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Bish Cut Leads to New Job Structures

MARY CRONIN

In an effort to reach budget goals, Greg Bish's position, Director of Student Programs and Student Leadership was cut. Bish's former responsibilities were distributed among the Resident Directors of Shenawana Hall, Lambien Hall, Rothenbuhler Hall, and the Townhouses.

Vice President of Student Life Doctor Robert Pool emphasized Bish's position being cut "was due strictly to the need to find budget savings." Previously, Bish also oversaw the Campus Activities Board (CAB), student clubs and organizations, event funding, and

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Photo Classes Restructured

DANI EATON

This summer, art professor, Ryann Cooley, restructured the photography courses offered at Houghton College.

When Cooley came to Houghton in 2013 and began teaching photography there were only two courses offered, Foundations of Photography and Advanced Topics in Photography. Foundations of Photography, according to Cooley, is a black and white film class which "spent most of the time learning techniques through the chemistry, printing, and camera functions."

Advanced Topics in Photography, however, focused more on elements of photography beyond the darkroom.

Cooley, however, felt it was not particularly advanced. This largely had to do with the lack of time to teach more than just the basics. "There's not enough time to really go into everything in any kind of detail. You're kind of glazing over



ANTHONY BURDO

The lighting studio, located in the Stevens Art Studios, was installed this summer and will be utilized by the newly formed lighting class taking place this semester.

everything," he said. "I wanted to offer more depth for people that really wanted more out of photography."

According to Cooley, one of the new classes, Introduction to

Digital Photography, is a better way to teach beginning photography. In Foundations of Photography, film was processed, or developed, the traditional way in the darkroom, mak-

ing the process much longer. Cooley said, "You don't get to see the results until you've processed, printed, and you finally

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Chemistry Department Hires Visiting Doctor Selig

THOMAS ECKERT

The Chemistry Department at Houghton College hired Doctor Michael Selig as visiting professor for the academic year. Selig was selected through a process that began in the Spring of 2015 and came to completion this past August.

He quickly transitioned into his first semester of teaching from defending his doctoral thesis in late August. Fellow chemistry professor Doctor John Rowley likened such an experience to, "writing a book one week and teaching someone to read the next." The change has been made easier by Selig's familiarity with the area. He grew up in Buffalo and had spent time in Rushford. "Summers in the area, at the lake, on boats, with campfires, clay pits, and visits to the bog at Moss Lake

have made this area a special one in my heart. Despite that, I had never been to the Houghton campus until my interview and I will say I was pleasantly surprised to find such a hidden gem in an area that I had always held in my heart a special one," he commented.

The bulk of Selig's research is in analyzing and manipulating the chemical structure of plant biomass. His particular interest is in producing "green" energy. Speaking on his research, Selig said, "Lately, I have been interested in the hydration of plant cell wall polymers (complex carbohydrates and phenolics) and surfaces and general concepts relating to biophysical interactions. I have spent the last dozen years working on problems associated with the

Sodexo: New Management New Changes

ALICIA NEEDHAM

Since Tina Power's departure to Disney World in May, Sodexo-run facilities on campus, such as the dining hall, Big Al's, and Sandella's have undergone various changes. Kathie Guyler, the new general manager, has been working in the college dining business for thirty-three years, with Houghton College being the sixth college she has worked at. Guyler said, "Honestly why I do what I do" is because "I really enjoy working with students." Benjamin Hardy, a Houghton College '14 alumni and supervisor of student workers, said, "She has brought a few new perspectives on things, mostly on food

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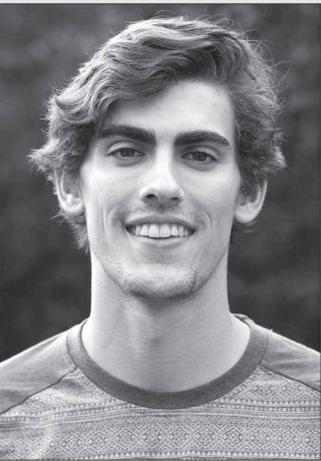
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ANTHONY BURDO

Doctor Michael Selig was hired to work within the biochemistry major due to his experience and extensive research in the field.

International // Refugee Crisis Continues



DANI EATON

ANTHONY BURDO

hopes of reaching the protection of the EU. This number is expected to climb to 400,000 people by the end of 2015, and 450,000 asylum-seekers are expected to enter Europe in 2016. These are fractional numbers relative to the 4.1 million Syrians who have left their country because of civil war that erupted out of the Arab Spring protests. It should be noted too, that 8 million Syrians are internally displaced (of an original population of 23 million).

Refugees that can afford to do so often entrust their lives to smugglers, paying thousands of dollars in exchange for dangerous passage. The 71 people found dead in a truck in August, and the photograph of 3-year-old Aylan Kurdi washed ashore are shocking reminders of the risks the migrants face.

Refugees are defined by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) as persons fleeing their home country for fear of persecution or violence. Refugees have three options once they are granted asylee status; they may choose to integrate into life in their new country, return home if circumstances become favorable, or they may seek to be re-

settled in a third country.

Since September 1, over 20,000 refugees have entered Hungary on their way to Western Europe. Hungary's response to the migrants has been less than welcoming, including a 175 km razor-wire fence along its border with Serbia. According to the Dublin regulations of the EU, asylum applications must be processed by whatever state first receives the asylee. The Dublin regulations are unfortunate because it places the responsibility of registering refugees on some of the economically weaker states like Hungary, Italy and Greece, countries which are necessary stops for refugees heading towards wealthier countries like Germany and Austria. Hungary's policy is to register all immigrants before allowing passage to other countries.

Hungarian PM Viktor Orbán, of the nationalist Fidesz party, gave several controversial remarks implying that accepting refugees (many of whom are Muslim) should be deterred from Europe in order to preserve its Christian identity.

