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Former Dean Files Lawsuit Against Ursinus; College Denies Charges

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Lucien “Terry” Winegar, former Ursinus College dean and executive vice president of academic affairs, has filed a federal lawsuit against the college and President Brock Blomberg.

The complaint was filed in U.S. District Court in Philadelphia in September and was first reported by WHYY in December. It alleges that Winegar was removed from those positions on the basis of age discrimination, citing the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, and that the college violated his employment contract.

According to the complaint, “President Brock Blomberg was motivated by his desire to have a person who is substantially younger report to him.” Also according to the complaint, Winegar retains a tenured position at Ursinus as professor of psychology and is currently on paid professional leave.

Winegar filed a response with the District Court in December. The filing denies all allegations made in Winegar’s complaint.

The complaint seeks at least $1.56 million in compensation for a breach of contract and outstanding severance pay. Winegar is represented by Anthony Abramson, a Blue Bell attorney specializing in workplace discrimination.

The complaint alleges that Winegar’s termination “reflects a pattern and practice of Ursinus discriminating against an ‘older’ employee by replacing an ‘older employee’ with a ‘substantially younger’ employee.” The complaint cites as evidence in the suit that Winegar’s interim replacement, April Edwards, 52, is substantially younger than him. The complaint states that Winegar is 62.

The complaint additionally mentions Richard DeFelicitonio, former vice president of enrollment, aged 58, left the college in May 2015. The complaint says that two months later, David Tobias, whom it says was 32, was hired as vice president of enrollment. The complaint alleges DeFelicitonio was terminated based on his age.

Ursinus’ December response claims that the school accepted DeFelicitonio’s resignation. The response also cites the hiring of Mark Schneider to re-
Wonderling '16, so my family has quickly developed a great appreciation for the college.

How long have you been on the Board of Trustees? Why did you decide to join the board?

I’ve been serving as a trustee for approximately three years. I was recruited by President Fong. During those earlier years, the more I learned about the college, the more intrigued I became about Ursinus, its rich heritage, its commitment to academic freedom and expression, and its very bright future—both among the national liberal arts landscape and across the Philadelphia region.

What do you think will be the biggest challenge for your new role as board chair?

I tend to see the world through the lens of abundant opportunity … not so much challenges. Therefore, I am convinced that we can foster an inclusive community of robust engagement between my fellow trustees, administration, faculty, alumni and, of course, our students. That level of communication will create a growing and dynamic Ursinus.

How do you think Ursinus can learn and grow from Michael Macron’s resignation in September?

I have given this subject quite a bit of thought as I prepare to serve as your chair. First, one individual does not make up an entire college community. Second, we all need to redouble our efforts to be mutually respectful, transparent, and willing to have candid conversations about the college’s past, present, and future. Third, we always need to attempt to “walk in another person’s shoes”—to listen, learn, and move forward in collaboration with all of our best interests at heart.

How do you plan to help Ursinus achieve its values of inclusivity and transparency?

I will lead by example. I will also hope to consider the best practices I have learned in my professional and personal life that will assist Ursinus in being a standard-setting community for equity, inclusion and invitation.

What are you looking forward to developing in Ursinus’ future?

The best graduates on the face of the earth!
Changes to CIE questions and curriculum in fall
CIE syllabus undergoes revamping for class of 2021

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Next fall, first-year students will encounter a fresh CIE syllabus with new questions that have been tailored to align with the college’s re-worked core curriculum.


The “Letters of Abelard & Heloise,” “Renaissance Art, Brebeuf’s, “The Jesuit Relations,” and the excerpts “The Starry Messenger” and “Letters on Sunspots” from “Discoveries and Opinions of Galileo” have been removed from the syllabus.


The second semester syllabus is losing “The Reluctant Fundamentalist,” “Thinking, Fast and Slow,” and John Locke’s “Second Treatise.” Additionally, Freud’s “Civilization and Its Discontents” and Michelle Alexander’s “The New Jim Crow” have been reduced to excerpts. The “Declaration of Independence,” Stanton’s “Declaration of Sentiments,” and a speech by Frederick Douglass will become “a performance common event.”

