

# The Ticker

VOLUME 110 • ISSUE 11

BARUCH COLLEGE'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

DECEMBER 5, 2016

## OPINIONS 6

### Student Life provides inadequate club support (p. 1)



Club life at Baruch College is not up to par because advertising for events and general interest meetings is dismal. The Office of

Student Life needs to contribute to building a more accessible club life so that every student has an optimal college experience.

## BUSINESS 10

### Pilot strike disrupts thousands of flights (p. 11)

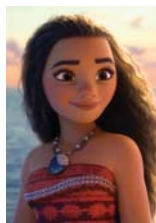


Deutsche Lufthansa AG proposed to raise wages for the first time since 2012, to make amends with the Vereinigung Cockpit pilots' union. Mem-

bers of the union took strike action, forcing the German carrier to cancel some 4,450 flights.

## ARTS & STYLE 14

### Moana makes impressive box office opening (p. 14)



Moana is Disney's newest animated feature about an adventurous teen who sails out on a mission to save her people. She meets the demi

god Maui during her journey and they both sail across the ocean on a voyage.

## SCIENCE & TECH 18

### Male lifespans lag behind female lifespans (p. 19)



Even though humans have the longest lifespan out of every other primate, male lifespans still lag behind females' lifespans

across the primate family tree. In men, genetic problems are more likely to become apparent through health complications.

## SPORTS 22

### Lady Bearcats look to match men's success (p. 22)



The men's basketball team started off the season red-hot, building on its success from last season. The team has put together wins

against many tough opponents. As for the Lady Bearcats, their basketball season started off in a rough patch, struggling to generate offense.

## WIB fashion show raises funds for cancer research



AGATA PONIATOWSKI | THE TICKER

The eighth annual "Style Your Success Fashion Show" allowed models to showcase business attire to students while also raising money for the American Cancer Society.

BY VICTORIA MERLINO  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDITOR

Baruch College Women in Business held its eighth annual "Style Your Success Fashion Show" on Thursday, Dec. 1, showcasing business attire to students as the club worked to raise money for cancer research.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## USG elects Aleem as representative senator



CAMERON STECK | THE TICKER

USG elected Aleem during the 13th senate meeting on Tuesday Nov. 29 following the applications of more than a dozen other candidates for the position.

BY NICOLE CLEMONS  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The Undergraduate Student Government voted in Suleman Aleem, a junior majoring in finance, as the newest representative senator.

In the 13th senate meeting held on Tuesday, Nov. 29, eight candidates competed for a seat at the table, giving brief speeches and participating in a Q&A in front of the USG Senate.

USG President Daniel Dornbaum explained that in a General Faculty Meeting held on Oct. 27, Mary Gorman, vice president for enrollment management and strategic academic initiatives, announced that the Fall 2016 total student enrollment stood at 18,287, with approximately 15,000 undergraduate students. Since each representative senator represents 1,000 undergraduate students, an additional senator needed to be elected to meet the quota.

USG announced and opened the application for the representative senator position on Monday, Nov. 14. The application closed two weeks later on Nov. 28.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## Blood Wedding graces Baruch's Bernie West Theatre

BY MAXIM IBADOV  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Baruch's Bernie West has welcomed us to 1930s Spain with a production of Gabriel Garcia Lorca's *Blood Wedding*. Directed by Baruch's very own Christopher Scott, *Blood Wedding* is a fiery fiesta full of fierceness, passion, sensuality and, of course, love.

A wedding is about to happen in a small village, exciting and affecting every member of the community. The Groom, played by Zach Mel-lado, is handsome and loving. The Bride, Jenna Smith, is gorgeous and affectionate.

The only problem is the Bride's past—particularly a man named Leonardo, played by Tomas Anderson. He is the only character in the play who has a name, a distinction that makes him not only more prominent, but also more isolated. Leonardo is the village recluse due to a long history of family feuds. Leonardo still loves the Bride and will do anything to prevent her marriage and, as the title suggests, there will be blood.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

## Macaulay event showcases CUNY authors

BY JONATHAN SPERLING  
NEWS EDITOR

Professors from across CUNY convened at Macaulay Honors College on Nov. 28 to discuss several new books revolving around nature and the environment.

The presentation was moderated by Macaulay Dean Mary C. Pearl. It featured discussion on the efforts of environmentalists and how environmental conservation is affected by economic, political and social factors. Among the authors present were professor A. Alonso Aguirre, John Jay College Macaulay Director Nathan Lents, Brooklyn College Macaulay Director Tammy Lewis and professor Raman Sukumar.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 18

## OPINIONS

### Clubs need better representation

Baruch College is primarily a commuter school that lacks a strong focus on student life. While Baruch's Undergraduate Student Government and Office of Student Life put effort into organizing events and on-campus activities, the reputation the college has accumulated sadly holds true. Club life at Baruch is greatly lackluster and is in need of revision in order to provide a more fulfilling student experience.

"Clubs and organizations span a wide range of interests. There is something for practically everyone. Membership in a club offers you a place to meet new people, as well as an opportunity to develop important communication, organizational and leadership skills," reads the OSL webpage.

STORY CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

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## News Briefs

COMPILED BY  
JONATHAN SPERLING

CUNY's Senior Vice Chancellor Jay Hershenson has announced that he will be leaving CUNY's offices at the end of the year to return to Queens College, his alma mater. At Queens College, Hershenson will take on the role of vice president for communications and marketing and senior advisor to the college's president. Hershenson's departure will mark the end of his career as a vice chancellor, which spanned more than 30 years. As vice chancellor, Hershenson has received many awards and honors, including the 2014 Education Lifetime Achievement Award from Hostos Community College.

The City College of New York has begun the search for a new president following former President Lisa S. Coico's misallocation of \$150,000 in school funds and her ensuing resignation. Barry Schwartz, vice chairman of the CUNY board of trustees, will lead the search committee. The committee is also comprised of Faculty Senate Chair David Jeruzalmi, CUNY Graduate Center President Chase Robinson and several trustees, among others. The committee's search efforts will also be aided by the firm Isaacson, Miller.

Kingsborough Community College's Center for Economic and Workforce Development has been awarded over \$149,000 from the Capital One Foundation for use in developing a new data-tracking strategy. The model looks to inform institutional growth and improve student outcomes. "Most data collection includes only current employment and wage information. We want to really understand who are students are, what their past work experience and education includes," said CEWD Executive Director Babette Audant.

A recent study by the Student Loan Report has ranked three CUNY colleges as being among the best in the nation for students graduating debt-free. Baruch College, Queens College and York College ranked sixth, eighth and second place, respectively. According to CUNY data, eight in 10 CUNY students graduate with no federal student loans. "The combination of low tuition and federal, state and other financial aid programs position many CUNY students to enter the job market or graduate and professional schools with little or no federal debt. This is obviously a great advantage and one that we are committed to maintaining," said CUNY Chancellor James B. Milliken.

The City College-based CUNY Dominican Studies Institute recently began presenting *First Blacks in the Americas/Los Primeros Negros en las Americas*, a digitized comprehensive history of the Americas' first African inhabitants. The archive, which is being presented in English and Spanish, is the nation's first research institute devoted to the study of people of Dominican descent that is based in a university. The resource includes a collection of 72 document packages that contain 16th century manuscripts from the island now occupied by the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

## Students learn Latin dance at 'Mamboneo' event

BY YELENA DZHANOVA  
OPINIONS EDITOR

A professional dance duo recently visited Baruch College to teach willing students various Latin dance routines. The pair, Chris Molina and Erika Lopez, are instructors at Lorenz Latin Dance Studio in Queens. Members of ASEDOM invited Molina and Lopez to teach the bachata, merengue and salsa at "Mamboneo" on Thursday, Dec. 1.

After having introduced themselves to the group, Molina and Lopez asked participants to gather in the middle of NVC 2-125 and spread themselves out. They started demonstrating the bachata to the prospective dancers, who silently mimicked to themselves the eight-count beat that Molina and Lopez were uttering out loud.

The crowd, stiff at first, started to move with more exaggerated and livelier motions when Molina broke the ice and incorporated some jokes into the session. As he demonstrated the steps, Molina made sure to tell the dancers what to avoid.

"It's really important that you take comfortable steps," Molina said as he took sumo steps to demonstrate the opposite effect. "Put all of your weight onto your left foot and have your right foot tap, like you're stepping in hot water."

Each person danced individually during the bachata. A clear divide formed in the middle of the improvised dancefloor; the front was teeming with more experienced dancers.

Despite the divide, both Molina and Lopez encouraged the students in the back to switch sides with the students in the front while the moves increased in complexity. At the end of the first session, the instructors put on Romeo Santos' Cancioncitas de Amor and en-



CAMERON STECK | THE TICKER

ASEDOM's "Mamboneo" invited students to learn lively Latin dance routines from professional dance instructors.

couraged the budding dancers to listen to the music and determine the beat.

After the bachata, students took an interim period to feast on the first course of the night. The event saw some fleeting students, but it primarily consisted of the same groups of people.

"I think the crowd very much enjoyed the event because most students go to the event for either food and/or the activity," said Frances Subervi, president of ASEDOM. "Mostly everyone that came into the room learned some new dance moves today and the food was a success as well. Another reason students might have enjoyed the event today was the instructor, he made things easy and wasn't intimidating at all. He was understanding and made you feel at ease."

Students gathered to learn the

salsa and merengue after the bachata lesson. During the salsa, the instructors asked the students to partner up and dance to a modified version of "Clocks" by Coldplay.

"My favorite part of the event was the partner switch up for the salsa section on the lesson. This gave participants a real life feel of how it will be dancing with different people because everyone has their own kind of flow and rhythm," Subervi said. The instructors also partnered up with students in order to correct and guide their dance moves.

Members of ASEDOM created this event to showcase a side to Latino culture that is primarily characterized by the art of dance. The event was also a way to relieve stress prior to the upcoming finals week, according to Subervi.

When asked about the title

of the event, Subervi explained that Mamboneo comes from the mambo, which is a popular dance whose origins are in Cuba.

She said, "when you say mamboneo it's a form of saying dancing. Most people say 'mamboneo me' meaning 'dance me.' This is basically a phrase people use to say, come show off your moves and prove you can dance the best."

Marvina Alguerez, a marketing major who attended the event, described it as lively and "very instructive."

She indicated that she did not expect to learn any new dance moves, but "everyone does each dance on their own and there is never a consistency to any dance because there's a lot of personalization. But I learned different ways to step or move my hips in all three dances."

## Baruch student entrepreneur unveils self-help book

Student author and entrepreneur Steven Patzer held a book signing event to publicize the launch of his new book, *Six Figure Secrets*

BY PAUL JOH  
BUSINESS EDITOR

Steven Patzer, a student at Baruch College, held a book signing at the Baruch College Bookstore on Monday, Nov. 21, to promote the launch of his first book, *Six Figure Secrets*. Within his book, Patzer discusses six key elements that every business and entrepreneur should integrate in order to grow his or her ventures, whether it be branding, creative content, marketing, personal image, social media or web presence.

According to Patzer, he has established himself as a marketing and personal branding expert over the past five years, collaborating with famous internet celebrities like Coby Persin and DennisCeeTV, as well as working for Impractical Jokers, Minefield Theatre Group and Proguard Pets. He currently provides motivational videos and coaching services to entrepreneurs through his social media outlets.

"Many people read the title of my book and say 'wow six figure secrets, the author must have made six figures,' when in fact I deconstructed and analyzed the success of many companies I have worked for or with in the past," said Patzer.

He began the event with an anecdote about discovering success at a young age and explaining why he ultimately decided to write a book.

"I remember a time when I was in Times Square with [Coby Persin and Dennis Cee] and we got swarmed by over 300 fans in Times Square and the police had to get us out of there," said Patzer. "That's how I knew we had done something unique here. That really inspired me to write a book because if these people could do it at such a young age, why can't you?"



AGATA PONIATOWSKI | THE TICKER

In his book, Patzer explains that many businesses often overlook the six key elements that are needed to reach success.

In his book, he explains that although many businesses have already been able to identify these six steps, people are still underutilizing and often overlooking them. As an entrepreneur, Patzer stressed the importance of not just practicing the six steps, but performing them all effectively.

Patzer wants his book to be used as more than just a resource for up-and-coming industry professionals. He hopes that, more importantly, it will inspire and guide aspiring entrepreneurs to build their businesses and have a strong foundation to make it successful.

"I get a ton of messages a day from people wanting to know 'what else can we get other than your motivational videos' and now we have a product for them," said Patzer.

Prior to publishing his book, Patzer drew in most of his following through motivational videos, which he consistently posts on his social media pages. He also offered private coaching sessions, which were tailored to the interests and needs of his clients. His extensive background in marketing and leadership helped him serve diverse groups of people in various industries.

"My experience brings me back to when I started working for companies in construction and entertainment, just learning whatever I could to give myself an advantage in any industry," said Patzer.

When asked about the process of publishing a book, Patzer said that he faced many challenges along the way and that it required both persistence and dedication.

"For me to close this deal with Barnes & Noble, I had to call the president of Barnes & Noble over 20 times and email him dozens of time. [sic] And then I got a call from the east coast director of Barnes & Noble author relations and we were able to set this up."

Despite all of the hardships that he went through, Patzer believes that anyone can write a book. He thanked his family and friends for supporting his efforts and Dr. Arthur Downing, vice president for information services and dean of the library, for helping him put together the book signing at Baruch.

Patzer ended the presentation by answering some questions from the audience and stating his catchphrase, "Have a dream and make it happen."

# 'Style Your Success' features student models and performers

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The theme for this year's show was "Fire & Ice." Corporate sponsors for the event included Argo Tea, Red Bull, Schnipper's Quality Kitchen and TD Bank, among others.

Hosted by former fashion publicist Jaelyn Cheyne, the night was divided into four segments: "Business Professional," "Business Casual," "Day to Night Out" and "Personality." For each segment, models would walk the runway that had been constructed in the middle of the room wearing business attire appropriate for that particular segment.

For the final "Personality" segment, models were able to wear an outfit from their own closets while executing poses that gave more insight into who they were as people. Following this, co-sponsoring clubs for the event were invited to send representatives to walk the runway in front of the assembled students as a thank you from WIB.

Clothing for the first three segments was provided by outside sponsors. Egami Collection, Sacca's Suits & Tailor Shop, Sarango, Steps New York in Forest Hills, StylisGal Boutique and Vince Camuto all provided outfits for the models to wear. Each had an opportunity during the show to have a representative detail his or her brand to the gathered students.

One of the representatives at the event was Reuel Matthew, founder of Egami Collection. Taking the stage with three models, Matthew described the philosophy behind his clothing as well as some of its features, using the models as examples. A Baruch College alumni, Matthew has provided clothing for "Style Your Success" in previous years.

Three performers were also in-

vited by WIB to entertain students between runway segments. The first was Ariel, a rapper, followed by Abby Jim, a 16-year-old singer from Queens. The third performer was Elison Joel, a singer who participated in the Latin American singing competition La Banda and placed within the top 20 contestants on the program. Each artist performed two songs, giving the audience a small taste of his or her music as the models and WIB prepared to showcase the next selection of clothing.

Another major aspect of the event were the raffles interspersed throughout the night. There were 10 items in total to win, ranging from a \$20 gift certificate from Style Glam Salon to a \$75 gift card from Shake Shack to an unlimited pinball all day pass for a family of four at Modern Pinball NYC Arcade.

Jamy Lopez, co-chair of WIB's Corporate Relations Committee, was tasked along with her team to find corporate sponsors to donate to the raffles. The committee began its search shortly after the semester began and contacted companies a little over a month in advance of the event in order to secure the donations.

The team, Lopez explained, tried to find companies that would value what WIB was doing for cancer research in order to entice them to donate to the event.

"For me personally the goal was to work as a team," said Lopez, an accounting major. "Everyone had different tasks but at the end everything had to come together so we had to do a lot of team work."

She also emphasized the benefits of working on a large-scale project like the fashion show and how it increased her communication skills.

"I was really shy in the beginning—sending emails is one thing



CAMERON STECK | THE TICKER

A model for "Style Your Success," which raised money for cancer research, has her makeup applied prior to the event.

but when you actually have to go [to offices] in-person ... or you actually have to go and walk into a store and just introduce yourself and tell [the store] about the event ... [that] was a learning experience."

The models used in "Style Your Success" were Baruch students that were carefully selected by WIB after a difficult application process.

Rajbir Singh, a model in the show, described how he was first encouraged to get involved with "Style Your Success."

"It was kind of a spontaneous thing," said Singh, a marketing major. "I was in the plaza hanging out with my friends and one of the people from Women in Business approached me and asked me if I was interested to try out."

Singh continued, saying that the audition process was "very rigorous." Prospective models had to walk in front of a panel of WIB members and were also recorded on video for further observation. After being accepted, models were

required to spend time preparing and rehearsing in order to ensure the entire event ran smoothly.

"It was amazing," said Singh on the final outcome of the show. "We did a lot of preparing ... [but] when the day actually came, though we were nervous, we actually killed it. I'm happy for everyone who was a part of this."

Proceeds from "Style Your Success" will go to the American Cancer Society and its fundraising event, "Relay for Life."

## Professor panel sheds light on law field

BY JONATHAN SPERLING  
NEWS EDITOR

Baruch students interested in pursuing a career in law were able to gain insight into the profession during a panel event hosted by the Baruch College Pre-Law Society on Dec. 1.

The panel, which was the club's last event of the Fall 2016 semester, featured a vibrant discussion with Zicklin School of Business' law professors Marc Edelman, David Rosenberg and Alan Rosenbloom.

Students mingled at the event before it commenced with a short introduction from Pre-Law Society President Nadiya Singh. Afterward, the professors introduced themselves and stated their work experience and field of expertise.

