LIST OF DEMANDS PRESENTED TO ADMINISTRATION:
Campus takes strides toward diversity and inclusion

D-Term allows for opportunities outside majors, flexible structure

When they left, Masupha began checking on Sankofa House’s residents. “Next thing I know, the fire alarm is being pulled,” said Masupha. “After that, our party ended […] I tried to give the best identification of the two individuals [to the fire department] that I could.”

Masupha, who is also the web coordinator for Multicultural Affairs at Lawrence, took her story to University President Mark Burstein’s office hours, where they decided together that a meeting with students of color on campus would be necessary as a first step in addressing concerns about life at Lawrence. “Because there isn’t a lintsure of every student of color on campus, he relied on me to contact those people […]. I contacted all the leaders that I knew and told them to spread the news—I contacted as many people as I knew surrounding [those groups].”

“It doesn’t surprise me that we as a Lawrence community have some of the same struggles [that we as a nation do],” said President Burstein in an interview with The Lawrentian. “For me, what is a disappointment is that we’ve not farther along.”

Burstein called for a dinner with a group of Lawrence students of color to learn about some of the issues that individual students were facing, which took place on Nov. 17.

“We [had] to have some form of structure to this meeting,” said Masupha. “We [decided] to schedule a meeting for students of color […] and asked people to submit some different concerns and demands that they [thought] would be beneficial to people of color on campus.” Masupha, along with several other student leaders, began drafting a document composed of two main sections to present to Burstein at the dinner meeting.

The first, and longer of the two, was a list of demands—things on campus and in the Lawrence community that needed to change in order for students of color to feel safe and accepted. The second part of the document was a list of names of faculty and staff members the composers felt should be investigated for instances of racism.

At the Nov. 17 meeting, students presented Burstein and Dean of Students Curt Lauderdale with some of their individual experiences with negativity towards people of color on campus and in Appleton. Burstein and Lauderdale were then presented with the completed list of demands and names.

While dialogue with students had been unfolding over the course of Fall Term, Burstein stressed that the administration was discussing many of the same issues amongst themselves. “What struck me about the demands was how much what the students were thinking about were along the same lines as what the faculty and administration were thinking about. For example, the students […] pointed out the need to […] hire someone who does this as their primary work. Many call this a diversity and inclusion officer. [That demand was] mirrored in a proposal from the faculty gov-
**Future location of Panhellenic space unclear in wake of construction**

With the current renovations in Colman Hall, as well as the absence of housing in all five Union Street residences next year, student housing will look different in Lawrence’s coming years. Colman Hall has been undergoing significant changes that not only affect the competition and occupancy for formal group housing, but also the possible relocation of the first floor’s Panhellenic wing.

Senior Genna Matt, President of the Panhellenic Council—a council comprised of representatives from each sorority—explained that the Panhellenic wing holds the meeting and storage areas of all the campus sororities, Beta Phi Nu, Delta Gamma, Kappa Alpha Theta and Kappa Gamma Gamma all have an individual space that serves as a place of congregation for inter-sorority events, rituals and ceremonies. Colman’s basement has also served as an area for sororities to hold larger gatherings.

Matt explained that the University has proposed several alternate meeting space options. She elaborated that the absence of the Union Street homes, along with the necessity of project funding for the Panhellenic area conversion, results in no definite timetable. However, Matt affirmed that she has been told they will eventually have to relocate. Matt also conveyed that the University is deciding whether or not to renovate Colman’s Panhellenic wing before or after placing another possible housing area at the end of the Quad.

When questioned about the Panhellenic Council’s concern and desires for their new space, whenever and whenever that may be, Matt stated, “We want a more permanent location and for the integrity of our space to be preserved or enhanced as our chapters continue to grow.” She also continued that the University wants more security for their next meeting area(s), in the future, when further renovations and modifications happen to campus housing, they don’t want their sorority space to be in question or up for relocation.

With a lot of uncertainty in future campus housing opportunities, the placement and accommodation of students and organizations will reveal themselves over time. Despite not knowing the timeline of the Panhellenic wing relocation, sororities’ meetings are expected to take place in Colman Hall.

**Performance speakers removed from Kaplan’s Café in campus center**

As Lawrentians stop by Rik’s Café in the Campus Center for a warm beverage during these cold winter months, they may notice that the large speaker system has been removed. The café speakers once amplified the acapella groups, karaoke groups, café speakers once amplified the performances formerly held in the Café during the 2014-2015 school year. “I think only Jazz Jam remained in the Café. They could have been turned down a little bit,” said Griffin.

According to Griffin, “The [speaker] system was last fully operational in the Café during the 2013-2014 academic year.” Griffin also noted that, while the speakers were still in the Café during the 2014-2015 academic year, “I think only Jazz Jam remained in the space in 2014-2015.”

Removing the speakers affected the Café environment. “Students don’t have to shout over their orders, you can have a conversation over a meal, there is more space for dining and students aren’t forced to listen to bad karaoke because it is the only place open for dining,” Griffin said.

Performances are currently operational in the Mead Witter room, Griffin explained. “The overwhelming response indicated that there needed to be a tangible change,” he said.

In response to this desire, two floors of Sage Hall will now be converted into a gender-neutral option. “The Residence Life Committee worked with [the] Campus Life office to determine what was feasible with our current housing stock, bathroom options, etc. Sage second and third floors were determined to be viable options considering they had two bathrooms on each floor and already had been serving as co-ed floors,” continued Waielewski.

