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New Faculty, Staff, And Coach To Join Houghton

MICAH CRONIN

As the academic year wanes, Houghton College has hired one new faculty member, one new residence life staff member, and is still searching for a men's basketball coach.

Paul Martino will be joining Houghton College in the chemistry department. According to chemistry department chair professor Karen Torraca, Martino's expertise is in biochemistry, having received his Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. Before

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Prominent Astronomer To Deliver Commencement Speech

JESSICA GUILLORY

Astronomer Dr. Jennifer Wiseman to Speak at Commencement

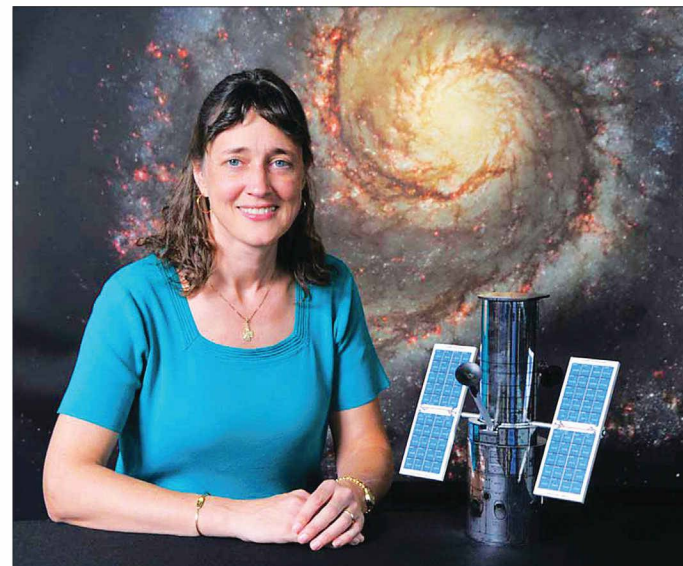
On May 14, 2016, Houghton will welcome Jennifer Wiseman, an astronomer and author, as the commencement speaker for this year. During her time on campus, Wiseman will also having lunch with Houghton science students and faculty following commencement.

Since her childhood, Wiseman has enjoyed looking into the night sky. She grew up on a farm in Arkansas and often stargazed with her parents. Today, through using radio, optical, and infrared telescopes, Wiseman researches the star-forming regions of our galaxy. She also directs the program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion (DoSER) for the American Association

for the Advancement of Science, is the senior project scientist for the Hubble Space Telescope at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and is a fellow of the American Scientific Affiliation (ASA). Her interest in public science policy has led her to serve as a Congressional Science Fellow of the American Physical Society. As a fellow, she has worked with the staff of the Science Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"Dr. Jennifer Wiseman offers our graduates one model of what it means to live courageously 'outside the box,'" said president of the college, Shirley Mullen. "At a time when science and religion are still too often assumed to be antagonists, she embodies a life shaped by deep commitments to both the methods of science and the claims of the Christian faith."

While pursuing a degree



NASA.GOV

Dr. Jennifer Wiseman, accomplished scientist and program director of the Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion will address graduates at Commencement on May 14.

in physics at MIT, Wiseman discovered the comet Wiseman-Skiff in 1987. She went on to earn a Ph.D. in astronomy in 1995 and continued her research as a Jansky Fellow at the National Radio Astronomy Observatory and

as a Hubble Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University.

Through her written work, Wiseman has often addressed the relationship between

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Senior Class Gifts Apple Orchard

KASEY CANNISTER

Saturday April 23, volunteers and members of the Eco Reps planted an apple orchard on campus. The orchard is located between Steese Cottage and the tennis courts. This installment was given to the college by the class of 2016 as their senior class gift.

The orchard will be maintained by Houghton's maintenance staff and will be open for use by students, community members. Sodexo will also use them in the cafeteria. The trees will take five to ten years before they are fully-grown and ready for apple picking.

Sustainability coordinator, Brian Webb, facilitated the purchase of about 25 apple trees of different varieties and the Sodexo facilities department worked to prepare the planting area for the trees, including running a water line and digging holes.

"The Eco Reps had been working on the idea of an orchard project for two years.

See **GIFT** page 2

Spring Sports Fight For Postseason Play



JASON MUCHER

ALICIA NEEDHAM

Spring sports are entering their last week of regular season play. Every team faces an Empire 8 opponent, which gives them an opportunity to improve their record and a chance to squeeze into a conference playoff spot.

In the third year of their program, the men's tennis

team could ensure an Empire 8 tournament berth if they finish among the top four teams in the conference. "If we can beat Alfred and Nazareth than we have a chance of going to the conference playoffs," said Head Coach, Charlie Ellis. Currently the team's overall record is 9-6 and their con-

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NATHAN MOORE

The Class of 2016 planted their Senior Class Gift this past Saturday between Steese Cottage and the tennis courts.

International // Canadian Killed in Philippines



ANTHONY BURDO

DANI EATON

On Monday, April 25, Canadian hostage, John Risdse, was executed in the Philippines by Islamic militant group Abu Sayyaf.

Risdse's severed head appeared on the remote island of Jolo Monday, just five hours after a ransom deadline set by the militants had expired. According to Reuters, the group demanded 600 million pesos (\$6.4 million) for each of the captives and threatened to behead one of their four captives if the deadline was not met. Locals reported seeing two men on a motorcycle drop off a plastic bag that contained the head in the center of town and then fled.