Pope Francis seemed to think otherwise in his address to the Vatican this week, encourag-

ing Europe's religious communities and parishes to embrace refugee families.

On September 4, Austria and Germany opened their borders to receive the asylum-seekers. After being denied train passage in Budapest, thousands of refugees began walking on foot along roadways toward the Austrian Border.

Germany estimated that it is prepared to accept 800,000 asylum-seekers this year, and 500,000 per year after that. Chancellor Angela Merkel has affirmed that Germany would not turn away asylum-seekers on humanitarian grounds, and called for other EU countries to share the burden of resettling refugees. Merkel has pushed for a quota system to be instated, which would equitably distribute asylees throughout EU nations.

On Wednesday, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker presented a plan to manage the refugee crisis, including a quota system, which assigns quotas to EU nations based on GDP and population. Penalties for not meeting refugee quotas will include funding cuts.

"Winter is approaching,

do we really want families sleeping in railway stations?" Juncker said according to NPR, "EU funds could be withheld from countries that don't take in required numbers. Eastern European nations say they're opposed."

France has agreed to settle 24,000 refugees, and has set up humanitarian camps for several thousand immigrants. International offers to resettle refugees have even come from Latin American countries such as Venezuela and Brazil.

The United States has resettled about 1000 refugees from Syria, and promised to take in 8000 more in the coming year. The White House reports that the US is considering "a range of approaches to be more responsive to the global refugee crisis, including with regard to refugee resettlement."

Until the stability returns to the Middle East, the Syrian refugee crisis is here to stay.★

Anthony is a senior on the pre-med track.

Relations in the European Union have been strained by the recent influx of thousands of asylum seekers from Syria (49%), Afghanistan (12%), Eritrea (9%), Nigeria (4%), and Somalia (3%). Many Eastern European countries are reticent to accept the immigrants, however Western European countries, led by appeals from Germany, are leaning towards a more hospitable solution.

More than 320,000 refugees have reached shore in Italy or Greece this year in

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safety"

The dining hall now has a self-service omelet bar where students can control ingredients being put into their eggs, portion size of ingredients, and how they want their eggs cooked. In addition, Sodexo has brought back the stir fry station. The revival of the station is already a "big hit" among students because of their increased participation in the creation of their meals. Guyler said, "Feedback they got [from surveys] was that students prefer to make it themselves."

Big Al's and Sandella's also

now have new hours. Big Al's is only open at night for dinner while Sandella's is open during lunchtime. Smoothies, however, can be purchased at any time.

Big Al's has its first event on September 14, "Wings with the Dean." During this event students will have the opportunity to watch the Monday night NFL opening game for the Philadelphia Eagles with Dean Jordan. Wings will be sold for only twenty-five cents. Near the end of the September, the dining hall will have a fall event, "Apple Week." This will use apples from a local vendor will food items such as apple pancakes, apple cakes, and caramel apples. Students will have the opportu-

nity to bob for apples and make their own candy apples. As done in the past, there will be Wing Night every Friday at Big Al's and events such as Barbeque Blues and Bodacious Burgers. There will also be a raffle for the Superbowl which will feature prizes donated by Pepsi such as a Mini Jambox, small wifi speaker, and an iFit.

James Ward, operations manager who oversees all retail operations in Java, Big Al's, Sandella's, and all catering events, said this year that they are focused on "enhancing their current program." This year, Sodexo offered four marketing internships where students gain experience in sustainability,

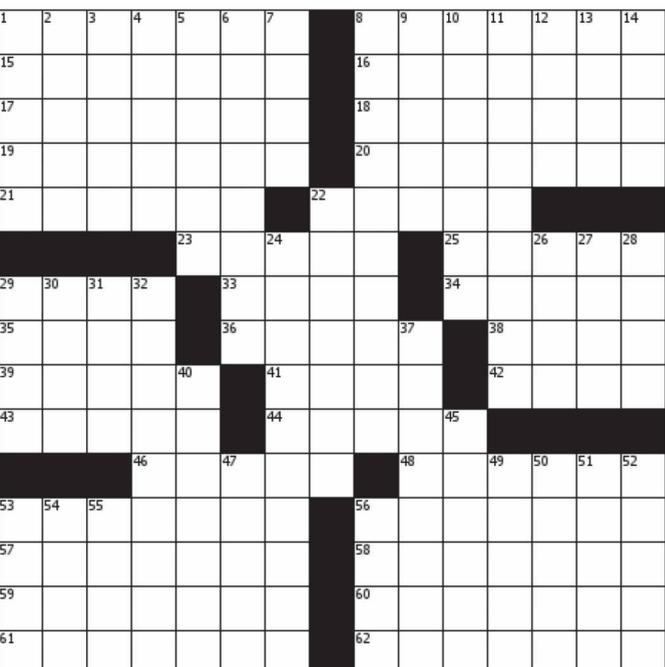
marketing, and wellness. "They help get messages out to students and connect with students on a more personal level," said Ward. "I encourage students to start a conversation with me in the dining hall."

Guyler encourages students to fill out comment cards and to send her emails. Her goal to get more feedback from students is to have open dinners where everyone is invited to come, have dinner in the dining hall, and ask questions about the health, safety, and choice of food being served. Sodexo also issues a survey every year where students can voice their opinions and have the chance to win something through the give-

aways.