Chair of the Residence Life Committee and junior Malcolm Lunn-Craft explained that the floors in Sage Hall offer versatility to a variety of students. “Third floor will have one gender-neutral bathroom and one male [bath-room], while second floor will have one gender-neutral [bathroom] and one female [bathroom]. This offers options for everybody,” said Waielewski.

Other changes are happening in response to the housing survey. “Some of the groups that identified as gender non-conforming, they would have to reach out to the dean of students to get accommodations. Now if a student is not cis-gender, the dean of students will reach out to them. Residence Life is also working on the Lawrence naming policy, where students can use their preferred name instead of their legal names on the housing survey. It’s already expected that freshmen have a living space to choose from. It is a great step forward, especially for students who are gender fluid,” concluded Lunn-Craft.
Dear Liz Isolate,

Yeah, winters here are tough. It’s really hard to concentrate on classes and getting your work done when everything is so dreary. Firstly, you need good winter gear. You can order stuff online or take the shopping shuttle to the mall, but however you choose to do it, please do. If you don’t have a proper winter coat, scarf, gloves and hat, then you’ll be really miserable. It is hard to be cheerful when you are on the verge of frostbite.

Some people speculate that it’s because the sun is too tired by the time it gets to DoVelveteen to continue shining. Others say the regular cloud coverage and shady location make for optimal dismal conditions. But perhaps the sun is simply afraid to illuminate the street. For in doing so, it would shed some light on the sad goings-on of all Winter Lane’s resident. The fearful and the cruel, the angry and the forlorn all seem to gravitate to this somber street. Together, they wallow in their self-doubt, sigh back at each other’s sadness. The fog of their downcast spirits, soaking in the woebegone waterlogged neighborhood any time they please. This is in part a result of the night weathers. It was a bad feeling wherever she went. You can order stuff online or take the shopping shuttle to the mall, but however you choose to do it, please do. If you don’t have a proper winter coat, scarf, gloves and hat, then you’ll be really miserable. It is hard to be cheerful when you are on the verge of frostbite.

The sun never shines so brightly on Winter Lane. When it isn’t raining, dark grey clouds still gather overhead, hinting that they could open up and drench the woods. The snow might come any time they please. This is in part a result of the night weathers. It was a bad feeling wherever she went. You can order stuff online or take the shopping shuttle to the mall, but however you choose to do it, please do. If you don’t have a proper winter coat, scarf, gloves and hat, then you’ll be really miserable. It is hard to be cheerful when you are on the verge of frostbite.

Dear Fiona,

Judy causes trouble of all sorts, and the barren neighborhood any time they please. This is in part a result of the night weathers. It was a bad feeling wherever she went. You can order stuff online or take the shopping shuttle to the mall, but however you choose to do it, please do. If you don’t have a proper winter coat, scarf, gloves and hat, then you’ll be really miserable. It is hard to be cheerful when you are on the verge of frostbite.

The most noticeable of those was the fact that several compatriots of mine would distance themselves from people of color when the latter entered the tram. At first I ignored this phenomenon, with only minor expressions of annoyance. Nevertheless, after several conversations with some of my Athenian friends, I came to understand that something incredibly appalling was in the works.

With recent wave of Syrian refugees that came through Greece in hopes of finding a friendly place, the Greek government had to take several severe measures to try to contain the situation. Government officials reopened an old tennis lounvoodo stadium, which had been abanoned after the Olympic Games of 2004 in order to shelter all the Syrians who did not manage to cross the borders to other European countries. These people, I noticed, were used as an excuse for the politically fair-right Greek party, Golden Dawn, to advance their fascist political agenda in a “patriotic” guise. This kind of subtlefuge poisoned many people’s minds into thinking that “all immigrants are Syrians.” So I think you can imagine that anyone human being, and should be condemned as abhorrent.

I have often found that it is easy to be appalled by the cocky attitude of some privileged individuals, but what are you supposed to do? It’s not that bad. Either way, get through this and soon it will be Spring Term which is awesome and uneventful. Good Luck!

-Fiona
Swimming building on winter training

Tina Schrage
Staff Writer

While most of the student body left campus over winter break to visit families and friends, some students stayed behind to train for their winter sport, Lawrence’s swim team engaged in a very intense training schedule over break in order to prepare for upcoming meets and conferences.

“All that hard work pays off,” senior Hayley Cardinal said. “For example, the women’s team beat [University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh] at our home meet on Dec. 11.” With a goal to perform in the 400-meter tracks during future meets in preparation for upcoming winter meets and conference.

“The one place you were supposed to beat is Oshkosh is one of our biggest rivals, so I’m excited for our future meets to see how well we do against them,” senior JP Ranumas, who did not compete in the 400-meter this year, commented.

The swim team has two main goals as they head towards conference according to Cardinal: continuing to be supportive of one another and swimming their best. “We realize that we depend on each other quite a lot,” Cardinal commented. “Even though we may not want to swim a certain event, or if we are sick, there is always good pressure and encouragement from our teammates to push us.”

After several rigorous weeks of training and with sights set on placing in conference and flourishing as a team, Lawrence’s swim team will focus on competing at their best as they attend the 2016 conference in Florida for Winter Term, the swim team members to step up and make an impact on what has been a traditionally struggling sport.

Records, personal bests and maybe even make some NCAA B cuts.” Each meet from here to conference is a stepping stone for the swimmers to improve their performance.

The swim team is now looking toward the first meet of 2016 at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). The meet against IIT will offer longer events, such as the 200-yard event for each stroke. The team has not had many opportunities this season to race longer events, but are prepared to take on the challenge. This meet will help show where the team stands overall as they begin to prepare for conference, which is in February.