Risdse was one of three captives who were taken from the Oceanview Resort on Simal Island in the Philippines on September 21, 2015. The captive group was made up of Risdse; fellow Canadian, Robert Hall; Hall's girlfriend and Filipino native, Marites Flor; and Norwegian, Kjartan Sekkingstad. According to CNN, this part of the Southern Philippines is home to the militant group, who has been

linked to both al Qaeda and ISIS. CNN reported, this is not the first time the group has taken foreigners as hostages. In recent years the group has preyed on tourists, taking them hostage in an attempt to "further its aims." The Philippine government, however, denounced the group as a terrorist organization, claiming they operate more like a criminal gang.

According to The Chicago Tribune, the group is also believed to have other captives including "a Dutch man, a Japanese and a group of Malaysian and Indonesian seamen." The group abducted the Malaysian and Indonesian seamen at gunpoint from tugboats at the beginning of last month. In November, the group beheaded a Malaysian hostage on the same day that the Malaysian prime minister was scheduled to arrive in Manila for a summit.

Last month the group re-

leased a video of the hostages appearing to beg for their lives, and for the government and their families to secure their release. It is in this video that the threat was made to harm one of the captives if the group's demands were not met. Bob Rae, a close friend of Risdse's, was quoted in a CNN article as saying "lots of effort" was made to comply with the demands, but the amount of money requested was simply too high. In the video heavily armed militants can be seen standing behind the hostages with large black flags hanging behind them.

The 68 year old Canadian native was a former chief mining officer of a mining company, described as "semi-retired" in a BBC news story, who also worked as a journalist. Justin Trudeau, Canadian prime minister, was quoted as stating Risdse was killed in "cold blooded murder" by the group. He also said Canada would

work with the Philippines and other international forces to bring justice to Risdse's death. Rae said in BBC article, "It's just very hard. I've been involved behind the scenes for the last six months trying to find a solution and it's been very painful."

Dani is a junior with a majors in communication and writing and a minor in political science.

GIFT from page 1

They did the research on the idea and sketched out an initial proposal. I took the idea to the important stakeholders and campus to get it approved," said Webb.

He continued, "Our only barrier was finance, so when the senior class showed some interest it was the perfect solution." The class raised over \$1,200 for the project, and the sustainability office covered the remainder of the cost.

According to Gabrielle Schott '16, the senior class gift process begins by gathering ideas from different offices on campus for possible projects. After determining the feasibility of the proposed projects the class cabinet narrows down the

choices to two or three options and presents them to the senior class for voting.

"The senior class tossed around ideas for projects but landed on the apple orchard idea because of its uniqueness and the opportunity to see it planted. They also look forward to being a part of the planning before graduation, and ability to watch it grow over the years when they return as alumni," said Emily Spateholts, Development and Reunion Specialist of the Advancement Office.

The advancement and alumni offices work together with the senior class each year to find a project that represents the class as a whole and strives to leave a lasting legacy for future students. A senior class gift must be reasonable in cost, able to be easily maintained, and able

to be enjoyed all across campus rather than by a specific group of people.

Webb commented, "My hope is that the Houghton College Orchard will help connect students both to their food and to the natural environment around them."

He continued, "Having an orchard on campus will help students see God's creation as more than just a pretty landscape, but as something that we can actually play a role in wisely stewarding. Plus it will be awesome for students to walk over, pick an apple and eat it."

According to Webb, the sustainability office has plans to incorporate other trees, as well, including pears, peaches, cherry trees, and maybe even grapes. ★

SPORTS from page 1

ference record is 4-2. Last weekend, the team pulled out two stellar wins against the Hartwick Hawks and the St. John Fisher Cardinals. It was their first win over St. John Fisher since joining the Empire 8 conference three years ago. "This supporting cast daily has pushed every top player in practice and supported them in the matches," said Ellis. "They have been sweating and fighting daily to get the entire team ready to play." Earlier this month, Chase Rangel '16 was named the Empire 8 Men's Tennis Play of the Week for his victories in singles matches and double matches, with the help of his partners, ending the week of April 10. "They all get along very well and they are enjoyable to coach which is part of the reason for their success this season," added Ellis.

The men's baseball team's record, unfortunately, does not reflect the hard work and small wins that they have had this season. Currently the team is 13-20 overall and 3-10 in the Empire 8 conference. However, having a fairly new team comprised of mostly freshman and transfers, incoming players have had to step up

and fill big roles on the team. "We lost a lot of pitchers last year and some guys who played a big part as leaders on the team," commented Michael Knapp '16. Head Coach, Brian Reitnour added, "[We] are a fairly young team and my ultimate goal is to see us develop an identity that reflects our core values." During the middle of the season, the team had a six game winning streak where they rallied from deficits to win games, but it was snapped due to a split with the Penn State-Beave Nittany Lions. On April 7, the Highlanders played for over six hours and nineteen innings against the Alfred State Pioneers. The game resulted in a split where the Pioneers won the first game 5-4 in 11 innings, and the Highlanders scored three runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to win the second game 4-3. "This season has been better than we expected it to be" said Ethan Duryea '18. "Collectively we have played more as a team this year than we did last year."

Both teams have games this week and possibly next week, depending on how well they play. The Highlanders will take on the Stevens Ducks on their home field at 6 p.m. Friday, April 29, and at 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 30. The men's tennis team will take on the Alfred Saxons on their home court at 4 p.m. Friday, April 29. ★



OLIVIA GRAZIANO

The outgoing seniors of the STAR staff would like to welcome its new team: Dani Eaton (editor-in-chief), Sophia Ross (features editor), Micah Cronin (news editor), Michael Sievers (web editor) and Nathan Moore (photo editor). Thanks for a great year and best wishes for the future staff!

