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Fong anticipates strategic plan draft

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The strategic plan President Fong unveiled to the campus community last August has experienced a few setbacks regarding the gathering of information and research in each of his eight "steering committees" that frame the Campus Priorities and Planning Committee (CPPC). His Jan. 19 deadline for each workgroup’s formal submission of its report has been met, resulting in some 50 recommendations for the improvement and progress of the College in areas both academic and non-academic. The current step for the eight committees, already underway, is the drafting of a singular strategic plan that will go before the Board of Trustees at its annual winter meeting in early March.

If a revised and presentable strategic plan is ratified by the Board of Trustees and approved by the campus community, Fong could begin putting the plan into practice as early as this summer.

"If the Board and the campus community like it well enough and the Board ratifies it in June," said Fong, "I start parceling out assignments — this recommendation belongs to student affairs, that recommendation belongs to academic affairs, etc. — and then within the recommendations, the responsibility for a review of CIE is going to be handled by this particular committee.... That could begin as early as this summer."

But if problems arise during the drafting process, President Fong said, the implication of such advancements would have to wait until next semester.

"If we decide there are enough reservations or ideas for work, we need to revise the strategic plan draft substantially," Fong said. "Then we give the Board an update in June, we work on it over the summer, bringing together either CPPC generally or a particular workgroup to work on an area of contestation, and we go back to the board in September and we say: here’s what we ended up with. Is it ready for prime time?"

Though the two previous strategic plans he headed at Butler each took over two years to evolve, he says this one, in theory, will be done in just about a year.

"We’re trying essentially to do something in one year here.

President Fong is hoping for a smooth drafting process that will enable him to start putting the strategic plan to work this summer.

Crigler Institute seeks to foster community

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Diversity. The Ursinus community has heard this word repeated, redefined, and resisted countless times throughout its history.

For some, it first became a concern following last January’s hate crime, the carving of the n-word behind a black professor’s podium. For others, it adds to the weight of every life decision.

Paulette Patton, director of the Multicultural Services Office, said students of color carry the heavy question of diversity with them through their college search.

When they take the Ursinus campus tour, the W.R. Crigler Institute, formerly known as the Summer Bridge Program, becomes a selling point.

"Without the Crigler Institute, a number of students and their parents have told me they would not have come here," Patton said. "That’s why we chose Ursinus, they say, ‘because Ursinus seems to be so committed to diversity.’"

According to the First-Year Student Academic Guide, the Crigler Institute helps “historically underrepresented students” transition from high school to college.

First-year students who enter the “holistic” program spend three summer weeks on campus learning about academic support systems at Ursinus.

Crigler students take “mini classes” related to their prospective majors and a four-credit course that extends into their first semester. They also connect with alumni, perform community service and participate in leadership workshops.

Reverend Charles Rice, professor of religion and philosophy and Crigler mentor, said the program emphasizes “networks of collegiality and friendship” among students of color.

Before the Bridge Program was created in 1988, Rice said minority students had difficulty accessing the informal networks of support created among white students.

“The ones who survived, survived primarily because they found each other. The Bridge Program strove to make this natural but slow process more systemic in the college community,” Rice said.

While the program provides these networks for minority students, backlash against Crigler has left students of color feeling alienated and misunderstood on Ursinus’ predominantly white campus.

In October, visiting researchers from McDaniel College as-
sessed diversity at Ursinus under the Teagle Grant Project through interviews with student focus groups.

Many students, when asked about the Crigler Institute, thought it gave nonwhite students unfair academic advantages.

Senior Bridge student Olivia Minick said any academic advantages included in the program attempt to make up for academic disadvantages students of color often endure in poor inner city schools.

"Inner city schools are not college-prep high schools. A lot of poor black and Latino students in inner city schools are not taught critical analysis skills," Minick said.

"By the time they try to get into college, even if they get into college on affirmative action or a wing and a prayer, they may not stay in college because they are not able to compete." Sophomore Bridge student Cody Young, who graduated from a predominately white high school, claims that before the program, she had "never felt comfortable" in an academic setting.

"There was always this distance between myself and everyone around me," Young said. "Just to be around people like me, for the first time I didn't feel constrained by that judgment."

But when the program's network of peers visibly comes together in common areas on campus, Minick said they are accused of "self-segregation." "White students often dismiss Bridge and make it seem like Bridge is segregating ourselves but in all honesty, the only time they really see us segregated is sitting down here in Lower Wissmer," Minick said. "It just has to do with race in America. Whenever there's a big congregation of black people, everyone gets scared but whenever there's a big congregation of white people, it's just a big congregation of people."

The "self-segregation" theme surfaced in the Teagle group's findings. Students described Crigler students as "cliquey" and felt the program "isolated" nonwhite students from the "broader community."

"I think we should investigate why so many white students feel that a group of black students means personae non gratae on friendship," Rice said. "If you have 100 tables in the cafeteria and 99 tables are white, why are they intimidated by the one black table? What do you think the one black table is feeling about the 99?"

