Student activism demands direct action from administration

BY SANGJUN HORNEWER '20
Editor-in-Chief
hornewersm@lakeforest.edu

Two recent incidents occurred on campus that shed light on ongoing issues of bias and sexual misconduct at Lake Forest College. Students feel that they are being wronged and that the administration has done nothing about it, so they decided to speak up and take matters into their own hands.

The first incident, one of racial bias, occurred at the end of September 2019, when "a student was seen assaulting other students while voicing a derogatory racial epithet," President Stephen Schutt said at the Community Meeting held on November 14. The second incident was an art installation on November 14. The Campus Climate Meeting held on November 7, as a follow-up to those letters, a group of concerned students met with President Stephen Schutt, Dean of Students Andrea Conner, and Director of Intercultural Relations Claudia Ramirez Islas. This meeting was "requested by the Student Leaders of Empowerment Groups/Organizations on campus…and successfully created dialogue between some key Student Leaders, Student Government, and the Administration of the College," Jenkins’s email said.

In the last issue of The Stentor, staff published letters from three people regarding these situations. The first was written by senior Zaria Sydnor ’20 and read on October 24 at the Intercultural Advisory Group (IAG) Community Caucus meeting. The second letter, written by Sarah Coffman ’21, was sent to Student Government on October 30, and she read the letter at the Student Government meeting on October 31. The third letter was written by Jenkins on October 31 in response to Coffman’s letter.

Four days later on November 11, as a follow-up to those letters, a group of concerned students met in the Senior 25 Lounge, marched to President Schutt’s office, and “presented him with a list of necessary improvements in the College’s protocols, processes, and campus climate,” according to an email from Conner. Students then took shifts occupying Schutt’s office by means of a sit-in protest, with May taking the lead on both writing the list of demands as well as the protest.

May then scheduled the first of what would be two Community Meetings to address the concerns listed in the students’ letter. The first was held on November 14 and the second took place on November 19. Over 200 members of the campus community attended each meeting and contributed input about the two incidents that sparked these meetings as well as other instances of bias/sexual misconduct that occurred throughout the years. The discussions carried through two meetings to allow time for questions and comments from those in attendance, including the administration.

Students and administrators alike hope that this dialogue is the beginning of an improved relationship to foster more trust regarding student safety on campus. President Schutt sent a campus-wide email on December 2 that detailed the College’s actions in response to the November 11 student letter, printed in full on page 2. “We need to keep growing, institutionally,” Schutt said, and that’s exactly what the College hopes to do when these issues are addressed.

Looking ahead to further developments regarding these issues, there will be a Diversity and Inclusion Summit held on Saturday, January 25, 2020.
President Schutt’s Recent Email to the College

Editor’s note: The following email was sent to the campus community via email on December 2, 2019.

Dear Students, Faculty, and Staff,

I hope you enjoyed the Thanksgiving break and are refreshed for the remaining days in this semester. I am sending this campus message now to update you on important actions the College has taken to respond to the letter I received from concerned students at the beginning of their protest on November 11. Although some of these actions were (or will be) reported in minutes from the November 14 and 19 Community Meetings, I intend for this email to provide more clarity.

The students’ letter contained 16 demands for strong, fast, fair and just responses by the College to incidents of bias and sexual misconduct on campus. The students’ ongoing concern about those issues is powerful and urgent, and their demands are thoughtful and supported by the mission of the College. The main points I want to convey in this message are:

One. The College is taking immediate action to respond to many of the demands, as detailed at the end of this email.

Two. A special work group of students, faculty, and staff – co-chaired by Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies Courtney Joseph and Office of Intercultural Relations Director Claudia Ramirez Islas – is being formed this week and will immediately begin the work required for the College to fully respond to the remaining demands. Students will hear this week from Professor Joseph and Director Ramirez Islas about student representatives for the work group.

Numbered IV, V, IX, XI, XII and XIII, those remaining demands involve key areas of progress that need prompt attention from the work group so that necessary changes can be quickly made. The areas include, for example, development of practical guidelines for disciplinary consequences in cases of bias or sexual misconduct; delivery of improved anti-bias training for students, faculty, and staff; and establishment of an honor council to give input in cases of bias or sexual misconduct that violate the College’s values and principles.

The work group is charged to complete its work before the start of the spring semester, so that the College can fully respond by then to all demands in the letter. The work group will report to the campus at least weekly on its progress.

Three. The College is substantially increasing resources available for our new Title IX Coordinator LaShun McGhee to support her office in responding to current and future reports of sexual misconduct, in conducting timely investigations, and in delivering effective campus training for students, faculty, and staff.

Four. In response to concerns raised this fall in the minutes of Senior 25, an important review will be conducted over the next several weeks by a panel of three College Trustees, including Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees William Lowry ‘78, Cook County Commissioner and Managing Partner of the Chicago law firm Nyhan, Bambrick, Kinzie & Lowry, PC; Angelique Richard ’85, Vice President for Clinical Nursing at Rush University; and Sean Thomas ’91, Retired Partner, Hewitt Associates. The panel will review these and other related questions: (i) are criteria for selecting Senior 25 members appropriate, fair and objective; (ii) were the selection criteria applied fairly and objectively this year; and (iii) was all relevant information about Senior 25 candidates fully and fairly considered. The panel’s findings will be shared with the campus.

What follows is a full list of the demands in the student letter. After each demand, the action taken by the College to date is highlighted in italics.

I. Condemn the violent act of hate that occurred on our campus, along with other acts of bias and sexual misconduct that may have gone unreported

At both community meetings on November 14 and 19, I openly and explicitly condemned incidents of hate and violence earlier this semester, and apologized, on my behalf and the College’s, to anyone ever victimized by bias or sexual misconduct on this campus.

II. Implement a strict policy against discouraging reporting for any reason.

On November 26, I sent a campus message that attached a new, clear, online form to use in reporting instances of bias or sexual misconduct. The form is available at this link: https://www.lakeforest.edu/live/forms/309-report-a-concern. Each submitted form will go directly to a confidential email address in the Office of Intercultural Relations. Director Claudia Ramirez Islas and Title IX Coordinator LaShun McGhee will check every day. In addition, I have approved the immediate adoption of this new Student Handbook language:

Students are strongly encouraged to report any incident of bias or sexual misconduct

College employees may not discourage students from reporting such incidents, and discouraging a student from reporting is grounds for discipline.