The proposed new questions are expected to align with the school’s new core curriculum, if it is adopted. English professor and CIE coordinator, Dr. Matt Kozusko, explained that, “when the questions change is not decided yet. We were hoping to go in with new questions in the fall, but the rate at which this new curriculum rolls out is just unknowable right now.”

He went on to add that the questions have been adopted and said, “there are so important and foundational that I would be surprised if they got unadopted.”

The proposed new questions are: “What should matter to me?” “How can we understand the world?” “How can we live together?” “What will I do?”

These questions would replace the three previous CIE questions: “What does it mean to be human?” “How should we live our lives?” “What is the nature of the universe, and what is our place in it?”

Still, some students are not convinced the new questions are the best plan for CIE. Current CIE student Andrew McSwigan said, “I think these new questions are far too vague.”

He also described how the old questions provided some unification to the course.

“The old questions were very clear about what they wanted the instructors and the students to do, which is to take the texts and try to connect them, not to each other necessarily, but to a big picture,” he said. “You would connect these puzzle pieces together and you would step back and say ‘Using these questions, these books, and the film, this is what we as a CIE class have to say about humanity and our place here.’”

McSwigan fears the new questions are too broad to achieve these lofty goals.

“They don’t have the context [like] the last ones had that grounded everything onto a common platform,” he said.

Dr. Kozusko, however, thinks the new questions have quite a bit of overlap with the old ones and that they will be a positive addition to CIE as a whole.

“I think you can hear sort of a loose equivalency between the new questions and the old ones,” he said.

Dr. Kozusko also gave his perspective on the thought process behind the updated syllabus.

“It’s nice to get a change from the faculty perspective,” he said. “If you’ve taught the same stuff over and over you stop experiencing it for the first time.”

He is most excited to teach “Between the World and Me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates and John Stuart Mill’s “On Liberty.”

“Coates is such an easy answer, but it’s such a new text. It’s short, engaging, and contro-versial,” he said.

“We are making changes to the end-of-semester surveys like adding inclusiveness,” said April Edwards, interim vice president for academic affairs and interim dean of the college.

“We want to know what people want to know more about,” said Debbie Nolan, vice president of Student Affairs and dean of students.

Williams picked up control of the discussion again, saying that he gets joy out of his work but that there is a built-in audience of people who are already educated on issues of diversity and inclusion who regularly attend these events. He wanted to move the work of the Diversity Committee to the heart of the campus at locations such as the Wimer.

“We aren’t necessarily close, but a solution is attainable,” Williams said, wrapping up the town hall.

President Roger Florka of the philosophy department also announced the opening of a readings class related to diversity and social change.

The creation of the survey was partially in response to the previous town hall meeting of Nov. 9, which discussed the presidential election results. During the meeting of Nov. 9, the audience discussed the importance of diversity and inclusion, and the Diversity Committee led by Director Terrence Williams took initiative. Centered at the Unity House next to Corson, the Diversity Committee is made up of Williams, President Blomberg, three staff members, three students, three faculty members, and two deans.

Their mission, according to the Ursinus webpage, is to advise the president on goals such as “the creation, maintenance, and evaluation of: curricular and co-curricular programs; recruitment, hiring and retention of faculty and staff; admissions and student recruitment; faculty and staff training; response to community concerns; and coordination and publicity of events.”

In addition to the survey results, a few other initiatives centered on diversity and inclusion were shared. Williams has unveiled a new system available to Ursinus students, the Bias Incident Reporting Form, which can be accessed on the college website, which is for “the purpose of reporting an act that has towards a category of people or an individual based on actual or perceived social identification.” It will allow the college to investigate events ranging from acts of small bias to larger occasions such as criminal acts of hate should they occur in the future.

