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Brian Thomas
_Ursinus College_

Deana Harley
_Ursinus College_

William DiCiurcio
_Ursinus College_

Leighnah L. Perkins
_Ursinus College_, leperkins@ursinus.edu

Tingyue Gong
_Ursinus College_

See next page for additional authors

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Students, faculty talk about changes to CIE

The most recent forum focuses on how to address the demands of SUN and add more diversity to the curriculum

Brian Thomas
brthomas@ursinus.edu

On Wednesday, Feb. 17, students and faculty gathered in Bomberger for an open forum to discuss diversity in the Ursinus curriculum, as well as other issues on campus pertaining to race and diversity. The forum was hosted by La'Shante Cox ’16, president of SUN, and Ross Doughty, professor of history.

The meeting came on the heels of a December demonstration hosted by SUN, where students attempted to shed light on the lack of minority authors in the CIE curriculum. After the demonstration, the organizers met with members of the administration to discuss the backlash they received on social media sites such as Yik Yak. One of the main focuses of the talk was about the addition of a fourth CIE question.

The proposed fourth CIE question asks how race, gender, and personal identity shape society today. This proposed fourth CIE question has many implications, including a change of the CIE syllabus to include a more diverse range of authors.

“It went a lot better than I thought it would have gone,” said Cox. She said she was happy to see such a large turnout and high level of engagement. “It was really interesting to see the faculty members and students working together to come to a common ground, or at least a majority conclusion with everything that’s been going on with the fourth CIE question and the core curriculum.”

The forum began with opening remarks by Cox and other members of the SUN executive board, outlining their goals for the discussion. Afterwards, Richard Wallace, professor of environmental studies, spoke about the original proposal for the fourth CIE question, in addition to other possible solutions to issues of race on campus. Then, professors Edward Onaci and Aprili Kontostathis gave a presentation on the progress of the new core curriculum, paying special attention to how issues of diversity can be incorporated. Then the floor was opened to all in attendance to speak.

The comments were varied, with some students and faculty voicing concern that the fourth question would actually discourage thinking about issues of race, gender, and class, while also distorting the goals of CIE.

“One student brought up whether or not we should implement a fourth question, just because he felt that there is one answer to that, and that’s ‘racism is not good,’” said Cox. “He felt that CIE was meant to be an open forum, something that we can just continue to talk about because there’s just so many different perspectives.”

Still other students responded to the meeting with lukewarm interest. One student, responding to an anonymous poll, said that he “didn’t care about the texts they read or CIE,” but “thought some students would like it.” They continued that they “didn’t care about the race of the author, it’s about the meaning of the text.”

“It’s super important that students and faculty engage in just the kind of open, frank, and free discussion that we had,” said Robert Dawley, professor of biology. Members of the SUN executive board, outlining their goals for the discussion.
Community comes together during norovirus outbreak

Highlighting the local businesses that volunteered their time last week

Will DiCurcio
widicurcio@ursinus.edu

Ursinus College experienced a nasty case of the norovirus two weeks ago causing more than 200 students severe illness. As a result, the dining halls, Upper and Lower Wismer, were closed for cleaning. The closing was a precautionary measure to ensure that the facilities were sanitized and in compliance with inspection criteria.

The college worked closely with the Montgomery County Health Department and was following its recommendations.

Since the dining options on campus were shut down and students could not access them, the college looked to the Collegeville community for help. Several businesses, such as Wawa, Wegman’s, Redner’s, and the Collegeville Italian Bakery, sent food to the campus to feed students.

Wawa offered Sizzilis and hash browns for breakfast and Shorti hoagies for lunch. Wegman’s brought snacks and drinks, Redner’s donated Gatorade and saltines for sick students, and the Collegeville Italian Bakery supplied 600 assorted hoagies for lunch.

Vince Terry, a junior, took full advantage of the food that was offered in the Floy Lewis Bakes Center that Thursday morning. “It was extremely generous of the local businesses to reach out to us in a time of need. It just reinforced how tightly knit of a community this town is,” said Terry.

The food was distributed by various volunteers from the college and the community. They donated their time to organize and pass out the food to the students.

Missy Bryant, assistant dean of students, coordinated the donations from the local businesses in the area.

“We were very fortunate to have community partners step up to help last week,” said Bryant.