III. Communicate with as much transparency as possible when addressing bias incidents and sexual misconduct, or any related events (such as a change in Title IX Coordinator or policy changes).

The College will: (i) promptly inform campus about a future bias incident like the one this fall, with as much detail as federal law permits, (ii) publish statistical summaries of incidents of bias or sexual misconduct (as College Council did on November 12), and (iii) report faculty and staff arrests and departures in campus online weekly news.

IV. After the bias process to be person to person, rather than student to student, student to faculty, and student to staff.

A common intakes process has been established for all bias incidents. (See II above. Also see IX below, which refers to the Honor Council that will be established with help from the work group in the weeks ahead.)

V. Create guidelines that provide practical language for consequences of committing a bias act.

Practical guidelines need to be established and promptly added to the Handbook to make clear that bias incidents will be subject to disciplinary sanctions from the Student Code of Conduct: the full set of sanctions ranging from warning to expulsion. The previously-mentioned work group will recommend such guidelines before the start of spring semester.

VI. Prohibit the respondent, in a report of bias or sexual misconduct, from refusing to meet with or receive education from the appropriate office.

Effective immediately, respondents in bias or sexual misconduct incidents are required to participate in College processes. No “opt out” is permitted.

VII. After policy so that each office is required to fill in the appropriate official when a report moves from one office to another so that a student is not burdened with repeating the same steps again and again.

The new online form published last week (see II above) will be further enhanced over the holidays to support uniform intake processes in cases of bias or sexual misconduct. In both cases, the College will reduce – to the maximum extent possible – the need for complainers to retell traumatic stories.

VIII. Publish and enforce consequences that will be given to violators of a no-contact order.

Effective immediate, no-contact orders must be: (i) Written, (ii) Fully explained, (iii) Enforced via sanctions from the Student Code of Conduct: the full set of sanctions ranging from warning to expulsion. The previously-mentioned work group will recommend such guidelines before the start of spring semester.

IX. Recommend that the College develop a student coalition of bias and sexual misconduct.

The student Cultural Coalition is being revived by the Office of Intercultural Relations and will receive strong institutional support from the College.

X. Clarify the roles of the committees, coalitions, and caucuses on campus, and provide contact information for each one.

The Dean of Faculty and Dean of Students will publish in January, a comprehensive list of committees, coalitions, and caucuses with contact information for each one.

X. Develop a student coalition of marginalized groups and identities.

The student Cultural Coalition is being revived by the Office of Intercultural Relations and will receive strong institutional support from the College.

XII. Require representation of students, faculty, and staff on how to be inclusive and in the Student Handbook.

The previously-mentioned work group will recommend such guidelines before the start of spring semester.

XIII. Institute a requirement for students to complete a form of education on diversity.

In addition, all faculty and staff will be required to complete anti-bias and inclusive practice training modules, beginning in the spring semester.

XIV. Require representation of minorities when creating policy.

The Intercultural Advisory Group will be consulted on all Student, Faculty, and Staff Handbook revisions to ensure that views and perspectives of under-represented students, faculty, and staff are taken fully into account.

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The Dean of Faculty and Dean of Students will publish in January, a comprehensive list of committees, coalitions, and caucuses with contact information for each one.

I hope this campus message provides a clear picture of the College’s actions in response to the students’ November 11 letter. Their concerns for student safety on our campus are entirely legitimate, as is their recognition that incidents of bias or sexual misconduct jeopardize that safety. I look forward to the efforts of the work group and trustee panel over the next several weeks, and I am committed to making sure that Lake Forest College is a safe and welcoming environment for all students and members of our campus community, now and in the future.

Stephen D. Schutt
President
Lake Forest College
Student concerns spark a conversation about inclusive theater casting

BY EMMA OVERTON ‘22
Managing Editor and
News Editor
overtonem@lakeforest.edu

Throughout the fall semester, Lake Forest College Student Government strived to implement a constitutional amendment that would change the Executive Board’s term from the calendar year to the academic year. On November 19, following a four-day voting period, Student Government President Zachary Jenkins ‘21 sent an all-campus email announcing that 88% of the student body had voted to approve the amendment. Student staff spoke with Jenkins about the purpose and impact of this amendment. According to Jenkins, the possibility of an amendment “has been kicked down from Senate to Senate, year to year.”

Direct action was spurred this year due to the Executive Board (which consists of the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary of Student Government) and the larger Senate’s (which consists of Class Senators, Residence Hall Senators, and Commuter Senators) mutual belief that the amendment is an important provision that must be implemented. Jenkins noted that “before this amendment, the elections of Senators and the Executive Board were not scheduled at the same time. Senators were elected at the beginning of the academic year and Executive Board members were elected about halfway through the academic year.” As Jenkins explained, “this change will officially move the Executive Board elections from the fall semester to the spring semester and will now allow the new Executive Board a month to shadow and be trained by the old Executive Board before starting their term in the next academic year.”

Expected of the rationale of the amendment, Jenkins noted, “the thought process behind this was simple: always keep either the Executive Board or the Senate experienced.”

Referencing the Five Stage Model of Group Development —Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing and Adjourning—Jenkins stated that “with this amendment in place, the hope is to allow Senates and Executive Boards to develop together and reach the mystical stage four: Performing.”

Jenkins said that he “thanks the [student body] for [their] support in improving Student Government. Whether you voted yea or nay, we on Student Government appreciate your engagement in the democratic process.”

Student Government Executive Board Term Change Amendment passes by an 88% Approval Rating

BY ELLERSE TOPACIO ‘20
Associate Editor
topacioem@lakeforest.edu

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Ilinois Attorney General general campus

By Emma Overton ‘22
Managing Editor and News Editor
overtonem@lakeforest.edu

On November 12, an audience of approximately 65 students gathered in the Lily Reid Holt Memorial Chapel for a town hall event with Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul. Assistant Professor of Politics Zachary Cook moderated the event and Raoul’s son, Che Raoul ‘20, introduced his father at the start of the event.

