Students and Faculty Question Study Abroad Practices

IN Inside:

Studies abroad is an opportunity that some students agree can be life-changing. Students are able to live in another country and take courses at a foreign university. While grateful for the opportunity, some students and faculty believe that the university’s study abroad programs should be improved.

Currently, the university offers undergraduate programs for study abroad in Florence, Italy; London, England; Sydney, Australia; and Cadiz, Spain. Programs starting in the near future will also allow students to study in Buenos Aires, Argentina or Heidelberg, Germany.

According to Jon Stauff, Ph.D., Vice Provost for Global Education, 315 students participated in some form of education abroad through either a semester or summer study abroad program, a faculty-led program, or a service trip last year. Approximately 100 students specifically studied abroad in the same time frame.

The Global Education Office (GEO) is responsible for these programs. According to their website, the GEO’s mission is “to provide curricular and co-curricular opportunities for immersive and transformative experiences for faculty and students to promote interdisciplinary, international education, a compassionate understanding of the world, and global engagement toward creating socially responsible citizenship.”

While each of these programs are overseen by the GEO, each location is unique in a variety of areas, including living arrangements, University faculty involvement, language requirements, and general program expectations.

“Students can currently study abroad in one of four locations, with programs in Germany and Argentina to be added soon,”.

Jane Plangere passed away on Friday, Feb. 23.

Jane Plangere, University supporter and Director of the Jules L. Plangere, Jr., Family Foundation, passed away at age 94 on Friday, Feb. 23. According to an obituary published in the Asbury Park Press, Jane Plangere passed away peacefully following a brief illness. The wife of Jules L. Plangere, who passed away in 2006, Jane Plangere was a generous supporter of the University. She also had strong family ties to the University. Her late son, Jeffrey Conover, is a member of the University Board of Trustees as of 2013. Conover’s wife, Cathy, is a Monmouth alumna as well. "The Plangere name is synonymous with generosity and support at Monmouth University, but few people know and understand the critical role that Jane Plangere played in cultivating that reputation, since it is so often attributed to her husband," said University President Grey Dimenna, Esq. "As director of the family foundation, Jane helped steward significant support for so many critical initiatives at Monmouth and was instrumental in establishing the Jeffrey S. Conover Memorial Scholarship in memory of her son, a Monmouth alumna. She had a genuine kindness about her, she opened the door to her home countless times over the years in support of Monmouth, and she had an infectious smile that all who knew her could appreciate. We are so privileged to have had the opportunity to share our mission with her for so long."

Jane Plangere served as the Director of the Jules L. Plangere, Jr., Center for Communication and Instructional Technology; the building was named and dedicated in his honor in 2002 due to his generosity. In the same year, he received the President’s Vision Award, the highest award the University bestows. A reception for family and friends will be held on Saturday, Mar. 24 from 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the O’Brien Funeral Home in Brick, NJ, with a memorial service at 3:00 p.m. A private committal will take place at the Monmouth Memorial Park in Tinton Falls.

According to her obituary, the family asks that in lieu of flowers "you kindly consider taking a moment to brighten someone's day, take a walk along the beach… stop and smell the flowers. Time waits for no one, enjoy life."
Each program is run uniquely, with differences in faculty presence and oversight and student living arrangements.

Maginn also mentioned that she said she sent students information and events in Cadiz to students as their departure date neared to “start getting them in the mood” of going abroad.

“Maginn would send emails past articles, and lots of coverage on things that students, and lots of coverage on articles, testimonials from past students, and lots of coverage on articles,” she added.

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ABROAD cont. from pg. 2

JON STAUFF, PH.D.
Vice Provost for Global Education ABROAD cont. from pg. 2

ABROAD cont. on pg. 4

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February 28, 2018
UNIVERSITY NEWS
The Outlook

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Study Abroad: Students and Faculty Express Safety Concerns

ABROAD cont. from pg. 3

Faculty presence

Research within the field of global education indicates that having faculty from the home institution present to support students is the best practice, said Maginn. The majority of the study abroad programs do not have faculty present during the time abroad. However, Stauff mentioned that faculty members will call when issues arise, and Marldy expressed that a faculty member always wants to be available during the summer program for "about a week," and GIO can also start sending a faculty representative during the fall program within the past few years.

However, students indicated that they had not seen University faculty during the Italian program until the fall 2017 semester. Australia and London students said that their programs had no visits from University faculty. "My professors did not visit programs regularly," said Stauff. "They would send a faculty member or the member of the staff once in a while.

The Spain program has a University member present for at least half of the six-week duration. According to Maginn, there have been previous years where she has gone the entire time without faculty visits, as she is "not a chaperone," instead serving as a point of support for students so they can help themselves.

Lally agreed that Maginn's presence, paired with homestays, was extremely important, "Having her there to help gives students peace of mind and living with a family who knows the culture and is looking out for you is really important. I think that both of us were comfortable having that extra support," Lally said.

Lally agreed that Maginn's desire to go on the trip with the students to her role at the University. "One of the things academic professor is to teach, and we know things. Have experience," she explained. "I want to guide our students, and it is very important that we have representation from Monmouth there. Students like to know that." It is not nice to have someone who is both American and knows Monmouth, but then has also travelled to each kind of program at least once, and Marldy indicated that a faculty member always wants to be available during the summer program for "about a week," and GIO can also start sending a faculty representative during the fall program within the past few years.

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“Major Caffeine Buzz” Event Aims to Help Students Choose Between Possible Majors

JERRY TROTTA STAFF WRITER

University students made their way to Ancon Hall in the Rebecca Stafford Student Center on Feb. 28, 2018 to attend the “Major Caffeine Buzz” event. The event was put on by the Career Services Office and was designed to help students determine their majors.

The event was hosted by Anthony Urmey, Director of Career Services. According to Urmey, there was a representative from every undergraduate department, including a representative from the School of Business. The students were asked to bring their schedules.

Many professors spoke highly of the professors who were representing their department. "Obviously, they tried to sell their program as much as they could but once you started to talk to them about what you are interested in, you could tell that the faculty want to help you," said professor Macaluso. "We are always looking for ways to improve our programs and the faculty want to help you in any way they can," said professor Macaluso. "We are always looking for ways to improve our programs and the faculty want to help you in any way they can," said professor Macaluso. "We are always looking for ways to improve our programs and the faculty want to help you in any way they can," said professor Macaluso.

According to Urmey, the event was a huge success. "We are planning on having another event like this in the future," said Urmey. "We are planning on having another event like this in the future," said Urmey. "We are planning on having another event like this in the future," said Urmey. "We are planning on having another event like this in the future," said Urmey.

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A delegation from the University’s Student Government Association (SGA) held a workshop and provided information and updates on Student Government Associations (COSGA) on Feb. 24th in Houston, TX. According to Clay, the event has been held at Texas A&M since 1981, making this the first change in venue in 37 years. Monmouth has sent delegations every year since the 1990s.

The delegation’s presentation showed that this was apparent in community involvement initiatives, like the Big Event, an annual community service event that has raised significant research funds and awareness, and the Big Event is supported by the Kortney Rose Foundation. The delegation showed that it too is a reflection of the Kortney Rose Foundation mission to create a world where brain tumors are curable. The Kortney Rose Foundation has raised nearly $2 million for research on pediatric brain and nervous system tumors with the intention of discovering better treatments and potential cures.

“When we first met I was just amazed by her ability to withstand such a loss and be able to transform that into such a beautiful fund for so many families and children. She is really a hero to all of us in the realm of political science and sociology,” said Foster.

Among the current COSGA is Associate Dean in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nancy Mezey, Ph.D., who is also the associate professor of sociology.

“Supporting the Kortney Rose Foundation is worth my time because childhood brain tumors are such a huge and important issue and so few people are informed on the difference and potential consequences of this disease. I want to help the Kortney Rose Foundation raise awareness and fund research to end childhood brain tumors,” said Mezey.

