Campus Task Force Responds to Trump’s Decision to Phase Out DACA

BY GABRIELLE DEONATH & GESELLE MALDONADO

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, President Trump made good on his campaign promise that he would end Barack Obama’s DACA and DAPA (Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents) programs. And immediately, the Adelphi DACA, International and Immigration Task Force responded by creating programs and reaching out to impacted students.

DACA—short for Deferred Action for Childhood arrivals—is a program created by Obama through an executive order in 2012, allowing people who entered the country illegally before the age of 16 to work in the U.S. lawfully without the chance of immediate deportation. The program doesn’t grant legal citizenship, but operates through a status of deferred action that can be renewed after its two-year period comes to an end. DREAMers—the name deriving from the DREAM Act to describe people who entered the country illegally as children—under the DACA program, in addition to working legally and therefore paying income taxes, have been able to receive higher education and authorized driver’s licenses.

According to a March 31, 2017 U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services report, 787,588 DREAMers have been approved and supported by DACA. These people are now largely vulnerable in the wake of Trump’s phase out of the program. Trump has said that he encourages Congress to approve an alternative for these people. However, many remain worried as Congress has a history of not approving proposals like the DREAM (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors) Act, which would allow temporary residency for minors who do not have citizenship. Those under the DACA program could be affected as soon as March 2018.

The Trump Administration’s rescinding of the program has a drastic ripple effect across communities inclusive to students who rely on the bill to remain in the United States without legal repercussions. The Adelphi community is not excluded from the effects of this major decision, with many concerned about the safety of the university’s students that rely on DACA to remain on campus and in the country.

“My first thought was for our affected students and the anxiety and fear this decision must mean for them,” said Adelphi University president Christine M. Riordan, PhD. “It threatens our most basic promise to provide a safe and welcoming place to live and study.”

DACA only has six months left as an active program, but while waiting for a response from or action by Congress, campus administrators, including the DACA Task Force, are working to protect those Adelphi students directly affected by the decision as much as possible.

On Sept. 5, following Trump’s official announcement, Adelphi’s administration sent a letter through a campus-wide email, signed by Riordan and Perry Greene, PhD, vice president for Diversity and Inclusion, expressing the university’s commitment to protecting the privacy and rights of all of its students and emphasizing the values of “fairness and inclusivity for all members of [the] community.” The letter also included ways that the administration would be of help to vulnerable students, such as providing personal support for those affected and not volunteering information about the immigration status of students to government agencies.

However, the university’s preparation for this matter, as well as Trump’s various other immigration decisions, began as early as December 2017. During that time, a group of concerned students and faculty met with Riordan and other administration officials to discuss ways to respond to Trump’s decision.

According to Daylong, planning for the tenth anniversary started a couple of years ago in anticipation of the milestone, but much of the details were finalized between January and April of this year. One of the goals determined during planning was to bring back many of the guest stars that have performed in the PAC over the last decade, since many of them rarely have had repeat performances.

As for Larson, he was never able to see the first official Off-Broadway preview of his award-winning musical, suddenly passing away the night before from an aneurysm caused by undiagnosed Marfan syndrome at the age of 35. The bench in Life Café on which he sat while writing “RENT”—also a famous setting of one of the most recent musicals—was eaten by a student who was a classmate of Larson’s at Adelphi, Walker-Browne.

Performing Arts Center Celebrated 10th Anniversary with Tribute to Famous Alum

BY GABRIELLE DEONATH

The first ever college production of “RENT” was performed on Sept. 27, 2008 at Adelphi’s Performing Arts Center to celebrate its grand opening. With the tenth anniversary of the PAC approaching, it only seemed appropriate, according to PAC executive director Blyth Daylong, to pay tribute to that opening performance and its playwright, composer and Adelphi alumnus, Jonathan Larson.

As the kick-off to the tenth anniversary festivities, the PAC hosted two presentations of “RENT in Concert” on Saturday, Sept. 16 and Sunday, Sept. 17. The production was directed by T. Oliver Reed and featured Broadway performers, including Felicia Boswell, Danielle L. Greaves, Douglas Lyons, MJ Rodrigues, Lilli Cooper, Matt Bogart and Sydney James Harcourt (former Aaron Burr in the musical “Hamilton”). In addition, Freddi Walker-Brown, an original cast member from the musical “Rent,” was invited to sing “Seasons of Love.”

She first met Larson at the auditions for the musical back in the mid-90s and said she remembers him as always in “observation and writer mode.” Walker-Browne said that she has and would always remain thankful to Larson.

“He was the one who championed me for the role of Joanne,” she said.