Bryant stated that the college is going to continue its efforts to engage with the community, so that a strong relationship is maintained between the college and the Collegeville community. In addition, President Brock Blomberg is personally thanking the businesses that donated to Ursinus.

President Blomberg even posted a photo on his Instagram account sharing the hand of an employee of Marzella’s Pizzeria. Blomberg’s caption on his photo read, “Thanking our friends at Marzella’s for their help this past week!!”

After the college closed the campus on Feb. 11, Upper and Lower Wismer were both thoroughly cleaned and were inspected by the Montgomery Department of Health.

Both dining halls are now open and running as usual, but self-serve options have been eliminated at both dining halls until further notice.

Memorial continued from pg. 1

Buck, spoke of some of his last times with his daughter and how much the Ursinus community meant to Buck and to her family.

“This memorial brought the campus together because the tragedy had an effect on all students whether they had known Michelle or not,” Terris said. “The turnout of students showed that regardless of the relationship they may have had with her, they still came out to honor her memory and show support for the family.”

Students who did not know Buck left the memorial with a deeper sense of the type of person Buck was.

“She had such a big impact on every person she knew,” Brittany Hawley ’16 said. “Each person talked about how she affected their lives which was very telling of the kind of person she was.”

“Making sure her memory remains a part of campus was one of our main goals,” Terris said. “I believe the service on campus helped accomplish that.”

Letters to the Editor (grizzly@ursinus.edu)

All letters submitted to The Grizzly must not exceed 250 words in length, must be emailed, and must be accompanied by a full name and phone number to verify content. The Grizzly reserves the right to edit all material for length, content, spelling and grammar, as well as the right to refuse publication of any material submitted. All material submitted to The Grizzly becomes property of The Grizzly.

The Grizzly meets every Monday at 6:00 p.m. in Ritter to assign stories. All are welcome.

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

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Learning more about housing

With the housing lottery approaching, it’s useful to compare and contrast housing options on campus

Leighnah Perkins
leperkins@ursinus.edu

It’s almost that time of year again: the housing lottery. Students received their housing lottery numbers on Monday, Feb. 22. The lottery will be held on Tuesday, April 5, for the class of 2017, Tuesday, April 12, for the class of 2018, and Tuesday, April 19, for the class of 2019. With students having such options as 32 Main Street houses, SPINT housing, Reimert suites, and New and North to choose from, it’s not surprising that the process of selecting where to live can be overwhelming, especially for first-year students.

Main Street houses around 500 upperclassmen on campus, and all are eligible to live there after their first year.

Stephanie Bohrod, a sophomore currently living in Sprankle Hall, was quick to confirm the warm atmosphere that comes with living in a Main Street house. “I actually like my house...it’s really homey and quiet for the most part,” she said.

In contrast, Alex Nigro, a sophomore living in Sprankle Hall, did not have the same praise for her house, stating the only nice part of living in a Main Street house was the location. “I have a shorter walk to the area around Olin and Bomberger, which is really nice. I also like the fact that I don’t have to cross Main Street...I like being closer than average to campus.”

Both students cited a lack of kitchen resources and coed bathrooms as their main complaints with Main Street houses. “Well, we don’t have a kitchen,” said Nigro about Sprankle. Bohrod agreed, saying that one thing she would change about Shreiner is the kitchen. “The oven isn’t great, and it would be nice for it to be better so I could make my own meals,” she said.

Overall though, Bohrod said she was happy with her living situation. “I love where I live and would 100 percent live here next year.”

Nigro was not as happy with her house or the lottery system, saying that the lottery system is not the best way to choose housing. “I didn’t really get much of a choice. I was on the list at the end where after they run out of rooms and you basically get the dregs of the house.”

In contrast to Main Street houses are North Hall and New Hall. About 40 students live in each hall within the two buildings, and as the newest dorms on campus they are pretty popular. With their modernity and cleaner nature, the doubles, triples, and suites throughout the two halls are snatched up pretty quickly.

Sophomore Katrina O’Donnell, a resident of North, confirmed that North’s modern amenities are a great part of living there. “One pro is definitely the elevator,” she said. Junior Matt Chipego, a resident of New, pointed out that along with the modern aspects of the buildings, the cleanliness is also a pull. Chipego lived in New last year and picked it again, saying, “Last year was my first year [at Ursinus] and I lived in New; I enjoyed it, the laundry rooms and the bathrooms are cleaner than other places on campus so I just picked it again.”