Prior to his teaching career, Rosenbloom began as a litigator before eventually going on to become general counsel of a large insurance brokerage and performing mergers and acquisitions. He also did consulting work for several Fortune 500 companies, such as Dannon Yogurt and ExxonMobil.

Rosenberg has been a professor for 16 years. He began his career at a large firm on Wall Street working on a variety of cases, some of which involved international banks. Because Rosenberg did not enjoy the "all-consuming" lifestyle of the firm, however, he eventually applied to several clerkships with judges before taking one on with a judge in Philadelphia.

Before beginning his law career, Edelman knew that he wanted to be involved in the sports industry. Early on in his career, he began interviewing with firms that had sports clients. He eventually ended up at Skadden Arps, an international law firm that has represented the NBA, NFL and NHL. After having worked at another large firm, Edelman



CAMERON STECK | THE TICKER

A panel of three Baruch law professors advised students on entering the law field.

moved onto academia to be able to freely articulate his views.

Throughout the event, the professors discussed a wide array of topics, including choosing a good law school, deciding if law school is the right choice for students and making the transition between lawyering and academia.

"The opportunity set depending on where you go to law school is going to be incredibly different," said Edelman, who attended the University of Michigan Law School. Later on in the discussion, he added that "you can't believe the hype of every law school that you hear about and you have to do your research on where people are getting employed ... you have to look at the statistics and find out where the median of the class is and the percent that pass the bar [exam]."

The professors urged students to not limit themselves geographically when searching for law schools, as a school's prestige matters in regard to employment opportunities. The professors also advised that students not set their expectations too high when considering job opportunities after finishing law school.

"There is a lot of business compression going on in the legal pro-

fession. That's not to say that you can't be very successful and have a good life if you're interested in the content. If you're interested in working as a lawyer I would recommend you do that, but don't do it with the expectation that you're going to necessarily end up at a big firm, because you might not," said Rosenbloom.

According to the professors, working at a large firm can be extremely lucrative, but it also has its drawbacks, including the inability to have a rich social life and being forced to come into the office at unexpected hours. As for why having a law department might be appealing to students at a business school such as Baruch, Rosenbloom cited the close relationship that the two fields share.

"Law and business is totally intertwined. If you do business you're doing law, it's totally intertwined. All the rules about business, about contract formation, employment situations, financial situations and marketing.

Everything that you do in a business context is impacted by how the law is reviewed and dealt with by the court system," said Rosenbloom.

## USG votes in Aleem as representative senator

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

"The reason why we waited [to announce the representative senator position] is because we had to double check that the numbers were correct," said Dornbaum.

"We ran it by the Student Life office and also Gorman. We didn't understand if we had 15,000 undergraduate students last year, why we weren't notified to run with 15 [senators]."

Ryan Powers, executive vice president and chairperson of the senate, was in charge of recruitment of candidates for representative senator.

Of the 14 candidates who applied, he said only eight met the requirements of availability for the senate meetings on Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m., taking at least six credits worth of classes, maintaining a 2.5 GPA and not holding an executive board position in a club or organization.

Aleem, who joined USG this semester as vice chair of the legislative affairs committee, said that before this semester he was not very involved in club life.

"This semester I got involved in USG and I was able to help out our vice president of legislative affairs and get exposed to an environment where everyone's connecting to the whole campus rather than a certain niche of people," said Aleem in his speech to the senate table.

"As representative senator I hope to use my power to help respond to the needs of Baruch College students. We are all different and unique in our own ways but in the end, we are all Bearcats that make up Baruch College," said Aleem in an email interview.

Although there is "no formal

training process," Powers believes that Aleem's previous experience in USG will make for an easy transition.

"It is a learning curve to understand how we allocate budgets, appeals, decide whether to charter clubs. All the business that goes on at the table—we have to catch him up to speed on. But he's also been at meetings, so he has seen how that works," Powers said.

Ehtasham Bhatti, the vice presidential senator of legislative affairs, has worked with Aleem on committee events such as the Voter Registration Rally and the planning for the upcoming annual New York State Association of Black and Puerto Rican Legislators Inc.'s Annual Legislative Conference.

Bhatti believes that Aleem is a great fit for the representative senator position.

"I am very sure that Suleman will be an excellent senator. He's very hard-working and diligent when it comes to planning and executing events, he's creative in proposing initiatives and ideas, he's passionate about assisting students, he's friendly and sociable with all kinds of people, and in general, he's just a fun guy to be around," said Bhatti.

"The Undergraduate Student Government spent about three hours in executive session during their senate meeting to discuss eight candidates wanting to be representative senators. After a long and thoughtful process, we arrived at Suleman," added Bhatti.

"We want the student body to rest assured that we will work closely with Suleman to mold him into the best asset for the student body, both short term and long term."

The last USG senate meeting of the Fall semester takes place on Tuesday, Dec. 6.

# Event calms immigration concerns

BY ANGEL TORRES  
COPY EDITOR

Baruch College's Zicklin School of Business hosted an immigration event entitled "Immigration Teach-In" on Thursday, Dec. 1. The event featured a panel of experts, professors and students who expressed genuine concern for the potential changes that may come to immigration policy in the near future as a result of the election of Donald Trump.

The event started at 12:45 p.m. with complimentary pizza and beverages in the Multipurpose Room of the Newman Vertical Campus. Early on, participants were encouraged to express how they felt by standing up and voicing their concerns and by going to the MakerHub table located close to the entrance of the room.

The table had colored pencils, paper and other craft materials to give a medium to those wishing to express themselves. To the left of the table, a large piece of white construction paper had been set up on the wall with the words "I Hope" written in large letters across the top.

Similar to the sticky notes at 14th Street-Union Square station, known as Subway Therapy, the white construction paper was set up so attendees could write what they hoped for on a sticky note, adding to a collective of ideas—a way to remind them they were not alone.

The event itself served as a reminder that those suffering in silence need not do so; there are many others like them who can relate. The first speaker was an undocumented student who wished to remain anonymous.

The student photographer currently works as a bus boy at Trump SoHo, a hotel condomini-

um. Despite the possibility of losing his job, he was adamant about why it was necessary for him to stand against a man who claimed immigrants were murderers, rapists and thieves.

Calling himself a photographic activist, the student started with a two-and-a-half-minute long documentary he was featured in and helped put together. Following the documentary, he spoke passionately about undocumented people in the United States and for people who rely on President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy that went into effect on June 2012.

Undocumented immigrants who are approved for DACA get a two-year period of deferred action from deportation and eligibility for a work permit.

Meetu Dhar, a staff attorney for CUNY Citizenship Now! was next to speak. Dhar explained that CUNY Citizenship Now! provides free counseling services for those in need. Dhar also advised those with current work authorization to renew it as soon as possible before the new administration takes office on Jan. 20, 2017.

CUNY Citizenship Now! is offering expedited services to help immigrants get their work authorization and DACA papers done faster in the coming months.

After Dhar, Professor Rob Smith of the Marxe School of Public and International Affairs took the stage. Smith gave insight into how many immigrants are under the assumption that they cannot receive in-state tuition when, in reality, they can. Smith also mentioned that before his time at CUNY, he was an advocate for immigrant in-state tuition.

Later on during the event, both Hattie Quarnstrom-Figueroa, deputy director of the New York State

Office for New Americans, and Samuel Solomon, deputy director of policy for the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs reassured immigrants that they were safe. They answered a question about the gap between federal- and state-level power over immigration, saying that the federal government has power over who comes in, who gets kicked out and who gets DACA.

However, once in New York State, the state has power over who gets ID cards, who gets health care and who can attend schools.

Both of them went on to reassure the crowd that even if Trump were to attempt mass deportation, it would take years to come to fruition, along with a lot of paperwork and many expenses.

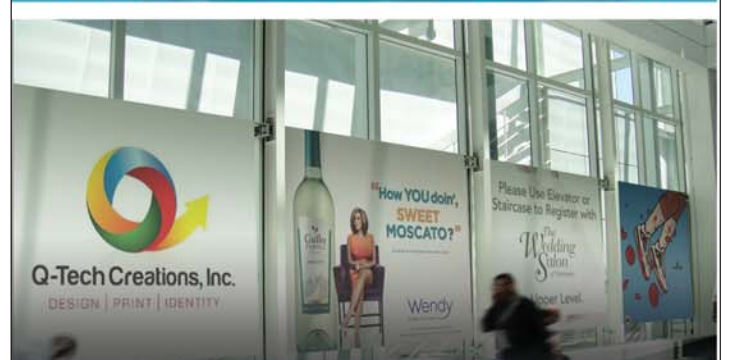
Art King, vice president for student affairs and dean of students, as well as Monica Sibri, founder and president of CUNY DREAMers, were the last two speakers. King shared an anecdote about his personal immigration from Barbados, while Sibri spoke about her determination as an immigrant to not be silenced. Sibri also spoke about her initiative within CUNY DREAMers, which she started as a network of support for undocumented students, as stated on the organization's website.

The entirety of the "Immigration Teach-In" worked as a way to let DACA and undocumented immigrants know that they were not alone. Aside from being an informative event, it also let immigrants know that although future policy changes may frighten them, there are ways to stave off negative outcomes and combat attacks to their livelihoods.


The event ended with final words from all the panelists, questions and a resounding applause from undocumented and documented students alike.



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# LUNCH WITH THE PRESIDENT



Come meet and talk with  
**Baruch President Dr. Mitchel Wallerstein**

<p style="color: #0056b3;">Thursday, December 8th, 2016</p> <p style="color: #0056b3; font-size: 1.2em;">12:30pm-2:00pm NVC 14-270</p>	<p style="color: #c00000;">Free Food, Snacks, and Drinks. <b>Space is limited.</b></p> <p style="color: #0056b3;">RSVP: <a href="http://baruch.cuny.edu/president" style="color: #0056b3;">baruch.cuny.edu/president</a></p>
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*USG Presents*

# *Winter Wonderland*



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GINGERBREAD  
DECORATING  
CONTEST



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6 PM - 9 PM

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM

# Opinions

## FROM THE EDITORIAL BOARD

### CUNY should not ask enrolled students to donate to school

Many students at Baruch College may be familiar with the emails and mail that the administration sends out to encourage them to donate to the college. Some may also remember the multiple emails and fliers sent out throughout the first half of the semester, which aggressively advertised the ability to purchase a paver that would be located on the renovated 25th Street Plaza.

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, Baruch students received yet another email that advertised the existence of CUNY Tuesday—CUNY's version of Giving Tuesday. According to CUNY Tuesday's website, the event was a 24-hour campaign that aimed to raise a total of \$1 million to use for student programs, scholarships and support. Benefactors were given the opportunity to choose both their donation amount and to which school they would want the money to go.

"CUNY is part of #GIVINGTUESDAY the global day of giving in support of all CUNY students," the email read. "To be part of #CUNYTUESDAY go to the college of your choice and be an ambassador! Encourage your social network to support #CUNYTUESDAY and the students of CUNY. Your efforts will help us achieve the CUNY-wide \$1 million dollar [sic] goal!"

Asking current students to donate money to fund scholarships for other students is, in CUNY's case, hypocritical.

In the past few weeks, CUNY made headlines for all of the wrong reasons. On Nov. 16, DNAinfo New York published a critical review of CUNY's financial conduct, which was based on a preliminary report published by the state Office of Inspector General. The report calls CUNY's financial system, along with the foundations affiliated with it, "ripe for abuse."

Unfortunately, financial abuse is already taking place. Lisa S. Coico, former president of City College of New York, was found to have misused \$150,000 of CCNY's funds. Another \$36,000 was wasted to pay for Brooklyn College president's part-time housemaid and an additional \$35,000 was used to fund a retirement party. While other colleges were also audited, new cases of misused funds have not yet been made public.

As noble as the idea behind CUNY Tuesday may be, an entity that was found guilty of fund mismanagement should not be asking its students, plenty of whom are from working class families and rely on financial aid, to contribute to a scholarship fund. Instead, CUNY should search for donations elsewhere or, at the very least, try to fix the system that is currently in place and search for the funds within its own budget.

### Whitewashing in Hollywood movies diminishes underrepresented races

With the rise of social justice conflicts circulating and defining this modern era, one could think that Hollywood whitewashing is a concept of the past. Producer Steven Paul and director Rupert Sanders cast Scarlett Johansson as Major Motoko Kusanagi, *Ghost in the Shell's* protagonist. Despite the fact that *Ghost* features Asian characters, a predominantly white cast has been hired to play the main roles.

Hollywood whitewashing has gained public awareness as of late since Asian American actors make up the smallest demographic portion of the entertainment pool. Asian American actors, along with actors of other races, have not been typical recipients of prestigious awards, which is also why the hashtag #OscarsSoWhite has been popularized all over social media and news outlets.

It is degrading to continually cast white people as characters who are not white. It implies that white people are better suited in the entertainment world and that they attract more revenue. Shows like *Fresh Off the Boat* celebrate Asian American citizens and reflect greater diversity in the entertainment industry. It is important for movie directors to shift their attention to cast actors fairly and appropriately.



REBECCA VICENTE | THE TICKER

## Clubs need better support from OSL

It is necessary for OSL to promote clubs more so that students can have a complete college experience

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The webpage's statement is truthful in some regard. Some cultural clubs, such as FUSION, Hillel, the Latin American Student Organization and the Vietnamese Student Association, provide a taste of their respective cultures by hosting popular events throughout the academic year.

The crowds that attend these events, however, seem to be composed of already-involved students. To uninvolved students, however, it may be difficult to know what events are happening around Baruch. It is important to address this problem because those left-out students can potentially benefit from these clubs and events.

OSL sends out a bland weekly newsletter on what happens at Baruch, but this newsletter fails to address club or community related events. For one, the newsletter seems to favor organizations that are closely intertwined with OSL, as exemplified by its promotion of events hosted by the Office of Health and Wellness.

To better cater to the students at Baruch, OSL should gather a list of weekly events that clubs are hosting and send them out in a coherent and engaging format. The current newsletter can easily be ignored by students and a revised version should desperately be considered. Getting specific mentions of club events in the newsletter

would not be a difficult task.

Additionally, televisions around Baruch should be used more efficiently. There are televisions strategically located in high-traffic areas, but only a couple of them regularly show events happening around Baruch. The rest are dedicated to the nearest center by their location, such as the Starr Career Development Center on the second floor and the Center for Academic Advisement on the fifth floor. The television on the eighth floor shows an error message on the screen.

There are also televisions on the 12th and 13th floor that are shut off. All of these monitors could be used to show more events happening around Baruch. The monitors can also be used to shout out clubs so that students could find out about their existence.

Finding club locations is not an easy task. Club information is provided on the Baruch website, but with its unappealing layout, the website looks out of date. On top of that, the website is not very user-friendly and some of the cited locations for club rooms are inaccurate.

Across from the escalator on the third floor, there is a banner frequently displayed to look down onto the second floor. These banners usually present a monthly theme. To show its dedication to students, OSL should instead hang a banner that lists weekly events.

Aside from the lack of student exposure to events, the rest of the

issues fall on the clubs themselves. Many times, clubs will announce that they are hosting events on their pages and then either fail to show up or cancel last minute. The Hindu Student Association, for example, recently promised to host two tabling events to prelude its Diwali event, but ended up not showing up for either. Last month, Women in Business tried hosting an event featuring a chef who was willing to come in and talk about her thriving business. This event was also canceled last minute.

These cancellations discourage students from getting involved. No one wants to set time aside in his or her schedule only to find that the event is canceled. Clubs need to make students feel more welcome and need to strive to provide the best experience through reliable events and communication.

Although OSL works hard to make life at Baruch more community-oriented, a re-envisioning of its approach is necessary. Clubs need to foster welcoming environments and work hard to be reliable.

Most of all, students need to be more exposed to the events and activities available to them. If students are aware of their options, maybe they will get more involved. Only then would Baruch truly be able to provide an environment that caters to its community.

-Angel Torres  
Actuarial Science '18

## The Ticker

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### ABOUT US

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### OPINIONS PAGE POLICY

The opinions expressed in this section are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily represent those of The Ticker. Authors' names are usually published but may be withheld for compelling reasons, at the editor's discretion.

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## Representatives must have term limits

At the time of the founding of the U.S. Constitution, presidents, representatives and senators did not have established term limits. However, as the early days of that republic faded away, so did many traditions and points of views set forth by our Founding Fathers.

Debates over term limits served by those in power have been around since the early days of the nation. According to a Gallup poll conducted in September 2016, Congress has an approval rate of 20 percent.

The low approval rate may be directly influenced by the fact that there is continually a poor voter turnout in the United States, which means that elected officials will not be able to properly represent the masses. Additionally, even if people do go out and vote, they tend to vote by party unless there is a challenger to the status quo.

Incumbents yield a natural advantage over challengers since they

have already been elected once and are believed to have experience. Incumbents are also privileged in that they have franking privileges, which allow them to send mail to their constituents without charge. The only logical answer to this problem is to enforce congressional term limits.

There are several benefits to limiting every career politician's terms of service to a maximum of two terms, or 12 years, in each chamber. In particular, there would be an influx of new members in Congress who would bring new ideas to the forefront.

Members of Congress who were elected decades ago may stick with stale ideas and not be able to connect with their constituents. This becomes an issue when members of Congress claim to represent a certain population but don't evolve along with it.

Another advantage of limiting the terms of career politicians would be leveling the playing

field for challengers. The privileges that incumbents possess do not allow for fair and free elections to take place, therefore turning congressional offices into re-election machines.

If term limits were imposed right now, 30 senators would have to resign in 2017, since they have been in office for over two terms. Additionally, 132 representatives would have limited terms come this January if members of the House of Representatives were also subject to a maximum of two terms.