After almost three years as Joanne, Walker-Browne went on to write her own material, get married and take up the role of Rafiki in the Broadway production of “The Lion King.” However, she said that it is the philosophy of “RENT” that has guided her through the difficult moments of her life.

Nicholas Petron, chair of the Theatre Department, was a young professor at Adelphi when Larson attended the university as an undergraduate.

“We all knew he was special, but I’m not sure we knew how special,” he said.

As a student, Larson was never late or missed class, according to Petron, and he was truly dedicated to the arts. The two became close friends and collaborators, once creating a cabaret in entirety in two weeks—Petron writing the book and lyrics and Larson, who graduated in 1982, composing the music. That piece, titled both “The Steak Tartare Caper” and “Behind Every Moan is a Woman,” will be performed in the spring by students of the Theatre Department as another installment of the PAC’s tenth anniversary celebrations.

Petron described the piece as a “sardonic, political and sexual cabaret that skewered the constant at the time.”

In addition to the cabaret, this year the PAC will continue the Larson Legacy concerts, at which certain up-and-coming composers who have been presented with The Jonathan Larson Grants are given the platform to showcase some of their original work. Michael R. Jackson, a 2017 recipient of the grant, presented the concert version of his musical “White Girl in Danger” on Sunday, Sept. 24.

According to Daylong, planning for the tenth anniversary started a couple of years ago in anticipation of the milestone, but much of the details were finalized between January and April of this year. One of the goals determined during planning was to bring back many of the guest stars that have performed in the PAC over the last decade, since many of them rarely have had repeat performances.

As for Larson, he was never able to see the first official Off-Broadway preview of his award-winning musical, suddenly passing away the night before from an aneurysm caused by undiagnosed Marfan syndrome at the age of 35. The bench in Life Café on which he sat while writing “RENT”—also a famous setting of one scene in the play—now sits in the lobby of the PAC. However, so much of Larson seems to live on within the university walls of Adelphi and in the magical world of Broadway.

Broadway performers Matt Bogart and Felicia Boswelrehearse in the PAC.

Photo provided by University Communications
A Word from the Editor

Since the semester began, the world has been a busy place. In the midst of our classes and homework assignments, Hurricane Harvey flooded the streets of Texas, devastating its residents and their neighborhoods. In the following weeks, a string of natural disasters has brought more suffering in its wake, the most recent of them being Hurricane Maria, which has left 100 percent of Puerto Rico without power, and a 7.1 magnitude earthquake that brought down numerous structures around Mexico City. While it may seem like the world is coming to an end, our features editor, Danielle, has written a feature with all things you need to know about why these disasters are occurring.

In addition, earlier this month President Trump announced his decision to end the DACA program, which allowed many young people who entered the country illegally to remain in the country legally through renewable deferred action. This has caused concern for many across the U.S., as well as a few students, closer to home, on our campus. The university’s DACA, International and Immigration Task Force has been developing numerous efforts to support aid for our vulnerable students or students whose families are affected by Trump’s decision.

Speaking of immigration, a number of editors, in honor of the 230th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution, James Miskiewicz, a former assistant U.S. attorney and special counsel for ethics, risk and compliance at Long Island Power Authority, was a guest lecturer at Adelphi on Sept. 14 to discuss the constitutionality of surveillance in our digital world, sparking debate about whether the U.S. is still truly a republic.

Even with all of that heaviness to process, our mission at The Delphian has remained the same – to continue to bring together the larger Adelphi community. We are happy to have an editorial from the Committee of Academic Honesty as they address a racial matter brought to their attention related to their lawn sign campaign last spring meant to encourage and promote academic integrity.

And we want you to participate too! Nicoletta, our sports editor and a student athlete, came up with an idea to incorporate an athletics-themed crossword puzzle in each issue. If you can complete the crossword correctly and email your answers to delphian@adelphi.edu, you can win a prize for your efforts.

As a dedicated athlete, Nicoletta knows the adrenaline rush that comes along with sports events, for those on the field and in the stands. However, there are not a large percentage of students that attend games, and she thinks you’re missing out on all the fun.

It’s all a lot to digest and process. My hope is that through this issue, we not only think about the obstacles affecting our own lives, but those around us on campus and those affected around the country and the world. Showing unity and support can be as simple as asking someone who looks like they are having a tough day if they are okay or attending an event that shed light on important issues. Despite what Trump thinks, being inclusive and kind is not that hard.

-Gabrielle Deonath
Editor-in-Chief

Campus Task Force Responds to Trump’s Decision to Phase Out DACA

(Continued from page 1)

ministrators, as anxieties were high about Trump’s policies and proposed executive orders, according to Greene.