The Kortney Rose Foundation is currently seeking students to fill volunteer roles and various related internships for the organization. If interested, contact Kristen Gillette via email at kortenyroseorg@gmail.com

Students Bryanna Roos (left) and Katherine Ziegler (right) volunteered at the annual event.

PHOTO COURTESY OF Bryanna Roos

University SGA Presents Workshop at Annual Conference

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Mehdi Housaini
Associate News Editor

A delegation from the University’s Student Government Association (SGA) held a workshop and provided information and updates on Student Government Associations (COSGA) on Feb. 24th in Houston, TX.

The event consisted of three days of workshops and guest speakers, providing five different workshops from across the country at the annual meeting of Student Government Associations (COSGA) on Feb. 24th in Houston, TX.

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Students Bryanna Roos (left) and Katherine Ziegler (right) volunteered at the annual event.
Traveling Safely

Spring break is an opportunity for many students to shed the stresses of school and embark on a journey like no other. Leisure time, either at home or away, is often rejuvenating. While some students are going abroad and traveling to far destinations, practicing safe and efficient travel is a common concern.

Most often than not, editors felt that practicing safe travel methods didn’t hurt, but rather, depending on where one was traveling to, and who they were traveling with.

“When traveling with friends or family I’m usually less worried, but when I’m traveling by myself I’m usually much more worried. It’s usually minor concerns like theft or pickpocketing or getting lost and winding up in a dangerous area,” said one editor.

Another editor added an example, “I was at Atlantis Bahamas and although the resort is relatively safe, if you go outside the perimeter, you’ll probably get mugged. Also, I think Americans are often naive—and natives can totally recognize that. If someone knows where I am, it comes a target to people who are looking to pick-pocket etc.”

Another piece of advice the editors offered was to stick together and who you are with, my focus is following the company I am visiting or travel with, my focus is following the company I am visiting or travel with. My primary focus while traveling is usuall heighten because people who are self-concerned and don’t worry about their safety. They are usually good at reading situations and people can pray on their behalf. An editor said, “I really think that risks should never discourage anyone from going on there and seeing what the world has to offer. I think that, just being careful and making smart choices is enough. Risk is everywhere, but doing research beforehand and being aware of the risks and knowing what to do if something happens is key. I am not a drunk driver and culture barrier definitely complicates things, too,” the editor continued. The outlook reserved the right to withhold any articles deemed inappropriate or otherwise unfit to be printed in The Op’s section. Due to lack of space, The Outlook will no longer print anonymous articles. All of the editors agreed that despite the safety risks, traveling is a great experience, that when done safely, can be life-changing and magical.
KARALYN HOOVER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

With all of the tragedy happening in the world today, a company called SUNS Shoes is aiming to make the world a brighter and happier place.

Launched in the summer of 2017, SUNS Shoes set out the goal to positively impact the community through its brand and the invigorating energy of the sun.

Shoes for both women and children, SUNS Shoes is uniquely designed to transform what shoes can do by promoting sun light and permitting more vibrant tones and patterns. Changes can occur in the canvas of the shoes, along with the colors of the shoes. The shoes may be completely white inside, but step into the shoes and the shoes change to blue right before your eyes.

SUNS Shoes: Aiming to Make the World a Little Brighter

PHOTO COURTESY of Nicholas Verzicco
IMAGES TAKEN from sunsshoes.com

VERZICCO SAID, “Being a student leader, you are often called upon to make decisions and work side by side with Verzicco. A great leader has to be someone who can connect with anyone. He always has positive energy and can make anyone feel comfortable and at ease.”

SUNS shoe company is promoting the idea of random Acts of Kindness (AOKs) to reinforce the idea that simple AOKs, and by the invigoration energy of the sun. The brand additionally promotes kindness through their AOKs on Instagram. Every week, their followers have an opportunity to win a pair of shoes by simply doing something kind and posting about it on their social media with the hashtag. After hearing about this promotion, Professor Alexis Nulle stated that, “SUNS leads by example with the organization and their strategy to promote acts of kindness. This is a model all organizations should follow to make the world a better place.”

“SUNS was founded to promote the little things we can all do to make our world a better place. It’s about remembering the sunlight behind the rain, and feeling empowered to always give kindness and warmth where we can to help make our world brighter each day. SUNS shoes change color in the sun as a reminder of the power of positivity on our lives,” says Karen Dana, General Manager of SUNS Shoes.

Currently being an intern for the brand, seeing the AOKs our followers post for us to see is really inspiring. Their positive messages have definitely inspired me to be mindful to do something kind every day because you never realize how a small act of kindness can make someone’s day tremendously better.

SUNS Shoes will continue to spread kindness around the world through their vibrant designs, quality foot wear, and culture of kindness and positivity all over campuses nationwide. Perfect for the upcoming spring weather.

They are available online at www.sunsshoes.com. Check them out on Instagram for SUNS Shoes to bring more encouragements of kindness in your life.

ALEXA OLAH
STAFF WRITER

It’s true that the energy we harvest within ourselves has a direct impact on those around us. For junior business administration/finance student and Student Government President, Nicholas Verzicco, this human connection and energy is helpful in Monmouth University.

Verzicco recalls, “I decided to come to Monmouth because of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program which has helped me tremendously in my Monmouth career. The extra support I was going to receive was very appealing to me. Also, the beauty of this campus really made me feel at home. In the sculpture garden by the Koi pond is where I decided that if I get into the EOF program I would come here.”

It was during the summer of 2015 five week EOF program where Vice President for Student Life and Leadership Engagement, Mary Anne Nagy first met Verzicco. Nagy said of Verzicco, “I’ve been here 32 years and have worked with a lot of student leaders, and I have to say, I think Nick is a pretty amazing young man.”

Nagy recalls her first impressions of Verzicco saying, “He’s funny, outgoing and he makes you feel good because he feels good and he wants people around him to feel that way too.”

As Student Government President and a Student Ambassador for the University, Verzicco knows he has the ability to influence his peers and other students.

Verzicco said, “Being a student leader on campus means that you are a familiar face that students can go to for advice or direction. I take pride in being a student leader and I want my fellow peers to take pride in Monmouth.”

Being an Orientation Leader during summer 2016 and summer 2017, Verzicco was able to use his leadership skills not only to welcome new students to campus, but also the other orientation staff as well.

Mary Fitzgerald, a senior math major and a Student Government Senator, working class, Zachary Bayles has witnessed Verzicco’s leadership skills. “After knowing Nick for a few years, I’ve seen how he has grown both in and of his leadership settings. “After knowing Nick for a few years, I’ve seen how he has grown both in and of his leadership settings.”

Looking forward to his senior year and beyond, Verzicco reflects on how Monmouth has prepared him for the future. “Monmouth has given me the skills and confidence that I would have never received anywhere else. I have never been more proud to be a student at Monmouth.”

Verzicco said, “I’ve been given different leadership positions, which have taught me responsibility and most certainly, the confidence so that I can tackle anything in my path. The diverse administration, faculty, and students that I have interacted with has me sure I can work with anyone. Monmouth has taught me to reach for my full potential,” he said.
Abstract art and traditional art have been pinned against each other in the art community for their vastly different viewers.

DOING IT FOR THE ART: ABSTRACT VS. TRADITIONAL

MATTHEW AQUINO ASSOCIATE GRAPHIC DESIGN EDITOR/ADVERTISING MANAGER

Slap some color on a canvas, step back, and sell it for $50,000. To an untrained artist, this is the process they believe proficiency lies. To an untrained collector, Ad Reinhardt, and Mark Rothko practiced as a means of arriving at a valid statement.

This narrow-minded approach as to how abstract art is observed as opposed to traditional art, is what has haunted abstract artists for years. People must receive a great deal of criticism today from the young urban professionals in museums.

To an artist, nothing is more inivating than a blank canvas. Scott Knauer, Director of Galleries and Collections for the University’s Art Department said, “It may take hours or even days to start to see something develop, but time goes by quickly after you get the painting started.” The sustained burden of wonder hovers over the artists and demands a specific outcome.

