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The GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY Crescent

THE VOICE OF THE STUDENTS SINCE 1891



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Climbing @ GFU

VOLUME CXLI ISSUE 3

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BRUIN STATUE CAUSES CONTROVERSY



One student's idea about what the statue may look like

By Denny Muia
Crescent Staff

The Associated Student Community has voted to fund the construction of a bronze bear statue that will reside on campus.

The statue, according to the ASC central committee, is meant to promote a sense of community for all GFU students. The completion date is scheduled to be around May 1.

"I would say the [ASC] team is excited," said Jake Vanier, ASC president. "Our vision for any project is that it would be a thing of unity; it will be something that our student body can rally around."

The project was proposed by Rob Westervelt, executive vice president for enrollment and marketing

"We picked this mascot; when you have something like that you can reject it, or embrace it," said Westervelt. "Let's make it part of our culture. You can come back with your grandkids and you will have to convince them that you had something to do with this."

"All tribes need to have their sort of markers of identification," said Westervelt. "It's kind of like a rallying point. The fact that nobody has done this is amazing. This will be something that will make a meaningful rally point. It will bring school spirit, and it will add energy to the campus."

The statue will cost

approximately \$70,000, depending on the cost of raw materials.

"They wanted this to be a student thing," said Westervelt. "[ASC] actually asked me if they could pay for it." According to Vanier, the school has been considering building this statue since last year, but there hasn't been enough money in the marketing communications budget.

"THE STATUE... IS MEANT TO PROMOTE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY FOR GFU STUDENTS"

ASC receives \$110 a semester from full-time students, and \$55 dollars for part-time; that makes up the operational budget. The left over money goes into the ASC reserve, which currently stands at around \$405,000, according to Vanier. The money for the statue will be coming from that reserve.

The response from the student body so far has been largely negative.

"We have heard a lot of concern about it," said Vanier. "Without having actual numbers from the individual responses, the majority of our feedback has been 'no,' but that's a very small

sample. I would say I've gotten maybe ten letters."

The contract that ASC has signed with the sculptor contains several "opt-out" clauses, which would allow the student government to cancel the project. Currently, ASC is only committed to approximately three thousand dollars of the total amount.

"There are certain things that would mandate us to change our mind, like a petition," said Vanier. "The goal would be to gain student feedback, and to avoid something like a petition, because that's sometimes counterproductive."

ASC is currently planning to put the statue between the Ross building and the football stadium, but they are open to other options.

"ASC's vision is not to have it purely be a football thing," said Vanier. "We're also open to it being in other places. As long as it's in a place that makes sense."

Students wanting to voice their opinions to ASC can either send an email to their campus representative, or contact Vanier directly via his ASC email address.

"What we're asking, regardless of what we do, is what do we want for our campus?" said Vanier. "If you don't want this, what do you want? Let's have some positive conversation about this. What do you want to see happen?"

Illustration courtesy of Elissa Shinseki | George Fox University

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS TREATED UNFAIRLY?

By Heather Harney
Crescent Staff

University adjunct C. Wess Daniels's departure from George Fox Evangelical Seminary (GFES) in October has created some controversy relating to his comments on the university's transgender policy.

Daniels taught "Culture and System Change" at the seminary the past three years; however, recently he posted on Facebook he was let go by GFES for "speaking publically in support" of George Fox University changing their stance on transgender housing placement.

Daniels, along with Pastor Mike Huber, shared in Portland Queer Monthly that according to their understanding, GFU's 'Faith and Practice' is theologically ungrounded.

Daniels's post said, "I was offered my job back so long as I was willing to no longer speak publically about the matter, of which I am not at all interested." The post garnered many comments.

Chuck Conniry, vice president and dean of the seminary, responded to Daniels's post on Facebook.

"[Daniels] declined to continue teaching this course next spring because he was concerned that his association with GFU would limit his freedom to express certain views publicly," said Conniry.

He further said that Daniels was not fired because adjuncts do not have "on going contracts

with the university" and there was none issued for the course Daniels had taught.

"HOW WELL AN ADJUNCT IS TREATED DEPENDS UPON THE INTEGRITY AND COMPASSION OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE"

The striking difference between Daniels's post and Conniry's response has created questions about the treatment of university adjuncts.

An anonymous former GFU adjunct said, "Ultimately, how well an adjunct is treated depends upon the integrity and compassion of the person in charge. For some administrators, adjuncts are just a means to an end; for others, we are human beings who deserve more respect and dignity than their budget shows, and they try to make up for it with kindness and consideration. Personally, I believe there is a strong correlation between good treatment of adjuncts and the leaders previously teaching adjunct, themselves."

An anonymous GFU student also commented on the treatment of adjuncts and said, "There is an adjunct in our department who is treated horribly. It has even been talked about in class."

Paul Almquist, Pastor at West Chehalem Friends Church,

SEE ADJUNCTS PAGE 8



C. Wess Daniel's departure from GFES raises question of treatment of adjuncts.

Photo courtesy of gatheringinlight.com

TEAM MANAGERS STAY INVOLVED BEHIND SCENES

By McKenzie Schaffer
Crescent Staff

Two important figures stand behind the 16 players and four coaches who form George Fox University's men's basketball team: freshmen Leila Seamster and Leo Cruz serve as volunteer team managers for the GFU men's basketball team.

"There's no doubt that being a team manager takes on some mundane job duties," said head coach Maco Hamilton. "However, we don't like to downplay the importance of their roll on our team. Our managers are incorporated into our program. They get to know the players and participate in most of our team activities, so they feel accepted."

A team manager is often perceived as the water boy or a maid service. However, at the college level there's more involvement for this position than one would assume. Helping with the laundry and distributing water is part of the job, but these are only menial chores next to other tasks.