After the meeting, Greene said it was recommended that a task force should be made, and with the agreement and authorization of Riordan, the Adelphi DACA, International and Immigration Task Force, made up of staff, faculty and students, was created. A full list of those involved in the task force can be found on the task force’s website http://global.adelphi.edu/daca-immigration-and-international-support/.

Greene became chair of the task force and invited music professor Sidney Boquiren to join him as co-chair, effective the beginning of this semester.

“Our personal level, I feel very strongly about supporting our students, in particular, students who at no fault of their own find themselves in a marginalized situation,” said Greene, about why he was attracted to being a part of the task force. “As a professional, there’s something about a university that should go beyond teaching in a classroom, and that’s upholding the values of what higher education implies. The need to have an open door to anyone who wants to learn regardless of who they are or where they come from should be a basic tenant of what we do as an institution.”

As a non-citizen himself and a very involved participant in conversations about immigration and other related issues, Boquiren said that he has a deeper appreciation for what the task force does now being able to see it from a closer perspective.

Since it began in January, the task force has tried to combat misunderstandings or lack of understanding about immigration issues through education and outreach, the first of which was an immigration forum where people spoke to immigration lawyers to shed light on the situation at hand and answer questions. Over the summer, they provided necessary housing and campus employments for particularly vulnerable students. Through crowd funding and with help from the university, the task force also provides emergency financial assistance to students who are impacted not only by DACA, but also Trump’s immigration ban and other immigration policies and issues. A new program is currently being developed through which interested staff and faculty would be trained as “confidential allies” to help guide and be a resource to students affected by the phasing out of the DACA program.

There are currently fewer than 10 students on Adelphi’s campus who have identified themselves as DACA recipients. However, protecting their identities is top priority, according to Greene. For this reason, no self-identified DACA students have been interviewed by The Delphian.

“We would not want to do anything that would put our students at risk,” he said. “It is not just students who are vulnerable, but also their parents and families.”

On Sept. 27, the Center for Student Involvement and the task force are sponsoring a DACA and immigration reform town hall in the University Center ballroom from 6-7:30 p.m. Greene will be present, along with Assemblyman Charles Lavine, immigration lawyer Roberto Martinez, CARECEN Program Director and Hofstra University Immigration Law Special Professor Patrick Young and DACA recipient and founder of the Northshore Hispanic Association, Nelson Melgar for an in-depth and informative conversation about the implications of Trump’s decision and the issue at large.

COME TO THE DELPHIAN’S NEXT MEETING!

OCT. 16 AT 1 PM
Earle Hall (lower level)
The Increasing Link Between Climate Change and Extreme Weather

BY DANIELLE MCDougall

In the worst sense of the word, we are currently living in historic times: "historical" in the sense that we are seeing natural disasters of unprecedented proportions. Just this month, people across the Caribbean, Mexico, the Atlantic and the Southwest regions of the United States have been forced to grapple with the grave effects of a slew of natural disasters. One of the first was Hurricane Harvey, a Category 4 hurricane that battered the small coastal city of Rockport, TX, and parts of Louisiana on Sept. 3. Harvey caused at least 83 confirmed deaths, as well as damage to economic infrastructure that an estimated $180 billion will be needed to repair.

Just five days later, an 8.2-magnitude earthquake hit Mexico, killing nearly 150. Following Harvey and Hurricane Irma, which devastated much of the Caribbean, Mexico, the Atlantic and the Southeast regions in similar ways. We can hardly be surprised, given to its estimated 300,000 people, the Delphian University, a predominantly white institution, has been spending a year of its life trying to find a way to minimize its impact on the environment. This is an especially important thing to consider since Agelarakis and the majority of the scientific community identifies climate change as being "anthropogenic" [human-caused] and something that is worsening at an exponential rate (as opposed to a more gradual rate several centuries ago).

Agelarakis said he ends every semester of his "Human Evolution" class by pointing his students to "climate change as being "anthropogenic" [human-caused]." If we cannot do so, what must be done to alleviate the conditions that have fomented these weather systems? Agelarakis suggested instilling children with an awareness of the environment around them and the relationship each person has to it. This type of education, he explained, will help people to enter a mindset that can have a transformative effect on the rest of our actions. That is a mindset that is "king to the planet, other human beings—wherever they are—and to the rest of the components make up the biosphere."

Considering the correlation between the worsening of climate change phenomena and the worsening of natural disasters over the years, one cannot help but wonder if there is a way to lessen the burden of former on the environment. This is an especially important thing to consider since Agelarakis and the majority of the scientific community identifies climate change as being "anthropogenic" [human-caused].