According to Williams, this report form is live, but still needs to be adjusted with new additions. As these occurrences are reported, they will be taken with the same seriousness as other report types such as crime.

Edwards said that the end-of-semester surveys – the SPTQs – are adding a “question that asks about inclusive classroom environment, giving each student in each class an opportunity to comment on this important issue.”

Edwards stressed that action is necessary for change to happen. “It is incredibly important that we all maintain a focus on issues of diversity and inclusivity, working with the diversity committee and with Dean Williams, of course,” said Edwards. “Too often we respond with a lot of meetings and events after an incident, and then interest wanes. We will all need to work together – faculty, students, staff and administrators – to make sure that these topics always get the necessary attention.”

Nolan, a member of the Diversity Committee, has said that like with the meeting, if anyone has ideas, they are encouraged to pass them along.

“Students can send their thoughts to Dean Terrence Williams or to me,” said Nolan. “Student affairs staff and student government officers are also a great resource.”

President Blomberg also has stated that these are just the beginning stages of what he called an “ongoing dialogue.”

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Portraits of protest: UC students take on Women’s March in D.C.

Marches in various cities last week drew unprecedented crowds and sent a strong message.

A portion of the 500,000-person crowd in Washington, D.C. during last Saturday’s Women’s March.

“Let’s all go.” We were so angry and we wanted to do something.

Also in Washington was junior Emmett Cawley, who drove to the march from Pennsylvania, motivated by his desire to show support for women and other groups represented in the protest and to oppose Trump’s rhetoric.

“Throughout Trump’s campaign his rhetoric was not wholly unfamiliar to me as a man benefiting from patriarchy and male hegemony,” Cawley said. “Because of this, I felt that . . . [Trump’s] ability to be openly sexist and spread sexually violent rhetoric and still become president is a symptom of centuries . . . of oppression of and violence against women.

“I marched for the many empowered women who helped make me the man I am today, for my future daughter, and for women of all colors and backgrounds,” Cawley explained. “I marched to fight against the struggles they have faced up until Jan. 20, 2017 and against the threat that Trump represents for this nation’s women for the years to come. I hoped not only to create change but also to experience this hopefully hugely impactful day for American ideals and politics.”

“When I first heard about the march, she knew immediately that she wanted to attend. “I knew the historical significance of participating in the march because, on the one hand, ‘Women’s March on Washington’ made me think of civil rights marches and when I saw how much interest there was, I knew it was going to be something big. I wanted to demonstrate protest by being there and letting everyone know that Trump is not my president and he does not represent my country or me as an American citizen.”

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— Emmett Cawley

Ursinus junior

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— Emmett Cawley

Ursinus junior

Washington was unprecedented and unexpected—the organizers had originally planned for only 200,000, according to The Washington Post. While crowd sizes may have restricted protestors’ ability to physically march from one location to another as originally intended, Syed described that the massive gathering had a powerful energy. Walking from Union Station to the National Mall, where protestors were instructed to meet, she and Kalmeijer were surrounded by crowds of people heading to the same place—many carrying signs or wearing pink hats symbolic of women’s rights. Syed carried a sign with the Simone de Beauvoir quote “All oppression creates a state of war” on one side and the words “Je suis femme” (French for “I am a woman”) on the other. Kalmeijer’s sign read “She is someone,” with the words “sister, “daughter,” and “wife” crossed out to emphasize that women should be respected as individuals.

“There were so many people, a sea of signs,” Syed said. “You couldn’t imagine on any other day those streets would be empty and people would just be going about their everyday lives. But on [that] day at that time, there were thousands of people around us, and they were all moving toward the same goals and for the same reason—to support women, and women of color, minorities, Black Lives Matter. All of these movements came together, and we were surrounded by so much love. I’ve never been in such a crowd before.”

While many groups were represented in the march, Cawley—who carried a sign that read “Empowered women empower the people”—noted that “it wasn’t exactly the perfectly intersectional feminist march that we had in mind.”