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Houghton, Martino taught at Carson-Newman College in Tennessee. Next year, Martino will have a full schedule teaching general chemistry lab 1 & 2, Nutrition, and Biochemistry 1. He will also teach a special topics course, as well as complete research with students.

Martino's hiring brings an almost four year formal search for a chemistry professor to a close. Dr. Torraca and fellow chemistry professor John Rowley, as well as the associate dean for natural sciences and mathematics Mark Yuly were key in the final decision. As final approval from the dean of the college has been granted, Torraca said, "We are very excited that

he will be joining the department."

Beth Phifer will join residence life staff as the new resident director of Lambein Hall. Phifer graduated from Grove City College in Grove City, Pennsylvania with a B.A. in psychology. She then went to Westminster Theological Seminary in Glenside, Pennsylvania and earned an M.A. in counseling. From there Phifer went on to serve as lead residence director at Eastern Mennonite University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, where she worked for the last nine months before accepting a job offer from Houghton College.

Still ongoing is the athletic department's search for a new men's basketball coach. Athletic Director Skip Lord stated the department received over 100 applications. A search committee comprised of Lord; softball coach, Brianna Allen;

National College Athletic Association (NCAA) compliance director, Jason Mucher; women's basketball coach, Alicia Mucher; men's soccer coach, Matthew Webb; women's soccer coach, David Lewis; and head athletic trainer, Deanna Hand, have narrowed the pool significantly. Lord expects candidates will be selected for interviews soon. Because the athletic department aims to retain current athletes, as well as continue to recruit new ones, Lord said the department is moving quickly, but carefully. He stated current members of the men's basketball team will be present in candidate interviews.

"We are looking for someone who exemplifies the athletic department motto: excellence for the glory of God, in all its components," Lord said. "We also want to win some games."★

SPEECH from page 1

tween astronomy and faith. She also shares her excitement about scientific discoveries as she speaks to civic clubs, churches, schools and campus groups. Additionally, the two groups in which she is involved, DoSER and ASA, seek to encourage dialogue between the fields of scientific discovery and religion. The ASA specifically seeks to integrate scientific research and the Christian faith and to create a safe space for the discussion of these topics.

Thomas Eckert '16 said, "The majority of students graduating are not physi-

cists, nor even scientists, but I think dialogue between those in the arts and sciences is vital to a successful society." He continued, "There seems to be a divide between the fields which can be bridged with careful listening and understanding by both parties. We are [all] explorers of this universe that God has placed us in. It is infinitely mysterious. Each of us takes part in the discovery process whether through the lens of a painting that may explore the intricacies of a grassy marsh or a theory that engages the simplicity of spacetime." Eckert noted that he believes everyone will be able to relate to Wiseman, "I hope everyone listening at graduation can pay attention to similarities in their journeys with Dr. Wiseman's life."★



COURTESY OF JASON MUCHER

Men's Tennis team practices in KPAC.

New Academic Dean Addresses Student Government Association

HOLLY CHAISSON

On Monday evening the SGA hosted new Dean of the College and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Samuel J. "Jack" Connell for an open question and answer session. Several questions were submitted beforehand via an online survey created by SGA, while others were taken from students in attendance. The topics ranged from Connell's history with Houghton, to questions concerning online education, diversity on campus, and the state of several academic programs. Connell comes

from a long line of Houghton alumni and has been involved with the college in a variety of ways, including working in administration during President Mullen's first year and serving as a youth pastor at Houghton Wesleyan Church.

Regarding online education, Connell commented on Houghton's current online presence, saying that although it is currently a small presence, he thinks Houghton needs to and will make more aggressive moves into the online market. Expanding its online presence would allow Houghton to reach previously unreachable audiences, as well as being a helpful way to generate

revenue.

When asked about diversity on campus, Connell replied that he did not think Houghton had a sufficiently diverse population on campus, particularly in regard to faculty and staff. To address this, Connell said among his priorities are to ensure that class curriculums reflect diverse viewpoints as well as making an effort in the future to recruit and hire diverse faculty members.

Although Connell is only three weeks into his new position, he spoke confidently of his vision for Houghton's future and expressed his excitement to once again be a part of the Houghton community. ★

Palooza To Feature Student And Faculty Talent

RACHEL ZIMMERMAN

Saturday April 30 will mark another consecutive year of the Houghton Palooza, the annual festival for students to celebrate the year. The event is hosted by the townhouses, but is open to all of Houghton's students and the surrounding community as well. Townhouse resident assistant (RA) Kerianne Shaw '17 noted efforts to make it "family friendly" and "exciting," encouraging Houghton's students and families to attend. The usual planning committee of RAs and faculty adviser JL Miller have partnered with the campus

activities board (CAB) this year. According to CAB representative, Kasey Cannister '17, this has allowed access to CAB materials and "improved the efficiency of planning it."

The Palooza offers a variety of activities, but Miller and Cannister expressed particular enthusiasm for this year's lineup of student and faculty bands. "Last year we had a harder time booking bands," Miller explained. "This year we started really early communications with bands across campus to get quality bands who wanted to perform." Cannister notes that the Palooza was originally "created to be a Houghton music festival," and looks

forward to the bands being "a big presence in the whole Palooza." The featured bands include "The Burdo and the Bee," "The Sorrow Estate," "Marc LeGrand and Friends," "True Cliche," Mitch Beattie and the Heartbreakers," as well as talented students and faculty without official band names. "We've been joking at meetings about things we can call them," Kasey Cannister noted.

