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Photo courtesy of Suzanne Angermeier

The ballot takers wait in the Kaleidoscope to check in voters for the Nov. 7 local election.

Democrats sweep local elections

Mayor-elect Wright-Riggins and four borough council candidates turn Collegeville blue in local election

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For the very first time, Collegeville has a Democrat for mayor and four Democrats on the borough council, giving the Democrats a majority, according to an email sent by the Ursinus College Democrats. Aidsand "Ace" Wright-Riggins will also be Col-

legeville's first black mayor.

Wright-Riggins won the election with 56.24 percent of the vote, compared to incumbent Al Stagliano's 43.76 percent. The borough council results saw Cathy Kernen receive 14.88 percent, Marion MicKinney receive 14.01 percent, Shannon Spencer 13.75 percent and Mat McKnight 13.93 percent. The four Repub-

lican candidates each received percentages between 10 and 11.

President of the Ursinus College Democrats, Charlotte Rohrer, believes the fact that the UC Democrats were more organized this year may have motivated students to vote. She said, "Es-

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Sustainability Office recognized by the "Princeton Review"

Ursinus counted among nation's top "Green Colleges" in 2017

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Ursinus has been recognized by the Princeton Review for being a "Green School," indicating that the college has taken the necessary steps to show a commitment to sustainability. In gaining this distinction, Ursinus now ranks as one of the top 375 colleges in the United States dedicated to reaching sustainability oriented goals.

"It's something we're really proud of... this year, the new sense of commitment... pushed us into the rankings."

—Kate Keppen
Class of 2005
Director of Sustainability

view, a higher education ranking institution, ranks colleges on various different things," explained Kate Keppen, a 2005 alumna and now the Director of Sustainability on campus.

Keppen added, "They ask us, 'Do you have a sustainability program? Do you have policies on carbon emissions? Do you have programs that support people working from home, or alternative modes of transportation?'"

Keppen is excited about the recognition. She noted, "It's something we're really proud of. We haven't been on the list for the past two years. The Office of Sustainability has had staff transition and had been put on a hiatus. This year, the new sense of commitment . . . pushed us into the rankings."

The Office of Sustainability

"Every year, the Princeton Re-

See **Green** on pg. 2

Bear2Bear fund aids students with emergency expenses

Abele offers \$10,000 matching grant, as college begins fundraising campaign to initiate fund

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President Brock Blomberg recently announced the new Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund, an initiative set up to help relieve students of the financial burden that attending college creates. In an email sent out to students on Monday, Nov. 6, Blomberg stated that this endeavor is part of the Annual Fund, which takes in donations from alumni, current students, and anyone willing to give. Blomberg further explained that

the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund was created "to help meet the immediate needs of students experiencing crisis situations or facing temporary financial hardship." Such situations may include recent deaths in a student's family, a parent's job loss, or a severe illness or injury to the student or a relative that will affect academic performance.

Will Abele, a Board of Trustees member and an Ursinus alum of the class of 1961, began this fund with the purpose of allowing financially struggling

students to continue their studies and education without the added stress of money. In addition to his original establishment of the fund, he has agreed to match the first \$10,000 that comes in.

Suzanne Sparrow, the Director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, and Missy Bryant, the Assistant Dean of Students, both want students, faculty, and others to be aware of this generous act of charity. They especially wanted to stress that there is not a cut-off number of qualifying students.

In a joint statement, Sparrow

and Bryant said, "There will be no limit to how many students may receive the award, but the continued availability of funds depends on the ongoing generosity of our donors and others interested in supporting this effort. To allow us to assist as many eligible students as possible, only one award up to \$1,500 can be given to a student per year."

Senior and President of Students Today Alumni Tomorrow (STAT), Megan Burns, believes the new fund will greatly benefit students and the community. She said, "None of us know what the

future holds, but the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund provides security for students faced with sudden turmoil resulting in financial stress. Not only that, but the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund also helps to foster a community in which we are taking care of one another, which I think is really special."

Since the fund is new, it has not been fully enacted and processed. According to Sparrow and Bryant's joint statement, "The Bear2Bear application is

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Photo courtesy of Robert Varney

The sustainability office was recognized for helping campus go green.

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has tackled a number of sustainable issues, including food waste, renewable energy usage, and recycling. Keppen is excited for the revitalized sense of urgency in these issues.

"I'll be focused on... going carbon-neutral by 2060."

—Kate Keppen
Class of 2005
Director of Sustainability

Said Keppen, "There's been a renewed commitment to recycling and food waste. Those two things have been really investigated not just by me and my office but the students at Ursinus. For example, examining what can we do [in] Upper Wismer to eliminate food waste. A lot of colleges and universities have a lot of plastic contamination in their food waste, which prohibits their food waste from being compos-

ted. How can we remove plastics from Upper Wismer? Little things like removing the individual packages of cream cheese and butter, that really makes a difference."

Keppen expressed optimism for the future of the sustainability program at Ursinus, citing an important goal for the college: "One of the main things I'll be focused on is . . . going carbon-neutral by 2060. I know it sounds far away, it sounds like we have a lot of time to figure things out, but we actually have a step process. It's going to take everyone's involvement, including the faculty and staff and the students."

Keppen also encouraged students to get involved with sustainability on campus. She added, "I really encourage students that have questions about sustainability to approach me."

