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Houghton Considers New Majors

AMANDA IRWIN

Three new majors are in the process of being approved for Houghton, including engineering, data science, and social entrepreneurship. While the ultimate decisions on these have not been made, there has been a significant amount of research and thought involved.

The process of adding a new major to the academic program begins with a proposal, most time from faculty, but sometimes from alumni or current students. From there, the program is presented to the academic council and is then voted on by the faculty. If the program passes it then proceeds to New York State for approval.

In evaluating promising new academic fields for Houghton, Dean Linda Mills Woolsey explains that a program must "fit our mission and liberal arts character, attract students, and have a clear connection to vocation."

The consideration for add-

See **MAJORS** page 2

After a Two Year Decline, Enrollment Is Up 10 Percent



JOSH DUTTWELLER

First year students stand on the front steps of the chapel before the semester begins.

HATTY BURGHER

After two straight years of decline in enrollment, Houghton's numbers have risen again. "We are back up," said Eric Currie, Vice

President for Enrollment Management.

There are 302 new students this fall, more than a ten percent increase compared to last year's incoming class of 277. Of those 302 students, 50 are transfers and

26 are international. China, Cameroon, Nigeria, Uganda, and Venezuela are just a few of the countries represented by the new students at Houghton.

In order to bring numbers up this semester the

admissions team, alongside the marketing and the communications offices, thought of new ways to advertise Houghton College. "We started with updating the brand-

See **3 ENROLLMENT** page 3

SGA Restructures as Council

THOMAS ECKERT

The Houghton Student Government Association (SGA) has eliminated senator positions in an effort to build a more efficient representative

system. This new Council supplants the Senate. It comes as a reaction to the low enrollment that Houghton has seen over the past few years and decreased participation in the SGA.

Senior, Wynn Horton, ex-

ecutive officer of committees, explains, "Two years ago the Senate and Cabinet of the SGA were the two separate bodies that made up the SGA. This

See **SGA** page 3

17 Students Enroll at Buffalo Satellite Campus

JARED CRAM

The addition of a satellite campus in Buffalo is one of many changes that have happened recently at Houghton. This campus provides an opportunity to receive a 2-year Associate of the Arts Degree through Houghton College. Upon graduation, students are granted automatic admission into the bachelor's program at Houghton's main campus, should they choose to accept.

Currently, there are 17 students enrolled, representing five different areas of the world. Several of the students are refugees who have been living in Buffalo for less than six years, from places like Burma, Thailand, Congo, and elsewhere, according to Dean of Extension Studies, Scott McClelland. Many of these students are first generation students who are learning English during their

pursuit of higher education.

Both Houghton's Buffalo program and Houghton itself, McClelland says, were created as a means to provide an education about the broader world in a Christian environment. McClelland quoted the mission of Houghton Buffalo as "...providing our educational distinctive to students who are economically diverse."

This education being provided is as diverse as the students themselves. According to Houghton Buffalo's page on the Houghton College website, courses are offered in fine arts, theology, mathematics, and others, all in Buffalo. These courses are taught by a combination of current full-time professors, and local Adjunct professors who are familiar with the Buffalo area.

In addition to professors, there are other Houghton mem-

See **BUFFALO** page 3



ANTHONY BURDO

Jared Cram, executive officer of student life, and Josiah Evans working in the SGA office.

WORLD // Ebola Persists, The U.S. Fights Back



ANTHONY BURDO

CORY BRAUTIGAM

During his visit to the headquarters of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta on Tuesday, President Obama announced a new course of action the U.S. will take in the fight against the Ebola outbreak in West Africa. This plan comes after complaints from those on the front lines in the fight against the

virus that there has been an inadequate response by the U.S. and other able nations. The World Health Organization (WHO), local governments, and aid groups all in agreement the epidemic is currently out of hand. In his speech on Tuesday, Obama described it as “spiraling out of control.”

The new plan will be an estimated \$763 million expansion of the current aid from the U.S., according to USA Today. A training program will be set up in order to train 500 health care workers a week. Medecins Sans Frontieres (French for “Doctors Without Borders”) called medical staff the greatest need by far at present. Along with the training program, the U.S. will also be building 17 new Ebola treatment centers, as all Ebola treatment centers are currently full. As soon as new treatment centers open they are immediately filled, according to the WHO.

Obama has committed 3,000 additional military per-

sonnel to be sent to Liberia to carry out the aid efforts. According to CNN, the Liberian leadership requested the help of the U.S. military with civilian efforts in Liberia. Major General Darryl Williams, the commander of the U.S. Army Africa, will be leading the effort from Monrovia, the Liberian capital. Operation United Assistance, the name assigned to this effort, will also involve what Obama is calling an “air bridge”, making medical supplies and health care workers more accessible to the region.

Officials say this is not a U.S. takeover of the aid effort, but instead it is an example other countries should follow. According to The Wall Street Journal, the U.S. are to host an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council this upcoming week to seek commitments from other nations and generate an effective plan for moving forward in the fight against Ebola.

On Tuesday, Obama addressed the fact that the re-

sponse from the international community needs to be prompt, saying, “We can save lives. But we have to act fast.” U.S. officials have acknowledged Obama’s announcement on Tuesday is a reflection of the fact that there is currently not enough being done in the effort against the virus. The hope is that this surge of aid from the U.S. will be a turning point in the Ebola epidemic. During Obama’s announcement, he stated how we fight the disease is “not a mystery,” and called for a global response to follow the lead of the U.S. The WHO estimates it will take \$1 billion to get ahead of the virus and control it.