Responsibilities for this job include setting up for practices, running the time clock, and acquiring equipment during practices. Charting stats and filming practices and games are also an assignment, capturing the action for visual learners on the team. Team managers take part in the drills as well, becoming an active and involved member of the team, traveling to all games except those that involve a

flight.

"Through this role, you gain experience to see what being a manager is like. There are worse jobs out there. With this job, you create a bond with the team, coach, and others that help," Seamster said.

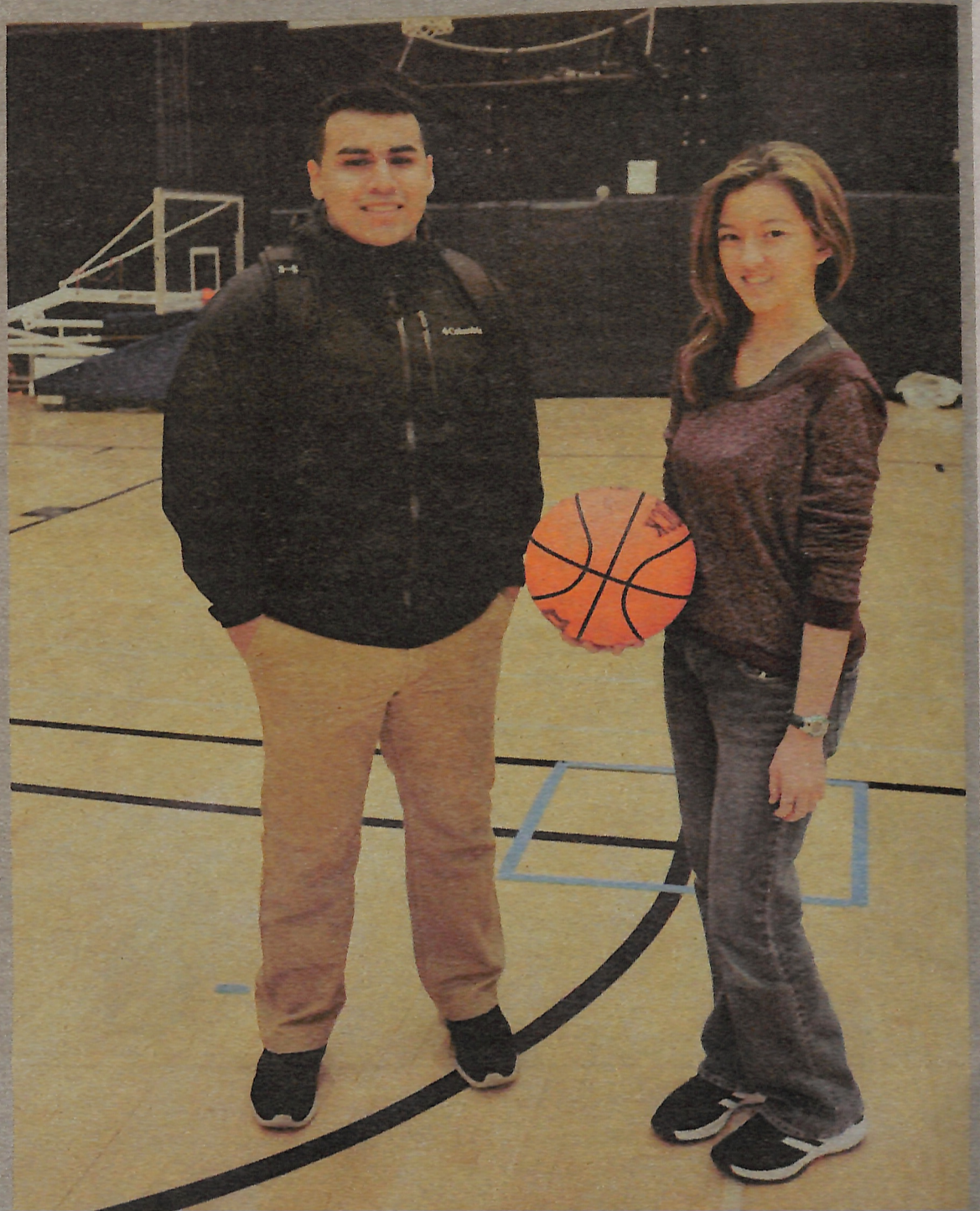
"I picked this job because I am majoring in management and I love basketball. That is the best experience to get, especially when the team treats you like family," Seamster said.

Although the role as team manager is a volunteer effort, the presence is appreciated by the coaches and the athletes.

Sophomore and teammate J.J. Lacey said, "They are a huge help at practice. Leo and Leila are extremely available and are able to do things that allow the coaches to strictly coach and not worry about the clock, or the scores, or running to get a new ball, because either of the managers have a backup ready to go. Personally, I really enjoy having managers. Leo and Leila are a part of the team now, and I think everybody embraces that and makes sure they feel it too."

With the team managers present at the practices and games, the coaches have less to worry about. Concerns and responsibilities are dispersed and taken care of without requiring constant supervision.

"They save us time in a lot of areas and alleviate some duties from my plate, which I really appreciate! It's absolutely a luxury having team managers to help out," Hamilton said.



Managers Leila Seamster and Leo Cruz help the team in myriad ways.

Photo by McKayla Philips | Crescent Staff

ROCK CLIMBING RISES

By Elizabeth Cranston
Crescent Staff

Rock climbing is a mentally and physically challenging sport that has become increasingly popular at George Fox University.

The campus boasts many enthusiastic rock climbers, a rock climbing wall, and even a basic rock climbing class.

"Climbing is a sport that you don't have to be any certain type of athlete to participate in," said Ron Hampton, who teaches the rock climbing class at GFU. "Anyone can do it—men and women, all different weights and body styles."

Many climbers at GFU make use of the rock wall that is located

downstairs in Wheeler Sports Center. Seniors Spencer Giles and Sam Read run the wall during open climbing time.