Colin Beavan, author of the 2017-18 Adelphi Reads book, "No Impact Man," spent a year of his life trying to find a way to minimize his impact on the environment by not using carbon-based transportation vehicles or discarding of non-recyclable materials. And, partly in thanks to conversations surrounding his book on campus, the rest of the Adelphi community has begun to think more critically about efforts it can make as a collective to deter the progression of anthropogenic climate change.

Agelarakis said he ends every semester of his "Human Evolution" class by encouraging his students to think about the future of humanity—prompting us to wonder if humanity will be able to withstand dramatic weather events like the series of hurricanes that we are in the midst of for much longer. If it cannot do so, what must be done to alleviate the conditions that have fomented these weather systems?

University Faces Racism Through a Series of Dialogues

BY GABRIELA BRISENO

On the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 15, a group of 15 Adelphi faculty members and students gathered to discuss instances of racism and their implications. The dialogue was part of a month-long program called "Facing Racism" hosted by Perry Greene, vice president for diversity and inclusion at Adelphi and leader of the discussion.

After presenting facts and addressing different viewpoints on specific racially-charged events, like last year's Black Lives Matter protest during Adelphi's Midnight Madness, Greene opened the floor for students and staff to speak candidly and ask questions. Conversation topics ranged from casual racism in shopping centers to the Charlottesville riots.

"Many of us were deeply troubled by the recent events in Charlottesville, Virginia," said Greene. "I wanted to do something that provided a space where we could have a respectful, but honest conversation on the subject, even though these conversations aren’t always easy."

With each passing week of September, more students have shown up to join the discussion. Ariyanna Simmons, a junior psychology major who recently transferred to Adelphi, was pleased to see such an event taking place on campus.

"I realized that Adelphi is a P.W.I.- a predominantly white institution," she said. "And as an African-American, I felt like it was important for this discussion to be had. I don’t feel like [racism] is talked about enough in society, let alone in colleges that are predominantly white, so the fact that someone would take the time to talk about it and have not an argument, not a debate, but a discussion, is really important."

The meeting created an opportunity for people to ask questions about racism and receive educated, clear responses. The group tackled why people are against affinity spaces for students of color and why people of color do not always defend themselves when they are treated unjustly.

"I would hope that not only students, but all of us, would come away with the realization that we must be involved in these critical discussions to stand up against racism," said Greene. "By exchanging ideas in our community, we will only be able to stunt its growth if we actively acknowledge its presence, confront it in all of its forms and work together to pull it out by the roots wherever we find it."

A common complaint by privileged groups is that they do not understand the issues faced by minorities. Fortunately, they now have the option to learn in an environment that encourages openness and inclusion of all.

"Honestly, I was the only African-American student at the table," said Simmons. "So I would have assumed that there would be more African-Americans, but in actuality there were more white and Hispanic people. I feel like we all should have that discussion, but it's really important for people who aren't minorities to hear about racism and how to confront it because it's often overlooked."

Greene will hold his final "Facing Racism" meeting on Friday, Sept. 29 in room 107 in Levermore Hall, but he said that he hopes to host similar events at Adelphi in the future.
Constitution Day Promotes Curiosity About Digital Surveillance

BY MARIA GIOVANNA JUMPER

In a world where everyone is connected to one another through the use of the Internet, people have become extremely worried about the government’s ability to access personal communication and information. In commemoration of the signing of the U.S. Constitution on Sept. 17, 1787, the Political Science Department hosted a lecture by James Miskiewicz, a former assistant U.S. attorney and special counsel for ethics, risk and compliance at Long Island Power Authority, who addressed this very concern.

Miskiewicz’s talk, titled “Can They Do That? Surveillance and The Constitution in a Digital World,” highlighted the ways laws have changed in regard to surveillance as a result of major court decisions.

A large part of the conversation, which took place in the University Center on Thursday, Sept. 14, focused on defining trespassing and privacy in a courtroom. For example, Miskiewicz referred to past usage of the “bumper beeper,” a device that uses GPS to track suspects, as previously unacceptable in most cases, but now requiring investigators to obtain a warrant first. He also highlighted that while years ago many lawyers were able to use a subpoena to access phone records, they now need a warrant for that as well.

Eventually, the conversation shifted to the use of the Internet. Miskiewicz discussed how a person can offer a lot of information about themselves without realizing while browsing the web and using search engines.

“The relevance of this seminar hit home with many of our students,” said Traci Levy, associate professor and department chair of Political Science. “People are definitely always thinking about what the government can and cannot see in terms of their searches and messages.