In addition to the bands Miller noted that while music is a big part of the event, it's not the only aspect of the Palooza. Shaw said the planning committee has "called on clubs to help with manning stations," including crafts,

henna, face painting, snacks, and yard games such as corn hole and spike ball. Cannister expressed particular excitement for badminton. Cotton candy and popcorn will be offered throughout the event, with hot dogs available at lunch time. "If the weather holds," Miller mentioned a 40 foot inflatable obstacle course has been reserved. "I'm really hoping for good weather," he sids.

In addition to good weather, Miller is hoping for "a return to the original momentum of Houghton Palooza." Now planning his fifth Palooza, he emphasized it as a time for students to "celebrate and reflect on how the year

has been." He is excited by this year's increased band involvement, and noted last year "we made music less central, but from my perspective we lost something." He hopes students will "at least stop by."

With both students and the Houghton community attending, the planners express their appreciation of the time of fun and fellowship. "I'm excited to see everyone out and together," Shaw said. Miller echoes this and stated, "What excites me most is just people showing up and having fun."★

What to Watch This Summer

JACKSON WHEELER

#10: *Finding Dory* – *Finding Nemo* continues to hold up as one of Pixar's best, most vivid, and heart-warming films making this Dory-centered sequel one that audiences have awaited for years. The lovable blue tang's search for her parents could easily be the next smash-hit for Pixar, provided it has something new to offer beyond simply living off the success of its predecessor.

#9: *Warcraft* – *Warcraft* with its name-recognition, big budget, and competent director, is seeking to upend the notion that all "Video Game Movies" have to suck. Its CGI-heavy story about the ongoing war between humans and orcs is given a boost of legitimacy with Duncan Jones' name attached, having established a notable track record with films like *Moon* and *Source Code*, definitely making this one to look out for.

#8: *Sausage Party* – Seth Rogen's hard R-rated animated comedy is about a talking sausage who's trying to warn his fellow food-based friends about what really happens when humans take them home from the grocery store. Fans of Rogen's crude humor are likely to enjoy this one, just know that it is not for everybody. Do not take the kids unless you want them learning some fun new words.

#7: *Suicide Squad* – DC's lack of a sense of humor in their films is something *Suicide Squad* aims to fix, reintroducing the Joker and a number of Batman villains for Ben Affleck and the rest of Gotham to worry about. After such a mixed response to *Batman*

v. *Superman*, DC needs a slam dunk here. The trailers have been promising. If *Suicide Squad* can actually deliver then Marvel may have to start paying attention.

#6: *The Conjuring 2* – Ed and Lorraine Warren continue their paranormal investigations, counseling a young girl in London who is being tormented by another evil spirit. Horror movie sequels usually fall way short of their predecessors and *The Conjuring* set that standard pretty high, but if the trailer is any indication of 2's overall quality then none of us are sleeping for weeks.

#5: *Kubo and the Two Strings* – From the director of *Coraline* and *ParaNorman*, *Kubo and the Two Strings* looks beautiful. A young boy sets out on a quest to defeat a vengeful spirit, armed with only his friends and his small, important-looking guitar...thing. Anyone familiar with Travis Knight's other films will be familiar with *Kubo*'s distinct, vivid animation. It is a unique looking film with plenty of character to sustain the film beyond simple aesthetics.

#4: *Pete's Dragon* – The original *Pete's Dragon* was a middling Disney movie with its standout feature being the melding of a live-action world with a two-dimensional dragon. That feature no longer feels like a gimmick today, but the trailer for this summer's remake looks simply incredible. So close on the heels of Jon Favreau's *Jungle Book* adaptation, to see *Pete's Dragon* be given blockbuster treatment in such lavish fashion makes it look like another fine addition to Disney's catalog.

#3: *Swiss Army Man* – *Swiss Army Man* is a dark comedy about Hank, (Paul Dano) who's been stranded on a deserted is-

land and finds a dead body (Daniel Radcliffe) that's been washed ashore. Hank discovers that he can not only speak to the body, but he can use him for essentially any necessary task, plausible or surreal. It is completely bizarre and seemingly impossible to describe the film briefly. It is better just to watch the trailer and appreciate how strange it really is.

#2: *The Lobster* – *The Lobster* is

an odd indie flick where single people are arrested and sent to retreat centers where they are required to fall in love within a 45-day window. If they cannot, those people are turned into animals, literally. It's a quirky, dark comedy with an unsettling tone and critics are already raving about it.

#1: *Captain America: Civil War* – Marvel has outdone itself ev-

ery year and *Civil War* is being called the best film in its lineup. Captain America vs. Iron Man, Liberty vs. Security. This is a film that provokes just as much thought as it does adrenaline. It is a visual spectacle foremost, but it also considers morality in a way that most superhero movies, heck, most movies fail to address. Oh, also Spider-Man is in it. You cannot forget Spider-Man. ★