“I am extremely excited for the rest of the season,” Cardinal adds. “I reached some fast goal times during our meet against Oshkosh, so I am excited for conference to hopefully see our team together take down more school records, personal bests and maybe even make some NCAA B cuts.” Each meet from here to conference is a stepping stone for the swimmers to improve their performance.

How do you get yourself hyped when you’re putting on the pads? How do you stay focused? What do you bring to this team that makes you different here.

I really liked coach (Skodzinski) every time I came too, as well as the guys and the coaches. The main thing, though, is the academics.

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Jan. 15, 2015

This week, I sat down with senior Jamie Nikitas of the men’s basketball team. Nikitas has developed into one of the team’s top players. He is an exception- able rebounder, a prolific scorer and one of the nation’s leading scorers. In addition, Nikitas is a new member of the elite group of Lawrence players to reach 1,000 points.

Gabe Chapman: You’re in some pretty good company scoring-wise at Lawrence. How does it feel to be part of that group?

Jamie Nikitas: It feels good. Obviously Lawrence has had some pretty great players come through here and to be able to be mentioned in the same sentence with guys like John Dekker ’10, one of my team-mates Ryan DePouw ’15, Chris Siebert ’14 and Coach DePoefer ’98 is a pretty cool thing to be able to do.

GC: How have you embraced your role as a scorer on the team?

JN: Well, I think my role has changed throughout my four years here, and so just kind of going with the flow, I knew I would be counted on for more scoring this year and so adding certain aspects to my game—different moves that I can go to—was important for me all season. Last year, we had Ryan DePouw who was another 1,000-point scorer for us, so I knew that this year without him and with some of the younger guys, I would be counted on a bit more. It’s been fun; it’s been different and it’s interesting to see where the team is going.

GC: So it’s a role that you’ve welcomed and accepted.

JN: Yeah absolutely, I don’t think that there are too many guys who would say they wish they weren’t scoring as much. You know, scoring gets a lot of attention, but it’s all about the little stuff—the right passes and plays—that’s a big part of that too.

GC: What other aspects of your game do you think you’ve improved upon the most over the last four years with the team?

JN: Well, jumping from sopho- more to junior year, my rebounding really improved. I think overall defensively my game has gotten better. In the past couple years, I’ve been counted on to guard the best perimeter offensive player on the other team, and I take pride in being able to do that and do as well as I can. Size-wise we’re not the biggest team, so rebounding has been impor- tant. To be able to do that and to improve there is just a mat- ter of wanting the ball—really an attitude to go for it. Free throws are something I’ve been trying to work on, but it hasn’t really shown yet.

GC: You’ve had a pretty promi- nent role on the team over the course of your four years, and you were a starter in your freshman year. How has that played into your role on the team and your success?

JN: Yeah, I think from the starting lineup freshman year before the end of the season we had a lot of confi- dence going into my sophomore and junior seasons, and so playing together my teammates and I took a couple of tough losses. I think there are too many guys who would say they wish they hadn’t of wanting the ball—really improving team chem- istry,I really mean it. Knile Davis returned the opening kickoff 106 yards to put the Chiefs right away and that is as close as the Texans would get.

The Chiefs solidified them- selves as a real threat to take the AFC and will travel to take on the defending champions in the Patriots, while the Texans head into the offseason looking for a new QB.

Packers vs Washington For the first 28 minutes, the Packers seemed to be in real trouble. Rodgers and the offense was still having a lot of trouble mov- ing the ball, while Kirk “You like that” Cousins seemed to be continuing his hot streak into the playoffs. Then the Packers offensed woke up and did not slow down. They went on a 35-7 to end the game and won by a final score of 35-11.

The Packers will need to keep that offense rolling as they head to Arizona to take on the Cardinals, while Washington needs to decide where to send RGIII this offseason.

Seahawks vs Dallas The wind-chill clocking in at -25, this one in Minnesota was the third coldest game in NFL histo- ry. The Vikings seemed to be in control of this one in the fourth quarter up 9-0 and looked ready to dethrone the two time defending NFC champions. The Seahawks were not going to give up that easy though and fought back to make things interesting. With the score 27-yard field goal to win it. But went away from the Seahawks. Meanwhile, the Seahawks will go to Carolina and we’re still not sure if this is the same Seahawks right now. It’s only a matter of playing the way we know we can and play and lose. Knowing that we haven’t in the past week and a half.

Vikings vs Seahawks With the score 1-7, Kirk Cousins seemed to be having the ball, while Kirk “You like that” Cousins seemed to be continuing his hot streak into the playoffs. Then the Packers The Packers were going to give up that easy though and fought back to make things interesting. With the score 27-yard field goal to win it. But went away from the Seahawks. Meanwhile, the Seahawks will go to Carolina and we’re still not sure if this is the same Seahawks right now. It’s only a matter of playing the way we know we can and play and lose. Knowing that we haven’t in the past week and a half.

If you were to simply look at the teams that won this past wildcard weekend, you would see that all of the favored teams won and probably think that there were no surprises, but you would’ve missed out on some thrilling and wild finishes (pun intended). Here are the recaps:

**Favored teams advance from NFL wildcard series**

**Men’s Basketball**

Jamie Nikitas - Men’s Basketball

*Photo by Emil Thompson*

This page is part of the The Lawrenceian newspaper from Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin. The page contains an article about a basketball player named Jamie Nikitas, a recap of the NFL wildcard series, and a table of hockey teams' records for the Midwest Conference and the MWC. The text is a combination of natural language and structured data. The page also includes a photo and a table of hockey teams' records.
Lawrence International board cooks for their members

Members of the Lawrence International executive board cooked dishes from around the world, including dishes from their home countries. This was a welcome back from the board to members of Lawrence International and the rest of campus.

