Incoming Director of Athletics Christyn Abaray acclimates to campus

Zach Ben-Amots  
Editor-in-Chief

With the Board of Trustees in town, incoming Director of Athletics Christyn Abaray made her first visit to campus since being hired. Prior to accepting this position, Abaray worked as director of athletics and Title IX coordinator at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa. The incoming director, Mike Sklodowski, will remain on staff as full-time head coach of the hockey team. During her visit, Abaray was interviewed by The Lawrentian’s Sports Editor Brenna Ori and Associate Vice President of Communications Craig Gagnon.

Brenna Ori: What attracted you to the position of director of athletics here at Lawrence? Christyn Abaray: You guys, Lawrentians seem to be the type of students that I gravitate towards. You all want to learn for the sake of learning […] and you want to do it through the liberal arts lens. And that’s the lens that employers want, that medical schools want, that graduate schools want, because you know how to think and you know how to write and you know how to do a lot of the intangible. So Lawrence attracts people like you and that’s what attracted me.

Brenna Ori: What do you think fans like about Lawrence?

Christyn Abaray: I think fans like the kind of person that the student-athlete is and the way that they compete.

Brenna Ori: Tell me about the one-on-one meeting you had with your sports directors.

Christyn Abaray: At each step of a search, including the Board of Trustees, there were conversations that took place. The process is that these changes will take time. These initiatives “centralize the need for diversity” said Wicker. “It takes a personal investment in education,” said Wicker. “There are some people who, because of their life experiences, don’t have any idea of what it means to be biased or marginalized, and that’s not necessarily their fault. But what they can do is recognize the fact that you’re opening up your friend!”

Brenna Ori: What do you want Lawrence students to do?

Christyn Abaray: I think that it is important to be educated. “It takes a personal investment in education,” said Wicker. “There are some people who, because of their life experiences, don’t have any idea of what it means to be biased or marginalized, and that’s not necessarily their fault. But what they can do is recognize the fact that you’re opening up your friend!”

Brenna Ori: What do you think about the Lawrentian?

Christyn Abaray: I love the Lawrentian. It’s a great opportunity to see how Lawrentians write about themselves and see what they’re interested in. It’s a great way to connect with students and see what they’re thinking about.

Brenna Ori: What are your goals as the new director?

Christyn Abaray: My goals as the new director are to continue to build on the great work that has been done by my predecessors and to bring in new ideas and initiatives to help Lawrence succeed.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s sports coverage?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers sports in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong sports program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of other campus life?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers campus life in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong campus life program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of academics?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers academics in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong academic program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of student life?

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Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of alumni life?

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Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of community life?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers community life in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong community life program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of international life?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers international life in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong international life program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of other life programs?

Christyn Abaray: I think it’s great. The Lawrentian covers other life programs in a way that is engaging and informative. I think that it’s important to have a strong other life program program on campus, and the Lawrentian helps to support that program by providing quality coverage.

Brenna Ori: What do you think about Lawrentian’s coverage of diversity and inclusion?

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2016 Casino Night: A Royal Flush

Ruby Dickson  
Staff Writer

On the evening of Saturday, Jan. 23, Lawrence University’s first-ever Casino Night was held in the Eich Hurvis rooms of the Warch Campus Center, playing traditional casino games such as blackjack to Texas Hold’em. Colman/Brokaw Hall Director and Campus Life Events Coordinator Lindsay Borkin led the effort in organizing the event. She described it as “a casino-themed night with fun games, a sort of Vegas-style casino party.” Students could visit a number of tables and try their hand at gambling with premature money, known as “Funny Money” or hang back and munch on Bon Appétit-catered snacks. Students’ Funny Money winnings were not just for fun; though, they offered a chance to win big. Throughout the night, organizers raffled off a variety of items that might appeal to a Lawrence audi ence. The prizes included a collection of a MacBook, an iPad mini, Boshe headphones, and a Wii U console.

In addition, students could enter to win smaller prizes, such as tickets to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center’s “Cinderella,” books by author Gillian Flynn, a ’90s-themed gift basket, and more.

Casino Night was planned to be a fun night out for students, particularly for those involved in CODA. “It’s great to see students attending the event and having a good time,” said Wicker. She continued, “In other places, people are calling people out, they are pushing to get people resigned, it is about pushing people out. And at Lawrence, we are not doing that—we are calling people into the conversation. We are all a part of this. We are all a part of the problem and we can all be part of the solution.”

In terms of promoting inclusivity, just attending different events put on by different student groups on campus is important,” added Gonzalez. “A lot of times there are these questions like ‘Why is this an issue? What is the purpose of x-y-z?’ It takes a personal investment first, for each one of us, to know in what ways are we privileged, in what ways do we contribute to the problem and in what ways are we oppressed and marginalized, because we all have privilege and we all have oppressions.
Bart Boge’s “Regarding Tiberius” shared at Mudd Library signing

On Thursday, Jan. 21, author, alumnus and Lawrence University Campus Safety Officer Bartholomew Boge ’95 discussed his novel “Regarding Tiberius,” a work of historical fiction that takes place in ancient Rome and explores the question of redemption.

Boge’s editor Rae Haeberle opened the talk by describing his book as “amazingly thought-provoking” and characterizing his writing style as that of “a friendly neighborhood drug dealer.” According to Haeberle, Boge dishes out just enough to keep the readers hooked.