“Many people have sat down and ‘Googled’ a particular store, disease or other topic and later found spam mail in their inbox or ads on Facebook or Google that pertained to past searches,” Levy continued. “Search engines are able to find out a lot about your personal life through this system, yet most people do not find this to be as terrifying as their text messages being watched.”

During a Q&A session with Miskiewicz at the conclusion of his lecture, students questioned whether the Constitution is truly meant to protect people or to protect the government and if the United States is in jeopardy of losing its status as a republic.

According to Levy, it will be up to the Supreme Court to answer questions about the constitutionality of surveillance of private citizens in changing times and keep the order of this republic in check.

“In the near future, the Supreme Court will be handling a case that reopens the question of surveillance in the digital age,” she said. “As technology and methods of communication advance, the courts will have to interpret laws created about 230 years ago in order to find their relevance in the 21st century. What is truly private when your whole life can be found in a digital cloud? The Supreme Court will soon be able to give us that answer.”

What’s on Your Phone?

BY SAMUEL AJEWOLE

The “What’s on Your Phone” series allows students and faculty to share their favorite and most useful apps that they cannot live without. Share your favorite apps with us at delphian@adelphi.edu.

Phone owner: Paul Venturi, freshman bio-chemistry major

1. Snapchat “I like ‘Snap’ because it’s an easy way to communicate with everybody without using up your storage. I think streaks kind of help you keep in touch with certain people.”

2. Twitter “Twitter is just an easy way to get news and stay informed on things. It’s an easy way to know what’s going on in people’s lives.”

3. Google Photos “Google Photos allows you to keep all of your pictures on your Google account and not saved to your phone. It’s another way to save storage and make your photos available anywhere.”

4. Google Drive “It’s convenient because you could offhand send your papers to someone to read or email them to teachers.”

New: Adelphi Athletics Crossword Puzzle

BY OLIVIA FRANKS

Welcome to the new Adelphi athletics-themed crossword puzzle. The object is to keep our readers up-to-date on all things athletics, including recent outcomes and top performers. Answers can be found by searching through Aupanthers.com.

The first person to complete the puzzle correctly and emails the answers to Nicoletta (nicolettacuccio@mail.adelphi.edu), our sports editor, will receive a prize. Let the games begin!

Across
6. Leads field hockey in goals
7. Has played tournaments in both California and Delaware so far this season
8. Player on men’s soccer that leads the team in goals
10. Beat Bentley University 3-2 on Sept. 9

Down
1. New women’s golf coach
2. Freshman on women’s soccer who scored her first career goal against Pace
3. Team that has beaten both Philadelphia University and American International this season
4. Beat Merrimack College 6-1 on Sept. 9
5. Team that placed second at first meet
**Features**

**Fall 2017 Greek Life Recruitment Has Begun**

**By Omar Hameed**

It’s fall recruitment time for the 18 unique Greek Life organizations here at Adelphi, including a new fraternity, Iota Nu Delta (IND).

“Recruitment is a series of events offering current organization members and potential members the opportunity to get to know each other,” said Tara Wagner, the director of the Center for Student Involvement (CSI). “Students can go to many events held on campus to meet the organizations that Adelphi offers and visit organization websites to learn more about them to find one whose values match their own.”

Greek Life has a lot to offer, like networking within and across campuses, opportunities for community service, leadership development and much more.

“Personally, it has given me the opportunity to make friends with people I am not sure I would have ever met at Adelphi,” said Nicole Imperatore, a member of Delta Phi Epsilon sorority at Adelphi. “On a professional level, I am able to juggle many things at once and manage my time wisely; it is also a great way to make connections.”

For those who are interested in joining Greek Life, recruitment is the time to get involved. To take part in this process, students can reach out to CSI or visit MyAULife to get in contact with councils that oversee the recruitment process.

Each organization has its own charity, to which they donate, and may be classified differently, such as socially or culturally-based. For instance, the new fraternity IND, which had its probate (new member presentation) this month, is a culturally-based organization. These organizations represent communities whose numbers in the traditional Greek life system are historically small and dispersed and are oriented to students having a special interest in a culture or cultural identity. Based on its own philanthropy and classification, each organization can have a different effect on its members.

Twariq Baraskar, one of IND’s new brothers, believes that it’s well-connected with other chapters and feels a sense of unity with them. “Joining Iota Nu Delta immediately introduced me to a great number of people, especially from other schools,” he said. “We all quickly befriended one another, and I can genuinely say that we all got close in a very short span of time and have stayed close ever since.”