Producing a work of art from the heart and having it rejected is detrimental to the artist’s mindset and future creations; they present their work to the vast array of receiving feedback and gratification. The artist relies on the viewers’ impressions in order to improve; benefits sometimes include a potential buyer, although, this is not always the case.

Nicki Robbiero, a junior fine art student, shared her thought process on how she starts a painting, “My work has always been naturalistic. I think that in basic level art classes there’s definitely more of an opportunity to paint however you want.”

Classical or traditional art follows a specific set of rules: the figures represented must be depicted as they are seen in nature, and the subject is defined by its context. Within traditional art are landscapes, portraits, or still-life representations.

Traditional and abstract art are both used as mediums of expression; contributing artists are also involved in countless movements portraying the horrors going on in the world today such as hunger, political differences, and wildlife consequences.

During the Rare Wildlife Revealed art exhibition on Feb. 9 in the Pollak art gallery, artist James Fiorentino had over 20 works on display; his hyper realistic water-color paintings were admired by dozens of connoisseurs, potential buyers, and students.

After his brief introduction and descriptive background involved with his inspiration, artist and fine art student, Amanda Green said, “The paintings utilized classical techniques and reflected commonplace subjects and concerns of our community. It would be interesting to tell the viewer of these concerns or message if it [the artwork] is meant to do so.”

Fiorentino sold eight paintings by the end of the night, suggesting that there is a higher demand for naturalism and traditional art. However, the advocacy of this project was not due to the result of the night’s event and its purpose, so this may have been a factor as to why his paintings were so appealing.

Traditional art is straightforward. The viewer does not have much of a choice when it comes to understanding and interpreting what the artist’s intentions were. The traditional artist forces the viewer to see the work in a specific way. When observing something that is of course not as obvious as in traditional art, we are too quick to judge a book by its cover.

“When I’m starting a new painting, I begin by thinking about the overall composition and breaking the image down into basic shapes. From there, I continue adding more details as I see them, working inward,” Robbiero added.

This visible part is the end result of a concept and a process, which are just as important as what the viewer sees in front of them as well as what they comprehend from it. Art, in its general form, is about exploring and giving meanings to existing objects or finding new, creative ways to express ideas.

A junior graphic design student, Lauren Maraday shared, “If I designed or worked for the sole purpose of getting paid, I would have become a doctor. Although I started professionally selling my artwork this year through freelance, I have loved art since I was nine years old and ever since, I have grown a passion for art and design. I feel it works with my personality.”

Something that we may take for granted as human beings is our ability to figure out how something works. We throw out instructions, determined to figure out how to put the desk together and we have our Chinese food delivered to us for dinner as opposed to driving five minutes away to pick it up.

Our attention span has presumably decreased significantly as a whole over the last decade due to our technological advances and our expectations have risen exponentially. This has been applied to abstract art since the average viewer is more or less confused as to why the artist created a vague manner.

Our overexposure of advertisements and distractions in the digital media and commercial industry has led us to be an impolite society.

The immediate gratification and the lost ability to step back and appreciate an image for its entirety, has redirected our capability to lean into a work of art and note the fine details. Our eyes are no longer focused on one thing for a careful amount of time.

One example of abstract art is Jackson Pollock’s painting, Alchemy. The painting in its literal sense includes drips, splashes, and a cigarette butt. However, if one were to review the large canvas from afar, the viewer can decipher Pollock’s purpose reflecting his frustrations and anger toward the constraints of the art world.

Unfortunately, somehow we have been able to strip Caravaggio’s painting, Death of a Virgin from the Renaissance, since what was painted is a story that has already been told. Technique, style, hard work, and context aside, art is meant to be interpreted through the eye of those willing to accept the feeling it gives them.

Erik Hanson, a member of the graduating class of 2017, studied fine art during his years at Monmouth. He added his point of view on the topic, favoring traditional art, “Existing objects are inherently pleasing or not pleasing. Thus, we keep them the same, abstract them, or alter them to make them attractive. The definition of abstract expressionism is inherently subjective due to the transitive properties of the original definition of the word abstraction.”

An oversurrounded inconsistency that fuels this argument is how some people prefer traditional artwork over abstractation. Within abstraction, nonrepresentational art leaves interpretation up to the viewer; whereas, traditional art is a definition of the identifiable.

Abstract art is a way of communicating ideas directed toward a single and passionate expression stressing on the feeling or idea of something rather than a literal representation; traditional art represents the world in familiar images. This was prevalent during the Renaissance with artists such as Michelangelo and Raphael painting with photorealism. Whereas Piet Mondrian and Wassily Kandinsky focused on a form’s identity in a more conceptually based proposal. The two, although vastly different, incite a contentious debate within the art community between both viewer and artist alike.

Knauer reflected on his own journey as an artist: “For me, I painted realistically with oils early on and then got into acrylics. I started working with landscapes and worked with political and social commentary as well. But rather than going for something more direct or recognizable, I think the color and shapes are an indication of what I thought was important to me and relayed what I wanted to do.”

Knauer is not the only artist to believe this, a sophomore graphic design student, Erin Dolan said, “I think black and white photography as a freshman, and I mainly focused on shadows and how light affects certain textures. We used 35 millimeter film cameras and knowing that you only have one chance to really pay attention and take the shot, opened my eyes to how appreciative I am toward abstract photographers like Paul Strand and Man Ray.”

Assistant professor of graphic design, Mike Richmond said, “For me, objective work (figurative, landscape, etc.) seems to be more about the subject and less about the material. The artist is trying to get the viewer to think about the story that exists in the ‘picture’ or ‘image’. I think one of the goals of some forms of abstract work is the story behind the actual material.”

It is apparent across all mediums: painting, photography, performance, and print, that abstract art searches deep within the viewer and is more of an exploration rather than an experience. When the viewer looks at traditional art, the piece does not leave room for interpretation. The technical aspect of the work is what most are drawn to and this limits their deeper thought processes. To think outside of the viewer’s comfort zone is an idea that may seem intimidating or too much of a frightening endeavor for the untrained eye. Although abstract art presents the opportunity and the effect of illusion with images to convey a reality far from the art of traditional, it is important for the viewer to recognize a similarity within traditional art and identify with the forms and with the world they reside.
Winter Weekends

KIERSTEN BECHT CONTRIBUTING WRITER

If there is one thing I’ve learned so far throughout my three years of college, it is that Loverboy’s “Working for the Weekend” is not only an absolute jam, but that it’s lyrics speak volumes.

Sure, the song is about going out, having fun, and finding love—which may or may not be your cup of tea—but one thing we can all agree on is that the weekend marks a 48-hour window of sweet, sweet freedom.

Each morning the deafening sound of the alarm clock blares through our rooms and after hitting the snooze button and canary yellowish light, I find myself looking at the clock and thinking of the kind of day ahead of us.

Maybe I’m biased since I am a student, but I give us a whole lot of credit; we’ve got to balance school work, school, social clubs and whatever else is going on in our lives and repeat the process day after day.

That is until weekend rolls around and all bets are off as soon as the clock strikes 4:10 p.m. on Thursday afternoons. (Do yourself a favor, avoid Friday classes because possible hello there weekend day wind down!) Since I know that I will be, “working for the weekend” for four years to come, I’ve made a personal vow with myself to try and squeeze out every last ounce of fun and make the most of what little freedom I have.

For me, that meant hopping in my car straight after class on Thursdays and driving 5 hours to Vermont to ski. This has been my routine each week since the beginning of the semester and I can attest that I have, indeed, enjoyed myself and have created something to look forward to whenever I find myself drowning in home-work and priorities.

Sure, my “routine” is hectic; I get on the road by 4:15 p.m. on Thursday, drive straight to Londonderry, VT and arrive by 9:15 p.m. on the dot. I ski all of Friday, and until 4 p.m on Saturday. Hop in my car, trek back to NJ, then go to work all day Sunday and before I know it, it’s Monday again!