You can learn more about sustainability on campus by emailing kkeppen@ursinus.edu or visiting the environmental studies department on the first floor of Pfahler Hall.

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in the planning stages and will be available on the Office of Student Financial Assistance's website in the very near future. Once they are received, every application will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and the total amount awarded to each student will depend upon the information they provide." The student must be the one to apply for the fund as each applicant must explain the situation they are facing.

Anyone can donate to the fund, even current students. Students are in fact encouraged to participate and will have the opportunity to do so. Rosemary Pall, Executive Director of Annual Fund Programs, highlighted Nov. 28's "Giving Tuesday," or #Giving2UCDay, as a great opportunity for students to contribute to the fund.

Pall said, "Students are for the first time being asked to consider a gift on #Giving2UC-

Day, Ursinus is striving for 1,200 donors to make a gift that day, so that would be a perfect time for students to make a donation in any amount to the fund."

Burns wants to stress that participation, not the amount students donate, is key. She said, "I would encourage students not to worry about the amount of money they may give, but to take note that participation is key. Donor participation can be a factor in the college getting larger gifts and grants to fund student research, faculty and staff and more. Think about it this way- you could spend \$5 treating yourself to a drink at Starbucks, or on #Giving2UCday you could spend your \$5 investing in a fellow student's future. In this way, donating to the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund is directly servicing students in need, while also fostering a more empathetic and philanthropic mindset on campus."

Pall stressed that giving to the Bear2Bear emergency fund

is not time sensitive. She said, "Going forward, donors will be able to donate to this fund as part of the Annual Fund, so in that respect, it is not time-sensitive. Seniors can also choose to make their senior class gift to the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund."

Elizabeth Burns '12, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations, is getting involved as well. She is planning student outreach with STAT (Students Today Alumni Tomorrow) on #Giving2UCday; the Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund is their message's focus.

The Bear2Bear Student Emergency Fund provides a safety net for students in financial crises. If you or someone is experiencing monetary troubles, contact the student financial assistance office for more information. If you would like to donate, there is a form on the Ursinus website at <https://www.ursinus.edu/support-uc/annual-fund/bear2bear-student-emergency-fund/>



Photo courtesy of Communications

The Financial Aid office will now provide the Bear2Bear Emergency fund to help students in need.

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Staff positions at The Grizzly are open to students of all majors. Contact the adviser for details.

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Photo courtesy of Doug West

Jennifer Grugan '16 performs in a previous UCDC performance. This year's UCDC production of "Once Removed" will be using similar film projection techniques.

UCDC fall show, "Once Removed," opens this Thursday

"Once Removed" will be an interdisciplinary performance featuring theatre, dance, and film

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A unique collaboration between actors, dancers, and technicians will culminate in this semester's Ursinus College Dance Company's (UCDC) performance of "Once Removed." "Once Removed" is an interdisciplinary performance piece featuring theatre, dance, and video art directed and choreographed by assistant professor of dance, Jeanine McCain, who recently returned to Ursinus after being on sabbatical last semester. This UCDC performance will mark McCain's tenth involvement in productions of the dance company's semiannual show.

"Once Removed" is notably different from other UCDC shows in a variety of ways—one of the most striking being that one section of the cast of actors is compiled of students enrolled in the Theatre Movement course. McCain explained that the

inspiration for this course, the likes of which have never been taught at Ursinus College before, comes from her own background in both theatre and dance.

She said, "To me, [theatre and dance] are not different things. And so I was really interested in working with actors on more of a physical level. And as a department, we decided this would be a useful class . . . The class is based in professional movement training techniques like movement for performers . . . Oftentimes, what gets missed in actor-training is the body . . . We think about the words, we think about the voice a lot, we focus on what the character is thinking or doing, and often it gets lost in the head. This class tries to bring it into the body as a form of expression and, whether it's the actors' or the dancers,' we're all sort of working from the same instrument."

In addition to the section of the show performed by students

in the Theatre Movement class, there is a dance section made up entirely of dance majors and minors.

Mya Flood, a senior theatre major who is taking the Theatre Movement class, has not been a part of UCDC before. When asked about her favorite part of being involved with the show she responded that it was "connecting with the individuals I work with."

She added, "The class is about] getting in tune with your body and the range of movements you can make . . . It's about challenging myself to test the limits of what my body can do."

Senior theatre and English double-major David Walters summarized the Theatre Movement course, "[It's] a combination of yoga, dance, and mindfulness. But then, as you get further into the semester, it becomes more about rehearsal and improvising for the piece. [The piece

has] got strong themes of home and relationships to space. It's pretty abstract, but I love it."

Sophomore Claire Hughes, a double-major in theatre and media and communication studies, describes the show as "a holistic [expansion of] our body awareness [practiced] through different techniques."

The major theme of "Once Removed" looks at how we occupy space and how those environments shape who we are both physically and culturally.

McCain explained the concept of the show. "[It] started with me and my experiences moving from the West Coast and the Rocky Mountain regions to the East Coast. I noticed that my body felt really different when I was on the East Coast, and I started thinking about places I've been, places I've lived, and how I feel physically different when I'm in different places to the point where I feel like I can't control how I [move] . . . So much of our

identity is in how we move and how [we] feel from the inside out . . . I started thinking about a sense of place and how our landscapes and our environments truly shape who we are."