"The wall is filled every night and we've managed to bring in about 120 new climbers this semester alone," Giles stated.

Regarding eligibility, Giles said, "Absolutely everyone can come climb. We have free equipment to borrow and we will get you climbing. We teach every new climber how to properly put on a harness and tie in, as well as how to safely belay others."

"I really enjoy rock climbing. Whether I'm climbing indoor or outdoor, I get to figure out how my body moves, balances and works," junior Andrea Riley said. "It's like

you're competing against yourself and challenging yourself to go further and push the limits of what your body can do."

GFU also offers two sections of rock climbing class in the spring semester.

"The class teaches students about basic safety issues, body mechanics and challenging yourself. Students learn about belaying, different types of holds, and learning to work through fears of height," said Hampton. The class even takes a camping trip to Smith Rock in Eastern Oregon, where students get to climb outdoors at the end of the semester.

More information on climbing at GFU can be found on Facebook under "George Fox Climbing."



The rock wall sees heavy traffic during open-climb times.

Photo by Sam Hoard | Crescent Staff

The Crescent

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL SCRIMMAGES UW

By Hailey Ostrom
Crescent Staff

The George Fox University women's basketball team will kick off their season with a scrimmage against Division I University of Washington (UW).

"Scrimmaging UW is a great way to start the season," said junior point guard Kyla Miner. "It's tougher competition, which helps us have higher expectations in our game. It also brings our confidence up because we know we won't face other teams as good as them. It is also a great opportunity to get used to playing with our own team and the freshmen before our first league game."

Miner played 19 of the 26 games last season, recording 21 rebounds and 11 assists. Miner also had a perfect free throw percentage, going 10-for-10. Senior co-captains Lauren Codling, Dacia Heckendorf and Jami Morris take on the 2014-15 season as they lead their team to an expectant victory.

"As captains we are looking to push ourselves and our teammates to our best potential," said Codling. "We really emphasize effort and giving 100 percent all the time."

"We added three awesome players that have made us an all around better team, but finding

the chemistry on the court this year will be one key factor to our success," she said. "That could mean different starters every game, but we are willing to make those sacrifices as a program to be the best we can be." Codling, a forward, played in all 26 games last year. She led the team in rebounds (175) and shot 49 percent from the field while also recording 43 assists. Codling finished with 37 steals for the season, taking second on the team.

"Lauren is a special player and is one of the most competitive players on our team," said head coach Michael Meek. "She is a great rebounder and has a very high basketball IQ. I have extremely high expectations for Lauren this season in the numerous ways she can impact a game."

Joining the trio of seniors are four juniors, five sophomores and three new freshmen. Among those freshmen is 6'3" post Kaitlin Jamieson, who is now one of the tallest players on the team, standing head-to-head with 6'3" sophomore Sydney Beadle. Jamieson used her size to her advantage, ending her senior year of high school with 107 blocks.

Coming off a season with a 22-5 record and returning 12 players, the women have high expectations for this upcoming basketball season.



Sophomore forward Jordyn Peacock hopes to contribute to this year's strong team.

Photo by Joel Rurik | Crescent Staff

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AN INSIDE LOOK AT PLANT SERVICES

By Denny Muia
Crescent Staff

On Dec. 15, George Fox University will begin construction on a new dorm to house incoming students. Though this is exciting, many students are wondering how the school will continue to take care of its older residences.

“STUDENT HOUSING TAKES PRIORITY OVER THE OTHER NEEDS ON CAMPUS”

“We get about seven thousand work requests a year,” said Debby O’Kelley, assistant to the director of Plant Services. “We don’t ever really catch up. We do projects as well, so a lot of times the projects take priority. They’ll have a due date, so we’ll set aside some of the work orders that aren’t emergency type of things, but for the most part we have a 94 percent completion rate by the end of the year.” The most common work requests are replacement light bulbs and plugged toilets.

Built in 1962, Pennington Hall is the oldest dorm on campus. Edwards and Hobson Halls, as well as the Woolman, Lewis, and Winters apartments, were also built around that time.

“We try to do renovations every fifteen years,” said Thomas. “We try to replace carpet every seven. Quite frequently our halls move out to twenty [years], but that’s kind of the notion. Student housing takes priority over the other

needs on campus. After that you end up with your faculty areas and some classrooms.”

According to Thomas, Plant Services prioritizes the work orders they receive in order of emergency status.

“Water flowing, electricity out, roof leak. Any leak of any sort: that stuff is dealt with immediately,” said Thomas. “We actually try to train RAs how to reset breakers, how to unplug toilets, resetting GFCIs. They’re trained in those kinds of things.”

The best way for students to keep their living areas in good condition, according to Thomas, is to do regular cleaning.

“For instance, most of the time, ants are present because of leftover food,” said Thomas. “Most stains in the carpet are due to not cleaning. There’s a couple dirt layers. Most mildew in bathrooms is the result of not wiping down the bathroom. That’s a fairly large piece. A lot of bathtubs don’t really ever get cleaned.”

“Student Life turns in some things every year about what they think is the worst places to live,” said Thomas. “Livability often has more to do with closeness to campus than anything. For example, Coffin is always rated lower than Pennington, even though Coffin was built in ‘96. So now that’s nearing its eighteen-year mark. At year twenty to twenty-five, we’re redoing plumbing and fixtures. That’s probably going to happen when we redo Coffin. We’re also trying to do more with LED lighting.”

The construction and maintenance of the new dorm will no doubt add more to the workload at Plant Services. Time will tell how this affects their ability to respond to the needs of the campus.

JUISE-ING UP BUSINESS: FOOTBALL PLAYERS SELL SOCKS



The founders of JUISE showcase some of their sock designs.

Photo by Kelly Toms | The Crescent

By Julia Howell
Crescent Staff

Several George Fox University football players got tired of their plain white socks and decided to make a change.