“Many white women were marching to solve the issues of white women face and often were not impressed with the speeches which preached a more intersectional [approach],” he observed, also praising the speakers who did make sure to include the importance of intersectionality in their messages.

Cawley was particularly inspired by the words of civil rights activist Tamika Mallory, who reminded the crowd that while 96 percent of black women supported Hillary Clinton in the presidential election, a majority of white women voted for Trump, and urged white women to recognize their position in American hegemony.

Another speaker, Pakistani-American activist Linda Sarsour, urged protestors to focus not only on the problems perpetuated by Trump and the Republican Party but also on those affecting women across the world, such as drone warfare and human rights violations in the Middle East.

“If you’re really passionate about what you believe in and want to make change, then don’t [just] stay at home and watch the news: Really go out and effect change in a positive and peaceful way.”

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Ursinus junior

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While not close enough to the stage to hear many of the speeches, Syed and Kalmeijer had the experience of being among a crowd of performers in the streets, many of whom toted banners, played music and instruments, and led chants. “What was inspiring, or at least what impacted me the most, was the performers,” Syed said, noting the symbolism of many of the acts: “There were dancers on stilts, there were performers in costumes, there was someone in a Donald Trump costume with a huge head, and next to him was a crocheted uterus.” Syed also described a performance piece with roughly 40 participants that symbolized a boat, the performers chanting, “We’re all in the same boat; keep the boat afloat.”

According to Kalmeijer, the crowd was energetic throughout the day, despite long hours of standing in one place. “It was a good feeling to be in that place at that time, with people like me,” she said. “We spent hours not moving but never got bored,” noting the presence of several crowd
First-person perspective: student curator shares experience

Teddi Caputo ‘18 shares what it was like to curate the Berman’s new exhibition in collaboration with fellow museum studies students.

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“Natessa Amin: Dancing on the Water Tank” is particularly unique not only because it is the artist’s first solo exhibition at a museum, but also because it was curated by twelve people. “Dancing on the Water Tank,” now on show at the Berman, is the first exhibition curated under Ursinus’ new museum studies minor—a class of ten students, myself included, and our professors, Dr. Deborah Barkun and Ginny Kolak.

Amin’s work deals with the exploration of cultural identity, family, and the moments that define who we are. Through her use of abstracted forms and alternative materials Amin presents a look into the struggles and revelations that we all experience throughout life.

“Dancing on the Water Tank” came to fruition after many months of deliberation from vastly different creative voices. Curating an exhibition as an underclassman is a triumph in itself, but perhaps even better than that was learning how to work with others to achieve the incredible result that we did. “Dancing on the Water Tank” is truly a beautiful work of art (and not just because of all the paintings and sculptures now residing in the museum’s upper gallery). Every decision we made was backed by months of careful planning, arguments, frustration, laughter, and awe. The act of putting all the pieces together was a form of artmaking itself. Working collaboratively teaches you so much about understanding those around you. It teaches you to compromise and listen, and that an open mind is more valuable than a biased one.

Fun enough, the most challenging part of this process was perhaps deciding on the accent wall color for the exhibition. It took weeks of debate over numerous shades of pinks, purples, blues, and greens. We all listened and deliberated, yet it was pure luck that one person picked up the shade “Twilight Magenta” and held it to the wall. It was perfect, complimenting Amin’s work in an intuitive way.

It was so moving to see all these people who were just as frustrated and angry as we were ... I would definitely march again.

— Romina Kalmeijer
Ursinus junior

Reflecting on the march, Kalmeijer said she is eager to participate in future protests. “It was so moving to see all these people who were just as frustrated and angry as we were ... I would definitely march again.”

Looking forward, Syed expressed that she would like to see those who wish to protest step out into the streets. “If you’re really passionate about what you believe in and want to make change, then don’t [just] stay at home and watch the news: Really go out there [and] effect change in a positive and peaceful way. Don’t engage with the vitriol and the verbal attacks ... Resist peacefully.”