Hardy said, "I enjoy working with the students, training the students, and providing quality food service for the students" and as a past student of Houghton College, he "tries to do for the students what he would've wanted done as a student." In the past, student supervisors have recruited students from the previous year so that they would have plenty of workers in the fall. However, some workers graduated, moved, and got promoted so there are several spaces open for students interested in a job. The success of Sodexo depends on the student body so as it decreases or increases, so does their revenue.★

Crossword of the Week



Across

- 1. Tabloid topic
- 8. Woodstock group
- 15. Heat measure
- 16. Trimmed
- 17. They're revolting
- 18. Acted as oracle
- 19. Wings
- 20. Certain solvents
- 21. Took a gander
- 22. Moxie
- 23. "M" actor
- 25. English earldom
- 29. Pillar of Islam
- 33. "That's not good"
- 34. Selling point
- 35. Noggin nugget
- 36. Fastfood order
- 38. Sparkle
- 39. Blanch, perhaps
- 41. Paddington Bear's origin
- 42. Artist Bonheur
- 43. Meaning
- 44. Pick up on

- 46. Shooter's support
- 48. Tackle
- 53. Made eyes
- 56. Pavlova role
- 57. Filled food
- 58. Ohio college town
- 59. Formally designates
- 60. Most simple
- 61. Superlatively short
- 62. Former Mexican president
- Zedillo

Down

- 1. Come to blows
- 2. Minesweeper of fiction
- 3. Exclusively
- 4. Observant one
- 5. Dragons' school
- 6. Vented
- 7. Take away
- 8. Where a lariat is looped
- 9. Parting word
- 10. Green bunch
- 11. Br'er Rabbit, for one
- 12. Rice, e.g.

- 13. Poetic adverb
- 14. Contributes
- 22. Press on
- 24. Reciter of Homer
- 26. Number for one
- 27. Prohibition et al.
- 28. '90s TV action heroine
- 29. Fountain collaborator
- 30. Chick follower
- 31. Anouilh of drama
- 32. Pioneer photojournalist
- 37. It goes through a lot of seaweed
- 40. Halfoctave
- 45. Start gently
- 47. Hides
- 49. Ella Fitzgerald record label
- 50. They, to Monet
- 51. Select names
- 52. Near the hour
- 53. ___ house
- 54. Pins' place
- 55. Composer Novello
- 56. Out of sight

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student led spiritual programs. Pool said, "We mourn the loss of an individual who was instrumental to our student's [time at Houghton]...[Bish] fulfilled his role beyond expectations." However, Pool noted, the 'silver lining' in Bish's absence is there are now four individuals involved in student programming, allowing for more one on one interaction.

Marc Smithers remains the Assistant Dean of Residence Life and Student Programming. He said the fact that Resident Directors are now taking on student programming responsibilities simply adds another "level" to what they already do. "They're simply adding on campus level programming to floor and hall programming," said Smithers.

Resident Directors have always had additional positions in relation to their main job title. These positions have included tasks such as overseeing hall chaplains.

Jason Stephens, Resident Director of Shenawana Hall, is now the Assistant Director of Student Programs. He oversees "campus identity" events, such as SPOT. He is also the staff advisor for CAB.

Krista Maroni, Resident Director of Lambien, is now the Assistant Director of Student Organizations. No longer working in the Admissions office, she will be working closely with club advisors, and students looking to start a new club. Her goal is to keep clubs and activities thriving, as well as get new students involved at Houghton. She also will work overseeing international student programs such as Interconnect and the host family program.

JL Miller, Resident Director of the Townhouses, is the Assistant Director of Campus Ministries. He is the acting liaison for Christian Life Funding. This affects student programs and events such as Mercy Seat and The Cry. Miller also oversees event club funding, such as Paddle Sports and the Drawing Board.

Laura Cunningham's role has been somewhat less affected by the administrative changes. According to Smithers, this is due to her position as Resident Director of Gillette Hall, the largest dorm on campus. However, Cunningham will be more involved with service opportunities this year, as the Assistant Director for Service Opportunities. One of these opportunities include a potential service trip to Buffalo during October Break.

Along with these changes, Maroni added, "We've [Student



ANTHONY BURDO

These changes aim to present a "unified message" to students by connecting Residence Life and Student Programming.

Life Staff] changed the role a bit by limiting the student programs involvement in non-student related events to maintain healthier boundaries for student leaders."

Maroni added these changes aim to present a "unified message" to students by connecting

Residence Life and Student Programming. She said, "In the past these messages has been a little disconnected or competing. It's also convenient that we have a lot of control over the calendar so we will try and find more balance for students between activities, hall events and other com-

mitments students are pulled between. This change gives us one more avenue to create a great student experience".

Smithers agrees. He said he is "excited to see how this [new arrangement] will help students become more involved" during their time at Houghton.★

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get to look at it." Variables like exposure, development, and printing of the film could affect the outcome of the photo. A student would not be able to see the results of a single photo until the week long printing process was completed.

The Introduction to Digital Photography class still teaches all the fundamentals of photography, but allows students to learn the same things they would have learned in Foundations of Photography, but a much faster pace. Cooley said, "I can do it in 2-3 weeks versus 7-8 weeks in the film class."

This also allowed Cooley to bring in some of the topics typically learned in Advanced Topics in Photography. "So not only do they learn how to use the function of the camera, but they also get to learn how to make a good picture," said Cooley. "I think it's a much more fuller class to take things further." The original black and white film class, Cooley says, will become more 'exploratory,' "it's kind of more of a fine arts class because people aren't using film so much, everything's digital these days." The Advanced Topics class will now serve as more of a thought based photography class, discovering the ramifications and effects that

photographs have.

In addition to restructuring the photography courses, a new lighting studio was added to the inside of the Stevens Art Studios. A lighting studio is a space that allows for the creation, control, and modification of light in a photograph. Lighting, according to Cooley, is essential to photography, "Lighting is so fundamental to photography itself that I wanted to designate an entire course to just lighting."

The lighting class, utilizes both the studio and natural, outside light. "The fall gives us a good range where we can learn how to use outdoor lighting and modify that lighting," Cooley said. "Then we can also spend

time indoors learning how to control the lighting and create the lighting, versus just the lighting we're given through nature."