Laurie Garrett, a global health and infectious disease expert at the Council on Foreign Relations said, “To get ahead of the virus, we need to have a massive presence on the ground yesterday.” Whether or not this is too little too late is still up in the air. Experts say if nothing more is done, we could be looking at hundreds of thou-

sands infected. BBC News says some disease experts are questioning the focus of the U.S. effort on Liberia, believing it to be too narrow as the disease has spread beyond Liberia and continues to spread. While there is still skepticism about the sufficiency of this effort by the U.S., most non-government organizations are optimistic after Obama’s announcement Tuesday.

Obama’s announcement is, in part, a response to concerned Americans who are worried about the virus spreading into the U.S. The White House said, “The Ebola epidemic in West Africa and the humanitarian crisis there is a top national security priority for the United States.” The U.S. continues to talk about this epidemic as a global security issue as opposed to a health crisis. ★

Cory is senior philosophy and business major.

MAJORS from page 1

ing an engineering major at Houghton began about four years ago and was examined more thoroughly by former associate dean of natural science and mathematics, Keith Horn. Presently, a proposal is being prepared to gain approval towards the process of moving forward.

In describing what such a major would look like at Houghton, current associate dean of natural science and mathematics, Professor Mark Yuly, explains there is attention being given to “mainstream disciplines” such as electrical engineering and computer science

engineering. Yuly believes that engineering would be a good fit to Houghton’s mission as it will “educate students to go out and transform the world” and goes on to say, “engineering is the twin of science, translating science into something that will help people.”

There is no specific timeline for the instating of an engineering program at Houghton. Woolsey said, “We will actively explore engineering until something tells us to stop.”

The consideration of a data science major at Houghton began about a year ago when Carmen McKell, an alumna psychology major, was contacted by the president’s office about an unrelated matter. McKell

later connected with President Shirley Mullen about her and her husband’s specialty consulting firm that focuses on analytical science. She expressed that her liberal arts education prepared her for her profession. This began the curiosity of what such a program would look like at Houghton.

After researching similar programs around the country, it was discovered that data science was almost nonexistent in undergraduate programs and even less prominent at Christian colleges. Department chair of business and economics, Professor Ken Bates, said that interestingly enough “there is a specific demand for students with data science training.”

Presently, there is a working group of faculty exploring the field of data science.

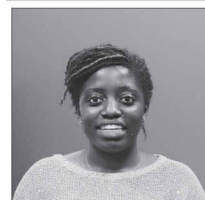
Bates says the possible social entrepreneurship major stemmed from hearing students explain their uncertainty in what they wanted to pursue after Houghton, but recognizing they wanted to help people. Such a major would satisfy the interest in serving others as well as provide a practical degree that would result in a job. Bates explains that social entrepreneurship is the “merging of starting a business and doing helpful things with that business. The service provided meets people’s needs and finds traction in a specific focus.”

Both data science and social

entrepreneurship are expected to be offered as majors as of Fall 2016. However, various classes in these particular areas of study are expected to be offered.

As boundaries are becoming blurred between various fields of study, Woolsey believes that it is now more important than ever to foster a liberal arts education that creates connections between such fields. Woolsey adds that the most exciting thing for her in this process is the “widening opportunity for our students, as well as seeing the faculty becoming enthusiastic for new projects and programs.” ★

WORD ON THE STREET



“I really enjoy it, it’s nice. I personally like going to chapel and not having to rush later if I have a 12:30 class. It’s nice that you can eat lunch, go to chapel, and not be in a hurry.”

-Aicha Kuwong, Junior



“The new schedule change is difficult for me because I have a class right after chapel and then after that class, I work. So there’s really no time for me to eat.”

-Laura Johnson, Sophomore



“I think they’re a little bit confusing just because of the different times, but the timing isn’t dreadful. A lot of it has to do with their schedules, my schedule is pretty convenient, but some people may have to have lunch at times that aren’t suitable, but I think it’s accommodated better this year.”

-Christina Moore, Junior



“Initially it was a really good idea, it was intended to prevent the students in the past who couldn’t get lunch or would leave chapel early or just skip chapel and scam to get lunch, but with classes moving as well it hasn’t alleviated the problem, it’s just moved instead of removing the it.”

-Nate Floyd, Junior

How do you feel about the new chapel and class schedule changes this semester?

“I have a class before and after chapel so I still have to wait a bit for lunch. It’s not my favorite, but I can’t say it’s worse than the past schedule.”

-Katherine Tomlinson, Senior

“I like the new schedule because it does give an opportunity to eat an earlier lunch. You can eat lunch before chapel, but if you happen to have that class at 11:55 until 12:45; 12:45 is a perfectly fine time to eat lunch.”

-Libby Wideman, Senior

“Overall it helps some students, but for me it’s pretty much the same. I’m really busy so I don’t eat sometimes and sometimes I can’t go to chapel, that’s how it is.”

-Lauren Campbell, Junior

“I think it’s a good fix, I still think that if you are starting classes all morning, going through chapel, waiting until one o’clock is still kind of a long time, but overall job well done.”