And Cawley is not about to stop protesting anytime soon. “It’s going to be a busy four years for me and for many others,” he acknowledged, anticipating the continued action that will likely build as Trump’s presidency progresses.

He also noted that those who wish to take part in political action during this new administration do not necessarily have to travel to large cities to get involved, as he has done. “I encourage everybody to reach out to Ursinus’ student groups [like] GSA, SUN, FIA, UCEA, ALMA, Hillel, UC Republicans, UC Democrats, and Young Americans for Liberty, [whose members are] students committed to continuing these battles and who are endlessly helpful in getting others involved.”

“I think it’s a historic time. People should be following the news, be aware of what’s going on, and watch the momentum to become involved,” Syed said, also noting upcoming marches already being planned in support of various causes from immigration to climate change. She also stressed the importance of calling your local representatives, another simple action those who wish to see change can participate in. “We have control over who represents us, and [our representatives] should know that what [Trump] represents is not for everyone.”
Betsy DeVos is a danger to our education system

Here’s why we should worry about DeVos’ impact as secretary of education

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Currently, Betsy DeVos has yet to officially take office due to a delay in her hearings. Her ideas of diverting funds from public schools to the unregulated private sector poses immediate danger to low-income students. She can either gain the congressional support necessary to enact her ideas, or she can be totally ineffectual and blocked from making any real change. Either way, her ideas are dangerous to the public education system.

Back in November, Donald Trump announced DeVos as his cabinet pick for secretary of education. Now that he has taken office, his nominees have also begun to take their places in the cabinet. Betsy DeVos is an education activist from the state of Michigan. There she has been a successful force in the privatization of education.

DeVos has largely worked toward education reform in the state of Michigan. Some effects of her financial support are blatant in the Detroit area. Detroit boasts the largest network of charter schools, something DeVos advocates through the privatization of education.

As noted by Stephen Henderson, a writer for the Detroit Free Press, “This deeply dysfunctional educational landscape — where failure is rewarded with opportunities for expansion and ‘choice’ means the opposite for tens of thousands of children — is no accident.” As a result, many inner-city Detroit students’ only options for leaving failing charter schools are attending other underperforming charter schools. Charter schools have shown higher graduation rates than regular Detroit public schools, but students’ test scores fail to reflect a better system. Detroit, a city which has been struggling with education reform, has yet to see any real improvement through the policies DeVos lobbied for in the past two decades. The fallout of these policies, as Lauren Slagter from local Michigan news source MLive reports, has prompted the Ann Arbor School Board to call for a rejection of DeVos’s nomination, a stance not often taken by a school board.

This heavy criticism from the state in which she has had the most influence over her career should cause worry to both Democrats and Republicans; public education should not be a partisan issue. Critics from The Washington Post, Detroit Free Press, and the Democratic Party have all voiced concerns on her qualifications to be the secretary of education, and justly so. Betsy DeVos does not have true credentials or even experience to be allocating the country’s education funds.

Henderson’s article “Betsy DeVos and the Twilight of Public Education” stated, “In fact, she has no relevant credentials or experience for a job setting standards and guiding dollars for the nation’s public schools. She is, in essence, a lobbyist.” She has no real experience in the education system because all she’s done in the past is financially support her interest groups.

Kary Moss of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Michigan also declared, “We believe that all children have a right to a quality public education, and we fear that Betsy DeVos’ relentless advocacy of charter schools and vouchers betrays these principles.”

DeVos’ voucher program ideas, which redirect public school funds to charter schools based on enrollment and other figures, have been thoroughly rejected in Michigan. It’s clear her home state was not fond of her family’s proposed legislation.

At a national level, her ideas can potentially pass Congress and be instated nationwide. Though that is a worst-case scenario, it is unlikely to happen, especially considering how this political cycle has gone.