Opening the event, Raoul stated that in his position as Attorney General he is the “chief legal officer of the state, the chief law enforcement officer of the state and the chief advocate of the state.” Raoul described his office of “approximately 400 attorneys” as being “multifaceted,” it has both a criminal side on the appellate level as well as on the trial level . . . we defend the State of Illinois and its agencies when they are sued, we bring civil action in the public interest, we have [an] environmental protection [division], [and an] Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

Professor Cook asked Raoul for his advice to college students who are interested in pursuing a career as a public official. Raoul stated that “college is the perfect time to get engaged, [and] getting involved in politics is getting involved in advocacy because, at the end of the day, politics is the process by which we elect decision-makers.”

Raoul shared the story of his own professional journey, describing himself as “a three-time loser.” Shortly after he graduated from college, [Chicago mayor] Harold Washington died while in office [and] I watched the council proceedings that elected his successor and I was embarrassed by what I saw in terms of representatives that represented communities like mine. I told myself back then, we can do better and somebody like me has to lend themselves to it.

A year after graduating from law school, he started his campaign for the Chicago City Council, where he ran “against the incumbent alderman of the 4th ward, Toni Preckwinkle, who now is the County Board President of Cook County.” Explaining his first campaign, Raoul admitted he “didn’t know about the structure of campaigns . . . I had 60 people talking to each other instead of talking to voters, so I lost.” Following his first loss, Raoul was asked to run in a race for state senate, but lost again due to his opponent’s successful attempt to “split the African-American vote.”

As a result of Raoul’s interaction and professional relationship with Preckwinkle, and later, with St. Ward Alderman Leslie Hairston, he was eventually chosen as Barack Obama’s successor in the Illinois State Senate, a position that he credits to Preckwinkle and Haarrost having “just about all of their wards within the legislative district,” allowing them to command over “55 percent of the committee’s weighted vote.”

Summarizing his journey, Raoul stated that the “decision to lend myself to this uncompensated volunteer position with no thought that it would lead to an opportunity to serve in the state senate was what gave my entryway to serving.” Of his time in the state senate, Raoul stated that he was “one of the hardest-working legislators in Springfield and I think that is what set up my opportunity to run for Attorney General.”

Following Raoul’s description of his professional journey, Professor Cook opened the floor to audience questions. One audience member questioned the ability of Illinois to protect Dreamers if the DACA policy is overturned, to which Raoul replied that under the Trust Act, “Illinois is not going to use our law enforcement resources to enforce immigration law that is not within the jurisdiction of ICE, but, we can’t use our resources to obstruct federal law enforcement from doing what they are legally allowed.”

Elaborating on the possible elimination of DACA, Raoul said “let’s face it, overturning DACA creates a problem for the federal government and I think the president and others in his administration know they’ll have to do something else because there is no way they are going to be able to or want to round up everybody and deport them.”

Answering a question on his thoughts concerning criminal justice reform, Raoul stated that he is “disturbed about how people talk about criminal justice reform these days because it is oversimplified . . . we’ve done criminal justice reform without really looking at the underlying analysis. What we need to do is bring about the individualized treatment of offenders. Ofentimes we talk about violent offenses and nonviolent offenses . . . but we are not even talking about the offender . . . so where we need to go is not talking about violent offenses versus nonviolent offenses, it is talking about having risk assessment tools to really find out who is at risk to a public threat and who is not.”

Commenting on her impression of the event, attendee Alie Caskey ’22 of New Lenox, Illinois stated, “I thought it was really interesting to hear from the Attorney General himself about the roles he has to fulfill.”

Students Ready to Celebrate a Diverse Array of Holidays

By Katie Ketterer ’23
Emilia Overton ’22
Staff Writer; Managing Editor and News Editor
kettererke@lakeforest.edu
overtonem@lakeforest.edu

Following Finals Week, many students will be ready to celebrate a diverse array of holidays from across the globe. Winfield, Illinois, Winfield's holiday celebrations consist of a Christmas celebration with Polish traditions. Dziurdzik notes that “I’m Polish American and my parents immigrated from Poland so we have a lot of Christmas traditions. The big one is that Christmas is not celebrated on Christmas Day, but instead on Christmas Eve. The Polish name for the celebration is Boże Narodzenie.” Dziurdzik also shared that food is an important part of his celebration and includes “the sharing of Oplatek, which is like a communion wafer. Everybody breaks off a piece and shares with their close family members and communicates their thankfulness for being there.”

In addition to the meal, Dziurdzik also shared that he partakes in the tradition of leaving a chair empty for a hypothetical stranger that “leaves a chair empty for partakes in the tradition of Dziurdzik also shared that he might join . . . it’s a tradition of hospitality. Of course, also from Winfield, Illinois, Maria Strong ’23 shared that her Christmas celebrations consist of “my family making [gifts] and cookies on Christmas Eve and also making Wassail.” Strong also shared that her family goes to “see the Christmas Carol play and on Christmas Eve we watch It’s a Wonderful Life.” For first-year student Anish Abeysiriwardena ’23 of Northbrook, Illinois, holiday traditions consist of “Sri Lankan Christmas” where a cake “can be described as the most delicious cake you’ll ever find” is served. Abeysiriwardena explained that the cake is “soaked in nuts and brandy for days, [and] layered with marzipan. You wrap it in packaging, and it lasts years.”

Sharing that in Uganda “most holidays are religious and the majority are either Christian or Islamic,” Desire Uwera Nakulango ’22, from Jinja, Uganda explained that the “major holiday is Christmas and, for most people, it’s time to travel and be with family. And, for most people, it’s time to see the Christmas Carol and sing Sinterklaas carols and dancing Sinterklaas carols and dancing Sinterklaas carols.”

Hailing from Tilburg, Netherlands, Jackie Snoebben ’20 shared that the celebrates Sinterklaas. “This holiday celebrates Saint Nicolas’ birthday. At the end of November, Sinterklaas arrives from Spain on a big boat, on his white horse, and together with many of his helpers that are called Black Pete (who has attracted some controversy over the past years).” Snoebben stated that “families and their friends are in the country for several weeks, delivering small presents traveling by roofs and chimneys, in shoes that children put in front of the chimney before bedtime. Then on December 5, the holiday culminates with families getting together, eating candy, and singing Sinterklaas carols to really find out who is a threat to a public safety and who is not.”