During the Theatre Movement class, McCain had her students share their stories and memories of how their bodies have felt in different landscapes. "All of those body experiences have become part of the piece," she said.

"Once Removed" will be performed on Thursday, Nov. 16, Friday, Nov. 17, and Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Blackbox Studio Theatre. The show runs approximately one hour without intermission. There will be a talkback with the performers and director immediately after Thursday night's performance. Seating is limited; be sure to reserve your ticket by emailing boxoffice@ursinus.edu. Tickets are \$5 for students and seniors and \$8 for the general public.

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pecially with [mayoral candidate Ace Wright-Riggins], the UC Democrats had a lot of events . . . I think we did a lot with events to really get students involved. I think people aren't [usually] really informed, [but] we really got [the] word out."

The inclusion, for the first time, of a voting site on the Ursinus campus also could have been an added factor. For this year's

election the Collegeville 2 voting site was moved to the Kaleidoscope Performing Arts Center. Rohrer said, "I definitely think that the move helped . . . People are familiar with the Kaleidoscope: It's on campus and people might think where is it? Oh, I know it."

Robert Botti, judge of the Collegeville 2 voting site, also noticed an uptick in students voting this year with 57 students voting in this election. He also

said that this election in general had a higher turnout with 259 people voting at the Kaleidoscope polling location. "[That's] around 100 more than usually vote at this location," he pointed out.

Botti also explained the logic behind the change in location. He said, "We decided to move [the polling location] because St. Eleanor's [Church] decided that they didn't want to be a part of [the polling], and it only made sense to move it here." He noted that

Ursinus' non-profit status was a factor in the move since the Board of Election prefers to host polling stations in a non-profit.

Senior and president of the Ursinus chapter of Young Americans for Liberty, Hannah Engber, thinks it's great that more students are exercising their right to vote. Engber said, "We sent out an email to encourage all students to get out the vote . . . We definitely believe that the best way to make change in

our democracy is to participate in these elections."

Engber also wanted to acknowledge the other organizations that encouraged students to vote and may have impacted the higher voter turnout. She said, "I also have to give credit to the other political organizations on campus as well as UCARE and USCG for getting voters registered in [Montgomery County] and pushing to get out the vote."

Pride shines at Ursinus

LGBTQ+ faculty and staff provide representation for students as they share their stories

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Walking through Lower Wismer in the past week, members of the Ursinus community may have noticed the new walls and red lounge chairs added as part of the final touches to the new center for the Institute for Inclusion and Equity (IIE). The new location of the IIE will be opening in a few weeks, just in time to hold one of its first events, a program hosted by the Rainbow Resource Center (RRC): Stories of Pride.

Stories of Pride, organized by the RRC and supported by the Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA), will allow faculty and staff to share their stories about coming out and coming into their LGBTQ+ identities. The faculty and staff who will be participating in this event include theater professors Domenick Scudera and Dr. Meghan Brodie as well as Residence Life assistant directors Jordan Toy and EJ Madaras.

Robin Gow, the student director of the RRC and president of GSA, explained that the event is intended to encourage “strength in the LGBT community in a political climate that has made many individuals feel unsafe because of their identities.” According to Gow, the event will focus on faculty presenting their stories, but there may also be time for a Q&A session at the end.

Gow recalled the time a similar event was held in Fall 2014 when Scudera, Toy, and Toy’s husband, Alex Frederick-Toy, shared their coming-out experiences at an informal GSA meeting.

Gow said that the GSA wanted to host another similar event this semester because “our board reflected and remembered feeling a sense of community and acceptance to hear faculty and staff talk about their experiences.”

In addition to the meeting held three years ago, Scudera reflected on a similar panel held

12 or 15 years ago in which stories were shared concerning the experience of being a member of the LGBTQ+ community. He said, “I was the faculty representative and . . . there was a staff representative, an alumnus, and a student. At the time, there were not many ‘out’ LGBTQ people at Ursinus, so the panel provided an opportunity for sharing and for asking questions.”

Scudera, who has been at Ursinus for 20 years, also commented on how LGBTQ+ visibility has changed on campus. He said, “When I first started working at Ursinus, there was very little LGBTQ representation on campus. Today, there are more ‘out’ faculty, staff, and students. With more representation, there is more acceptance.”

Although Brodie only recently joined the Ursinus College theater department faculty two years ago, she was previously an undergraduate student in the Ursinus College class of 2000.

When asked about her time as a student, she said, “I don’t think there were any events focused on coming-out stories . . . And there were definitely no events that brought LGBTQ+ faculty, staff, and students together in conversation. When I was a student, Professor Domenick Scudera was the only ‘out’ LGBTQ+ faculty member. Oddly enough, when I interviewed for my position at Ursinus, I realized I would be only the second ‘out’ LGBTQ+ faculty member even though nearly two decades had passed since my first year as an undergraduate at Ursinus.”

“I have no doubt that Domenick paved the way for other out LGBTQ+ faculty and staff at Ursinus, myself included,” added Brodie.

Brodie said that she wanted to participate in the event “to pay forward the support and love [she has] received over the years as an out and proud queer woman.” She continued, “It is a great opportunity for LGBTQ+ students to see the faces of LGBTQ+

faculty and staff and recognize that there is a broader queer community at Ursinus. It is important to me that these students don’t feel alone and that they realize all of the resources available to them at Ursinus.”