Lawrence University Community Council (LUCC) will hold the annual executive election for the student government’s president and vice-president on Jan. 19. Any students can vote for the candidates from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Warch Campus Center and from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the Alexander Gymnasium and Conservatory. As soon as the candidates submit their applications by Jan. 14, they can start their campaigning activities through various media.

After the three-day period to contest election results passes, the outcome will be released through media sources. The official election result will be announced at the LUCC General Council meeting at 4:45 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 25.

After creating a cabinet and completing their transitional training, the elected candidates can exercise their power starting March 7. Once they are elected, the new president and vice-president will be responsible for coordinating various campus events and supporting student organizations as well as administering legislative procedures and student budgets.

LUCC President and senior Wesley Varughese has noted that he hopes students vote in the upcoming election just as they did when 50 percent of the students cast their votes in the previous presidential election.

Hockey
continued from page 4

fought nature of the battle.

The Vikings continue conference competition this weekend with a pair of home games against Aurora University (1-11-1, 1-6-1 NCHA South Division). The Spartans are coming off a rough set of losses to No. 2 ranked Adrian College, who is leading the league with an overall record of 12-1-1 and a South Division record of 8-1-1. The puck drops at Appleton Family Ice Center at 7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 15, and at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 16. For Friday’s game, the team will be wearing special orange jerseys to raise awareness for kidney cancer. All ticket sales and donations will be donated to the American Cancer Society.
What are the three most important things in your bag right now?

Junior Lexi Ames: Let me think about what those things would be... This tiny, tiny tub of Vaseline that's actually pretty integral in my life right now because it's so damn dry. Yeah, probably my phone and my phone. And a lot of information revolves around this, (laugh). So probably these things.

Ames: Pretty much, yeah.

Why did you choose your phone?

Ames: Because I talk to everyone through that. I can't figure shit out without that stupid device. But also, every single stupid idea I can work with it later, so I plan a lot with it and I do some digital art via the phone.

Do you carry these things with you all the time?

Ames: Pretty much, yeah.

FEATURES

The Lawrence University Dance Team may have been under your radar when it arrived on campus last year, but by now, its impact is impossible to ignore. Co-founded and captained by juniors Natalie Ortega-Wells and Jori Warwick, and sophomore Becca Tapia, the team has become a significant part of athletic life at Lawrence and in the greater Appleton community.

The three wasted no time in getting the club up and running in 2014—by the first week of Fall Term, it had been approved by the Lawrence University Community Council (LUCC) Steering Committee—and put in a great amount of work to make the team’s performances an expected part of athletic events.

“We want people to know dance team is performing at halftime at football and basketball games. We don’t want it to be a surprise. That’s what we’re trying to establish,” Tapia said. “We want to bring entertainment and spirit to sporting events,” she said.

So far, that underlying goal is being accomplished. Coinciding perfectly with the newly-renovated Banta Bowl this year, the dance team started performing at halftime during the football games, which was not something the team was able to do last year.

“Anytime on campus really can involved,” Ortega-Wells said that the dance background of the team members is varied. “We have some people who have been dancing their whole lives, and some people who never danced before coming to college,” she said. Even she and her two co-captains have varying levels of dance background. Ortega-Wells danced with her high school dance team and in a company at home focusing on aerial dance, while Warwick started ballet at age two and competitive dance in second grade. Tapia started with hip-hop at age six before joining two different dance companies in high school.

“I had never done poms or anything like that [before coming here],” Tapia said. “I’m from New York City where there aren’t other athletic teams on campus—who may, or most likely may not, have dance ability themselves. Also stay tuned for the spring dance show in May, which the team will be hosting with Melee in Stansbury Theatre.

Warwick also said she was not really involved with poms before starting the dance team.

However, the varying dance background and musical interest is what makes the formation of the dance team so interesting. “We’ve had a lot of positive feedback from girls on the team also, that dance team has become a good outlet for them,” Warwick explained. “We’ve incorporated all different types of dance and music for everyone to be able to express themselves,” she said.

If you are not a dancer yourself, there are still many opportunities to see the dance team perform. The team performs at Lawrence’s basketball games on Saturdays, and are currently choreographing a performance for Jan. 23 in which each girl has a male partner from one of the other athletic teams on campus—who may, or most likely may not, have dance ability themselves.

Some activities that the team is forming a weekly clinic “Appleton Moves” on Saturdays, and are currently choreographing a piece, and at the end, we’re going to have a performance for their parents,” Tapia said.

“We’ve had a lot of positive feedback from girls on the team also,” Ortega-Wells said. “Parents are coming to watch, and it brings more support for the people playing,” Warwick pointed out. “Parents have come up to us afterward to thank us for performing,” she said.

In addition to increasing the amount of school spirit, the team has been reaching out to the community for other outlets for sharing their love of dance. This year, the team is forming a weekly clinic for kids in the area called “I Am: Appleton Moves” on Saturdays starting Jan. 30. “Members of the dance team are going to split up and work with a group of kids to choreograph a piece, and at the end, we’re going to have a performance for their parents,” Tapia explained.

“All of the kids are interested in doing other things, like competitions—but we’ve been finding other outlets to reach out,” Tapia said.

In addition to increasing the amount of school spirit, the team is also reaching out to campus for a master class open to everyone.