Once someone decides which organization is of interest, they can directly contact individuals within the organization of choice to receive more information and start becoming more involved.

“The first step is to have an open mind and give every organization a chance,” Imperatore said.

Recruitment events can vary depending on the organization and its interests. According to members of IND, their main priority is gaining more recognition and making the campus aware of their presence. One way its members are striving to do this is by collaborating with as many different organizations as possible.

Delta Phi Epsilon, on the other hand, is prioritizing individual interviews over hosting recruitment events as they said it makes it easier to get to know a recruit and form a relationship. These are just a few examples of the ways that members of Greek organizations here at Adelphi are making substantial efforts to create the best recruitment process for themselves and their potential members.

If you are interested in joining Greek Life, be on the lookout for opportunities to get involved. Reach out to someone who is a part of Greek Life or contact CSI for more information.

**An Adelphi Alum's Tips for Success**

**By Gabrielle Deonath**

In this column, established Adelphi alumni will reflect on their own college experiences, the lessons they learned, and their advice to the current generation of college students.

Kim Petry is the executive vice president and chief financial officer of Paxos, a high growth Fin Tech Company, where she leads a global finance organization and is in charge of the human resources division. She graduated first in her class with a B.A. in accounting from Adelphi University in 1991 and earned her MBA in finance and international business from New York University. Petry served as managing director of finance at U.S. Trust Corporation/Schwab Corporation; audit senior manager in financial services at PricewaterhouseCoopers; vice president of corporate finance, planning and analysis and business finance and analysis with TIAA-CREF; CFO, global commercial/corporate card payment with American Express and CFO at Broadridge.

She is an author and has contributed to several publications, including “101 Ways to Compete in Today’s Job Market” and has served as an adjunct finance and accounting professor at Adelphi. Petry lives with her husband and two children in Garden City.

During her undergraduate years at Adelphi, Petry said she thought it was important to be involved on campus. She was a part of a number of campus clubs, including the Accounting Society, a marketing and advertising organization and a law club.

Kim’s Tips for a Long and Successful Career in Any Field:

“The most critical thing is you have to network by going to clubs or applying to internships. Those relationships go a long way. A lot of the roles I have gotten happened because I was keeping in touch and reaching out to people.”

“Explore your career. A lot of people say I want to be an accountant, or whatever their profession is, but that is a very broad term. The list is extensive as to which direction you can go. It’s up to the student to ask ‘What direction do I want to go?’ More often than not, people will get into a job and say ’I didn’t know this was accounting. I don’t like it.’ The best way [to explore a career] is to talk to people in those roles and ask ‘What is the day to day like?’”

**Sports Highlight**

**Soccer at Adelphi is off to a flying start at September 10th game against Pace.**

Photo by Dylan Fewings

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EDITORIALS

The Delphian

The Committee for Academic Honesty Addresses Controversial Lawn Signs

BY BRIAN STOCKMAN

Brian Stockman is the chair of the Committee for Academic Honesty. The committee is responsible for promoting an atmosphere of academic honesty, working to educate the entire Adelphi community. The committee develops and distributes materials including guidelines for promoting the Code of Academic Honesty through course syllabi, class discussion, and written guidelines to students and faculty on matters such as plagiarism.

As the community returned from the fun of Spring Break earlier this year, the Committee for Academic Honesty took up our eponymous issue in the first Academic Integrity Week: asking students to “aim higher” at basketball hoops outside the UC, reminding them to “Be a panther, not a cheetah” with slogan pens, and considering teaching and student-ship techniques that prevent plagiarism. With what we hoped to be inspirational signs around campus, we were drawn into another discussion about integrity: the treatment of race on campus. We wish to continue that discussion with this letter.

Via the Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, Perry Greene, PhD, we were informed that signs, adorned with inspirational sayings about intellectual integrity from well-known figures, caused concern for some, particularly why racial parity (50 percent of those quoted black, 50 percent were white) was pursued on these issues—warnings about cheating, etc., and not the “rich whiteman people [are] of power and recognized in-tellect, while the Black icons [are] sports and cultural icons.” While taken aback by these concerns, we agree with Greene that “they are worthy of consideration.”

It’s great while it feels natural to read such concerns as accusations, and to respond immediately with self-affirming platitudes, doing so may be uncomfortable self-denial. Here questioning facts—whether the signs indicate systemic bias or diversity blindness—may be less relevant and should have been avoided. Acknowledging this injury drove us to consider how we could approach a similar project in the future in a way that would reflect the seriousness of our subject in our classifications of our diverse community; replacing fraught questions of blame and intention with a pursuit of equity manifesting the integrity we hope to promote.