Assistant professor of art and printmaking, Alicia Taylor, thinks the addition of the lighting studio will be beneficial for many students, "The lighting studio is really great opportunity for students to have experience in both a commercial setting and setting up their own dynamic photoshoots, whether it's still life photography or portrait photography." Taylor said, "It really expands the program to be more competitive with bigger schools that have a lot large facilities and more access to

equipment.

Junior, Elizabeth Vigna, pursues photography in her free time and thinks the addition of classes will add variety and be helpful to many. He said, "Having a substitute for lighting during the winter time will be really useful, I had to teach myself, so taking that class would be really cool because there's probably a lot of stuff I've missed."

Lastly, the Professional Practices class, the last of the new photography classes, will focus on photography in the professional world. This entails learning the business side of running a photography business and creating a marketable portfolio.★

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physical study on mechanism limiting the conversion of lignocellulose to constituent sugars for fermentation to products, focusses on the

enzymatic deconstruction of plant cell walls; this is what makes up the bulk of most plant biomass. While biomass may seem a little boring it is the most abundant renewable resource available for the production of fuels, materials and chemicals and has been for millennia." This research makes Selig well-suited for work with the biochemistry major.

Selig completed his Ph.D. this August at the University of Copenhagen. His doctoral thesis, titled *Molecular Scale Drivers of Biomass Recalcitrance: Hypotheses and bio-*

intentional breakdown of cell wall material and the inherent difficulties therein. He received his masters and bachelors degrees from Cornell.

In addition to his teaching at Houghton, Selig is an adjunct professor at Canisius College teaching an evening class in Thermodynamics twice a week. The change of pace was a quick acceleration from his past year which was mostly spent writing his thesis – a time he described as, "relaxed and fairly unstructured." On adapting to the busyness, he said, "I often found myself longing

for a place to go to work, a place to be part of again, and so even though things are really busy getting started with three courses this semester I am enjoying the challenge and the constant pace of life. I try to get a decent night's sleep every day, but that does not always happen yet."

Science drives Selig in both discovery and community. He finds fulfillment in pushing forward scientific knowledge and sharing that knowledge with minds fresh to the task: "There is nothing more enjoyable to me than to bring a new little story to the scientific dinner table that gets people excited to dig deeper, think differently, and want to go out and explore a bit on their own."★

In Remembrance

After Houghton student Greg Young's death, Professor Jon Case submitted one of his [Greg's] systematic theology papers to a peer-reviewed theology journal. The issue containing Greg's paper came out this past summer; a copy of it has been placed in the 3rd floor library reading room for your perusal.

Get a C.L.E.W.: Dr. Richard J. Mouw Speaks on Christian Convicted Civility

LAURA JOHNSON

This year's Christian Life Emphasis Week (CLEW) was graced with the teachings of key speaker and public intellectual, Doctor Richard J. Mouw. In settings such as chapel, lunch discussions, night sessions, and a coffeehouse Q and A, the theologian and philosopher exhibited the wisdom, grace, and humility he taught. Engaging and bright, Mouw spoke to the heart of Christian engagement with culture, pushing students to more deeply consider how their faith interacts with the world around them and how they can express love to those they disagree with.

The celebration of CLEW during the first week of classes is a long standing tradition at Houghton College. It originated as a two week revival which invigorated the campus at the beginning of the new semester.

In recent years CLEW has served as a half week focused on realignment of priorities. Michael Jordan, Dean of the Chapel, said of CLEW, "It's a way to set our minds on the



BEGGARSBEARD.ORG

Doctor Richard J. Mouw, Houghton's 2015 CLEW speaker.

things most important and to say as a community that our walk with Christ is important to us."

During the week Mouw focused on awareness and thoughtful reaction to current events. This attention complimented Dean Jordan's "Beyond the Bubble" semester-long, worship theme that aims to cultivate an internal, Christ-like foundation from which to react from.

Mouw's sermons flowed cohesively with the undercurrent of "Convicted Civility"

which is the idea that Christians should be people of great convictions who hold to those convictions while exhibiting all kindness and civility. In short, the way with which we interact with the world is as important as the ideas we bring to it.

During the coffeehouse chat Mouw shared about a time he spoke on NPR to a gay right's activist. He treated the activist with respect and love asking, "Why are you hurt by and scared of people like me and how can we change that?" Later in the show someone called

in on air and accused Mouw of bigotry. The activist responded to the caller defending Mouw. It is possible to disagree with someone and show them palpable love despite that difference.

Daniel Bellerose, a Junior International Development major, was struck by Mouw's stance. He said of Mouw, "He is conservative and I am liberal, but I get along great with him. He doesn't attack with his beliefs. Instead he strives for common understanding on both sides. He is teaching and exemplifying the key to bipartisan action and inter-party peace."

Mouw's idea of convicted civility is reminiscent of a book and movie that was popular several years ago. Donald Miller's *Blue Like Jazz* tells the story of nonreligious thoughts of Christian spirituality. The pivot point of the memoir occurs when the college, which is passionately anti-Christian, is recovering from a reckless weekend of campus-wide chaos including heavy drug and alcohol use. Don and his Christian friends build a confession booth in the middle of their campus with a sign that says, "CONFESS YOUR SINS." However, there is a twist. When the students

come into the booth the Christian inside is the one confessing. Miller writes,

"We are going to confess to them. We are going to confess that, as followers of Jesus, we have not been very loving; we have been bitter, and for that we are sorry. We will apologize for the Crusades, we will apologize for those televangelists who steal people's money, we will apologize for neglecting the poor and the lonely, we will ask them to forgive us, and we will tell them that in our selfishness we have misrepresented Jesus on this campus. We will tell people who come into the booth that Jesus loves them."