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**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**

**The Horace Silver Project memorializes late jazz giant**

Wendell Leafield
For The Lawrencean

On Thursday, Jan. 7 five musicians came together to perform in a jazz concert called “The Horace Silver Project.” Featuring the late Horace Silver was an American jazz performer and composer who influenced his contemporaries and is consid-

ered a jazz/crossed students and community members who wanted to experience Silver’s famous tunes and hear their friends perform. The ensemble consists of Associate Professor of Music John Daniel on trumpet, Instructor of Saxophone Jake Crow on tenor saxophone, Mark Martin on piano, Jerry Sparkman on bass and Mike Malone on percussion. Jake Crow ’11 and Associate Professor of Music and Teacher of Trumpet John Daniel are the only per-

From symphonic band to jazz concert: “The Horace Silver Project” aims to reproduce and inspire the passion for music that Silver left behind. Although Silver lived until 2014, his influence can still be felt. This concert, held at the Egyptian Room in Indianapolis’s Old National Centre this past November, was an effort to honor the late bandleader and trumpet virtuoso and to inspire students and community members to engage with his music.

Daniel explained in his introduction that the purpose of the long setlist was to give the musicians opportunities to choose the program order as they went along. After each piece concluded, they nodded and whispered to each other to decide which would best follow. They were attuned to the audience’s reactions to the music. Many audience members showed their enjoyment by eye roll-

**Porky’s Groove Machine opens for Guster**

**Izzy Yellen**
Columnist

**With my somewhat recent focus on the emotional impact of music, I am beginning to recog-

“The way all of it comes together—his paired, somber lyrics, and raw, heartfelt melodies—was a breath of fresh air.”

On Friday, Jan. 29, Porky’s Groove Machine, a jazz ensemble at the Conservatory, opened for Guster at the Egyptian Room in Indianapolis’s Old National Centre. The concert showed some reactions to the music.

The tightly-coordinated ensemble reached for meaning and emotion in every piece.

While some reactions to the music were subdued and intimate, others were exuberant and jubilant. Overall, the ensemble was successful in connecting with the audience.

**Paying Tribute to David Bowie**

**Reggie Goodman**
Staff Writer

David Bowie was an American singer, songwriter, and actor known for his innovative and influential music and looks. He was born on January 8, 1947, in Brixton, London, England, and died on January 10, 2016. Bowie is considered one of the most influential musicians of the 20th century and is known for his ability to reinvent himself and his music throughout his career.

The concert was held in memory of his passing and aimed to honor his legacy. The performance was a tribute to Bowie's iconic style and his impact on the music world. The show featured a range of covers of Bowie's songs, performed by the ensemble in a variety of styles.

While the performances were diverse, all of them shared a common thread of respect and admiration for Bowie. The audience was captivated by the musicians' passion and dedication to playing the songs, and the energy in the room was palpable.

The concert was a beautiful tribute to a legendary musician and his enduring influence on the world of music.
It happens every year, does it not? You get excited for all the amazing stuff coming out, and then it comes in a deluge, a wave of media most people who do not work with the stuff for a living never get through. How to know what is good, bad and what is not even worth bothering with. Thankfully, I have done this to let you know how to sort through the absolute tidal wave of 2015’s pop culture. Here is the only comments on the books, films, music, games, mergers and spin-offs of 2015 you will ever need.

**Best Fake Article:** Ms. Piggy’s rant about her and Kermit’s divorce on Jezebel

**Best Thing Nobody Expected to be as Amazing as it Was:** "Mad Max Fury Road"

**Best Thing Made Under Even Worse Circumstances Than "Mad Max":"Metal Gear Solid V: The Phantom Pain"

**Best Movie You Can Never Show Your Parents Unless They Are Super Chill:** "The Duke of Burgundy"

**Best Scene in a Movie That Most People Fearfully Fearful for My Life: The Dance in "Ex Machina"

**Best Movie Saved from the Ravages of Time by Janus Films:** "A Poem is a Naked Person"

**Best Rap Beef That Was Actually Beef:** Drake vs. Meek Mill

**Best Rap Beef That We Will Never Know the Details of Because We Do Not Get Nice Things:** Kendrick Lamar vs. Drake

**Best Twist We Cannot Talk About Because Man, You Have to Go in Cold, Do Not Let Anyone Tell You Anything: "Assassination Classroom"** Chapter 128

**Best Forced Meme:** The "Hotline Bling" video

**Best Actual Meme:** The Dress

**Best Argument the Apocalypse Would Be Super: "Fallout 4"**

**Best Person Working Their Issues Out: Sudan "Hamilton"

**Best Person Pretending They Actually Do: New York Times columnist David Brooks

**Best Pen Name of the Year:** Cartoonist Chip Zdarsky—aka Steve Murry—secretly referring to himself as "A Shed Full of Car Keys"

**Best Comeback That Was Ruined by Agreeing to Be the Lead in an Animated Film Called "Sherlock Gnomes" that comes out this year:** Johnny Depp in "Black Mass"

**Best Hatchet Job: Pitchfork’s review of Tyga’s "The Gold Album"**

**Best Album That Somehow Became a Hit Because Who Even Listens to Jazz Anymore:** "The Epic" by Kamasi Washington

**Best It Really is That Good:** The Broadway musical "Hamilton"

**Best Twitter Account:** Vince Staples

**Best True Crime Sensation That Is Sweeping the Nation:** "The Jinx"

**Best Snapchat Story:** Shoolboy Q in southern France

**Best Parody of the True Crime Sensations That Are Sweeping the Nation:** "Documentary Now," episode 4, “The Eye Doesn’t Lie”