Young said segregation on campus stems from white students' reluctance to connect with nonwhite students.

"A large majority of white people on this campus, they don't see any necessity in forming connections with people of color. They're entirely content with living in their little bubble," Young said. "If you hear people talking about the Ursinus bubble. It's always been a white bubble."

Students of color only began entering the "white bubble" in 1952, when W. Robert Crigler was recruited from his Ohio hometown to become one of two black students enrolled at Ursinus College.

"The guards were illiterate and his education was lacking but four years later, Crigler alone remained and graduated. He became the first black Ursinus graduate since the college's founding nearly a century earlier. Last spring, Crigler, now Dr. Robert Crigler, returned to campus where the college honored him by reinstituting the Summer Bridge Program under his name."

"We met with Dr. Crigler and just seeing him made it more real, the real purpose of why we're here," said freshman Janel Forshyer, a member of the Crigler Institute's inaugural class. "The school was founded in 1869. It took over 90 years for just one black person to make it through here all by himself."

Three decades after his graduation, the Bridge Program began with Crigler's story in mind.

Patton said while other schools were making progress towards integration during the Civil Rights Movement, Ursinus was caught "behind the curve."

"In the late 80s, when the Bridge Program first started, it was a way to attract and retain African American and Latino students," Patton said. "When they came here, they needed to see other students like them and all throughout the 60s, 70s, and 80s, those numbers were extremely low."

Rice said the retention rate for minority students has risen in correlation with the growing nonwhite community on campus. He estimated the graduation rate for students of color to be 20 percent when Bridge was first founded.

"Today, we're around 65 percent. For me, that's still too low. The college graduates at around 80 to 85 percent. I think that's precisely where we ought to be with minority students too," Rice said.

Patton said the Crigler Institute will remain a necessity until nonwhite students are entering and graduating from Ursinus at the same rate as white students. "If we look at just African American students, there are approximately 100 on campus," Patton said. "There are over 1,750 students at Ursinus. "So when you look at that, what does that say?"

Patton said white students' arguments against the Crigler Institute overlook the critical factor of race in America.

"Some students probably feel like we're on a level playing field now. We know that's not true," Patton said. "If you look at poverty in America, if you look at housing patterns in America, if you look at job discrimination in America, there's still a gap between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots.' And generally the 'haves' have been the predominant white culture."

Both Patton and Rice believe the college needs to make more institutional strides towards fostering dialogue and understanding about race.

"It's a great privilege to say in a racialized country that 'I don't see race' and that's a privilege those of us who wear our race don't have," Rice said. "I think the challenge for academic institutions is getting kids to investigate the cultural norms around race that we simply allow ourselves to live with."

"I think it has to be in the curriculum. If students would seriously study race in America, they might have a better understanding and appreciation for programs like the Crigler Institute," Patton said. "They're looking at students having something they don't have and not looking at the injustices imparted on people of color for generations."

Ultimately, Rice said students not involved in the Crigler Institute cannot fully understand its purpose unless they reach out to Crigler students.

"If one group is saying we need the program and the other group is saying we don't need the program, it seems to me that somebody ought to be able to listen to somebody," Rice said. "I've never been in a student debate on this program where a student has said 'Wait a minute, why are you guys saying you need this program?'"
Ferry sinks in Pacific

Thursday, Feb. 2
PAPUA NEW GUINEA - Over 100 people were missing off Papua New Guinea after a ferry carrying 350 people sank on Thursday, Australian rescue authorities said.

Authorities also said that 238 people had been rescued by life rafts by 5:30 p.m. local time, twelve hours after the ship sank.

Eight nearby merchant ships had been diverted to the scene, as well as rescue helicopters.

There have also been more reports from vessels that spotted people in life rafts in the water, so rescuers hope that the number of survivors will increase.

Officials said it was too early to speculate as to the cause of the sinking.

The ship's owners, Rabaul Shipping, said they had no information regarding the cause of the sinking, adding that the ship sank very quickly without sending a distress signal.

(Reuters, hosted on NewsDaily.com)

Riot at soccer match

Saturday, Feb. 4
CAIRO, EGYPT - Nine people died in two days as a result of clashes between police and protesters amid reports of inadequate security at a soccer match which "devolved" into a riot that left 79 dead and hundreds injured.

More than 2,500 people and 200 police officers were injured over the two day period in protests.

The riot occurred on Wednesday night at a stadium in Port Said, north of Cairo.

Fans of the hometown Al-Masry club stormed the field after a 3-1 win over Cairo's Al-Ahly club. Rival fans attacked each other with rocks and chairs, and some had clubs and knives, according to witnesses.

Many suffocated as spectators tried to flee the stadium, only to find the exit blocked by a locked gate.

As Egypt enters a period of mourning for the 79 victims, many are questioning why police had not stopped the Al-Masry fans, why the gates were locked, and how many fans had smuggled weapons into the stadium.