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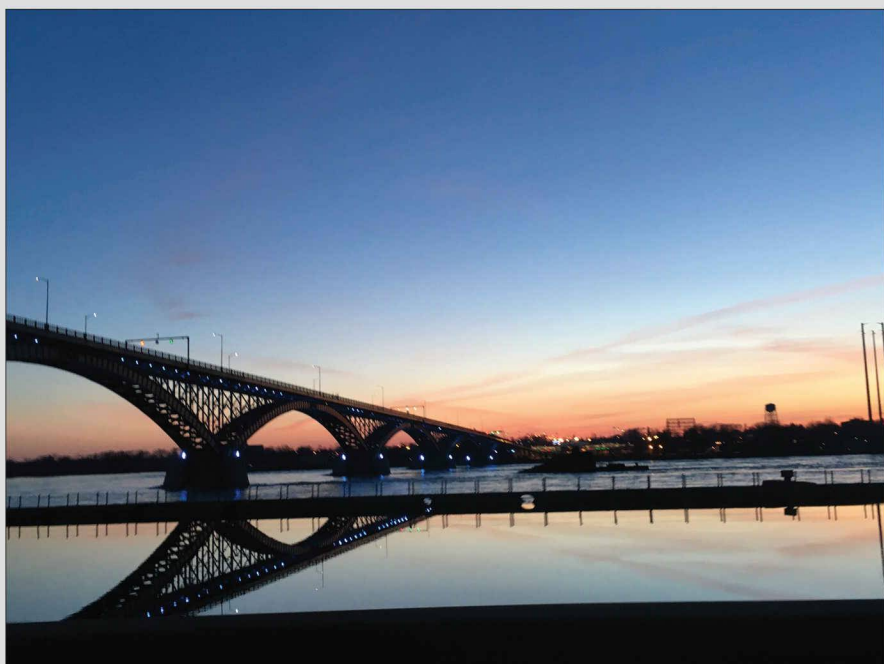


Photo
of the
Week

Kaitlyn McKinney '17

Physics Seniors Present at RSPS

HOLLY CHAISSON
SOPHIA ROSS

While it may appear to many undergraduate students that research conferences are reserved for professors and graduate students only, one benefit of a Houghton College education is participating in these conferences as an undergraduate. On April 2, 2016, five Houghton physics majors presented their research at the Rochester Symposium for Physics Students (RSPS). The annual symposium, which took place at the University of Rochester this year, is specifically designed so that undergraduate physics students can present their research orally. Students from all over New York state attend and participate in the type of conference setting that they might not otherwise encounter until graduate school.

Research is a key element of Houghton's physics program. Every student majoring in physics or applied physics takes on a research project, often starting the work in the second semester of their sophomore year and continuing until graduation. This research is typically done in tandem with physics professors and takes up approximately forty-

five hours every semester, which is essentially the equivalent of a one-credit class. The end result of their work is a thesis between forty and sixty pages, as well as presenting orally at RSPS.

For the past sixteen years, Houghton students have given twelve to fifteen-minute talks on their project lab research at RSPS as a graduation requirement. According to Mark Yuly, professor of physics and associate dean for natural sciences and mathematics, the experience is one that will prove invaluable for these

students as they prepare for their careers.

"It gives the students a real-world experience doing something they will be doing all the time as professional physicists or engineers – speaking in public," he said. "They get lots of practice presenting their work here on campus in their classes, but this is a chance to present for the outside world."

Kurt Aikens, assistant professor of physics, added that the benefits of this program are self-evident. "It provides them

with the opportunity to deliver a quality talk on their individual research project," he said. "We help them to do the research, prepare their talks, we give them feedback, and generally ensure that they are prepared to do well. All of this is important because the ability to communicate one's work is essential—you can be the best scientist in the world but no one will understand your results or how you obtained them if you cannot speak and write.

This year, five graduating physics majors including Kyle

Craft, Thomas Eckert, August Gula, Margaret Kirkland and Jonathon Yuly presented their research orally. Craft, along with Andrew Redman '17, also presented a poster.

Eckert, who will begin a Ph.D. program in nuclear physics at the University of Rochester this fall, agrees that conferences like RSPS are a unique opportunity for Houghton students to gain experience. In addition to RSPS, Eckert has attended two international conferences as an undergraduate hosted by the American Physical Society (APS) Division of Plasma Physics.

"By going to conferences, you see first hand how important it is to talk about your work in an effective manner," said Eckert. "If you can't explain it simply enough for those outside of our field to understand it, you don't really understand your work. And if you can't do that, funding is harder to come by since the people you interact with most likely won't have physics degrees."

In a job market that places an emphasis on practical experience, symposiums and conferences like RSPS are more and more attractive on a resume. Participating in these events as undergraduates allows students not only to represent Houghton and to add to their personal resumes, but to begin building skills that will prove useful in the years to come.★



COURTESY OF MARK YULY

Senior and junior physics majors attended the Rochester Symposium for Physics Students with professors Dr. Mark Yuly, Dr. Tanner Hoffman, and Dr. Kurt Aikens.

MAKING MILESTONES, ON AND OFF THE COURT

ALICIA NEEDHAM

Being a student athlete comes with many challenges, but four Houghton athletes in particular have managed to excel in the classroom and on the court or field. Basketball players Maisie Pipher '16 and Tyler McQuaid '15 have each reached a significant milestone, scoring 1,000 points in their athletic career. Volleyball player Hattie Burgher '16 has also reached the milestone of 1,000 kills and women's

lacrosse player Jennifer Zacchigna '17 has scored 100 goals and counting. This means that every season these athletes have stayed consistent at a high competitive level, while also improving at the same time. It should come as no surprise that all of these athletes are just as successful in the classroom as they are in their sports, each student holding an exceptional GPA.