**Best Disappointment To Everything Ever:** Three way tie between "Trainwreck," "The Force Awakens," and "A Little Life" by Hanya Yanagihara

**Best Surprise That Brought Back the Good Times: The "Vision" by T Bone Burnett

**Best Thing Nobody Expected Given Turnaround Time:** Seriously, he could not have had more than six months when "The Eyes of Tam Tam: "Slade House"" by David Mitchell

**Best Absolutely Everything:** "The Complete Stories" by Clarice Lispector

**Student activism on diversity continued from page 1**

The demand list initially existed as a Google document open for editing by a select group of students. Senior Daniel Card was invited to contribute, but chose not to participate. "At first, when the document came out, I was pretty upset. The reason why is because it was mostly me focusing on the calling out of professors, one of which is my Posse mentor," said Card. However, Card later came to feel differently about the demands. "I stepped back and actually talked to members who were part of the creation of the document," she said. "Upon talking to them, I started to understand that despite the fact that I do have biases and I don’t see this professor in a certain way, this is what a particular set of people or one person has experienced, and by me speaking out against it [calling out the names], it kind of invalidates their experiences," added Card.

"(Putting it on Facebook) wasn’t an attempt to jeopardize anyone. That was the quickest way to reach) people of color on campus. A series of comments came back, and complaints, mostly towards the list of professors’ names,” said Masupha. CODA eventually removed the list of names from the Facebook post.

Burstein was off campus at the time that the document was posted online. However, Provost and Dean of the Faculty Dave Burrows and Vice President for Student Affairs Nancy Truesdell responded by issuing public statements via email. Burrows clarified that no investigations would be conducted against any of the named persons since the complaints had not been filed according to the university’s grievance procedures.

Burstein later said that the inclusion of the list of names in the document, rather than in a formally submitted grievance, highlighted a significant problem with the aforementioned procedures. In the week following the meeting, many students, including Masupha, felt especially unsafe in the community due to threats made in the wake of the Facebook comments on the list of demands and threats on other forms of social media, such as Yik Yak. She also experienced someone slowing down their car as she walked from her dance final, "just to tell me to go, get out of Appleton—they said ‘go home you n—er’ I was afraid.”

At the time, said Masupha, at least 20 students were spending their days in the Diversity Center, and at least 10 were sleeping there overnight, waiting to leave and at least 20 students were spending their days in the Diversity Center, and at least 10 were sleeping there overnight, waiting to leave Appleton for winter break. “The Diversity Center was locked down for about two weeks, the doors were covered with paper—students stayed here until night [...]. A lot of people didn’t even sleep because they were afraid [...]. A lot of people there was war going on upstairs.”

Shortly after the demands were released, faculty and staff of color published an open letter to students of color. The letter had been in the works approximately a week before the demands were released. Contrary to popular belief, it was not a direct response to the demands, but rather an effort to reach out and show solidarity for students of color.

Associate Dean of Students for Campus Programs Paris Wicker initially wrote the letter upon hearing students’ concerns regarding racism. After receiving comments from other Lawrence employees, Wicker invited colleagues of color to sign if they were in agreement.

"After talking with the students and just seeing a lot of the pain and the frustration and the loneliness that a lot of the students felt, [we] thought that it might be a way to show solidarity—to let them know that there are people who are working for and with them," said Wicker.

Over the break, a committee met once a week and sometimes more often to strictly discuss the demands. Nonetheless, tensions remained high and was escalated when a racial slur was published in a photograph in Lawrence’s 2015 Annual Report.

Since the end of last term, the administration has been working on developing measures to meet the demands and increase the safety and comfort of students of color on campus. Measures currently in progress include increasing the ethics studies program—potentially including a major—hiring more faculty of color, ongoing diversity and inclusion training, increased Diversity Center resources and streamlining the university’s grievance procedure. The measures were detailed at a “Cultural Competency Community Gathering” on Thursday, Jan. 7 in the Somersett room of the Warch Campus Center. Last week’s event was crowded with people who are making the time to understand the culture. While the event was successful, members of the administration have acknowled% of us that it is just one step in a sustained dialogue that needs to occur in order to create a diverse, inclusive and safe community.

According to Wicker, systematic changes in the university’s policies need to be combined with changes at the small group level, for example within residence life and campus program. Most importantly, individual reflection by all community members will be critical in making Lawrence a more inclusive community. "My goal and hope is that within those three levels—systematic, small group and individual—that we can start to see diversity and inclusion be really intentional, because it does take work," said Wicker.

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Applications for editorial and management positions on the 2016-17 Editorial Board are now open. Take advantage of this opportunity to gain invaluable experience in journalism. If interested, visit lawrentian.com/apply.
Creating a safe, inclusive campus community

At the end of last term, a group of students of color released a statement on the Lawrence University Committee on Diversity Affairs’s (CODA) Facebook page. This statement was comprised of two parts: a list of policy proposals and concerns about specific LI employees.

The “List of Demands” generated a torrent of ideas, emotions and controversy surrounding the issue of race on our campus. As it is not possible to fully understand the magnitude and extent of discrimination and civil rights violations that are happening on our campus, Lawrence is currently in the midst of a major change in its approach to diversity and inclusion.

Conversations from Fall Term 2015 left many confused, upset and angry about the state of race relations at Lawrence. The administration’s new policies are a step in the right direction, but one thing remains clear: there is a serious gap in the perception of students of color and students of privilege. Privileged Lawrentians have begun to ask, “What can we do?”