By no means am I saying that you have to follow in my footsteps and take a weekly road trip, but I definitely recommend planning little excursions with yourself or your friends because it creates an element of excitement.

However, you must act as inspiration to power through the stack of worksheets, readings and all the other priorities you’ve been putting off for so long. (No shame, we’ve all been there.)

Monmouth is situated in a prime location and there is no shortage of weekend activities to partake in both on and off campus! If skiing and snowboarding are your thing, there’s plenty of mountains within a three-hour radius, and an abundance of hiking trails. New York and Pennsylvania once the temperatures begin to rise.

Heading to the beach is also a no-brainer since we are less than one-mile from the ocean. If you are into fishing, both New York City and Philadelphia are only an hour away, or if you’re into the arts, Asbury Park is just minutes away! Courting up with a good book might mean that you are an introvert, or an ambivert that just appreciates alone time.

Imagine, a bright icy cool morning, on the peak of a tall white mountain, lying in your sleeping bags and ready to ride. All of a sudden, this jerk, named climate change, invades the snow-covered peaks used for skiing. The death of thousands of species are at risk of endangerment, human activity, and machines to permanently embed the mountain destroys habitats. We've got to balance our greenhouse emissions and make decisions. There are 16 different types of climate change, human activity, and machines to permanently embed the mountain destroys habitats.

Of course, the mountain is a no-brainer since we are less than one-mile from the ocean. If you are into fishing, both New York City and Philadelphia are only an hour away, or if you’re into the arts, Asbury Park is just minutes away! Courting up with a good book might mean that you are an introvert, or an ambivert that just appreciates alone time.

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In the 1950’s and ‘60’s, school children across the country learned to defend themselves against a potential nuclear strike by climbing under their desks. Fortunately, that threat never materialized. Today’s school children are not so lucky; they are under attack.

Like their predecessors, today’s children are taught to hide under their desks in case of attack. Unlike the 50s and 60s, invasions from gun wielding intruders has become an ever-present reality. A Washington Post analysis has reported “over 150,000 students attending at least 170 primary or secondary schools have experienced a shooting on campus since the Columbine High School massacre in 1999.”

In the hours and days that follow one of these tragedies, we are unified as a nation in our feelings of outrage, shock, disgust, fear, and intense sorrow for our children, their teachers, and the school staff. Unfortunately, our shared sense of loss has not led to the prevention of school shootings.

In the “in the hours and days that follow one of these tragedies, we are unified as a nation in our feelings of outrage, shock, disgust, fear, and intense sorrow for our children, their teachers, and the school staff!”

This is in stark contrast to the measures taken to stop airline hijackings in the 1970s. After it became clear that terrorists were determined to use hijack- ing as a political platform, a concerted effort was made to solve the problem, and today airline hijackings are rare occurrences. Schools should be as safe as airports. We owe that to our children.

However, there is widespread disagreement concerning how to prevent school shootings, whether through increased school security, addressing mental health issues, or prohibiting easy access to guns. As Deans of Education and Social Work, we believe a comprehensive approach to the problem is needed.

First, schools should continue to step up their efforts to limit access to schools, employ the latest technologies to immediately secure a school when threatened, and to develop the fastest response possible from local law enforcement officials.

Second, every school needs social work services built in to the fabric of the education process. Social workers and teachers must work together to assist children and families in need of additional support. We must also teach our children, their families, and their communities how to deal with disappointment, anger, and intense emotion.

Third, we also believe the dis- course must include an examina- tion of the increasing evidence regarding the use of social media and the threat of school violence. According to The New York Times, the United States has the highest rate of firearm ownership in the world, with roughly one gun for every citizen. We also have the highest rate of mass shootings.

There is clear evidence that countries who have strengthened their gun laws dramatically re- duced their gun mortality at all lev- els, including domestic violence, suicide, and other homicides. All across America, children, families, and a universal background check should be required for the private sale of handguns. At the very least, there should be a waiting period and a universal background check should be required for the private sale of handguns. At the very least, and a universal background check should be required for the private sale of handguns. We believe a person cannot walk into a gun store, buy a gun, and a universal background check should be required for the private sale of handguns.

We must charge our legisla- tive leaders to act immediately on proactive and positive changes toward making our schools safer. The first step is the March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C. on March 24th.

We support this as a necessary demonstration of the national concern about gun violence in schools. It is critical that we continue to remain concerned and acting on this issue. Legislators must understand that the public will not get away from this issue until schools are safe again.

It is also important to make decisions based on data rather than belief. The research al- lows us to draw a strong associa- tion between the availability of guns and violence. We must be willing to affirm the effec- tiveness of future decisions by collecting and analyzing data. Most of all, it will be our willingness to make sacrifices for the sake of our children.

Today’s Technology

Siblings By Blood, Friends By Choice

Growing up with an older brother meant growing up with a best friend. Although he is two years older, it seems as if we are twins; we have the same man- nerisms, the same personality, we understand each other like twins; we have the same man- nerisms, the same personality, we understand each other like twins.

I've always wondered what it’s like to have a Monmouth Hawk, since we all- know we have the same man- ners, we have the same personality. We understand each other like twins.

Growing up, I almost never got bored because I always had some- one to play video games with, someone to watch movies with, and someone to play sports outside with. Although he's my only sib- ling, there’s never a dull moment in our household. We never fail to make each other laugh, and we can- ners, we have the same personality. We understand each other like twins.

I’ve always wondered what it would be like to have a sibling. Belonging. Would we still be as close as we are now? Now, I realize that my brother is the only one I need, and I would not give that up for any- thing. Now, I realize to never take my brother for granted because he’s the only one who will never leave my side. In fifty years, we’ll still be crying of laughter over a frivolous inside joke. It’s the small things like that which make a sibling relationship so meaningful.

Since my older sibling, he has taught me so much through his own experience. He’s the first person I go to for advice, and he’s constantly helping me grow as a person. He’s my role model, and his persistence and dedication in everything he does will never stop inspiring me.

We’re like Ross and Monica from Friends or Kevin and Kate from This Is Us, because nothing can get in the way of our sibling bond. No matter how much we argue, I know that he will always have my back and I will have his. We are each other’s best friends, and go, but he’s the only person who will be there no matter what. I couldn’t imagine life without my teacher, my inspiration, and most importantly, my best friend.

Happy 21st birthday, Justin!

Even though this new form of communication is horrible and supposed to make our lives easi- er, would it kill us to pick up the phone and ask someone to listen or talk about your day in real contact? Or an even crazier idea, face-to-face conversation? (And not emojis, of course.)

I am certainly not hating on technology and our culture’s bi- larity, but I am wary. As seems as if people have forgotten how to communicate. Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter have hijacked our culture. Each discussion sheds a light on how just how addicted our culture has become. Each one to “follow” you or “link up” they might think they look great in a picture and feel confident for the record to you, and if that’s the case, don’t worry, you are in no contact? Or an even crazier idea, face-to-face conversation? (And not emojis, of course.)

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Perhaps I sound like a broken record to you, and that’s if’s, don’t worry, you are in no. Perhaps I sound like a broken record to you, and that’s if’s, don’t worry, you are in no. Perhaps I sound like a broken record to you, and that’s if’s, don’t worry, you are in no. Perhaps I sound like a broken record to you, and that’s if’s, don’t worry, you are in no.
The World Only Spins Forward: The Ascent of Angels in America

KERRY BREEN
SENIOR/NEWS EDITOR

THE WORLD ONLY SPINS FORWARD 
BOOK REVIEW

KERRY BREEN
SENIOR/NEWS EDITOR

The World Only Spins Forward: The Ascent of Angels in America, which will be opening on Broadway on March 25 after it was produced at the National Theatre in London, it tells the story of the show's creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, creation, 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Oscars 2018: Picks and Predictions

MARK MARRONE
STAFF WRITER

This Sunday, the biggest stars in Hollywood will come together under one roof to celebrate some of the greatest films in the past year.