Commenting on her impression of the event, attendee Alie Caskey ’22 of New Lenox, Illinois stated, “I thought it was really interesting to hear from the Attorney General himself about the roles he has to fulfill.”
Staff Spotlight: Adriana Rojas, Employee at The Paw

BY JOVANA JOVANOVSKA ’23
Staff Writer
jovanovska@lakeforest.edu

Adriana Rojas is a Parkhurst employee who works at The Paw in the Sports and Recreation Center. Rojas is originally from San Antonio, Texas, but she currently lives in North Chicago, Illinois. She has been working for Parkhurst at The Paw for a year and a half. Before that, she worked at a Dollar Tree for 23 years as the store’s manager. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her five grandchildren.

Stentor staff interviewed Rojas to get more insight into her experience on the job.

Stentor: What makes your job at The Paw memorable?
Rojas: It’s the students that make me laugh. When they come to The Paw, they ask me for recommendations. I don’t know what to tell them, because everything here is good.

Stentor: What attracted you to take this job?
Rojas: I like working with Parkhurst. I like the environment and I like working with students.

Stentor: How would you describe your experience on the job?
Rojas: I like to challenge myself in doing everything. I treat the students as if they’re my grandkids. That’s how much I care about the students. I put all my weight to provide good customer service.

Stentor: What do most students order at The Paw?
Rojas: The smoothies. The students like the Rise and Shine and Berry Perfect smoothies. The smoothies are the best, especially the smoothies of the month.

Stentor: What was your dream job as a child?
Rojas: My dream job as a child was to work in retail because retail is all I did. Every day, I would read the catalogs that advertised what was being sold. That was my main interest.

Stentor: What do you enjoy doing in your free time?
Rojas: I enjoy spending time with my grandkids.

When Foresters return from Winter Break, 36 of their fellow classmates will have graduated in December and be new members of the Forester alumni family. One of these December graduates is Sangjun Hornewer ’20, a communication major and journalism and Spanish minor from Gurnee, Illinois.

In addition to serving as Editor-in-Chief of The Stentor, Hornewer was on the Women’s Soccer Team (#10), worked as a tutor in the Writing Center, was a part of the Peer Navigator program, was selected as a Gummeen Fellow, and was named a member of the Lake Forest College Senior 25. She was also honored with membership in Lambda Pi Eta, the National Communication Honor Society.

Staff staff interviewed Hornewer about her time with the newspaper and her plans after graduation.

Stentor: Why did you join the Stentor?
Sangjun: I joined the Stentor because I believe that education diffused through writing will always play a crucial role in our lives. Also, becoming more involved on campus through the newspaper was a great opportunity for me to develop my skills and meet new people.

Stentor: When did you join the Stentor and what was your first role on the paper?
Sangjun: I joined the Stentor during the first semester of my sophomore year, and my first role was Opinion Section Editor.

Stentor: What was the first article you worked on?
Sangjun: The first article I worked on was published in the Opinion Section and titled “How to avoid stress at the beginning of the semester.”

Stentor: What was the most memorable article you worked on?
Sangjun: During the second semester of my sophomore year, my second semester working for the Stentor, I transitioned to the role of Associate Editor. I wrote a multi-faceted article about an art project that senior Kanoe Montaño ’18 installed around campus that raised controversy about the College’s mission statement.

Working on this topic stands out to me because it was one of the first articles I needed to do extensive research for, as it involved several groups on campus. In addition, these articles played a large role in helping me learn how to balance a variety of perspectives.

Stentor: What was your favorite part about being Editor-in-Chief?
Sangjun: My favorite part of my role as Editor-in-Chief over the past year and a half was being part of all the steps that contributed to having the final product in my hands. From brainstorming articles to proofreading/editing to writing my own pieces, each step of the process is integral to serving the campus community and keeping everyone informed.

Stentor: What will you miss most about working on the Stentor?
Sangjun: One aspect of journalism that I really enjoy is being in the know about what’s going on as it’s happening. The behind-the-scenes work is a process that I’ve always liked being part of, and delivering a product that is both informative and educational for the readers is so satisfying.

Stentor: What will you miss most about Lake Forest College?
Sangjun: I was always positive in my interactions with people who helped me grow. I’ve learned something from every course I’ve taken, every person I’ve met, and every situation I’ve found myself in at this institution, and while I’m eager to find out what the world has in store for me, I cherish the experiences I’ve had at Lake Forest College.

Stentor: What are your plans after graduation?
Sangjun: While nothing is set in stone at the moment, I’m looking forward to traveling with my family and entertaining a few different exciting opportunities. One thing’s for sure: whatever path I choose in the coming months, my experience as part of the Stentor will contribute to my future and ongoing development.

We at The Stentor wish Sangjun the best of luck in her future endeavors, and we hope to see her around campus when she comes back to visit The Stentor welcomes Emma G. Overton ’22 as Editor-in-Chief and Ellerese Topacio ’20 as Managing Editor.

Farewell to the Stentor’s Editor-in-Chief, Sangjun Hornewer ’20

Adriana Rojas is ready to serve students at The Paw.
(Jovana Jovanovska / The Stentor)
The Digital Streaming Revolution

BY ADAM HARTZER '23
Layout Editor
harzeraj@lakeforest.edu

How Disney+ and other streaming services are redefining the way people watch TV

With the long-awaited arrival of Disney’s new streaming service Disney+, once-loyal users of Netflix and Hulu are quickly subscribing to the new streaming platform. Within 24 hours of its launch, Disney claimed to have received 10 million sign-ups to its new streaming platform. With this overwhelming emergence of a new major streaming service, some wonder how other streaming services are reacting and what the future of streaming will look like in a world with Disney+.

Since its release, Netflix has been the top streaming giant who not only introduced the idea of streaming in 2007 but has also remained the top service for the past decade. Even with the launch of Disney+, Netflix remains optimistic about the future of their streaming platform.

“For us, nothing really changes. They are great at what they do; they’re great storytellers. It is great to have competition,” Netflix chief content officer Ted Sarandos stated at a media council summit.