Pipher ended her season with 1,068 career points and was recognized as an honorable mention selection to the Empire 8 Women's Basketball All-Conference team. Additionally, she finished second in the Empire 8 conference in rebounding and blocked

shots, and was named the Empire 8 Player of the Week earlier in the season. In Highlander history, she is third all-time rebounder and second all-time in blocked shots. She is also a biology major and has served as a team captain for two years. "Maisie has been such a pivotal player in our program the last four years and has found success on the court individually, and has always kept a clear mindset on what's most important," said Alicia Mucher, Head Women's Basketball Coach. "She has served as a great encourager on our team and always made notable efforts in lifting up her teammates."

McQuaid finished his career with 1,013 points, which he achieved in his final game.

With strong performances at the end of his season, he was named the Empire 8 Men's Basketball Player of the Week. His key role in the Highlanders' recent wins largely influenced this honor, as did the Highlanders winning the majority of their games over the past twenty seasons and achieving the most Empire 8 wins since Houghton joined the conference four years ago. McQuaid also places an emphasis on his education. Majoring in education, he wants to teach adolescent education. "Tyler was

the consummate teammate and player who would do everything and anything to help ensure the success of the team," said former head men's basketball coach, Andrew Hannan. "He served his teammates more the older he became; sometimes it was as an academic advisor, other times it was as a spiritual mentor, and often it was just simply as a friend."

Anyone who came to the volleyball games this year heard the yelling from the stands "boom" whenever Burgher hit the ball. Cheering then ensued for the kill. In her last season, Burgher finished with 1,320 kills and 1,621 digs along with National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) First-Team All-Midwest Regions honors. She was a four-year starter and two-year captain who earned All-Empire 8 honors all four seasons. In addition, she ranked eighteenth in the NCCAA in kills per set, along with fourth in kills, and fifth in hitting percentage in the Empire 8 conference. Burgher, an art and English major, wants to be a journalist. "Hattie has a tremendous work ethic and a great athlete who cares a lot about her teammates and wanted her team to reach its full potential," said Nancy Cole, head women's volleyball coach. "As a coach it is

very rewarding to see a player with that athletic ability strive to reach their full potential."

As a junior, Zacchigna has achieved the milestone of 100 goals and is still increasing her total number of goals every game. She is recognized as a threat, not only in lacrosse games, but in soccer games as well. Last fall, she was a member of the women's soccer team, who were the first women's team at Houghton to win a national championship. Additionally, Zacchigna, an art and communication major, is a captain of the women's lacrosse team. "The best thing about being a student-athlete is having a team around you facing the same challenges and supporting you both on and off the field," said Zacchigna. "I really enjoy being a part of athletics at Houghton because of the passion for Christ that each team shares."

Pipher, McQuaid, Burgher and Zacchigna are each humble and distinguished leaders on campus. They serve as mentors to their peers and teammates by exhibiting a strong work ethic and embodying what the Houghton sports programs stand for: excellence for the glory of God.★



NATHAN MOORE

Milestone-achieving student athletes from left to right: Hattie Burgher '16, Tyler McQuaid '15, Maisie Pipher '16 and Jennifer Zacchigna.

The Force of Words: Reflections on Dialogue at Houghton



ANTHONY BURDO

HOLLY CHAISSON

As outgoing editor-in-chief I'd like to conclude my career at *The Star* with a few remarks regarding the paper this year. I stated at the beginning of the year that essential to any healthy and thriving community is sustained, respectful dialogue. Along with my staff, I made the decision this year to publish a series of editorials concerning the LGBTQ experience of Houghton alumni under the title *Being Queer* at

Houghton. It was our intention that these editorials would be understood as an opportunity for those who have been routinely unheard to add their voices to the campus dialogue. I recognize that discussing LGBTQ issues may be uncomfortable for many on our campus and community alike, and these editorials proved challenging for many (and inflammatory for some). However I am confident they promoted a valuable dialogue on campus and exemplified a core tenant of *The Star's* mission: to maintain a safe platform for diverging opinions to meet and perhaps clash.

The articles in the series were selected from a large number of submissions, some of which we decided not to print for various reasons (e.g.

“The disparity in numbers is not a result of *The Star* rejecting an opinion that does not reflect its own, rather it is representative of all that we received from our readers.”

“At the end of the day, I'm confident in the decision *The Star* made to print this series of challenging editorials.”

unnecessarily inflammatory language). The stories we selected were balanced, fair, and honest, while maintaining a clear and distinct position on the issue. Additionally, we printed all pieces (editorials and letters) submitted by those responding to the series. The disparity in numbers is not a result of *The Star* rejecting an opinion that does not reflect its own, rather it is representative of all that we received from our readers.

I've maintained strongly that *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. Although the series was titled *Being Queer* at Houghton, other voices were brought into the public forum via opinions submitted directly to the staff, letters to the editor, and online comments. Having received roughly equal amounts of criticism and praise for the series, I think I can safely say that the staff and I believe the series to be a success.

There will never be a “right time and place” to talk about controversial issues. The LGBTQ conversation is not something to be shoved aside until a more convenient time. To suggest so effectively communicates to members of this community that they're inconvenient on our campus, that perhaps we'd rather they not be here at all. We as a community cannot pretend this issue doesn't exist, to do so would be a grave disservice to society and to the church. *The Star* is accountable

first to the students, and then to the Houghton community at large. As a student newspaper, *The Star* is meant to reflect the conversations students are engaging in already on campus, as well as to spark new topics of dialogue. I'm not suggesting that *The Star* is ignoring the Houghton community at large. Rather, we've made it a point to print letters and publish online comments from community members and alumni alike.