Brodie also commented on the value of representing multiple coming-out stories. She said, “I also believe that there is value in learning and appreciating all of the ways in which people come out to themselves and others. For some, the experience of coming out is joyful; and for others, it can be a struggle because of how they anticipate those closest to them will receive this information.”

Scudera encouraged LG-

BTQ+ students and allies to attend the event because “one of the panelists might share something meaningful to open up new ways of thinking.”

As an example of this, Scudera shared, “I recently ran into an alumnus at an event in Philadelphia. He told me that it had meant a lot to him when I had shared information about my life and my marriage. When he heard my story, he realized that there were more options opened to him as a gay man. It opened his mind to the possibility that marriage could be part of his future. And, in this past year, he got married!”

Scudera continued, “Visibility is important. Therefore, it is vital

that we share our experiences to gain more acceptance and appreciation on campus. Although the campus climate has improved from when I first started working at Ursinus, we still have a ways to go before the LGBTQ community feels completely included and welcome[d] on campus.”

Brodie similarly concluded that “Ursinus is definitely a more welcoming place for LGBTQ+ people, but we still have work to do to help LGBTQ+ students feel safe and respected.”

Stories of Pride will be held on Nov. 30 at 8 p.m. as part of the RRC and IIE’s efforts to make Ursinus’ campus a more inclusive space for the LGBTQ+ community.



Photos courtesy of Ursinus Communications

The four speakers at the Stories of Pride event will demonstrate their pride in the LGBTQ+ community.

Build character, write now

The Center for Writing and Speaking hosts events in November for National Writing Month

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November is nationally recognized as “Writing Month,” spurring its own holiday tradition, National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo). To celebrate, Ursinus’ Center for Writing and Speaking is sponsoring events encouraging students to practice their writing skills and write about their favorite issues. Students are encouraged to submit their writing to the Center of Writing and Speaking in exchange for prizes, such as a Wawa gift card.

In the promotional materials that Dr. Talia Argondezzi, the director of the Center, sent out, the Center for Writing and Speaking is sponsoring writing events all of November. These writing events include group writes in the library, weekly prompts, and essay submission contests. The writing prompts include: describe something, thank someone for something, and write a list. Each week the Center for Writing and Speaking will send out an email to students detailing the prompt and requirements.

Solana Warner, a senior English major and Writing Fellow, described the aim of Writing Month, “[The goal of Writing Month is] to inspire people to write on a daily or weekly basis and improve [their writing] through practice.”

To plan the event, Solana Warner and other Writing Fellows “held weekly meetings to brainstorm and plan for