The con both students pointed out is the lack of social opportunities in New and North. Chipego pointed out the long walk to Reimert on the weekends as a drawback, while O’Donnell said that the sprawling layout of the building doesn’t create much of a community. “Sometimes I don’t like being in this corner of campus, I wish there was more community.” Overall, the modern nature of the buildings might cut down on a neighborly feel, she added.

The housing information includes floor plans of all housing options. Students with questions can consult the housing packet sent out along with the lottery numbers.

Students can also reach out to Melissa Sanders Giess, assistant director of students and dean of residential life, at mgiess@ursinus.edu.

International Perspective

Differences within the classroom and without

Tingyue Gong
tigong@ursinus.edu

I have studied at Ursinus College since August. During these days I have faced different kinds of challenges in my daily life, which come from study, social life and living in a new environment, since I am an international student from China.

The American teaching style is different than Chinese teaching style. In China teachers talk in the class while students listen; however, it is completely different in the U.S. Teachers and students in the class are like friends. Students share their own opinions to their professors and can even oppose professor’s points. This is a new concept for me. In the beginning, I felt so uncomfortable with that, since I am not confident with my English fluency. After a few weeks, I decided to try speaking in class and the professor and classmates all listened carefully.

Every day I receive various knowledge from different classes. From them I have learned many new vocabulary words. Actually, when I learn these new words, I need to remember not only the English meaning but also the Chinese meaning. So much information is always confusing to me. In addition, the biggest challenge for international students is to present materials in class. Take myself, for example, in CIE class; sometimes I wanted to put my hand up. Unfortunately, I was worried that if I said something wrong, the professor and students might laugh at me if my pronunciation was wrong. In the first two weeks I said nothing in my classes and became a listener. I wanted to participate in class, but I was less courageous. I told myself, IF I can speak in class, I will overcome my fear. Since I started speaking more in class, I find that native students listen more carefully when international students speak since they understand that there is a language barrier.

Second, participating in social life is another challenge for me. In China, a student’s social life is so tedious; we do not have many interesting activities like parties. In America, students have many activities they can do in their social life, such as seeing a movie, going to different parties, and joining different clubs. In China our social life is so monotonous. When we go from primary school to high school, suffering much stress, we barely have a chance to play with friends since we have to finish a large amount of homework. However, in America, I found a lot of interesting social activities. We can be a volunteer to help some family who needs care; we can join different clubs to improve ourselves; we can participate in different teams, such as baseball, hockey, swimming and so on. Since a lot of activities are unfamiliar to me, I only joined a couple of clubs. Fortunately, everyone was very welcoming and tried their best to help me.

Third, living in a new environment, and becoming acquainted with the various buildings on the campus, is vastly different compared to living in your native country. When I first arrived at Ursinus College, it gave me a totally different impression of life in America. The buildings on campuses in China always look the same. However, the buildings on this campus all have unique characteristics that set them apart from one another. Therefore, it is easier for me to find where my classrooms are here at Ursinus.

When students study abroad, we always meet a lot of challenges. The best way for us to overcome these obstacles is to try our best to fit in. If we can embrace our challenges, we will fit into a new environment.

Tingyue Gong is from Lanzhou Gansu, China. She is thinking of majoring in business. Tingyue is a member of SASA and the Chinese Club. She enjoys traditional Chinese dance and making handicrafts. She wants to share her Chinese culture.
Double Trouble

Two professors teach an English senior seminar on controversial books

Valerie Osborne
vaosborne@ursinus.edu

For the third semester since 2010, an English senior seminar is being taught on banned books.

This upper-level class designed for English majors explores literature that has been challenged in the past.

Looking at novels such as "Madame Bovary," "Lolita," and "Huckleberry Finn," students are asked to question why such literature was once considered transgressive and how modern-day taboos might one day seem obsolete.

The course is co-taught by Dr. Jon Volkmer and Diane Skorina, who have been involved since the course's inception.

Volkmer, an Ursinus College English professor, first had the idea to teach the banned books course after teaching the controversial novel "Ulysses."

Volkmer said he wanted to give students more exposure to historically outlawed literature.