The novel and Mouw's sermons bring light to a deep need in the world for mutual respect, love, and humility. Being Christ-like in hard conversations means remembering that we are all human beings with thoughts, feelings, and experiences that have shaped us for better or worse. It means loving one another even through disagreements and debates. It means holding strongly to our convictions, but sharing them with tenderness. ★

Movie Review: *Straight Outta Compton*

JACKSON WHEELER

In an age where we have become so accustomed to celebrity culture it can be easy to forget that there was, in fact, a point in time when aggressively colorful headphones did not bear the name of Dr. Dre or that Ice Cube actually had a career beyond starring in buddy-cop goofball comedies alongside Kevin Hart or Channing Tatum as an ironic parody of his former self. That is the point director F. Gary Gray wishes to make in *Straight Outta Compton*. Before the two of them were media moguls, Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, and fellow rapper and business partner Eazy-E, had a hand in creating music together that would change the world forever.

Straight Outta Compton, to the uninitiated, is about the rise and fall of N.W.A., one of the most controversial musical groups of all time. So infamous were they that their best selling album, "Straight Outta Compton", was the first to ever include the "Parental Advisory" sticker on the front of it. The film does an excellent job chronicling the earliest exploits of Cube, Dre, and E and

how through combining their individual, unique skillsets they were able to secure a record deal with the help of manager, Jerry Heller.

The performances are solid throughout, Jason Mitchell as Eazy-E, O'Shea Jackson Jr. as Ice Cube, Corey Hawkins as Dr. Dre, and one excellent Paul Giamatti as Jerry Heller, the group's manager. Mitchell, Jackson, and Hawkins even do their own rapping. All four are featured prominently alongside each other without anyone hogging too much of the spotlight and each remaining completely magnetic on their own. There are a couple of dents in the armor when it comes to the screenplay but my overall enjoyment of the movie was hardly affected by the occasional lapse of good writing or awkward method of delivery.

One of the darker aspects of the film is the early theme of police brutality and racism. It is the 1980s, after all. The film's timeline falls in the middle of the Rodney King era, which is mentioned at several points. By seeing the actions of the LAPD and their unjustified aggression toward our protagonists, it is hard not to sympathize with them and have some sort of muted respect for the brazenness

of their retaliation in the form of "F*ck Tha Police". It is no secret that N.W.A. was widely demonized by the public over the content of their songs upon release, one of *Straight Outta Compton's* biggest strengths being how it attempts to humanize its members by providing enough lyrical context to educate as well as entertain.

The second half of the film does more to focus on the careers of Dre, Cube, and E as they begin to drift away toward other projects. Some of the film's funniest moments are the scenes featuring Dre's first forays into producing for other rappers who today you and your mother are almost guaranteed to know on a first name basis.

However, things don't move at nearly as brisk a clip here as the first half. Some scenes drag on a bit longer than they should, others grind past not feeling vital enough to have made it into the final cut. The foremost criticism by many regarding *Straight Outta Compton* is that certain incriminating details surrounding the morality of N.W.A.'s members are never brought up. This isn't to say that the movie portrays them as spotless, only able to be properly seen through rose-colored glasses but it is true



COMINGSOON.NET

The cast of the film alongside the members of N.W.A. Top from left to right: Ice Cube, Eazy-E, and Dr. Dre. Bottom left to right: O'Shea Jackson Jr., Jason Mitchell, and Corey Hawkins.

that some particularly unflattering scenarios managed to stay away from the narrative we see on the screen.

If you enjoy the conventions of good filmmaking, music from the golden era of hip-hop, movies with hard-R subject matter, or have even a passing curiosity for social justice, any one of those reasons is good enough to

give *Straight Outta Compton* a watch. The characters are rough around the edges but wholly endearing, showing multiple generations the merits of overcoming great lengths to express yourself, "Express Yourself" incidentally being a great N.W.A. song that you should definitely go listen to. ★

Jason Bintz: Southern Math Teacher Turned Seminarian Turned Houghton Math Professor

SOPHIA ROSS

The first time Doctor Jason Bintz, Houghton College's new assistant professor of applied mathematics, attempted to visit the Houghton campus, he found himself snowbound. Fresh from a mild Tennessee winter, he arrived in Buffalo to learn that his ride from the college could not drive into the city. Bintz was ultimately forced to find a hotel room, and conducted the first part of his job interview over Skype. Happily, he made it to campus the next day, and was officially offered the position a few weeks later.

Despite the snowy introduction to Houghton, Bintz was thrilled accepted the offer.

"I was just leaving my house when I got the call," said Bintz. "I went back inside, and celebrated with my family."

Bintz began his career in higher education as an undergraduate student at Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia. Like Houghton, Covenant is both a liberal arts college and a member of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities. Bintz graduated from the institution

with a degree in mathematics in 2003, and immediately found work teaching high school math in nearby Chattanooga, Tennessee. Three years later, he decided to continue his education, but in a different field.

"In my time working with high school students, I felt called to seminary," said Bintz. "I wanted to receive the same training a pastor receives."

This new vocation led Bintz to the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in South Hamilton, Massachusetts, where he and his wife resided until his graduation in 2008. From there, Bintz returned to teaching math at the secondary level for one last year before he made the choice to pursue graduate work in applied mathematics at the University of Tennessee. He graduated with his Ph.D. this year.

"At the end of the day, I wanted to be in a college setting," said Bintz.

During his time at the University of Tennessee, Bintz worked on two main projects in the area of mathematical biology. One attempted to find the best way to allocate resources in order to benefit a specific species, while the other involved building a mathematical model to evaluate the policies implemented by hospitals

to reduce *Clostridium difficile* infections. Bintz remains interested in the broad range of mathematical applications for biology research, and hopes to eventually interest his students in this area.