There’s a competitive field stacked with talent, including The Shape of Water with 13 nominations and Dunkirk at 7.

But which films will take home the coveted gold statue? My predictions are who I think will win the Oscar and my picks are the ones I would like to see win.

Best Picture:
Call Me by Your Name
Dunkirk
Get Out
Lady Bird
Phantom Thread

The Post
Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
Shane Black in The Shape of Water

Three is all about.

Gary Oldman gives an incredible performance as a mute in The Shape of Water by conveying so much emotion without uttering a word. However, Margot Robbie is wired in I, Tonya and became a much more serious actress in Hollywood with this role. It’s fine if Hawkins takes the gold, but I’d love to see Robbie pull up an upset.

Supporting Actor:
Gary Oldman
Margot Robbie

Prediction:
Gary Oldman
Margot Robbie

I’m not sure why Rockwell underperformed at the box office hit like Three Billboards as Officer Dixon in Three. However, Margot Robbie is wired in I, Tonya and became a much more serious actress in Hollywood with this role. It’s fine if Hawkins takes the gold, but I’d love to see Robbie pull up an upset.

Best Supporting Actor:
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Prediction:
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The Florida Project

Willem Dafoe is nominated for Best Supporting Actor for his work in The Florida Project.

It was one of my favorite films of the year, but I love Lady Bird slightly more. I laughed, cried and was heartbroken during Lady Bird, but that’s what going to the movies is all about.

Lead Actress:
Sally Hawkins, The Shape of Water
Frances McDormand, Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
Mary J. Blige, Mudbound

Sally Hawkins gave an excellent performance as a mute in The Shape of Water by conveying so much emotion without uttering a word. However, Margot Robbie is wired in I, Tonya and became a much more serious actress in Hollywood with this role. It’s fine if Hawkins takes the gold, but I’d love to see Robbie pull up an upset.

Supporting Actress:
Lesley Manville, Phantom Thread
Laurie Metcalf, Lady Bird
Octavia Spencer, The Shape of Water
Allison Janney, I, Tonya

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"Adulting" is defined as trying to complete tasks in the real-world and being successful in achieving daily rituals of a person with responsibilities. In the college setting, thinking about graduation, this concept is approaching quickly. However, there are still two months until graduation and two months to get the help in daily life that so many undergraduates are privileged to.

Being a student at Monmouth University comes with a plethora of on-campus resources to help students achieve while on campus and beyond. Upon graduation, some of these services may still be of access to alumni, but they come at a cost. Weekly events to ease the pressure of the everyday work life, assistance with written applications and engaging world classes that could ease on any mundane gym routines, will soon come at a premium for seniors. During the final months at Monmouth, seniors should take advantage of the free resources that will soon expire.

Writing a personal statement for graduate school or seeking help for a job application is unlike any assignment instilled in Monmouth's courses.

Highlighting your strengths while discussing your goals and life story can be a challenging feat. Although many seniors have sought out the Office of Writing Assistants for coursework, the resource is available for help beyond course content. Senior marketing/managing Director of Writing Services Neva Lozada encourages seniors to utilize the writing center for help prior to graduation. "Writing Assistants are available to help seniors write personal statements, cover letters, and application essays," she said. "Regardless of whether one is pursuing a challenging career or continuing their education, some type of writing is typically incorporated in the hiring process. "It's often helpful to have a second pair of eyes review these types of real-world assignments. To take advantage of this resource, students can make an appointment on Accudemia or contact Writing Services directly.

Preparing for life beyond graduation can be accompanied with a lot of stress for soon-to-be graduates. Monmouth University also offers multiple outlets to unwind and enjoy the final semester. Senior marketing/managing student and novelties chair for the Student Activity Boards (SAB), Tianna Fougeray said, "SAB works hard each semester to plan events that are free and open to all Monmouth students. With every event, we try to provide a fun opportunity, a service activity, or another incentive to give students something that they can take home with them."

These events are offered frequently for students to engage in the campus community in a fun way, at no cost to them. For seniors who may have stopped attending events they went to early on their Monmouth days, now is a good time to take advantage of events that they do not have to pay for, prior to graduation. "Whether it's a weekend event or an event in the middle of the school week, SAB’s goal is to give students something to look forward to on campus," Fougeray offers. To find out more about the events left for this semester, students can check bulletin boards around campus, SAB’s weekly events calendar, and social media.

For those students that wish to unwind by sweating it out, the Monmouth University Recreation Center is the place for relief and opportunities. Only does each student have access to gym facilities, but they are also encouraged to attend weekly workout classes taught by trained University student facilitators. A junior communications student and instructor of Boot Camp and Abs, Butt and Legs in the fitness center Catie Linck tells students, "The classes are designed to be for beginners, people trying to get fit or someone who wants a challenge at the gym."

Upon graduation, students would need to pay for a gym membership at the University or other local facility in order to partake in similar classes. However, for Monmouth students these resources are open to all.

Whether you are looking to get ready for spring break or take the pressure off from your job search, Linck says, "There are different types of classes for people to find what is most enjoyable for them." The multitude of classes offered provides each student with something they are comfortable with. In order to find out about the group fitness schedule, students can check their email accounts or download the Monmouth Recreation App.

Unfortunately for some, graduation is approaching quickly and the real-world will soon be upon Monmouth's Class of 2018. Seniors can get prepared to enter life beyond Monmouth by taking advantage of all the resources while there is still time!

BEYOND THE PHYSICAL BENEFITS OF EXERCISE

CAMPBELL LEE
APPOINTED EDITOR

When people think about exercise, they always jump to the physical benefits it provides for you. The more you work out, the more you will lose. The more weight you lift, the stronger you will become. While these points are true, it is also important to remember that exercise is a form of meditation with exercise.

With mid-term grades upon us, we find ourselves cramped in our dorms or the library writing papers and studying for seemingly never-ending tests. While doing this, we will usually choose easily accessible food, which is never super healthy. This lack of movement and gross intake of processed food leaves you feeling drained and unmotivated.

Although going out for a run or hitting the gym may be the last thing you feel like doing while drowning in work, it could be the best thing for you. With the weather being as crazy as it is, there is an advantage to those who random warm days and get some fresh air!

Getting out of the stuffiness of a dorm and being able to stretch your legs after hours crowded at a desk is the best feeling. You’ll return feeling refreshed, energized and ready to take on whatever the rest of the day holds.

Graduate Faculty and Department Chair of the English department Susan Goulding.Ph.D. runs every day. "Most weeks, I run 30-60 minutes a day, longer on weekends... I almost always run in the morning after reading the paper, doing my morning stretch and making my coffee while running the dog. A morning run gives me a chance to organize my day, and it helps me to find technique before going into work," she said. "... [running] is a treat, energized and focused after a good run."

The gym on campus is another great place to go to clear your head and get in a good work out. A junior nursing student Amy Czerpek shared her thoughts. "I go to the gym almost every day and do predominantly weight lifting with some cardio. I find technique breathing before getting into work."

By focusing on these things in a very mindful and present way, you will be able to block out all the worries and triggers you had when you started the day.

Another major mental benefit or exercise is the self-esteem component. When you go to the gym or go for a run, you are actively working to better yourself. By doing this, you will look in the mirror different and see someone you are proud of and someone who cares about themselves. Although it may suck to be sore the next day, it's a good reminder of all the hard work you did the day before!

A senior photography student Hunter Cox shared her experience with exercise. "Yoga has been huge for me," she starts. "I practice every day in my apartment along with a few other simple exercises. It keeps me in shape along with helping to give me the confidence boost I sometimes need."

So, whether you run, go to the gym, or go to yoga, exercise does so much for you which you don’t realize, it’s helping you physically. It boosts your mood, your energy and overall confidence. Put your books down, take a study break, and get out there!
MOMENTS AT MONMOUTH

What are your plans for spring break?

COMPiled by: Nicole Riddle

Don’t see your picture this week?
Check back in next week’s issue for more Monmouth students’ photos!