Boge never intended for the project to become a novel, but actually began writing it as a narrative for a progressive rock album his band was recording. After many tweaks, the song became a stage play, then a screenplay, a novella and finally, a 600-page behemoth. “I was completely out of control—it was like paleontol- ogy, I was unearthing the story,” Boge said in his talk.

Haeberle was stunned at how perfectly his descriptions of Pompeii matched her personal experience. When asked if he had visited, Boge responded that he had never been there.

This posed a challenge to Boge, who conducted an extensive amount of research in the hopes of creating an accurate historical fiction narrative. Boge highlighted this challenge, describing his writ- ing process as “writing one page, then spending 45 minutes doing research to see if it was remote- ly plausible, and then throwing it away!”

Despite this extensive process, he enjoyed the historical insights that often spurred new ideas.

In response to a question about what kind of Lawrence student would enjoy this book, Boge said there is a little something for everyone. History is the most obvious discipline, while religious students would appreciate the intersection of the pagan Greek gods, Judaism and Christianity. The main character also sees visions of the dead, and psychology majors might enjoy questioning whether she is seeing the future or repressed traumatic memories. Society is also pleased to give English majors another book to “ingest, analyze and critique.”

What motivates Boge is the thrill of creating something out of the blue. “I absolutely nothing. He has found that the creative process is “writing one page, then spending 45 minutes doing research to see if it was remotely plausible, and then throwing it away!”

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At the end of his talk, Boge addressed students, stating “If you’re an artist, you need no encouragement—it’s already in you and you cannot be dis- suaded from it!” As a Campus Safety Officer, he was also like to remind students to “not cook ramen without water, please.”

The support of the Lawrence staff has been immense—Staff purchased 20 percent of the books sold and one woman even bought 12 as stocking stuffers for Christmas. Sophomore Bill Schumann-Kline said that he was very happy Lawrence students were able to come out and sup- port him. Junior Brett Barnard, who is currently writing some- thing he hopes will eventually be published, found his talk very relevant.

Boge says that as long as his muse, an over-the-road trucker in Wausau County, is on speed- dial, he is open to writing another book. At the present moment, he is working on a sequel as well as a tenous thought for the third book.

Along with many others, students showed up for the Lawrence celebration. We still have a lot of work to do, but I’m hopeful that we can work with mutual respect in a collaborative and inclusive way to keep moving forward,” said Hoffman.

As a result, all students should feel as though they can voice their concerns.

“[It is important to know who to talk to. Finding that key person you can trust—[whether that is CODA or [University President] Mark Burstein—just letting us know what we can do is a great first step],” concluded Gonzalez.

Initiatives continued from page 1

To apply to become an editor or staff member, visit lawrentian.com/apply.
"You’re making it up, Deborah," I hissed, running up behind her. She wasn’t surprised and seemed to be expecting it. I continued, "and you of all people aren’t one to lie, so spill it." The streets of Winter Lane had become slushy and miserable. The snow had melted slightly, creating a porridge of frigid mud and grime. Luckily, Deborah and I went home in the same direction from school, so we ditched her and walked home, catching her was uncomplicated. We both groaned and seemed to be expecting it. I continued, "fucking blizzards, and they say that when your situation. In my fresh man year, I tried to play for my contribution was not the case at all so I quit after about an hour. I felt terrible. I felt like I didn’t be-

long at Lawrence because I didn’t enjoy Trivia. Everyone I knew loved it. It’s so unique to Lawrence and such a part of the culture here that not enjoying it felt like a betrayal of the Lawrentian experi-
cence or something. I soon found out that this was not the case at all. There are plenty of people who aren’t into Trivia, and that doesn’t make them any less Lawrentian. So don’t feel bad that you don’t enjoy it or don’t want to participate in it. It’s totally fine, and you are not alone in what you’re feeling.

So, you’re in a bit of a pickle. You don’t really like Trivia, but you can’t just skip it altogether or else, you’ll be really lonely all weekend. You need to come up with a way for you to participate in the least amount of pain possible—I speak metaphorically, of course.

The best suggestion that I can give is to do what I do each weekend. Take advantage of the time that is, spending time with your Trivia-obsessed friends by particip-
ating in specific theme hours or action questions that interest you. You can also hang out with them by just being around while they are playing, or by helping them when they need to unwind or take a break. Other than that, it’s probably going to be kind of a lonely week-
end. Take advantage of the time you have on your hands by doing all the tasks you’ve been putting off for the past four hour weeks: do your laundry, tidy your room, wash all the dishes you’ve been hoarding in your room, actually do your homework before Sunday night—stuff like that. I know that’s not everyone’s idea of a good time, but since you will be spend-
ing with your friends this week-end is going to be intense and fun, you may actually enjoy being away from people for a bit.

As always—and this goes for everyone including all of you who are participating in Trivia this year—don’t forget to take time to take care of yourself amidst all the chaos! Have fun, but don’t push yourself too far.

Good luck! -Fiona
Abary makes first campus visit as Director of Athletics

LU Swim stays competitive in home meet

Women’s Basketball

Lawrence University’s women’s basketball team has six games left in their regular season. On Feb. 3, the Lady Vikes will take on St. Norbert at home.