According to Linda Mills Woolsey, Dean of the College and Vice-President of Academic Affairs, Bintz's work using math to support biology research, along with his abilities as an interdisciplinary thinker, helped tip the balance in his favor during the hiring process. Kristin Camenga, former chair of Houghton's department of mathematics and computer science, as well as a member of the search committee that hired Bintz, echoes this sentiment.

"One of the things that impressed me about Jason is his care for people and his deep interest in subjects that cut across disciplinary lines," she said. "The fact that he has a seminary degree and a Ph.D. in applied math gives him a broad base of knowledge to connect with others, but Jason did research to find out about other faculty at Houghton and their interests to discover commonalities. I really think he will be a great addition to the math faculty and the college at large!"

Bintz first met with the

search committee from Houghton for a short interview in early January at the 2015 Joint Mathematics Meetings in San Antonio, Texas. They met once more during his February campus visit before Bintz was offered the job. While he had applied other places, Houghton was always his preference.

"I had a pretty strict profile in mind of where I wanted to be," said Bintz. "Houghton was the only school that fit the profile, and the job was exactly what I wanted to do." He adds that he is also excited for

his wife and three children to experience the kind of community Houghton has to offer them as a family. "We're really happy to be here."

This semester, Bintz teaches Calculus I, Multi-Variable Calculus, and Probability and Statistics. His experience in his field, his commitment to his faith and family, and his enthusiasm about the college community all point to his being an excellent fit for Houghton.★



ANTHONY BURDO

New assistant professor of applied mathematics, Doctor Jason Bintz.

Dean Jordan's Campus Revival

AVA BERGEN

As a Christ-centered college, part of the Houghton community is engaging in spiritual life together. This year Dean of the Chapel Michael Jordan is hoping to revitalize spiritual practice on campus by providing new channels to come together in worship.

When asked about these changes, Jordan replied, "Well, some of it's new, some of it's just tweaking what we did before. This semester I moved morning prayer earlier (7:30am) so it doesn't conflict with classes at all." What was known as evening prayer last year is now communion at 3:45 pm in the 3rd Floor Library. Jordan discusses his reasoning for the time and building adjustments: "I moved evening prayer out of the basement prayer chapel, I wanted it to be a little more integrated with the academic stuff that we do. It's before people have left, before faculty have gone home



ANTHONY BURDO

Dean Michael Jordan leading prayer at a communion service

so they can still participate." The decision to shift from an evening prayer service to a daily communion service is one motivated by Jordan's passion for Christian practice. "Changing evening prayer to communion was a desire to integrate ritual more into our life together...practicing it every day says communion is really important here, without making it something where everyone is forced to come."

Student Government Chap-

lain Melissa Maclean ('17) and Chapel Deacon David Gordon ('16) are both students working alongside Jordan to engage students in spiritual life on campus. As chaplain, Maclean acts as a liaison between students and faculty in spiritual life, as well as plans events that serve to bring them together. She's currently working on United, a night of worship with our sister college Roberts Wesleyan. "I'm hoping to have a night of prayer, worship,

and communion with Roberts. We've never done anything like this, which is crazy. I think putting everything aside and coming together with other parts of the body of Christ is critical...Half the worship team will be from Roberts, and the other half will be made up of Houghton students." United will be held in the recital hall October 23.

As a chapel deacon, Gordon is part of a small group of students who meet every two weeks with Jordan. Though Houghton has had a chapel deacon program in the past, its role was adapted as Jordan "decided to re-envision [the program] as a sort of personal mentoring, with an eye towards vocation." Each chapel deacon is in charge of one substantial project/event for the year that ties into spiritual life on campus, as well as having additional responsibilities, such as leading prayer or reading scripture in chapel. Gordon tributes the chapel deacon program as a way for him to engage with spiritual life more directly, "Becoming involved in liturgical life on campus is definitely something I have a passion

for. I've seen the effects it can have to really bring peace to those who need it."

Jordan is adamant in his belief that shared practices, in spiritual life as well as liturgical life, contribute to a community on a foundational level. "I think there are limitations in saying that our shared belief holds us together; shared practices can form a more coherent base for life together."

As a collegiate community of faith, we are offered the chance for spiritual cultivation; to be rooted in spiritual practice. Jordan urges us to thoughtfully engage with the unique environment Houghton provides: "If you are serious about wanting to become the kind of person who is appropriately opinionated and convicted, and at the same time open to the views of others, not made anxious by people who disagree with you, corporate worship is a strategy you can use to become that kind of person. So, neglect chapel at your peril."★

On Dialogue: The STAR's Hidden Agenda



ANTHONY BURDO

HOLLY CHAISSON

Community. Whether President Mullen's legendary catchphrase makes you groan or fist-pump, community is what makes Houghton unique among the seemingly infinite institutes of higher education across the globe. Houghton's advantage in establishing a thriving community is attributable to a variety of factors,

including its relatively modest size and Christian foundation. However, what has made Houghton's community perpetually successful is its openness and receptivity to dialogue.

Vital to any healthy and thriving community is sustained dialogue. Without dialogue, miscommunication abounds, resentment festers, and misunderstanding permeates. Frankly, the absence of productive and open dialogue is the kiss of death for a community.

The Star's purpose as a campus newspaper is absolutely to report the news and happenings around the Houghton community. However, *The Star* also aims to serve Houghton as a bastion of dialogue, a

“Without dialogue,
miscommunication abounds,
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stronghold particularly of student dialogue, debate, and reflection. In short, we here at *The Star* are committed to both providing news about your community and an avenue through which the community can actively engage it.

Our mission statement, appearing in every copy of the newspaper is the following: “to preserve and promote the values of dialogue, transparency, and integrity that have characterized Houghton College since its inception. This will be done

by serving as a medium for the expression of student thought and as a quality publication of significant campus news, Houghton area news, and events.”