We decided since we hope to sponsor Academic Integrity Weeks each semester—we would ask everyone with a stake in the issues of academic and ethical integrity, which is everyone, to engage in a crowded-source, communal project of selecting next semester’s quotes. To do this, go to the Committee’s Moodle Page (you can auto-enroll if you haven’t already), and review the process outlined in the section entitled “Inspirational Integrity.” Leave us a message there through the “Feedback” option. Though perhaps a small gesture, we want to undertake it in the spirit of transparency and as a model of integrity that could be adopted in the future.

Blame-placing and intention-pursing have their place. The counter narrative of an overly “PC” culture demands its own sounding. This back-and-forth should be encouraged, but this incident teaches that any commitment to integrity requires openness to procedural change. We hope our new method demonstrates this commitment and encourages commentary and response of any kind.

The Trump-Obama Feud Is Unnecessary and Childish

BY RACHEL SIERADZKI

An internet debate? I try to stay away from those. However, it is not so for presidents numbers 44 and 45. They have been feuding for years, and it does not look like they will be ready to give it up anytime soon. For years, Donald Trump has levied ad hominem personal attacks towards his presidential predecessor, and Barack Obama has been shooting back his own criticisms. So what do we know about the current president? Well, among other things, Donald Trump is known for provoking arguments. He has a big mouth, and he does not often think before he speaks or tweets. He enjoys attention and stroking his own ego. He has a lot of absolutely false ideas that he likes to tout as fact. Some of these ideas surprised former president Obama.

There are drastic differences between the two men in age, ethnicity, political ideology, leadership style and public behavior. Obama’s ideas, though some may disagree with them, are based more on fact.

For example, contrary to the current president’s belief, and the belief of many others, Barack Obama was born in the state of Hawaii, which, yes, is in the United States, Trump spent several months in 2011 pushing the “birther theory,” which suggests that Obama is not an American citizen, in an effort to delegitimize him as president. Trump then changed his tune in 2016 to say that Hillary Clinton started the whole thing.

More recently, there have been clashes between the two men over other topics. Obama was furious over Trump’s decision to withdraw the United States from the Paris Climate Accord, a very controversial decision because of its possible environmental consequences and the growing problem of climate change. Obama has also expressed the opinion that Trump is not fit nor eligible to serve as president. Trump has accused Obama via Twitter of not taking any action to pursue the claims of Russia’s cyber-meddling in the 2016 election. He also claimed that Obama ordered wiretapping at Trump Tower during the election just before the results were announced, a claim that was proven false.

This unnecessary and pointless feud has got to end. The two of them need to stop pointing fingers at one another. They may have a big issue with each other’s pasts and policies, but they are adult men. It’s time to end the bickering and grow up. It’s time to shake hands and make peace. Hard as it is for many of us to accept, Donald Trump is indeed the 45th President of the United States. As a public figure, it is Obama’s duty to show the American people how he can hand over his executive power gracefully and elegantly.

It’s true that, in January, former president Obama was very helpful in assisting the Trump Administration with their transition into the White House. The administration is required to have made peace then, at least for a short while. That can continue. I must, I get that they annoy each other, but it’s not worth a verbal or social media attack.

I’m not going to sit here and blame Obama for the whole thing, either. Even though I believe he is the more mature guy of the two, he has still acted like a competitive kid who can’t stand the idea of being a loser. You are better than this.

President Trump needs to take responsibility for his actions, as well. It could do him some good to forget his feud with Obama and start doing his job as president. As a leader, he is here to serve the people. It’s a complete waste of time for him to be focusing on things like feuds with Obama or feuds with other people like Stephen King, Rosie O’Donnell or Rihanna, to name a few. He won’t listen to his friends and advisors, so he certainly won’t listen to me, but I would still ask him to learn how to use Twitter in a constructive, appropri-ate manner or to deactivate his account.

The Delphian

We Want You: To Come to Our Games

BY NICOLETTA CUCCIO

My legs are getting tired. Three minutes remain on the clock as I stare into the stands and look for the familiar faces that drive me to be the person I am today. I find my family, my friends and my fellow students. I slowly pan down to a bench filled with my siblings and mentors. Filled with my teammates and coaches that we grind for every time we step on this field. We play for Adelphi and for the pride that is instilled in us when we arrive as freshmen. How can I not power through these last three minutes and get the win for my people?