Some witnesses claim that police stood by and watched the violence. (CNN.com)

Chinese workers set for release

Monday, Feb. 6
SUDAN - Sudanese rebels said on Monday that they will "soon" release 29 Chinese workers held in southern Sudan.

Rebels from the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-North) kidnapped the construction workers last month from the oil-rich state of South Kordofan, which borders the newly independent South Sudan.

A rebel spokesman said that air strikes by the Sudanese army was delaying the release, but added that talks between SPLM-North and China would continue so that an agreement could be reached.

Beijing is now facing intense pressure to bring the workers safely home, and Chinese media are criticizing the government for not doing enough to protect workers overseas.

The Sudanese army has been fighting the SPLM-North in South Kordofan since June. The fighting has forced over 400,000 people to flee their homes.

(Reuters, hosted on NewsDaily.com)

Homs Under Siege

Monday Feb. 6
HOMS, SYRIA - Heavy artillery fire rocked the besieged Syrian city of Homs on Monday in the fiercest attack in the 11-month uprising.

President Obama has said that it is important to resolve the conflict without resorting to military intervention.

Russia and China have also defended their veto of a UN resolution criticizing Syria, a move that angered regional and Western opponents of Syrian president Bashar al-Assad.

The US State Department announced on Monday that it was closing its embassy in Syria and removing staff due to safety concerns.

Homs, one of the main centers of resistance against al-Assad, has been under attack from government forces several days. Activists say that at least 40 people were killed on Monday.

Some activist groups have put the total death toll since the uprising began in March at 7,000 people, but the UN says this number cannot be confirmed. (BBC News Online)

Job and internship fair returns

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Over 70 employers will be in attendance at this year's Job, Internship and Networking Fair, up from 43 total organizations last year.

Carla Rinde, the Director of Career Services, urges all students to attend.

"It is a great opportunity to get some face time. With the bulk of the job application process happening today, it is nice to have some quality one on one time with organizations."

Though it may seem an event aimed primarily at upperclassmen, the career fair is open to every class year and even freshman are encouraged to attend.

"[Freshmen] can get a first glimpse of the world of work, learn how to make themselves more marketable while in school and learn about what employers are looking for," Rinde said.

Each year, Career Services adds to its list of organizations that they reach out to.

They send emails and make follow up phone calls requesting the attendance of representatives.

"[The employers who represent their companies] always rate our event highly and say that it is one of the most well-run fairs they attend. They also like the opportunity to interact with faculty and staff at the luncheon we host just prior to the fair. Present employers rate our students as very well prepared, eager to connect and super nice to talk to," Rinde said.

Alumnae will be present at the fair as well.

Members on the fair planning committee spend time each year connecting to Ursinus grads and parents requesting them to represent their organizations.

Companies such as Campus Philly, Kraft Foods and Lab Support are just some of the long list of organizations which will be represented by alumnae.

In terms of preparing for this event, students are encouraged to consider the following tips found on Career Services' website:

- Prepare a "30 second commercial" quick summary about yourself highlighting your most important qualities
- For seniors, the Job, Internship and Networking Fair is even more important.
- As graduation rapidly approaches, these students will be thrust into the working world and would benefit from any connections or opportunities they can create at the fair.
- The fair occurred yesterday, from 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Relay For Life to be held at UC in April

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Ursinus’ Relay For Life is bringing back the holiday spirit this semester with a holiday themed Relay event set to take place on Apr 21.

With a goal of $35,000, Relay For Life Co-Chairs Ashley Cattai and Rebecca Kamm, along with members of the Relay For Life planning committee, have been working hard to organize another event that will contribute to the fight against cancer.

The event will include speeches from cancer survivors and will allow participants to honor those who have lost from the disease.

“[Participants can look forward to] fun activities like relay races, themed laps, sports tournaments, raffles, and games with prizes. [There will also be] a lot of food, good music, and performances by the Bearitones,” Cattai said.

Unlike last year, this year’s Relay event will be taking place on Saturday April 21 starting at 7 p.m. and will end on Sunday morning at 7 a.m.

Cattai said that the duration of the event was shortened “so that more people will stay for the entire night.”

She also explained that ending the event earlier Sunday morning will allow participants to go back to sleep once the event is over.

This way, participants won’t feel as though they have to miss out on a whole day to catch up on sleep.

In order for Relay to be a successful event, the planning committee has to dedicate a lot of time and effort to this worthwhile cause.

The committee has been working on organizing this year’s event since the beginning of the fall semester.

Fundraising, publicity, survivorship, and team development are only a few of the different components that make up the Relay for Life planning committee.

Cattai said that the committee has been communicating with various departments here at Ursinus, including facilities, who ensure all of the equipment is necessary and will be available, and the Athletics department, in order to reserve a space for the event.

Beginning last year, the Relay For Life location was changed from the outdoor track to the Floy Lewis Bakes Field House because of weather.

The 2012 Relay For Life will also be held indoors.

Several students seemed to think this location change was necessary.