It is obvious that the United States has a problem with term limits when it comes to any election. One of President-elect Donald Trump's first items on his 100 day agenda is to introduce term limits to members of Congress. Trump may be able to work with Congress to truly drain the swamp and bring about needed change.

-Andrew Windsor  
Political Science '19

# Political participation can extend past voting

## THE USG REPORT



DANIEL DORNBAUM

In my previous column, I suggested that we should all engage in tough conversations surrounding the topic of the election to move our country forward. I hope over Thanksgiving break, many of you were able to participate in these talks with family and friends alike. This is a great first step, but there is always more that can be done. Each of us bears a responsibility to mold and shape this world for the better. We must all shoulder this weight in order to maintain a society that is politically inclined.

According to NPR, roughly 24 million people under the age of 29 voted in the past election. Although this seems like a large number of people, there are approximately 126 million eligible voters who are either in Generation X or Generation Y.

I understand that some people may feel that their vote does not matter on a greater scale. Therefore, these people may choose not to vote. In the past, I have written other articles for this column trying to convince skeptics and cynics otherwise. This time, I will entertain the idea that there are other ways to shape our democracy without voting.

While I am not endorsing the

act of abstaining from a vote, I would like to highlight the ways you can be a catalyst for change without casting a ballot.

Participating in our democracy comes in varying forms that are extremely accessible to students at Baruch College. Volunteering for local nonprofit organizations, showing up at community meetings or calling your elected official to share your thoughts on an issue are all forms of fulfilling our social and political responsibilities.

Baruch offers fellowships for students to work at nonprofit organizations. Students are also able to pursue internships that place students in government offices and enroll in classes that teach students how to run effective public campaigns.

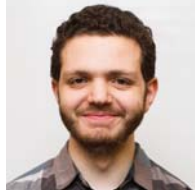
We must constantly keep tabs on those who are in office in all levels of government. We must be vigilant to ensure that elected officials are representing our true beliefs. We must hold elected officials responsible for reflecting the wants and needs of their constituents. By taking on these roles, we ensure that engagement in the political process is not an act that occurs once every four years or only during election season.

Being a cynic is the easy part. Calling out flaws or injustices in the system without backing it up with action is a strong wind through an empty cave and will not create necessary change. The time to work has come.

*Daniel Dornbaum is the president of USG. He can be reached at [daniel.dornbaum@usgbaruch.com](mailto:daniel.dornbaum@usgbaruch.com). His office is located at 3-272 in the Newman Vertical Campus.*

# Freedom to assemble needs respect

## THE POLITICKER



REUVEN GLEZER

For the past several months, protesters have been camping out at the site of the prospective location of the Dakota Access Pipeline. A wealth of attention has reached Standing Rock, a Lakota and Dakota tribal reservation, whose 1851 treaty lands are where the DAPL is due to be built.

With a population clocking in at a little over 8,000, the tribes claim that the construction of the DAPL is a breach of tribal sovereignty, as well as a major environmental risk to their water supply. The resulting clashes between the Standing Rock reservation, protesters and the police have been nothing less than chaotic.

For a peaceful protest, the government's response to it has been extraordinarily violent and well-documented, but has earned little media attention. Even the presidential candidates failed to mention it during their debates. However, when it came to environmental policy, all dialogue in that regard was an absolute failure.

Videos of police using rubber bullets, tear gas and water cannons against protesters have popped up on the internet. The lack of any real response from anyone other than a journalist or a YouTube commenter is simply disgusting. This broad apathy cannot become a new norm for this country, especially with the consideration in

mind that an idiot is about to enter the White House.

This issue sits in between the United States's problematic relationship with Native Americans and an increasingly laid back attitude to implementing substantial environmental policy in this country.

One of the first snags that comes with the DAPL is that it appears to be a full violation of tribal sovereignty. It really should not be so complicated: the tribes have a right to forbid a privately funded pipeline from being built on land that the government has determined to be in their jurisdiction. Unfortunately, the state police have deemed it fit to consider anyone protesting the private pipeline's construction as a trespasser.

The subject of police reactions continues to become terrifyingly frequent, even in this case. Police responses to protesters have been sadly predictable. Use of dangerous crowd-control techniques and an overall disregard for the safety of the protesters has led to major injuries and a general atmosphere of fear and distrust at Standing Rock.

Police have also been using less conventional techniques such as Long Range Acoustic Devices, which emit higher frequency and volume alarms, as crowd dispersal methods. Apparently, nothing builds trust better than imposing unconventional policing methods.

On a broader point, protests have come up in yet another pipeline construction controversy, something that should have been purged from the national discussion long ago. As the country moves slowly but surely toward cleaner energy, more drastic steps need to be taken to phase out remnants of dirtier energy. A massive pipeline—one that is susceptible

to leakage and combustion—delivering oil is essentially a giant fossil in a sea of new technology. It is absurd and yet somehow still approved in a world in which the country desperately needs to move on from such dependencies. However, with the recent announcement that noted climate change denier Myron Ebell now serves as the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, all of that progress is now in limbo.

Now, these issues have reached a deadly crossroads at Standing Rock, where the protest will ultimately pave the way for all action regarding environmental policy, police militarization and hopefully, the treatment of Native Americans.

Thankfully, media attention has steadily increased and shined a light on the plight of the protesters, thanks in part to smaller news outlets like the *New York Daily News* and Vox Media. These outlets try to bring a much stronger focus to the conflict. Some surprising celebrity arrests have also given extra minutes of screen time, such as when Shailene Woodley and Rosario Dawson were taken in by police back in August.

This is a dangerous protest, make no mistake. Injuries are to be expected if the police choose to continue with near-lethal crowd control. The freedom of assembly is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution and this is a violation of that freedom in the greatest regard. Lives should not be lost in this fight. They should not even be expected to be lost in this fight.

Protesters are standing up for something that they see as unfair treatment of regular citizens. Someone else's misery is not an inconvenience, as the police seem to see it, but an opportunity to help alleviate it.

# Pop culture helps change social norms

Despite the stigma it faces, pop culture influences social issues, cultural change and various identities

While seen by many as a representation of our society's most shallow attributes, popular culture is a dynamic phenomenon that should not be trivialized. Its influence is apparent in western society. With expanding media outlets and growing media consumption in 2016, pop culture is at the forefront of everyday life for many U.S. citizens.

Pop culture has long played a role in the United States through its influence on social issues, cultural change and individuals whose identities it helps mold. From Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* and its impact on food safety to artists like The Beatles and Bob Dylan, whose work personified the sentiments of the civil rights generation, pop culture has played a substantial part in the development of the world in which we live.

Today, we see celebrities using their influence to confront social issues and promote positive reform. Just this year, we saw Bernie Sanders ascend to pop-icon status. He influenced the way millions of people view the world and the ideologies he promoted continue to mold multiple identities.

Pop culture has also recently rejuvenated the feminist movement, as celebrities such as Jennifer Lawrence and Seth Rogen have expanded awareness and solidarity in the fight to close the gender pay gap.

Pop culture also frequently in-

fluences and even dictates social norms. Social norms are constantly changing and as a study published by the American Sociological Association indicates, celebrities have greater power in affecting social norms. These pop-icons are able to influence societal and individual attitudes toward style, sex and even desired occupations. This influence over collective and individual attitudes results in many people basing their personal identities, preferences and ideas off of popular culture.

Though it is often used to promote and spur positive social change, this drastic impact does have drawbacks. The disproportionately high influence pop culture holds over social norms can result in undesirable outcomes. This is evidenced in a study by Dr. James D. Sargent, which illustrates a link between tobacco usage in popular movies and an increased likelihood of adolescent smoking.

Negative behavior depicted in a film or demonstrated by an individual of iconic stature can be interpreted as positive and something worth emulating. This heavy influence of pop culture can result in social norms with adverse or even devastating consequences.

Given the widespread influential power of pop culture, there is a clear danger of misinformation. Many celebrities voice their opinions on a wide variety of issues, even when they lack the necessary

expertise.

This reckless behavior can and already has promoted the spread of harmful beliefs, such as those behind the anti-vaccination movement. Many celebrities, including President-elect Donald Trump, have endorsed such scientifically baseless beliefs, in addition to the idea that climate change is a hoax. Through his celebrity status and various media outlets, Trump has been able to influence supporters with pseudo-science and endangered public welfare.

More and more people are relying on various internet sources such as Facebook and other forms of social media. Lately, this segment of pop-culture has faced a major issue in the availability and mass sharing of fabricated news stories. This fake news has the potential to affect political elections if it has not done so already and only serves to further the devastating social tensions the United States is currently facing.

In a part of the world dominated by pop culture, people should welcome the social good that this phenomenon can promote. Embracing pop culture can help encourage positive and much needed social change.

It is absolutely vital that people understand the capacities and harmful facets related to pop culture. Unless people comprehend these unfortunate realities, they will be vulnerable to adopting detrimental social norms and accepting misinformation when molding their personal identities. Pop culture is a vastly influential force and it is vital that everyone makes sure it is utilized to improve the world.

*-Michael Giusetti  
Marketing Analytics '17*

# Black Friday reduces time with family members

Millions of U.S. citizens anticipate Black Friday with great joy, but many are not aware of its origins, purpose or economic feasibility.

Unlike Christmas, Thanksgiving and Valentine's Day, among other prominent holidays, Black Friday has no religious or cultural significance. Interestingly, there is no definitive answer as to why Black Friday is called what it is, but there are a few common ideas.

One hypothesis is that Black Friday referred to a stock market catastrophe in which the price of gold plummeted on Sept. 24, 1869. Black is a term usually given to any particularly devastating day in the financial markets, which is how the term Black Friday might have been coined.

Another hypothesis was proposed in the 1980s. Retailers usually operated at a financial loss for most of the year, and they started to make profits during the holiday season.

It was a common accounting practice then to record negative numbers in red ink, and positive numbers in black ink. Therefore, Black Friday got its name because it was the first day stores turned a profit for the year and wrote their numbers in black ink.

It is also believed that Black Friday refers to the large crowds and traffic that occur at the start of the Christmas shopping season.

It seems that Black Friday has always been a commercialized event. Some may argue that there is no harm in having a day when people can buy a new flat screen television cheaply. However, Black Friday has an immediately harmful effect on both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

To maximize profits, retail-

ers open their stores not only at midnight, but hours before on Thanksgiving.

This creates a situation where people prefer to eat Thanksgiving dinner with their families earlier in the day to rush to the store for the deals. Some may even choose to skip dinner and quality time with families altogether, prioritizing deals over loved ones.

Employees, who might prefer to be home, are also forced to work on Thanksgiving because of these time shifts. Since Black Friday also signals the start of the holiday shopping season, it gets people thinking about Christmas gifts in advance and sets a consumerism precedent for the next month.

The large discounts that characterize Black Friday seem illusory. Retailers might be in cahoots with their suppliers to set starting prices that, when discounted, will give the retailers the profits that they want. Items that have discounts on them were never meant to sell at their original price.

This all means that Black Friday may not be very profitable for retailers. The gross margins, or the difference between what is paid for goods and what price the goods are sold at, of retailers like Best Buy, Macy's and Walmart are usually flat. Discounts may already be factored into the price of the product.

It is better to spend Thanksgiving with family members and loved ones, sleep off the feast on Friday and get great deals on Cyber Monday, instead of camping out for six hours at a Macy's for a sweater that may not really be discounted.

*-Jahvon Meadows  
Accounting '19*

Pop culture is a vastly influential force and it is vital that everyone makes sure it is utilized to improve the world.

## Post-election protests show violence

Activists and protesters are coordinating and attending protests that violently display their opinions

Tensions had been building prior to the election as racist sentiments fueled president-elect Donald Trump's campaign rhetoric. A protest assembled outside of Trump International Hotel & Tower on Nov. 9, the day after the election. It comes as no surprise since it seemed likely that protests would form regardless of who was victorious.

Activists for various groups were in attendance. People paraded Mexican flags through the streets of Manhattan while some participants soaked the U.S. flag in gasoline. Members of the LGBT community waved their iconic rainbow banners while anti-Trump protesters raised signs reading: "Not My President."

"During this time, people were organizing across the country and planning protests aimed at giving those who had experienced disenfranchised grief a voice," said Latchmi Gopal, an advocate for the rights of women of color.

What was expected to be a gathering of around 50 people ballooned to over 500 just an hour after assembly. Union Square saw a larger assembly of protesters gathering with similar sentiments. The NYPD's Strategic Response Group mobilized with hundreds of officers doing their part to ensure the safety of all New Yorkers. As the group of protesters headed toward Trump International Hotel & Tower and marched down Broadway, police officers directed traffic while bystanders stood in awe. The two groups converged in Times Square and headed back up to Columbus Circle.

Fear took the protest hostage and the underlying messages became muddled. Themes that divided the United States through-

out this election reflected many protesters' need to raise awareness and combat this nation's underlying homophobia, misogyny, racism and xenophobia. Many immigrants, members of the LGBT community, people of color and women are afraid and feel isolated as a result of the election.

As clocks approached midnight, the NYPD determined that it was necessary to unleash its Long Range Acoustic Device on protesters. LRAD is used as a non-lethal means of crowd control and is more commonly known as a sonic weapon. By the end of the night, reports on social media platforms indicated that many protesters were taken into custody.

Throughout the country, similar protests were taking place in unison as organizers reached out to one another through various social media platforms. After the results were released in the early hours of Nov. 9, "We realized that we had 72 hours to organize and assemble ourselves to ensure our voices would not be silenced," said Gopal.

By using various social media outlets, organizers were able to reach out to a larger group of people and raise awareness rapidly.

In the days following the protest, many people took to social media to air their grievances and opinions as indicated by an increase in posts on Facebook and Twitter. Students at college campuses protested by refusing to attend class and instead created "safe spaces" to collectively grieve. Counseling services were offered at Baruch College as well as at many other colleges to help those having difficulty coping with the results.

This election was truly the tip-

ping point for groups of people who have felt fragmented in modern society. The vast majority of protesters on the streets were either anti-Trump or advocating for social issues, but a completely separate protest had taken place the day prior. That protest was the voice of millions of U.S. citizens who voted for Donald Trump not in support of his rhetoric, but rather in rebellion against a system which they blame for their economic situation.

CUNY professor Dr. Hill Krishnan posted a great video in which talks about the steps that U.S. citizens need to take to move forward from the results of this election. In his video he talks about education, engagement and empathy, three qualities he terms "The Three E's." These qualities are intended to function as a way to bridge the divide and heal the fractured nation. This election was truly the tipping point for groups of people who have felt fragmented in modern society.

The post-election protests appear to be unrelenting—there are rallies planned well into Trump's presidency. However, without a clear objective, it is uncertain how long these protests will last and in what capacity they will endure.

The thousands of protesters who assembled in Union Square the day after the election have since been replaced by a very different presence. Inspirational sticky-notes with words of support now line the subway station walls. It acts as a simple reminder for anyone who feels isolated in the aftermath of the election. It makes people feel as if they are not alone.

-Seamus Kirk  
Political Science '17

## Sabra products need regulation from FDA

Sabra, a United States-based producer of Middle Eastern food has advised customers to throw out any of their hummus products due to a possible listeria contamination. This is shockingly not the first time Sabra has had to recall products. In April 2015, the company recalled 30,000 cases of hummus, again citing listeria as the reason.

The products were manufactured before Nov. 8 at a plant where listeria was found. The Food and Drug Administration has stated that no listeria has been found in the products so far. A full list of all recalled products can be found on Sabra's website. The list, however, is long because the company's products have been distributed throughout Canada and 23 states in the United States.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, listeria is a serious infection usually caused by eating food contaminated with the bacterium *Listeria monocytogenes*. It is an important public health problem in the United States that must be addressed quickly.

The fact that this is the second time in two years that this has happened is completely unacceptable. One time is already too many. It shows immense negligence on the company's part. Sabra claims on its website that it has consulted with external experts such as the FDA to make the necessary changes after the first incident. These improvements included new technology and intensive food testing every two minutes. Undoubtedly, these are great strides that have been taken in order to ensure consumer safety. However, these measures have failed to prevent

another listeria contamination.

Sabra's reputation is going to be immensely hurt in the upcoming weeks. It will be hard for consumers to trust a company after two listeria outbreaks, especially two that occurred at such close time intervals.

The best way to prevent this in the future is to enforce tighter and stronger regulations. Government regulations are intended to make sure that the public is protected from harmful and negligent business practices such as this. It is a common claim from many conservative and libertarian circles that regulations kill jobs. Members of both circles sometimes argue that cutting regulations will directly create more jobs. However, economists do not seem to agree.

"Researchers found that higher spending to comply with environment rules does not cause 'a significant change' in industry employment," according to *The Washington Post*. "For every \$1 million companies spent, as many as 1 1/2 net jobs were added to the economy."

Stronger regulations would urge companies to be more mindful when manufacturing their products. It may not be entirely coincidental that listeria has been found in Sabra products for the second time. It indicates negligence. Sabra will be motivated by the fear that a mishap like this might put it into a state of economic and social damage. This fear is necessary because it promotes more attention devoted to consumer safety, which should always be the number one priority.

-Davon Singh  
Digital Marketing '18

## Racial bias shows bigotry

Prejudice against Muslim citizens is unwarranted and irrational

A Staten Island woman was attacked on Nov. 9, the day after the election results came out, because her perpetrator mistook her scarf for a hijab. This was one of the numerous occurrences of threats following president-elect Donald Trump's victory on Nov. 8.

Jennifer Simonetti, 35, was driving to a Starbucks near her home when an unrecognized man pushed her against the car and began touching her. The man slid his hands up and down her body. Two other aggressors were there, and they eyed the incident smiling. The man who initially started the attack against the woman told her that she was not allowed to wear what he had mistaken as a hijab anymore and tried to forcibly remove it.