"'Ulysses' was, of course, banned for years in the United States. So the question is raised, Why was it banned when it's practically unintelligible to most readers? [Which] raises the question, Why were other things banned too? I think it's a provocative question and students like to talk about it," Volkmer said.

When beginning to create the class, Volkmer enlisted the help of Ursinus librarian and director of information literacy and instructional technology, Diane Skorina.

The two collaborated on research for the course and together came up with a syllabus.

Volkmer then invited Skorina to teach the class with him in order to incorporate a wider perspective.

"I solicited Diane to teach the course with me six years ago because of the delicacy of the subject matter," he said. "I thought it would be good to have both a male and female perspective in the classroom together."

As a librarian, Skorina says the subject of banned books greatly interests her.

"Librarians generally as a rule care a lot about censorship and book banning," she said. "Libraries are places that are supposed to provide access to information... without some kind of overarching 'this is right' or 'this is wrong.'"

Although co-teaching is not a common occurrence at Ursinus, Volkmer and Skorina say they look to make this rare classroom dynamic work in ways that benefit students.

Senior English major Blaise Laramee said, "I was actually a little dubious about this class as a co-taught class when I first heard [about it], but now that I'm in it my doubts are definitely gone. Prof. Skorina and Dr. Volkmer have a good chemistry in the room."

Since the course examines the banned books through a literary and a historical perspective, Volkmer and Skorina are able to bring both of their strengths to the class.

Skorina said, "I [bring] in my knowledge of the history of book banning and he has the literary knowledge."

The course also contains a heavy research aspect, the final exam being a research paper.

This element makes it practical to have someone like Skorina involved since her expertise as a librarian is in research techniques. Volkmer and Skorina meet weekly to discuss how to structure the class and to brainstorm discussion questions.

However, both agree in having flexibility in the classroom to allow students to lead.

Skorina said, "We both have the philosophy that this is the students' class. Within the class if something starts [to go] a different way, we let the students lead us."

The instructors also encourage the students to disagree with them. Volkmer and Skorina don't always see eye to eye on every topic.

They said that they hope that their disagreements will encourage students not to be afraid to argue during discussions.

Volkmer said, "With this material everybody needs to make up his or her own mind and I like that I'm not the only voice of authority. I may know these books better than the students, but I want to give them the opportunity to form their own opinions. When Diane and I don't always agree...that models for students' good disagreement."

Laramee said that the invitation for students to form their own opinions forces students to examine and question their preconceived biases.

He said, "Confronting the prejudices and censorships of the past brings me face to face, sometimes, with my own preconceptions and modern prejudices. It's easy for us as a class and society to denounce 1800s England as queer-phobic and sexist and racist, but how accepting are we today of non-normative romantic relationships, like polygamy and polyamory? Would I morally cringe if I saw a human and an artificial intelligence having a romantic relationship sometime in the future?"

The class isn't just a way for students to explore their beliefs. In a sense, the class isn't being taught by just Volkmer and Skorina, but by everyone involved.

Even the professors have something to gain from class discussions, according to Skorina.

She said, "I love [teaching the course] for partially selfish reasons. I learn so much. Every time we've done this class I have learned so much about so many things, including about myself. It is such a pleasure for me to do and embark on the challenge. I think it's [gotten] better and better each time I've done it."
The woman behind the screen

Jen Wolfe’s job is to keep Ursinus’ social media accounts interesting and up-to-date

Tyler Arsenault
tyarsenault@ursinus.edu

Ursinus has a large presence on social media. The school has a Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Vimeo, and Instagram page. Not only do these accounts showcase news stories about the College, but they give Ursinus its own voice and personality.

However, many students may wonder what department is in charge of social media, and if there is a mastermind behind these accounts.

There is, in fact, a mystery woman behind the accounts, and her name is Jen Wolfe.

Wolfe is with the college communications department located on the third floor of Myrin Library. She is in charge of the school’s social media accounts and deciding which news stories and updates to post.

Wolfe came to Ursinus four years ago after working as a writer and editor at TV Guide. She was in charge of editing TV listings for kids shows and HBO shows.

“When ‘The Sopranos’ first aired, my editor handed me the tape and gave me my assignment. At first, I thought it was a singing show until I finally watched the trailer and realized what it was,” said Wolfe jokingly.