Junior Cydney VanDyke, who has been captain for the Sigma Sigma Sigma team for the past two events, said that she appreciates that this year’s Relay will be indoors again.

“I like that the event is protected from the elements,” VanDyke said.

The planning committee also works closely with local businesses.

Eastern Mountain Sports donated a tent and offered prizes in the form of free kayak trips.

Wegmans and Qdoba also participate, with Qdoba donating gift cards for the event.

For this year’s Relay For Life, Cattai explained that she hopes to see more of the campus participate.

With the numerous teams on campus, Cattai said that “we would like to see more sports teams involved.”

Cattai also encourages faculty and staff to join in on Relay as well.

With 72 days until Ursinus’ Relay For Life, Cattai suggests that those who wish to register, do so sooner rather than later because teams will need time to raise money.

Individuals who raise at least $100 before April 21 will receive a Relay t-shirt. Teams are also encouraged to fundraise on the day of the event.

Cattai recommends students contact local businesses, like the Philadelphia Pretzel Factory or a pizza chain, to donate food for teams to sell at Relay.

To register for Ursinus’ Relay For Life, go to relayforlife.org and search for Ursinus College. Send questions to collegesagainstcancer@ursinus.edu.

Fighting for Ophelia combats bullying

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The Ophelia Project, which originated in Erie, PA in the 1990s, works to combat relational aggression.

It initially focused on supporting females in the struggle against relational aggression, yet has since expanded to assist males as well.

Sophomore and business and economics major Hillary Anderson has established a spin-off program to The Ophelia Project entitled Fighting for Ophelia.

As a high school student, Anderson volunteered for The Ophelia Project as a mentor to middle school students.

After witnessing the positive effects of her efforts, Anderson decided to help students in the Collegeville area deal with relational aggression by creating Fighting for Ophelia during the spring 2011 semester.

Anderson contacted local middle schools and high schools to inquire whether they were interested in partaking in the Fighting for Ophelia cause.

After receiving a positive response from the Perkiomen Valley High School, Anderson began recruiting mentors on the Ursinus campus this past fall. Anderson successfully recruited about forty mentors, and began the intense training sessions.

“I believe in the Fighting for Ophelia program because it really works. These students need someone close to their age level to come in and really talk about how relational aggression is everywhere, and how everyone has the potential to end it,” said Mairé Moriarty, a mentor who has completed the training process.

Once trained, Ursinus mentors travel to the Perkiomen Valley HS where they lead a discussion for two hundred or more students.

After speaking to the school assembly as a whole, the students split off into groups of about fifteen in which they can discuss personal experiences with relational aggression and possible solutions.

Anderson recalled one instance in which the discussion led by Fighting for Ophelia mentors had a significant influence on one student, who apologized to her classmates for bullying.

“I feel like we changed that girl’s life with the presentation,” Anderson said.

Notorious for its depiction of relational aggression, Mean Girls highlights the trials and tribulations of surviving high school.

This popular movie depicts girl-on-girl relational aggression through backstabbing, rumor mills, pranks, and the infamous “Burn Book.”

Anderson has reproduced the Mean Girls apology session in which female students are able to air their experiences with bullying at the Perkiomen Valley HS.

She proclaimed that the session had healing effects not only for the victims, but also the aggressors or “mean girls,” as well as the bystanders. It allowed the students to realize they are not alone in encountering relational aggression. Anderson described relational aggression as “alliance building behavior.”

This can be observed in middle schools and high schools when a group of students excludes a classmate from a lunch table.

Additionally, relational aggression is apparent when one person spreads a rumor about another. It is an emotionally draining form of bullying that is difficult for figureheads such as principals to penalize against since it does not violate any laws unlike physical bullying.

Moriarty discussed the presence of relational aggression outside of the school setting.

“Studying relational aggression in high schools has also opened my eyes to how much of that behavior still exists in relationships beyond high school, and I believe it has made me much more mindful of how I treat those around me. Being an Ophelia mentor isn’t just about going into high schools and lecturing kids, it’s about living the ideals of the Ophelia program,” Moriarty said.

If interested in becoming a Fighting for Ophelia mentor for the 2012-2013 academic year, please contact Anderson at hianderson@ursinus.edu.
Kathleen Bogle visits campus for "Hooking Up" lectures

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In an attempt to uncover the numerous misconceptions about casual sex on college campuses, Kathleen Bogle’s Hooking Up: Sex, Dating and Relationships on Campus is the first book that has grappled the concept of the new sexual revolution.

The days of dinner-and-a-movie have been replaced by a hook-up and no-phone-call, and Bogle sheds light on all aspects of this college culture.

Last Tuesday afternoon, Bogle began her presentation with an anecdote that told the audience why she wanted to look at how people get together in college.

She revealed that a Freshman Resident Advisor called her and said that some of the guys wanted her to “come and talk to them about girls.”

Much to her surprise, she found out at the scheduled meeting that the guys sneaked strippers into their dorms, so as a punishment, talking to her was “stripper rehab.”