Most recently, as CNN’s coverage shows, during a confirmation hearing on Capitol Hill, Betsy DeVos was asked about her stance on the presence of firearms at school. She stated that they are key to self-defense, which is a fair argument, though she had an interesting point. DeVos stated that having guns in schools is important in states like Wyoming “to protect from potential grizzlies.”

This statement was mocked online and shows that DeVos is alarmingly disconnected from the issues schools face. Still, with her nomination as Secretary of Education, she is expected to run a section of the government devoted specifically to that.

Scott Pruitt’s EPA will put our climate at risk

Environmental Studies student voices her concerns about Administrator of EPA

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Climate change puts all of earth’s life at risk, including human life. Scott Pruitt’s history displays that he should not be trusted to lead the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Since the beginning of Donald Trump’s campaign to become president of the United States, controversy and shock have surrounded and continue to surround his actions, decisions and statements. This extends to his nomination of Scott Pruitt for Administrator of the EPA.

Trump’s repeated statements and tweets announcing his skepticism of climate change and his threats to remove the United States from international climate commitments, such as the Paris Agreement, are only a few out of the wealth of controversial statements he has made.

Within the first week of his presidency, Trump has begun to take action regarding his anti-environmental rhetoric by suspending the EPA’s contracts and grants. He also signed executive orders to advance progress on the Dakota Access and Keystone XL pipelines.

Considering Trump’s statements and actions regarding the environment, it is not surprising, although disappointing, that he elected to nominate Scott Pruitt, the attorney general from Oklahoma, to be the administrator of the EPA. I say Pruitt’s nomination to lead the EPA is disappointing because Pruitt has a rich history of anti-environmentalism.

According to Joe Wertz from National Public Radio (NPR), Pruitt has sued and joined other attorney generals suing the EPA over environmental regulations numerous times. Wertz describes Pruitt as the “principle architect of a coordinated legal attempt to block EPA regulation with courts.”

Wertz’s article included that Pruitt, in Senate testimony, was quoted saying, “the [Environmental Protection] Agency is now being used to pick winners and losers in the energy market by elevating renewable power at the expense of fossil fuel generation.” This suggests that if confirmed as administrator of the EPA, Pruitt would not be in favor of promoting clean and renewable energy sources.

The NPR news article by Wertz documented that Pruitt has also stressed that he believes that human-accelerated global climate change is still being debated by scientists.

However, NASA’s webpage dedicated to climate change states, “multiple studies published in peer-reviewed scientific journals show that 97 percent or more of actively publishing climate scientists agree: climate-warming trends over the past century are extremely likely due to human activities.”

In an article for The New York Times, reporters Eric Lipton and Coral Davenport claim that Pruitt has also assisted fossil fuel companies in suing the EPA 13 times and has received campaign donations from many of these same companies.

Pruitt’s conflict of interest is also displayed by his connection with the fossil fuel industry. Reporters Chris Mooney, Brady Dennis, and Steven Mufson wrote in an article for The Washington Post that Pruitt defended ExxonMobil after other state attorney generals wanted to find out if the oil company neglected to disclose information acknowledging that the burning of fossil fuels contributes to global climate change.

To address the United States’ contributions to climate change and its dangerous impacts, such as sea level rise and desertification, the EPA and the Obama administration created the Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan is designed to reduce the United States’ greenhouse gas emissions in a flexible way by allowing each state to design a plan determining how they will achieve their greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Pruitt joined a group of attorneys general in suing the EPA over the Clean Power Plan, of which the Supreme Court has currently issued a stay, which means that American climate change progress has halted. The stay now stalls actions proposed by the plan and prevents the EPA from doing its job.

When asked what his thoughts were regarding Scott Pruitt’s nomination to lead the EPA, Evan Hunt, a junior and environmental studies major at Ursinus, stated that “Pruitt’s nomination is concerning because his record shows he has no interest in reforming our energy system. Climate change is an immediate global health issue and we need leaders who are dedicated to moving towards a sustainable energy model.”

