people are scrambling around trying to adjust to the economical alterations.

Another one of the prime motivators behind the decision was the fact that militants and terrorists rely on counterfeit money in order

to carry out transactions across borders, according to Modi. An article on Reuters about the issue writes that, "The surprise move was designed to bring billions of dollars worth of cash in unaccounted wealth into the mainstream economy, as well as hit the finances of militants who target India and are suspected of using fake 500 rupee notes to fund operations."

Although the movement did not solely target corrupted people, the Reserve Bank of India reassured the public and said that they must be patient in the coming days. All outdated bills must be exchanged by Dec. 30.

Trump proposes trade deal revisions

BY ALEXANDRA ZYSKIND
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As the United States prepares for Donald Trump's presidency, U.S. citizens can expect several changes concerning their international trade partnerships. One cornerstone of Barack Obama's presidency, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, has gained a share of detractors, which include the current president-elect. As president, Trump may revoke involvement in the partnership, an action that may have consequences for the United States and global economies.

In an op-ed piece written by Trump in *USA TODAY*, he stated, "One of the factors driving this economic devastation is America's disastrous trade policies." He discussed problems related to the policies described in the TPP. In the same op-ed piece, Trump also likened the problems he sees in the TPP to those that occurred with the North American Free Trade Agreement, writing, "Since the North American Free Trade Agreement was signed in 1993, we've lost approximately 900,000 jobs to Mexico alone." Trump has criticized the TPP in his speeches and via Twitter as well.

The TPP was signed by 11 Pacific Rim countries, including the United States, on Feb. 4, 2016. Its laws are designed to lower tariffs and other trade barriers between participating countries. The approximately 5,000-page document also stipulates laws related to the environment, protecting workers' rights and laws that involve digital transmissions and private and state digital ownership.

In theory, applying the tariff provisions outlined by the TPP will lead to greater trade volume between Pacific Rim nations. Accord-



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President-elect Trump indicated intentions to remove the United States from the Trans-Pacific Partnership when he takes over the oval office next year.

ing to the U.S. Trade Representative, the United States has an average applied tariff rate of 1.4 percent less than half of the average world tariff rate. Facing higher tariffs on the goods that they export, U.S. businesses are at a disadvantage when they trade internationally, since foreigners are incentivized to buy cheaper, homegrown versions of U.S. goods. Lowering the existing tariffs should encourage expansion of international trade.

Although the trade partnership may cause a growth in some international trade sectors, it will also likely lead to a decrease in others. Trump is not alone in his stance against the TPP. Politicians of varying political backgrounds and leading economists have also voiced several concerns with the TPP. For example, in May 2015,

Nobel Memorial Prize-winning economist Paul Krugman cited an article from 2013 by Doctors Without Borders, which noted that the TPP may prevent people in developing countries from accessing medicines made by big pharmaceutical companies. Certain digital rights organizations have also voiced additional concerns with the TPP's effect on the transmission of digital goods.

Overall, barrier-free international trade is not a part of Trump's stated economic positions and, unsurprisingly, the adjustments cumulatively proposed by the TPP are not either. Whether or not the United States ultimately decides to stay in the Trans-Pacific Partnership, it remains to be seen just how much of Trump's proposed policies will actually come into effect.

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Arts & Style

Germany & Jews depicts change in German-Jewish relations

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ
MANAGING EDITOR

When World War II ended 71 years ago, the Jewish population of Germany was nearly eradicated. Those who survived were often left with no family to come back to and moved out of Germany. However, in 2016, the German-Jewish population is flourishing once again, with 200,000 Jews currently living in Germany.

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, the Baruch Performing Arts Center hosted a screening of *Germany & Jews*. The documentary, directed by Janina Quint, discusses the shift of German-Jewish relations from the end of WWII to the 21st century.

The documentary's website explains, "What began as a private conversation between the two filmmakers and friends, Tal Recanati (Jewish) and Janina Quint (non-Jewish Germans), grew into a cultural exchange among many."

The date of the screening has historical significance. On the night of Nov. 9, 1938, Nazis torched synagogues and broke into Jewish businesses, homes and schools. The glass that they broke littered the streets for days and the event became known as "Kristallnacht," or the night of broken glass.

The documentary centers on a group of Germans and Jews who discuss their perspectives on how German-Jewish relations have shifted over the years. The people who were interviewed for the documentary are artists, historians and other people who were personally affected by Germany's Nazi history.

In the opening scenes of the documentary, the interviewees are seen meeting one another for the first time and sitting around a dinner table to discuss their views on modern Germany. One of the interviewees mentioned how different his parents' views of the war were.

His mother said that she did not notice the disappearing Jewish population and the empty storefronts that populated the streets. In contrast, his father, who was part of the Hitler Youth, said that Germans were aware of what was happening, but were unable to prevent these events from occurring.

This story was an excellent metaphor for how the German population behaved after the war. As the documentary notes, while some Germans expressed sorrow over what the country did to its neighbors and people within the country, others acted as if the war never took place.

Nazi soldiers who were actively involved in the war returned to their normal lives and did not experience repercussions until the 1960s.

In another scene, the directors followed a woman who cleaned the "stolperstein" in front of her home. Stolperstein is a cobblestone-sized concrete cube with a brass plate dedicated to victims of the Holocaust, most of them Jews.

Each stolperstein includes the victim's name, the date they were born on and when they died. By cleaning the plates, the woman explained, she is caring for the memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

A small portion of the documentary shows other Holocaust

memorials scattered around Germany. According to the director, these memorials are a constant reminder of the shame and crimes that the Nazis committed.

However, some of the interviewees agreed that it is time to move forward from the country's dark history.

The documentary also paid tribute to the German Jews who immigrated to Palestine in the early 1930s. One man who was interviewed for the documentary was the son of a German Jew who decided to return to Germany after the war. Although his mother urged his father to stay away from Germany, his dad decided to move back because of the booming economy.

Unlike *Unsere Mutter, Unsere Vater*, also known as *Generation War*, the documentary did a good job portraying the two types of Germans. *Unsere Mutter, Unsere Vater* was widely criticized for portraying just the Germans who were becoming disillusioned with the war after they became part of it.

In contrast, Quint's documentary showed both the people who went along with Hitler's plans for Germany and the ones who did not agree with the war despite being a part of it. It also portrayed a country that coped with its crimes through acceptance, retribution and sorrow.

These feelings, however, took a few years to develop. The documentary highlighted that after the war ended, the German population refused to talk about the war. For some, it was a coping mechanism. For others, it was a way to move on



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A "stolperstein," pictured above, is a cobblestone-sized cube with a brass plate that commemorates a victim of the Holocaust. They can be found in major German cities.

with their lives.

There was also the issue of what some of the interviewees described as the "German capacity for self-pity" after the war ended. For a while, the German population behaved as if it was a victim of the war. Many Germans did not come to terms with their crimes until the Frankfurt Auschwitz Trials took place in the 1960s. Afterward, the country went through a movement toward reconciliation with its history.

Lastly, the documentary highlighted the curiosity of the second generation, or the children of people who grew up during World War II. It shows their effort to discover

the truth and make amends to those who were hurt by the actions of their parents.

This curiosity, the documentary claims, was largely inspired by Holocaust, a 1978 U.S. miniseries that tells the story of the Holocaust from the point of view of a German-Jewish family and a Schutzstaffel, or SS, officer.

The documentary gives a breeze of fresh air to a topic that has been widely discussed for decades. While its message might have been received more negatively 10 or 20 years ago, it is well-placed for the modern audience that is willing to move on from the crimes of the previous century.

Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* captivates Roundabout audience

BY MAXIM IBADOV
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Times are changing, as they always are. There is a continuous struggle between fresh beginnings and archaic traditions, the new vs. the old, the elite vs. the working class and morality vs. boorishness.