-Emma Webb, Junior



SGA from page 1

meant each class had 3 representatives, there were 8 general representatives, and then the additional Cabinet members. Last year, we attempted to more accurately represent the ‘representative districts’ on campus by adjusting to a system of dorm and academic department reps.

“After spending most of last year with numerous vacancies and poor efficiency in the Senate structure, they voted to attempt another restructuring – this time much smaller and more consolidated than before. This idea would eliminate the separate Senate and Cabinet structures and create an Executive Council comprised of six generally elected executive officers, four class-elected representatives, a vice president, and a president.”

The intent of this restructuring is to increase competition for positions by reducing the supply to match demand. A smaller council will be able to work more effectively because it will not have as much of a need for structural decorum. Members will be able to more easily work out solutions to class issues as well as make decisions on club funding and committees.

While eliminating the senatorial positions, the SGA has created several new and focused positions for the Council. This group oversees all classes through their respective class presidents as well as by direct means. As it stands, it consists of 12 positions: general president and vice President, one president for each class, as well as executive officers of finance, committees, spiritual life, communications, non-traditional students, and student life. Each class president oversees a class cabinet that works to help individual years and puts on class-wide events. The Council also oversees five council committees and 13 committees led by the SGA and the college.

Horton described the role of the SGA in coming years, “As the college grows and determines what form it shall take in the world of higher education, the student government must be prepared to assist in these changes as best they can. It was generally thought to be in the best interest to condense the empty positions and strengthen what remained. Structures will, as the college will, change with time. We can only hope that for now, we have made the decisions that will be the best for not only this student body, but for many to come.” ★

ENROLLMENT from page 1

ing of the college,” said Ryan Spear, Associate Director of Admission. Through things like the “Rethink” campaign, Spear said the admissions team wanted to challenge prospective students to reconsider their education and what it means to them.

In an effort to reach out to prospective students, the admissions team made appearances this summer at events such as Soulfest, Creation, and Kingdom Bound. Also, the addition of new sports teams and the Kerr-Pegula athletic facility assisted in the increase in numbers of enrollment.

Admissions attempted to emphasize the personalization of the application process, to which Currie and Spear attribute the success of incoming new students. Things such as personalized acceptance letters and arranging a perspective’s visitation day in an attempt to accommodate their interests are a few things that “set Houghton apart from other schools,” said Spear.

Even though it is time consuming to personal-

ize so much of the prospective student process, it is certainly worth it to Spear. Prospective students ranked Houghton very high in personal communication. “My acceptance letter was really sweet and personal, it included things from my application and mentioned my recommendations which was cool,” said freshman, Erica Barney.

Admissions counselors helped incoming students to prepare and eager to attend Houghton. Barney said that her admissions counselor was “really sweet and right off the bat and was talking to me about what to look forward to when I came to Houghton.”

It wasn’t always easy getting potential students to enroll though, Currie said economics was the largest struggle this past year. In a survey taken by prospective students, the majority said the greatest barrier of being unable to attend Houghton was finances. Spear said fear of loans and affordability of tuition kept potential students from applying to Houghton.

Now Houghton has a partnership with the Loan Repayment Assistance Program foundation (LRAP) to

help out with those financial issues. Spear said that the LRAP serves as a “safety net for students.” This program covers up to 100% of all federal, private, and Parent PLUS loans at no cost to the student or parent. Spear said, “It addresses people’s financial confidence and allows students to pursue their calling right away.”

Admissions is hoping to meet their stretch goal of 315 enrolling new students in the fall of 2015 and is already preparing for next year, Currie said, “We are already in full swing.” Admissions recently ran their first email campaign and have already started to receive applications from prospective students. Spear said admissions staff will continue the personalization that is so well known of the college.

Admissions is reaching out to the largest number of students ever, visiting over 150 college fairs and 225 high schools this fall. Though that is likely to draw in many perspectives, the admissions team is trying not to get ahead of themselves. “We are trying to be realistic on what we can attain,” said Currie. ★

BUFFALO from page 1

bers and alumni assisting in the start of program. Director of CASA, Mark Hunter works closely with the students to help them with their English vocabulary skills, while professor Laurie Dashnau offers the services of the Writing Center to Buffalo students on Fridays. Three recent Hough-

ton alumni, Amanda Wojcinski, Elizabeth Wallace, and Roxanne Kehr also provide daily tutoring sessions through the AmeriCorps program. Programs such as tutoring sessions and other programs help the students transition into their new life as they move between two cultural contexts every day.

The Buffalo area, particularly within church populations, has already recognized Houghton as a college community for

providing tutoring services and service learning opportunities in the region. With the development of the new Houghton Buffalo program, members of the Buffalo community have an opportunity to be reached in a way they have not experienced before. McClelland says, “Now we have become neighbors, with an educational site to help urban students as Houghton students. The difference is huge.”

The program also looks to

make sure that Houghton Buffalo students aware they are part of a larger college community in addition to the Buffalo community. Students will be making three trips to Houghton’s main campus this semester, where one of the courses is being taught. Looking toward the future, McClelland also says that he hopes to establish some sort of video conferencing to help tie the colleges together.