At the end of the day, I'm confident in the decision *The Star* made to print this series of challenging editorials. My hope is that these stories have given Houghton students and community members alike the opportunity to grow in their ability to respectfully join in dialogue with others while having their own perspectives challenged.★

Holly is the only senior philosophy major (she also managed to get a religion minor).

The Danger of Forgetting Foresight



ANTHONY BURDO

THOMAS ECKERT

We live in an incredible period of history which might one day be viewed the same way the Renaissance is viewed today. The past twenty years have seen an astounding leap forward technologically and socially. This pace of innovation can be exhausting and has contributed to the increase in nostalgia for times this generation never lived through.

The nature of nostalgia is often blind to the less desirable aspects of a time or place. The filmic 1950s is certainly aesthetically pleasing, but nobody would desire its visual sleekness if they had to endure the sexism and racism that came with it. Luckily, we no longer have to. The Internet has made

the act of picking and choosing features from past generations as easy as managing a Pinterest board.

The namesake of the Renaissance is the French word “rebirth.” Most scholars agree that the cause of the Renaissance depended upon a dissemination of new technology, intercultural communication, education, and what could be called nostalgia. The printing press democratized publication creating a literacy rate never before seen. One day, we will look back and gawk at the breakneck pace of innovation in this age, especially in regards to the changes caused by smartphones, artificial intelligence, and self-driving vehicles. Each of these have the potential to greatly disrupt economic and social norms that are taken for granted.

We are already in the midst of the changes caused by the pocketable computers we call phones. These devices challenge our sense of community. They have created new social mores and accelerated the pace of work in an already progress-obsessed Western world. The role artificial intelligence will play in our lives

in the future is yet unknown. When its time comes, we may be faced with questions of our very morality. What is most pressing, currently, is the economic shifts that will take place due to vehicles that can control themselves.

At first, self-driving vehicles will be primarily used by shipping companies. When shipping by truck, drivers often face long hours on the road which can be aided by driving assistants. When human drivers are no longer needed, there will be a huge economic hit and a tragedy of unemployment if we do not provide alternative job options for these men and women. Private use of these vehicles will flourish because of their adoption by the young and the elderly. Today's young people do not tend to see driving as a totem of freedom in the way previous generations have. The smartphone seems to have supplanted the car.

It is unlikely that young people will buy these cars outright at first. Like all new technologies, they will be quite expensive when they first hit the market. I think young people will start out by renting these vehicles, severely disrupting

“Despite the benefits of a more technologically saturated society, there will be great economic costs that parallel jobs lost in the shipping and taxicab industries.”

the taxicab market. However, if driving is not important to them, it will not make sense for them to pay for a vehicle that spends over 80% of its life on a small plot of asphalt. There will be *Time* magazine articles about the crazy millennials who don't drive their own cars! (What an honor it is to be part of the very first generation not understood by the older generation).

The part of the older generation that I think will understand the shift to self-driving vehicles is the elderly. The prospect of losing one's freedom with age is understandably frightening. Self-driving cars allow older people to retain their freedom even in a fragile state. They can connect with family and friends without being limited by their age.

Despite the benefits of a more technologically saturated society, there will be great economic costs that parallel jobs lost in the shipping and taxicab industries. The disruption caused by technology might lead to a horrific crisis of unemployment in our lifetimes. This veritable Pandora's Box cannot be resealed. As there is no road back, we must do what we can to ensure that our society can adapt to changing times.

This means that we must ask questions of ourselves about the economy and society we want to live in. If we do not anticipate the challenges that will come about because of autonomous vehicles, we will not be prepared

to embrace their arrival without great pain. There are questions we should have asked before the smartphone became such a staple of our society. Now, these questions of social correctness are being answered in situ, without the wisdom that comes with forethought. If we are not careful, the more difficult quandaries posed by autonomous vehicles will catch us unaware as well.

We tend to forget that the Renaissance must have been incredibly stressful for certain people in society. The state of knowledge, status quo, and the perceived purpose of life was being forever altered. Our lives happen to take place in quite a similar time. This period has come about because of intelligence which drove forward innovation, but its pace must be mediated by wisdom. Will we live the life posed by 1950's futurists and John Maynard Keynes in which we devote our days to leisure while the robots do our mundane work? Will we move to a socialistic universal wage doled out by the government after all the jobs are gone? Will we try to forgo our electronic toys in lieu of a simpler lifestyle? It is hard to say, but we will need to answer these questions in our lifetime. Otherwise, they will be answered for us.★

Tommy Boy Swag is a senior physics major with a minor in math.

Response: *The Right to Die (With Dignity)*



NATHAN MOORE

RACHEL HUMMEL

Despite recent and increasing political attention, end-of-life issues such as physician-assisted suicide (PAS) and active euthanasia are not new. In ancient Greece, the Hippocratic Oath—which is still used today as a guideline for medical ethics—developed in reaction against the already common practice of providing terminally-ill patients with lethal drugs. Literally meaning “good death”, the Greek word euthanasia has come to describe a practice

which I believe, along with PAS, denies patients of their ability to die well by inducing long-lasting, negative impacts on the society that embraces sterilized death. Some of these impacts include the potential deterioration of quality medical care, the misrepresentation of dignity, and the sacrifice of a sacred, inimitable journey that deepens virtue and character.