With all of these issues sweeping the modern United States through a memorable election, it is difficult to ignore the relevance of Roundabout Theatre Company's idea to revive the best play about social change—Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*.

A masterpiece of Russian literature, *The Cherry Orchard* is a classic story about members of an aristocratic family. Upon their return from Paris, they have to face the reality that they are in massive debt and their beloved estate with its magnificent cherry orchard must be sold.

Lopahin, played by Harold Perrineau, is a family friend who is trying to warn Lyubov Ranevskaya, played by Diane Lane, and her brother Leonid Gaev, played by John Glover, to rent out the estate as cottages.

However, Lyubov refuses to engage in such plebeian and low class ventures. Eventually, the family members not only loses the estate and the beautiful garden, but also themselves and one another. A marvelously built set perfectly reflects this notion. The stage sits on a giant tree stump, representing an entire system of beliefs, traditions and customs and the rise of the socialistic middle class.

A drama that reveals a personal tragedy of inaction and foolishness, *The Cherry Orchard* was Chekhov's last play.

It is a symbolic farewell to the life and established traditions of the elite, as well as to his own life.

The RTC's production is a modern adaption written by Stephen Karam, a Tony Award-winning playwright for *The Humans*. Karam has proven to Broadway audiences that he is a talented writer whose gift is noticing the most incredible things in the most ordinary of situations.

For *The Cherry Orchard*, his writing has shifted the focus from the prominent family members, to the secondary house help. By providing a different perspective, however, Karam damages Chekhov's original text and message. When a classic play is about one particular aspect, trying to make it about something else causes an unbalanced and limiting mess.

Chekhov's signature style consists of dramatic pauses in flow that represent more than just what is on the surface. These pauses are pervasive moments, where the characters have to face their own fears and actions and try to salvage themselves before drowning in their own personal abyss.

Director Simon Godwin dries out those intimate moments and rushes the entire show in order to create an artificial feeling of suspense.

But there should be no suspense in Chekhov's work because his work is described as where "nothing ever happens, but everything happens all the time." There is a painful routine of dull existence and bold apathy toward the future. By lacking that suspense, the writer depicts life in the most realistic way possible—as a dragging on of small events that lead into desperation.

This production lacks clear focus and it affects every part of the work. Despite having a stellar parade of award-winning actors, the show fails to display unity. The acting itself is good, especially Lane and Glover's, but the depictions of

these canonic characters appears to be one-dimensional.

There is no space for the actors to really show who they are and what the forces behind their actions are. Due to the speed of the show, most of the words and movements of the actors lack authenticity and are almost mechanical.

Last season, the Brooklyn Academy of Music brought a production of *The Cherry Orchard* done by the Russian troupe from St. Petersburg under the direction of Lev Dodin. It was a very minimalistic production, with the same set and costumes throughout the whole play.

Although New York critics disapproved the production's length and its lack of comic relief, looking back and comparing these two productions, there is one thing that

the Russian version had as an advantage over the U.S. one—authenticity. Karam and Godwin tried to create a piece that was more relatable and understandable to U.S. audiences. But Dodin's version, preserving the original language and themes, was appealing to the audiences.

Dodin was capable of creating a showcase of what made up a true Russian soul and how its torments are relevant not only in today's Russia, but the United States as well. RTC's version fails to demonstrate what it is about *The Cherry Orchard* that still keeps audiences interested and how a story about a family losing its estate is as socially enticing now as ever.

As all the family members assemble in the final scene to say

goodbye to one other and to their house, it is clear to see that this is the most sympathetic and climactic moment of the play. The emotions are raw, the pain is pure and the realization of one's actions looms over the soon-to-be-empty house. As everybody leaves, loyal and noble house-keeper Firs, played by the legendary Oscar and Tony-winner Joel Grey, is left behind alone. "They forgot about me," he says, a line that is arguably one of the most memorable in contemporary theater.

To the sound of the cherry trees being cut in the background, Firs, the last standing memory of the past, slowly lies down on the floor in the middle of the wooden stunt. The light then fades out and the entire era falls into oblivion.



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Lane plays Lyubov Ranevskaya, a noblewoman trying to cope with her son's death in Karam's adaptation of the Chekhov classic.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them charms Potterheads

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

A No-Maj, as explained in the film, is the North American term for a muggle, or someone who is unable to practice magic and is also not born of magical descent. Kowalski evidently got caught in the tussle between Scamander and the creature by way of a freak accident, though the exact scene seemed too planned to be arbitrary.

It is disputable, but the allegorical symbols that represent depression and war first present themselves primarily within *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. The Dementors that have been hired by the Ministry of Magic to seize alleged serial killer Sirius Black are described as the foulest beings who steal more than just the life of their prey. Allegorically, the Dementors may represent the continual uphill battle that stalls the process of overcoming depression.

The first two books in the *Harry Potter* series are more childish and the students at Hogwarts do not face anything other than instances of imminent death. Therefore, readers can argue that death by a quick murder is oftentimes preferable to losing all the feelings and thoughts that culminate into an identity, which happens during Dementor encounters. This is where the dark themes first emerge and coalesce.

Yates clearly adopts this pattern throughout the rest of the movie franchise and *Fantastic Beasts* is not an exception. The premise behind the movie—a bumbling man who can repel more people than a Dementor loses a handful of magical creatures in the streets of New York and has to retrieve them—sounds like a tale told to infants to help them fall asleep.

The subplot deals with physical abuse, mental torment and feelings



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Redmayne takes the lead role as Newt Scamander in the wizarding world of the highly anticipated feature adaptation of the Harry Potter spinoff *Fantastic Beasts*.

of pent-up loneliness and isolation. One of the intended villains, Credence Barebone, played by Ezra Miller, is an abused foster child who is thought to be a squib, or someone with dormant magical abilities who was born to magical parents. After the pot of heated emotions tips over, Barebone claims his magical abilities and wreaks havoc on the city.

The dark and heavily punctuated themes do not detract from any familiar whimsical elements in the movie.

The creatures embody some semblance of favorite companions from the *Harry Potter* series, such as Buckbeak and Fawkes. Although this is set decades prior to the moment when Harry Potter discovers Scamander's book, the storyline is

familiar and heartfelt.

There are definitely questionable portions of the film that require rethinking.

In some instances, wild animals conveniently pop up in Central Park and by jewelry stores. If Yates intended for this to be a way to induce distraction in the film so that the characters could maintain the plotline, it was poorly done and seemed senseless.

In the same vein, Scamander left open the briefcase from which the creatures escaped several times, which puzzles any observant viewer who realizes that the latches needed to stay on in order for the creatures to be contained. These are however, minor qualms that do not pose a lasting problem for the overall film quality.

Fantastic Beasts is riddled with witty exchanges that only Potterheads would recognize. The film is too reminiscent of various moments in the series that often elicit powerful and emotional reactions from the most passionate viewers. Scenes from the movie cause flashbacks to the most striking and painful moments in *Harry Potter* history.

Despite the strange reminiscence, the film is unmatched and characteristically its own. The characters instantly charm even though their dialogues ruminate in sarcasm and self-deprecation.

The creatures are pleasantly humorous and enticing to get to know. The soundtrack resonates because it is tweaked from the hollowed-out instrumental pieces sacred to the

Harry Potter film franchise.

Its unexpected similarities to the original films are a positive aspect, especially for those who read, watched and valued *Harry Potter* since childhood. Die-hard Potterheads may appreciate the similarities more because they tend to be millennials who have both read the books and watched the movies countless times.

Watching *Fantastic Beasts* felt like entering a breach to another time when new *Harry Potter* books and films were still in the process of unraveling and coming out.