LEFT: MEMBERS OF THE STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD (SAB) AND FELLOW STUDENTS ATTENDING THE NEW JERSEY DEVILS’ GAME AT THE PRUDENTIAL CENTER. PHOTO TAKEN BY: ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR

RIGHT: THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA) AT THE CONFERENCE ON STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATIONS THIS PAST WEEKEND. PHOTO TAKEN FROM: SGA INSTAGRAM

Michael McGuigan
Junior
“I’m planning to go to Myrtle Beach to visit my cousin.”

Meg Donahue
Senior
“I’m going to Disney World!”

Nicole Avenil
Sophomore
“Nothing, just working and chilling out.”

Giuseppe Licata
Graduate Student
“I want to go snorkeling and swim with sharks in St. Maarten.”

Janet Dustman
Student Life Assistant
“Employees only get off the 16th, so I plan to do something fun that day!”

LEFT: THE WOMEN’S LACROSSE TEAM PREPARING TO WIN AGAINST TEMPLE UNIVERSITY THIS PAST TUESDAY. PHOTO COURTESY OF: B51/MARK BROWN

RIGHT: THE OFFICE OF OFF-CAMPUS AND COMMUTER SERVICES REDECORATES THEIR BULLETIN BOARD IN THE STUDENT CENTER. PHOTO TAKEN BY: ALEXANDRIA AFANADOR
Surviving students from the Majority Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School sparked the “Never Again MSD” movement after the mass school shooting in Parkland, FL, on Feb. 14.

The convicted shooter, Nikolas Cruz, opened fire in the high school using an AR-15 semi-automatic rifle.

Cruz is charged with 17 counts of premeditated murder after killing 14 students and 3 staff members, and leaving multiple others injured in the shooting.

The surviving high school students from MSD High School have successfully started a political movement on gun control that we haven’t seen in over 25 years,” said Joseph Patten, Ph,D., an associate professor of political science.

The kids are battling against the National Rifle Association, which is one of the most powerful lobbying organizations in the country,” Patten said.

“They’re attempting to have legislation enacted that closes the gun show loophole, bans military-style weapons, [like the one used in the Parkland shooting] and raises the age for purchasing some weapons,” he explained.

“They are planning a major demonstration for gun control in Washington D.C. on Saturday, March 24, and many Monmouth students are planning on participating in the demonstration,” Patten said.

Additionally, the University has released a statement on Monday, Feb. 28 to assure prospective students who have applied for admission and are participating in the protest in the capital would not affect their admission decisions.

“Freedom of speech is fundamental to our democracy. Monmouth University wholly supports active citizenship and will not penalize students for their participation in a peaceful protest,” the University writes on its official account.

After the massacre in Parkland, FL, U.S. President Donald Trump ordered the United States Department of Justice to ban bump-stocks, in an attempt to limit the options of making a semi-automatic rifle fully automatic.

However, Cruz did not use a bump-stock in the Parkland shooting.

The United States is one of the only countries that grants a constitutional right to bear arms.

Additionally, when compared to nine other leading countries, it is the only one that does not require safe storage of firearms, preliminary safety training, documented reason for purchase, and, in some cases, a license.

Currently, there are over 360,000,000 firearms in the United States—an average of nearly one firearm per person.

Differences arise when considering the regulation of the use and sale of firearms, because the Second Amendment grants a constitution right to bear arms.

Moreover, the National Rifle Association (NRA) has argued that to ban any firearm is unconstitutional and would only penalize law-governed and licensed hunters.

“Hunting is a huge thing in Pennsylvania [for example], and there are people that do it responsibly,” said Stephen Chapman, Ph.D., an assistant professor of political science.

However, he explains, hunting is a different issue from using an automatic firearm.

Additionally, according to the Pew Research Center, a non-partisan American think tank based in Washington, D.C., research has shown that people buying guns for hunting has gone down and people that are buying semi-automatic guns for self-defense are increasing.

“I look at it from the statistical point.” Chapman said, “and this is a good example of why we have to look at other factors.”

Chapman explained that, compared to other countries, factors such as violent video games, violent movies, and mental health issues are as present as they are in the United States.

However, the highest rates of shootings occur in the United States.

The United States has the highest number of shootings than any other country, even after adjusting for population size.

According to research published by PolitiFact, from 2000-2014, the United States has had 133 mass shootings—and has consistently increased since.

“When we realize what the factor that is different is, it goes back to the amount of guns available and the ease of acquiring a gun,” Chapman added.

“I don’t think you can convince me otherwise even when I see the greater causal effect of any other variable other than the amount of guns we have in America,” he said.

Brandon Ellis, a junior political science student, said that issues relating to gun violence are a problem in the United States and “needs to change.”

“Like at other nations such as Australia, where gun laws were significantly stricter following a mass shooting, we see that a mass shooting has not occurred there [in Australia] since,” Ellis said.

“We should follow other nations like Australia in fixing the issue in America,” he suggested.

In the Australian Crime Statistics’ latest report that included 2013-2014, the firearm use in homicides was 32.

In comparison, according to the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) homicide data table, there were over 8,124 homicides involving firearms in 2014 alone.

When adding both the 2013 and 2014 year, there was a total of 16,578 people killed by firearms.

In response to the Port Arthur massacre that killed 35 people, Australia passed the National Firearms Agreement, a firearm control law, in 1996.

This law places a strict control on semi-automatic, and fully automatic weapons. It also established a firearm buyback program which, according to the Council on Foreign Relations, bought over 650,000 firearms back to the Australian government.

Kaitlin Allsop, a junior political science student said that she is not a proponent for bans on guns.

However, she explained that “pro-active gun control legislation is necessary to right the wrongs that occurred, over and over again in just these first few months of the year.”

Allsop said that initiatives such as increased vetting and raising the minimum age for gun ownership could help. “Underage people could still go to gun ranges under the supervision of an of-age, permitted adult,” she explained.

Additionally, Allsop said that mental illness should be looked into more aggressively and that the “gun show loophole should be closed.”

“Gun control in this day of age has become an extremely controversial topic that needs to be blatant dependence on Mitchell Garofalo, a sophomore political science student.

“Over the past year, mass shootings have become a buzz topic that ignites firearm legislation and propaganda to remove firearms,” he added.

Similar to Allsop, Garofalo said that he does not support an entire gun ban.

“[To ban guns] will not stop individuals from purchasing firearms through illegal markets and only improve the black-market desire for these products,” said Garofalo.

Instead, he said that “legislation should take into consideration how times have changed and create specific laws to ensure that firearms do not enter the wrong hands.”

Security Devices International (SDI), Inc. is a security company that puts effort into designing non-lethal bullets as well as quantifying non-lethal effectiveness and benefits.

For example, instead of using lethal bullets, one could buy rubber bullets, bean bag rounds, or a blunt impact projectile. These bullets are considered non-lethal.

As such, these bullets could be used to disarm, or injure a subject without the consequence of taking a life.

Less lethal weapons like these are used by governments, in instances such as police riot; they are also used by others such as police and corrections officers.

“I am so encouraged that so many people are speaking up and holding their elected officials accountable for their decisions,” said Kenneth Campbell, Ph.D., a professor of history.

“I am so encouraged that so many people are speaking up and holding their elected officials accountable for their decisions,” said Kenneth Campbell, Ph.D., a professor of history.

“I am so encouraged that so many people are speaking up and holding their elected officials accountable for their decisions, like Australia in fixing the issue in America,” he suggested.
EARLY / PRIORITY REGISTRATION

Begins on 03/29/18 with new activations every half-hour between 8:00 am and 4:30 pm

Information and Instructions e-mailed

Students will be able to self-register using the WEBregistration component of WEBstudent.

Students who don’t obtain advisor approval will not be able to self-register using WEBregistration and will need to register in-person at their academic department or at the Registrar’s Office.

Full details are listed in the information and instructions which are e-mailed to your MU e-mail account in February and March.