The Lawrence Swim team made a splash this weekend at LU’s own Boalt Natatorium in what is their only home meet of the season.

The meet, featuring Division III schools UW-Whitewater and the number two team in the conference Lake Forest, proved to be extremely competitive, with the women finish second behind Whitewater and the men finish third. The meet was highlighted by senior Hayley Cardinal who earned her fourth Midwest Athletic Conference Swimmer of the Week award.

“The Vikings saw their competitors not as intimidating opponents, but instead as challengers who could push us to even better results. ‘I personally always try to get to an in-season best time every time I race,’ said Cardinal. ‘I know I would be facing some really fast racers, so I wanted to take advantage of having the competition.’” Cardinal indeed took advantage of the strong competition by earning victories in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:07 and the 200-yard breaststroke at 2:28. Cardinal also took second in the 200-yard IM with a time of 2:20 and additionally took second in the 200-yard medley with team mates Emily Slack, junior Paige Witter, and freshman Lizzy Garcia. Another highlight from the women was Witter’s second place finish in both the 100 and 200-yard butterfly as well as second place finishes in her races proving that the future is bright for the Lady Vikes. “Our goal is usually to pick up one or two places and I think we did that this weekend,” reflects Cardinal.

“Looking forward to pushing these strong women will accomplish at the end of the season.”

Leading the shorthandled men’s team was junior Christian Bell who earned his third place finish in the 50-yard freestyle in the 200-yard freestyle relay.

“The men’s team is incredibly flexible and strives to earn as many points as they can as working hard to place well, said Cardinal. “We’ve overcome a lot and I’m beyond proud of them this year.”

The Viking swim team looks forward to one more regular season meet at the Carthage Invite before the Midwest Conference championships. “Carthage has a very fast pool with a lot of teams that will help push us to reach seed times that will place us well going into conference prelims,” said Cardinal. As with most Lawrence teams, conference is the summit of all of the season’s hard work. The team is in the midst of their hardest training of the year. Known by swimmers as the “power phase,” the Vikings are squeezing every last bit of conditioning and strength building before tapering for conference. Look for the Vikings to make a statement at Carthage this week, and if you see any swimmers struggling to walk up the stairs from Andrew Commons, feel free to give them a hand.

Lawrence hockey drops two against St. Scholastica

This weekend the Vikings travel to Adrian, Mich., to take on the number one ranked Bulldogs (15-2-1, 13-2-1 NCHA South Division). Adrian is coming off an intense series against number two St. Norbert (14-2-1, 10-2-0 NCHA North Division), the first game of which the Bulldogs took 5-4 and the second of which went to the Knights 2-1. Lawrence’s series against the Bulldogs begins at 7 p.m. (EST) on Friday, Jan. 29, and concludes at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

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Athlete of the Week

by Gabriel Armistead Chapman

Sage Greenlee - Women's Track & Field

This week, I sat down with sophomore Sage Greenlee of the Lawrence University Women’s Track & Field Team. Greenlee recently placed second in the high jump at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh Triangular on Jan. 15 with a height of 5 feet, 3 inches—a personal best for Greenlee that ranked her nationally with the top Division III athletes.

Gabie Chapman: Tell me about your season so far.
Sage Greenlee: Well, we did our fall pre season for seven weeks and that was pretty difficult because of the workouts. It hasn’t been too bad coming back, but I was feeling a little nervous coming into the season because we don’t have an indoor facility. We had our first meet at UW-Oshkosh, which is a triangular with us, UW-Oshkosh and Ripon College. I jumped really well—I had a six-centimeter personal record and got nationally ranked for that, which is huge because we haven’t had anyone go to nationals in quite a few years. So, my goal for the season now is to do that. And I’m now seeded first in our conference, which is also super cool. For me, I was just kind of an unexpected turn.

GC: What’s it like being the only female high jumper on the team? Is it harder to train?
SG: It’s not necessarily harder to train because I have two guys to work with, but when it comes down to meets, it definitely is different because when I was in high school, I always had one or two girls who were there. I think mentally that is a pretty big deal because then you have someone to talk to when you’re nervous. So when I notice because the boys will be off doing their own stuff, while I’m actually high jumping. But as far as training and stuff it’s not that different.

GC: How did you get into high jumping?
SG: I started when I was in seventh grade, we had a track and field physical education day and I remember our teacher showed us the high jump and I thought I could be really good at this. She had us jump off our right feet but I didn’t think that felt quite right, so I tried going off the left and was fairly successful, so I continued through middle school and high school.

GC: When you looked at Lawrence, was the track & field program part of your decision?
SG: Actually, yeah it was, because obviously the program is still in the process of improving, but when I came to visit I did an overnight stay with the track team and the people I met realized that was where I wanted to be and whom I wanted to be with. I had never really considered continuing to do track in my collegiate career, but it seemed like a really awesome opportunity.

GC: Do you think you’ll be able to continue competing at the level you reached at the past meet?
SG: I don’t think so. It will improve that much each week, just because six-centimeters is very difficult to repeat. However, I think with the way things are going so far this season I should be able to keep it up. Even if I don’t improve this season, nationally I’ll still be ranked in the top thirty-four and that qualifies as Academic All-American, but what I’m looking forward to right now is just staying competitive within the conference. I think if I do that I’ll stay competitive nationally too because we have such a good high jumping conference.