Unfortunately, these assaults are becoming a shockingly common occurrence in the aftermath of the presidential election. The Southern Poverty Law Center revealed to NBC that over 300 attacks have already taken place weeks after the election results came out.

There is especially a lot of intimidation in schools and on university campuses. The message "Trump Nation, Whites Only" is written on the walls of a church in Maryland. The University of Michigan issued a campus safety alert after a Muslim student was victimized. Likewise, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo organized an inspection after a swastika was discovered on the walls of a dormitory at SUNY Geneseo.

Hate crimes against Muslims in particular rose by a startling 6 percent since 2015. Hussain Saeed Al-nahdi, a University of Wisconsin-Stout student originally from Saudi Arabia, died after being targeted

and injured due to his religious background. A Muslim student at San Diego State University was robbed by two men who claimed to be paying homage to Trump in their actions.

The origin of anti-Muslim sentiment perhaps can be traced back to the rise of the Islamic State. The group carried out numerous terrorist attacks and has publicly proclaimed its hatred for the United States and westernization in general. U.S. citizens have been uneasy about the situation.

Just a few months ago, a man who pledged allegiance to the Islamic State killed 49 people at a gay nightclub in Orlando. It was the most lethal mass shooting in U.S. history.

It is still disturbing to hear that innocent Muslims are being targeted. Followers of the Islamic State are extremists and do not properly illustrate Islamic beliefs. People cannot define the Muslim community using the acts of a radical militant group. The notion that all Muslims are terrorists is not only ignorant, but uncivil as well. Citizens who live in a country that is noteworthy for its diversity and freedom of speech should find it shocking that Muslims face such discriminatory rhetoric.

It is infuriating to hear that prejudice still exists in this modern age. As reports of cruelty places the country at risk for bias and detestation, it is important to practice open-mindedness. It is disappointing that identifying as a Muslim bears a negative connotation. The United States will further fall down the rabbit hole if it continues to adopt this mindset.

-Maya Yegorova  
Journalism '20

## Reproductive rights need more support

With Donald Trump's victory in the election, it is more important than ever to protect women's rights

Instead of a president-elect who intended to staunchly defend women's reproductive rights, U.S. citizens elected a president who promises to deny those rights. In a taped town hall meeting in Green Bay, President-elect Donald Trump told an MSNBC interviewer that he believed that "there has to be some form of punishment" for women who get abortions illegally. Trump scrambled to revise his statement by saying that doctors should be held legally responsible, while women are simply victims.

Many people were excited at the prospect of Hillary Clinton assuming the position of the 45th president of the United States. The idea of shattering the seemingly impenetrable "glass ceiling" was certainly enticing. Although she won plenty of voters because of her sex, she also generated a lot of support because of her values. She was a candidate who strongly advocated the idea that government should not determine whether a woman should go through with an abortion. Clinton was perfectly poised to maintain and even further the progress that has been made in the field of reproductive rights over the decades.

Vice President-elect Mike Pence has been quoted saying that he would like the results of *Roe v. Wade* to be obliterated. The Trump administration has maintained a pro-life stance throughout the election cycle and plans to appoint justices who share that value to the Supreme Court.

In another interview, Trump stated that if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned, states would have the authority to regulate abortion within their borders. For a woman living in a state where abortion is outlawed, Trump believes that she

can simply go to another state to obtain the procedure.

Doing away with *Roe v. Wade* would be the utmost threat to rupturing reproductive freedom. Although it is a hypothetical notion at this point in time, it represents the growing lack of support for reproductive rights.

What seems to be more imminent is the repeal of Obamacare and the federal defunding of Planned Parenthood. Trump's website states, "On day one of the Trump administration, we will ask Congress to immediately deliver a full repeal of Obamacare." Under Obamacare, women are able to receive birth control at no additional cost, which is a tremendous benefit. A larger population of women who have hit their reproductive age are insured and have the option to be on birth control.

Additionally, teen pregnancies and abortion rates among teenagers have reached their lowest levels in almost four decades. A woman insured by Obamacare is eligible to be fitted for an intrauterine device at no extra cost. A hormonal IUD is functional anytime from three to six years, while a copper IUD can prevent pregnancy for up to 12 years. Both types are 99 percent effective at preventing pregnancy. Without insurance, an IUD can range anywhere from \$200 to \$800, which is a cost that some women simply cannot afford.

*The New York Times* estimates that it would take up to a year for the Trump administration to do away with the mandate that is responsible for no additional costs for birth control. It is not right to expect women to adopt Trump's "we will see what happens" approach when it comes to their reproductive health. A spike in

Google searches for IUD's following the results of the 2016 election demonstrates this. Women all over the country are attempting to secure long-standing birth control while it is still financially feasible for them.

The Trump administration has also stated plans to defund Planned Parenthood in addition to repealing Obamacare. Just in February of this year, Trump sincerely credited Planned Parenthood with helping millions of women with cervical cancer and breast cancer. Despite the fact that he explicitly validated the need for Planned Parenthood, he said that he would still defund it due to the fact that it promotes abortion.

Republicans in Congress have tried to defund Planned Parenthood eight times since 2011. Having Trump in office could finally allow them to carry this out. According to an article from *The Huffington Post*, Planned Parenthood subsists off of "\$500 million a year in federal grants that go toward birth control services, pap smears and testing and treatment for low-income patients."

Planned Parenthood also receives personal donations, some of which fund abortions, which comprise only some of Planned Parenthood's services. Federal funding is not permitted to cover abortion costs, as per the Hyde Amendment. However, conservatives still argue that any money going toward Planned Parenthood is money going toward abortion.

A Trump presidency will only bring on increasing birth control costs under an administration that opposes abortion.

-Deborah Gorelik  
Psychology '19



# US should adopt new voting system

To increase voter turnout, automatic voter registration should be implemented by the US government

In recent years, the U.S. government, at both the local and national level, has pushed for instituting new methods of registering citizens as voters to remedy the middling voter turnout in elections. Automatic voter registration is one of the methods proposed as of late, which is not available in a large part of the United States.

Voter turnout rates in the United States are some of the lowest in the developed world, only beating out Japan and Switzerland. In 2012, there were 241 million people of voting age, but only 130.2 million cast their ballots in the general election, which amounts to a turnout rate of 58.6 percent. One possible reason for this low turnout rate is the fact that voter registration in the United States is more difficult than it is in other countries.

Currently, the U.S. government encourages an opt-in system, which calls for states to offer citizens the option to register to vote when they apply for or renew certain documents, such as a driver's license or state identification card. The onus is on the citizens to either register to vote at that point or to remember to register before the deadline.

Automatic voter registration is seen as an attractive solution to these problems. Contrary to what is currently in place, it would need to function as an opt-out system. Citizens would automatically be registered as eligible voters via their interactions with government agencies, such as when they pay their taxes. Citizens would have to opt out of voting, rather than opt in, which could yield a higher voter turnout.

The Brennan Center for Justice, a law and public policy institute at the New York University School of

Law, has estimated that automatic voter registration would permanently add up to 50 million eligible voters to the list. Currently, 29 states have considered putting automatic voter registration into action. Putting automatic voter registration in effect would be a boon to both the voting system and turnout in the United States.

The debate surrounding automatic voter registration and voting in general can be viewed as a bipartisan issue. Democrats want the process of voting to become easier because they primarily believe that newly registered voters will belong to the young, poor or minority groups, who are usually avid supporters of the party. Republicans want to block ease of voting for the exact same reason, since it would give Democrats an edge.

In recent years, Republicans have tried to tighten voting laws, requiring extra identification at the polls and purging voter rolls. One reason they oppose automatic voter registration is because undocumented immigrants can obtain driving licenses and so could, under the automated system, accidentally become eligible to vote. However, the benefits of automatic voter registration grossly outweigh any detriments, so this should not be an issue.

Regardless of whether employing automatic voter registration will benefit one party over another, it is certain that the United States needs to increase its abysmal voter turnout rate. It is sad that only 58.6 percent of the country voted in the 2012 election between Mitt Romney and Barack Obama.

This did not happen because U.S. citizens are lazy or are apathetic when it comes to politics. Rather, the low voter turnout rate

can be blamed on the fact that U.S. citizens are not automatically registered. It is embarrassing that the United States, the world's foremost superpower, the model of democracy that other countries look up to when organizing their governments, has just a little more than half of its citizenry directly engaging with the electoral process.

If Congress would devise and enact an opt-out system that is standard in many other countries, the United States would have a much larger population of registered voters, possibly on par with countries like Belgium, Sweden or Turkey. These countries boast high voter registration rates and, in turn, equally high voter turnout rates.

Several things could be done to make voting easier for citizens and increase voting turnout. Election Day should be moved to a weekend so that more people are able to get to a polling site. In addition, voters should be allowed to use an absentee ballot without providing an excuse. This way, the United States would no longer lag behind its counterparts.

To have a working democracy, a government must have an involved citizenry. Therefore, government should make it easy for said citizenry to take part in the election of representative leaders. The opt-in system that the United States currently uses to register voters is an unnecessary barrier to this process and to its citizens. Having an opt-out system would push voters to cast a vote since the struggle to register has been removed. Automatic voter registration should be established instead, for everyone's benefit.

-Jahvon Meadows  
Political Science '17

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# Business

## Federal courts block Obama's expansion of overtime pay rule

BY MARIA MARKOWICZ  
MANAGING EDITOR

A federal judge has issued a nationwide preliminary injunction to President Barack Obama's overhaul of the Fair Labor Standards Act, which would have created new standards for overtime pay.

The Department of Labor claims that in its first year of existence, Obama's plan, referred to as the Final Rule, would have extended overtime eligibility to 4.2 million U.S. workers, including 278,000 in the state of New York.

Obama's proposal, which was set to go into effect on Dec. 1, was introduced as a move to boost the earnings for working families. However, the preliminary injunction postponed that date indefinitely.

"The Department strongly disagrees with the decision by the court, which has the effect of delaying a fair day's pay for a long day's work for millions of hardworking Americans," a statement on the Department's website states. "Final Rule is the result of a comprehensive inclusive rule-making process, and we remain confident in the legality of all aspects of the rule."

According to the court's summary of the case in 2014, Obama asked his secretary of labor to update the Fair Labor Standards Act so that it would match the needs of modern workers. Two years later, in May 2016, the Department of Labor made the proposal public with the intent of getting the public's opinion on the proposed amendments. Roughly a week after the document



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Obama's Final Rule, which was set to extend overtime pay eligibility, will be delayed indefinitely due to an injunction by a judge.

was made public, the Department received 293,000 comments. The final version of the proposal, referred to as the Final Plan, was released on May 23, 2016.

The summary goes on to explain that the Final Rule would have increased the minimum salary level for employees exempt from overtime pay from \$445 per week, or \$23,660 annually, to \$913 per week, or \$47,476 annually.

This number, the summary explains, "is based up the 40th percentile of weekly earnings of full-time salaried workers in the lowest wage region of the country, which is currently the South. The Final Rule also establishes the automatic mechanism that adjusts the minimum salary level every three years.

The first automatic release [would] occur on Jan. 1, 2020."

A video posted on the Department of Labor's website explains that, under the Final Plan, employers of workers who qualify for overtime pay could also choose to raise their workers' wage so that they would earn more than the proposed threshold.

Expanding overtime pay would contribute an additional \$1.2 billion in wages annually, a statement released by the White House's press office claims. Contrary to the Department of Labor's estimates, the Economic Policy Institute estimated that 12.5 million workers would benefit from the Final Plan, including 4.9 million workers who will be eligible for overtime protection for

the first time.

In a testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Small Business Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, Ross Eisenbrey, the vice president of EPI, expressed his belief that the amendment of overtime laws could help employees balance their work with family life.

"Work-life balance is precisely what the Fair Labor Standards Act is about," Eisenbrey said. "Because of its requirements to pay many employees a premium for time worked beyond 40 hours a week, the FLSA is the single most important family-friendly law ever passed in the United States."

Earlier this year, New York City

Comptroller Scott M. Stringer released a report in which he examined the potential changes that the Final Plan could bring about.

In summary, the report stated that roughly 370,000 workers in New York City would be affected by the threshold increase and of that number, 110,000 workers would gain overtime eligibility for the first time. Of the 370,000 who would benefit, 61,000 are women and 52,000 are part of minority groups.

The remaining 260,000 would see their overtime protection strengthened. As the document explains, some employers were able to avoid paying overtime by classifying employees as administrative, executive or professional, which made them ineligible for overtime pay. The Final Plan made it more difficult for employers to misclassify their employees.

"Much like raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, raising the overtime threshold will put more dollars directly into the pockets of working people and help lift up local economies in New York City and across the nation," the comptroller's report states.

As Obama's term is nearing its end, experts are unsure what will happen to the Final Plan.

"While Trump has said he wants to lighten the regulatory load on business, it's not clear where he stands on the new overtime rule," a CNN article states. "Since time is short for the Obama administration, it may be up to Trump's Labor Secretary and Attorney General to decide whether to continue the pursue of appeal."

## System-wide investigation uncovers fund misuse in CUNY colleges

BY YELENA DZHANOVA  
OPINIONS EDITOR

After the former president of City College of New York resigned without an explanation earlier this year, it was suggested that CUNY funds were not being allocated appropriately. As a result, the CUNY board of trustees requested a system-wide probe to identify and reverse the misuse of funds in every school.

Lisa Staiano-Coico graduated from Brooklyn College and was called upon as the first female CUNY alumna to serve as president of CCNY. Coico served as the president of CCNY from 2010 until her resignation. After reporters from *The New York Times* questioned CUNY officials about Coico and her administration allegedly using \$150,000 to fund her own personal expenses, CUNY Chancellor James B. Milliken called for her resignation.

In regards to her substitute, an article from *The New York Times* says, "She will be replaced temporarily by Mary Driscoll, the college's new interim provost, pending the appointment of an interim president at the next meeting of the university's board of trustees, which is set for Oct. 26."

Although Coico disagrees with the allegations and claims that she has committed no wrongdoings, there currently remains an open investigation leading into the issue. She has formally asked students and faculty members in a letter to cooperate with officials who are leading the investigation.

Both Coico and her known affiliates—such as 21st Century Foundation, a nonprofit group that supports CCNY financially—are under thorough scrutiny. The same article from *The Times* reads, "A fed-

eral subpoena was issued shortly after *The Times* reported that the foundation had paid for some of Ms. Coico's personal expenses, including furniture and fruit baskets, when she took office in 2010." Several officials vouched firsthand that Coico had recompensed the foundation for its contributions.

Further probing, however, disclosed that Research Foundation of CUNY had instead reimbursed the foundation.

"That arrangement raised concerns among some experts on government and nonprofit ethics because there are usually strict guidelines for how federal money is used," reported *The Times*.

Catherine Leahy Scott, the state inspector general of New York, released a preliminary report detailing the findings of the ongoing investigation in regard to the misallocated funds. Several nonprofit organizations were found to be connected to the scandal.

The report demonstrates similar threads among other CUNY schools. A former president of Brooklyn College, for example, had used \$36,000 of the school's money to pay a part-time housekeeper. The report also identified that the same president used \$35,000 of the school's money to fund her retirement party. The president and other administrative figures at Brooklyn College refused to comment on the issue.

According to *The Wall Street Journal*, Milliken approved a yearly transfer of \$40,000 from the budget for Queens College to the salary of its current President Felix V. Matos Rodriguez. This money can also be traced back to generous nonprofit organizations. However, since Milliken shockingly authorized the transaction, it was easier to hide, as it did not seem to require any major



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Following the discovery of misappropriated funds by CCNY's former president, CUNY requested for a system-wide probe into the issue

supervision.

An article from *The Wall Street Journal* on the topic added that, "CUNY also violated state law ... for failing to report fraud and abuse to the inspector general, instead launching its own internal investigation. City College retained a law firm in July to investigate Ms. Coico before it alerted the inspector general."

After Leahy Scott reviewed CUNY's policies and by-laws, she sent out teams to five of the senior colleges, which comprised of Brooklyn College, College of Staten Island, Hunter College, Lehman College and Queens College. The orders were to review the financial records and transactions between the individual colleges and their respective nonprofit affiliates.

The report concluded that the financial misuses across the various schools in the CUNY system occurred due to the lack of proper oversight by CUNY administra-

tion. It also called into question the integrity and competence of both the administrations of the individual schools and their affiliated nonprofit organizations. Since nonprofit organizations add roughly \$1 billion to university funding, the report emphasized the need for a solution to "strengthen the fiscal integrity and oversight of this system."

Another contributing problem that the report identified had to do with external operations, which call for funding for groups like congressional lobbyists who engage in tedious work that often creates nothing but incremental changes.

"This decentralization creates an environment in which CUNY institutions lack appropriate fiscal management, oversight and transparency," the report said. "At times, CUNY has instead hired outside counsel to conduct internal investigations at significant cost to the public."

The report did mention Milliken and his unethical slip, but it did not extend any punishment or reprimand to him. Rather, it encouraged Milliken and other administrative staff and faculty members to act with "the highest ethical standards, and conduct themselves as financial stewards."

In order to curb any future financial misallocations and waste, Leahy Scott advised CUNY administration to increase organizational efforts within the system and enforce spending limits on outside groups.

The intention behind these two initiatives is to create more room for efficient and proper fiscal oversight. The report says, "The Inspector General's investigation is ongoing, and the Inspector General will continue to make recommendations to improve these systems, centralize CUNY's policies and procedures and improve foundation oversight."

## Facebook plans expansion to China

BY ANGEL TORRES  
COPY EDITOR

Facebook recently developed software to censor posts on its news feed in an attempt to appeal to China, a market where the social network has previously been blocked. The software will prevent content from entering feeds altogether, instead of blocking content the way Facebook does in countries such as Pakistan, Russia and Turkey.