“We all want to feel validated for all of the hard work that we’ve put into our sports,” said junior pitcher Mike De- marest. “Having fans in the stands watch-
Senior Student Athletes Offer Advice Ahead of the New Season

BY NICOLETTA CUCCIO

Three senior Adelphi athletes offer their share of advice and lessons they have learned on and off the field to the incoming freshman student athletes.

Libby Mercuri, a senior forward/midfielder on the Adelphi field hockey team, takes pride in her studies, as she is en route to becoming a nurse while competing on the field. Starting all 19 games while being tied for first with 11 goals scored, Mercuri helped her team to a 13-6 overall record last season. Mercuri hopes for much success on and off of the field in her last year as a Panther.

Libby Mercuri

“Being a student athlete at Adelphi is no easy task, but it is certainly a rewarding one. The biggest piece of advice I could give to any incoming or freshman student athlete at Adelphi would be to engage yourself in the classroom and set goals for yourself. Being engaged and focused during class is a sure-fire way to not only keep up with the material, but is also a way to have an easier time doing homework and studying once you are on your own. I also think that setting goals for yourself (both on and off the field or court) is important because when you set goals for yourself you will constantly be working hard every day to achieve those goals.”

Matt Giaconelli, a senior midfielder on the Adelphi men’s soccer team, believes that using his time wisely on and off the field has lead him to his success. Assisting his team to a conference championship and the National Quarterfinal in the many years you’ve been playing, what have you learned? About yourself? About others?

A: With all my years of experience, I have learned that if you dedicate yourself and put your mind to it, achieving goals is always possible. Being part of a collegiate team not only taught me to fight hard within myself, but to fight for the team as well. All the sacrifices made become worthwhile in the end. You just have to trust in the process. Because tennis has a very individualistic mind-set, and you’re out there making crucial decisions during pressure situations alone, you learn a lot about how you as a person handle the big moments. It’s humbling in that aspect. Through tennis I have come to learn that when life gets hard and things don’t go as planned, you have to be able to make adjustments and find ways to persevere while keeping yourself grounded.

Q: How are you going to take these lessons and apply them once you’ve graduated?

A: It is important to understand who you are as a person. Your strengths, weaknesses, etc., and you must always try to improve. Once I graduate, I intend to continue to be a team player, maintain my calm in pressure situations and utilize the knowledge I have gained through my past experiences in order to enrich my future ones.

Q: Have you learned anything you’re going to miss about being a college athlete?

A: Being able to compete with my team and playing the sport that I fell in love with as a little girl.

Q: What is one thing that you will never forget about playing for Adelphi?

A: I will never forget being a part of the first team to win a conference championship in Adelphi tennis history. There was no greater feeling than knowing that all the hard work and long hours paid off.

Final Ride: Rebecca Fakas Takes the Court as a Panther for One Last Time

BY NICOLETTA CUCCIO

In this series, we’ll be interviewing seniors playing in their final year of eligibility in their respective sports. These Q & A’s will be a chance for athletes to say goodbye and to reflect on both their athletic careers and the sport to which they have dedicated much time and effort.

Rebecca Fakas, a senior on the Adelphi Women’s Tennis team, performed on a championship level last season and helped her team acquire their second title in the past two years. With 11 consecutive singles’ victories and a 19-2 record in doubles last season, Fakas looks forward to leading her team to more success on the court.

Q: How many years have you been playing tennis?

A: I’ve been playing tennis for 14 years.

Q: Can you explain a normal day as an Adelphi women’s tennis player?

A: We start off our mornings by having strength and conditioning with Keith [strength and conditioning coach for all athletic teams]. From there we have a two-hour session, which consists of intense drills and match play. We end our practice with endurance training and stretching. We part ways as we go to class and reunite to eat our meals together.

Q: What does tennis mean to you? Why?

A: It’s a way of life. It’s been a part of my life for so long. It has given me many opportunities, memories and friendships that I will cherish forever.

Q: How have you been molded as a person by this sport?

A: Tennis is one of the major factors that have molded me into the person I am today. The experiences that I have been through have changed me from the person that I was when I started playing. I have become a hardworking, driven and respectful person. I have this sport to thank for these qualities.

Q: How will that help you in the future?

A: These characteristics are not only useful for tennis, but also off the court. They can transfer to the outside world in whatever endeavors I wish to pursue, for example, in my future career.

Q: In the many years you’ve been playing, what have you learned? About yourself? About others?

A: Being able to compete with my team and playing the sport that I fell in love with as a little girl.

Q: What is one thing that you will never forget about playing for Adelphi?

A: I will never forget being a part of the first team to win a conference championship in Adelphi tennis history. There was no greater feeling than knowing that all the hard work and long hours paid off.
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