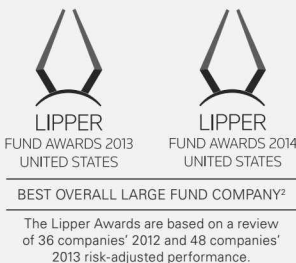
Video conferencing is just

one of the ways that McClelland hopes to integrate the two campuses in the future. As Buffalo students come to Houghton to be a part of the larger community, McClelland would like Houghton students to know that they have an opportunity to be part of the revival in Buffalo as well by participating in the semester at Buffalo program that the college offers. ★

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Faith and Justice Symposium: Hope in the Midst of Deep Conflict

AVA BERGEN

Houghton College’s fourth annual Faith and Justice Symposium will be tackling the weighty topics of War, Conflict, and Violence, with an emphasis on the enduring presence of hope. Beginning Wednesday September 24th and continuing throughout the week, the Symposium hopes to not only to inform about relevant world issues but also to contextualize and equip Houghton campus with a deepened understanding of conflict.

Wynn Horton, a student coordinator for the event comments, “Every single person at or around Houghton is impacted by war whether they believe it or not. War and conflict have shaped the history of the world and provide the foundations for the present. Without understanding the expansive effects of these violent events, we cannot expect to find resonance with those whose lives have been woven through cultures of war, conflict, and violence.”

DAILY CALENDAR

19 // FRIDAY

Chapel speaker: Professor Gaerte

20 // SATURDAY

Athletics
SB @ Allegheny College
Tournament
CC: Highlander Invitational
WT @ Ithaca
FH @ Stevens Tech
VB @ Elmira
WS @ Nazareth
VB @ Stevens
MS @ Utica

22 // MONDAY

Chapel speaker: Dean Michael Jordan

23 // TUESDAY

Athletics
MS vs. U of Pitt-Bradford
Science and Math Colloquium

24 // WEDNESDAY

Faith & Justice Symposium
See You at the Pole
Chapel speaker: Molly Little, Faith and Justice Symposium
Athletics
FH @ Ithaca
VB @ Nazareth
WS @ Alfred University
Global Christian Fellowship

25 // THURSDAY

Faith & Justice Symposium
Faith & Justice: Engaging the Arts Coffee House

This year’s Symposium hopes that students will attend and apply the event’s message to their own lives. Professor of Intercultural Studies and Director of the Center for Faith, Justice, and Global Engagement, Ndunge Kiiti comments, “[The theme of] ‘Stories of Hope’ is to remind us that we can do something about these complex issues. It may be interfacing or impacting one person or many, but, whatever or whoever it is, it makes a difference.”

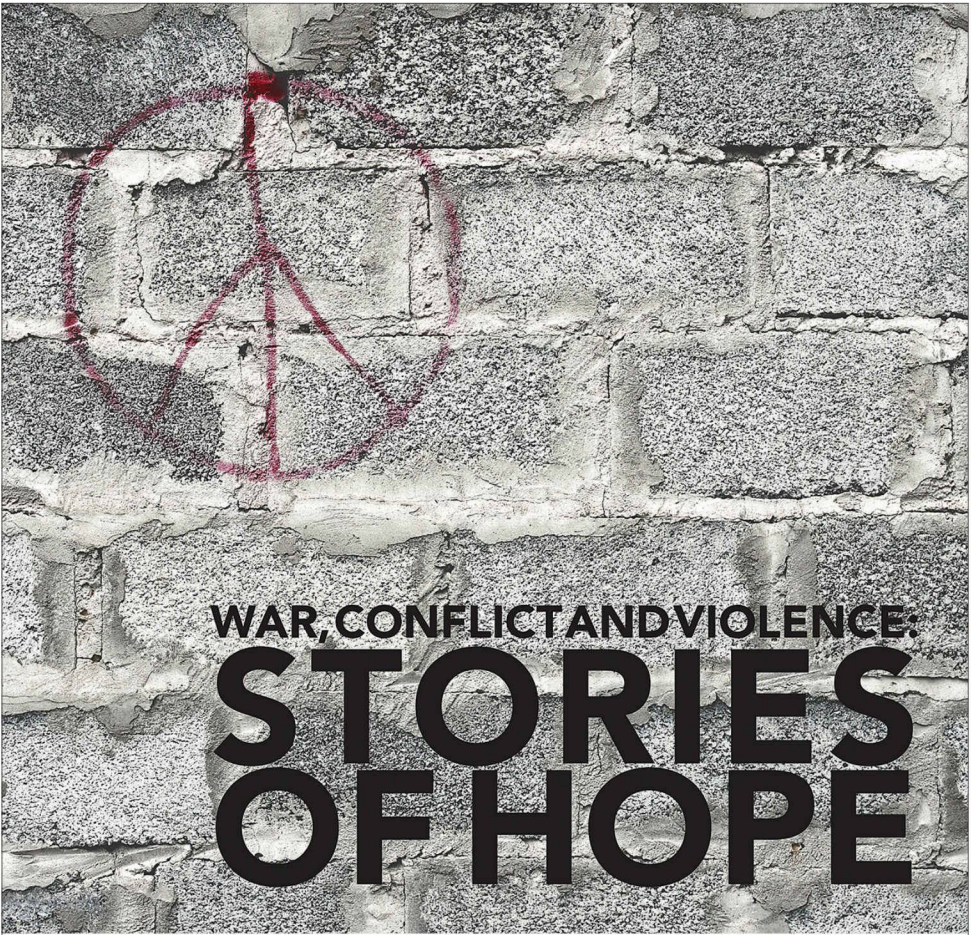
Student coordinator, Moeun Sun, additionally states, “A goal of the Symposium is to explore how even in the midst of deep conflict there remains to be hope. We want to reframe the perception of conflict, not focusing only on the conflict, but also address it in ways that bring hope to people.”