Perhaps the main takeaway is that the personal connection that *Fantastic Beasts* establishes is enough to carve out a separate dimension of buried feelings and thoughts.

British prog band Marillion releases socially relevant album *F E A R*

BY LUIS LUCERO
STAFF WRITER

Progressive rock is a genre that is often thought to have lost its commercial relevance after the punk and new wave invasion of the late 1970s and early 1980s. Contrary to popular belief, however, progressive rock is still going strong thanks to bands like Dream Theater, Radiohead and Tool. The band that is often credited with starting the modern progressive rock movement is the British band Marillion.

Marillion is now back with its 18th studio album and the 14th to feature its current lineup, helmed by lead singer and keyboardist Steve Hogarth.

The new album, named *F E A R*, is quite possibly the most socially relevant album that Marillion has released in its existence. A lot of the songs tackle subjects like economic inequality, patriotism and propaganda. In a year that included Brexit, the Syrian migrant crisis and a turbulent U.S. presidential election, this is an album that is sorely needed in this time and age.

As far as the track list goes, it consists of three lengthy multi-part suites and three shorter songs that serve as potential singles.

While long songs are always expected from any progressive rock group, Marillion usually included one epic per album. With a noticeable push toward socially relevant songs, the inclusion of multiple epics was the band's only way to bring this theme across.

Speaking in terms of musicality, the band also uses longer songs as means to experiment with various musical ideas. Interestingly, the individual movements of the suites are each listed as separate tracks, bringing the overall song total to 17 songs, the most on any Marillion studio album.

"El Dorado," kicks off the album with a pastoral acoustic intro that soon segues into a bleak and cynical look into the future, permeated with a warning to society that it will soon face the consequences for all the wrongdoings it perpetrated across history.

This song is followed by "Living in F E A R," which encompasses Hogarth's delivery of a plea for the end of war and the beginning of universal peace.

The closing epic, "The New Kings," brings about a scathing critique of politics and the banking system and how the two caused most of modern society's problems. After the barrage of social criticism from the band, the song and the album ends with a brief but uplifting acoustic epilogue that brings about an optimistic lyrical and musical contrast to rest of the album.

Two of the songs in the middle of the album briefly move away from the main concept and instead focus on a much more personal side of the band that Marillion rarely reveals. The second epic, "The Leavers," focuses on life on the road and all of the personal struggles each of the members face when it comes to their musical careers.

While the song itself is among the band's most poignant, it seems excessive to make it into an epic. The song also happens to be the longest track on the album, clocking in at nearly 20 minutes.

Thankfully, the track that immediately follows it, "White Paper," is only seven minutes long and is straight to the point. The song describes the band members' wistful wishing to return to a point in their lives when everything was easy and they did not have as many worries and responsibilities to deal with. The piece features Hogarth on piano before being joined by the rest of the band.

Marillion's whopping 18 albums over a period of over 30 years gave the band a chance to smoothen out their overall sound. With this new record, Marillion is now about as far removed as it can possibly be from the progressive pop sound of its first four albums, when the band was led by singer Derek William Dick, also known as Fish.

Hogarth delivers quite possibly his most emotionally charged vocal performance, augmenting the two themes of the album. His guitar solo at the end of "The New Kings" is especially worth pointing out as one of the highlights of the album.

The member that dominates the whole album, however, is keyboard player Mark Kelly. Throughout the album, there are various orchestral and choral presets that made the songs transcend beyond what the band has done in previous records. Last month, the band started

a brief North American tour for *F E A R*. While it is not entirely known if the band planned this one date specifically or if it was pure coincidence, but the last show of the tour was held on election night at Time Square's PlayStation Theater.

Considering the aforementioned themes of the album, the date of the concert made the new songs all the more emotionally resonant with the nearly sold-out venue. Opening up for the band on tour was guitarist John Wesley, who had worked with various members in Marillion in the past, as well as progressive rock contemporaries Steven Wilson and Porcupine Tree.

After his set, Marillion took the stage for a near three-hour set of music. Aside from a healthy portion of new music, including two of the three epics, a big chunk of the setlist consisted of Marillion classics in Hogarth's time.

During the middle of the show, the band went further back into their past to perform the Fish era classic "Sugar Mice," to the delight of the audience. While the band itself was just as musically sharp on stage as it was on the record, Hogarth definitely stole the show.

All throughout the concert, he was giving his all with his stage presence and was cracking various jokes in between songs at the expense of the presidential candidates, life in the United States and the corporate namesake of the venue. The night capped off with a 40-minute encore of two lengthy Marillion epics, including "El Dorado."

With 2016 gradually going down as one of the more turbulent years in human history, Marillion's new record has successfully captured the widespread feelings of anger, confusion and fear.



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Hogarth delivers his emotionally charged vocals in *F E A R*, the band's 18th studio album in their 30 year history.

Arrival mixes realism with wonder in story about alien contact

REEL REVIEWS



BENJAMIN WALLIN

Amy Adams stands in a mostly-empty classroom. Her character, Dr. Louise Banks, is a linguistics professor. She wonders aloud where the majority of her students are before she is asked to turn on the TV. When the news is revealed, class is dismissed and the school is evacuated. Everyone is stunned—aliens have arrived.

Twelve pods, each the shape of an orange wedge, have landed on Earth. Each are suspended high above the ground, looming large over their surroundings. Schools are shut down and there is speculation on the news. Banks is asked by Colonel Weber of the U.S. Army, played by Forest Whitaker, to help in translating the aliens' language. Their response to the aliens is an attempt to understand them and more importantly, to avoid a declaration of war.

The film moves slowly and deliberately. Director Dennis Villeneuve relishes the opportunities to hide information, not rushing to reveal what is to happen. The film carefully foreshadows through small pockets of information and scenes that are interwoven seamlessly into the flow of the film, only revealing their significance much later. *Arrival* is brilliant, but it does not flaunt that.

This hesitation to show everything all at once even extends to the aliens. At first exposure, the

heptapods, as they are referred to, are shrouded in fog. A few tentacles emerge before some of the torso follows. The design of these aliens is nothing extravagant nor an attempt to be overly complicated. With the oversaturation of computer-generated imagery in the movie industry, simplicity has become commendable.

The heptapods' language is visually beautiful to watch. Words are written in inky circles, drawn by the aliens' tentacles. The film follows a plausible progression in that the learning process to understand the aliens starts with simple concepts but quickly progresses to the humans eventually even using a translation app. The pacing is organic, going slowly at the beginning. The film takes its time and utilizes this critical element wisely.

While the U.S. Army deals with the alien ship that has landed in the United States, they work together

with other governments' that are intent on handling the situation. There is cooperation, but there is also mistrust. Some governments fear the aliens, exhibiting literal xenophobia, which raises questions of how far the aliens can be trusted and how far the humans can trust each other.

The overarching question that everybody is trying to answer is summed up in the tagline of the movie: "Why are they here?" After no attack is launched and the spaceships remain stationary, the immediate surprise toward the alien arrival develops into a determination to understand their purpose. At the mention of a weapon, tensions rise and mistrust brews. *Arrival* is an alien invasion movie about humanity.

The perspective of the outsider gives shape to a vision of people unsure about one another, full of deceit and plots, trying to under-

stand the world around them. The characters occasionally make small jokes, which are not in the same vein as Marvel movie jokes, but which try to add humorous quips wherever possible. They are part of the human dialogue, where people who are nervous or uncomfortable try and ease the tension, wishing to feel at ease again. Despite the fantastical nature of the plot, it all still feels real.

The use of linguistics as the thrust of the narrative is compelling and adds to the realism of the movie.