GC: What is your rank nationally?
SG: I’m 23rd in the nation amongst Division III schools. It’s super exciting to be there, it is first time it’s happened in like three years for our team.

GC: When you compete against other high jumpers what do you do to get into the zone?
SG: I’m a very ritualistic person, so I have a routine that I do when I try not to talk to anyone before I compete, and I put on my headphones when I do my warm-ups and run-throughs. I always listen to the same song over and over before I jump. For me a huge part of it is mental competition, so going against girls who are at a high level like me makes me want to jump higher.

GC: What song do you listen to?
SG: “Bohemian Rhapsody” by Queen. Last year when we were on our way to outdoor conference in Spring Term, someone put it on for me and I was rockin’ out, so ever since then it has kept me going.

SG: Why did you choose Lawrence?

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SG: Why did you choose Lawrence?

GC: It’s not necessarily harder to train because I have two guys to work with, but when it comes down to meets, it definitely is different because when I was in high school, I always had one or two girls who were there. I think mentally that is a pretty big deal because then you have someone to talk to when you’re nervous. So when I notice because the boys will be off doing their own stuff, while I’m actually high jumping. But as far as training and stuff it’s not that different.

GC: How did you get into high jumping?
SG: I started when I was in seventh grade, we had a track and field physical education day and I remember our teacher showed us the high jump and I thought I could be really good at this. She had us jump off our right feet but I didn’t think that felt quite right, so I tried going off the left and was fairly successful, so I continued through middle school and high school.

GC: When you looked at Lawrence, was the track & field program part of your decision?
SG: Actually, yeah it was, because obviously the program is still in the process of improving, but when I came to visit I did an overnight stay with the track team and the people I met realized that was where I wanted to be and whom I wanted to be with. I had never really considered continuing to do track in my collegiate career, but it seemed like a really awesome opportunity.

GC: Do you think you’ll be able to continue competing at the level you reached at the past meet?
SG: I don’t think so. It will improve that much each week, just because six-centimeters is very difficult to repeat. However, I think with the way things are going so far this season I should be able to keep it up. Even if I don’t improve this season, nationally I’ll still be ranked in the top thirty-four and that qualifies as Academic All-American, but what I’m looking forward to right now is just staying competitive within the conference. I think if I do that I’ll stay competitive nationally too because we have such a good high jumping conference.

GC: What is your rank nationally?
SG: I’m 23rd in the nation amongst Division III schools. It’s super exciting to be there, it is first time it’s happened in like three years for our team.

GC: When you compete against other high jumpers what do you do to get into the zone?
SG: I’m a very ritualistic person, so I have a routine that I do when I try not to talk to anyone before I compete, and I put on my headphones when I do my warm-ups and run-throughs. I always listen to the same song over and over before I jump. For me a huge part of it is mental competition, so going against girls who are at a high level like me makes me want to jump higher.

GC: What song do you listen to?
SG: “Bohemian Rhapsody” by Queen. Last year when we were on our way to outdoor conference in Spring Term, someone put it on for me and I was rockin’ out, so ever since then it has kept me going.
Language Immersion Weekend at Bjorklunden

Karina Barajas
For The Lawrencean

Last weekend, the French, Russian, Japanese, and German departments went to Bjorklunden for Language Immersion Weekend. Each group participated in different activities and then came together on Sunday night to celebrate the different cultures represented.

The Japanese students performed a skit version of “Momotaro,” a piece of popular Japanese folklore. The Russian students performed the history of Russia in 10 minutes. The German students performed “Snow White.” The French students sang “La Vie En Rose.”

For his winter activity, Carlson said he chose to go somewhere, and he didn’t care where he went as long as he had time to talk to students from Waseda University. Carlson says learning any language “is really hard and frustrating but very rewarding when you are able to write a paper in your language or be able to understand a conversation. You are just like ‘wow I understand that! It is the best feeling in the world!’”

Freshman Luke Payne is in German (GER) 215. His favorite part was doing skits and playing the evil queen in “Snow White,” which helped him come out of his shell. In middle school, Payne took three months of Spanish, Chinese, and German. And studied abroad in Austria his senior year. He likes German the best, and hopes to continue studying the language and culture. His advice for students studying a world language is to “take chances, step outside of yourself and make mistakes.”

Zuege explained, “According to Zuege, despite the center’s popularity, the study abroad office “[tries] to do a lot of things very conciliatory because I don’t want people to think that it’s London or nothing. I don’t want people to think that you have six programs—we have about 60 in total. So when someone comes and talks to me and says ‘I’m interested in going to London,’ what we automatically say is ‘Why is that?’ How is that a good academic match for you? To make sure that there isn’t a program they know less about that might be a better match for them.

Zuege continued, “We also try to highlight the experiences of students who have done a variety of programs … I want to be sure that people understand this isn’t just for language majors, and I want to highlight students who are studying in York or Madagascar, not just Lawrence programs.”

The students who have done non-Lawrence programs are very excited to share their experiences with other students, even if they are smaller in number. Junior Margaret Russ, who studied in York this past fall, stated that “I think my program is underestimated by the school, and I would definitely recommend it to other students because I don’t know of many programs where you can be directly enrolled in another university. It’s also perfect if you’re not going for a language, but you still want to be a part of another culture and be a part of another school where you don’t know any one.”