Speaker Molly Little from the United Nations and Office of Humanitarian Affairs will open up this year’s Symposium lectures. It is assumed she will be relating tales from her experience with the U.N., however, we are forced to speculate as Kiiti will only say that, “Molly has to be careful on what is written or said about her due to the secretive nature of her job.” Students will have to attend chapel on Wednesday to assuage any curiosity.

Other speakers include Reverend Celestin Musekura, president and CEO of African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries (ALARM), recent Houghton graduate Julian Cook, and Luis Noda, Chief International Relations Officer at Food for the Hungry.

This year’s theme of “War, Conflict, and Violence: Stories of Hope” was chosen based on feedback the college received after last year’s Symposium. When asked about the subject’s immediate relevance for Houghton campus, Kiiti responded: “This is an important topic because the impact of war, conflict, and violence is tremendous on human life and development-affecting communities in a multiplicity of ways...Because war, conflict and violence impact so many areas of life, they require holistic and interdisciplinary responses. This is at the core of Houghton’s mission of a Christian education in the liberal arts and sciences.”

The talks and workshops facilitated by this years’ Faith and Justice Symposium will provide Houghton campus with different contexts through which to view today’s tumultuous world. Horton expressed his hope “that students here use this [symposium] as a time to expand their ‘bubble,’ build international connections, and strengthen their understanding of hope.” ☆



2014 FAITH & JUSTICE SYMPOSIUM SEPT. 24 – 26

- Featuring
- MOLLY LITTLE | United Nations
 - REV. CELESTIN MUSEKURA | African Leadership and Reconciliation Ministries
 - JACKIE OGEKA | Catholic Relief Services
 - JULIAN COOK | Boston University
 - SUKHDEEP BRAR | The World Bank
 - LUIS NODA | Food for the Hungry
 - HAN and LAYLAY MOE | Jericho Road Community Health Center
- For more information visit www.houghton.edu/faith-and-justice

HOUGHTON
COLLEGE
CENTER FOR FAITH, JUSTICE
AND GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Poster for this year’s Faith and Justice Symposium.

COURTESY OF MOEUN SUN

September 19, 2014 Sudoku

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New Coaches Join the Highlanders



New cross-country and track and field coach, Patrick Hager, in his office.

LUKE LAUER

SAVANNAH DOVIK

Houghton welcomed two head coaches and six assistant coaches to the highlander coaching staff this year, bringing a season of change for nine athletic teams. Among the teams that welcomed new coaches include cross country, track and field, men’s and women’s soccer, men’s and women’s lacrosse, field hockey, softball and women’s basketball. Numerous Houghton alumni have returned to take roles of volunteer assistants as well.

Jordan Cady, senior and member of the track team, expressed his positive outlook toward welcoming a new coach saying, “I’m looking forward to seeing how this season plays out. It’ll be much different than years past, but with change comes growth. God’s been with us through this transition and He’ll continue to run along side us throughout the season.”

Patrick Hager was named head coach for both men’s and women’s cross-country and track and field programs. Hager previ-

ously served as graduate-assistant coach at Messiah College for the past two years. Prior to his role at Messiah, Hager worked as the first ever head cross-country coach at Rosemont College for two years.

“It seemed like Houghton was the fit for me, I prayed a lot about it and took a chance,” said Hager as he discussed his new job. He described being a full-time head coach as, “Everything I thought it would be,” as he discussed his excitement for the cross country and soon-to-be track season.

Hager spoke of his impressions of Houghton so far saying, “The community here is second to none. Even the support from the other coaches, no one’s overlooked. It’s nice to know there’s intentionality within the administration.”

Women’s lacrosse looked closer to home, welcoming Amanda Zacchigna, a 2014 Houghton graduate, as head interim coach. Rachael Snelgrove, former women’s lacrosse will continue to be a consultant to the program, while remaining head coach for the field hockey program.

“Coach Rachael Snelgrove laid an exceptional foundation for the team as she served as the head coach for the past two years; her involvement this year will come in the form of a mentor to me as I transition into this new position,” said Zacchigna.

Snelgrove also spoke of her role to the women’s lacrosse team saying, “I am there to help the transition run smoothly- to help Amanda with all of the finite administrative details- and to be a listening ear for her.”

“I am extremely excited to be able to serve the women as their coach,” said Zacchigna, “I understand where the program came from and what it has accomplished thus far; and I am invested in pushing these accomplishments even further.”

Joining Zacchigna as assistant coach is Marissa Meassick,

Houghton 2014 graduate. Meassick will also work alongside Snelgrove as assistant field hockey coach.

Men and women’s soccer welcomed new assistant coaches as well. John Carpenter, 2014 Houghton graduate, will serve as men’s soccer assistant coach, while Erin Miller, 2014 Houghton graduate, will assist with the women’s program.

When speaking with Carpenter about his new role and shift from player to coach he said, “As a player you are constantly being told information by your coaches. Now that I am on the other side of that, I am not only trying to help the guys in that aspect, but also take in and learn from the rest of the coaching staff, what it takes to be successful from the coaching side.” Carpenter briefly added, “In this first season I am really trying to find the ways in which I can most benefit this team.”