When aliens arrive, diplomacy and communication are preferred over war and destruction. Banks and her partner, Ian Donnelly, played by Jeremy Renner, try to adapt to a language that they do not understand, while sharing theirs with the aliens. They are on a journey of an innately human nature—the two are trying to learn

and understand. They are trying to find meaning.

Geographically, the plot sticks to just a few locations, and the compact feeling is satisfying. There is no posturing or trying to be something else than what the movie is. There is an honesty in its willingness to avoid a globetrotting plot. Meanwhile, the story itself is tight and succinct in a similar fashion. Every element is necessary and nothing is extraneous. Though some parts may not make sense or feel necessary at first, this is part of Villeneuve's deliberately paced development.

In terms of film technique, there are times when Villeneuve uses a mixture of close-ups and shots where everything aside from the subject is out of focus, along with asynchronous sound. The combination of these factors works to create disorientation and separately, to create a sense of wistfulness.

Clever photography continues as gravity shifts within the spaceship and the ground below is shown behind characters as if it is a wall. Knowledge is provided to viewers that characters do not yet have, raising tension in otherwise plain scenes. The concept itself of character knowledge is an important element to the film's genius.

Arrival is a brilliant film, but what makes it brilliant must be seen and not read in a review. The brilliance is a surprise, one which comes out of what seems at first to be merely a decent movie. The beginning of the film provides an interesting premise with questionable potential.

Arrival, however, turns out to be fantastic, to the point that it clearly ranks among the best U.S. films of 2016. It develops into a Vonnegut-esque plot of unexpected complexity. Saying any more would ruin the surprise.



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Banks, a linguistics professor played by Adams, leads a team of investigators in hopes of unraveling an extraterrestrial mystery.



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Science & Technology

Sun exposure linked to lower levels of distress and depression

BY YELENA DZHANOVA
OPINIONS EDITOR

Sun exposure contributes to having less mental health issues, finds a new study from Brigham Young University. Correlations between weather and mental health have been explored by scientists in the past, with findings suggesting that certain weather elements, such as precipitation and air pressure, can lead to emotional distress. The current study illustrates that with enough sun exposure, distress caused by weather elements can decrease.

According to the study, reducing the amount of time spent under the sun can cause distress levels to spike. Researchers further explained that getting enough sun exposure may keep stress levels balanced.

Over a six-year period, patients who walked into the counseling center at Brigham Young University were examined for signs of distress. The results were compared to the weather in order to posit a correlation between weather and emotional imbalance. Clients were asked permission to include their results in the study prior to filling out a questionnaire detailing their mental health.

In order to accurately gather weather data, the study relied on the results of the university's Physics and Astronomy Weather Station, which collects pollution data from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The large sample size generated analytical difficulties. To resolve

this issue, researchers split up the sample size in smaller groups of 500 people chosen at random. The researchers tested for various independent variables such as absolute pressure, humidity, rainfall, sunset, sunrise and wind chill. A total of 19 different variables were chosen and analyzed.

In order to determine the effect of each independent variable, each analysis was conducted over a trial of one hour, four hours, one day and seven days.

After the researchers received the questionnaires from clients and analyzed the results from the weather station, they were able to draw conclusions between various meteorological concepts and emotional imbalances. The researchers drew the conclusion that as the amount of time spent in the sun decreased, emotional distress increased.

The results support the concept of seasonal affective disorder, where shifts in seasons directly and negatively impact mood. Other weather elements, aside from exposure to sunshine, did not affect the moods of the participants in the study, which may suggest that human beings are particularly adaptive or resilient to these meteorological measures.

The study notes that, "Although it is often assumed that outside elements can greatly affect mood or affect, these results present the possibility that more credit needs to be given to people's ability to cope and adapt."

Although the data were collected from a large sample size, re-



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The study took place over a six-year period, with participants' moods being monitored along with the weather each day.

searchers discredited the validity of the information gathered due to the geographic location of the study. The particularly mountainous region where the study was conducted is subject to an inversion effect, in which surrounding temperatures increase with increasing altitude, which leads to greater pollution levels. In nor-

mal circumstances, temperature would decrease with increasing altitude. Researchers speculate that this could have altered the results of the experiment.

This study's conclusion indicates that clients would primarily face greater emotional distress during the winter, when fewer hours of sunshine are available.

Increased sun time also corresponds to fewer thoughts of suicide among participants and clients.

The results of the study also suggest that medical practitioners and therapists should encourage more preventative measures during the winter, when the sun is out for fewer hours of the day.

Zoo animals experience longer life spans than wild counterparts

BY JONATHAN SPERLING
NEWS EDITOR

Most mammals have a greater life expectancy in zoos, rather than in the wild, concludes a recent study. Published in *Scientific Reports* by researchers from the University of Lyon in France and the University of Zurich in Switzerland, the study compared four survival metrics in order to reach this conclusion.

The international research team compared the baseline longevity, mortality, onset of senescence and rate of senescence between 59 different mammal species. Senescence refers to the deterioration of an animal or its cells during the aging process.

After studying both sexes of the species within zoos and within the wild, the researchers determined that 84 percent of species living in zoos experienced a longer lifespan in contrast to their counterparts living in the wild. The benefit of living in a zoo is most pronounced in species who typically have a high mortality rate in the wild, a high reproductive rate and a short life span.

Captive female lions, for example, possess a higher level of longevity and lower rate of mortality when compared to their wild counterparts. Female lions in zoos live more than 25 years on average, while wild female lions live an average of 15 years.

In contrast, species with a low mortality rate in the wild, a low reproductive rate and a relatively long life span benefit less from living in zoos. In comparison to female mammals, male mammals tend to benefit slightly more from living in captivity, although many of the patterns observed from the analysis of survival metrics are similar across both sexes.

In 76 percent of the male species



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Researchers from the University of Lyon found that 84 percent of species living in zoos experienced a longer lifespan in comparison to their counterparts living in the wild.

analyzed, the age of the captive animal at the onset of senescence was either identical or higher than that same animal living in the wild. The rate of senescence in this same demographic was also lower in comparison to wild male mammals.

According to the study, mammalian species enjoy longer life spans in captivity due to the constant accessibility of food, shelter and water. Additionally, zoo animals are typically separated by species and thus do not encounter predators. Violent encounters between zoo animals are kept to a minimum and medical care is constantly provided by veterinarians and zoo staffers.

In regard to mammals with slower lifecycles, spending a lifetime in captivity can actually be

detrimental rather than beneficial. These mammals may actually have a slightly lower level of longevity and higher senescence rate when compared to their wild counterparts.

"With regard to long-lived species that generally have lower mortality rates in the wild, there is less that zoos can protect them from," said Marcus Clauss, a professor of nutrition and biology of zoo and wild animals at the University of Zurich. "As such, the effect is not as great and, indeed, in some cases is even reversed," he continued.

According to prior studies that analyzed the breeding of captive chimpanzees and Asian elephants, mammals in captivity often breed earlier than mammals in the wild, which may be responsible for this

detriment.

Further analysis on the mammals' life expectancy in zoos determined that carnivores experience enhanced life expectancy in zoos, but are still not free of issues. Polar bears, for example, are prone to breeding difficulties, poor health and repetitive stereotypic behavior when kept in captivity rather than the wild.

"All 15 carnivore species in our dataset attained greater longevity at the zoo... It seems that even for predators, life in the wild is not necessarily without its perils," Clauss concluded.

While prior studies of this nature would often analyze less than 25 different species, this most recent study is unique in the sheer size of its species sampling. Past

studies were also restricted to a small taxonomic range that did not account for interspecies diversity. Flaws were often found in analyses that included no other survival metric beside senescence rate. As a result of these flaws, these studies often yielded conflicting results.