Our job is to neither promote nor denigrate the college, simply to serve the community in fostering productive and inclusive conversation. *The Star* seeks to contribute to the Houghton community's sense of authenticity by reporting the news and hosting the conversation with the virtues of transparency and integrity. Despite some past perceptions, *The Star* has no stake in an agenda, either positive or negative, other than to provide the community with a professional medium for dialogue and the presentation of factual information.

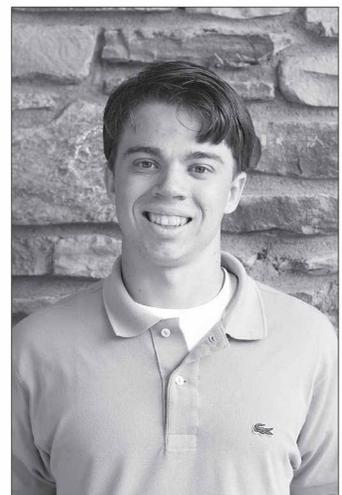
Dialogue in public forms

can be notoriously tricky, particularly when a minority opinion finds itself up against the majority. Thus *The Star* has continually committed itself to maintaining not only a safe platform for disparate opinions to meet and perhaps clash, but an equal-opportunity platform as well. Like I mentioned above, *The Star* does not have a particular agenda: we welcome diverse perspectives, particularly in our opinions section, striving above all else to maintain fairness and integrity.

Whether the dialogue is about something somewhat trivial like the lamented removal of the table napkin dispensers or about something more serious like LGBTQ issues, *The Star* is a place for the Houghton community to speak up and speak out. ★

Holly is the only senior philosophy major.

The Grapes of Government Wrath



ANTHONY BURDO

JOE GILLIGAN

“What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?” – Langston Hughes, 1951.

As we get ready to celebrate Labor Day, I wonder if our labor and property are truly protected by our Constitution. This summer Marvin Horne, a raisin farmer, challenged the U.S. government for taking away his full rights to grow, harvest, and sell all of his raisins. Why would the government be opposed to someone putting raisins into the marketplace? As Americans we are taught property is protected under our Constitution. However, many progressives have come to believe government has an expanded power to take and regulate private enterprise. This

practice became popular during Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal and still haunts us today.

So what does Marvin Horne have to do with the New Deal? This summer Horne was on trial for not giving the National Raisin Reserve (NRR) its share of raisins. In response Horne was fined \$650,000 and a levy of 1.2 million pounds of raisins, the equivalent of four years of his entire harvest. FDR's nonsensical New Deal central planning schemes set out to distort the free market. The New Deal's Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act (AAMA) of 1937, the origin of the NRR, gave the federal government authority to collectively influence the supply, demand, and price of a particular farmed commodity. While private industry is banned from the practice of price fixing cartels by the Sherman Act, government has not played by these rules. The NRR forced farmers to give away nearly half of their crops without guaranteed payment. Most years the NRR did not pay for the raisins because of lack of funds after administrative costs. Horne simply stopped complying because he felt that he had the right to fair compensation. The Agriculture Department's argument against Horne was that they help farmers by impeding an over saturated market, which is supposed to lower the price for the consumer. But while some of the raisins find their way into school lunches, most are dumped on government lands to rot in the sun.

The NRR scheme is “small raisins” in FDR's cereal bowl of bad central planning still popular today amongst progressives. Many history teachers falsely claim this central planning works—arguing FDR got us out of the Depression, and saved capitalism from itself. Yet, contrary to popular belief, FDR's New Deal worsened the Depression according to researchers Harold Cole and Lee Ohanian. Their study found just one agency known as the National Recovery Act (NRA) accounted for 60 percent of the Depression's weak economy, and had it never been enacted the Depression would have ended in 1936 instead of 1943 at the onset of the war. Even Henry Morgenthau—FDR's Secretary of Treasury—looking back at the period from 1932 to 1940 stated, “I say after eight years of this Administration we have just as much unemployment as when we started. [...] And an enormous debt to boot!” Morgenthau was a part of the FDR Administration's “Brain Trust” which used childish pranks such as raising the price of gold 21 cents because “three times seven is a lucky number.” When food was scarce and people were starving, FDR had farmers destroy food to inflate farm income. In *The Grapes of Wrath*, author John Steinbeck eloquently captures the plight of starving people and government malfeasance by stating “They stand still and watch the potatoes float by, listen to the screaming pigs being killed in a ditch and

How the New Deal Deferred the Fruits of Our Labor

covered with quick-lime, watch the mountains of oranges slop down to a putrefying ooze; and in the eyes of the people there is the failure; and in the eyes of the hungry there is a growing wrath.”

FDR's New Deal wasn't just bad policy; it made ordinary citizens into criminals. In 1934 in Jersey City, NJ, a Polish immigrant tailor named Jacob Maged was arrested. The crime? He offered ironing services for 35 cents for his working class customers instead of the 40 cents required under the NRA code. In 1935, the Schechter brothers who ran a poultry business in Brooklyn, were sued by the government because they allowed their customers to select the chickens they wanted—the government insisted the customer had to place his hand in the coop and select the first chicken that came to hand. In 1942, Ohio farmer, Roscoe Filburn grew some extra wheat for his family. FDR's Administration successfully sued Filburn, stating he would have had to buy this food had he not grown it. Thus, the government now could regulate a non-commercial activity, in this case, Filburn's own family dinner table.

In one of his most memorable fireside chats, FDR talked about the Forgotten Man. The Forgotten Man phrase came to define FDR, the New Deal, and the government's new expanded role in helping the poor. FDR borrowed the phrase from William Sumner, a 19th century Yale Economist. Author Amity

Shlaes explains that Sumner's argument was actually the polar opposite. Shlaes explains:

Sumner said *a* wants to help *x*, with *x* being the man at the bottom. And *b* wants to help *x* too. That's our philanthropic impulse, we want to help. There's nothing wrong with that. We all have that impulse to provide charity. It becomes a problem when *a* and *b* get together and pass a perhaps-dubious law that coerces *c* into funding their maybe-good project for *x*. In Sumner's original version, *c* is the forgotten man, the man who pays, the man who prays, the man who is not thought of.