Shortly after that meeting, Bogle decided she wanted to delve deeper into how students get together in college, and what is about the environment on college campuses that influences the hook-up culture.

“[Hooking up has] replaced traditional dating as the dominant sexual script on college campuses for beginning sexual and romantic relationships,” Bogle said.

Bogle decided to focus on the “dominant culture” on campus, which is white and heterosexual, but she has also conducted interviews with minority students, particularly African-Americans and also the LGBTQIA community.

She said they deserve their own separate, full-length research because college life, especially in hooking-up terms, is a very different experience from that of the dominant culture.

Further more, Bogle noticed that other research before hers lacked focus on men and that a lot of journalists focus on the same “types” of students. Therefore, her interview pool was varied by gender, grade level, age, and major.

After showing a picture from the 1950s of a boy and girl on a date sharing a milkshake with two straws across a table in a restaurant, Bogle explained that dating in today's college world is the “fundamental difference in order of events.”

She also notes that there are various definitions of hooking-up, from “kissing to having sex.”

She asked the audience to imagine if Collegeville and Phoenixville went “bone dry” out of alcohol—would hooking-up still happen?

A response one guy provided Bogle with in her book explained the concept of “liquid courage” that people get when alcohol is a factor in approaching the opposite sex.

Students have also asked her if she’d seen the film “Animal House,” which provides this “iconic vision of college life” that urged her to see how the media filters these issues of hooking-up and why students hold so many distorted perceptions about what college life is supposed to be like.

The ambiguity of the term “hooking-up” happens to lead to confusion as well. Since the possible outcomes of a hook-up are as simple as “nothing” to repeated hook-up encounters, “friends with benefits” or to “seeing each other” and “hanging out” and even ultimately “going out,” Bogle as a sociologist understands that there are variations in the genders but finds that women are more likely to “want something more.”

Apparently, girls on campuses have come to the conclusion that there is “power in lack of numbers” as men are a scarce resource.

Bogle also mentions that the sexual arena is not as promiscuous as it seems because people tend to gossip about the extreme, not what is “typical.”

The number of people hooking-up is actually lower than people think because they find it exciting to gossip about the extremities that occur.

“People are affected by the culture whether they are apart of it or not,” Bogle said.

As the visit came to a wrap-up, senior Jordan McIntyre asked if there was a specific incident that happened to [her] that made [her] want to focus on this.

Bogle laughed and replied that she never had been asked that before, but she knew a lot of people in undergraduate and graduate school who participated in the hook-up culture.

She knows some it worked out for, some it didn’t, but “no, it wasn’t a personal vendetta.”

According to students, Bogle’s visit definitely shed much insight into the intricate world of college sexual life and sparked much discussion for clubs and faculty on campus to follow.

“I’m not here to tell people what to do, but to get them to understand there is a range of behavior going on, and it should help you to understand there’s a range of choices you can make,” Bogle said.

Word on the Street with Brooke Mitchell

"Which Super Bowl commercial was your favorite this year?"

Shane McGowen-English
English/MCS, 2013

"The Fiat commercial where the guy sees the car as a beautiful woman.”

Josie Maresa
Environmental Studies, 2012

"The moon-walking dog [for Skechers]."

Tommy Caggiano
Biology, 2012

"The Oikos Greek Yogurt commercial with John Stamos.”

Senior Sullivan spends summer transcribing

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Patrick Sullivan, a senior American studies major with a minor in philosophy, interned at the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania this past summer.

Sullivan worked full-time with about ten other interns whose primary focus was on the museum archives.

For quite some time, Sullivan’s main job was the transcription of soldiers’ diaries.

Transcribing journals onto the computer required Sullivan to check that he could first decipher the handwriting, and then go through the diary’s entirety word-by-word.

“It was fairly interesting from a history standpoint, because you got to actually see what the soldiers were thinking at the time, rather than reading a textbook about it,” Sullivan said.

The work took a lot of patience, as Sullivan would have to sift through poor handwriting to decipher wording.

“I transcribed an order from General Sherman. I don’t know how the soldiers he was sending it to understood what they were supposed to do. His handwriting was some of the worst I’ve ever seen,” Sullivan said.

Persistence came in to play as well.

“If you think you figure out the word but it still doesn’t look like it, keep trying, because eventually you’ll find the one that fits,” Sullivan said.

His next job was to work with another intern in setting up an exhibit in the main lobby, marking the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

For the display, the two pulled newspapers and letters from the time period “along with a transcription if the letter couldn’t be read.”

Sullivan took a class on the Civil War at Ursinus prior to the internship and believes it really helped him.

"[It gave me] the feeling for what was going on: knowing the order of events or where certain locations were added, additional information to what the soldiers were writing about in their diaries or letters,” Sullivan said.

“I definitely enjoyed my internship, and taking the museum-route would probably be something I’d be very interested in, whether as a curator or some other position [at a history museum].”

Sullivan’s internship advisor, the museum director, mentioned that he had gotten her job thanks to interning at a museum.