After a couple of years at the magazine, Wolfe said that she had gotten too far away from her creative side, so she decided to shift her focus and take a position at Ursinus.

Since then, Wolfe has revamped Ursinus’ social media accounts on all platforms by increasing the number of followers, posting interesting content, and doing a lot of what she calls “listening,” or seeing what other people are posting online.

“We use social media primarily as a way to engage with our audience. But we also use it as a way to listen,” said Wolfe.

One way that Wolfe does this is by going on the popular social media platform called Yik Yak.

“During the illness, I learned on Yik Yak that students weren’t getting the Ursinus emails, so we used social media to send the message to students to check their emails. This eventually prompted the IT department to fix the issue with the emails going into the bulk folder,” said Wolfe.

While Ursinus social media has a large presence when posting news stories, there are a number of components that Wolfe takes into account when posting certain updates on each platform.

“I find that each platform has its own personality. Something I might share on LinkedIn might not work well on Instagram,” said Wolfe.

Wolfe did point out that there are a few things that always seem to be popular regardless of the social media platform.

“The things that seem to resonate on all the platforms are humor, beautiful photos of campus, especially if it involves snow, and big news on campus,” said Wolfe.

According to Ursinus social media statistics, more than half of the top 10 posts on Instagram were pictures of campus. On top of this, four out of the 10 were photos that weren’t even taken by the communications department.

“Four of the top 10 posts aren’t even photos that I took,” said Wolfe. “One was from a local pilot that I found using the Ursinus hashtag.”

On average, Wolfe likes to post updates at least once a day, and in some cases she will post more.

Her typical day consists mostly of social media research, deciding which news to post or what updates she thinks the followers will resonate with.

In addition to handling the social media accounts, Wolfe also writes, edits, and proofreads stories for the website and magazine, as well as materials for the admissions and advancement offices.

She also works with the college communications department on photography and videos.

As Wolfe and Ursinus social media continue to interact with the Ursinus community, there are a few things that Wolfe has implemented to involve students even more with Ursinus social media.

Currently, she has introduced the Instagram “takeover” where a student will gain access to the Instagram account and take pictures during their day.

“Student takeovers are a unique way to provide a look at what life is like on campus,” said Wolfe.

In addition to this, Wolfe looks forward to introducing a new aspect to the Instagram account called “100 days of clubs” where a club or organization will be spotlighted each day for 100 days.

Unbeknownst to many students, Wolfe actually launched an Ursinus Snapchat account during Brock Bloomberg’s inauguration.

This is a platform that Wolfe wants to grow as a place where she can interact with students on an instant basis.

The college communications department is also in the process of building a team of social media ambassadors to meet and generate ideas.

“We would love to get students involved in this,” said Wolfe. “We want to know what some things are that they want to see on our social media accounts and maybe what things they don’t like.”

Wolfe can be contacted at jwolfe1@ursinus.edu.

Jen Wolfe has been a part of the Ursinus community for the past four years and currently manages the school’s social media accounts. Prior to her position at Ursinus, Wolfe received a B.A. at The College of New Jersey and was a writer for TV Guide.

Happening on Campus

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Photo courtesy of Ursinus College Communications

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Lend your voice to The Grizzly

Join us for our weekly news meeting

Mondays, 6 p.m.
Ritter 141

| 6 p.m. | Putnam County Monologues, Bomberger Auditorium | 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. | 2016 Job, Internship and Networking Fair | 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. |

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Advice on studying abroad

How to prepare for the good, the bad, and the ugly

Briana Keane
brkeane@ursinus.edu

It’s the night before you’re leaving to go abroad. Feelings of anxiety and excitement dance around in your mind. Am I making the right choice? What if I don’t make friends? Don’t doubt yourself for a second because you are making one of the most independent decisions of your life and, most importantly, one of the most exciting decisions.

Your suitcase is packed and sitting in your hallway. You’re spending one last time with your friends and family before you get to see them again in four months. It’s normal to feel like you’re possibly making the wrong decision.

When first hearing about study abroad opportunities in September of my sophomore year, I attended the information session and knew it was something I had to do, but choosing which country was the biggest decision. The application deadline quickly crept up in February, and the next thing I knew sophomore year was over and I was leaving for Australia in July.