Despite issues with keeping animals in captivity, such as the aforementioned detriments faced by mammalian species with a slower pace of life, zoos can still be considered useful in nearly all cases.

Prior studies have proven that mammals with slower paces of life are more prone to extinction, thus the studies stress that it is important to keep at least a small population of these sorts of mammals in captivity to better preserve the species as a whole.

Facebook removes advertising tools following racism claims

BY MAYA YEGOROVA
STAFF WRITER

Facebook has deactivated tools that once allowed advertisers to prevent certain racial and ethnic groups from seeing credit, employment or housing advertisements on the site.

This move was spurred by the recent widespread criticism of the practice, especially by the Congressional Black Caucus.

Facebook began to permit “ethnic affinity” advertisements several years ago in an effort to help advertisers target specific racial or ethnic groups. The social media platform accumulates an immense amount of information from its 1.8 billion users, giving it the chance to categorize them by demographic. From that information, marketers have the chance to easily choose how they want to broadcast their ideas to the people they want to influence.

Facebook’s algorithm for shaping its users’ News Feed recently came under intense scrutiny. ProPublica, a non-profit news institution, revealed that advertisers were able to place advertisements for things like housing that excluded African-Americans, Asian-Americans and Hispanics, in what could be a violation of federal housing and civil rights laws that were created in the 1960s. This coverage caught the attention of several Facebook users who filed a lawsuit against the corporation, citing that the advertising practice violated the Fair Housing Act and the Civil Rights Act.

Citing a violation of the Fair Housing Act, the Congressional Black Caucus sent Facebook a letter on Nov. 1 asking for the issue to be addressed and the advertising feature to be disabled. The caucus voiced its concerns about advertis-



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Facebook disabled tools that allowed advertisers to prevent certain racial and ethnic groups from seeing select advertisements.

ers abusing features of Facebook’s affinity market segment and proposed ideas on how the company could sustain its attempt to curb discrimination, which particularly hurts groups that have historically faced intolerance.

On Nov. 11, Facebook affirmed through a press release that “discriminatory advertising has no place on Facebook.” The company sought to resolve the issue through meetings with the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, U.S. Republican Linda Sanchez of California and U.S. Repub-

lican Robin Kelly of Illinois.

Through its press release, Facebook announced that it will construct devices to uncover discrimination, as well as offer more information to advertisers to avoid discriminating against certain groups. It will also stop allowing the use of ethnic affinity marketing for advertisements that reflect on credit, employment or housing.

“There are many non-discriminatory uses of our ethnic affinity solution in these areas, but we have decided that we can best guard against discrimination by suspending these types of ads,” Erin Egan, Facebook’s chief privacy officer, ex-

pressed in the press release.

Facebook’s next objective is to unearth methods on how its ethnic affinity marketing can be used to encourage inclusion for inadequately represented groups of people. The company will improve its advertising policies, making them even more detailed and requiring advertisers to declare that they will not partake in discriminatory advertising. Facebook will also supply information in order to educate advertisers on their responsibility when it comes to credit, employment or housing marketing.

This change in marketing practices was aided through Facebook’s

conversations with the American Civil Liberties Union, the Brookings Institution, the Center for Democracy and Technology, the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, the National Fair Housing Alliance and Upturn. Facebook further disclosed in its press release that it is continuing to work with policymakers and is welcoming further suggestions on how to eliminate discrimination.

However, the advertising practice is still allowed by Facebook in contexts other than credit, employment or housing, leading many to be skeptical about Facebook’s efforts. An instance of ethnic affinity marketing that reaches into the realm of entertainment is Universal Studio’s marketing of the film *Straight Outta Compton*. White and African-Americans users on Facebook were targeted by different advertisements, with publication Ars Technica reporting that the advertisement directed toward whites made the film’s protagonists seem like gangsters.

Meanwhile, advertisements that targeted African-Americans concentrated on the history and personalities of the artists, creating a massive divide in the marketing for the film.

Facebook has additionally been reprimanded in recent months for how it tracks content, which encompasses misleading political articles, nudity and propaganda.

The surprising victory of Donald Trump in the presidential election has triggered speculation over how many voters were influenced by inaccurate news shared on Facebook, mostly in approval of Trump. Facebook has been blamed by some in aiding Trump in his win by taking minimal action to restrict the expansion of unreliable news sources.

BCTC begins sixth floor computer lab renovation

BCTC’s renovation will expand lab capacity and add new furniture

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The help desk will be moved to the entrance hall area that is much easier to access. A bring-your-own-device area will also be installed during the project.

The renovation schedule is divided into two phases, with phase one seeing the construction of a temporary wall to separate the north and south sides of the lab. Construction will then begin on the south side of the lab, while the north side will remain open for student use. Once the south side is completely finished, the second phase will begin. During this phase, the north side of the lab will close for construction and the south side will open for student use.

“We are doing everything we can to maintain access to computers and seating during the construction period, although we realize that it will be a challenge during final exams when we are at peak capacity across campus,” Dr. Arthur Downing, vice president of Information Services and dean of the library, said via email.

To accommodate the lack of space, computers and seating areas will be relocated to other floors of the library.

Downing also explained the process to gain approval for the project.

In early 2011, Baruch College submitted a request to fund the project to Christine Quinn, who, at the time, was the speaker of the New York City Council. The computer lab needed an upgrade from its 1994 opening, explained Downing, making it an “obvious” choice for the college as a capital

Work on the renovation began on Nov. 16 and is expected to span until the summer of 2017. BCTC hopes to re-open the computer lab by the Fall 2017 semester.

improvement project that could potentially be funded by the city. Quinn approved the request and added it to the 2012 fiscal year budget, which was followed by a lengthy design process that lasted several years.

According to Downing, members of the Undergraduate Student Government made “decisions regarding space allocation, features of the lab and even details of the furniture.” However, all time tables and contractors are being managed by the college.

It is too soon to know just how much the student population will be impacted by the renovation, but students have questions that they hope will be answered in the coming months. Others are simply excited by the new prospects the renovated computer lab will bring.

“I think renovations are supposed to be a good thing—like new stuff, new look. It’s cool,” said Juan Pablo, a student who works in the sixth floor computer lab.

Work on the renovation began on Nov. 16 and is expected to span until the summer of 2017. BCTC hopes to reopen the computer lab by the Fall 2017 semester.

Work-family conflict affects well-being

BY ANGEL TORRES
COPY EDITOR

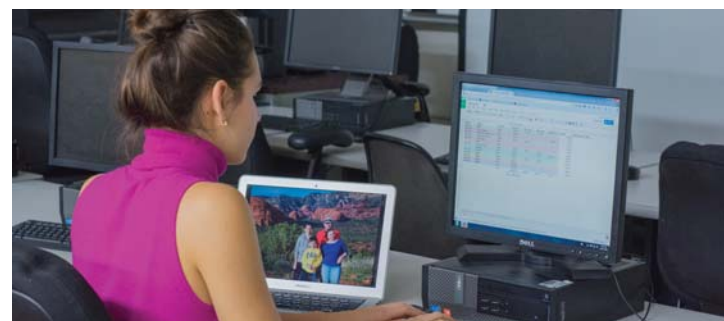
Repeatedly thinking about conflicts between work and family life can have a negative impact on health, according to a recent study published in the *Stress & Health* journal. The research identified a direct correlation between work-family conflict, repetitive thought and six different health categories.

Conducted by Judith Gere, Kelly D. Davis and Martin J. Sliwinski, the study began with a group of 1,250 people who received a survey related to work-family stress. Of the 1,250 people, only people who lived with a romantic partner and held consistent jobs were used, which amounted to 203 individuals.