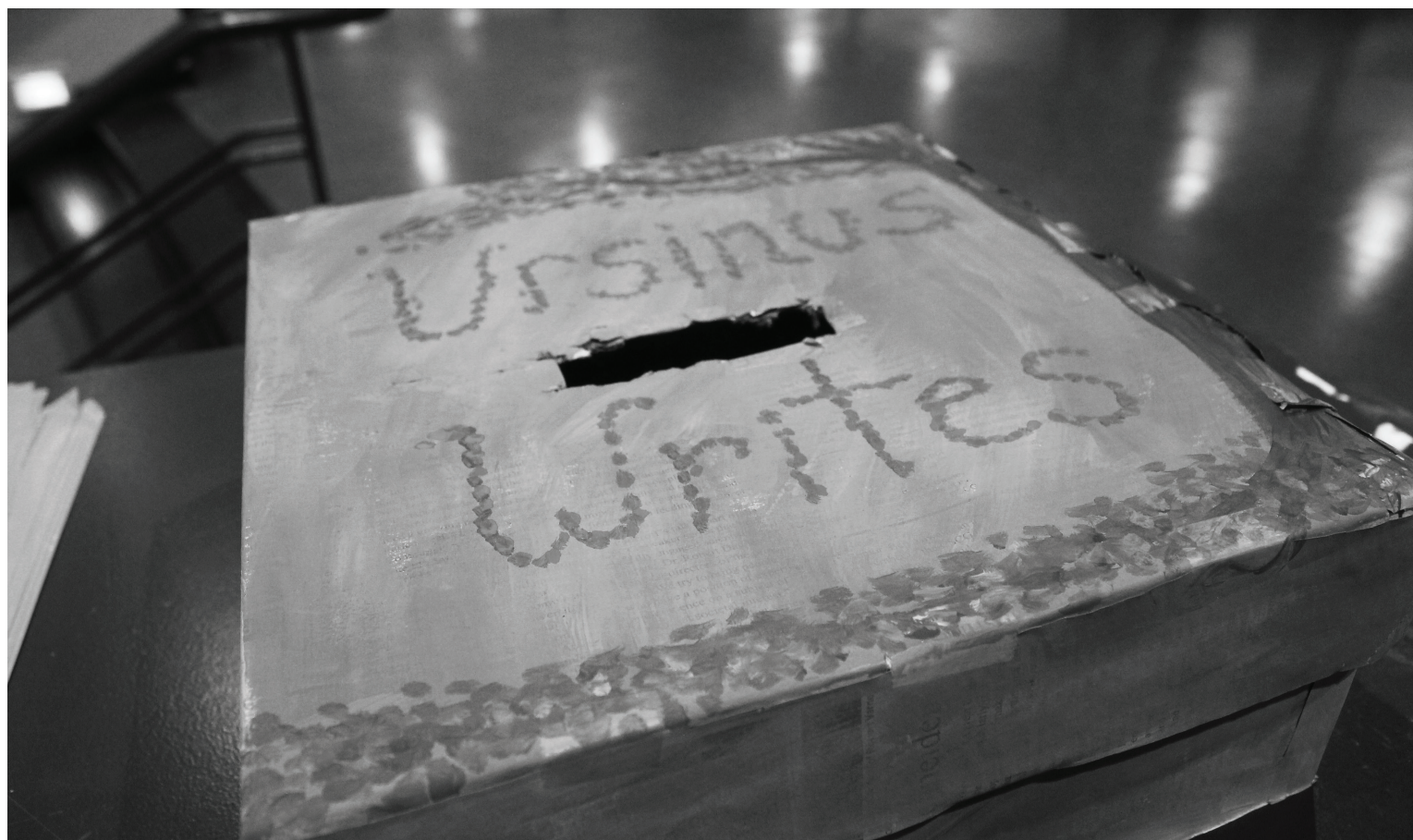


Photo Courtesy of Suzanne Angermeier

Look out for the writing submission boxes in Lower Wismer, Pfahler lobby, first floor of Myrin, and outside Olin 302.

the events and weekly theme boxes.”

“We’re trying to get students to engage in writing outside of their required essays for class in order to kindle an interest in honing their skills. We’ve tried to encourage a wide variety of writing types through various weekly themes, such as ‘descriptive’ or ‘persuasive’ writing,” said Warner.

“As the head of the Center for Writing and Speaking, [Argondezzi] wanted students to learn the importance of writing and

the applicability it holds towards their lives and future careers,” said Warner.

In addition to the Writing Month event, the Writing Fellows are hosting weekly “write-ins,” in which students can come to work on essays for class or creative writing. The Write-Ins will take place in the library every Tuesday in November from 12:00-2:00 p.m.

Said Warner, “Writing is not only important, it’s fun when you’re engaged in the content! It’s also gratifying to share your

work when people give you feedback and care.”

Students are encouraged to write about the prompts in less than 200 words, and put their answers into the painted boxes set in various spots across campus, including Olin 302, Lower Wismer, Pfahler lobby, and the first floor of Myrin. Students can also email submissions to cws@ursinus.edu.

This week’s prompt is to write persuasively, students are encouraged to use their writing skills to persuade the Center for

Writing and Speaking, convincing the judges of anything the student feels passionately about.

Outside of Writing Month, the Center for Writing and Speaking is available as a resource for students to gain feedback on any written or oral projects. Any student interested in receiving some helpful advice on their work can find more information on the Center or make an appointment with a Writing Fellow at <https://www.ursinus.edu/offices/center-for-writing-and-speaking/>.

Happening on Campus

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
<i>Celebration of Lights</i> 7 p.m. Olin Plaza	<i>Jazz Ensemble Concert</i> 7:30 p.m. Bomberger Auditorium	<i>UCDC Fall Concert: Once Removed</i> 7:30 - 9 p.m. Blackbox	<i>Student Showcase Recital</i> 4 p.m. Bomberger Auditorium	<i>Psychology Alumni Panel</i> 7 p.m. Olin 108	<i>Bears on the Farm Info Table</i> 6 p.m. Lower Wismer	



Student leaders must be better allies through their actions

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I was getting tea after lunch in Wismer, just as I always do. While talking to a friend about a guy I had gone on a few dates with, I said hello to another student I knew. The student turned away and said to me that he didn't want to associate with "people like you."

What kind of people could he be talking about? Ursinus Students? People who live in Reimert? Chemists? RAs? TAs? The dyslexic? People with glasses? Oh, I've got it. Faggots. He was talking about faggots.

Once I'd figured out what he was talking about, he had already left the cafeteria.

This incident reminded me of a similar moment during RA training when returning RAs pretend to act like students who are breaking policies or who are emotionally distressed so that training RAs can practice working in those situations. In one scene, I was acting as a suicidal

student. The scenario had nothing to do with my sexuality. Later that day, an RA was talking about how well he had handled my theatric emotional crisis. He puffed out his chest and started his story with, "I was confronted with a gay individual..."

I thought, "People like me must be hard to handle. Not only did he save someone from severe make-believe trauma, he even saved a gay. Bravo!"

Another RA came up to me just this week and said, "I've heard a rumor about you. I heard someone punched you in the face."

"Yes," I replied. "That happened over a year ago. He hit me because I wouldn't sleep with him. That's not a rumor. That's sexual assault."

A "Be the Solution" sticker adorned this RA's laptop. I might suggest that if I were a woman, he would have assumed that being assaulted and harassed was my fault. But, because I'm gay, he assumed it was a rumor I spread for attention. When

this incident occurred last fall, a third RA went to our boss to express his concern that I was lying about being sexually harassed. These are the people who are supposed to believe you. Evidently, this one didn't believe "someone like me."

People like me can tell you millions of stories like these, where our identities are called into question and rejected by the people around us, by the people that we know, even by RAs.

Many of these RAs think that stickers on their doors or laptops that say, "Ally," "Be the solution," or "This is a safe space" indicate that they support all members of our community. This attitude is a symptom of the Student Affairs Office's fetish for stickers, T-shirts, and other outward expressions that indicate that student leaders are accepting of others.