Recently, the raisin case was found unconstitutional. Yet, it is another reminder that the New Deal policies did not save our Constitution, our institutions, capitalism, or the economy. Rather it perverted them, made them less efficient, more bureaucratic—and less about individual rights than about vile constituency-based politicking coupled with the consolidation of government power. The New Deal destroyed businesses, jailed private citizens, and took away many of our God-given liberties of work and the pursuit of happiness. The New Deal wasn't just a dream deferred. It was a nightmare. Just ask the real Forgotten Man, Marvin Horne. ★

(This article originally appeared on AEI's Values & Capitalism blog)

Joe is a junior business and accounting major.

A Ring of Fire: Living in the Midst



ANTHONY BURDO

ALLYSON MURPHY

Evacuate. This is a command I never pictured myself to be a part of. And yet on July 22nd of this summer this command became reality for many around me.

This summer I worked in the heart of the West: Glacier National Park (GNP). It was an incredible summer filled with hiking, stargazing, and- at the beginning- bonfires, but as July started to wind down bonfires were no longer an option: my park, our park, was on fire.

I worked at the East entrance to GNP right off the famous Going to the Sun Road, which takes you directly through some of the park's most famous scenery. On July 21st at 4:30pm my manager informed us that, at the time, a small fire, the Reynolds Creek Fire, had started near the major park attraction, Logan Pass. We, the

employees, should know in case customers started asking about the smoke filtering into our site. Thankfully the fire was not a threat- yet.

By the next day the fire had more than doubled and out location was drenched in smoke. With a raging fire just six miles away, we could no longer see our beautiful mountain ridgeline. The sun was red and the sky was from then on ash.

My life this summer was fully submerged into the impacts of climate change. It is important to realize that forest fires are often a natural occurrence with lightning strikes being the most common cause. However, as Discover Magazine reported in late July, "more than 60% of the [West] is in severe drought." This is not a natural cycle: rising temperatures, caused by human activity, are creating conditions that are drier, harsher,

According to the National Wildlife Federation longer fire seasons exist now because snow is melting, on average, 1 to 4 weeks earlier than it did 50 years beforehand. Furthermore, it is projected that by mid-century western North America's temperature rates are expected to rise 3.6 to 9 degrees more by mid-century and it is projected that 11 western states (including Montana) will double in amount of forest fires per year.

Our nation has reached a schism between those who believe climate change is both real and caused by human activity and those who do not – the latter is unfortunately where much of the evangelical community falls.

It is here that I ask: How can so many still stay in the dark? As reported last year by one of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People, Houghton's guest speaker climate scientist

"We must all recognize the truth: climate change exists ."

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, 97 % of climate scientists believe that climate change is both real and anthropogenic (caused by humans).

According to the National Interagency Fire Center, as of today, September 3rd, the U.S.A. has a reported 59 large fires with 14 of them located in this state I have come to love. So far in 2015 over 8.4 million acres in the USA have burned, a number shockingly greater than the 5.6 million acres burned in the past ten years - combined.

I recognize that statistics can only do so much for a reader. But this article is not just a statistic. It was a reality for me this summer and is still a reality for all.

Daily, tourists of GNP innocently ask why no glaciers are visible driving down Highway 89. My gut reaction each time is to laugh- as if, glaciers were simply plastered to the side of each mountain for tourists to casually view out of a car window. However, truth be told, the glaciers once were much more visible. Before coming here, countless friends and family asked if I was going

to GNP to see the glaciers before they melted since as the National Park Service reports GNP houses 25 glaciers presently compared to the over 150 glaciers once here in 1850.

Furthermore, this year GNP has had far less snowfall and rain than ever before. The rafting water I went down this year barely reached Class 2 rapids instead of the normal Class 4 rapids. A favorite hiking destination, Iceberg Lake, was home to only two icebergs instead of tens. I only slid down snow shoots during June when usually the snow is far more abundant.

My summer here will be remembered as one clouded in smoke. This summer five fires have burned in GNP and neighboring areas. Most mornings I wake up in a haze.

As I reflect on my Montana experience, I also look back on my summer I am reminded of summer's beginning. Before I came to GNP I attended my family reunion in Ohio. My family is composed of evangelical believers who, unfortunately, accurately portray the evangelical demographic when it comes to views on global warming.

We sat in the humid early June evening gathered around a campfire. As people finished

their food family member repeatedly threw Styrofoam plates into the fire. My sister and I exchanged appalled looks: did our family members not realize what they were doing?

After the fifth plate was thrown, we mentioned that burning Styrofoam was extremely bad for the environment. At this comment my uncle, who loves boy scouts to bird watching, stated, "Global Warming doesn't exist." I was shocked. This man who grew up taking his sons to Yellowstone and Yosemite, this man whose own son was an Environmental Studies major, pointedly refused to believe the facts.

Why are so many unwilling to face the facts? Why do so many refuse to act? Our faith calls us to steward the earth. Our chance is quickly fading though to make a difference. Yet, it is not too late. As this academic year at Houghton begins I encourage all to look at the impacts we each take part in and see how you can make a difference. Personally, I recommend looking into the group Eco Reps led by Sustainability Coordinator Brian Webb here on campus.

We must all recognize the truth: climate change exists. Whether it is a forest fire in Montana or a harsh winter in New York there is clear evidence of new and detrimental shift. ★

Allyson is a senior English major.



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“Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.” *-Pablo Picasso*