WEBstudent Screens for Registration:
- Course Schedule Information
- WEBregistration Approvals / Blocks
- Course Prerequisite Worksheet
- Search/Select and Register for Courses
- Register/Remove Previously Selected Courses
- Manage My Waitlist
- Academic Audit
- Student Schedule
- e-FORMS

Other WEBstudent screens that are helpful during Registration include:

- Digital Printing
- Binding | Finishing Services
- Graphic Design Services
- Black | Color Copies
- Booklets
- Newsletters
- Invitation Packages
- Business Stationary
- Scanning
- Offset Printing
- Large Format Printing | Mounting | Laminating

Questions . . . contact registrar@monmouth.edu
askanadvisor@monmouth.edu

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- Course Schedule Information
- WEBregistration Approvals / Blocks
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Spring 2018
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Building Monitor Needed for Evenings & Weekends

Jersey Shore Arts Center is looking for reliable, intelligent work study students to monitor the main entrance of the building between the hours of 3:30 pm to 9:30 pm Monday through Friday and 9 am to 1 pm Saturdays. Responsibilities to include greeting of visitors, guests and staff and guiding them to the appropriate location, light administrative duties, and assisting with special events when needed. Knowledge of basic computing and typing, great but not necessary. $11/hourly.

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Kerry Breen, Editor-in-Chief, so967410@monmouth.edu
ADVANCED SUMMER REGISTRATION BEGINNING MARCH 5, 2018

Continuing students in good academic standing are invited to register EARLY for all the Summer 2018 sessions.

The WEBadvisor online listings of SUMMER COURSES are currently available.

Students will be able to self-register using the WEBregistration component of WEBadvisor. Students who have not yet obtained advisor approval will need to register in-person at the Registrar’s Office.

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This past week, executive board (e-board) members of the Student Activities Board (SAB) represented Monmouth University at the National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) in Boston, Massachusetts.

The purpose of the National Convention was meant for e-board members to experience many different performers, acts, and vendors to see which would be the best fit for Monmouth University. Brent Scarpo, a percussionist, and drummer for Scorpions, was one of many who performed. He explained how he was going through a dark time in his life and a dog named Sophie became his love and support system. Throughout that time, Scarpo thought that since she was gone that his life was over. During that time, Scarpo was fighting back the tears when he explained he was going to commit suicide once more. He then received a phone call from the homeless man asking if he owned a dog named Sophie. That moment his life changed.

In his presentation, Scarpo told us he firmly believes that love is the answer to everything. We need to love our neighbors, ourselves. Sometimes we do not have love but want to love. After crying three times during the presentation, we sang "Happy Birthday" to Sophie to celebrate her birthday. Scarpo shared one of the most touching presentations that could quite possibly make the lives of audience members more meaningful. The goal is to bring Scarpo to campus in the future.

The convention also featured shows, where performers and acts had their time to shine. "There are many great opportunities to see acts and performers, which give students the opportunity to determine what would be a good fit to bring to campus," said Smith.

On the first day of the festival, most of the acts that were showcased from a contortionist who was able to fit his whole body into a tennis racket, and a hypnotist who was able to get people in the audience up on their chairs and on their hands pretending they were in a rock band and be terrified of their own belt. Thinking it was a joke, they never knew what kind of acts we were going to see next.

In the closing of the festival, we would be able to meet the people we just saw on stage and get the chance to talk to them. One member had a tarot card reading done that left me in tears, a customized pancake that said "SAB on it," and someone trans­forming an "x" drawn on their wrist to someone's palm with just the tap of someone's hand. My mind was blown every turn I made.

Danile Fransese tied the strings of the hoodie he gave me, put sun screen on me, said the words "Welcome to the House of Dreams," and then said, "I'm not understanding your reference," Daniel Fransese played Damien in the hit film "Rock of Ages." He then threw out candy canes to us while we were waiting to meet with him. During that hour and a half, Scarpo was amazing and kept the audience to stand on their chairs and pretend they were in a rock band, and try to book as many as she could. For last year, we were able to book a rodeo, and a hypnotist, to determine what would be a good fit to bring to campus," said Smith.

Looking back at the experience, all members were ecstatic that they attended the National Convention. SAB had the opportunity to build connections with other activities communities and wrote, "This is the last time in your life before you do that you can go out and do something big and meaningful in the world without hav­ing to worry about those sort of things."

Plus, Peace Corps service qualifies you to defer many of your loans without interest. Also, after you service, you will be part of a tight-knit, light-of-heart network you will enjoy for the rest of your life. We decided to give back to the community and bringing the Peace Corps to campus was a great way to do so.

After the films are shown, the audience was invited to enter to the hall for refreshments. At this time students who are interested in the Peace Corps are encouraged to ask questions about the returned volunteers’ experience, and parents of these students are invited to do the same.

"Cipriani's daughter is currently volunteering in the Peace Corps living in Mongolia, teaching English and training English teachers. He is very proud, supportive, and impressed by his daughter's work. Having visited his daughter, Cipriani reflects on the gher, a small tent made of felt or skins and the cold weather. While experiencing the program through his daughter, Cipriani encourages students to consider joining.

"When I went to Mongolia to visit my daughter, and when she began to speak fluent Mongolian I was so amazed. The community does a great job at teaching the Peace Corps volunteers so much about their culture, and helping them to learn the language there," said Cipriani.

"The Peace Corps Prep class where he asks students, "How many of you have mortgages? How many have kids?" and then says "This is the last time in your life before you do that you can go out and do something big and meaningful in the world without hav­ing to worry about those sort of things."

PHOTO TAKEN by Amber Galati

Members of the Student Activities Board (SAB) attended a national convention to meet new talent to bring to campus.

JOY MORGAN
ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS EDITOR

On Feb. 1, the Peace Corps Prep program held a Peace Corps Film Festival in Wilson Auditorium. The Peace Corps is a government­run agency that uses U.S. citizen volunteers to help develop and educate disadvantaged countries around the globe, and this Thursday, this agency presented a festival for Monmouth Universities Peace Corps Prep Program, for the second year in a row, to spark interest in the Peace Corps, and Peace Corps Volunteers, from around the world.

"The Peace Corps headquarters is located in Washington D.C., and they ask us to come and present our experiences to host this event. Of course, we said yes. We were able to meet really short films, and Peace Corps Volunteers from around the world.

"The Peace Corps Prep program is looking for people who are interested in the Peace Corps. If you are interested, contact Kerry Breen at o697471@monmouth.edu.

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Baseball Scores Five in Ninth to Defeat Penn State

ANDY STUDNA
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Following a three-game sweep at the hands of #11 Dall-
as Baptist to open the season, the #25 University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) baseball team collected its first two wins of the season during the Penn State Tournament this past weekend in Cary, NC.

UMBC entered the Penn State Tournament this past weekend with a record of 0-3, facing games against #23 St. John’s, Penn State, and the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC). They would go on to pick up back-to-back wins against Penn State and UMBC to wrap up the three-game set.

UMBC’s first win of the season came in a dramatic fashion in a back-and-forth affair with Penn State on Feb. 24. Heading in to the ninth inning, down 8-4 the Hawks rallied back to take a 9-8 lead. The comeback in the ninth started with a one-out single courtesy of junior catcher Clay Konickeni who came in to pinch hit. Junior outfielder Kyle Norman followed with a double and then senior infielder Shane Hughes drove them both in with a double of his own. The rally was completed when junior catcher J.D. Andreasen hit his first home run as a Hawk and senior infielder Pete Papcun followed with another homer to give the blue and white the lead. The Hawks answered in the bottom half of the ninth when UMBC’s first win of the season was secured following a save in the bottom of the ninth courtesy of sophomore right-handed pitcher Danny Long.

Penn State opened the scoring in the first inning by plating two runs in a single and an error. The Hawks answered with two runs of their own in the third thanks to a run batted in (RBI) ground out by Norman and an RBI double by Andreasen. The Nittany Lions would go back on top again with three runs in the fourth. The Hawks would answer in the sixth with the score to 5-4 on a Papcun RBI double but Penn State responded with three more runs to make it 8-4 before the Hawks mounted their comeback.