Sullivan was told that when museums are hiring, they usually call other museums for recommendations of good interns.

Sullivan was always mindful of leaving a good impression, especially since hearing the story of his supervisor.

His hard work has paid off already: his advisor was told that Patrick was “one of the most productive [interns] they had ever seen and transcribed more journals than any past intern.”

Sullivan interviewed over the phone for his position and was surprised that the call was brief.

He believes that because he contacted the museum so early in their application process that he “had a greater chance of getting the internship.”

He advises students interested in interning.

“Look and apply as early as you reasonably can because that would very well get you the position as opposed to somebody who’s waiting until the last minute and then realizes they don’t really have any options,” Sullivan said.
Opinion

Sexual assault a problem on campus

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I have occasionally mentioned forum, but I think the point they Lisak and talks about drinking, rape, and you said each other, or think we do, and college kids vulnerable to people that, of.

Our major problem is that everyone knows everyone, and if one person hooks up, every other person at that party is talking about it the next day.

So we get really, really, can’t-see-the-floor, shove-my-tongue-down-your-throat-in-the-middle-of-Main-Street, don’t-remember-your-last-name drunk, because it is a way we can remove ourselves from the situation, remove some of our agency so that our classmates won’t judge us.

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So we get really, really, can’t-see-the-floor, shove-my-tongue-down-your-throat-in-the-middle-of-Main-Street, don’t-remember-your-last-name drunk, because it is a way we can remove ourselves from the situation, remove some of our agency so that our classmates won’t judge us.

Last year, the Philadelphia Liquor Control Board had an ad campaign that verbalized and horrifyingly illustrated the idea that getting blackout drunk was dangerous, and could lead to sexual assault.

The ad campaign was deeply flawed, and was called out by Jezebel.com, a popular feminist forum, but I think the point they raised, in an imperfect way, was a valid one.

Drinking heavily leaves college kids vulnerable to people who will take advantage of that exposure. It removes our ability to make good decisions and to read what is happening with your partner, which is crucial in both the having of satisfying sex and in the prevention of rape.

I won’t lie, I like to drink. Most of the time, it is fun and feels good. What is not fun is feeling like you can’t even approach a boy without being absolutely hampered.

What isn’t fun is getting blackout drunk, and remembering that you said the two of you could have sex, but not remembering anything else of that night.

What isn’t fun is realizing that while that encounter may have felt good at the moment, you were very clearly not in a position to be making that call, and someone you thought was trustworthy took advantage of you.

In a 2002 study by David Lisak and Paul M. Miller called “Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists,” researchers found that, of 120 men who admitted to rape or attempted rape, only 30 percent reported using force or threats, instead choosing to assault intoxicated victims.

Lisak did a later qualitative study wherein he says that undetected rapists do not rely on force or coercion, but rather prey on intoxicated acquaintances, who are 1) less likely to report a rape, and 2) less likely to be believed, if they do report the assault.

I am not blaming the victims of rape on the fact that they were drunk. No one was asking to be guys who could have done with a drunken encounter at all. I am not blaming the victims of rape on the fact that they were drunk. No one was asking to be guys who could have done.

Another Super Bowl, another classic finish.

With storylines surrounding the circus at Lucas Oil Stadium, the game lived up to its billing as the marquee sporting event on the mainland. With Tom Brady and Eli Manning headlining the game, it was certainly worth the attention.

After the New York Giants second Super Bowl victory over the New England Patriots in the past five years, two points must be made. The first point is that Manning now stands with few others as an elite quarterback, and the second is that it’s how you finish, not how you start.

History tells us as much.

The first point makes it clear that Eli Manning is the epitome of a winner and has most certainly cemented his place in the NFL Hall of Fame.

If people were not convinced of this after he led his Giants over the undefeated Patriots in Super Bowl XLII, they unquestionably are now.

Once Brady’s Hail Mary fell to the ground and the clock read 0:00, Eli, the younger brother of Peyton Manning, had claimed his spot among the elite quarterbacks in the NFL today.

Manning, who completed 30/40 passes for 296 yards and a touchdown, outplayed Brady once again en route to his 2nd Super Bowl victory.

Although Brady, a future Hall of Famer in his own right, played well, Manning simply played better and continued the play that propelled the Giants to and throughout the playoffs.

Cliché has it that offense wins games, but defense wins championships. Did the defense do their job? Yes, of course. But would have the Giants won this game without Eli Manning? They most certainly would not have.

Being an Eagles fan, it pains me to say it, but Eli Manning is great.

He has been since he dethroned the undefeated Patriots in Super Bowl XLII, and more than likely will continue to be so for the foreseeable future.

The second point is the increasingly evident fact that getting hot at the right time and momentum trumps solid and steady in the NFL, and in the sporting arena in general.

The Giants are quite possibly the worst Super Bowl Champion in the past 15 years, the era of Super Bowl as we know it.

The 2012 Super Bowl Champions started the season 7-7, won the most disappointing division by beating Dallas on the last day of the season, and lost to quarterbacks such as Rex Grossman and Vince Young.