Let me be clear: owning a t-shirt or a sticker doesn't mean you're an ally. Your "Consent, it's the BEAR minimum" t-shirt doesn't mean you actually ask

for consent, or support survivors of sexual violence. Your "Be the solution" sticker is not correct in its implication that you ARE the solution. These perceptions are all indications that this campus has fallen victim to a state of what I call "perceived caring." That is to say that RAs, Bonner leaders, Fellows for the Center of Science and the Common Good, UCARE fellows, Peer Advocates, and other student leaders tend to believe, erroneously, that their positions on campus automatically signify that their behavior reflects values of justice, equality, inclusion, service and equity. This isn't the case for all of these individuals, but some keep firm barriers between themselves and people like me, other members of the LGBTQ+ community, women, and students of color.

I'm not asking for perfection from campus leaders; I'm not saying I'm perfect. Rather, I'm simply asking for a bit of introspection. Think about your actions, rather than your t-shirt

or your laptop decoration. Think about how your character, values, and comportment reflect the tenants of justice, equality, equity, and service that remain at the core of the Ursinus College Student Affairs mission statement. This is the only way that student leaders can begin to truly support the entire Ursinus community.

I must add that people like me, gay, white males, have an immense amount of privilege due to our race and gender. I can't imagine what people of color, women, other LGBTQ students, and those with disabilities must go through every day on this campus, and everywhere else.

I continue to get tea every day after lunch. That is to say that people like me won't be stopped by people like you. We go through every day at the risk of our identities being challenged, questioned, and belittled, even by those wearing "One-team" t-shirts. No matter what people like you think, we will continue to look in the mirror and be proud of what we see.

Paradise Papers reveal unethical tax avoidance by tech companies

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Under President Trump's political and economic climate, stocks and the economy have been soaring. Trump constantly aims for three percent GDP growth as a result of cutting corporate income and individual income taxes, which aims to encourage spending across different family incomes. However, these corporations the tax cuts favor have been operating modes of tax avoidance for decades.

On Nov. 5, an anonymously published set of papers called the Paradise Papers were leaked to the public. The Paradise Papers are 13.4 million confidential electronic documents relating to offshore investment, which might not always be illegal. Much of the behavior exhibited is to be expected of large corporations that operate in multiple territories, using international law to hide money in the safest places possible.

According to the papers, companies including Facebook,

Apple, Microsoft, eBay, Glencore, Uber, and Yahoo! are among the corporations that own offshore companies. Tax havens have been revealed to serve both multinational corporations as well as high net worth individuals such as the Queen of England, Bono, and U.S. Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross, who all were found to use these tax havens to store their exorbitant wealth.

The irony of technological companies, such as Uber and Facebook, using tax havens to store dollars overseas and keep tax revenue from local governments is that these companies claim to provide revolutionary technologies that exist for the holistic betterment of human society- which, in itself, is arguable. Uber boasts that "For cities, we help strengthen local economies, improve access to transportation, and make streets safer." Mark Zuckerberg claims that Facebook exists to "make the world more open and connected." Taxes are used for social security programs, education, transportation, health care, and other government-

owned industries, which many assume have the true best intention of the people. The purpose of taxes is to strengthen local economies, improve access to transportation, make streets safer, and make the world more open and connected. However, this tax revenue has been redirected to the hands of private corporations, who have a fiduciary obligation to the shareholders.

These solutionist tech start-up companies are simply following their tax-avoiding, monolithic legal-teamed technological forefathers. Famously, WorldCom, an early U.S. telecommunications company, declared bankruptcy in 2002 because of fraudulent accounting practices that amounted to \$3.8 billion misreported under operating expenses, severely damaging the US economy in what has been named the "dot-com bubble." Even the beloved household name Martha Stewart was found on nine counts of insider trading and obstruction of justice. These now-defunct companies are significant because they show the error of human judgement in high

pressure environments to fraudulently report on financial statements for their shareholders—errors that could have been avoided had they simply paid their fair share of taxes.

It is important to understand exactly why these corporations use tax havens, and it's more complicated than monetary gain. The purpose of a company's CFO, the Chief Financial Officer, is to maximize shareholder wealth at any means necessary. As shareholders invest in companies, they demand repayment of their investment. A corporation's use of legal tax avoidance methods allows the company to appear more attractive to more shareholders, thus allowing more investors to enter and allows for the growth of the company and the economy as a whole. The only true loser in tax avoidance is the U.S. Government, but the monetary losses that the government incur are repaid in the growth of consumer spending across the different income brackets.

My answer is not to blame individuals and corporations. Tax

avoidance is not as easy an issue to resolve as many people believe. One solution for tax avoidance is to demand international governments, such as the European Union and the United Nations, to hold internationally-based corporations accountable for their tax avoidance policies, taking tax avoidance from the norm to a stigma. Tax avoidance costs local and federal governments billions, if not trillions, of dollars annually. One implementable option could demand a globally-accepted percent corporate income tax, which all nations and territories must agree upon. This would disincentivize companies like Apple to open headquarters in India, which has a corporate tax rate lower than in the United States.