The appropriateness of this question is dependent on the intended audience. Are they asking themselves, or are they placing the burden of an answer on students of color?

An easy answer might be, “Well...ask a black person how they feel...ask a Muslim how they feel...ask a gay person how they feel...”. However, this is not the answer we are looking for.

Repeatedly, students with marginalized identities have stood up, spoken out and created formalized spaces in which students can see eye to eye. It is now the obligation of privileged students to listen, and utilize these resources to create a better climate on campus. For example, Sakinsha conversations create a space in which students of color can speak up and be heard. These have been theesperipher opportunities for students of privilege to listen and learn.

Additionally, the University has used its resources to bring in speakers such as Angela Davis and Ta-Nehisi Coates, along with artists like Darkmatter, to shed light on contemporary issues of race, religion, and identity.

Lawrentians are provided a great wealth of resources to educate themselves on social issues. But those resources alone cannot eradicate the prejudice at Lawrence. To fix those broken parts of our community, Lawrentians without oppressed identities must critically think about the racism faced by their peers.

In this pivotal moment, each individual associated with Lawrence University must re-evaluate their day-to-day behavior, understand how their actions affect others and consider their active or passive participation within a system that marginalizes certain members.

We share an obligation to educate ourselves and listen to our peers. However you feel about the demands made last term, it is evident that a significant body of students feel unsafe and unsecure at this school.

Each of us are here because we believe in the benefits of a liberal arts education. But when some Lawrentians are deprived of the basic needs of safety and hopes for educational opportunity, our entire community suffers.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to in Opinions & Editorials Editor Jessica Morgan at jessica.morgan@lawrence.edu. We review all letters and consider them for publication. The Lawrentian staff reserves the right to edit for clarity, decency, style and space. All letters should be submitted on the Monday before publication and should not be more than 350 words.

The opinions expressed in The Lawrentian are those of the staff, faculty and community members who wrote them. All facts are as provided by the authors. The Lawrentian does not endorse any opinions piece except for the staff editorial, which represents a majority of the Editorial Board. The Lawrentian welcomes everyone to submit their own opinions using the parameters outlined in the masthead.

The administration is not curing discrimination anytime soon

A private, residential university such as Lawrence also needs to be able to provide for the basic needs of its students before it can even consider what classes to offer, what sports teams to endow and what types of extracurricular programs to provide. Therefore, a school like Lawrence will have a nurse’s office, a dining hall, running water and bathrooms for its students living there full-time, and professional counseling resources. Those services should be of good and consistent quality.

This quality also has a limit to which they can provide one’s wellbeing. For example, the university cannot stop people from smoking, drinking or having unprotected sex even though these things carry certain safety risks. Their responsibility is to provide help when there is a serious health crisis like alcohol poisoning, physical injury or severe illness. If a student wants to avoid long term risks, it is up to them to quit smoking, put the bottle down, wear a helmet or use protection.

Campuses today face the growing problem of mental health. It is a particularly tricky problem because it can occur even when the basic health and wellness needs of the students are met. A school might have a great dining hall, top-notch residence halls and a full-time doctor, yet still find that its students suffer from growing mental health problems and anxiety.

College administrations are beginning to recognize the close relationship between mental and physical wellbeing, and are consequently treating them with equal importance.

Meanwhile, college students everywhere—including at Lawrence—are now coming out and saying that toxic social climates—rife with sexism, racism, homophobia, and other forms of discrimination—are the root of anxiety and depression, serious mental health concerns that should not be taken lightly.

There is a philosophical dilemma the administration must face: if the toxic social climate really is harming the mental health of students on campus, and the administration has an obligation to ensure the mental health of its students, what is the administration’s role in determining if instances of prejudice are a threat to students’ mental health?

To ask what the university can do and should do, it must first address what it should do and should not do. Clearly, the administration cannot simply force people to refrain from offensive jokes or say ignorant things on Facebook and Yik Yak, or even agree with the prejudice intrinsic to some academic disciplines.

The only time it really can and should intervene is when a statement or person poses a significant threat to somebody’s wellbeing, be it physical violence or pointed verbal abuse and emotional abuse.

The administration seems to claim that it is that arbiter. By establishing things like bias inci- dent reporting systems and main- daining sensitivity training for staff and faculty, the administration intends to determine if instances of preju- dice are a threat to students’ men- tal health. However, our student body has in effect demanded that the administration take a more active role in addressing prejudice.

The administration’s step to developing bias reporting systems is a step in the right direction to help students cope to people who are professionals in such a field. However, should the administra- tion really be taking the lead in developing these issues at Lawrence? You would not ask the administration to solve your plumbing problem or to convince them to quit smoking. The administration can provide some tools, but ultimately those are issues an individual has to face on their own.

However, as professionals, our prejudices are issues that we have to face on our own. It is up to us as individuals to identify the issues and to address other these issues. It is time to claim ownership of our community and to take responsibility on-growing-us to solve for them. They cannot fix our prejudices and to claim to do is dishonest and unproductive. We are the grown-ups now. We have to fix this ourselves.

Letters from Lawrentians on Season 1 of “Serial”

When the show ended, I was very curious about the subject of the season. Whenever a show about the prisoner with the Taliban, I was disappointed.

The reason I loved the first season was the care it was taking with an untold story. Do we really get to hear these unheard voices about his story. Obviously, Koenig’s skillful reporting will illuminate parts of Bergdahl’s imprisonment and release that the public did not know about or had not thought about, but there would not be the same sense of discovery or novelty that the first season offered.