This team hardly played like the world beaters they turned into come playoff time.

However, this team finished 6-0, beat the two best quarterbacks (Aaron Rodgers and Brady) and the NFL’s best defense (San Francisco), and won the Super Bowl, and that is how the story will go down in history.

Now for cheers and jeers. Cheers to the Giants wide receiver corps of Hakeem Nicks, Victor Cruz, and Mario Manningham. Each member of the trio played a starring role.

Cheers to Madonna for stepping up. While her music doesn’t exactly float my boat, she showed why she is one of the biggest names in the entertainment business over the past 30 years and was a major upgrade over the Black Eyed Peas.

While I personally preferred halftime shows in recent memory (such as Bruce Springsteen and U2), Madonna did well.

Cheers to the majority of the commercials this year. With the exception of ads featuring Clint Eastwood, Jerry Seinfeld, and M&M’s, the commercials were underwhelming. Maybe it is due to high expectations on my part, but I was not enamored this year.

Cheers to pitchers and catchers reporting in less than two weeks. The Super Bowl has come and gone.

On to baseball season, finally.
Club Sports gaining campus’ attention

Satchel Summers
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“By the students for the students,” could certainly serve as a tagline for the ten club sports programs on the Ursinus campus. The sports range from a schoolyard game such as ultimate Frisbee, all the way to a popular, hard-hitting West Coast sport like water polo.

Each sport individually has assigned presidents, vice-presidents, treasurers, and secretaries to help and communicate between the club and the school.

“Ursinus College has been growing in its support for club sports, even noticeably in my three years,” said Chris Cannito, the vice-president of the rugby squad.

Ursinus’ men’s rugby team is celebrating their 10th anniversary this year.

According to Cannito, the team has grown and changed greatly since its inception in 2001.

“This past fall the team lost in the division three national championships after a very successful fall season that consisted of 8 games.

Their season is split into two parts, the fall being used for play-offs, and the spring being used for tournaments and breaking in new players.

The team has qualified for Mid Atlantic Regional’s and Nationals, which will both take place this March.

“Our players have become more dedicated and passionate for the sport in the past few years, and with this we have seen a great rise in our success,” Cannito said.

Along with men’s rugby, the school also offers a student organized women’s rugby squad.

Both rugby teams consist of about 30 students each.

According to Cannito, the school tends to view the rugby squads as “drinking clubs.” However, Cannito claims that this view is false, and can be shown in their high level of success athletically this year.

Teams such as the club table tennis team, the fencing team, and the ultimate Frisbee team are much less noticeable around campus socially, as none of the teams occupy a single living space.

However, this does not take away from these three teams’ competitiveness or seriousness about their respective sports.

I think club sports have the reputation that they do not work as hard as regular sports, but we honestly work extremely hard. We work out at 6:30 a.m three times a week,” said Amanda McBride, a member of the female rugby squad.

The ultimate Frisbee squad is open to any and all students regardless of experience.

Practicing about twice a week, the team participates in tournaments, round robin, and many scrimmages throughout the months of May and April.

The same can be said for the table tennis team, which meets most weekends throughout the school year to host college wide tournaments.

In the spring, the club will travel to Princeton and Johns Hopkins to compete in regional tournaments. The team is also recognized nationally as an official collegiate table tennis team.

All ten organizations are supported partially by the college, and fundraise in order to afford their jerseys and game costs.

“The school does well supporting the rugby team both financially and through guidance and advice. We have numerous contacts in various athletic and administrative positions who are very accessible and will offer guidance on a number of matters,” said Kira Personette, the captain of the women’s rugby team.

Not all teams are content with the school’s support however. According to one of the school’s largest club squads, the men’s soccer team, the school has a tough time providing proper field time to the non school sanctioned team.

“It’s a real struggle trying to get time on the fields, but a committee of students and faculty members has been formed that is currently looking into the issues, and trying to find a solution that would be beneficial to all,” said Jeffrey Landau, captain of the men’s club soccer organization.

The men’s club soccer team is the school’s newest addition to its various club sports.

Last year was the first year for the soccer program; however they have seen great success in a short amount of time.

The squad is made up of all ex-high school soccer players, who according to Landau, go out and play five times weekly off-campus for practice, and play games throughout the spring.

“There are about 30 members currently on the team. We are in a very competitive intercollegiate league, and are currently ranked eighth out of 26 teams,” Landau said.

The club volleyball team is among the most active of all student-run organizations, playing one game a week for the entire second semester.

The team uses the fall to practice and participate in the intramural program, which they typically achieve victory in. This year the club’s intramural squad went undefeated and handily won the coveted black t-shirts that marks students as intramural champions.

Teams such as the roller hockey club, the water polo club, and the running club function on a year to year basis depending on turnout. The 3 clubs are always offered; however, numbers are not guaranteed every year like they are for the other 7.

Students are welcome to contact the team leaders of any of the respective clubs to arrange tryouts. The information for all of the teams is located on the Ursinus College website.