Going abroad may sound like an opportunity you could never turn away from. However, there is a lot of preparation that goes into applying and actually getting ready to leave. As much as I recommend going abroad for a semester, sometimes it may not be exactly how you picture it. Remember that photos on social media of people’s experiences are just a snapshot of their time abroad and what they choose to post. As much as studying abroad is about experiencing new things and meeting people, traveling can get tough. What people don’t post about is the exhausting moments in the airport, missing a flight, planning trips, feeling homesick, staying in touch with family and friends, and of course overwhelming the language barrier in certain countries.

As scary it was to take the 21-hour flight to Oz alone, I tried to take all of this anxiety and turn it into a feeling of adventure and excitement. I was given the opportunity to live in another country for four months and experience life outside of the 10 mile radius of Collegeville, Pennsylvania. When you consider going abroad, your first thought might be “I’m going to miss out on the action at Ursinus.” But have no fear, potential world traveler, because you will not miss out. You might miss one Halloween or St. Patrick’s Day, which are some of the best times at Ursinus. However, is it worth it to not go abroad and wander the streets of Rome or eat pad thai in Phuket? You would be crazy not to go. Most students are given the opportunity to study abroad, but according to US News & World Report, less than 1 in 10 Americans actually go. I know at Ursinus not many students go each semester, maybe about 15 to 20, if that.

Don’t let the fear of missing out keep you from going abroad. Of course, the feeling of homesickness will definitely come at some point during your time abroad. Jessica Parrillo, director of counseling and wellness at Ursinus College, says her most important advice for students is to anticipate feeling homesick before going abroad.

You can prepare to feel homesick by bringing a trinket from home, such as a blanket or a picture of family and friends, to comfort you when you are feeling homesick. However, Parrillo strongly encourages students to immerse in the culture by meeting friends and partaking in different activities in the country to adapt to the new environment. Don’t let that get you discouraged because going abroad was the best decision I have made up until this point in my life. Studying abroad is a special time in a student’s life.

If anything, I would say the “ugliest” part of studying abroad is the reverse culture shock you feel after coming home. You’ve been away from your family and friends for at least four months and experienced something only you will truly understand. You’re going to feel different when you come back. When I came back this time last year, I felt very out of place and trapped. I was given a taste of life outside of Collegeville and I was not ready to be back on campus.

I am so grateful that I was able to go abroad and meet new people and see amazing places, and I even got to meet up with my brother and travel with him.

However, I couldn’t even explain what I felt when I came home. Adjusting back to Ursinus was challenging, but it always gets better. A year later, I feel so much better and am enjoying my last semester at Ursinus to the fullest. There are fewer than 100 days left of my time at Ursinus and it’s a bittersweet feeling.

Of course, I love Ursinus because of the opportunities I have been given, the people I have met, and the classes I have taken. However, I am ready to see what’s next. Although I don’t know what my next step is, that’s how I want it to be. Life is full of many surprises, and who knows what I’ll be doing next year. I might be working at a desk job at a marketing agency or I may be teaching English in Thailand. Life is what you make of it, and it’s up to you to truly live it. And on that note, I’m going to leave you with my favorite quote by Oscar Wilde: “To live is the rarest thing in the world. Most people exist, that is all.”

Briana Keane is graduating from Ursinus this May with a degree in media and communications. She is the social media editor for the Grizzly and a nominee for homecoming queen in 2015. She also likes to practice mindfulness.
Men’s lacrosse looks to ride dominant defense to another record-breaking year

Jonny Cope  
jc cope@ursinus.edu

Coming off of last season’s record year, the Ursinus College men’s lacrosse team has high expectations for the 2016 season. Along with head coach Jamie Steele and assistant coach David Page, the Bears will be led by captains Brian Neff (goalie), Logan Panaccone (attack), and Patrick O’Donoghue (defense).

This year Ursinus will look to improve upon last season’s 14-4 record, which included a tight 11-10 loss to Gettysburg in the Centennial Conference tournament final, an NCAA Tournament win, and another heartbreaking, double overtime loss to the Bullets in the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

“Last season we had a very successful season, but we are putting this in the past,” Neff said. “The only thing this means to us is that we must meet again and surpass.” This year’s team has plenty of talent, and if it all comes together the Bears will again have the potential to make lots of noise in the postseason.