Ryan Russo, Lenana Meekisho, and Dominick Fix-Gonzalez wanted to stand out with their choice of footwear, so they started hand-dyeing white socks in a friend’s backyard. They ended up with a laundry basket full of colorful stripes and patterns. Now they have a full-blown business custom-designing ankle, crew, and knee socks.

“We decided to get a bunch of plain white socks and make them look cooler than anybody else’s,” said Russo.

The brand, called JUISE Socks, began to spread online as people noticed the unusually colorful socks on Russo and his friends’ feet, and an opportunity to make some money was spotted.

“A bunch of people started to talk about them on social media and word got around that my friends and I made crazy looking socks,” Russo said. “So we started a business.”

The football players started getting attention wherever they went—even just walking around town. They realized the huge opportunity to sell their craft was sitting right in front of them.

“We started walking around downtown Portland and selling our socks to whoever thought they were sweet,” said Russo. “Now we have over hundreds of handmade socks that we are selling.”

JUISE’s slogan is “wear what you feel”—and fittingly so. Each set of socks is custom-made and unique; it’s impossible to find another pair like

them. Tie-dye, stripes, polka dots, pink breast cancer awareness socks, University of Oregon Duck socks: the choices go on and on.

Russo, Meekisho, and Fix-Gonzalez call themselves “the innovators of the sock game,” a game which is apparently very competitive, as shown by their tagline: “Get away from what everyone else has and surround yourself in custom designs that are rare and exclusive to the world. When you wear these products, you will have the JUISE.”

Of course we want the JUISE.

Russo, Meekisho, and Fix-Gonzalez are using the money gained from their business to help pay for school, where they are not only full-time students, but athletes as well. They are also using some of the funds to expand their operation and buy more materials.

“The money is mainly to increase our business and make it bigger and bigger, since we want to be well-known,” said Russo.

Russo believes JUISE will appeal to people who want to stand out and get noticed.

“We are marketing the business to whoever likes to wear cool and different types of socks,” he said. “We make socks that can fit any personality. Each sock has a different personality and we want all types of people to buy them and find the ones [that] fit them.”

The socks are being sold for \$8 for a free-hand pair and \$10 for a custom design. JUISE can be found on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook: @juise_juise.

SPEECH AND DEBATE TEAM BUILDS LIFE SKILLS

By Britta Walen
Crescent Staff

The George Fox University Speech and Debate Team is given fifteen minutes of preparation time at their debates. They debate on many different topics, ranging from politics and sports to culture and more. The meetings are two hours long and during that time the students practice thinking on their feet and processing arguments while sifting through what would best help their case.

Shannon Scott, the faculty leader of the group, sees the benefits in learning how to debate: “It makes you very aware of your thought process when time is short.” Scott is a communications professor and participated in speech and debate when he was in high school and college.

Scott sees speech and debate as useful for many aspects of life. As a Christian, he sees the articulation he learned useful for defending his faith.

“No matter what [one’s] faith is, this is valuable. There are Christians who are really terrible at presenting themselves,” Scott said.

He believes that learning to speak with little preparation time is not only useful for religion, but for a career. He encourages students of every major to join, not just communication majors or those who could get credit from the team. He said, “It’s like a real job, sitting in a committee meeting. It’s the same stuff.”

Senior Micah Hotovec is an active member of the Speech and Debate Team at GFU. However, he focuses more on the debate side. “It’s a lot of fun. You just go and have a great time.”

Being on the team helps Hotovec focus on quick thinking and theory-based arguments. “A lot is theory-based. You don’t have to know a whole ton going in,” Hotovec said, describing the debates the team takes part in. In the fifteen-minute preparation time, the students cannot use the Internet to get information. This differs

from the speech aspect of the team, in which the topics are known and prepared.

“It’s not for everyone, but more people are better at it than they think they are,” said Hotovec.

Scott explained that students do not have to put in more time than they have.

“It’s entirely up to them how much they want to commit. It’s entirely their call,” Scott said. He emphasized that students who are interested should not wait to join. “We get a lot of seniors that are awesome and wish they have more experience with it.”

The students involved appear enthusiastic about speech and debate and enjoy time bonding with wit and banter. The team has already participated in all the debates for the fall semester, but spring holds new opportunities. The team is also very welcoming to anyone who wants to join or anyone who may just want to watch.



A ceramics student is filmed for the "Art Saves Lives" documentary.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Gibson | George Fox University

CMCO PROFESSOR CREATES DOCUMENTARY ON ART EDUCATION

By Emily Hamilton
Crescent Staff

"Art Saves Lives" is the tentative title for Cinema and Media Communication professor Sarah Gibson's new documentary project, which explores the positive impact of art across many lives and mediums. Gibson, the producer and director of the project, is working with co-producers Jeff Cameron, another art and CMCO professor, and Aubrey Ferguson, a George Fox University CMCO alum.

The project began last year when Mark Terry, chair of the visual art department, requested they film the Empty Bowls Throw-a-Thon as a way to gather promotional footage. Gibson and Cameron originally thought the project would make a good short documentary about the making of the bowls and the event itself.

"In the middle of shooting, Jeff, Aubrey and I realized there was a bigger story. About art, and not just the art department, but fine arts in general," said Gibson.

The project soon grew into a feature-length documentary idea.

"Arts aren't being funded in the public school system, and if you look at all the research, it shows that students who participate in art are more likely to go to college, be civically minded, and give back to their community. They are actually more likely to score higher in math and science, and if they have art, they are just better people," Gibson said.

Empty Bowls soon became a catalyst for a much bigger idea. "We've done interviews with school teachers, we've pulled a lot of C-Span footage that shows people arguing for or against art in the public school system, and we've done a lot of interviews with artists themselves. We also

looked at people who have been impacted by participating in art: whether it has saved their life, or given them an outlet they would not have had otherwise," said Gibson.