The Paradise Papers, as well as the Panama Papers and other p-alliterated Papers to come, show nothing more than the folly of human behavior, and our society's determined avoidance to pay taxes. As famously stated by jurist Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr., "I enjoy paying taxes. With them, I buy civilization."

UCXC finishes strong

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The Ursinus Bears cross country team capped off a memorable season. The men's team finished in a disappointing 7th place in the Centennial Conference championship, but came in 22nd of 51 in the NCAA Mideast Regional Championship. Finishing 22nd overall was a program record for the men's team. The women's team followed up a 9th place out of 10 finish in the Centennial Conference championship with a 32nd place out of 49 finish in the NCAA Mideast Regional Championship.

Junior Captain of the woman's team, Riley Engel also recently set a new school record in the two-mile run with a time of 11:31 at the UC Fall Twilight on Nov. 3, the Bears only home meet on Friday.

Said Engel, "I was very sur-

prised. Going into the meet, I knew that I was physically prepared based off of all of the training I put in over the summer and throughout the season. By far, this was my best season overall. I wanted to set the record, but I didn't put too much pressure on myself. I knew that I had a pacer, so I was determined to stay as close to him as possible, and it made me feel good knowing that we were ahead of pace the whole time. When I got to the final lap, I was exhausted, but I knew that I had to give it everything, so at each 100 meters, I gradually increased my speed until I was in a full out sprint for the final stretch."

Engel added, "I think that everyone had a great season overall. Although we are not ranked high in the conference, we have to take into consideration that our conference is very competitive and has a lot of talent when it comes

to distance running. Watching my teammates push themselves in workouts and knowing that they put in a 100 percent effort in all of the races is all that matters in the end. As a captain, I try to motivate my teammates and encourage them to keep pushing themselves even when they don't hit their times or are unhappy about a race. The best thing about running is that there [are] always more opportunities to improve."

Engel believes this team has the capability and motivation to further improve next year, with some clear room for improvement on which they can capitalize.

Said Engel, "I think that we have to have a team that actually wants to put in the time and effort each day and are enthusiastic about what they are doing. Although we may not always want to do workouts, we have to have a positive mindset and push each other because that is the only way

that we are going to improve. Developing close relationships with one another and supporting each other both at practice and outside of practice is important. If we don't have a good team dynamic, we aren't going to succeed."

Engel thinks that the camaraderie the team shared this season and the hard work put in really paid off all year.

"I personally think that our team was very close this year compared to the past. Going to practice each day is a very big stress reliever for me because I am surrounded by great people that only want to see me succeed. All of the girls really care about each other. At the Paul Short Run that we compete in at Lehigh, many girls set personal records. This was a big confidence booster for me because I finally broke my best time from freshman year by over 20 seconds. This proved to me that all of my hard work is finally paying off," said Engel.

Engel also has some high hopes for her senior season next year.

"I hope that we get some good freshman girls that are willing to work hard and put in a lot of effort to help the team out. We will be having some strong returning runners next year as well. I think it's important to keep the team dynamics that we have this year, and make sure that everyone develops close relationships with one another. Like I said before, the only way we are going to run well is if everyone pushes one another and has a positive attitude."

The men's team also had much success this year with finishes in the top 50 percent of all but two meets this year.

Sophomore John DeLia credits teamwork for the motivation to succeed.

"I think the team was able to achieve so much success over the season by working with each other. We have so many guys run-

ning similar times that it makes the workouts and runs easier because you're always running with someone else. Also we all hang-out after practice and eat together at the dining hall. I think the team being so close has a lot to do with our success on race day," said DeLia

DeLia expects the team to improve for next year with a sharper attitude and even more confidence in their capabilities.

"It's a mentality thing. We knew that everyone put the work in over the summer and we knew we were going to be good, but we hadn't proved anything yet. Now we've shown we're good and we want to keep it that way," explained DeLia.

Their success came even as stress mounted down the stretch of the season.

Said DeLia, "The toughest part of the season is right around conferences and regionals because this is what the whole season comes down to and the pressure [is] really . . . to run well. Every meet is important but there's a little more weight on everyone's shoulders to do well at the end of the season."

DeLia said he will look back fondly on this season, but expressed that the team's high point was the Paul Short Run on Sep. 29, when Ursinus came in ninth place out of 36 teams at the meet in Bethlehem, Pa.

Said DeLia, "The best memory I will have of this season is probably the Paul Short run. Everyone ran super well and we were all really hyped up for the meet. It was a great day and we really made a good name for ourselves and showed that the program is on the rise."

The Bears will continue their success in the off-season training while preparing for next year. With the returning runners they hope can continue the tradition of strong running.



Photo courtesy of David Morgan/Stylish Images

James McDaid (78th of 365) and Riley Engel (107th of 351) lead the men's and women's teams at the NCAA Mideast Reional Championships.

Scores as of Monday, November 13, 2017

Football (6-4)	Cross Country	Field Hockey (10-8)	M. Soccer (2-13-1)	W. Soccer (3-10-3)	M. Swimming (4-0)	W. Swimming (4-0)
	November 11:			October 25 (2OT):		
November 11:	NCAA Mideast Regional (@Big Spring HS-Newville, Pa.)	October 28:	October 28:	Ursinus: 1 Washington Coll: 0	November 11:	November 11:
Ursinus: 17 Dickinson Coll: 40		Ursinus: 1 #13 Franklin and Marshall Coll: 3	Ursinus: 1 Gettysburg Coll: 2		Ursinus: 57 McDaniel Coll: 38	Ursinus: 57 McDaniel Coll: 37
	Men: 22nd of 51 Women: 32nd of 49			October 28 (2OT):		
				Ursinus: 1 Bryn Mawr Coll: 1		



Photo courtesy of Amelia Goldstein

UC's first home game will be against CC rival Haverford College on Tuesday Nov. 21 at 7p.m.