She explained that, “It was something that I found on my own by looking at all programs online … The study abroad office was really encouraging, but didn’t really know much about it. They put me in contact with another student who had done it, but they didn’t really know how to talk to me, so I had to figure out which classes I could take and what credits I would transfer back here kind of on my own. I had to contact all these different people at York— and I had to talk to the English department and fill out two separate applications … It was pretty much a lot of work on my own.”

Junior Sadie Tenpas, who studied in Madagascar, had similar troubles. “I know that my biggest confusion was with the application process, I had to fill out all of these components of your application go on to other places, and I kind of got confused at some point that [Lawrence] could do all of this for me. So, I just sent it in to Lawrence and thought I was done. And I didn’t think that I had to do anymore, until I realized that they hadn’t sent it. It was fine, it just took me forever to figure out what to do,” she said.

However, Tenpas continued, “I really liked my program and I’m really glad I went. I realized after talking after talking to the study abroad officer that it was really the only option for that,” she said. “My biggest problem on for biology without an intermediate language, which was kind of a problem because of these different people at York— there are a lot of programs, but not really for science.”

When coming up with options what you have under your major seems daunting or limited, Zuege advised students to meet with her and their advisor, stating that the “most important [thing] to think about, before you start looking at a map and think ‘Where can I go?’, is to think ‘What do I want to study?’”

Junior Kristina Verhasselt, who studied in London, offered similar advice. “I picked [London] because I knew I had always wanted to go somewhere, and I didn’t really have a major picked out at the time [I was applying], so I figured London would be the best option for that,” she said.

However, once she had figured out her major, Verhasselt said, “[I] actually found a more interesting [summer] program through my advisor, and I think it helped that kind of realized what I wanted to do. Studying abroad before you know what you want to do maybe lead you to something like London, which might not be the best, but I didn’t feel like they could give me any other options because I didn’t know what I wanted to do.”
Faculty and student group works toward enhancing diversity in science

Mina Seo For The Lawrentian

Lawrentians Enhancing Diversity in Science (L.E.D.S.) is a group of faculty, staff and students working to create a community that welcomes diverse perspectives and encourages open and honest communication and community-building. The group’s goal is to foster inclusivity in the sciences in order to facilitate communication and community-building. While currently mainly drawing members from the biology, chemistry, geology and physics departments, the group has plans to draw more members from other departments such as anthropology and psychology. Describing the activities of L.E.D.S., Bart DeStasio noted, “It does not have to come from administration, but from students and faculty to make these changes. We will hopefully continue to hold a regular meeting, and it would be great if many other students can participate in this event.”

Winter Lane continued from page 3

She pursed her lips. “Is that really what you want? Wouldn’t you prefer a hot chocolate scoop?”

“No, because none of it exists.”

“Have this — it’s on the house.” In a swift motion, she shot out a cup decorated with polar bears with what appeared to be single plain scoop of vanilla with a bright red plastic spoon sticking out of it. I took it cautiously and put my finger on the ice cream. It was cool against my skin. I smirked, took a bite and swallowed. It felt like swallowing a chunk of ice that slid uncomfortably down my throat. I could feel my fingertips losing heat and suddenly the temperature dropped down, down, down. I shivered uncontrollably.

“Is there dry ice in there?”

“Dry ice would be much more dangerous and could burn your esophagus. Brush up on your chemistry, jack. Take another bite.” I obeyed her for some reason. I was just desperate to understand. The ice cream slid down and began to feel … dare I say … warm. I stepped back in terror, holding the cup far away from me.

“What did you do to this?”

“Secret of the trade. Do some research and experiments, and maybe you’ll figure it out. I’m an advocate of the scientific method.”

I grimaced, oddly caught between a smile and a frown. She was delightfully intriguing as well as frustrating. I looked upon the cup. Investigating was a good idea — I had a real strange story to tell. Maybe tomorrow, people would pay attention when I told them about the weird temperature-defying ice cream. Deborah might even back me up!
These days it seems like it takes a lot for a band to set themselves apart from others in their genre. Thus, it is fairly normal to see new groups fuse genres constantly, which can only boost bands together even more. Some bands can still stand out with their eclectic fusion in the way they approach music, interact with each other and the audience, and allow their influences and personal experiences to shape their sound. After talking with Rat Park and hearing them play, I can say they do all these things very well.

Rat Park is a quartet of four close friends—sophomore Jack Kilkelly-Schmidt on guitar, sophomore Monroe Kreitz on tenor sax, sophomore Christian Rasmussen on bass and sophomore Jake Victor on drums. The four met through large student-run jam sessions that occurred last year. After recognizing each other’s talents and similar music tastes, they started jamming on their own, hanging out and listening to music.

While not all of them are getting degrees in the Conservatory, or make a bigger center part of the Venn diagram, as Rasmussen put it. With their eclectic fusion of countless influences, Rat Park aims for creating a bigger community based around music and appealing to anyone and everyone.

When asked how they want to be viewed as a band, Victor answered simply, “We want to be relatable, interesting and make people dance.” Having only attended a couple of their shows and listening to a recording of one, it appears that they are already seen in this light. As someone who is studying a little music myself, there are definitely many moments in their shows that leave me stunned. Even those who might not fully understand the musicality taking place have a grand time, cheering and dancing all through the performance.