Yet, soon after the launch of Disney+, Netflix announced a partnership with Nickelodeon that would offer streaming availability for shows such as victorious and a new SpongeBob SquarePants spin-off show that is exclusive to Netflix. Many speculate that this partnership emerged to combat the rise of this. As its platform offers various shows targeted to younger audiences—many of which resonate with multiple generations. This SpongeBob SquarePants Netflix spin-off is only one of the many shows and films that is labeled and marketed as a “Netflix original.” Stranger Things, Orange is the New Black, and The Umbrella Academy are a few of the most-watched fan-favorite original series available on Netflix. These original series are revolutionizing the way people watch TV and subscribe to the various streaming platforms. Similar to Netflix, Hulu offers original content to its users with top-rated series such as The Handmaid’s Tale and Castle Rock.

With Apple launching its own premium streaming service Apple TV+ at the beginning of last month and only a few days before the launch of Disney+, they too hoped to gain users by offering exclusive media content for its users. Its flagship show, The Morning Show, starring Jennifer Aniston, Reese Witherspoon, and Steve Carell, critiques the people who work in the media industry and the challenges they face in presenting the people with reliable news. Having these series exclusive to a particular streaming platform entices customers and encourages them to subscribe to the service’s original content. No longer are streaming platforms only offering TV series or films produced by networks that aired on traditional cable television. Instead, they are revolutionizing and redefining the way entertainment is created and distributed, by producing their own work.

As Disney+ joins the streaming game, they are creating original series of their own with the offerings of High School Musical: The Musical: The Series, Star Wars: The Mandalorian, and Monsters at Work coming in 2020.

With the age of digital streaming growing more prominent in the media and entertainment industry, competing streaming platforms are continuously expanding the content available to users for their selection and enjoyment.

Music Department Concerts Welcome the Holiday Season

BY JENNIFER MORALES '22
Staff Writer
moralesj@lakeforest.edu

Music has the power to bring everyone together. It is there when people are celebrating joyful moments in their lives, and it’s also there when people are having an emotional moment in their lives. Using music to bring everyone together and to celebrate the holiday season, the Lake Forest College Music Department hosted their annual holiday concerts with “Season of Joy” as this year’s theme.

On December 5, the Lake Forest College Band and Orchestra presented their concert at 7:00 p.m. in Calvin Durand Hall. The following day, on December 6, the Lake Forest College Choir presented their concert at 7:00 p.m. in Calvin Durand Hall. Speaking to Stentor staff before the Band and Orchestra concert, Jamie Pineda ’20, a violin player in the orchestra, shared that she was “excited to see people attend the concert…I [and enjoy] the culminating product of all our hard work for the past couple weeks.” Pineda also shared that she was looking forward to the song “Winter Wonderland,” which is one of the combined numbers. “It’s super fun,” she said.

Both concerts were free to attend and open to community members. Those who weren’t able to attend this year’s holiday concerts can look forward to other upcoming Music Department events and concerts, including the Spring concert, which is usually held in April.
**Movie Review: Harriet**

**BY MARYAM JAVED ’21**

Opinions Editor  
javedm@lakeforest.edu

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.”—Harriet Tubman. These powerful words professed by Harriet Tubman herself set the premise for this film about her life and is precisely what she did. In this film, Harriet Tubman embarks on her journey toward freedom, leading hundreds along with her through the Underground Railroad, becoming a universal hero and one of the most profound women in American history.

One important aspect of Tubman’s life that is sometimes neglected by historians is her personal life, including her family and marriage. Before viewing the film, most of her audience was probably aware Tubman is a strong and courageous woman, but one element of the film that is crucial in understanding her life was the fact that Harriet was loved and she was in love. Her love for her husband and family is what ultimately led her to go back to the South in the first place, and ultimately drove her to lead hundreds of slaves into freedom.

The director of the film, Kasi Lemmons, focused on the concept of freedom throughout the film and as Tubman being a soldier of freedom. Though there are scenes that illustrate the cruelty slave-owners subjected slaves to, the director wanted to focus on how Tubman escaped the confinements of slavery and led others to do the same. Another subject the director raises in this film is the issue of family separation and the psychological torment individuals who were subjected to slavery were forced to endure. The film shows haunting visions Tubman had about being separated from her family, which is something the director wanted to emphasize further because family separation is an issue that affects this country still to this day, especially in the family separation of migrant families at the Southern border.

Overall, I felt this film was extremely empowering for women. It showed Harriet Tubman escaping from slavery as a young woman, walking miles on end, all on her own, at a time in which the majority of women lacked a voice or any sort of independence. Tubman defied these stigmas in every shape and form, which is something I greatly admire. She was a hero who went back to liberate others and this film was a reminder of that.

However, there were some concerns I did have regarding the film. The film introduces a fictitious character, an African-American bounty hunter that went after slaves. I thought the addition of this character was unnecessary and took away from the overarching theme of the film, which was Tubman’s journey toward freedom and being a hero. Because of this and some other historical discrepancies, I would rate this film a 7.5/10.

I also felt that there were certain aspects of the film that needed to be explained more. For example, Tubman’s role as a spy in the Civil War was barely shown and the scene in which she led a military expedition was quite brief. If these scenes were expanded, it would benefit the film greatly. There is also a lot of harsh and offensive language in this film, which can be difficult to hear, but overall I believe the acting in the film was extremely compelling. Tubman’s escape from slavery and the overall message of achieving freedom is something that is truly inspiring and makes Harriet worth watching.

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**Book Review: Girls of Riyadh by Rajaa al-Sanea**

**BY MARYAM JAVED ’21**

Opinions Editor  
javedm@lakeforest.edu

The controversial book, Girls of Riyadh, offers a vivid portrayal of modern life in Saudi Arabia, depicting women enjoying the occasional glass of champagne in secret, driving despite the law at that time forbidding women to drive, and finding love in a very much gender-segregated society. Though the book was originally published in Arabic in 2005, many of its overarching themes remain relevant today.

The novel tells a story of four ambitious young Saudi women: Lamees, Michelle, Sadeem, and Gamrah. All four women hail from affluent families in the country’s capital, Riyadh, but face a series of challenges in finding love due to clashing social classes, deep-rooted religious prejudices and beliefs, societal pressures, and gender inequality; issues the country still tackles with today.