Miller spoke in similar ways of her new role, “In the last couple months, I have had to transition my mindset as a player to a coach and find the most effective ways to translate those ideas to other players.” When speaking of the challenges she has faced as a new coach, she offered, “Finding the balance between knowing when to step in and when to allow the team to bond together and step up themselves is something that I constantly have to keep in check.”

Women’s Tennis Achieves Goals

ALICIA NEEDHAM

In their second season headed by Coach Charlie Ellis, the women’s tennis team welcomes seven new players to their roster. The recruits include five first years, one junior transfer, and one senior who did not play on the team during their first season. “The [new players] definitely bring a new culture to the tennis team,” says senior captain, Jennifer Iacucci, “since they are so young and [are] learning at a rapid pace, they have a bright future.”

Senior, Jennifer Mechler, said, “[Our bigger team] brings more competition, more resilience.” The returners have improved and they are able to teach the new players who have high school experience. Iacucci commented that, “Skills have gotten better, confidence levels have grown, and [they are gaining an] understanding of collegiate tennis.” However, not everyone is able to travel when they have away games. Coach Ellis maintains that the team, “plays together competitively every day. [He plays] everybody

in exhibition matches to get experience.”

“All the returners are with new players so even [if] they are not playing, they can still be a part of the team,” said junior captain, Bethany Chesebro. The women’s tennis team arrived early before school started for preseason among other fall sports. Iacucci said, “It was easier to have good team chemistry during preseason. We are intentional about the time we spend together.”

The women’s tennis team is currently 2-6 overall, but these scores do not show the improvements they have made from last season. This year, the team is able to conduct themselves better in matches because they know the rules and know what to expect. Coach Ellis’ main goal was to win at least two matches and they have already achieved that. Iacucci shared the team’s main goals are to: “slowly work [their] way up the ladder in each match, [win] at least individual matches, be friendly, have the highest team GPA on campus, be a well-rounded team, and [be] visible and sup-

portive of [each other] in all that [they] do.”

Throughout the year, the team aspires to grow spiritually as well. Before matches, they invite their opponents to pray with them so everyone remembers they are playing for the glory of God. Prayer as a group and with their prayer partners is a big part of their devotionals, headed by the team chaplain, senior, Andrea Melhorn. “Prayer partners are a good idea because you can hold someone account-

able,” said Chesebro. Beyond attending church and doing devotions together, they are currently planning a mission’s trip to the Dominican Republic for preseason next year.

Since the start of this season, women’s tennis has shown signs of progression and improvement. Chesebro said, “He exposes us to competitive play and it has helped us because we are now able to compete with other teams in the conference.” However, Coach Ellis wants his girls

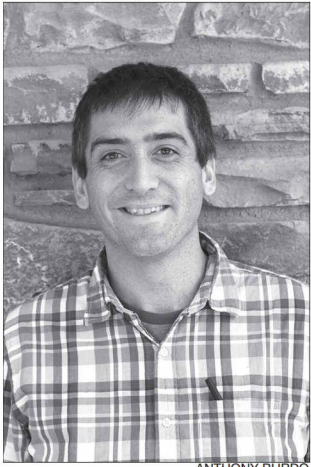
to know that being competitive is not their sole focus as a team so they should not walk away discouraged from any match. He does not see the girls just as tennis players, but is invested in their lives off the court. Coach Ellis wants, “[His seniors] to enjoy their last year and to pass on the culture [they have] created to the new players by respecting one another, being thankful for what God’s given [them], honoring what [they] are doing, and not being self-centered.”



Tennis team huddle at Tuesday’s practice.

LUKE LAUER

Faith, Justice, and Hope



ANTHONY BURDO

MICHAEL JORDAN

During one of the CLEW services, Dr. Marvin McMickle referenced a gospel song sung in many African-American churches: "This joy that I have, the world didn't give it to me; the world didn't give it, and the world can't take it away." I thought back to a seminary friend, who used to sing it, an African-American friend who invited me into his church, his neighborhood and his life. In my ignorance, I thought of his neighborhood as impoverished, disadvantaged and frankly, "bad," a neighborhood that I, on my better days, might help to save.

Little did I know, that neighborhood, and that friend and that church, would help to save me. When my friend took me to his church in his "bad" neighborhood, I met the warmest, most hospitable Christians I had ever known. I met people who had less than I had, but shared more; people who society had pushed to the margins, but who welcomed me into the center; people who had known more suffering than I, but had more joy.

That experience recalibrated my spiritual life. I had to wrestle with the obvious fact that I had, in the end, very little to offer these fine Christians. I had more money and possessions, certainly; and yet, in the presence of these good people I realized that these were more liabilities than assets to the spiritual life. My friend's church exemplified the fruit of the Spirit in a way that I did not. I was stuck in an anx-

ious pattern, unable to discern God's gifts in my life, and they knew genuine and obvious joy. While I frittered and worried about finding God's call on my life, they lived with bold confidence that they were God's people for this time and place. While I gritted my teeth and tried doggedly to save the world (to embarrassingly little effect), they were joyfully operating as the hands and feet of Christ in their community.