A work-family conflict refers to any kind of conflict between personal and work-related life, of which the study separates into three main categories. The first category, time-based conflict, could be an individual continuously thinking about an upcoming work presentation and his or her child’s important sporting event happening at the same time.

The second category, or a strain-based conflict, could be someone being exhausted from work and feeling as if he or she cannot tend to someone he or she cares about at home. The third category, or a behavior-based conflict, could be a person thinking about how his or her family-oriented behavior may be looked down upon by his or her colleagues and thus lead to bias in the workplace.

In terms of psychological health, these types of role conflicts have been linked in previous studies to anxiety, depressive symptoms, lower life satisfaction and psychological distress. They have also been linked to mood and substance dependence disorders, with individuals experiencing work-family con-



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Thinking repeatedly about work-family conflicts can cause negative health effects.

flict being 1.99 to 3.13 times more likely to develop these disorders as compared to people without these conflicts. The six health categories that this study in particular focused on were fatigue, health conditions, life satisfaction, perceived health, positive affect and negative affect. Positive and negative affect are the extent to which an individual experiences positive and negative moods. For this study there were 22 health conditions used to identify how a person’s health was affected, such as diabetes, elevated blood pressure, fatigue and stroke.

The study, primarily led by Davis, assessed how the 203 participants were affected by work-family conflicts through the use of four different questionnaires, each measuring factors such as thought suppression, life satisfaction, fatigue, perceived health and other health problems. These questionnaires also noted other factors, such as age, gender, income, socioeconomic index and study location.

Although research into the correlation between work-family conflicts and health conditions has been conducted in the past, no study before this fully examined the mechanisms that explain the association between the two. Through the use of these questionnaires, the scientists proved that

repetitive thought was a potentially large mechanism that affected the relation between negative health outcomes and role conflict.

Repetitive thoughts correlate with two other kinds of cognition: rumination, a persistent thinking of the past linked to depression, and worry, a persistent thinking into the future linked with anxiety. A technique suggested by Davis to deal with these kinds of thinking is mindfulness. She suggests paying attention to present-moment experiences such as affective states, imagery, perceptions, sensations and thoughts, all in a nonjudgmental way.

“You stay in the moment and acknowledge what you are feeling, recognize that those are real feelings, and process them, putting things in perspective,” Davis said.

To improve health for workers at home and in the workplace, Davis also advised that coping strategies be implemented at the organizational level for businesses. A business could provide mindfulness training to cultivate a more supportive culture that recognizes that employees have a life outside of work. This would also benefit the businesses since stressors heighten arousal, making it difficult to concentrate on anything other than the source of the stress.

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Sports

Bearcats edge Birmingham-Southern in heated home-opener

BY OMER SEMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Season openers relieve months of pent-up anticipation and spark excitement for the future. When it comes to drawing enthusiasm from its fans, Baruch College's men's basketball team is second to none. It kicked off its 2016-17 campaign against Birmingham-Southern College, a private liberal arts college with just over 1,300 enrolled undergraduates. Its team, the Panthers, played against the Bearcats at Baruch's Athletic Recreation Center. Bearcats fans filled the stands, with students erupting in chants for the home team.

The opening minutes resembled a 3-point shootout with the Bearcats' first five attempts coming from beyond the arc. The Panthers implemented a full-court press at the tip, but the Bearcats easily broke through their defense.

After the Bearcats' forward George Smyth received his second foul, coach John Alesi swapped Smyth with Allen Villar who immediately enforced his presence. The 6-foot-7-inch center rebounded a missed 3-pointer and dumped it in for a quick put-back. He followed it up with a block on the Panthers' Aidan Waldrum. A few possessions later, a scrum for the ball ensued when Waldrum hastily attempted two shots, but Villar eventually stuffed his shot again. Alex Mattina drained a three to give Baruch their first lead of the night eight minutes in. Following a Panthers' timeout, both offenses failed to get into a rhythm until Dwayne Brydie



PHOTO BY CAMERON STECK

The Bearcats exchanged leads with Birmingham-Southern, but strong defensive play sealed the win for Baruch's home opener.

knocked down a three. Georgios Zavos stole the ball and had a clear path for a layup, but mistimed his leap and botched the easy bucket. He redeemed himself by raining in a deep 3-pointer and flexed as he ran back on defense.

With the Bearcats up five points and just over six minutes remaining in the half, Birmingham-Southern replaced most of its starting lineup, which seemed to reinvigorate the team. Back-to-back threes by Calvin Bak and Alex Perkins brought the Panthers within one. Waldrum remained a nuisance in the paint as he corralled a number of offensive

rebounds and put-backs to tie the game at 25 a piece. He rejected a Zavos layup and the Panthers hit a three to retake the lead.

Once Birmingham-Southern substituted some of its taller players off the court, Baruch captain Chimaechi "Chima" Ekekeugbor, who played the entire match, was free to thunder down a furious dunk. Despite its efforts, Baruch walked into the locker room down 30-26 at halftime.

Both teams efficiently executed their offenses after the break. The lead flip-flopped after each layup and jump shots swished through

the net. Baruch ran its half-court offense just as it was scripted—with staggered off-ball screens and the ball-fizzing around the perimeter to get open looks. Whenever the offense began to stall, the guards had the freedom and ability to attack the hoop at will. The weak spot for the Bearcats in this game was second-chance points. The Panthers totaled 17 points after a miss compared to eight for the home team. They made up for their rebounding deficiency with a +7 turnover margin. Much of their second half rally resulted from their 14 points scored off of turnovers.

Down one with five minutes left, Chima rose up and denied the Panthers' Evan Lewis at the rim. Doyin fearlessly drove at three defenders and spun the ball off the backboard to give Baruch the lead once more, which they never relinquished.

Chima dominated the final three minutes as he scored six of Baruch's last 12 points and frustrated the Panthers on defense. He finished with a double-double consisting of 16 points, 12 rebounds, three blocks and two steals. Clutch free-throw shooting down the stretch by Chima and Doyin, who led the team with 18 points, sealed the victory for the Bearcats 76-72.

Just one game into the regular season, it is clear that the Bearcats' weakness lies in poor game management when playing with the lead. The team often resigned once it gained the advantage, leaving the door open for its opponent to crawl back into the match. Relatively speaking, the Panthers are one of the easier teams it will face this season, thus leaving question as to how the Bearcats will play against marquee opponents. Still, it is early in the season, with plenty of time for the Bearcats to shake off their inconsistencies with little effect on their overall season.

The Bearcats will travel to Buffalo, New York, over the weekend to take on Goucher College before facing either Utica College or Medaille College in the WNY Knee & Orthopedic Surgery Tournament. The team's first CUNY Athletic Conference match comes on Black Friday, where it will take on York College in Queens, New York.

Prescott to remain Cowboys' starter after league-best 8-1 start

BY MICHAEL FRIEDLICH
STAFF WRITER

Throughout this NFL season, one of the biggest dilemmas has been the Dallas Cowboys' quarterback controversy.

The Cowboys' fourth-round pick Dak Prescott shined during the preseason after veteran field general Tony Romo broke a bone in his back. Many thought Prescott's performance would decline as he went up against starting defenses in the regular season.

After Prescott was thrust into the spotlight as Dallas' opening day starter, it became clear the Cowboys struck gold at the quarterback position.

Prescott has helped the Cowboys reach a league-best record of 8-1. They are currently undefeated after their Week 1 loss to the New York Giants.

Despite their impressive record, there is still a big dilemma over whether the Cowboys will keep Prescott or return to Romo. Although Romo did not play because of his injuries, he became involved in practice sessions starting Week 10.

Earlier in the season, team owner Jerry Jones stuck by Romo when pundits speculated about Prescott becoming the permanent starter. Still, many questioned whether Romo would be able to fully recover from his latest of many injuries. In his career, Romo has broken his collarbone three times, broken his pinkie finger and had many problems with his back, including a recently broken vertebrae, two broken transverse processes and a ruptured disk.