Even Gibson, a fine arts professor, didn't realize the size of the impact art could have on a life.

"When you start looking at the numbers, there is just this huge impact that art has. I knew to some extent, but I never sat down and looked at the numbers to really see what it did for people.

The fact that it creates people who are more likely to participate in service? I never even thought about that, that's pretty amazing," Gibson said.

Gibson was also surprised at art's impact on other subject matters. "I knew art could help math

and science, but I didn't believe [it] to the extent that the research shows," she said.

Gibson hopes people start to understand that art is not just for the elite. "There is a disturbing trend in our country that art is only for people who can afford it, a luxury item. I hope people take away that art is much more than just something to stare at, or something to own if you have money," said Gibson.

"The research shows that art has a bigger impact if it's in the low income schools. When you talk about K-12, there is movement to give art opportunities to school districts that have more money. But it would be better for the community in the long run if we were to really invest in those low income schools," Gibson said. "I don't have any lofty dreams that it will change the course of our society, but if it can change a few people's minds, that would be amazing."

"THERE IS A DISTURBING TREND IN OUR COUNTRY THAT ART IS ONLY FOR PEOPLE WHO CAN AFFORD IT, A LUXURY ITEM."

5 REASONS TO ATTEND THE GFU CHRISTMAS CONCERT

By Amanda Brooke
Crescent Staff

The Christmas concert is just around the corner. Though many people have been to the Christmas concert before (perhaps even multiple times), there are some reasons you just can't miss the Christmas concert this year.

1. This will be Director Loren Wenz's last year with the choir. It could be exciting to see one of his last productions with George Fox University. We can show our appreciation for his contributions by supporting him at the concert.

2. Those participating in the Christmas concert are your peers. There will be men and women you know on that stage and you can go to support them.

3. The Christmas concert comes around only once a year; why would you want to miss it? There are plenty of other activities that are year-round, but the Christmas concert is only here for a few days in December and it would be a pity to miss.

4. Some people always say, "Why go to a Christmas concert when I can listen to Christmas music on the radio?" Christy de Vos, a GFU student, offered a reason: "Christmas music on the radio doesn't capture the true feeling and meaning of Christmas as well if you see it live." Watching these people who have been practicing for months to entertain you can be much more of a magical experience than listening to the radio.

5. This will be one of the final activities of the semester for the GFU community. Soon after the concert, you won't see your friends and loved ones for nearly a month. This will be a community experience to participate in before having to say good-bye to everyone.

Tickets are available through the GFU Music Department website or the box office, for performances on December 5 and 6 at 7:30 pm, and December 7 at 2:30 pm. All GFU students get free admission, and are encouraged to attend the December 5 performance, as it is usually last to sell out.



The current theater is located in Woodmar Auditorium and seats only 253.

Photo by McKayla Philips | Crescent Staff

ENGLISH AND THEATRE DEPARTMENTS MUST EXPAND

By Heather Harney
Crescent Staff

George Fox University has increased the incoming freshman class two years in a row, revived football, added the William Penn Honors Program, and continues to highlight Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs. Sadly, degree programs such as English and theatre have seen little to no increase in students.

Why do two cornerstones of this supposed liberal arts school look like this?

One might say this is because a bigger paycheck goes to STEM majors. Another could say alumni might demand donations are to be spent a certain way. Some may mention that Governor Kitzhaber wants to provide more financial support for STEM students only.

I believe there are three reasons why the student ratio for both departments has barely improved.

1) There is a myth that says no one with an English or theatre degree can do anything but teach or act after graduation.

This fable breaks my heart. Both departments are passionate about challenging students to flourish in and outside of their comfort zones. The professors are active in their fields, which only increases the opportunity for students to obtain real world knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs).

English degrees have valuable skills, such as attentiveness, rhetoric, public speaking, organization, written and oral comprehension, strategic planning, active listening, critical thinking, inductive and deductive reasoning, communication, and media.

Theatre majors walk away with active listening skills, learning strategies, time management, assessment, critical thinking, speech clarity, problem sensitivity, creative thinking, organization, theory, story-telling, memorization, and spatial awareness.

Choosing to become an English or theatre major does not limit a student; instead, the choice frees one to explore things he or she may never have expected.

Each degree offers a surplus of post-graduation opportunities if one learns how to acknowledge and market his or her KSAs.

2) Employers are not utilizing liberal arts majors like they should.

Unfortunately, the current job market is skewed for many reasons; one major reason is due to employers who cannot think outside of the box. If a job needs to be filled, they tend to seek only those who are in a specific field. Job seekers are not trained (or they refuse to learn) how to circumvent the stereotypical job ad by marketing themselves in a way that allows the employers to see outside of their box.

Two huge strengths English and theatre majors have in their toolbox are the "understanding of audience" and the "necessity of adjusting your story."

I believe many overlook the power of creativity, rhetorical debate, and storytelling. Our language skills worsen with each text message we send. The English language has become bland and lazy. Drama has lost its potency because of sensationalized metanarratives. Comedy has been watered down by puke scenes and fart jokes.

3) There is hardly any marketing in regards to either department, nor is there any active recruiting.

I have yet to see a GFU billboard promoting our award-winning theatre department or to watch a video about English students reading their papers at conferences across the country. Neither major is offered in the Adult Degree program.

Why don't we recruit students for liberal arts majors?

GFU has a huge opportunity to increase both departments' student ratio and increase the class options.

There could be more classes focused on literary theory,

playwriting, and writing in general. There could be a writing major with two different concentrations—creative writing and professional writing.

GFU is missing the chance to make the English department known as one of the go-to schools for writing. There are not many Christian schools known for their writing programs. If we focused on the two proposed concentrations, GFU would increase the number of students sharing the love of Christ through story—which is how we connect with others.