The book is told from the perspective of an unnamed narrator through a series of emails on a Yahoo subscription list about the lives of each of the four women. The character Gamrah, who is the most traditional of her friends, faces a great predicament in her arranged marriage with a man she barely knows. After her wedding, she soon moves into an apartment in Chicago with her husband, however, she is often left alone and feeling trapped. Sadeem’s family also fixes an arranged marriage for her to a handsome civil servant and she falls madly in love with him, however, the two enter a dangerous love affair that could potentially prevent the marriage from taking place. Lamees, a hard-working medical student, falls in love with a Shi’a man, which is considered unacceptable by the majority of Sunni-Muslim society. Michelle, who is half-American, faces problems when she falls in love with a man whose family expresses disdain toward the fact she is an American mother.

This work is often branded as the Saudi version of “Sex and the City” due to the secrets the characters have and their wild love affairs, however the book highlights a number of social and religious issues that are prevalent in the country. Each character highlights these social and religious issues in one form or another. Gamrah learns how to become an independent woman after her husband leaves her for another woman and grapples with being scrutinized by Saudi society as being a divorced single mother. Lamees accepts the harsh reality of the religious tensions between Shiahs and Sunnis in Saudi Arabia and the fact that boys and girls cannot be seen alone with one another in public. Sadeem is heartbroken after her fiancé used and left her, leaving her feeling powerless, and Michelle becomes a victim of prejudice by a man’s family, which she intended on marrying into.

Overall, I would rate this book 4.5/5 because the email format was difficult to follow, at times. I highly recommend this book to anyone interested in feminist literature and contemporary life about women living in the Middle East, especially in a country like Saudi Arabia where many people have preconceived notions or stereotypes in their minds that the women living there are oppressed. Though the society itself has many restrictions, it does not stop these women from pursuing their dreams and finding love, which is something that is truly inspiring and worth reading.
The Senseless Killing of UIC student Ruth George

BY MARYAM JAVED ’21
Opinions Editor
javedm@lakeforest.edu

Ruth George, a sophomore and honors student at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) was slain on November 23 after ignoring a man’s advances. He followed her into the UIC parking lot from a bus stop, raped her, then strangled her to death. She was found after her sisters tried tracking her phone. The murderer, who was identified from surveillance videos in the area and already on parole for another crime, was charged with first-degree murder and criminal sexual assault. He confessed to the killing, saying he was angry that Ruth ignored his advances. However, college campuses as a whole should increase their security to prevent attacks like these from occurring again, institutions and college campuses like UIC should increase their security and have 24-hour surveillance of places such as parking lots, where students can easily be attacked. Unfortunately, it seems like the toxic culture of catcalling women is something that cannot be removed easily from society and is an issue that every woman faces throughout the world. How can they increase their security? However, college campuses can prevent students from being attacked or harassed if they have security or public safety around all areas of campus no matter what time of day, but especially at night when many of these attacks, including this one, occur. Students should always feel safe on their college campus. They should feel comfortable to go to events at all times of the day, and should not be fearful for their lives. Though public safety or campus security cannot go beyond the scope of the campus, the least they can do is provide 24-hour surveillance to prevent any outsiders from intruding on the premises of the school. Ruth George was a very talented young woman and on a pre-health track. She wanted to help people. Her family released a statement about their loss, saying: “Ruth lived out her deep faith in Jesus by loving and serving others, leaving a legacy of Christ-centered kindness and sacrifice. She was the beloved baby of our family. We grieve with hope. We hold no hatred towards the perpetrator, but our hope is no other girl would be harmed in this way and for a mother to never experience this type of heartache.”

I agree with Ruth’s family that no other girl should be harmed in this way and no mother should experience this type of heartache. This is why colleges and universities across the country and even around the world, need to bolster their security to protect their students and allow them to feel safe in a place of learning; a place that is supposed to represent peace. This toxic misogynistic culture of catcalling cannot be erased, but college campuses as a whole must take stronger measures to prevent attacks like these from taking place.

Climate Change and the California Inmate Firefighters

BY JOSH HAGER ’22
Staff Writer
hagerjm@lakeforest.edu

The effects of climate change result in California constantly being on fire. The massive and widespread California wildfires are the culmination of an environmental catastrophe that has dried out the state and made it fertile for wildﬁres to sweep through towns. I know this first hand. On December 4, 2017, I awoke from a chaotically windy night of power outages to a sky ﬁlled with smoke. My town of Ventura, California was on fire. In what came to be known as the Thomas Fire, thousands evacuated, and the homes of many people I know went up in smoke. Thousands of firefighters from across the country helped in putting out the ﬁre, and when it threatened to engulf the nearby town of Ojai, California, their efforts saved the town from being surrounded by ﬂames. Some of these firefighters who help save my town were not free people, but inmate firefighters. According to the Los Angeles Times, the inmate firefighters earn pitifully low wages ranging between $2.00 and $5.00 per day and work in extremely dangerous conditions. Not all of them lived. Even if the inmate firefighters lived and are eventually released from prison, because of their felony status, the chances of an inmate firefighter becoming a fully paid and fully respected firefighter are slim. What then is justice in the age of climate change? The environmental degradation of California, or the world for that matter, originated in inherent ﬂaws of capitalist society. So why is California on ﬁre to begin with? Drought, neglect of ecological balance, and overdevelopment all connected to capitalist incentives and of class society. The hills beyond Ventura are of the unique Chaparral ecosystem, which needs to burn regularly to not become laden with too much “fuel.” When the wealthy decided to develop into the hills, the policy became ﬁre suppression, thus cutting off...
Climate Change continued

this natural cycle to not risk these homes burning. Additionally, drought has been the reality for Southern California for as long as I can remember. Without the meat industry, the water usage of the state would decline substantially, and the water resources would not be so overexerted. Additionally, the cause of many deaths in Paradise, California was due to the refusal of companies such as PG&E (Pacific Gas and Electric) to upgrade their fragile infrastructure. The message is, capitalists profit from the plunder of the earth, and those who have been victimized are left to suffer and clean up the disasters.