I agree with Evan. Human activities, such as emitting greenhouse gases and drastically altering the earth’s ecosystems, have caused the global temperature to rise. In a January 2017 press release from NASA, it is stated that the global temperature has risen two degrees Fahrenheit since the late 1800s. The temperature will continue to climb unless we change our behavior.
Women’s Swimming on Pace to be Top of the Conference Again

The Ursinus women’s swim team has had a perfect record this season, and has remained unbeaten in their last 39 regular season dual meets.

Gerard Brown
gebrown@ursinus.edu

The women’s swim team has been one of the best teams at Ursinus in recent years, and the accomplishments they have had over the course of the last four years are remarkable. For the past three years, they have been undefeated during the regular and postseasons. Keeping the tradition of winning alive, the team is undefeated in 2016-2017 regular season action.

The women are led by head coach Mark Feinberg, who is in his 12th season at Ursinus. He has done a great job building tradition within the program and has had great success along the way, according to members of the team. Senior captains Allison Emick and Marisa Ferrari had nothing but great praise for him.

Emick described Coach Feinberg as, very simply, “the best.” She noted how supportive he is of the athletes in and out of the pool. Ferrari made clear that Feinberg is a big proponent of academics first and athletics second; he makes sure the women's swim team this year has been their heightened team unity.

“This is the closest that both [men’s and women’s] teams have been, which is different [from] the last three years I’ve been here. Everyone is fully behind each other and wants each other to win,” Ferrari said.

Both captains expressed that the teams have a greater bond this year, which really helped the morale of the team. This season, they said, the team’s work ethic is more positive, according to Ferrari. Ferrari said that she has reminded the women, especially the underclassmen on the team, to make sure that they knew that nothing was guaranteed and that they had to work hard to earn success.

See Swimming on pg. 8

Scores as of Monday, Jan. 30, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M. Basketball (11-8)</th>
<th>W. Basketball (10-10)</th>
<th>Wrestling (13-3)</th>
<th>M. Swimming (5-3)</th>
<th>W. Swimming (8-0)</th>
<th>M. &amp; W Track (0-0)</th>
<th>Gymnastics (0-2)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 28; Johns Hopkins 74 - Ursinus 71</td>
<td>Jan. 28; Ursinus 50 - Johns Hopkins 41</td>
<td>Jan. 28; Stevens 19 - Ursinus 18</td>
<td>Jan. 28; Washington 133 - Ursinus 129</td>
<td>Jan. 28; Ursinus 150 - Washington 112</td>
<td>*For full results please visit ursinusathletics.com</td>
<td>Jan. 28; Rutgers 194.875 - Ursinus 191.350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
on floor, and myself and junior Kaelin Ruoss on beam.

Casarella also noted how the coaches have played a big role in motivating and directing the squad to a higher competitive level every practice.

“Jeff Schepers and [assistant coach] Emily Repko come in the gym every single day, ready to work with us and make the best we can be,” she said. “They are constantly finding ways to better our gymnastics and to do all that they can to put us on the right track toward our ultimate goal of winning Nationals.”

Chavis also expressed her optimism and happiness with the season.

“The first meet is always a tough one because the freshmen [are] new to the feel of college gymnastics, but we [had] a great start [to] the season,” said Chavis. “After our second meet, the team saw how much we have each other’s backs by fighting tough, and we continued to do the best until the last routine of the night.”

Similar to Casarella’s take on how she feels the season will go, Chavis only had words of optimism and confidence.

“We have great depth as well as confidence, and that is truly key in the gymnastics world,” she said. “We have put a lot of hours into routines; as the season continues, we will [continue] to push and motivate each other to be greater and greater.”

The Bears will have their next meet in Philadelphia against the Temple Owls on Saturday, Feb. 4.

For the Bears, there are only a few more competitions on the horizon. The Bears have a dual meet against the Temple Owls, and then a trip to the Big Ten Championships. The Bears will then have a dual meet against the University of Michigan, and then the season will come to a close.