Whether or not PAS becomes a legalized option for patients, the right of physicians to practice medicine in accordance with their moral beliefs must be protected. If it is not, physicians are reduced from artists of holistic care to simple gatekeepers of medical resources. It is in the patient’s best interest for their physician to be able to act on their conscious, regardless of whether or not PAS is determined to be an ethical practice. The bond of trust

between a patient and their doctor is based on the physician’s moral integrity. If a physician is unable to express their moral beliefs through conscientious objection, the patient will receive treatment solely based on social and technological conventions. This degrades the art of medicine, which Sir William Osler, the Father of Modern Medicine, describes as “a calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with your head.” If the expression of personal morality is prohibited, patients may in turn be cheapened to one-dimensional physiological machines in the eyes of their physician. There is a danger of communicating to physicians the unimportance of individual and diverse moral beliefs, which will thereby reduce patients to the sum of their parts.

If the purpose of PAS is to preserve the dignity of the pa-

tient, the term ‘dignity’ must be defined. Is dignity an innate standard of physical and mental soundness, or is it a grace granted by onlookers? If it is a certain standard, say, a pain-free, continent existence, then one must consider the questions that arise regarding the worth of individuals who live with disabilities. If it is an external attitude expressed through compassion (which implies shared-suffering) and respect, then the physician’s ability to express morality must be preserved. In most cases, the attitude of the patient’s supporters towards the patient will be a reflection of how the patient lived their life, and not on their impending death and vulnerable presentation.

This is not to suggest that a patient’s life should be drawn out as long as possible. People can still die a natural death on their own terms— medical treatment can be denied in all circumstances. What modern medical developments have provided are ways to alleviate discomfort, such that natural death can be a peaceful passage. New York Commissioner of Health Dr. Mark R. Chassin states: “People fear losing control over treatment decisions and they fear dying in pain. Those are real fears and they must be addressed.

But a humane society owes its citizens something more than a prescription for a quick exit, particularly when we have the ability to control pain effectively and to successfully treat the depression that often causes patients to believe that suicide is their only option.” A humane society owes its citizens the ability to experience the strengthening of the human spirit as can only happen by a journey of death and suffering (referring to more than avoidable physical pain)— a truth which causes much of the Western world to cringe. The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada explains it well, stating that “it is when we are willing to care for one another under the most dire of circumstances and at the cost of great inconvenience that human dignity and society’s fundamental goodness are best expressed and preserved”.

Let us then learn to die well—embracing physician integrity, true patient dignity, and an unparalleled opportunity to journey in courage, strength, and compassion.★

Rachel is a sophomore biology and studio art double major.

“Let us then learn to die well—embracing physician integrity, true patient dignity, and an unparalleled opportunity to journey in courage, strength, and compassion.”



The mission of the Houghton Star is 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.

Responses to “The Right to Die (With Dignity)”:

Dear Editor:

Rom. 12:15 says “Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” Our response in the face of pain must be compassion to love sufferers like Jesus did. Christ destroyed the last enemy, death, and brought life by paying the price with his blood; therefore, our lives are no longer our own (1 Cor 6:19-20).

We are called to submit to God’s will, regardless of our feelings, including His plan for our lives and deaths. Where there is life, there is hope (Eccl 9:4). “So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day” (2 Cor 4:16).

However, this world is broken and we must contend with the reality of suffering. Jesus’ suffering, death and resurrection saves us from judgment and gives us assurance of future glorification, but it also gives us the promise of present grace to endure pain until He calls us home (2 Cor 12:9).

In our finiteness, we don’t always understand the purpose of our pain, but we trust God will be glorified. As created beings, we don’t have the authority to tell our Creator, “You cannot bring hardships in my life, even kinds that may lead to death” (Rom 9:20). We don’t have the right to number our days, offer death as a solution, refuse the miraculous, or actively assist in murder or suicide. By so doing, we elevate ourselves to God’s level of au-

thority and fail to submit to His perfectly loving plan for us.

Professor of Biology,
Ransom Poythress

Dear Editor:

In response to the article on PAS: Suicide, no matter how, is primarily wrong, and illegal.

This article wrongfully uses the word dignity, and the assumption that taking your life, especially as a Christian. Our lives are not ours to do with as we so desire, they are the Lord’s. I have a family member who received a terminal diagnosis; he has an eleven year-old daughter. Is it more dignified to leave your child with a memory of you fighting

for life, or ending your life before the fight? If I was that daughter, or that man’s wife, I would much rather face debt than see my father or husband just give up.

Comparing DNR to PAS is not a fair comparison. DNR is for sake of protecting the person from the pain resuscitation would cause them. PAS is a choice rather than treatment, it is not the same as a choice to let someone naturally die.

What happens if this becomes legal everywhere? It becomes the “easier”, more affordable, “less painful” and “dignified” option. Then pharmaceutical companies will jump in on the new opportunity to produce a new drug, say the “kill pill”, another moneymaker. People all around the world attempt suicide with pills,

some are able to receive appropriate therapy afterwards. But what happens when the “kill pill” is used? They die. Suicide becomes easier. Suicide rates skyrocket.

When it comes down to it, suicide is suicide; and no one should be aided in ending their own life no matter what. Suicide is a widespread epidemic that should be prevented and stopped, not promoted. PAS on a human-level should be understood as wrong, even more so from a Christian perspective.

Prevent lives from being lost. Thank you for your time.

Pursue God always,
Tori Walker

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NATHAN MOORE



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There is one thing the photograph should contain, the humanity of the moment.

”

-Robert Frank