Facebook itself does not intend to censor content. They will instead give the software to a third-party—most likely a partner Chinese company—to monitor what shows up on feeds. The partner that receives the software will have complete control over what shows up on users' feeds.

Although the software may never be utilized, it shows Facebook's desire to gain access to the Chinese market, which houses 1.4 billion people.

In light of recent controversy over false news articles after the presidential election, Facebook must consider whether or not it should censor material. With this software now available, questions arise over whether it could also be used to arbitrate fake news in the United States. Jeremy Goldkorn, an expert in Chinese media culture, talked about the key differences and similarities between fake news and censorship.

Goldkorn mentioned that in China, the difference between fake news and censorship is nonexistent. China handles fake news by setting up keyword filters so that companies' servers can go through every post to identify false information. They also hire people to read online information to catch what the servers missed.

"I don't think you can split



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Facebook will attempt to re-enter the Chinese market with a new censorship tool.

fake news and censorship apart in China. The function of these two methods could be used in both ways," Goldkorn told Forbes Asia. "I don't think you can compare the U.S. fake news problem to China's. It requires something new to happen to tackle this problem here."

This software may be the "something new" needed to handle the issue of fake news in the United States.

At this point, some technology policy officials in China have been willing to consider the idea of Facebook existing within the country.

One of the benefits would be that the social media network would give China a tool for easily tracking problematic political opinions. However, there are still many dissenting opinions on Facebook's possible entry.

One major problem that the Silicon Valley company faces is competition. Tencent Holdings Ltd.'s WeChat offers similar services to that of Facebook. With 800 million monthly active users, it is

not far from being as big as Zuckerberg's company. Tencent handles fake news well by establishing channels on websites or hotlines to deal with misinformation. It also has a rumor filter account on its WeChat platform to help users better identify misinformation with a central focus on health, science and social topics.

Over the years, China and Facebook have had talks about the social media network entering the Chinese market, but a conclusion was never reached. Facebook's best bet would be to follow models that other internet companies follow, as well as find a local partner or investor. A partner, especially one with experienced handling communication within the country, would take the weight of censorship off Facebook.

In any case, content censorship would have to be a precondition for entry into China and, in no way, the deciding factor. For Facebook, however, this software initiative is a step toward accessing one of the largest untapped global markets.

## Pilot strike disrupts thousands of flights

BY PAUL JOH  
BUSINESS EDITOR

Chaos broke out in major German airports after pilots of Deutsche Lufthansa AG entered their 14th strike since early 2014. More than 350,000 passengers who planned to travel for the Thanksgiving holiday were affected by the labor action. The walkout puts further earnings pressure on Germany's flagship carrier, which has had to contend with weaker ticket prices from its low-cost competitors such as Ryanair Ltd. Airline companies have benefited from the fall in oil prices this year, allowing them to offer competitive savings and discounts to win over passengers.

Disputes over wages and working conditions have been ongoing at Lufthansa since the company's last pay raise. Vereinigung Cockpit, the union representing nearly 5,400 pilots, called for an average annual wage increase of 3.7 percent over five years from 2012. The union claims that the wage freeze hurt many pilots who have lost purchasing power due to inflation. In addition, the pilots argue that the company has been making record profits, with its management and board members reaping most of the rewards. Some of the carrier's top executives were given pay raises as much as 30 percent in recent years.

"The status quo is that we pay our pilots significantly more than our competitors do," said Harry Hohmeister, chief officer hub management of Lufthansa, in a response to the protests. "As members of the executive board, we are responsible for more than 120,000 employees and want to keep Lufthansa viable for the future. That will not be possible with a demand



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Lufthansa offered to increase wages for its pilots following a series of strikes.

for a 20 percent increase in pay."

Lufthansa responded with an initial offer to increase wages by 2.5 percent, but later lifted it to 4.4 percent with a one-off payment equivalent to nearly two months' salary. The new offer would increase wages by 2.4 percent in 2016 and an additional 2 percent in 2017.

After failing to negotiate terms, the union extended the strike two more days as turmoil for travelers continued. Pilots for short-haul flights were told not to report to work on the fifth day of strikes and pilots on longer flights were asked to join on the sixth day. The airline requested for a temporary injunction to prevent the union from resuming the strike, which is costing the company around 10 million euros each day, but the Munich Labor Court rejected the bid.

Lufthansa Chief Executive Officer Carsten Spohr offered to take the matters to arbitration, but added more fuel to the fire by reviving a 2-year-old lawsuit against the union totaling 60 million euros

for damages from previous strikes over the years.

In a press release on Wednesday, Nov. 30, Lufthansa's Bettina Volkens, chief officer of Corporate Human Resources and Legal Affairs, shared, "We want to get back to the negotiating table as quickly as possible, as desired by the VC, we can then successively negotiate on all the currently-open collective labor agreement issues. And this in turn should lead us back to long-term industrial peace and a sound social partnership."

The recent strikes have mounted to hundreds of millions of euros in losses for Lufthansa since its first demonstrations in 2014. According to the Cologne Institute for Economic Research, the walkouts cost Lufthansa 222 million euros alone in 2014 and an additional 231 million euros in 2015. While the protests over the years have certainly put the German carrier in a financial bind, this time it could prove to be more detrimental to the company than just its bottom line.

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# Arts & Style

## Disney's animated feature *Moana* evokes feeling of nostalgia

BY BRIANA ALFORD-JONES  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

*Moana* made a splash at the box office this Thanksgiving week opening with an impressive \$81.1 million, the second highest Thanksgiving debut. It is a refreshing and innovative spin on the Disney princess genre.

*Moana* is not only enjoyable for kids, but is poignant and exciting for teens and adults as well. The film tackles the underlying themes of finding yourself and finding one's purpose in life throughout the entire movie. It is bound to evoke a feeling of nostalgia for the wonders of being a child in the older generation and give the younger generation an exciting narrative of Moana, a Polynesian heroine who is asked by the ocean to save her people with the help of a demi god.

Disney created a sense of authenticity in its casting by giving newbie and Hawaii native Auli'i Cravalho the leading role of Moana. Shapeshifting demi god Maui is played by Dwayne Johnson, bringing in some familiar star power to the film. Johnson himself grew up in Hawaii and is of Samoan descent, maintaining the authenticity of the cast.

In typical Disney fashion, the movie is full of catchy, upbeat musical numbers. This time, they enlisted the help of *Hamilton's* Lin-Manuel Miranda in writing several of the songs. Fans of the musical may find this film more appealing knowing that one of its main writers worked with the successful play.



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Moana sails out on a daring mission to save her people, discovering the one thing she always struggled to find: her own identity.

It was inevitable that *Frozen* and *Moana* would get compared to each other, as the two films are alike in the fact that they both have a progressive outlook on how a Disney princess should act. *Moana* came in a close second to *Frozen's* Thanksgiving debut three years ago, but *Moana* is completely different from every other Disney princess movie in one simple and amazing way—there is no prince charming.

For once, a Disney movie focuses on a princess and does not revolve around her trying to win the love of a prince and living happily ever after. Instead, the main focus is Moana finding herself and discovering why she has this insatiable urge to venture out beyond

her island village of Motunui and sail on the ocean against her father's wishes.

The plot of the movie is incredibly strong and relatable to people of all ages and backgrounds. Moana is the island chief's daughter and she is the next in line to be the leader of her people. Traditionally, a male would be next in line to rule but in *Moana*, a female is more than capable of being a leader. Everyone on the island believes in her abilities.

The only thing that seems to be forbidden on this island is sailing the ocean because of the evil monsters that inhabit the sea. These sea monsters inhabit the surrounding ocean because the demi god Maui stole the heart of the sea to please

the people. As punishment, he was thrown into isolation and the sea was doomed to be infested with the monstrous creatures.

Throughout the movie, Moana struggles between obeying her father and listening to her heart's desire. This struggle is illustrated through a heartfelt musical number with beautifully touching lyrics and great imagery of the fictitious island of Motunui. Disney did a great job capturing and dropping the audience right into Moana's world. Visually, the film can easily remind the audience of watching James Cameron's 2009 blockbuster hit *Avatar*. The graphics could make audiences forget they are watching an animated feature.

A big element of the film is the

ocean and its relationship with Moana. Personifying the ocean adds even more to this imaginative world and to the film's charm because it guides both Maui and Moana throughout their deep sea adventure.

Moana's relationship with the nature around her adds depth to her character and lets the audience peek into the culture's deep connection with nature.

It is important to point out that Moana does not consider herself a princess. Maui is the one that insists on calling Moana a princess, stating "if you wear a dress and you have an animal sidekick, you're a princess." It is almost as if Disney is making fun of the traditional Disney princesses of the past and trying to change the way its audiences perceive a princess.

Disney appears to be looking forward and seems to be aiming at making movies that center more on who a character is on their own, rather than who they are while vying for the attention of a potential suitor.

The cast of characters is charming and realistic. Maui is a bit of a narcissist, but Johnson manages to make him lovable and magnetic as well. Maui is the perfect contrast to Moana. Cravalho brings an endearing innocence and believable sass to her character. The two are a dynamic duo and their sibling-like chemistry translates on screen.

From beginning to end *Moana* captivates its audiences with beautiful visuals, an original plotline and charismatic characters that will leave audiences satisfied.

## BPAC presents folk tragedy *Blood Wedding* to sold out audiences

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

The major component of this production is its insane tension. As the show opens, all the characters are walking in a solemn tragic march. Their moves are calculated and unexpected and the characters are predictable, yet sporadic. A metaphor for trying to break out of the established rules and mundane routines, this idea is the pivotal concept that continues throughout the whole play.

The somber opening establishes the general atmosphere and from this opening, things only go downhill. The 90-minute production is a rollercoaster of energy and emotions that do not stop even after the climax. The passion gets so high that there is no pause until the final blackout.

*Blood Wedding* is another work that proves Scott's talent as a director. Besides bringing all the elements of the play together in a conventional and dimensional manner, he also nourishes an environment for the actors that allows them to explore their possibilities without wandering the wrong way.

Overall, the actors do an impressive job. The two leading men, Mellado and Anderson, create a powerful dynamic by playing two polarized characters with the show building on this rivalry. Mellado plays a mommy's boy, carrying himself with a boyish naivety—he is beyond happy to get married.

Anderson plays the role of a man who is deeply tormented and has a furious soul, one who cannot let go of his past. His electrifying anger is like a volcano, holding it within himself and burning himself alive. When he lets it out, there is no way out of his ever-spreading misery.

One of the reasons why *Blood Wedding* is relevant in the mod-

ern theater world is the amount of prominent female roles and their depth and versatility. Eileen Makak plays the Groom's mother, a desperate matriarch who mourns the loss of her husband and sons. Makak depicts a moving portrait of a devastated woman who crushes under the burden of her responsibilities.

Jamie Danielle and Rosie Liu play the step-mother and wife of Leonardo respectively, whose infidelities they face with grace so they can stay strong for each other. Another bright star of the show is the joyous Leslie Nicole Ivery who plays the Bride's maid. She is also an erupting volcano but, unlike Leonardo, she never holds back. Her energy is open and outpouring in her every word and her every gesture is saturated with raw sexuality.

As for the Bride, Smith successfully dives into her troubled ingenu and infiltrates the audiences with her painful dilemma. However, she sometimes stops projecting and Lorca's words, each one worth gold, get lost and undelivered. This was a noticeable flaw that some other actors were guilty of as well.

Their roles were not as challenging as Smith's, so there is no excuse for them. It is important to draw a clear line, however, and understand that these are not professional actors. These are Baruch students who are mostly business majors.

As for gender roles, there are two particular characters who create an interesting paradox. The characters of Moon, played by Melanie DiPalma, and Death, played by Nicholas Matthews, both fully exploit their gender constructs yet remain outside of any gender identities. DiPalma is gracious and sensitive while Matthews is strong and dominant. Her radiant femininity



MAXIM IBADOV | THE TICKER

Adultery, betrayal, loss, sexism and the power of destiny all take over BPAC's fall play, *Blood Wedding*, directed by Scott.

and his irrepressible masculinity, along with how lustful they are, add spice to the show.

Their lust is not physical because they do not desire each other and neither are they attracted to sex. There is a scene where Death is trying to seduce the Groom in the woods. The scene is so intimate that it nears the edge of homoeroticism. However, there is nothing sexual about it.

Matthews portrays Death as a creeping beast, patiently waiting for its meal. Death hunts down its prey and it does not care if it is a man, woman or anything else, it just wants to satisfy its desire. Ultimately, lust is what drives the characters and it proves to be a deadly sin.

The production is very minimalist. The same actors play different characters, the same somber Spanish motives are used as soundtracks, events happen rather quickly and there are no elaborate monologues. The set, by Gregory Paul, reflects this. A couple of ropes strained across the stage work perfectly both for the houses and for the woods.

The set is reminiscent of last year's Fiasco Theater production of *Into The Woods*, where the ropes representing the woods were intended to make audiences question what is reality and what is fiction. It is a fiction piece with clearly mythical elements, yet it is deeply conventional and real. *Blood Wedding* is a play about trying to break

out of the mundane reality and be set free, topics that are relevant at all times. From the way things turn out, society's power over its members is much deeper and stronger than one's will to do as he or she pleases.

As the play progresses and reaches its dramatic peak, the audience is enticed in the corrida of emotions. They observe adultery, betrayal, loss, sexism and the power of destiny. Altogether, there is almost nothing that this play does not implicitly cover. There is room to grow but, overall, *Blood Wedding* is a production that shows Baruch's hidden artistic gems and gives hope for the future.

The show is still available for viewing on YouTube.

## McCartney presents menswear line

BY JONATHAN SPERLING  
NEWS EDITOR

The fashion world saw a refreshing take on menswear last month with the introduction of designer Stella McCartney's environmentally conscious yet stylish men's line.

The line debuted at London's Abbey Road Studios alongside McCartney's pre-fall/winter 2017 womenswear collection. Abbey Road Studios also served as a recording venue for Stella McCartney's father, Paul McCartney, and the Beatles throughout the 1960s.

The composition of the new accessories and apparel are free of both fur and leather, partially stemming from Stella McCartney and Paul McCartney's environmentally conscious beliefs.

Unlike the fashion lines of most other competing men's brands, McCartney's apparel features boxy and striped designs with bohemian prints that have been described as seasonless. According to McCartney, many of the designs featured in her first menswear collection were inspired greatly by her father and Abbey Road Studios, which is where she spent much of her childhood.

The styles from McCartney's new collection steal somewhat from the elements of sleepwear, consisting of everything from flowing, pajama-like shirts with large collars to shorts and drawstring pants. In the same vein, these pieces often feature elastic cuffs and hems. Some of the line's other designs feature loud and expressive prints on plain backgrounds, such as a white oxford shirt emblazoned with several brightly colored flowers sandwiched between the phrase "Nice One" printed in a large font. The same design and phrase appears on a black var-

sity jacket with white stripes along the sleeves.

Among the more conservative pieces in the collection are a regular-fit blazer. However, a majority of the designs feature a tasteful blend between the conservative and the more outlandish. One model featured in a photo from the collection is seen wearing the blazer and a pair of matching dress pants. At first glance, the pants seem normal but, on closer inspection, the viewer will notice zippers located above the knee, as well as cuffs that feature a button closure.

Another model is shown wearing a pair of plain olive pants with a purple dress shirt tucked in. The relatively conservative outfit is turned eye-catching by a pair of partially embroidered hummingbirds that appear on either side of the shirt's center buttons. A third model is styled with an oversized khaki anorak layered under a yellow soccer scarf displaying the word "Members" in black. The retro-style scarf is also available in a red and black colorway.

Overall, the line further cements McCartney's place in the fashion world as an environmentally conscious designer who does not struggle to keep her designs unique and modern. In past years, McCartney had hinted at possessing the ability to create a stylish men's collection, despite having referred to herself as a "woman designing for women" in a 2014 *Guardian* interview.

During the 2011 Met Gala, Paul McCartney was photographed wearing a tuxedo designed by his daughter. Just like in her debut men's collection, McCartney combined the most important parts of conservative design with subtle aspects of a louder design, combining a classic tuxedo with a blue and



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Stella looked to the men in her life for inspiration for her men's line.

green plaid design.

The fashion world was also given a glimpse of McCartney's dabbling in men's fashion during October's Paris Fashion Week. McCartney's husband, Alasdair Willis, was spotted wearing a black peak-lapel, four-button, double-breasted jacket and trousers designed by his wife. Actor Orlando Bloom has also been seen wearing pieces from McCartney's line.

Other designers such as Christian Dior, Lanvin and Louis Vuitton have also attempted to transition from designing only women's clothing to developing a men's line. In these cases, however, male designers have been tasked with running the men's fashion line of the company. Only time will tell if McCartney will be able to continue to transition smoothly between designing women's and men's fashion, or if her being a woman will play a significant part in this transition.

McCartney's new line will be available in retail stores beginning in January 2017.

## Costume Institute's fall exhibit takes the Met

BY TAFANUM RAHMAN  
ARTS & STYLE EDITOR

The Metropolitan Museum of Art's Costume Institute is known for its exhibits that champion the artistry of fashion and its role in cultural history.

Its fall 2016 exhibition, "Masterworks: Unpacking Fashion," adorns The Lizzie and Jonathan Tisch Gallery in the Anna Wintour Costume Center with 60 masterworks from the early 18th century to the present. The iconic works, chronologically organized, were acquired by the institute over the past decade.

Each piece, primarily womenswear as well as a couple of menswear items are accompanied by an explanation of its significance within the history of fashion.

The Viktor & Rolf dress at the entrance of the exhibit immediately draws in visitors. The exhibit consists of iconic pieces in fashion, such as Versace's safety pin dress, that are of the highest aesthetic and technical quality.