After the Cowboys' win over the Pittsburgh Steelers, Jones said that Prescott "obliterated" any concerns that he needed to be taken out. He

also announced that Romo would back up Prescott in next week's game against the Baltimore Ravens.

In a thrilling display of FOX's NFL Game of the Week, Prescott led the Cowboys down the field for game-clinching touchdowns with just seconds left in the fourth quarter.

After Ben Roethlisberger perfectly executed a fake spike and threw a touchdown to gain a one-point advantage with 42 seconds left, Prescott responded firmly by completing three of four passes, capped off by a 32-yard touchdown run from fellow rookie sensation Ezekiel Elliot to steal the win. This adds to Prescott's impressive list of victories this season.

On Monday, Nov. 14, with Cowboy nation still riled up over its spectacular win, Romo stood before the press and put to rest whatever doubt remained. Romo announced that he will be backing up Prescott for the remainder of the season, holding back tears as he recounted memories of his rookie campaign. A bittersweet moment for those who swear by the silver and blue, many applauded Romo's leadership as they witnessed the Dallas legends' passing of the reigns.

Still, some are not ready to completely buy into Prescott for the remainder of the season. Prescott has already shown some weakness in recent games and there will be more pressure on him to win big games in the future. He is also not used to playing the longer 16-game NFL seasons as opposed to the 12-game college football seasons. Teams playing him later in the season may start to figure out Prescott's advantages and improve against him as time passes.

Now that Prescott is definitely the starter going forward, fear



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Prescott has dominated the field since stepping up to the quarterback position in wake of long-time starter Romo's latest injury.

among teammates in his performance may become his biggest roadblock. Because they have now experienced Romo as a backup, the deeper they go into the season, the more they could be willing to play Romo in pressure situations where Prescott has not had the experience. Further, Jones said that Prescott will remain the starter for as long as he keeps up his great play, which further clouds the quarterback outlook for the team.

The Cowboys host the Ravens in Week 11 in the battle of division leaders. At 5-4, Joe Flacco and the Ravens offense have come on strong as of late, despite a rough

start to the season.

Still, the Ravens defense continues to struggle against the league's premier quarterbacks, boding well for Prescott and the Cowboys' offense. Despite the resurgence of Dallas cornerback Morris Claiborne, the defense has been mired by injury and have recently been in decline. Still, Prescott and Elliot have more than picked up the slack for the declining defense.

With a two-game lead over the NFC East division, the Cowboys are in a comfortable position heading into the second half of the season. Granted, the division is hot, with all teams beating their opponents in

Week 10.

While the team does not show any sign of slowing down, it must keep its foot on the gas so as to not let its opponents back in the race. Dallas closes out the season with a series of division rivals, which makes for a fiery conclusion to its 2016 campaign.

As for the rest of the NFC East, the Giants are next in line to the Cowboys division lead, riding a four game win-streak. Week 10 was especially competitive for the NFC East, with each of the four teams recording impressive wins to up the ante as the calendar turns to December.

Massive upsets in top five headline wild college football week

BY OMER SEMAN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Chaos and volatility are two of the many reasons college football is so popular. Losing one game could spell doom for a team's championship aspirations. With the talent so highly concentrated in Power Five conference schools, navigating through a season with a spotless record is a high-wire act. The circus that was Week 11 saw a historic number of elite teams stumble. For the first time in 31 years, the second, third and fourth-ranked teams in the AP Poll all lost on the same day.

The University of Clemson Tigers suffered a 43-42 defeat to the University of Pittsburgh Panthers thanks to a 48-yard field goal by Chris Blewitt with six seconds on the clock. Tigers quarterback DeShaun Watson, who is expected to enter the 2017 NFL draft as the top signal-caller available, carried his school to a 9-0 record and a clear path to the College Football Playoff. But the 5-4 Panthers entered Memorial Stadium determined to spoil the Tigers' fun.

Clemson survived many nail-biter in-conference matches against NC State, No. 3 Louisville and No. 12 Florida State to settle in at No.2 behind first-ranked Alabama, ahead of its projected easy win against Pittsburgh. Coming off a 54-0 thrashing of Syracuse University, the capacity-crowd in "Death Valley" was primed to feast on the Panthers. However, the Tigers' propensity to allow their lesser opponents to keep the score close came back to haunt them. Panthers quarterback Nathan Peterman opened the game with a five-play, 75-yard drive, frazzling the once-raucous fans. Watson responded by leading the Tigers to the red zone, but surrendered an interception



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In a wild Saturday night for college football, four of the five top-ranked teams in the nation lost, causing massive shifts in the AP Polls.

into double coverage. After a punt by the Panthers, both offenses efficiently moved down the field in under two minutes. Clemson running-back Wayne Gallman bowled over a linebacker to tie the game at 7-7, but Pittsburgh did not flinch, as running back James Conner followed up by tight-roping the sideline untouched to the end zone.

A grueling five-minute drive resulted in Gallman lunging across the line to put the Tigers level at 14-14. Watson, a preseason Heisman Trophy favorite, and Peterman, an unheralded redshirt senior, dueled in prolific aerial display. Watson lobbed a beautiful back-shoulder pass to Mike Williams to give Clemson the lead and Peterman responded with a 55-yard bomb to

Scott Orndoff for six points. The first split came when Blewitt whiffed on the 19-yard extra point to leave the score at 21-20. Still rolling, Pitt capitalized on another Watson turnover by scoring on a fourth and goal pass to fullback George Aston. Yet, the Clemson QB was undeterred by his errors and lofted a perfectly timed ball for a touchdown. Blewitt had a shot at redemption at the end of the half, but the Tigers blocked his 53-yard attempt to conclude a wild first half.

Clemson's defense finally stood its ground and forced Peterman to fumble the ball in the third quarter, granting the team favorable field position. Three plays later, Watson passed his third touchdown of the night to Deon Cain to extend

its lead. Pittsburgh marched the length of the field and replicated its first drive success with another shovel pass as Orndoff walked in for the score. After Gallman crossed the plane to make it 42-34, the seesaw battle halted as the sides traded punts through the fourth quarter. Watson milked the clock on a meticulous drive that placed the Tigers at the three-yard line only to throw his third interception of the game.

On the ensuing drive, Conner bounced out of traffic and shed would-be tacklers to bring the Panthers within two points. He finished with 132 rushing yards and a score of 20 carries and three catches for 57 yards and a touchdown, an impressive showing for the junior.

During the following drive,

Clemson coach Dabo Swinney made a gutsy call to go for it on fourth down on Pittsburgh's 35 and helplessly watched the Panthers swarm Gallman at the line of scrimmage.

The fate of the game rested on Blewitt's right foot. With six seconds on the clock, the senior booted a 48-yarder through the uprights. It was Clemson's first loss against an unranked opponent since 2008 and Pittsburgh's first win versus a top-five team since 2007. Watson flung the ball 70 times for a conference-record 580 yards, but turnovers early and late caught up to him. The Tigers dropped to No. 5 in the AP Poll, two spots behind the Louisville Cardinals who they beat head-to-head. Even so, they can still win the Atlantic Coast Conference and prove to the playoff committee they deserve a shot at the national championship.

Fans have been lukewarm to the new postseason format ever since the conference commissioners shifted from the Bowl Championship Series to the College Football Playoff in 2014. The BCS used a convoluted mixture of polls where sportswriters and coaches ranked the top 25 teams and computer rankings that compared a bevy of statistics to spit out a list, pitting the top two teams against each other for the title. Teams outside the Power Five never got the chance to play for the BCS trophy in its 15-year existence, even if they were unbeaten.