While their musicality and energy are more than enough to play an entertaining concert, Rat Park also puts a heavy emphasis on audience interaction. With their strange sense of humor, general goodliness and encouragement to sing and dance along with them, the band gets everyone in the audience comfortable and having a good time.

Part of the reason Rat Park is so relatable is because of the tight bonds they share as friends and musicians. To them, the band is more than just a way to share music; it is a way to express what they are going through— as a group or individuals—with music they all enjoy. The music they create becomes even more engaging and enjoyable when you know the members and the intent behind their tunes. You get to know the guys of Rat Park and groove to their music. I guarantee you will not get to the end without dancing and leaving with a smile on your face.

To stay on top of Rat Park news and hear recordings, you can follow them at SoundCloud at <https://soundcloud.com/ratparkband>. Rat Park will be playing Saturday, Jan. 30.

It is cold outside. The first two weeks of the new trimester are done, so midterms are now being prepared for, if not imminent on the horizon waiting to consume all in their path. Students are swamped, freezing, tired and just wanting everything to stop. It is at times like this a Lawrence student or faculty member can sink into a feeling of despair.

But as always, Lawrence has music that can, if only for its runtime, transport us away from these troubles and anxieties, as was demonstrated by the Lawrence Symphony Orchestra on Saturday, Jan. 23. The kinetic energy of the players warmed those of us who had braved the cold to make it inside the chapel. The orchestra played five pieces and was conducted by Them Ritter George, who looked and performed exactly like the conductor people dream of, with his shock of snow-white hair; tufts with tails and graceful movements like the small flakes of snow that swirled outside.

The orchestra was joined by special guest, senior Sophie Yang, a rising musical star, though Lawrence has known of her talents for years. Dressed in violet and greeted with a standing ovation as she entered for the second number, “Concerto for Violin in D minor, Allegro moderato,” by Sibelius. Yang’s playing was not flashy or overwhelming so much as it was simply correct. There were no mistakes, nothing to disagree with or debate. She simply played everything the exact way it should have been played, with no ambiguity in the result.

Also, she only joined for one song, and while the rest of the concert was fantastic, it left us longing for more of that kind of experience. The first piece, Beethoven’s “Egmont Overture,” better fit the tone of the rest of the night: overwhelming and emotional, the kind of piece that plays havoc with your mind, exhausting you in the mental and physical sense. The intermission offered some respite, but then it was back to the storm, with von Weber’s “Invitation to the Dance,” “Elegy” by Hanson and Enesco’s “Romanian Rhapsody in A Major.”

When the concert ended we walked out into the cold, tired and weary but ultimately grateful. It is a generous thing to have music like this in the world, to have a conductor like George and to hear Yang play violin before she becomes someone of massive importance. In the dark winter’s night as we walked back to our homes or whatever else we needed to accomplish, there was a gratefulness, to know that even in these dark moments we are alive and well.
Trever Presents advocates for student artists and musicians

Wendell Leafsetd  Sup’R Writer

On cold winter weekends at Lawrence University, many students seek exciting new activities. Friday, Jan. 22, in the basement of Trever Hall, several student bands and artists came together for Trever Presents, a night of entertainment meant to show off students’ artistic talents. Many came to enjoy the music and look through a small gallery of student artwork.

The list of advertised performers included MF Gritz, Wild Firth, SRE City High School All-Star Jazz Band, No Pretty Things and DJ Boy Potion. The music began at 10:30 p.m. and lasted until after 1:00 a.m. Each group played a 30-minute set before handing over the stage to the next.

The students who organized the event made sure it did not feel too formal, allowing for improvisations and advertisements were advertised. In the entryway there was a large poster with the directions “draw something” written at the top. Students drew pictures and wrote messages using provided crayons.

The main room was decorated with Christmas lights and was lit with moving bodies. Audience participation was encouraged as a crowd clapped and swayed to the music. "This isn't art.” In the middle of the floor, there was a pile of torn-up Fox Cities Yellow Pages books, some of which were carefully made. Mixed among the aforementioned pieces, there were detailed illustrations, paintings and even hand-sewn designs. Using dark background fabric and colorful thread, they had messages including bands and individual performers. Sztuczko himself is part of two different bands, one of which is re-campus and the other performs off-campus. He described this as being one of his favorite settings to perform. He also does his own recording.

Another part of Sztuczko’s musical career has come from his commitment and involvement with the Gamma Zeta Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia at Lawrence. Better known as Sinfonia, the men’s music fraternity has provided him with opportunities to organize musical events. Sztuczko highlighted a favorite: a day of student ensembles at the Building For Kids. In addition, Sinfonia has also volunteered to sing for senior citizens at Manor Court in the Appleton Community.

Just last term, Sztuczko performed at his senior recital, playing all original compositions and arrangements with the guitar, trombone and electronics. For the future, he stated, “I hope to make a career playing my own music, record myself and others and composing.”

Sztuczko currently works at Guitar Center in Appleton, which he says has been and will continue to be “helpful in personal growth and learning, making connections and helping others make music as well.”