The designers featured in this exhibit have been known for changing fashion history and making fashion a form of art. In the 18th century, fashion was focused on fine textiles and surface embellishments, while items from the 19th century displayed the technological changes in the textile industry.

This advancement in the textile industry can be seen within the intricately designed ball gown by House of Worth that is embellished with rhinestones and metal. The MMA received this dress from the Brooklyn Museum in 2009.

Yves Saint Laurent's 1960 street-inspired jacket reflects 20th

century works that move fashion forward and represent different ways of dressing. Some pieces that stand out in the exhibit are the recently acquired John Galliano for Maison Margiela dress from 2015 that is side-by-side to a Cristobal Balenciaga gown from 1964. A two-tone acetate Azzedine Alaïa dress from 1994 is placed closely to a Charles James evening dress from the 1950s, giving a contrasting effect.

Also featured in the exhibit is a dinner jacket Elsa Schiaparelli created with a Jean Cocteau sketch that was embroidered by Lesage. The jacket is paired with a 1947 Gilbert Adrian dress made from a Salvador Dali-designed fabric.

The biggest pieces of the exhibit that are sure to stop museum-goers in their tracks are a 1967 green silk Balenciaga dress and a 1928 Lanvin "Traviata" robe de style. They are showcased on their own to create dramatic effect and leave visitors in awe of the pieces. The two pieces stand on their own as a masterwork and represent different approaches to fashion.

"Masterworks: Unpacking Fashion" reminds visitors of the evolution of fashion and how it has shaped our cultural history. The exhibition illustrates the ways fashion can tell a story just as much as any work of art can.

Since The Costume Institute became part of the MMA in 1946, its collecting strategy for exhibits have shifted from creating a collection of Western high-fashion to focusing on acquiring masterworks such as those featured in this exhibition.

"Masterworks: Unpacking Fashion" is on display at the MMA until Feb. 5, 2017.

## The Edge of Seventeen successfully blends comedy with humanity

### REEL REVIEWS



BENJAMIN WALLIN

Though *The Edge of Seventeen* begins with a voiceover, telling a coming-of-age story of a high school student, the film goes beyond the trite expectations that tend to accompany the genre. The title and advertising prepare viewers for the tale of yet another teenager who struggles through high school angst.

Hailee Steinfeld plays Nadine, a girl who accidentally sends an explicit text message to a boy, inadvertently revealing her lewd intentions towards him. In the end, the film provides a fresh and engaging story.

Nadine, as the main character, fits a specific model of the high school protagonist. She is different. This idea pervades the genre with unpopular characters vying to avoid pop music, separating themselves from the so-called "cool kids." They see themselves as people who do not fit in, but they would rather be different than have to be normal.

Nadine suffers from being on the outskirts of popularity. Throughout her school career, she has only had one friend. Her loneliness makes her sympathetic and for some can feel like somebody with whom to identify. This however is tempered by the character's inability to empathize. Her words are bluntly honest and sometimes scathingly cold. While Nadine repeatedly expresses

interest toward Nick, the boy who eventually receives her mistaken missive, the real adolescent male of interest is Erwin, lovingly portrayed by Hayden Szeto.

Erwin is the perfect mixture of awkwardness, trying too hard and being unsure of himself. He stammers through responses to Nadine's half-interested questions, evoking second-hand embarrassment for audiences. Hands cover faces but a smile lies underneath the discomfort.

Woody Harrelson serves the role of comic relief in the film. He plays the history teacher, Mr. Bruner, a perennial grump with a heart of gold. His relationship with Nadine tends to consist of his bewilderment toward her sudden attempts at friendly meetings followed by snide asides in delightful deadpan.

Much of the emotion in *The Edge of Seventeen* comes from the characters' relationships. Nadine's family consists of her, her mother and her brother Darian. Her mother is a widow trying to keep it together. Darian is a high school senior who is confident and popular. The mother struggles with her daughter, going to Darian for support. Darian and Nadine verbally spar over rides, friends and who gets dibs on the house when it is empty.

Meanwhile, Nadine struggles in her relationship with Krista, her only friend. Krista is more comfortable socially and the difference in the two characters creates a divide. Nadine's connection to her teacher, on the other hand, offers humor and sweetness. Her conversations with Erwin create awkwardness. The relationships all feel genuine and real. The awkwardness of the film is relished; it is a style that develops different results. It is awkward and funny, awkward and sweet and awkward and sad. The



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Steinfeld plays Nadine, an awkward and lonely high school junior who struggles in her relationship with her best friend.

pauses are uncomfortable at times, though they are variably used in interesting ways.

*The Edge of Seventeen* is the directorial debut of writer-director Kelly Fremon Craig. The film offers a compelling case to see more of her work. The characters are well-rounded and relatable. The connections can be felt. The overall story feels more episodic than may be intended, but it all plays into a feeling of reality. The film is a slice of life with an ending that feels happy and promising, but is not a "happily ever after."

As a high school story, the film is about development. Nadine is far from perfect and over the course of the film, she has to learn this. She is quick to judge and to assume the worst in people. Her lack of em-

pathy makes her ignore the problems of others. She feels isolated, but part of that is her fault. Just like any other high school student, she needs to learn to see her faults and work on them.

The movie is generally good, though its opening has superfluous elements. The use of narration affords almost nothing beyond that which was already provided without Nadine's voice speaking over the action. The story begins with a framing device, using Nadine's reaction to the aforementioned text message as a jarring opening. While the effect is strong, the revelation of the text's import makes the opening feel unnecessary. The recipient of the text message, Nick, is the quintessentially sketchy bad boy. He has the hairdo, the clothing

and the job at a pet store necessary to be clearly seen by everybody but the protagonist as being unworthy of her affection. In opposition to him is the nice guy, Erwin.

The lovable goof fits the role that any genre-savvy viewer will recognize as eventual love interest. The romance all hits the expected story beats of a high school romantic comedy.

Among the expected moments, the little touches of humor and the human factor round out the movie's quality. The very genre of the film almost necessitates repetition of pre-existing works within the genre.

*The Edge of Seventeen* succeeds in setting itself apart from the pack, as an above average selection with humanity and humor.

## 24K Magic suffers from lack of distinct sound and versatility

BY MAXIM IBADOV  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Bruno Mars occupies a certain niche in the music market: an all-American sweetheart from Hawaii who makes old school beats great again. Mars has always delivered music that is not just pleasant to listen to, but also makes everybody fall in love with the person who creates it.

For his third studio album entitled *24K Magic*, however, the singer has decided to challenge his image, resulting in a longplay that is full of paradoxes but lacks any surprises.

*24K Magic* is Mars' first release in more than four years—a long time for a contemporary pop star on the peak of his career. Heavily influenced by Mark Ronson and their smash Grammy-winning collaboration "Uptown Funk," Mars decided to change his image.

Once a guy who made being lazy and romantic the new cool,

Mars is now a shallow heartbreaker with Benjamins in his pockets and Prada on his feet. His new music reflects that.

The title song, which serves as the lead single and the opening track, is an ultimate anthem of the luxury life—something that is usually prevailing in the hip-hop industry rather than in pop music. "Wearing Cuban links/Designer minks/Inglewood's finest shoes," is the most innocent line in the song because after that it is all about players, pimps and other party people.

It really feels as if yesterday's heartthrob is trying hard to be as cool and edgy as possible and it does not occur to him that this may not work. Described as a "synth-heavy" funk, disco and contemporary R&B song, "24K Magic" is a feel good pre-game track. However, this lead single strongly lacks what Mars' previous hits had—pulsing energy. "24K Magic" is too

relaxed and does not make anyone want to jump to his or her feet and start dancing.

After the opening track, the album does not get any more exciting. The first three songs on the track list are definitely lively and semi-energetic party shakers, but there is nothing that Mars' fans have not heard already. It was all there before, just this time it is more placid.

A couple of songs into the album and the music gets monotonous. The listener only knows that the songs have changed when Mars' voice starts sounding different. His voice, however, is the golden gem on this album—it sounds more mature and controlled than ever. Mars hits his notes extraordinarily well.

"Versace On The Floor" is a ballad about making love that is reminiscent of Bryan Adams' 90s movie soundtracks. Initially a song about sex, it sounds so pure and innocent that it is hard not to give in, making

it an anthem of sweet seduction. With this song, Mars pens an ode to appreciation of a woman's body.

What everyone truly loves Mars for are his signature heartbreaking torch songs like "Grenade" and "When I Was Your Man." In a world where everyone forgot what chivalry is, these beacons of true love make everything seem better.

For this album, Mars decides to close the set list with a song like that.

"Too Good to Say Goodbye" is Elton John's "Sorry Seems to Be the Hardest Word" of 2016. "I've made mistakes/I could have treated you better/I let you get away/There goes my happily ever after," he sings. Sincere and moving, this is the best song from the whole longplay.

However, it still has a flaw. It is at the end of an album full of Mars singing about being a player in "24K Magic," buying women off with champagne in "That's What I Like" and having multiple side chicks in

"Calling All My Lovelies."

The biggest problem of the album and its sound is that it is the same as it has been for Mars' entire career. Mars has radically pivoted in his lyrical themes and ideas that he explores, but not in the music itself.

He has stuck to the same rhythms and beats. But unlike his previous two albums, *24K Magic* really suffers from a lack of distinct sound.

Simply put, there is no character in the music.

In the year where pop giants like Beyonce, Lady Gaga and even Britney Spears have released radically different stylistic music and were still able to stay true to their authenticity, Mars' decision to hold on to the same style and not to experiment seems like a strategic mistake.

Contemporary audiences are highly demanding. They constantly desire something fresh and raw. *24K Magic* is neither challenging, nor novel and falls flat compared to his debut and sophomore works.

In 2010, Mars was a perfect prom date that even the grumpiest father would love to have as a son-in-law. Six years later, Mars has started messing with the wrong crowd and is now trying too hard to seem cool.

His fans can hope that this is just a phase and that Mars will eventually realize that this does not feel like his true self.

Artists now strive for authenticity and creative versatility. Even though this album has just come out, the world already wants to know what the "Uptown Funk" singer will do next because it will either help him boost his career to a new level or throw him into the group of singers who lost their true selves in their desire to impress.



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Mars' *24K Magic* is his first LP in four years, a 9-track album that brings back old-school nostalgia and stays true to his style.

In the years since pop giants like Beyonce, Lady Gaga and even Britney Spears have released radically different stylistic music and were still able to stay true to their authenticity, Mars' decision to hold on to the same style and not to experiment seems like a strategic mistake.

## Collins releases autobiography and prepares for comeback tour

BY LUIS LUCERO  
STAFF WRITER

The award for the most surprising musical comeback of 2016 goes to an artist that once drew very polarizing responses from both music fans and the music press: Phil Collins. The Genesis drummer turned front man turned Grammy and Academy Award-winning solo artist announced that he will be coming out of his 2011 retirement from the music industry.

After doing several brief performances on late night TV and performing at the opening night of the U.S. Open, Collins announced a brand new concert tour that is slated to begin next June with a five-night residency in London's Royal Albert Hall.

Rather than making it a simple comeback tour, Collins staged it to promote the last thing any artist would go on tour for: an autobiography. While it is strange that he decided to write an autobiography right at the beginning of his comeback, Collins still managed to give fans of both Genesis and his solo career a pleasant surprise with this newest book, his second after writing about his lifelong fascination with the Alamo in 2010.

When musicians get around to making an autobiography, there are usually two ways in which they are written. On one hand, there are books like Carlos Santana's *The Universal Tone: Bringing My Story to Light* and Steven Tyler's *Does the Noise In My Head Bother You*, that focus primarily on the subject's life, with their musical career being placed in the background throughout most of the story.

Then there are books like Joe Perry's *Rocks: My Life In and Out of Aerosmith* and Tony Iommi's *Iron Man: My Journey Through Heaven and Hell With Black Sab-*

*bath*, which places a greater emphasis on the creation of the music rather than the life of the artist. Collins tries to create a balance between both types in his memoir. While this method worked with Pete Townshend and Keith Richards for their respective memoirs, it feels like Collins is trying to do two things, but never fully does one thing quite right.

The book goes through Collins' early years and childhood relatively quickly, cutting straight to his early years behind the drum kit. While other artists mention their influences and how they inspired them to take up music, Collins hardly mentions his earliest musical influences, save for a few pages dedicated to the Beatles and an excerpt near the end on the Motown Record Company artists that influenced his final solo album to date, the 2010 cover compilation, *Going Home*.

Interestingly, Collins gives a very thorough look into his acting career from his youth before taking up music. Even though it is well known that Collins dabbled in film production over the years, both as an actor and a musician, the book makes one wonder how things could have been different if he had remained an actor full time.

Finally, he arrives at Genesis, the first major musical breakthrough for Collins. While it was very fascinating to learn how he wound up with the band, it hardly goes any further than Collins becoming the lead singer after the departure of original front man Peter Gabriel in 1975.

He also leaves out several key moments from his Genesis tenure. One example is when Collins is talking about how the band had a difficult time breaking away from their status as a "cult band" in the States due to their lack of a hit

pop single.

As long time Genesis fans would know, the band finally managed to achieve this status with their 1978 hit single "Follow You Follow Me." But Collins completely ignores both this song and the band's subsequent rise to popularity in the region. For a lot of the book, Genesis is reduced to mere footnotes when compared to his rapidly successful solo career.

The only time the band ever receives any other deep coverage is when Collins talks about the 2007 one-off reunion tour and how it resulted in the nerve injury that currently prevents him from properly playing drums. It would have been fascinating to know about the thought process that went into the creation of some of the band's classic songs, or at the very least, Collins' honest views on his relationships with several band members.

This problem also partially

carries over when Collins talks about both his solo career and his soundtracks for *Tarzan* and *Brother Bear*. While he goes into more detail on the writing and recording, compared to his Genesis material, it still feels like there is something to be desired for any and all fans who read the book. If music was one element of Collins, his turbulent personal life is another equally important part.

As mentioned earlier, Collins received more than his fair share of criticism over the years. Reading the book, one cannot help but feel like one of his reasons for writing this book was to settle scores with some critics and debunk any and all misconceptions that surround him. Collins goes into great detail over well-repeated incidents throughout his life, like joining Led Zeppelin at the original Live Aid benefit concert for a disastrous first attempt at a reformation, and his

supposed divorce by fax from his second wife.

Near the end, he talks about his near fatal case of alcoholism that spawned from his retirement. While this last story is eye opening to say the least, the rest of the scenarios addressed in the book make Collins look like he is desperate for some sort of validation from the masses.

However, while Collins comes up short in both areas of his book, he is at the least a very good storyteller. All throughout the book, he permeates his story with a perfect dosage of snarky and even self-deprecating humor. But for all the humorous moments, he also succeeds in tugging a few heartstrings from time to time.

It might not be the best autobiography of 2016, but Phil Collins' effort is definitely worth a read, regardless of whether or not readers are fans of Genesis or solo Collins.



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Genesis member Collins discusses his three failed marriages, his alcoholism and health in his autobiography, "Not Dead Yet."





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# Science & Technology

## ATM keypad microbes reveal communities in New York City

BY MAYA YEGOROVA  
STAFF WRITER

ATM keypads in New York City can reveal the makeup of communities living within the city, according to a study published in *mSphere*. ATM keypads house microbes from household surfaces, human skin and pieces of food, giving insight to the demographics of their users.

The dispersion of microbes in metropolitan areas is not well understood. The “urban microbiome” can contain a blend of human-related and environmental taxa, or a community of one or more populations of organisms that create a group.

Scientists from New York University aimed to inspect the biodiversity and biogeography of prokaryotic microbes, or unicellular organisms that lack a nucleus, as well as eukaryotic microbes, or living organisms that have a nucleus. Microbial swab samples were taken from 66 ATMs in eight neighborhoods over three New York City boroughs in June and July of 2014. The boroughs were Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens.

The scientists used machines from Central Harlem South, Chinatown, Flushing, Kips Bay, Marble Hill Inwood, Midtown, South Ozone Park and West Brighton. In the boroughs, 62 ATMs were inside buildings and four ATMs were in outside venues.

The goal was to collect information from diverse ethnic areas, defined by the New York City Department of City Planning as neighbor-

hood tabulation areas.

Researchers hoped to characterize the variety of prokaryotic and eukaryotic microbes by taking specimens from ATMs located in diverse communities so that they could learn more about urban microbiomes.

The study categorized microbial assortments on ATM keypads, but the researchers could not track active versus inactive microbes. Researchers could not classify remaining species from visible species, or microbes carried through air.

The results proved that ATM keypads gain microbes from different sources, which ultimately make up human microbiomes and organisms. The DNA acquired from ATM keypads gives a documentation of human behavior and the environmental origin of microbes.

The researchers’ inquiry uncovered a range of human skin microbes. The most recurrent origins of microbes were from kitchens, pillows, restrooms and televisions. There were additional viruses from bony fish, chicken and mollusks.

ATM keypads in laundromats and stores had the largest volumes of *Lactobacillales*, or lactic acid bacteria, which is typically found in decaying plants or milk. Manhattan keypads had the highest level of *Xeromyces bisporus*, a biomarker connected to rotting baked goods. There was no distinction found in the ATMs that were outdoors as opposed to those that were indoors.

The study disclosed that there was low microbial diversity and



CONNOR HENCHY | THE TICKER

ATM keypads are used by hundreds of people each day and can hold a wide sampling of microbes from a particular area.

no noticeable congregation of diversity on ATM keypads. Source Tracker was incapable of pointing out the source environment for the taxa, although eukaryotic microbe groups were found to have mostly fungal taxa. Moreover, the eukaryotic microbes were a part of a similar set that included free-living and

infective taxa.