The 2016 edition of the Ursinus men’s lacrosse team will have a bit of a different look, as Polimeni and Porada saw their decorated careers come to an unfortunate end Monday night as Gettysburg handed Ursinus a 60-54 loss, ending the Bears’ season.

Porada became only the second player in program history to record at least 1,300 points and 800 rebounds. Polimeni ended her career second all-time in program history in assists with 356. Porada finished fourth and fifth, respectively, on the school’s all-time points list.

Polimeni attributes the Bears’ recent success to the family-like atmosphere that has developed at Ursinus. She and Porada both agreed their achievements this year are due to their new head coach, Margaret White.

Taking over the helm for the 2015-16 season, White said she was fortunate to be part of a team that already had such a tight bond. “Our team was open arms to everything we were doing that was different from the past—tremendous attitudes, tremendous efforts,” White said. “Putting that together, we have a lot of pure basketball talent.” These are just some of the many reasons why Ursinus has been so successful this year. White had nothing but great things to say about the dynamic duo of Polimeni and Porada. “They epitomize being totally selfless,” White said. “When we had our celebration when [Polimeni] scored [the 1,000th point], Alyssa and I spoke and decided not to stop the game, not to make it about one person. They are a real representation of our team. They are great people and better teammates.”

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Both girls played a large amount of minutes throughout their careers, starting their freshman season, and both have transcended to the upper echelon in Ursinus basketball history.

When planning each game, Polimeni and Porada play big parts. According to junior forward Libby Lannon, it is a team effort in each game that makes the Bears successful. “We have a lot of people on the team that can score, but we look to Jess and Alyssa a lot of times when a play breaks down, we want the ball in their hands,” Lannon said. “You know you can always count on them and they are going to show up and play every game.”

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Scores of as of Monday, Feb. 22

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>M Basketball (11-14)</th>
<th>W Basketball (11-13)</th>
<th>M Lacrosse (1-0)</th>
<th>M&amp;W Track &amp; Field</th>
<th>Gymnastics</th>
<th>M Swimming (6-4)</th>
<th>W Swimming (11-0)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 20 vs. Muhlenberg</td>
<td>UC: 72, Muhlenberg: 81</td>
<td>Matt Williams: 17 pts., 4 reb., 2 ast., 1 blk.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 22 @ Gettysburg</td>
<td>UC: 69, Gettysburg: 91</td>
<td>Malik Draper: 19 pts.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 17 @ Bryn Mawr</td>
<td>UC: 62, BM: 48</td>
<td>Rachel Guy: 9 pts., 1 reb., 1 ast.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 20 vs. Albright</td>
<td>UC: 14, Albright: 6</td>
<td>Goals (UC): Gerard Brown (3), Mike Durst, Logan Panaccone (3), Sam Isola, James Fairchild, Rob Dewey, Patrick O’Donoghue, Tucker Noel (3)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 20 @ Keogh Invitational, Haverford College</td>
<td>Highlights: Junior Erin Farrell won the 60-meter dash on the women’s side, while freshman Sam Pope placed first in the 400 on the men’s side</td>
<td>Rutgers: 195.075 Penn: 192.400 Temple: 191.625 UC: 188.200</td>
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<td>Feb. 19-21 @ Centennial Conference Championships, Gettysburg College</td>
<td>Highlights: Finished sixth overall. William Benn captured a silver medal in the 200-yard backstroke and Chris Hoops got a bronze in the 200-yard butterfly.</td>
<td>Highlights: Finished first overall. Peyten Lyons was named the Most Outstanding Performer and Most Outstanding Rookie.</td>
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Porada and Polimeni partner together to join 1,000-point club

Every coach in America goes into each game with a game plan. In their offices sits a whiteboard with a jumbled mess of scribbles and numbers that seems to mean nothing to others but makes sense to them. In that mess, you will always find a number or two that is circled. These circles represent who your team needs to shut down. When game planning against the Ursinus women’s basketball team, numbers 34 and 15 are always circled in red.

Senior captains Jess Porada, number 34, and Alyssa Polimeni, number 15, represent Ursinus in their own unique class. Prior to 2015-16 only 12 Ursinus women had eclipsed the 1,000-point career scoring total. Amazingly, only at one other point in history did two 1,000-point scorers graduate in the same year. This season all that changed as the Bears had two more women—Porado and Polimeni—who were seniors and 1,000-point scorers.