Men's basketball picked fourth in preseason poll

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This season, the Ursinus College men's basketball team opens the season ranked fourth in the Centennial Conference and is looking to continue to surpass the expectations set for them before last season, when they made their first playoff appearance in seven years.

They finished their last season with an overall record of 15-12 (11-7 against Centennial Conference opponents), and won their first playoff game in nine years on the road at Johns Hopkins University on the

heels of a 22-point performance by then-junior Zach Quattro.

They were eliminated in the next round by Swarthmore College, who went on to win the conference and who open this season ranked #25 in the Division III national poll.

The Bears do not intend to lose again.

Senior guard Brian Rafferty explained, "As a team, our expectations are to build off last season and go win a championship in February. We realize to do that there is a good chance we have to go through Swarthmore. I know I can speak for the whole team when I say we want another shot at

them."

Senior forward Remi Janicot echoed those sentiments.

Said Janicot, "Our expectations for this season are clear: we want to win the conference. We want to build on what we achieved last year. We want to show the conference and the region what we are made of."

The Bears are looking to improve upon the number four preseason ranking.

Junior Eric Williams Jr. was second on the team in points per game last season, averaging 12.8 ppg, and shooting 76/180 (42.2 percent) on three-point attempts.

Said Williams Jr., "I always have high expectations for myself [and] the team. I expect the team to be the best in the conference. We are ranked number 4 [in the Centennial Conference preseason rankings] and I believe we can show people we should be number 1. As for myself, I expect to make a leap on both ends of the floor. I want to make sure I continue to help contribute in positive ways on offense and defense."

Ursinus will have their work cut out for them with the loss of two seniors from last year's team, including guard Matt Knowles, the Bears' leading scorer with 16 ppg on 43 percent shooting.

The Bears are ready to step up this season and replace those key players.

Said Janicot, "We lost Patrick [Mekongo], a high energy player that brought a lot of toughness during practices, and Matt Knowles, a first team all-league player. Every year is a new team, but I think we have guys that are ready to step up to the challenge and give us quality playing time. We play team-oriented basketball where we share the ball and score off of each other. So yes, we lost two important players, but as a collective I believe we can make that up and be even better than last year."

"The loss of Matt Knowles and Patrick Mekongo has definitely been felt in terms of talent and leadership but luckily we have a lot of older players who have gained valuable experience in our league. Experience goes a long way in this league," said co-captain Rafferty.

Junior guard Matt Margolis continued, "With the loss of our leading scorer, we're really all doing it together. [It has been a replacement] by committee instead of just one guy replacing Knowles. We have a lot of talent."

Head Coach Kevin Small and assistant coaches Will Furey, Keith Hack, and Justin Klingman are doing

all they can to have the squad ready for the season.

Said Rafferty, "Our coaches have worked tirelessly to prepare us and make sure we have all the tools and resources to go compete for a championship. Their dedication to Ursinus Basketball is unmatched and we are extremely lucky to have such an amazing staff."

Janicot further explained, "The coaches have made pre-season very intense and physically demanding, which will help us outrun teams and win games in February when other teams get tired. Because we now have older guys to rely on, the coaches are also trusting us with an offense that offers a lot of freedom. We were the highest scoring offense in the conference last season, and this season should not be any different if we look at the offensive weapons we have."

With the coaching staff's preparation and the dawn of the season upon them, the Bears are excited to get going.

Said Janicot, optimistically, "[Based on our preseason,] I can tell that we are going to be good. We obviously still have a lot of work ahead of us, and there are some really good teams in our conference, but I am excited about our potential. Compared to my three past seasons, this is the best we have looked at this point of the year."

Co-captain Rafferty expressed the pride he has in this program going into his final season.

Said Rafferty, "As a senior I am most excited to see how the [rebuilding of the team] that started four years ago turns out. My [first] year we started 0-7. Last year we beat Johns Hopkins . . . in a playoff game. This year we want a championship and nothing less. This is probably the most talented roster Ursinus has had in my four years here. I am very excited to see everything we can accomplish as a group this year."

Upcoming Games

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sat. Cont.	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Women's Basketball: 6p.m.: @Alvernia U	Men's Basketball 6p.m.: Rinso Marquette Tournament (@Anville, Pa.) vs. Staten Island Coll.	Wrestling: 12p.m.: Alumni Match Women's Basketball: 5p.m.: Rinso Marquette Tournament @Lebanon Valley Coll.	M&W Swimming: 1p.m.: vs. Gettysburg Men's Basketball: Time TBA Rinso Marquette Tournament (@Anville, Pa.) vs. TBA	Women's Basketball: Time TBA: Rinso Marquette Tournament (@Anville, Pa.) vs. TBA		Women's Basketball: 5p.m.: vs. Haverford Coll. Men's Basketball: 7p.m.: vs. Haverford Coll.