This deficiency of groupings was constant in both prokaryotic and eukaryotic files, most likely because ATMs are heavily used in fast-paced environments such as New York City and could be confined to human-driven homogenization of the microbes on key-

pads. The daily cleaning of these machines can further wipe out microbes, limiting the accumulation of bacteria.

Short-lived usage of ATMs by commuters, tourists or nonresidents decreases the microbes that are linked to that specific neighborhood.

## Macaulay discussion details new environmental books by faculty

Macaulay and CUNY faculty gathered at Macaulay Honors College to discuss three new books written by members of the faculty regarding animals, nature and the environment

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

“I started to wonder how humans became so different if only seven million years separated us from our closest ancestor. So I set out to write a book about why [humans and animals] are so different. Of course, after three years of research and reading, I came to the exact opposite conclusion that I started with, which is that we are not so different at all,” said Lents, who is a professor of molecular biology.

At first glance, a reader might believe that the book details animal behavior, though upon closer inspection, he or she will discover that the book is almost entirely about the evolution of human behavior. Lents went on to explain that most human behavior could be boiled down to simple appetites, drives and urges.

Animals are crucial tools in understanding human behavior due to the fact that animals can be manipulated in ways that humans cannot. By manipulating an animal’s behavior and environment by way of ethical experimentation, animals can be used as a way of understanding otherwise complex human behavioral traits.

“What I found is that the parallels between human and animal behavior are haunting. That is when I decided that the title of the book was all backwards and I switched it to *Not So Different: Finding Human Nature in Animals*. After that the book wrote itself,” said Lents.

The next author to speak was Lewis, an environmental sociologist who penned *Ecuador’s Environmental Revolutions*. The 296-page book lays out the sustainable development movement that has been ongoing in the country since 1978.



CALVIN RONG | THE TICKER

*Ecuador’s Environmental Revolutions* details the sustainable development movement within the country and environmental activists efforts to protect biodiversity there.

Lewis set about crafting the book in order to shed light on how environmental activists were preserving one of the most biodiverse areas on Earth. According to Lewis, Ecuador is home to approximately 20,000 different plant species, accounting for 10 percent of all plant species in the world. In contrast, New York has approximately 4,000 different plant species.

In addition to plant life, Ecuador boasts 17 percent of the world’s bird species. These facts are even more impressive considering the fact that Ecuador is approximately the size of Colorado, making up 0.2 percent of Earth’s total landmass.

“What I look at in Ecuador’s environmental revolutions is 40 years of environmentalism. That is local

environmentalism and also transnational environmentalism from groups such as the Nature Conservancy and Conservation International,” said Lewis.

Lewis went on to explain that Ecuador’s history of oil exploration and development highlights the tension between protecting the environment while also giving the country’s citizens the tools necessary to rise out of poverty. Lewis noted that Ecuador’s indigenous population suffered the most due to environmental pollution, while companies such as Texaco and Chevron profited. Rather than use oil money to benefit its inhabitants, Ecuador used it to pay off debt.

It was not until 2006 that environmental and indigenous activ-

ists were able to make strides in maintaining the health of Ecuador’s environment, electing Rafael Correa as president. Correa went on to adopt several environmentalist proposals, although the current and future state of Ecuador’s environment is still being threatened. Still, environmental and indigenous coalitions were invaluable in furthering environmental consciousness in Ecuador.

A book edited by Aguirre and Sukumar, *Tropical Conservation: Perspectives on Local and Global Priorities*, was the final book that was presented at the event.

The conservation textbook, which featured 56 different authors—including Pearl—touched on the policy advances and re-

search needed in tropical areas. In addition, the book mentioned the difficulties of integrating environmental conservation into the development agendas of a variety of countries.

“When you go into real world situations, achieving conservation is very different. It’s a hotbed of economic issues, of social issues of politics. You really have to navigate through a lot of this to achieve conservation,” said Sukumar.

Sukumar made it clear that not all humans were necessarily responsible for harming the environment, citing the centuries-long existence of indigenous people in those areas.

All three books are currently available to purchase.

# The Last Guardian, Dead Rising 4 among December releases

BY LUIS LUCERO  
STAFF WRITER

As 2016 comes to a close, developers and publishers are now releasing their final slate of major titles in time for the holiday season. With two new *Super Mario* titles, another entry into the *Dead Rising* series and games from the acclaimed Telltale Games and Team ICO, gamers have much to look forward to as the year ends.

The popular custom course-maker *Super Mario Maker* for Wii U has finally received a version for the Nintendo 3DS. The game is largely similar to its console counterpart. New features exclusive to the portable gaming device include Medal Challenges, which allow players to take on challenges like collecting all coins or defeating all enemies in a level in order to win medals, and a co-op mode where players can upload incomplete courses for others to finish via local wireless connection.

Unfortunately, some features were lost in translation when it was ported over. The online mode is restricted to maps made on the console version and is extremely limited due in part to the lack of "Course ID" support for user-created content. Several power-ups and costumes were also removed from the 3DS version. Despite being slightly neutered for its portable release, 3DS owners can now finally be able to experience the most customizable *Mario* title to date. The game launches on Dec. 2.

Another release this season includes *The Last Guardian*, a game that has eluded fans and gaming journalists for nearly 10 years after constant delays and missed deadlines. The game will be the third from critically acclaimed Team Ico, the studio behind PlayStation



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*The Last Guardian* is the latest title from Team Ico and features the emotional core present in the company's previous titles.

2 classics *Ico* and *Shadow of the Colossus*.

Similar to Team Ico's previous titles, the centerpiece of *The Last Guardian* is not the gameplay or even the presentation, but rather the emotional core of the story. While *Ico* had a boy and a mysterious girl and *Shadow of the Colossus* had a man and his horse, this new game centers on a boy and a mysterious half-animal half-bird creature named Trico.

Like other Team Ico games, the gameplay is unique, mixing in elements of action-adventure and puzzle games. In the case of *The Last Guardian*, the gameplay

involves manipulating Trico in a similar fashion to real animals, such as luring it with food or using it to evade enemies and climb normally hard-to-reach platforms. Whether or not the game lives up to its massive expectations remains to be seen. The game debuts in North America on Dec. 6.

Capcom's zombie-themed series is back with *Dead Rising 4*. Exclusive to Microsoft, this game focuses on the continuing adventures of protagonist Frank West as he makes his way through zombie outbreaks. This time around, his adventure takes place during Christmas in the fictional setting

of Willamette, Colorado. Unlike its predecessor, the game will not include co-op gameplay in the main story mode. In an effort to encourage exploration in the game's open world map, the 72-hour time limit has also been removed from the game. *Dead Rising 4* is slated to release Dec 6.

Nintendo's iconic mascot is finally coming to mobile devices, with *Super Mario Run*. After having massive success with the surprisingly popular *Pokemon Go* app, it only seems logical that Mario would be next for the mobile game treatment. Rather than having an outside developer work

on the property, like with *Pokemon Go*, the game was developed in-house by Nintendo through its Entertainment Planning & Development division.

The game is primarily a 2.5D side-scrolling platformer, along the lines of the *New Super Mario Bros.* series. The main difference between the games is that Mario is locked into auto-run and the player has to tap on the screen to make him jump to attack enemies and avoid stage hazards, similar to Ubisoft's critically acclaimed *Rayman Jungle Run* and *Rayman Fiesta Run* apps. New to this game is a "Toad Rally" mode where players can race against ghosts of other players to achieve the best time, similar to the time trial mode in *Mario Kart*. The game is currently slated to be iOS exclusive, though there are plans for an eventual Android version in 2017.

Telltale Games is also making a return this month with its critically acclaimed adaptation of Robert Kirkman's *The Walking Dead*. Similar to season two of the series, *The Walking Dead: A New Frontier* will make use of decisions that players have made over the course of the last two seasons. Clementine, the main character from the first two seasons, will once again be at the center of the story, now a young adult joined by a new character named Javier. Kirkman has claimed that season three will see the series move closer to the timeline of the main comic book. The game will also make use of the graphics engine used in Telltale's recent *Batman* series. While the first episode will debut this month, a physical retail version will be available on Feb. 7, 2017. This version will feature the first episode, plus a code to download the rest of the episodes on their respective release dates.

## Pokemon Go benefits real-life conservation efforts

*Pokemon Go* sheds an unexpected light on environmental efforts

BY AGATA PONIATOWSKI  
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

New research into the popular smartphone game *Pokemon Go* has shed light on unexpected effects the game has on real-life wildlife and conservation efforts. Researchers at the University of Cambridge, University College London, the University of Oxford and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre believe that the game may help spark a re-interest in nature within the general public.

*Pokemon Go* allows users to use their cellphones to explore an augmented reality in which creatures called pokemon roam and reveal themselves for users to capture. Similar to real animals, the pokemon in the augmented reality can be as rare as a panda or as common as a squirrel.

Catching rarer pokemon requires players to travel vast distances, often leading players into areas they do not regularly walk in, such as forests, parks and a variety of other natural habitats.

In these areas, players have the opportunity to stumble upon real-life animals as they chase virtual ones. Sometimes players take photos of the real animals they find as they hunt pokemon, subsequently posting them to social media platforms like Twitter in hopes that someone could identify the species for them.

*Pokemon Go* might be teaching users about more than just pokemon, researchers posit. Users who want to be successful at capturing all the pokemon in the augmented world must explore new environments and sometimes even new

continents in the real world.

Where a certain type of pokemon reveals itself inadvertently teaches users about natural habitats of species. For example, fish pokemon like will not show up in the middle of the desert. The researchers asserted that this type of exploration embodies the basics of natural history concepts: observation and exploring.

Some nature and conservation organizations are even trying to utilize *Pokemon Go* for hunts where players can contribute to real-world taxonomy. All they need to do is take a photo and identify the species of an animal they find while playing *Pokemon Go*.

Though researchers stressed their excitement about the "citizen science initiative" *Pokemon Go* is mimicking, they also expressed concerns about the game's possible negative impact on conservation. Though the game is popularly played in urban areas, players making excursions into deeper wilderness searching for rare pokemon might erode the habitat of real wildlife.

Another draw of the game is the battles one can have with his or her friends using captured pokemon, a fear that researchers speculate could promote the idea of catching real animals and making them fight against one another.

However, researchers were optimistic about the prospects of *Pokemon Go*'s impact on conservation. If players can get excited about colorful and well-designed fictional creatures, perhaps future games, similar to *Pokemon Go*, will rise into popularity without as many drawbacks.

## Women proven to live longer than men

BY ALEXANDRA ZYSKIND  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

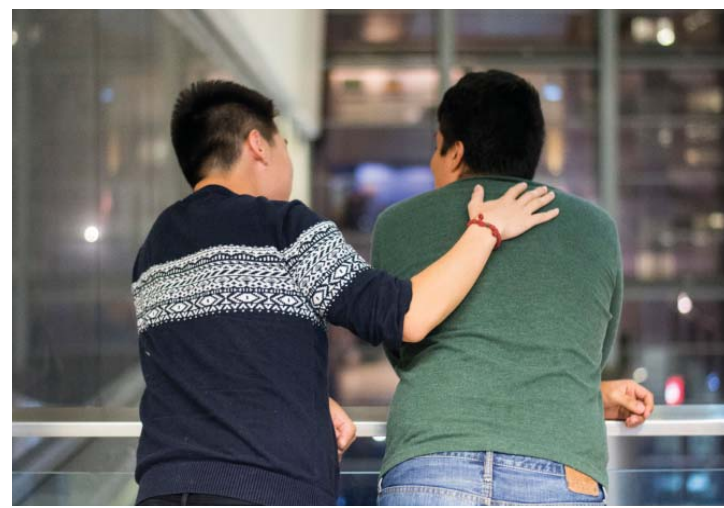
Modern humans have longer lifespans than every other primate, yet male lifespans lag behind female lifespans across the primate family tree, according to new research. The study, titled "The Emergence of Longevous Populations," appeared in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. The study included contributors from several U.S. and European universities. The study sought to understand why men tend to have shorter lifespans than women despite the overall lifespan increase.

"We've made a bigger journey in lengthening our lifespan over the last few hundred years than we did over millions of years of evolutionary history," explained Susan Alberts, the study's co-author and a biology professor at Duke University.

Alberts' comments related the study's findings to prior research that was done on the subject, which overall demonstrates that Homo sapiens have been making rapid gains in lifespan that supersede any gains previously seen across all primates. These numbers can be attributed to a mix of factors, which are biological, contextual and social.

To address the possible impact of genetics on longevity, the study traces the lifespans of various populations of primates and compares them to findings from studies that examine the lifespans of various human populations. The findings show genetic differences are correlated to mortality patterns.

The existence of a genetic correlation to lifespan may also help explain lifespan differences between genders of the same species, especially in that of humans. One theory looks at the differences in how genetic material is orga-



AGATA PONIATOWSKI | THE TICKER

Male lifespans have been found to lag behind female ones across the primate tree.

nized in men and women as a possible explanation—women have two X chromosomes, while men have one.

Genetic problems that appear on one X chromosome can be mitigated to an extent by genetic material on the other X chromosome in women. In men, genetic problems that appear on one of their X chromosomes are more likely to become apparent through health complications.

Factors other than genetics may be involved in lifespan differences as well, such as lifespan quality. For example, lower lifespans are expected in pre-industrialized societies because these societies usually lack medical technology that treats potentially life-threatening illnesses, technology which is more readily available in industrialized societies.

Lifestyle habits, such as farming and diet, and environmental factors, such as access to clean water and exposure to warfare, may affect lifespans. The impact of lifespan quality may help explain

the observed gender-related mortality patterns, as social factors like gender norms may also be causing differences in male and female lifespans.

In line with this explanation, the study's findings show striking lifespan differences between pre-industrialized and post-industrialized populations, which can be attributed to factors other than genetics. The study's data shows that, while people in modern hunter-gatherer societies live 10 to 20 years longer on average than other primates, people in industrialized societies live to an average of 40 to 50 years longer.

The study's authors acknowledge that their research is far from over. Current data shows that a mix of biological, contextual and social factors interact to produce the evolutionary changes that have led to longer lifespans. The full picture is only beginning to emerge. Future studies will be necessary in order to further unravel the sources of longevity and why it differs between men and women.

# Students have difficulties identifying credible online sources

BY ANGEL TORRES  
COPY EDITOR

Students have difficulty identifying credible sources on the internet, new data shows. A report released by the Stanford History Education Group detailed that students have a difficult time distinguishing between credible sources, advertisements or from where information originated.

The researchers started their work in January 2015 by tackling the question of civic online reasoning. The researchers sought to assess how students distinguish between credible and false information online. They also tried to find avenues toward giving the necessary training to discern reliable and unreliable sources in the process.

SHEG has previously created social studies programs to teach students how to evaluate sources. Its curriculum is used by several school districts and has 3.5 million downloads.

"Many of the materials on web credibility were state of the art in 1999," said Joel Breakstone, the director of SHEG. "Schools are stuck in the past."

The new report was split into three phases and dealt more with social media and news literacy. According to the report, entitled "Evaluating Information: The Cornerstone of Civic Online Reasoning," the first phase of the 18-month-long project borrowed elements of "design thinking." This mode of thinking has elements follow a sequence of prototyping, user testing and revision to ensure a continuous cycle of improvement. "Prototyping Assessments" had students review the website [MinimumWage.com](http://MinimumWage.com) to see if they could discern that it was a front group for a D.C. lobby-



EMILY DAAR | THE TICKER

Students were found to be unable to discern between legitimate websites and more biased or untrustworthy sources.

ist. Only 9 percent of high school students in an Advance Placement history course were able to parse through the website's language and realize that it was an untrustworthy source.

In the second phase of the project, a lot of tweaking was done to the assessment tests. Aside from revising the exercises up to six times, the researchers also asked the students to verbalize their thought process while completing the assigned tasks. This allowed the consideration of what is known as cognitive validity, or the relationship between what an assessment seeks to measure and what it actually does measure.

The last phase had the researchers drawing on their extensive teacher network to reach a large student base. With help from

educators in Los Angeles and elsewhere, SHEG was able to consult with teachers about their exercises and collect thousands of student responses.

At the end of its research, SHEG had designed, piloted and validated 15 assessments: five at the middle school level, five at the high school level and five at the college level. At the middle school level where "online assessment is in its infancy" the researchers used screen shots of Slate's webpage to assess students' ability to discern between news items and advertisements. In similar exercises, the SHEG researchers used screenshots of tweets, Facebook posts and a reproduction of CNN's website. These screenshots were printed out onto paper, and given to students to assess manually

with a pencil. This approach was taken in the hope that the assessment would be used in under-resourced schools where taking assessments online are usually not possible.

At the high school level, students were given more difficult tasks that required them to reason through multiple sources. These tasks included comparing posts from a newspaper's comment section, identifying the blue checkmark that distinguishes verified Facebook accounts from fakes and comparing whether a news story or a sponsored post was more reliable. At the college level, the assessments were administered online, with exercises having students evaluate the trustworthiness of a website, conducting online research about a controversial topic

and identifying whether a partisan website was trustworthy or not. The assessments were available for use throughout all levels given the proficiency of the students that were being assessed, regardless of their education.

Although the work for this report began much before the presidential race and election, the researchers expressed concern that democracy was threatened by the ease with which false information spreads and flourishes. In one particular exercise, high school students were asked to evaluate two posts announcing Donald Trump's candidacy for president on Facebook.

One of the posts was from a verified Fox News account while the other was from an account that resembled Fox News in appearance but was not the same. The results had only 25 percent of students being able to distinguish the blue check marked verified account. Additionally, 30 percent of students argued that the fake account was more credible because it had more details included.

"This finding indicates that students may focus more on the content of social media posts than on their sources," the authors wrote. "Despite their fluency with social media, many students are unaware of basic conventions for indicating verified digital information."