Now that a few of the episodes have aired, I cannot help but feel like the story was rushed. Koenig and her team have done an excellent job with the story, but the “serial” is an enthralling as the first case was.

Maybe this story is not quite as compelling as the “serial” phenomenon. There just are not that many questions. We know Bergdahl ran away of his own volition, we know he was captured and we know he was released through a prison swap. Little was clear about the first season besides the fact that the government’s case against Seyad was lacking in some areas.

Another issue with this sea- son is that Adnan Syed was a Charismatic and charming figure and every time he spoke, I found myself enthralled by the story of Adnan’s son. I cannot help but think about the story of Adnan and the things that he must have gone through as a prisoner of war.

If the show is not as good as it was, I will keep listening as long as the show has captured my interest.

“Serial” airs Thursdays mornings on iTunes, Pandora and serialpodcast.org.
Jan. 15, 2015

A call to change LU’s pet policy

Rachael York
For the Lawrence

Lawrence University’s pet policy is not fair to students who genuinely want an animal in their lives. By its nature, the voting system is unbalanced; the necessity of a unanimous vote rather than a majority vote almost guarantees that students who do not want pets will have the upper hand. With each vote, there is always a chance that there will be at least one “no.” That single answer is all it takes, even if the “no” comes from someone who lives on the other side of the building, as that person would never see, hear or smell the desired pet.

This second-year Residence Life Advisor, I have facilitated multiple pet votes, and I have yet to see one that results in the resident actually getting their pet. Students want pets for so many different reasons—they had one at home and wanted to bring it with them to school, they are used to having a pet and miss the companionship it brings, or they find that being responsible for a pet helps them stay on track. However, because of the mandatory votes, most students will never get this opportunity.

In a city with drastically cold weather and a school environment where being on time is so prevalent, all students should have access to whatever they need to ensure good mental health. For some students, that means having a pet; I know that having a fish has been helpful in the past for me, but it was never completely fulfilling. Fish is hard to connect with, as you cannot actually touch them, and they do not really acknowledge your presence, as opposed to a pet that you can actually play and bond with.

In some cases, some students already own pets. What are they supposed to do with them when they are allowed on campus one year, but not the next? It seems unfair to force someone, who is willing and able to care for a pet, to get rid of it solely because someone on their floor dislikes hamsters, or is under the impression that rats are dirty.

I would like to propose a change to the system. If we implement pet-specific floors, there would be no need for a vote. Instead, students could list their preferences when choosing where to live. If someone were severely allergic to hamsters, for example, they would have the opportunity to live somewhere that hamsters are not allowed.

Another solution would be to have students who wish to own a pet agree to a contract. This contract would essentially state that a student must maintain their pet, and if they fail to do so, they will no longer be allowed to keep a pet.

A student should be able to guarantee that having a pet will not poorly influence the hall. Instead of being at the mercy of their peers, they would give students the benefit of the doubt; if a student believes they would be able to keep their pet clean, quiet, and in their room as not to disturb other students, they should be given a chance.

If a student failed to keep their pet up to these standards, their contract would be terminated. A student would be 100 percent responsible for their pet, if the pet were to escape and cause damage in the dorm, that student would be liable to pay for the damage.

These are just a couple of examples of what we can do to improve the pet policy for our students. No solution is perfect, of course, but I would like to see what changes can be made to the current system of pet ownership more fair for our student body.

As a second year Residence Life Advisor, I have facilitated multiple pet votes, and I have yet to see one that results in the resident actually getting their pet. Students want pets for so many different reasons—they had one at home and wanted to bring it with them to school, they are used to having a pet and miss the companionship it brings, or they find that being responsible for a pet helps them stay on track. However, because of the mandatory votes, most students will never get this opportunity.

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EDITORIAL POLICY:

Editorial policy is determined by the editors. Any opinions which appear unsigned are those of the majority of The Lawrentian’s editorial board. Letters to the editor are encouraged. The editors reserve the right to edit for style and space. Letters must be emailed to lawrentian@lawrence.edu. Submissions by email should be text attachments.

—All submissions to the editorial pages must be turned in to The Lawrentian no later than 5 p.m. on the Monday before publication.

—All submissions to the editorial pages must be accompanied by a phone number at which the author can be contacted. Articles submitted without a contact number will not be published.

—The Lawrentian reserves the right to print any submissions received after the above deadline and to edit each submission for clarity, decency and grammar.

—Letters to the editor should not be more than 350 words, and will be edited for clarity, decency and grammar.

Which presidential candidate are you supporting and why?

“Bernie Sanders. Because there’s a lot of legal corruptions in the government and he’s the only one standing up to them.”
—Sean Gies

“I support Bernie Sanders, because he’s the one addressing the most important issues for our generation.”
—Abby Keefe

“Probably Hillary Clinton. Because she has the most experience and has probably the closest political views with mine.”
—Ethan Courey

“I’m really supporting Bernie Sanders because he really cares about everyone as a whole, not just the upper-class.”
—Mauranda Owens

“Bernie Sanders. Because he’s honest and he cares about the under-privileged people in America.”
—Celeste Hall

“Bernie Sanders, because he has experience and because of his educational reforms.”
—Bricker Ostler

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Lawrentian Enhancing Diversity in Science Formal
Friday, January 15th
8-10pm Esch-Hurvis

EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

DEBATE
Monday Jan 18
8:15 pm
Pusey Room, WCC

POLLING
Tuesday Jan 19
WCC: 10 am - 8 pm
Conservatory & Alex Gym: 4 pm - 7 pm

Lawrence University Community Council