But we have to start recruiting for students now! Let's find someone who engages students looking for a place to discover their love of creative nonfiction or stand on stage in front of an enraptured audience. We should begin promoting the brilliant creations and performances these departments produce in a way that hooks prospective students. My hope is to see a focus on liberal arts programs going forward.

MEASURE 88 FAILURE PRESENTS UNCERTAIN FUTURE

By Sandra Lopez
Guest Contributor

The passing of Measure 88 would attract more illegal immigrants to Oregon. It would reward them with privileges they don't deserve.

The driver's card would directly correlate to loss of jobs for more Oregonians.

These are a few of the arguments against Measure 88.

Measure 88 would grant drivers card without requiring Oregon residents to provide proof of legal residency. The applicant would still need to pass a driver's test, prove residency in Oregon for more than one year, and prove identity and date of birth. The driver's card could not be used as identification for air travel, to enter a federal building, to vote, or any other benefit granted to citizens.

The measure didn't pass. Sixty-seven percent of voters said no.

No, you don't get the benefit of driving your children to school with peace of mind. No, we don't care that you've been an Oregon resident for nearly a lifetime. No, we don't care that you can get pulled over and instantly deported back to the country you were born in but know very little about. No, we don't care if it breaks apart your family.

No, we don't care.

Would we care a little more if the stories affected us directly? But these stories are closer than we think. They are happening here on this campus, affecting our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Nancy Vazquez is a junior, pursuing a major in nursing. Fortunately for Nancy, she was born in Oregon. But her older brother, older sister and mother were not. "Twenty

years ago my parents made the dangerous and treacherous journey from Mexico to Oregon with two children in pursuit of a better life," said Nancy. For twenty years they've been contributing to their communities but because they were not born here they don't receive the rights that Nancy does.

The measure was not passed, and the clock is ticking for Nancy's family. The licenses of Nancy's siblings are set to expire in a year. Nancy's mother doesn't have a license, so Nancy spends most of her weekends back home in Hillsboro so she can take her mom to the grocery store and church.

Soon enough, Nancy's siblings will face a difficult choice. They will either have to navigate their daily travels dependent on public transportation or will have to drive illegally to continuing getting to work, school, the grocery store, or anywhere else.

Nancy fears that her brother, sister and mother will be forced to return to Mexico, which would be the second time Nancy experienced forced abandonment in her immediate family. "In 2007, my father was deported back to Mexico. He's there with my two oldest brothers," Nancy said as her eyes began to water. She's the only one of her siblings who gets to visit her dad and brothers. She's the only one who can drive without fear of returning to a country that's unfamiliar to her. "I feel guilty for this privilege. I didn't ask for it, but just because I was born here my life is a hundred times easier. My siblings didn't choose to be born in Mexico, yet they pay a heavy price for it." Nancy's pain is shared among many, including students here at Fox.

The measure would have allowed for parents to drive to work without fear of being deported and forced to abandon their US born children. The measure would have been a first step in the right direction—towards equality and justice.

IS BLACK FRIDAY WORTH THE PRICE WE PAY?

THE PROS OF BLACK FRIDAY

By Joshua Cayetano
Crescent Staff

Black Friday is the final “hurrah” of all American holidays in the fall. Let me set the scene.

It’s almost midnight. You and your friends are waiting in a line that meanders around the corner, out the mall door, and onto the street. You’re poring over a catalog of all the incredible sales while your friends boisterously joke about the mountain of food they consumed during Thanksgiving dinner.

Black Friday is not only about the great deals; it’s about the experience. The once-a-year, chaotic atmosphere of going to the stores at 3 a.m. with your friends and family with the hope you might score the best deal of the year.

Megan Dwier, a regular on Black Fridays and a freshman at George Fox University, said, “It’s all about the excitement of shopping... you go and hang out with all your friends and family and you feel like you’re a winner whenever you find something.”

There are many secrets to having a good time on Black Friday, none of which include stubbornly scouring, store by store, for that one sweater you saw in the magazine a couple weeks ago.

One of the keys to having a successful Black Friday is going with friends and family. Similar to Thanksgiving, Black Friday is a community affair, but instead of sitting around a dinner table you are bouncing from store to store.

Another element of a successful Black

Friday is keeping an open mind. You might not find the exact television you want, but there is no way you should pass up 80 percent off the next best set.

Personally, I find myself having a more enjoyable time when I go to Black Friday not expecting to buy anything. Black Friday, just like the Fourth of July or Christmas or New Year’s Eve, gives the perfect excuse for friends to hang out past midnight.

Another great aspect of Black Friday is its placement on the calendar. Right after Thanksgiving, right before Christmas, it

gives the perfect opportunity to buy quality presents at a cheap price.

In the end, there’s no reason to get stressed over Black Friday shopping. There will always be the occasional pushy shopper or rude salesperson, but do not let that ruin your

holiday experience.

Black Friday may have the amazing deals advertised for all to see, but it is as much about shopping as Christmas is about the presents, or the Fourth of July about fireworks. Sure, those are irreplaceable, necessary aspects of the day, but it is not the presents or fireworks you will remember.

You will remember the time you spent with your friends and family: the triumphs and defeats during your shopping experience, the inside jokes that form because of that one guy who pitched a tent in front of Target, and the enjoyable, if somewhat hectic, experience of the holiday season.

“BLACK FRIDAY IS NOT ABOUT THE GREAT DEALS; IT’S ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE”

THE CONS OF BLACK FRIDAY

By Chelsea Gritten
Crescent Staff

Once upon a time, people were able to sit down to eat with their families on Thanksgiving evening. They enjoyed the day watching the parade, or playing games, or stuffing their faces with as much stuffing as possible. For me, and many others, this tradition has become nothing more than a fairytale.

Thanksgiving used to be a time for family, until Black Friday seeped in and decided one day was not enough for all of its festivities and sales.