From a young age, Polimeni and Porada were complementing each other on the basketball court. Polimeni, a point guard, and Porada, a center, had played AAU youth basketball together in the sixth grade. Polimeni and Porada then continued this relationship on the court seven years later, and after their four years of college basketball, both players enjoyed their 1,000th point together. “It is pretty cool to have our history and accomplish something like this together,” Polimeni said.

Porada broke the 1,000-point barrier during the 2014-15 season as a junior, scoring the fabled 1,000th point against conference foe Haverford College. Polimeni recorded her 1,000th point on Feb. 8 against Washington College in her final season.

Coming in as freshmen, both girls showed great promise. Polimeni was a 1,000-point scorer at Governor Livingston Regional High School in Berkeley Heights, N.J. Porada played about half an hour down the highway at Morris Catholic High School in Morris town, N.J. At Morris Catholic, Porada showed a great deal of talent, which then translated to becoming a superstar at Ursinus.

Porada only completed the feat at Ursinus, making it that much more impressive. Porada has great pride in the fact that both she and Polimeni were the two athletes to make the mark. “Alyssa helped me so much to get my 1,000 points by always getting me the ball,” Porada said. “It was great to know all our hard work for so long has basically paid off and we accomplished something great together, and have made a mark on the basketball program at Ursinus.”

As fate would have it, both athletes ended up being roommates. “It is pretty cool to have our history and accomplish something like this together,” Polimeni said.

With its third championship in team history, the women’s swim team tied for the first time in Centennial Conference history, behind only Gettysburg.

Women’s swimming three-peats

The Ursinus College women’s swim team has done it again. For the third straight year, the Bears brought home the Centennial Conference championship this past weekend.

The Bears dominated from the start, setting multiple conference records and racking up gold medal after gold medal. Freshman Peyton Lyons played a large part in the victory as she won three individual gold medals and was a part of three gold medal winning relays. Lyons was named the Most Outstanding Performer and Most Outstanding Rookie, becoming the first swimmer in school history to win both awards.

“This weekend was amazing for Ursinus swimming,” Lyons said. “Records were broken left and right, people were getting personal bests, but more importantly we came together as a team and that was the key to our success.”

The Bears finished nearly 200 points ahead of the second-place finisher, Gettysburg, and tallied the third-most points in Centennial Conference championship history.

The women collected a total of 22 medals, with 13 gold, five silver, and four bronze. The Bears opened the championships on Friday by breaking three conference records. The first came in the 200-yard free relay, with sophomore Sydney Gunderson, freshman Clara Baker, senior Mi caela Lyons and senior Corinne Capodanno teaming up to break the record. The next record came from Peyton Lyons in the 200-yard individual medley. The final record came from the team of Peyton Lyons, sophomore Olivia Tierney, Baker, and Capodanno in the 400-yard medley relay.

The records didn’t stop there, though, as the Bears broke three more on the second day of the event. The 200-yard medley relay team of Peyton Lyons, Tierney, Baker, and Micaela Lyons broke the conference and championship record by finishing a hundredth of a second in front of Gettysburg’s team. Baker broke the next record in the 100-yard butterfly, and Margaret Leitz, Capodanno, Gunderson, and Peyton Lyons broke the conference and championship record in the 800-yard freestyle relay.

Baker’s conference record in the 100 butterfly was enough to send her to the NCAA Division III Championships in Greensboro, N.C., on Wednesday, March 16. Baker set the record in the preliminaries by posting a time of 55.54, and brought home the gold with a 55.75 in the finals.

Upcoming Games

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<tr>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sat. Cont.</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>Baseball vs. Widener @ Maplezone Sports Institute, 12 p.m., 2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>M&amp;W Track and Field @ Centennial Conference Championship, Ursinus College</td>
<td>Wrestling @ NCAA East Regional, Washington &amp; Lee University</td>
<td>M&amp;W Track and Field @ Centennial Conference Championship, Ursinus College</td>
<td>W Lacrosse vs. Rowan, 4 p.m.</td>
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<td>Gymnastics vs. Springfield, 1 p.m.</td>
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Photo courtesy of David Sinclair

See Basketball on pg. 7