This reality makes me especially excited for this year's Faith and Justice Symposium, with the theme "Stories of Hope." We sometimes imagine that people who have been through war and armed conflict are incapable of hope. Places like Somalia, the Ukraine, Iraq, the Sudan (and

other nations like Rwanda and Ethiopia before them) become bywords, shortcuts we use to

hope was in short supply in my life before I met my friend. I had a fairly hopeful approach to life, but was always worried about something going wrong, or running afoul of God's will. In the end, I guess I hadn't known what it meant to truly hope, to hope without the nagging fear that something could go wrong and, in the process, take my hope and happiness away.

Usually, events like this symposium challenge us to get involved and work for justice. And ultimately, I hope you do that. But before you sign up to help, before you run off to bring Jesus' light to a dark world, listen to these stories of hope; hear that God is already there, amid all of His children caught in war and conflict, bringing hope to the oppressed. And above all, I pray that you allow yourself to learn from these stories of hope, to learn what real hope is, a hope that might just be sturdier than whatever you call hope today: because the world didn't give it and the world can't take it away.★

Michael Jordan is the Dean of the Chapel

Yet, of course, the reality is different, and far more joyful: God is already at work in all of these places.

We sometimes imagine that people who have been through war and armed conflict are incapable of hope.

Minimum Wage: Tilting At Windmills



ANTHONY BURDO

JOSEPH GILLIGAN

A growing number of Americans, academics, and politicians herald a rise in minimum wage as a solution to fight poverty. The concept seems simple, politicians agree what is a livable minimum wage and it becomes the law of the land. However, government solutions to economics typically resemble Don Quixote tilting at windmills.

While politicians may con-

coct a faux pas minimum or living wage, real wages are determined by a marketplace, not the government. As economist Paul Krugman once remarked, "Wages are a market price—determined by supply and demand, the same as the price of apples or coal." In capitalist societies, corporations will pay dearly for specific skills or if labor is in short supply. Just ask Wal-Mart workers in Wilston, North Dakota who start at \$17.40 an hour.

Now that government sets the minimum wage, employers must decide if the wage, benefits, taxes and training are worth the value of the task at hand. People with no experience or no diploma find it hard to enter the workforce. They are impeded from opportunity of economic mobility into future, better jobs. You won't move up the ladder if you can't get on the ladder.

Minimum wage not only shrinks job market perspectives, but also has a weak correlation to low wage workers and poverty, according to U.S. Census Bureau data. Economist Joseph Sabia found minimum wage increas-

es on both the state and federal level between 2003 and 2007 "had no effect on state poverty rates." According to Michael Strain of the American Enterprise Institute, "Less than 3% of hourly wage earners over the age of 24 earn at or below the federal minimum." Most minimum wage earners are teenagers who are seeking work experience. These same teens face a 24% unemployment rate. It could be argued that high school and college workers with the need for experience should forgo any minimum wage. In the past, college students voluntarily traded labor for the experience gained from internship.

I discovered how differently fast food restaurants were operated while travelling around Europe playing baseball this summer. At a McDonald's in La Rochelle, France, there was no counter person taking orders, instead it was a computer. Why would an American corporation be more technologically advanced in France than in their domestic franchises? I asked a French worker, who said McDonald's

found it more economically feasible to buy an expensive computer system rather than pay France's minimum wage

ble, next to the salt and pepper shakers. Since Presto works for free, should we tip Presto more than the customary 15%?

Small businesses are the engine of our economy. There should be little or no regulation on them, so long as it does not affect the safety of their employees or the public.

Small businesses are the engine of our economy. There should be little or no regulation on them, so long as it does not affect the safety of their employees or the public. Small businesses are typically underfunded and unable to immediately buy systems to replace people. In fact,

of \$12.09 plus a multitude of benefits and payroll taxes gifted by French politicians.

When labor is costly and can be replaced by machines, most businesses invest in capital intensive systems. Even in the U.S., we are now witnessing technology replace the demand for workers. Check out your local bank with half the amount of tellers as it had ten years ago. Home Depot has automated cashiers. At Applebee's, your "Neighborhood Grill and Bar," don't expect Flo, your favorite, neighborly waitress, to take your nachos order in the future. "Presto"—the tablet computer—has secretly been added to your ta-

these businesses can thrive by giving a human-touch experience versus their larger counterparts. However, the more we increase and mandate minimum wages and fringe benefits, once negotiated privately by consenting adults, the more we increase the problems we see in France. George W. Bush once quipped, "The trouble with the French is that they don't have a word for entrepreneur." If we keep on passing minimum wage laws, this country might not have a word for enterprise. ★

Joe is a sophomore business and accounting major

You won't move up the ladder if you can't get on the ladder.

How Not To Be A Sexist Pig



ANTHONY BURDO

DANI EATON

Catcalling- the art of whistling at women so they're made aware of a man's attraction to them. It happens daily, all over the world, and has been happening for as long as any member of our generation can remember. That mean's it's okay, right? Wrong. If anyone ever looked up the history of the catcall they'd find that it was used in the 1960's as a noisemaker

to express ones dissatisfaction regarding a play. Somehow, over time, it has evolved into men's very own verbal, personal stamp of approval for women.