I understand that Black Friday is economically stimulating. I understand that many people are able to get Christmas shopping done for a reasonably

low price. I even understand that, for some, this shopping has become a family tradition and a time of bonding.

These things in and of themselves are not bad and I can approve of them in the context of Black Friday, but Black Friday needs to stay solely on Friday.

My father runs a Target store in Walnut Creek, Calif. This year, Target is scheduled to open its doors at 6 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Yes, Thanksgiving Day.

Time and time again I have heard the argument that being open on Thanksgiving allows employees to earn time-and-a-half, which can be a nice bonus to a paycheck (especially for young adults who would otherwise not have plans).

However, a store cannot be run by young employees alone.

What no one thinks about is the fact that my dad, as a manager, will be expected to leave our house at 2 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day in order to be prepared for opening. This means that my family, among many others, will not be able to have Thanksgiving dinner together.

It is bad enough that the after the day we give thanks for what we have, we find ourselves hungry for more. But now what is even worse than this hy-

pocrisy is that we are skipping the thanks altogether.

Black Friday is harmful; it creates a need in our society that cannot be satisfied, which is why each year the sales get more cut-throat between businesses and why said businesses feel the need

to open doors earlier and earlier.

We are not satisfied and maybe the reason is that we keep looking for the material goods we buy on clearance to give us meaning, when we should be looking to our families. We should be spending time eating meals and playing games, not focusing on the next Xbox system that comes out or the laptop that will be half-price.

The answer isn’t to rid our society of Black Friday completely, but we should work to keep Black Friday on Friday. We should not let Brown Thursday become a phrase that replaces Thanksgiving Day.

“WE KEEP LOOKING FOR THE MATERIAL GOODS...TO GIVE US MEANING”

EROSION OF THE GFU PRODUCT AND PROMISE

By Josiah Thurston
Crescent Staff

With the last two incoming classes of undergraduate students at George Fox University being so much larger than in previous years, many are asking what the value of this growth is. Other than obvious benefits like increased revenue for the school itself, is growth really progress?

In what seems to be a new direction, GFU has grown by leaps and bounds in the past two years. Larger class sizes (both in groups of incoming freshman and the actual learning environment), a new football stadium and program as well as a lacrosse program to balance Title IX restrictions, the most recent news that a brand new dorm will be constructed over the next semester to be ready for

next year’s incoming students: all are things that are fine and even good, and yet all point to a change in what many, including myself, have viewed as the “GFU product.”

When visiting other schools, one of the main differences between GFU and others was the smaller size of the school. I loved the type of small community and the way that everyone seemed to know everyone. That feeling has somewhat diminished, and I do not stand alone in that sentiment.

Anna Reister, a senior Cell and Molecular Biology major, has also seen the growth of the student body as anything but progress. This growth, she said, “especially in the science departments, has a huge effect on lab size. We offer small lab sizes (approximately twenty students) to ensure ... our standards of a high quality education [are met] ... we don’t

have the facilities to accommodate lab sizes over that many students.”

She too sees an overarching shift in the product offered by GFU.

“THE GROWTH OF THE STUDENT BODY [IS] ANYTHING BUT PROGRESS”

“It seems like our school is on a projection to outgrow itself without investing in the educational programs and facilities that uphold the high standards of education we have. Overall, I am thankful to be graduating before this seems to be too much of a problem,” Reister said.

Kent Chan, another senior,

took a similar stance. “Hearing about the living situations this year, I feel like it’s really bad, just because they don’t have enough living quarters to accommodate those students.”

Discussing freshman who have had to live off-campus this year and last year Chan added, “If you’re not living with a bunch of freshmen ... it’s hard to connect with [un]familiar faces, especially when you’re in a classroom setting where you can’t just talk about whatever you like... [GFU] needs to make sure all of the kids that they do accept have a great experience, as opposed to that many more students having just an average experience.”

Chan has nailed the problem squarely on its head as a question of quality over quantity. In his own words, “Many of my classes are pretty big and it’s hard to connect with professors on a professional level.” Without even

mentioning parking or the dining hall situation, it seems to me that there are more integral pieces of the GFU foundation that have slowly eroded.

Why is this occurring? Because growth on some level has to exist for a business to survive. Maintaining the status quo will not sustain any sort of company. As such, GFU must grow, and yet I, and others like me, wonder at what pace that is to occur and at what cost to the students who committed themselves to a school that offered a personal, small-school education.

“Be Known!” the slogan screams from billboards and fliers and white block letters sitting on the quad, and yet somewhere along the way, the emphasis has shifted from a personal education to pushing the limits on capacity levels across the board.

LIBRARY IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR 2016

By Elizabeth Cranston
Crescent Staff

George Fox University has been awarded a \$314,000 top-off grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust that will allow for some changes to be made in the next few years to the Murdock Resource Learning Center (MRLC).

The grant application was submitted to the trust in June and awarded in August. Pam Clem, the director of foundations, corporate giving and grants, said that though unsure of a specific time table, they would like to have the project completed by the year 2016.

The funding proposal emphasized that technology is changing the way we teach as well as the way students learn and study. Learning is no longer limited to the traditional library setting and students are now becoming more responsible for their own learning and in

more collaborative settings, said Clem.

"The MRLC definitely has a growing demand for user space, study space, group study space, and collaborative study space," said Merrill Johnson, dean of libraries.

"THE GRANT WILL ALSO ALLOW US TO CREATE SOME SHARED SPACES FOR STUDENTS"

Some of this demand was addressed in the summer of 2013 when the MRLC underwent some remodeling.

"Some of the changes we made were to repurpose some additional space for users in the library. In this remodel [many measures were taken] to free up space," Johnson said. "The intent

was to create more user, group, and study space. New furniture, lighting and carpet were all added and it has been very popular."

With such results from the first remodel, the grant is expected to expand and make even better the work that was already done in the MLRC.