In the current format, a 13-member rotating committee determines which four teams are selected for a two-round tournament for the championship. Not only does this give more schools a chance, it allows for some accountability and attaches a face to the process. Nonetheless, the weekly battle rages on.

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NOVEMBER 2016

MON 21 **ISRAEL STORY**
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. | BPAC | \$5 for Baruch Students

TUES 22 **FEIT LECTURE: NELSON DENIS ON PUERTO RICAN CULTURE**
12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. | NVC 3-160 | Free

WED 23 **STUDY SESSION WITH LASO**
5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. | NVC 2-125 | Free

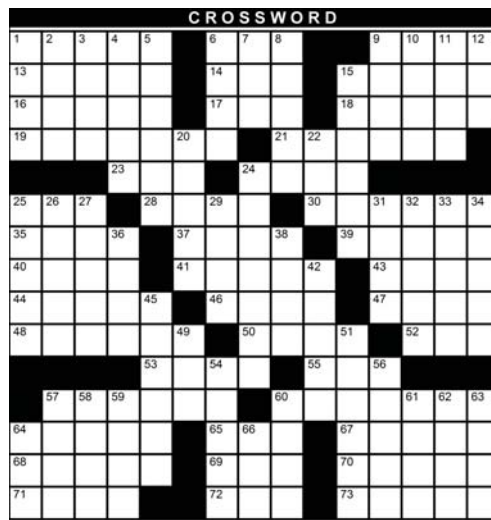
THURS 24 **NO CLASSES SCHEDULED**

FRI 25 **NO CLASSES SCHEDULED**

SAT 26 **NO CLASSES SCHEDULED**

SUN 27 **NO CLASSES SCHEDULED**

**Off-campus event
For full list, visit www.baruch.cuny.edu/calendar*



THEME: HOLIDAY MOVIES

- ACROSS**
- GROUP OF PUPILS
 - FOSSIL FUEL
 - DUST ARACHNID
 - ABDOMINAL MUSCLE, PL.
 - GRASS BRISTLE
 - LIKE A BALLERINA
 - DEFLECT
 - *SHE PLAYED WIFE AND MOM IN 21 ACROSS
 - LAZYBONES
 - *IT HAPPENED ON 34TH STREET
 - *NICHOLAS CAGE'S "THE _____ MAN"
 - WEDNESDAY'S CHILD ISSUE?
 - MOUTHFUL, SWALLOWED
 - _____ FRANCISCO
 - _____ VERDE NATIONAL PARK
 - ADORN THE HALLS WITH HOLLY, E.G.
 - SINGER TORI
 - JAILBIRD'S HOME
 - TAX OF ONE TENTH
 - POPULAR E-READER
 - DNA HALF
 - INMATE'S WEAPON
 - LOOSE-FITTING TOP
 - _____ AND SOUND"
 - PERFORMED ALONE, PL.
 - MADISON SQUARE GARDEN AND STAPLES CENTER, E.G.

- SNOUTS OR BEAKS
- *"_____ TAKES A HOLIDAY" WITH BASIL RATHBONE (1930)
- INOFFENSIVE MANNER
- LONG TIME
- *JIM CARREY'S GREEN GRUMP
- *HOLIDAY MOVIE TIME TRAVELER
- COURTROOM EXCUSE
- BO PEEP'S FOLLOWER
- BUS COMMUTER
- OBJECT OF TINY TIM'S AFFECTION
- CORN PIECE
- TWIG OF A WILLOW TREE
- AQUATIC SNAKES
- PASTRAMI PARTNER
- PROCEEDS

- DOWN**
- PACK LIKE SARDINES
 - DENIM INNOVATOR
 - MAPLE, TO A BOTANIST
 - SCARECROW STUFFING
 - "THE GOLDBERGS," E.G.
 - ARC DE TRIOMPHE, E.G.
 - LEAVE SPEECHLESS
 - BIG MESS
 - BETWEEN MINI AND MAXI
 - SHORT FOR "IT WILL"
 - HE PLUS SHE
 - "EVER" TO A POET
 - MARINE GASTROPOD
 - OLDEN DAY BLOOD-

- DRAWING EQUIPMENT
- PRIEST'S VESTMENT
- LIKE A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOR?
- *"BILLY BOB THORTON'S WAS BAD
- LOVE, TO NAPOLEON AND JOSEPHINE
- NOBODY
- _____ CANDIES,
- CHOCOLATIER
- TREAT WITHOUT RESPECT
- _____ VS. PATHOS
- POPULAR COOK-OFF DISH
- *"HOME ALONE" MAIN CHARACTER
- *"JIM CARREY'S WAS GREEN WHEN HE STOLE CHRISTMAS
- "IT'S WONDERFUL?"
- THREE-MASTED VESSEL
- TABBY'S FAVORITE HERB
- POLLEN
- FEELING AT A FUNERAL
- HOLIDAY FEELING
- HUSTLE AND BUSTLE SOUND
- TAR TO FEATHERS
- TINY RIVER
- WADING BIRD
- DRIED UP
- NORSE DEITY
- TURNED TO THE RIGHT
- MAKES MISTAKES
- GOBBLED UP
- *"JINGLE ALL THE _____"

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SAVE THE DATE

Networking 101: Making Connections
Tuesday, November 29, 5:00-6:30 P.M., NVC 2-190
 Attend this workshop to learn how to develop and nurture your own network of professional contacts.

Mastering the Job Interview: Basic
Wednesday, November 30, 5:00-6:30 P.M., NVC 2-190
 This interview workshop covers important topics including personal pitches and challenging questions.

Writing Winning Resumes
Monday, December 5, 3:00-4:30 P.M., NVC 2-190
 Learn how to develop and design a professional, marketable resume that will land that internship.

Mastering the Job Interview: Advanced
Wednesday, December 7, 5:00-6:30 P.M., NVC 2-190
 An advanced workshop for juniors and seniors; this session covers site, group and second interviews.

INTERNSHIP UPDATE

AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Spring 2017 Internship

American Ballet Theatre is currently accepting intern applications for Spring 2017. Recognized as a living national treasure since its founding in 1940, ABT is the only major cultural institution that annually tours the United States, performing for more than 450,000 people. The company has also made more than 30 international tours to 50 countries as perhaps the most representative American ballet company and has been sponsored by the State Department of the United States on many of these engagements. From our staff, artists and board of trustees

to our many volunteers, the ABT family works tirelessly to ensure that we stay true to our unique vision of live performance.

American Ballet Theatre provides professional opportunities for young adults looking to gain invaluable experience in the fields of arts education and arts administration. Through project-based activities, interns will assist within a specific department, and be introduced to the daily functions that take place in making ABT one of the most prestigious ballet companies in the world. Internships are currently offered in the following

areas: education and training, JKO school, national training curriculum, major gifts, membership, special events, institutional support, company management and general management.

This is a paid internship; for more information, visit Starr Search with ID 97047.

PEER TIP OF THE WEEK

CHECK OUT THE PEER TIP OF THE WEEK FROM SCDC'S PEERS FOR CAREERS PROGRAM

"Your resume gets you the interview, and the interview determines getting the offer. To prepare best, take advantage of our mock interviews available at Starr. We will provide you with constructive feedback and insights that could potentially help you sharpen the interviewing skills that need improvements."

-KHALID KHALID
 PEER FOR CAREER

FUN FACT

Did you know that during the 2015-2016 academic year, there were 70 corporate presentations on campus attended by a total of 1,692 students? Students were able to network with employers and learn about the companies, positions and skill requirements. Companies included Penguin Random House, Bank of America and the FBI. For more information, visit Starr Search or the Starr Career Development Center website.