“First off, what a great comeback and team win. I am really proud of the team today,” head coach Dean Ehehalt said. “We have been lacking horns with some really good teams and today was different,” said Head Coach Dean Ehehalt. “Our guys really showed a lot of grit and fight this afternoon.”

The Hawks followed their first win of the season by rout- ing UMBC 17-5 to conclude the weekend on Feb. 25. Hughes and Steckline made the scoring at 17 runs.

Senior attack Bryce Wasserman tallied two goals and five assists in the 17-4 win over Wagner on Wednesday afternoon.

PHOTO COURTESY of Mark Brown

Men’s Lacrosse Falls to Delaware in Home Opener

MARK D’AQUILA
guest writer

Men’s lacrosse bounced back from their heartbreaking double overtime season opener with a huge 17-4 victory on Wednesday at Wagner.

It was a come from behind effort for the Hawks to start the game as Wagner found the back of the net first striking within the first few minutes. Monmouth responded quickly however, as redshirt senior midfielder Dylan Schulte began a string of eight straight Hawk goals. Schulte and fellow senior Bryan Wasser man led the first half charge with two goals apiece helping lead Monmouth to a 9-2 advantage at the half.

Junior attack Hunter Jones got the second half scoring going as well with his early transition goal assisted by Wasser man. “Today was a really good day for our guys,” Monmouth Head Coach Brian Fisher said. “We handled the adjustments really well on a short week that showed today.”

The offensive effort was cer- tainly on display in addition as Monmouth senior defender Joe Lucas made his first-career start on defense and his help was surely noticed.

One of Monmouth’s eight second half goals came from none other than Schulte who completed his second career hat trick.

Several young Hawks made their debuts in the game in- cluding freshman attack Max Brooks who ended the day’s scoring with his first-career goal in the final minute of the game, capping off the victory. Brooks was one of nine players in the game who made their Monmouth debuts against Wagner.

“It was nice to get everyone on the field” Fisher said. “They played with energy and our starters were excited and enth usiastic to see them perform ing well.”

The win was their first of the season and fourth all time against Wagner despite playing only two games.

A quick turnaround was ahead of the Hawks again as they had their 2018 home-opener on a rainy Saturday af- ternoon against Delaware.

Saturday’s story was much different than Wednesdays as Monmouth began the day’s scoring on a Wasserman goal. The lead didn’t last long however, as Delaware responded with a 6-0 run of their own. The Blue Hen momentum carried on as the Blue Hens found the back of the net and score. However, Monmouth was able to fully gain control of the game as they trailed by as many as 10 goals in the second half. A positive note for the Hawks was that they closed the fourth quarter out by scoring seven of the game’s final eight goals which cut the concluding score from a double-digit deficit to a 15-11 loss. Three of those final seven-MU goals came from sophomore midfielder Zach Clemente who certainly did damage. From there it was game opener spotlight as he recorded his first-career hat trick.

Monmouth will now build on their fourth quarter suc- cess against Delaware when they travel to Massachusetts for their next game where they will take on UMass Lowell on Saturday at 1:00 p.m.
Women’s Lacrosse Earns First Win of Season

CHRIS FITZSIMMONS

Women’s lacrosse split their two matchups this past week, losing to George Mason 17-14 on Wednesday and defeating George Washington 14-8 on Saturday. With the win, Monmouth now has a four-game losing streak and now stands at a 1-4 record overall. Despite the loss on Wednesday, sophomore forward Nicole Ceraso. George Mason then scored to extend the lead to five, followed by another from freshman midfielder Caroline Corbliss that cut the score to four. George Mason ended the game with a 4-0 run, but it was not enough for the Hawks to overcome. 

Senior midfielder Caroline Corbliss scored seven goals in the 14-8 win over George Washington on Saturday afternoon.

Women’s Basketball Loses to Quinnipiac to End Season

MATT DELUCA

After two tough losses in Buffalo, the Monmouth women’s basketball team bounced back to a seniors night victory over Fairfield at the OceanFirst Bank Center Friday night.

Senior guard Rhaiha Spooner-Knight scored 24 points in 23 minutes in the 73-65 win over Fairfield. She also grabbed eight rebounds. Junior guard McKinzie Barker was the leading scorer with 18 points. The 50-50 opportunities were split evenly between the two teams, with 23 each.

The Hawks now have an 8-13 record, including an 1-9 mark in conference play. Monmouth ended its season on a positive note, and it is nice to see our work payoff. It has been a tough season, but we have worked hard and it is nice to see our work pay off.

The Hawks took a comfortable 9-2 lead into the break, but a 15-5 run in the second half saw the Hawks fall behind. The Hawks fought back in the third quarter, but could not overcome the deficit and lost 77-75.

Sophomore guard Rosa Graham registered eight assists, which were the most by a Hawk since Jamiriah Bethune in December of 2015. The Hawks were shooting 45% from the floor, while the Stags were shooting 46%.

The Hawks will next take on Delaware on Wednesday. They are 6-5 in conference play and will not return home until March 24. The Hawks are 10-17 for the year, including a 4-12 mark in conference play.

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The Hawks are 10-17 for the year, including a 4-12 mark in conference play.
Men’s Basketball Defeats Rider on Senior Day

ZACH COSENZA  SPORTS

Men’s basketball defeated the Rider Broncos 91-77 on Senior Night on Thursday. The game was before falling to the Fairfield Stags 69-66.

"Tonight, on Senior Night, I wanted it for these kids so making sure they went out on a good note, no matter how the year went. I just really focused on making sure the players all worked together," senior guard Micah Seaborn said. "Tonight was a basketball guy. When his body is healthy, he is one of the top guys if not the top guy in this league," Rice said. "He was freshman of the year as a freshman, all-league, as a sophomore, and we had plans for a lot of things for him this year. He was a top guy in this league, he will go as high as 20 points when healthy, he can do a lot of great things on the court."

At the same time, Monmouth would control the whole game, going half way into half up, 50-32. Seaborn was 8-9 from the field and also being 2-4 from behind the arc.

Senior Night on Thursday. The Hawks would finish the game, winning 91-77. The Hawks finished with a care-er-high 30 points, his most since Dec. 2nd against UConn. 11'6.75” and junior Dana Lynch finished third with a mark of 18'11” while teammate and second in the pole vault. The Hawks went into half-time up 11 after a pair of sophomore guard Louie Pilar free throws with 5:46 left. Two layups and three-pointers would close the gap to one for the Stags. A dunk and four free throws would give Fairfield their first lead since the two minute mark in the first. Two Hammond free throws would make it 67-66 Fairfield but the Hawks would make a layup on the next possession to bring it to the eventual score of 69-66, Salnave would miss a potential game-tying three-pointer with time expiring.

The Hawks (11-19, 7-11 MAAC) will now go into the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) tournament as the eighth seed, going up against ninth seeded St. Peters. Pilar had a career-high 30 points, his most since Dec. 2nd against UConn. He was 10-17 from the field and 57 percent from behind the arc.

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When interviewed after the game, Tilghman added, "I think we got a little too complacent with the lead and Fairfield stayed positive about it all and they made plays," Salnave said. "We just have to get everybody back together and have a better night on Thursday night, that’s all," Rice said. "We weren’t really playing for seeding, we just wanted to go on a roll." The Hawks went into halftime up 11 after a pair of sophomore guard Louie Pilar free throws with 5:46 left. Two layups and three-pointers would close the gap to one for the Stags. A dunk and four free throws would give Fairfield their first lead since the two minute mark in the first. Two Hammond free throws would make it 67-66 Fairfield but the Hawks would make a layup on the next possession to bring it to the eventual score of 69-66, Salnave would miss a potential game-tying three-pointer with time expiring.

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Senior infielder Pete Papcun hit the game-winning homerun to defeat Penn State 9-8 on Saturday afternoon. Papcun finished the five-run comeback in the ninth.

SEE STORY ON PAGE 21