According to the study's lead author and the founder of SHEG Sam Wineburg, the next step after the research would be to instruct teachers on how to gauge their students' understanding and then adjust lessons accordingly. Wineburg also hopes to develop new curriculums to instruct students on identifying credible sources; the SHEG team has already begun piloting lesson plans in local high schools.

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# Sports

## Men's basketball shines as women's team looks to build steam

BY OMER SEMAN  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Baruch College's men's and women's basketball teams have experienced the highs and lows of competition this season. For the men, a positive start to this season has bred confidence in the young squad with post-season aspirations. As for the women, poor performance early on has mounted on pressure to turn the tide as wins become more and more precious. Through milestone achievements and exciting finishes, both teams look to build off of recent victories and build momentum into the CUNYAC portion of their schedules.

The men's team swept through the WNY Knee & Orthopedic Surgery Tournament hosted in Buffalo, New York, for its second and third wins of the season. The team opened with a 74-48 thrashing of the Goucher College Gophers. The Bearcats struggled to slay the Gophers in the first half as they were outscored in the painted area 12 to eight. Up 18 to 10 with less than nine minutes remaining in the half, freshman George Smyth was assessed two fouls on consecutive plays to bring the Gophers within five points of the Bearcats.

Although Smyth has started every game thus far, coach John Alesi has often substituted him for fellow freshman Allen Villar who has thrived in limited action. Whether it was offensive rebounds or on the free-throw line, Villar helped maintain the Bearcats' delicate lead. Chimaechi "Chima" Ekekeugbor poured in 15 points on six of eight



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The Lady Bearcats picked their first win against the Cardinals of York College, hoping to put together a win-streak after a rough start.

shooting in the first half, with William Sixsmith following up on three of six three-pointers. Still, Baruch was only up 34-29.

The Bearcats acted like a well-oiled machine in the second half as they shot 59 percent from the field. Eleven players fueled a balanced rotation, attacking on defense for 20 points coming off of 10 turnovers. A breakaway layup by Isaac Doyin put the Bearcats ahead 52-32 with 14 minutes left.

Chima made history as he became the 22nd player to score 1,000 career points, then rested on the bench for the remainder of the game. The blowout nature of the match also gave the inexperienced bench much-needed playing time. As they cruised to victory over the

Gophers, the Medaille College Mavericks provided a tougher test of the Bearcats' resolve.

As the game progressed into the second half, Baruch sprinted ahead to a 48-37 lead, but the pesky Mavericks rallied with an 18-4 run. The combatants traded body-blows as the lead changed constantly. Down one with just over three minutes left, Chima rose up and drained a three-pointer to put Baruch ahead. A hectic three minutes filled with turnovers, missed jumpers and a solid defense ensued. Free throws by Doyin and Chima sealed the game at 66-64.

Chima tallied a double-double with 18 points, 14 rebounds and four assists, earning Most Valuable Player honors. Sixsmith was

named to the All-Tournament team as he nailed four of nine shots from deep. They split their next two contests before taking care of York College in their CUNYAC opener. The men's team had to make way for the women's team in search of its first win of the season.

In the first four matches of the season, the Lady Bearcats struggled tremendously. The team lacked chemistry as sloppy play on the hardtop often put it behind early and often. Playing from behind often put pressure on the team and, despite numerous comeback efforts, the team started the season winless through four games.

Despite the bad play, one bright spot in the Lady Bearcat's season came through Veronica Ganzi,

scoring her 1,000th career point against St. Catherine. Still, the team was hungry to turn its season around while it still had time and headed into its first CUNYAC matchup against the York College Cardinals.

The team traveled to Jamaica, New York, in search of its first win of the season. The defense awakened early on, especially senior Jacqueline Kennedy who put together five steals and grabbed eight boards. By the game's end, the team had coaxed 39 turnovers from the Cardinals, good for 39 points. On the other side of the ball, Kennedy was equally efficient with the center erupting for 28 points from her center position. Sophomore guard Daniela Arias was in on the party, finishing strong all around with 15 points, seven assists and steals and five boards. Playing with newfound attitude, the Lady Bearcats turned the tables on York, completing a blowout of their own, the scoreboard reading 74-45 in Baruch's favor, their first win of the season.

Thus far into the season, the men's and women's teams have experienced both ends of the spectrum in terms of winning and losing. The men's team is doing all the right things to position itself for a repeat at the championship, while the women's team is working to change its luck. If the men's team sustains its strong play it will remain well-placed. As for the Lady Bearcats, they must build off this first win and carry momentum into the coming games, especially as the brunt of their CUNYAC lineup inches closer.

## Giants win sixth-straight against Browns, set sights on NFC East lead

BY MOUSTAFA ISMAIL  
SPORTS EDITOR

The New York Giants entered Week 12 on a high horse, riding on a five-game win streak as they headed to Cleveland to take on the winless Cleveland Browns. Earlier in the week, the Dallas Cowboys extended their win streak to 10 games after a hard-fought game against the Washington Redskins. In order to remain within two games of the Cowboys in the race for the NFC East, Big Blue had to pull out a win in FirstEnergy Stadium, the Browns' stadium.

Despite their empty win column, the Browns gave the Giants a run for their money, staying in the game until the fourth quarter before Big Blue was finally able to break away.

The Browns' defense took the Giants by surprise in the first quarter, forcing the team into numerous three-and-out situations. Jamie Collins, formerly a New England Patriots standout, anchored the defense early on, leaving the Giants' quarterback Eli Manning under duress.

Although the Giants held up under pressure, the team was on upset alert, wary that they may give the Browns their first win of the season. To make matters worse, star receiver Odell Beckham Jr. appeared to sustain a thumb injury that sent him to the sideline after a gang-tackle from the Browns' defense.

The Giants' first opportunity came in the second quarter, after Browns' running back Isaiah Crowell lost the football and gifted Big Blue great field position. On the ensuing drive, Manning connected with old-friend Dwayne Harris on a textbook pass to the back of the end zone. The touchdown was Har-



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Pierre-Paul made a spectacular play in the fourth quarter, scoring his first career pick-six and deflating the Browns efforts.

ris' first catch of the entire season, resigning exclusively to the return specialist role.

During the previous season, Harris was headed to the receiver corps, complementing OBJ well in the absence of Victor Cruz. Surprisingly, new head coach Ben McAdoo has not utilized Harris in a similar role since taking the helm.

Heading into the fourth quarter with a 14-6 score in their advantage, the Giants were still eager to put the game away. With the Browns facing a second down and 19 to go, the Giants' defensive front exploded at the snap, with new Giants players Damon "Snacks" Harrison and Olivier Vernon meeting at the opposing quarterback. While

the offensive line was retreating back in his direction, quarterback Josh McCown panicked and lost the ball.

Awaiting the ball as it fell was veteran defensive-end Jason Pierre-Paul, who returned the interception 43 yards for his first career pick-six. Pierre-Paul made headlines earlier in the offseason during a freak accident, which yielded significant damage to his right hand. After a long rehabilitation process, Pierre-Paul returned to the Giants' defensive line on a mission, so far dominating his opponents and making a strong case to get paid once his current contract is up.

Following Beckham's second

touchdown of the day, the Giants wrapped up their sixth straight win, dropping the Browns to 0-12 on the season. Despite the accomplishment, Giants fans had mixed feelings about the win.

On one hand, there were those eyeing the NFC wildcard race—following Washington's Thanksgiving Day loss, the Giants now had a comfortable lead over their competition.

On the other hand, some fear that Big Blue would be unable to eclipse the Cowboys for the divisional title given Dallas' amazing season. While being atop the wildcard is certainly reassuring, the ultimate goal is to win the divisional crown and earn a first-round playoff bye-

week. When the Giants last won the Super Bowl in 2012, they took the longer route, knocking off the Atlanta Falcons in the NFC wildcard before making a run for the Lombardi Trophy.

Still, the NFC title is well within reach for Big Blue. Dallas is pitted against the desperate Minnesota Vikings on Week 13's running of Thursday Night Football. Despite its recent slump, the Vikings' defense is among the best in the league. The team desperately needs a win to keep playoff hopes alive, so it is expected to bring its best performance.

If Minnesota is able to shell out the win and the Giants can top the Pittsburgh Steelers, they will close the gap between Dallas to just one game. Following this thought, Big Blue is set to host the Cowboys at MetLife Stadium the following week.

If the Giants are able to hand Dallas their second straight loss, they will relinquish the NFC East lead by means of a tie-breaker. Although wishful thinking, the chances of this storyline actually playing out are not so far-fetched.

Still, the Giants' meeting with Ben Roethlisberger is tough. Being that Pittsburgh's team features arguably the best receiver in the league, Antonio Brown, the cornerbacks of the Giants cannot afford to make a single mistake or else "Big Ben" is sure to take the advantage. In order for the Giants to exploit the Steelers' secondary, they must make sure that they can hold off James Harrison and the veteran defensive line.

If Manning can stay up and see the entire game, the receiving core will have proven that it can build a sizeable lead and give the team a strong chance to extend its win-streak.

# Big-men become sharp-shooters in three-pointer-happy NBA

BY OMER SEMAN  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The three-point line has captured the hearts of coaches and general managers alike in the National Basketball Association. Ten years ago, the Golden State Warriors led the league in three-point attempts with 24.8 per game. Today, that number ranks 20th. The impetus for this three-point trend is basic mathematics—three points is more than two. In other words, high-volume perimeter shooting is more conducive to outscoring opponents than layups and dunks.

Adding higher efficiency to this idea resulted in championship wins for the Cleveland Cavaliers, San Antonio Spurs and the Warriors, who all finished either at or near the top of the league in three-point percentage since 2014. Their lethal range paired with decisive passing stretched opposing defenses thin, making way for easy buckets inside.

The Warriors introduced the small-ball system to create exploitable mismatches for Splash Brother Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson. The Cavaliers countered this shortly after with Kevin Love and Channing Frye. Both over 6-foot-10-inch, the big men were able to space the floor with their deft shooting. The formula for how to crack small-ball was there, but nearly impossible to replicate.

Coaches have always distributed the scoring expectations among their roster based on talent. For years, 7-footers were perceived to be obelisks locked into the painted area. Their role was to rebound, contest shots at the rim and occasionally dunk the ball. But the dogmatic structure fans are accustomed to viewing has been crumbling ever since Dirk Nowitzki entered the league in 1998.

If Nowitzki is the Socrates of this



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Leonard leads a crop of talented big-men who offer added ability to shoot long-range in addition to traditional rebounding role.

big-man three-point renaissance, then Kristaps Porzingis is his Plato. The Latvian wunderkind entered the NBA lauded for his versatile skill-set at 7-foot-3-inches. Jeff Hornacek encouraged an up-tempo offense that flung the ball from deep during his tenure in Phoenix, and is looking to bring that mentality to the New York Knicks. Porzingis, the beneficiary, has doubled his three-point productivity while hitting 40 percent beyond the arc, which is 5 percent above league average. He is the posterchild of a growing number of gigantic marksmen entering the game. Joel Embiid, Frank Kaminsky, Domantas Sabonis and Karl-Anthony Towns all walked onto the court with long-range capability.

Forwards and centers who were

already comfortable shooting long two-pointers are now reaping the rewards of taking one step back.

Jake Fischer of *Sports Illustrated* talked to the Portland Trailblazers' Meyers Leonard about expanding his repertoire in order to stave off obsolescence. Leonard sat behind a number of veterans on the bench in 2015, but when his coaching staff noticed his smooth mechanics, they pushed the third-year center to new heights.

Head coach Terry Stots explained that the threat of leaving a sharpshooter unguarded dragged opposing centers away from the basket. This created lanes for slashers like Damian Lillard and C.J. McCollum to attack the rim against lesser defenders. Pace and space offense has infiltrated the minds

of coaches and general managers, allowing for the emergence of raw talent in Leonard.

Houston Rockets executive Daryl Morey is known for his analytics-based approach to roster construction. Designed for maximum efficiency, the Rockets either launch from behind the three-point line or drive to the basket for layups, thus eliminating mid-range jump shots. The numbers show it is more than just talk; they rank last in two-point attempts and first in three-pointers since Morey was promoted to general manager in 2007.

When Morey hired coach Mike D'Antoni this summer, he seemed like a perfect fit. D'Antoni is often cited as the pioneer of modern basketball offense. His mid-2000s

Phoenix Suns teams thrived under his "seven seconds or less" principle which emphasized sprinting up the court before the defense could get set, leading to easy points. No game better represents the blending of philosophies than the Sun's 117-104 win against the Sacramento Kings in which the Rockets shot a record 50 three-pointers and drained 21 of them. With James Harden at the helm of this relentless offense, the Rockets are back in contention after a dismal end to last season.

Though the Brooklyn Nets still lurk near the bottom of the league, new head coach Kenny Atkinson liberated the team from the Triassic-era basketball Lionel Hollins preached in 2015. The Nets were tied for 20th in Pace, a statistic that estimates the number of possessions a team has per 48 minutes. The quicker the pace, the greater number of chances a team has to score. Under Atkinson, they are up to second in the NBA.

As an assistant coach for the Atlanta Hawks, he groomed center Al Horford to rise up from the perimeter and has passed that along to Nets' center Brook Lopez. In his previous eight seasons, Lopez shot three for 31 from deep. Fourteen games into this season, he has already hit 28 of 76 three-point attempts.

Veterans like Lopez, DeMarcus Cousins and Marc Gasol are all evolving to keep up with the three-point revolution. Survival of the fittest forced a number of teams and players to adapt to the landscape. In today's league, the largest athletes are utilizing a small-ball mentality. Detractors have claimed this is a trend that values finesse over strength and softens the league. Until two points becomes worth more than three, this style is here to stay.

## Strong play from Anthony, Porzingis and Rose provide Knicks edge

BY STEVEN TSAKANIKAS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Like he has many times before, Carmelo Anthony hit the game-winning shot in the dying seconds of an overtime shootout with the Charlotte Bobcats. With a veteran's confidence, Anthony received a pass and immediately broke into a post-up against Charlotte's Michael Kidd-Gilchrist.

No. 7 spun around and arched a shot above Kidd-Gilchrist's outstretched arms that found the net with a little over a second left on the clock—he subsequently turned to the crowd and let out a massive roar. The former Syracuse Orangeman and the New York Knicks are starting to round into form.

With only five players returning from last season, the team from Manhattan struggled early in the season to find cohesiveness on both ends of the court. Almost a quarter of the way through the season, team President Phil Jackson's vision of a revamped roster is finally coming to fruition. Player Derrick Rose recently had a 30-point game, showing flashes of his once-dominant play—a reminiscence of his game before suffering numerous knee injuries.

Another off-season acquisition, Courtney Lee, is proving to be a reliable deep shooter. Likewise, Joakim Noah is back to the 2013 version of himself, where he finished fourth in MVP voting. As for the team's familiar faces, Melo's efficiency on offense is near a career high and Kristaps Porzingis is turning into a superstar right before his fans' eyes.

First year head coach Jeff Hornacek has managed to construct an offense where Melo can get his isolation looks while point guard Brandon Jennings and Rose can get the bulk of the team's opportunities



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Porzingis has tremendous potential as one of the association's young, raw talent, coming along well for the Knicks as of late.

in transition.

A lot has been said about the Knick's traditional triangle-offense and how it is not efficient for modern player skillsets, but Hornacek has modified it to better suit his team's strengths.

For example, out of all the forwards and centers in the NBA, only three have taken more shots from deep than Anthony and Kristaps, who have both shot 96 as of Nov. 29.

While their percentage from three-point range may not be as high as others, the fact that Hornacek is incorporating that into the game plan not only proves that he feels this is a winning strategy, but

is also validation that Jackson is finally willing to update the methods that he has lived by for so long.

Since Stephon Marbury's time patrolling the Garden floor, the Knicks have not had a point guard that can duke it out with the best in the league for 48 minutes. At least for this season, the team has addressed that gap in the re-emerging Rose.

When Russell Westbrook and company came to New York, it brought the best out of the former Chicago Bull as he dropped 30 points, grabbed seven rebounds and dished out four assists. On defense, Rose was not able to stop

Westbrook from recording yet another triple double, but there are few in the league who can. On the contrary, Rose has been able to penetrate the defense at will and continues to finish at the rim with ease.

If Rose stays healthy and plays relatively well throughout the remainder of the season, the Knicks front office will be faced with a tough decision come July.

The dilemma on their hands: do they extend Rose's contract and keep their current core intact, or go after a different point guard such as Chris Paul, Kyle Lowry or Jrue Holiday?

Around this time five years earlier, Paul reportedly wanted to be traded to New York but was instead dealt to the Clippers, where he currently resides. Los Angeles is off to a great start this season and is one of the few teams in the league that is positioning itself for a championship run in the spring, although Paul remains interested in teaming up with Melo.

If the Clippers fail to make a deep playoff run again this year, the chances of Paul landing in the Big Apple are high.

The team will be put to the test throughout the month with marquee matchups against the Cavaliers, Lakers and Warriors. If the new-look offense can hold against the premier defenses of these tough opponents, it will be to the credit of Hornacek and his reconstructive efforts.

More importantly, the team must to put together a strong outing in December overall to regain ground after the tough start to the season.

The Knicks are currently mid-pack, working to crawl over .500. If Anthony, Porzingis, and Rose are able to share the ball and play smart basketball, they are well-placed to make a run for the top.

Luckily, the Eastern Conference remains tight and there is still a full season ahead. Still, the conference powerhouses, including the Cavaliers and the raptors, are known to put together wins in bulk; the Knicks must enter every game eager to remain competitive in a conference that can slip out of their reach very quickly.

In the meantime, ticket prices are rising, blue and orange jerseys are being dusted off and fans are starting to believe this team can make the playoffs.

New York Knicks basketball is exciting again.

# We have free beer.

P.S. We don't actually have free beer.



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