The response to climate change today dictates the world we live in tomorrow. I do not want to live in a green world with oppression, military invasions by the United States, and the same class structures as the world we currently live in. It is no secret that the United States’ expansive prison complex entraps people in poverty, and perpetuates racism in the most brutal form. It is then the policy of the United States for the most vulnerable social groups to clean up the mess of the rich and their economic order, using inmates as firefighters at risk to their safety. To solve climate change, we cannot maintain the same institutions that caused climate change.

Author and activist Naomi Klein pointed out in an interview with the podcast Chapo Trap House that an approach to climate change without justice and a revolution in politics and the economy will amplify the injustice and inequalities that exist in neoliberal capitalism. This is what happened in France, where President Macron instituted taxes on people without there being change to capitalism itself, causing the masses to revolt during the Yellow Vest movement. Ecosocialism is the logical solution to this.

A revolution of the masses enacting a system that is not fundamentally antagonistic to the environment and planning for the needs of both the people and the environment will solve the crisis. Capitalism is not capable of doing this and has never planned for the needs of the environment or the people, but the capitalists who profit from the exploitation of both. To even say that this was planned is a stretch. Capitalism created the socially unequal context in which there are prison firefighters to begin with, and it is socialism that will undo this. The environment will be repaired by the masses, for the masses, but only in a just society.
BY AIDEN KINSELLA ’22
Staff Writer
kinnessla@lakeforest.edu

Imagine: three physics students in coffee-stained lab coats pacing up, down, and around each other; a well-used blackboard standing as a looming monolith in the back of the room. On the blackboard are probabilities, trajectories, and the like. None of the physicists has slept for more than 15 minutes in the last four days, and none has left the space. The northwest corner is the pe corner, and the group has agreed to stay away from there.

“Well?” said Gerald expectantly to his fellow scientists, not wanting to be the first person among them to draw a conclusion from their data because he also did not want to be the first person among them to be wrong—better to pretend he was unhelpful than opinionated.

“Well… Simply put?” asked Jace, who was shorter than Gerald—indeed—the shortest physicist in the room. Jace was opinionated, and they were helpful, and they were intelligent; these truths, when put together, made them above all: annoying.

“Yes, simply put, please,” put Delia, simply. Delia was functionaly the facilitator on the team and she stood at a medium height, taller than Jace, but shorter than Gerald. “Simply put, Jace explained, “even for a small liberal arts school, our parties are just not fire enough to generate any real chaos. It’s embarrassing.”

“I see,” noted Delia. “Should we re-run the calculations just to be sure?”

“No point,” Jace pointed. “I already have—HUNDREDS of times, and every time it’s the same. There’s no way to make our numbers look pretty. Our quarterly report goes to the BuzzFeed ‘Top Party-Schools’ listicle submissions without any fraudulence, understand?” Jace went on to explain that they could lose their credibility as scientists if they misrepresented the results of their data.

“This morning, all I saw outside ‘littering’ the ground after last night’s ‘rager’ was an empty box of crackers,” Delia whined. “While it was clearly flung from a window, my calculations of its velocity and trajectory show that it was flung with very little—if any—drunken excitement, and that it likely didn’t even come from one of our dorm parties at all, but rather from one of our single rooms.”

“On top of that, the lack of broken glass blanketing the grass and the sidewalk tells me people weren’t even TRYING to get busted by pub-safe;” furthered Jace, “which is totally weak-ass, un-exciting party behaviour! Where’s the fun if there’s no chance you might get caught?!”

“Fair,” said Delia, “fair.” The group was really getting going now: all of their ideas were flowing!

“Fair! Exactly! Okay, yeah, perfect. All of that was exactly what I was thinking,” said Gerald, falsifying the truth so as to lie. “We need to tell the council, right?”

“Right,” Jace clarified. Delia frowned knowingly. “They’re not gonna like this.”

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At press time, we confirmed that the party council was indeed unhappy with the news that was brought to them that evening.

The Crazy Reality of the ‘Florida Man’

BY COLIN RUSSELL ’22
Staff Writer
russelcr@lakeforest.edu

Here at The Chive, we pride ourselves on our ability to come up with wacky stories that are fictitious. But what happens when places get so crazy that the real articles themselves start to seem like they are satire? This is a constant phenomenon in the southern state of Florida, where some of the people there are absolutely insane, do absolutely ludicrous things, or have bizarre possessions.

To start off our journey into the real articles that should be satire, we have a situation involving Orlando, singer-songwriter Lana Del Rey, and a very, very obsessive fan. Sarah Marsh of The Guardian reported that a man was arrested in Orlando over an alleged plot to kidnap Del Rey. The police received a tip that the man had posted cryptic messages about the famous singer and had been tailing her during her concert tour. The police arrested the 43-year-old man blocks away from where Del Rey was singing and found him to have a knife in his possession. Personally I like to imagine this going the same way as Borat’s attempt at kidnapping actress and model Pamela Anderson, where the security detail didn’t know that the whole sketch was a joke that she was in on.

That is just one of many examples of the strange and unusual actions of the crazy people down in Florida. The next example is evidence of true friendship: 24-year-old Patrick Rempe was really missing some of his friends who had been locked away and were now behind bars. So, he did what any rational person would do and drove his car through the jail’s barbed wire fence, assaulted one officer and battered another. David Moye of the Huffington Post reported that all of this was in a desperate attempt to break into jail to hang out with his friends. I guess he got what he wanted in the end.

The wacky actions of the characters in Florida do not compare to the bizarre possessions of the people in Florida. Sure, there are common things like pet alligators, crack pipes, and kilograms of meth, but those possessions pale in comparison to the heavyweight boxer who had a cougar for a pet. Vanessa Medina of WSVN Miami reported that boxer Tyrone Spring was charged after a cougar escaped the boxer’s Parkland home and was found relaxing in the grass near a neighbor’s house. The police and animal control came to take the big cat away, and it was reported that the creature is now staying at a local wildlife center, where it is doing very well. Personally, I would love to have video footage of the 911 operator’s reaction to this emergency phone call. They probably thought that this was some kind of a joke at first, but after all, it is Florida.
Foresters Fall to Elmhurst in High-Scoring Affair

Freshman wing Reece Taylor finished with a season-high 21 points and eight rebounds Tuesday night but Lake Forest was edged out 93-91 by visiting Elmhurst College.