Eachus sounds off: Fans need to get real

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It’s no secret that Collegville and Ursinus College sit squarely in Eagles territory. Located less than a half hour from Center City, our little campus community is home to a majority of Philadelphia loyalists.

On Sunday, The New York Giants captured their fourth Super Bowl victory, the team’s second such championship in the last five years.

With the victory, and subsequent playoff victories, the Ursinus community witnessed a celebration by a very vocal, some would argue boisterous, contingent of Big Blue supporters.

Many northern New Jersey and New York based sports fans across the campus, watched in fear as Tom Brady’s last ditch hail marry attempt soared through the air towards the end zone, and nearly into the waiting hands of an injury-hampered Rob Gronkowski.

However, they soon collectively rejoiced, as time expired along with the rest of the NFL season, and the Giants became champions.

When the time ticked off the clock on Sunday and the Giants won yet another Super Bowl, while Eagles fans eagerly awaited their first, battle lines were drawn.

Die hard Philadelphia fans prepped for an off season of frustration, with both their team’s struggles and their rival’s subsequent successes, while Giants fans could rejoice their holding of the ultimate “trump card” in sports, a championship victory.

Naturally, for one side there was reason to feel dismal, and for the other there was reason to celebrate.

For decades real Philadelphia fans were starved of a championship, despite countless close calls and years that could-a, should-a, and would-a. In 2008, the Phillies broke through and delivered a title to a city that had been waiting since 1983, and real Philly fans could take comfort in the victory.

However, sadly some fans (self included) had their celebratory feelings hampered by frustrations with the outsourcing of support from all of the bandwagon jumping fans across the city, who felt it their geographical right to act as if they had been on board for the entire ride.

The same occurrence repeated itself in 2010 when the Flyers came within two victories of bringing home the Stanley Cup. Social media exploded with an outpouring of support, much of which came from those who had not watched a game all year until the late rounds of the playoffs.

The celebration of Giants fans, albeit well within their right, becomes especially problematic, when immersed among a crowd of a different fan base (particularly when that fan base is of a division rival).

This right of being proud and boasting as a fan comes with a disclaimer that should be written into national sports-fan-law. Do not walk around and announce your fan hood, if you are not prepared to properly defend said fan hood.

If you can’t even name 10 of your team’s 50 some odd players, you are not a real fan. If you haven’t watched a game until the playoffs, you are not a real fan. If you only wear your team apparel when they win, you are not a real fan. Being a real fan is about standing by through wins and losses, regular season and playoffs, championships and failures; it’s about more than just having a certain zip code, or some false reality of when to show your colors.

If you truly are a fan, then you get what I’m saying. You understand the frustrations of having someone who is just riding on the bandwagon, try and rub your nose in “their” team’s success.

If you can’t seem to follow, I’ve got some advice for you and your unjust braggadocios ways... get real... and then tell me how you feel.

*The views expressed by Eachus in this column are in no way reflective of those of The Grizzly or its staff.*
Coach Profile: Katie Hagan, Women’s Laccrosse

Katie Hagan was a two time captain at Gettysburg during her year playing career. In 2007, Hagan was named Centennial Conference Player of the Year, as well as an IWLCA All-American. Hagan joins Ursinus with three years of experience as an assistant coach at her alma mater.

But, I think I am in the best position to accomplish what I want to do as a head coach,” Hagan said. "I am so excited. The team has showed such improvement just in the fall season, and this confirmed every reason why I wanted to come be a coach for this team at Ursinus,” Hagan said.

This season should certainly be an interesting one for the Ursinus College Women’s Lacrosse Team, as numbers are rather low in comparison to what the team is accustomed to.

"The team is a little short in substitutes, but that just means that we are going to have to be well conditioned, have sharp minds, and keep possession of the ball in each game. I am confident in this team one hundred percent. We put the foundation down in the fall with an education in the weight room and I have already seen the confidence boost that has produced in the team thus far,” Hagan said.

Although every game is important, I would love to beat Gettysburg this year on their home turf,” Hagan said.

A former player at Gettysburg turned head coach at another school in the Centennial Conference has never beaten their alma mater. Hagan and the Women’s lacrosse team hope to change that statistic in 2012.

UC Sports Schedule 2/10-2/15

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<th>Date</th>
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| 2/10  | Men’s Track and Field Ursinus Invitational | 3 p.m.
| 2/11  | Wrestling @ Wilkes/Maryland                | 2/11  |
| 2/11  | Men’s Basketball @ Johns Hopkins            | 3 p.m.
| 2/15  | Women’s Basketball @ Washington College    | 6 p.m.
| 2/10  | Women’s Track and Field Ursinus Invitational | 3 p.m.
| 2/11  | Women’s Basketball @ Johns Hopkins          | 1 p.m.
| 2/12  | Gymnastics vs. Brockport/Towson            | 1 p.m.
| 2/15  | Men’s Basketball @ Washington College       | 8 p.m. |