



THE MONMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1933

OUTLOOK

OUTLOOK.MONMOUTH.EDU

April 12, 2017

VOL. 89 No. 10

Plan for Payments: A Look Into Student Loan Debt



PHOTO COURTESY of Yasir Alsaedi

Student loan debt is a problem nationwide for many college graduates as the average student will pay approximately \$259 a month over ten years.

RICHARD FELICETTI
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Paying off student loans is a feat that most student loan borrowers must face just six months after graduation, as the average student loan from a 4-year college in 2016 was approximately \$37,100, according to *student-loanhero.com*.

Upon graduation, a student must pick a particular plan to pay off their student loans, according

to an article published by *nerdwallet.com*. There are eight different plans a student can choose from to repay their federal student loans, including four that are based on income level.

The basic payment plans include standard, graduated and extended plans. Unless a student elects otherwise, they will be placed on the standard repayment plan, which is ten years for many companies, according to the article. This would mean that the average student

will pay approximately \$259 per month, on a 10 year standard plan.

According to Kristen Isaksen, Associate Director of Financial Aid, students should utilize resources such as *studentaid.ed.gov* and *nelnetloanservicing.com* for helpful options regarding loan repayment. "These sites will provide you with repayment calculators, loan servicer

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'Walk a Mile in Her Shoes' Brings Awareness to Sexual Assault

COURTNEY BUELL
CLUB & GREEK EDITOR

Nearly 100 students and faculty put on women's shoes and walked in the ninth annual "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes" event to raise awareness for sexual assault and gender violence on Wednesday, April 6.

The original event, started in 2001, was created as an opportunity for men to raise awareness in their community about the serious causes, effects and restitution to men's sexualized violence against women, according to the organizations official site. Its intention was to create a discussion and to establish open communication on sexual violence.

Coordinated by Thomas McCarthy, Assistant Director of Counseling and Psychological Services, the event had a large presence from the Greek community, as well as Monmouth Athletics, such as the men's basketball team.

McCarthy said, "It is absolutely important to have a strong male presence here. The event was started by men to bring awareness to show that we are here to support. Having campus leaders, like athletes and Greeks really helps to spread the message and make sexual assault a men's issue too."

Students from these organizations understand how significant and important an event like this is, as well as how impactful their participation is in it. Junior health and physical education student and guard on the men's basketball team, Daniel Pillari was one of the members participating in the walk. "It is so important for people to be aware and bring this issue to light, and having men involved in advocating for this cause is crucial," Pillari said.

McCarthy encouraged different groups to attend the event. He said, "This event is a way for people on campus to know that we care about sexual assault awareness. The goal is to spread awareness and encouraging people to speak up if they are a bystander."

Sister of Alpha Omicron Pi and senior business administration student, Aashni Shah enjoyed seeing so many men at an event centered around a subject that would typically be a women's issue. "I think that by having these guys come here and put the shoes on, we get to have a conversation about an issue that isn't about women, but about people in general," she said.

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Monmouth Talks Compensating Athletes

NAMRA SHUEIB
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A controversial debate surrounds student-athletes and whether or not they should receive wages. Last year, two suits were filed against the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) over compensating student-athletes.

A former University of South California football player opened a suit against the NCAA, alleging that student-athletes are employees who should be paid. In December, the NCAA asked the U.S. Dis-

trict Court in San Francisco to dismiss the lawsuit, stating that paying athletes "could jeopardize the long-term sustainability of college sports." A decision by the Court has not yet been made.

In early 2016, former members of the University of Pennsylvania track and field team, opened a collective lawsuit against the NCAA and 123 of its member institutions, alleging that athletes at NCAA schools are actually "employees" of the schools for purposes of the Fair

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Jack Ford Creates Dialogue About Student-Athlete Wages

JOHN SORCE
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RICHARD FELICETTI
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The University hosted a lecture by television news personality Jack Ford in Anacon Hall that was designed as an open dialogue regarding the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the controversy regarding student athlete wages on Wednesday, April 5.

Ford began the lecture talking about his background. He and his three siblings were raised by



PHOTO TAKEN by John Sorce

Jack Ford and the Monmouth community initiate conversation on student-athlete wages.

a single mother, as their father abandoned the family when Ford was five years of age. Shortly

thereafter, Ford moved into the

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