Taylor shot 8-for-11 from the field, made three of four attempts from beyond the arc, and grabbed four boards at each end of the court.

Forester freshman guard Aidyn Albright led all players with 22 points while junior guard Sean Espinosa and sophomore guard Tashon Brown added 16 and 13, respectively. Albright also led Lake Forest with four steals and Brown chipped in with seven rebounds and a team-high four assists.

After a slow start, the Foresters shot 46.2 percent from the field and 10-for-32 on three-pointers. The Bluejays connected on exactly half of their field goal attempts but on just four of 18 shots from long-range. Lake Forest missed just four free throws in 25 tries while Elmhurst was 23-for-32 from the line. The visitors had a 43-33 edge in rebounds.

Elmhurst scored the first nine points of the game and the Foresters the next eight. The home team tied the score at 13 but then surrendered the next 13 points. The margin reached 18-and-a-half minutes left. The Elmhurst lead increased to seven but a dunk by freshman forward Victor Novy, a layup by Espinosa, and another three-pointer by Taylor tied the score at 79 with 4:30 remaining. After Elmhurst quickly regained the lead, Taylor knocked down a second consecutive straightaway three-pointer to put the home team on top for the first time on the night.

The lead changed hands five more times, the last on a Bluejay basket with 35.8 seconds on the clock. The visitors held on and remained perfect after four games this season.

The Foresters fell to 3-2 and will begin Midwest Conference play next Wednesday at St. Norbert College. Tip-off is scheduled for 5:30 p.m.

Foresters Knock Off Nation’s 10th-Ranked Team in Overtime

A shorthanded goal by senior forward Sydney Simone (#83), seconds into overtime, on Saturday, November 30 gave the home team a 2-1 triumph over the University of St. Thomas in the final game of the Lake Forest Invite.

The Tommies turned the puck over just inside their offensive zone and Simone made them pay, converting the breakaway opportunity for her second score of the season. It was also her second career shorthanded goal and third game-winner.

The game was tied thanks to Forester sophomore defensemen Olyvia Opsahl’s first career goal with 4:42 remaining in regulation. She weaved through several Tommies before blasting a shot from the top of the left circle off the pipe and into the net.

St. Thomas led for almost exactly 20 minutes after opening the scoring at the 15:10 mark of the second period.

Lake Forest out-shot the visitors 26-17 during the first two periods and 35-27 in the game. Senior goaltender Jacque Rogers made 26 saves, including 10 in the third period, to earn the victory and even her record on the season at 2-2-0.

The Foresters are now 3-5-0 overall on the year while St. Thomas, the 10th-ranked team in the country, fell to 5-2-3.

Lake Forest will resume Northern Collegiate Hockey Association play at Trine University next weekend. The teams will face off Friday night at 7:00 ET and again on Saturday at 2:00 p.m.

Forester Athlete of the Week for 11/21/19: Aaron Helms ’22

Lake Forest College swimmer Aaron Helms ’22 was named Forester Athlete of the Week after helping lead his team to a first-place finish at Lawrence University’s Gene Davis Invitational on Saturday.

Helms posted the Midwest Conference’s fastest times of the season in a pair of individual events, winning the 500-freestyle in 4:55.94 and leading the Foresters’ 1-2-3 finish in the 200-butterfly with a time of 2:02.02. He was also third in the 1650-freestyle in 17:09.93, the second-best time in the league so far this year.

Lake Forest finished the six-team meet with 668 points, 186 more than runner-up University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

Forester Athletes of the Week are selected by the Athletic Department on Thursdays.
Forester Faces

Please enjoy the first edition of a new feature, Forester Faces, where we feature photos from recent club and organization events. This edition of Forester Faces features the Muslim Student Association’s Friendsgiving Dinner, Tri Delta’s Tri Hop pancake dinner, Alpha Phi’s Mac and Phis macaroni and cheese dinner, and Alpha Phi Omega’s Apple Pie Omega event.

Want to see your club/organization’s event featured in future Issues of the Stentor? Email your photos to editor@mx.lakeforest.edu and include a brief description of your event. Please note, submission does not guarantee publication.

The Muslim Student Association (MSA) hosted its annual Friendsgiving Dinner on November 15 in the Glen Rowan house. The event was open to all students, faculty, and staff.

Friendsgiving attendees enjoyed their meals and each other’s company
Friendsgiving attendees posed for photos at the event

The Epsilon Beta chapter of the Tri Delta sorority hosted its annual Tri Hop fundraiser dinner on November 15 in the Student Center, raising $770 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Tri Delta sisters Tianna Belike ’21, Rachel Robbins ’21, Jesis Pope ’22, McKenzie Jordan ’20, Nicole Choma ’22 (back row L to R) and Maddy Morland ’23 (front row) at Tri Hop
Tri Delta sisters Liz White ’20 (L) and Missy Ryan ’21 (R) were ready to serve hungry students

The Gamma Epsilon chapter of the Alpha Phi Sorority hosted its annual Mac and Phis fundraiser dinner on November 19 in the Student Center. The sorority raised $361 for the Alpha Phi Foundation, which uses the money raised to fund research and educational programs that support the advancement of women’s heart health.

The Alpha Phi sisters are ready for Mac and Phis
Alpha Phi sisters were eager to greet guests at Mac and Phis. Top row L to R: Emma Wang ’21, Grace Robinette ’22, Ana Pinel ’23 Bottom row L to R: Vanessa Jackson ’20, Adelaide Grubbe ’20, Jaclyn Lonergan ’23

The Alpha Zeta Delta chapter of the Alpha Phi Omega co-ed service fraternity hosted its annual Apple Pie Omega event in the Sports and Recreation center on November 20. The event hosted teams of 4-6 students to compete in various apple-themed contests, including apple stacking, donut eating, and a relay race. The fraternity asked participants to bring five non-perishable items to be donated to the Midwest Conference Food Drive.

Students participate in the donut eating contest
Alpha Phi Omega members are ready for Apple Pie Omega