Memorizing a piece is often considered the pinnacle of musical performance. It shows one’s mastery of the work, since it implies that the musician knows the music so well that he or she no longer needs to refer to a piece of paper to be reminded of what the notes are, where his or her fingers go or what dynamics to play. Memorization, however, can be a tricky thing to master, particularly when it comes to music.

Even though science has found little evidence to prove that the human brain’s capacity for memory is limited, ask any musician who has performed memo- rized pieces in his or her lifetime, and they almost certainly will tell you that he or she has had experiences with memory slips. As a musician, it is guaranteed that despite one’s best efforts spent care- fully memorizing something, one will make mistakes at some point when trying to perform the memorized material.

On Saturday, Jan. 23, world- renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma performed at Eastman School of Music Professor of Piano Nelita True chose to give a lecture on the topic of memorized music and memory. Memorizing a piece is often considered the pinnacle of musical performance. It shows one’s mastery of the work, since it implies that the musician knows the music so well that he or she no longer needs to refer to a piece of paper to be reminded of what the notes are, where his or her fingers go or what dynamics to play. Memorization, however, can be a tricky thing to master, particularly when it comes to music.

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The dilemma of LUCC campaign promises

This past Monday, Lawrence University Community Council’s (LUCC) General Council approved the executive election results, effectively making juniors Max Loeb and Jo-Hanna Rifai president- and vice president-elect respectively. At the conclusion of a lengthy application, campaign and election process, it is appropriate to reflect on what has been brought to the table.

When campaigning, LUCC candidates have a tendency to present vague ideals and exaggerated promises instead of directed policy proposals grounded in the reality of their position’s capabilities. Often, candidates promise changes that do not even fall under the jurisdiction of the student government. Such platforms are unfortunately intrinsic to election campaigns and it would be unrealistic to expect students running for our government to be any different.

However, for the LUCC election to be a meaningful process through which the best leadership is selected, candidates must remain aware of LUCC’s capacity and jurisdiction. As they reach out to groups and make promises, candidates must also propose effective strategies to achieve their outlined goals. If those standards are not maintained, students will continue to vote based on changes that candidates cannot realistically make.

This year, a key component of Loeb’s platform was safety. This component was supported by proposed efforts to work in conjunction with diversity-based and socially-minded organizations on campus. That is a positive, if not broad, goal for campus. In addition, he stated a desire to explore the possibility of a mandatory expulsion clause within the sexual misconduct policy.

Regardless of whether or not student government should be involved, the sexual misconduct policy does not fall under LUCC’s jurisdiction; it is instead a university policy. Along with that, the presidential position is not a decision-making role. Any presidential promise to support or pass legislation is a fruitless claim. The concerns we raise here are not regarding the specific policy, but rather, the campaign promise to explore such legislation without a detailed plan.

The complicated nature of the sexual misconduct policy, specifically, lends itself to in-depth scrutiny. First, his campaign is vague, excluding the terms and specifications of which types of violations would lead to mandatory expulsion. Further, we have yet to hear any plan to accomplish such a bold goal. There have been no proposed methods that would bring all relevant stakeholders to a consensus on such a complex and controversial topic.

To be clear, the Editorial Board’s issues with empty campaign promises and proposals are not unique to Loeb. We would likely be presenting a similar critique if other candidates had been elected. Every year, candidates run on the premise of general changes that best relate to student interests at the time. Last year, both presidential candidates prioritized diminishing inefficiency in LUCC by creating more committee oversight while decreasing the number of redundant student organizations. This was hardly a part of any progress made over the past year; Lawrentians have long forgotten about these empty promises.

Collectively, Loeb and Rifai have a lot of experience and ideas to bring to the table. Rifai wishes to maintain better transparency between LUCC and the student body, notes that our current system for student parking is not working, and states that our housing crisis must be solved. Loebl has repeatedly promised to explore such legislation without a detailed plan.

As the year continues, we look forward to the changes that our new LUCC president and vice president bring to the community. While we do not know their plans for making these changes happen, we would love to see them accomplished.

Danny Davis
Operations Manager

Consider for a moment what would happen if a filmmaker tried to make a big budget action picture about the Holocaust. That film would be problematic for a whole bunch of reasons. We wouldn’t expect that movie to be met with positive reviews, if not shunned out of development all together.

Yet somehow, a video game called “Wolfenstein: The New Order,” a first-person shooter set in an alternate-history timeline where the Nazis develop super-weapons and win WWII in 1946. A level in the game involves the protagonist—a Jewish-American army commander named William Blazkowitz—sneaking into a concentration camp and using interactive puzzle mechanics for a device that can liberate the concentration camp and rescue an engineer that can develop a weapon to defeat the Nazis.

In the level, you sneak into the camp as a political prisoner that is placed in a specific cell block for Jews. You sneak through the camp, quietly eliminating the guards while sneakng past security systems. You find the device and control it using a hijacking mechanic to turn Nazi guard robots with machine guns. The final shootout is grueling and incredibly violent, but somehow it doesn’t feel out of place.

Collectively, Loebl and Rifai have a lot of experience and ideas to bring to the table. Rifai wishes to maintain better transparency between LUCC and the student body, notes that our current system for student parking is not working, and states that our housing crisis must be solved. Loebl has repeatedly promised to explore such legislation without a detailed plan.