Bears competing at home Saturday, Feb. 4 against Bryn Mawr.

A message from the Grizzly editorial staff

Editorial Staff
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In this issue, The Grizzly contains a report on a lawsuit filed by former Ursinus Dean and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Terry Winogar, alleging that his termination resulted from age discrimination by Ursinus. WHYY broke the story in December, and The Grizzly was alerted to the lawsuit anonymously a few weeks before that. We would like to use this space to address some issues related to that tip and remind the Ursinus community about our goals and mission.

The original note we received, which was addressed to editor-in-chief Brian Thomas and signed anonymously by a person or persons claiming to be “two troubled and tenured faculty members,” urged The Grizzly to report on the lawsuit, and provided a paper copy of Winegar’s publicly available legal complaint. Despite being received in Ritter over the weekend, The Grizzly staff did not see this note, sent via post in an Ursinus envelope, until the night that our final issue of the fall semester was going to press, preventing us from any responsible coverage of the suit. We vowed internally to report on it in our next issue, which we have done. Late last week, however, our advisor, MCS professor Nick Gilewicz, received another anonymous note with the same signature, expressing “disgust” and frustration that we had not yet printed a story about the suit. The final paragraph of the note threatened Gilewicz by saying that if he did not insist The Grizzly report on this story, they would “hold him responsible” and “ask [their colleagues in Media and Communications Studies to replace him].”

We want to make it clear, in no uncertain terms, that The Grizzly is not publishing this story because of the threat. We make all editorial decisions independently, and we will not be bullied by anonymous letter-writers with unknown agendas. We also want to make it clear that our decision to wait until now to publish this story resulted not from an aversion to something that may reflect negatively on the school, as the second letter to Gilewicz implied when it referenced the perceived “failure of the College’s administration under our new president.” It stemmed solely from the inconvenient timing of the original tip and a desire to not rush such a sensitive and multifaceted story. This newspaper serves the Ursinus community as a whole, and strives to provide balanced coverage of the events happening on campus. We stand by our work.

With the goal of transparency in mind, we would also like to share some information about our process that members of the Ursinus community may find useful. Our publication schedule is rigid, and dictated in part by the schedule of our off-site printer, whom we contract each year. We hear pitches from student reporters every Monday evening. They report these stories throughout the week, and then we edit them over the weekend, re-reporting when needed. These stories comprise the print edition of The Grizzly the following week. After hearing pitches for the future issue, we lay out the issue for that week, and send it to press late Monday night. Copies typically arrive on campus the Wednesday after we lay out. All of this is to say that, more often than not, it takes until the next Monday for a tip to be assigned to a reporter, and then another week until it is printed. It is not instantaneous, and it is driven by practical realities, not editorial indecision.

We hope that all members of the Ursinus community feel free to reach out to us with concerns or possible stories. We want this newspaper to be of the community and for the community, and that can only happen if people trust us.

Additionally, we would like to re-assert our purpose on this campus. The Grizzly is indeed committed to reporting on issues and events of interest to the community. That said, it is also an educational endeavor. We intentionally operate as a space where students interested in journalism can gain first-hand experience, build a portfolio, and learn from their mistakes. It is a space where students can learn how to interview, write clearly, and hone their instincts. It is a space for learning as well as for reporting.

This message should not imply that we view ourselves as a perfect operation. We eagerly hear constructive critique, and move as swiftly as possible to rectify errors in our reporting when they are pointed out to us. We understand, like any newspaper, that mistakes get made, and learning how to mend them is part of the educational experience. We appreciate when people helpfully point out things we have missed, or topics we should focus on.

We hope the community understands that our goal is never to mindlessly promote the school’s initiatives, nor is it to vindictively churn out criticisms of the administration. Our goal is to provide insight into life here, give space for members of the community to share their experiences, and help students learn proper journalistic practices. We hope that the Ursinus community will aid us in this endeavor moving forward.

WWW.URSINUSGRIZZLY.COM