Tim Goodfellow, executive director of Institutional Technology (IT), said, "The intent of the grant [awarded to help fund Collaborative Learning Technology] is to continue to repurpose space to better serve the needs of students. The original work created a large space for students to meet and study individually or in small groups."

The grant also allows for some updating of the IT department.

"Infrastructure is the focus of the grant for IT. The grant will provide an opportunity for us to improve the speed of our internal network as well as expand the coverage of our wireless network," Goodfellow

said.

"Along with infrastructure, the grant will also allow us to create some shared spaces for students. These spaces will be a mix of group study rooms with a computer, large display and audio/video equipment," he continued. "These could be used for anything from working on a common document to video conferencing to recording a presentation for a class. We will also expand the wireless coverage within MLRC and be adding additional computing stations for individuals and groups."

Johnson also believes the improvements will affect students positively.

"The addition of some of this top technology will be very well accepted by students," said Johnson. "We are definitely excited about [this new grant], as well as, what we did in the summer of 2013 because students seem to enjoy it and the use of our building has increased."

ADJUNCTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

has been an adjunct at GFU on and off for 15 years.

Each department differs on the amount of adjuncts on staff per semester. The English department has added adjuncts to teach Writing 100 and 110 this fall due to the increased amount of first-year students.

"I know the business department has sometimes hired adjuncts to come out and teach in a specialization where they work," said Professor Gary Tandy who serves as the English and Theatre Department Chair. Tandy works with each of English adjunct to make sure they are given the tools they need to succeed.

The majority of university adjuncts across the nation work without contracts, without health care or employee benefits, are treated as less than full professors, and have another job(s) to offset the low pay from a school.

"We can improve a lot of things for adjuncts," said Tandy.

WORKSHOP TEACHES LOAN REPAYMENT

By McKenzie Schaffer
Crescent Staff

The Financial Aid department offers a Student Loan Repayment Workshop at the end of every semester for interested students.

Based in the Stevens building, Financial Aid Counselor Johanna Schweitzer covers every aspect of loan repayment in this course, including where to start and what loan forgiveness programs are.

"Anyone can come. I have this course set up for the end of every semester, specifically for graduating students though. Those are the people that this information is going to be most relevant to," Schweitzer said. "It's a required course if you're graduating, as it's one of the steps you have to take for exiting the university. There is an online financial exiting course available, as well as my class."

In this workshop, Schweitzer explains the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) and how to access all the information on your payments and debt under your name.

"At first I was actually a little annoyed that suddenly there was another thing I was required to do in the last month of my college experience here at GFU," said senior Robbie Frederiksen. "Having attended, I am actually really thankful to having gone and am even feeling less anxious about the loan payback process."

"The information that I

gained from the workshop will undoubtedly benefit me, knowing there are different options out there for me. I have been given sufficient financial aid through my time at Fox," Frederiksen said. "I do have student loans, but in the end it's not much more than I would have accrued at a state university."

"I AM... FEELING LESS ANXIOUS ABOUT THE LOAN PAYBACK PROCESS"

During the workshop, Schweitzer also covers how to use the Repayment Calculator available on NSLDS. This calculator presents an estimation of how much you have to pay back and the interest rates on them. In some situations, students can qualify for consolidation, where all loans are combined into one, payments are lower, and the payments may be extended to 30 years. Another option is deferment or forbearance, which will temporarily postpone your payments for a limited time.

"I put together a road map essentially of what I recommend for you," said Schweitzer. "I understand it's all super confusing. I graduated in 2011 and went through this all myself. That's part of where this class came out of. Its complex and I try to break that down for you."

SERVE TEAM PREPS FOR OKLAHOMA

By Josiah Thurston
Crescent Staff

In January, ten students under the leadership of Jonathon Stein and Raeann Morelli will travel to Moore, Okla. in partnership with Forward Edge International to lend a much needed helping hand.

One of four Winter Serve Trips, the trip to Oklahoma is likely the largest undertaking this year. Stein detailed the difficulty of the process: "One of the fears... is taking a team of 12 a couple thousand miles away round trip to a place far away that not many of us have been."

Another fear is the weather, because in the "midwest you never know what might happen... We're praying that weather would be kind to us and conducive to our service," Stein said.

Morelli expressed her excitement about the team that has been assembled. She describes a good mix of demographics, "balanced girls and guys, different grades, majors, different friend groups."

"One of the coolest things is that winter serve isn't required," Morelli said. "Just to have people that actually want to go do this in the same manner that we do is pretty cool, to team up with that kind of passion."

Stein agreed: "The people who are here really want to be doing this and they're spending their own money."

Because of the high level of commitment these students have, the Office of Spiritual and Intercultural Life (SpIL) tries to give students as meaningful and educational of an experience as they can.

Erika Lopez, a SpIL intern responsible for coordinating serve trips, explained, "We look for places where there's not only a lot of service... but also an aspect of learning. We're really trying to give the students opportunity to be completely engrossed in a different culture... a different location, a different way of life than the way they're living now."

These three leaders have similar yet unique reasons to participate.

"Last year I went on a winter serve trip to Colorado,"

said Stein. "Doing that was just such an incredible experience... especially seeing the church down there and seeing how they had provided help to support the community and how they held together... Seeing that was reward enough for the time."

Morelli offered the idea of stewardship of time: "For a lot of people, they don't know what to do with their... winter break. I think it's just a really good opportunity to be used in some manner for the Kingdom... to take the focus off of ourselves and put it onto other people... to see what God can do through us when we just say, 'here I am.'"

"Our vision is just to have these trips be a chance for students to... walk a mile in someone else's shoes," Lopez said.

Although applications for Winter Serve Trips are now closed, applications will be opening soon for spring and summer serve trips. Lopez emphasized a need for male applicants in the coming months. Applications can be found on the SpIL website.