Letters to the Editor can be sent to in Letters & Editorials Editor, Jessica Morgan at jessica.m.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.
Revisiting Angela Davis: Right Side, Wrong History

Jonathan Rubin  Staff Writer

On Martin Luther King Jr. Day, the Fox Cities community gathered in Lawrence University’s Memorial Chapel to hear King’s legacy, the audience would no doubt have expected to hear King. However, if she had claimed to be speaking for King, some may say that Davis was just as wrong as she was. After the benediction, the whole community joined together in the famous “I Have a Dream” speech, “We Shall Overcome.”

As a Jew who loves and supports Israel, I often think about the conflict between Israel and the Palestinian territories and of Israel’s right to exist. I think the United States lifted massive economic sanctions in exchange for Iran’s promise to reduce their nuclear efforts, to be clear; while the deal puts heavy restrictions on nuclear development, the deal by no means eliminates Iran’s ability to create nuclear weapons. The deal, however, fails to last for up to 15 years, by which time Iran will have gained billions more to put toward their nuclear development and research.

In other words, the deal’s success largely lies with Iran’s compliance with the deal. The region’s future stability, perhaps even international stability, rests in the hands of a mistrusted state with a desire to develop nuclear weapons. And while the consequences are yet to be known, it would have better served the United States and even the Middle East had the United States taken more caution and time when approaching a deal with Iran given the implications the deal might have on terror threats and overall regional stability.

In sum, the United States nuclear deal poses many hypothetical consequences that need to be taken into account when approaching a deal with Iran. The United States-Iran nuclear deal was a means of reducing tensions and transformative in the media, specifically in regard to oil, creating even more security measures to counter the threat. Many fear that Iran’s deal with the United States could trigger an arms race throughout the region much like the Cold War. The possibility of an arms race may likely be the case, given that the United States agreed to the possibility of sanctions for arms being lifted in five years and ballistic missiles in eight years should Iran comply with the deal. Again, removing such sanctions on weapons seems unwise given Iran’s prior cooperation with terrorist groups.

The United States-Iran nuclear deal poses many hypothetical threats that need to be taken seriously and monitored closely. The United States lifted massive economic sanctions in exchange for Iran’s promise to reduce their nuclear efforts. To be clear; while

The U.S.-Iran Nuclear Deal that Could have Been

THE LAWRENTIAN

Jan. 29, 2016

Margaret Johnson  Staff Writer

In the realm of foreign policy, the United States-Iran nuclear deal is currently the most discussed and controversial topic. The deal, being hailed as historic and transformative in the media, has been portrayed as the first step in restoring peaceful relations between the United States and Iran as a means of reducing the threat of terrorist training nuclear arms. The deal, however, has critics and politicians alike asking the question of whether or not this benefits the United States in the long run or simply creates more problems in the future. The deal appears to have been signed after Iran’s pathways to creating nuclear weapons by cutting the number of centrifuges and reducing Iran’s stock of enriched uranium from 10,000 kilograms to 300, and restricts Iran’s ability to generate plutonium as a byproduct of power generation over the course of 15 years. The deal also forces Iran to cooperate with the International Atomic Energy Agency to increase transparency and eliminate the covert production of fissile material via inspections—and a 24-day notice before inspection despite other world kings’ removal being only allowed 24-hour notice. In exchange, the United States agreed to remove $150 billion in sanctions relief. From my understanding, 240 billion in sanctions relief would boost the suffering economy of Iran and allow Iran the opportunity to trade with the U.S. market, specifically in regard to oil, creating even more profits for the region. While the $150 billion in sanctions relief has potential benefits, given Iran’s history with terrorist groups like Hezbollah, Hamas, and the Islamic State, more caution should have been used in giving the state of Iran such a hefty deal.

In the Middle East, there is a general mistrust of Iran given their history with supporting terrorist groups and countries like Israel are worried about how the $150 billion in sanctions relief is going to be used. There has been much conversation about the possibility of Iran increasing its funding to the terrorist groups with the $150 billion in sanctions relief and the consequential profits which will cause even greater conflict in the region.

The increased threat to the region is credible given Iran’s relationship with terrorist organizations and may cause the Middle East to increase security measures to counter the threat. Many fear that Iran’s deal with the United States could trigger an arms race throughout the region much like the Cold War. The possibility of an arms race may likely be the case, given that the United States agreed to the possibility of sanctions for arms being lifted in five years and ballistic missiles in eight years should Iran comply with the deal. Again, removing such sanctions on weapons seems unwise given Iran’s prior cooperation with terrorist groups.

The United States-Iran nuclear deal poses many hypothetical threats that need to be taken seriously and monitored closely. The United States lifted massive economic sanctions in exchange for Iran’s promise to reduce their nuclear efforts. To be clear; while
What is the biggest change that you would like to see our new LUCC executives make?

"I want to see them push for more freedom in student housing and food options." —Michelle Ning

"I would like to be more informed about the changes they can make." —Shane Farrell

"I’d love to see more involvement by LUCC [representatives] to get people to go to campus events via social media." —Keanan Wilson

"Better meal plans, better food and more parties." —Nijesh Upreti

"I would like for LUCC to provide more events and resources for transfer students, such as our own CORE group." —Liana Januss

"I’d like to see Max take steps to fix the potentially disastrous housing crisis." —Colin Wolfe

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