The popularity of the catcall practically invites men to not only look at, but to judge a woman solely based on her appearance and her body, and somehow makes it okay because they whistled at us. Some people may think it's an overreaction to say that a catcall is a form of objectification and harassment, that it's really just a compliment and women should be flattered. However, there are many less d e m e a n i n g and more flattering ways to give women a compliment. Notice things about her aside from her body, how friendly she is, what an insightful comment she made in class, or maybe how nice

her hair looks today. Women are generally self-conscious. Society has painted a portrait of what women are supposed to look like, it's not pretty, and, rational or not, we feel like we have to live up to it. Catcalling makes us aware that you have been inspecting us, checking us for flaws and imperfections we already obsess over and wish we could change. Catcalling

our bodies even more than we already do.

This is wrong for several reasons, the biggest and most obvious one being: it's our body. Not yours.

This is wrong for several reasons, the biggest and most obvious one being: it's our body. Not yours. Whistling at a woman gives you control over her body, emotions, and vulnerability. God made us all unique, each of us with our own distinguishing characteristics, ours are not yours to control as you please. How can we change something that's been so ingrained into today's culture and media? We educate.

Education is key. Educate yourself, your friends, your brothers on why it is wrong. And keep educating. Do you want to live in a world where your daughter walks down the street with strangers whistling at her, reminding her that her body is up to par today, that society approves of how she looks? Do you want to live in a world where your son is the one whistling at a passing stranger, telling her that she meets his expectations of what a woman should look like, that her body gets his approval? In her lifetime a woman will almost definitely be two things: a mother and a daughter. If you don't degrade your mother and wouldn't objectify your own daughter some day, why would you do it to someone else's? The only difference between men and women is that we have to fight for our rights, don't make the battle harder for us.★

Dani is a sophomore writing and communication major



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.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I was a little bothered by Hope Schwartz's opinion piece titled, "Worship: the Tension Between Ritual and Reflection," published in the September 12 issue of the Star. In her piece, Schwartz asserted "traditional corporate worship seems to encourage Christians to live out their faith in conditioned, ritualistic ways." She continued to say, "Can we truly draw closer to God through corporate worship that gives little attention to the need for the individual aspect of our faith?" I am most bothered by Schwartz's assertion because it indicates a very West-centric point of view. Contrary to

Schwartz's opinion, I argue that we in the West (particularly in Protestant traditions) are in absolutely no danger of undervaluing the individual aspect of faith, especially in contrast with other Christian faith traditions, notably Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox and other faith traditions in other cultures of the world. Acute focus on the individual person is one of the most defining aspects of Western Protestantism, even since its stirrings in the Reformation. By contrast, for Catholics, Orthodox practitioners, and other believers around the world, individualism is lower on the priority list both for worship and within their faith traditions. Rather, their emphasis rests on

the corporate and creedal nature of the worship and the unity of believers. Schwartz's assessment that "insufficient individualism" (not her words) is the thing that is preventing Christians from worship doesn't really hold very well when you examine both Protestant church history and theology and how our fellow Christians worship around the world. Perhaps the problem of Christians "going through the motions" isn't a corporate worship issue, but instead an (yes) individual issue: an issue of the heart for worship. Best, Sarah Hutchinson Class of 2014

SPEAK OUT!

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less

SUBMIT TO

editor@houghtonstar.com

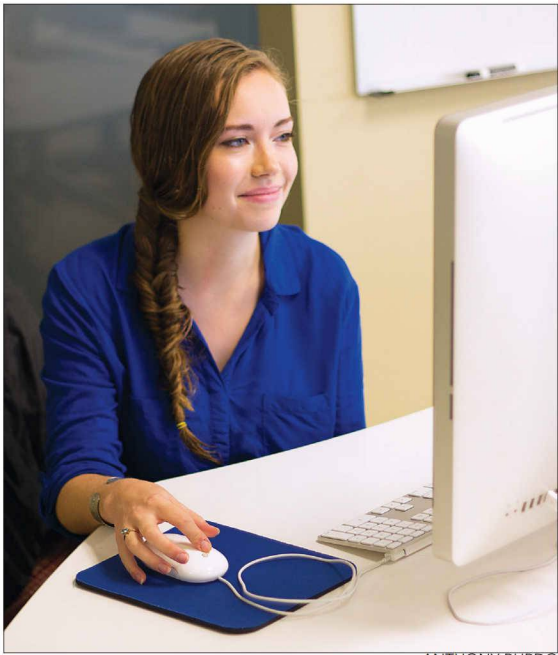
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Artist of the Week

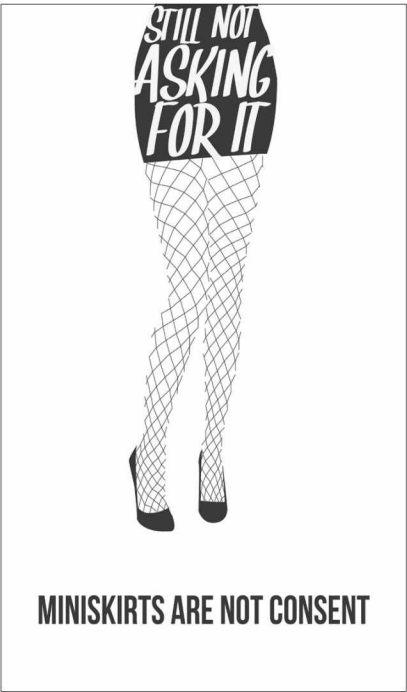
Merritt Becknell

//senior Applied Design & Visual Communication major

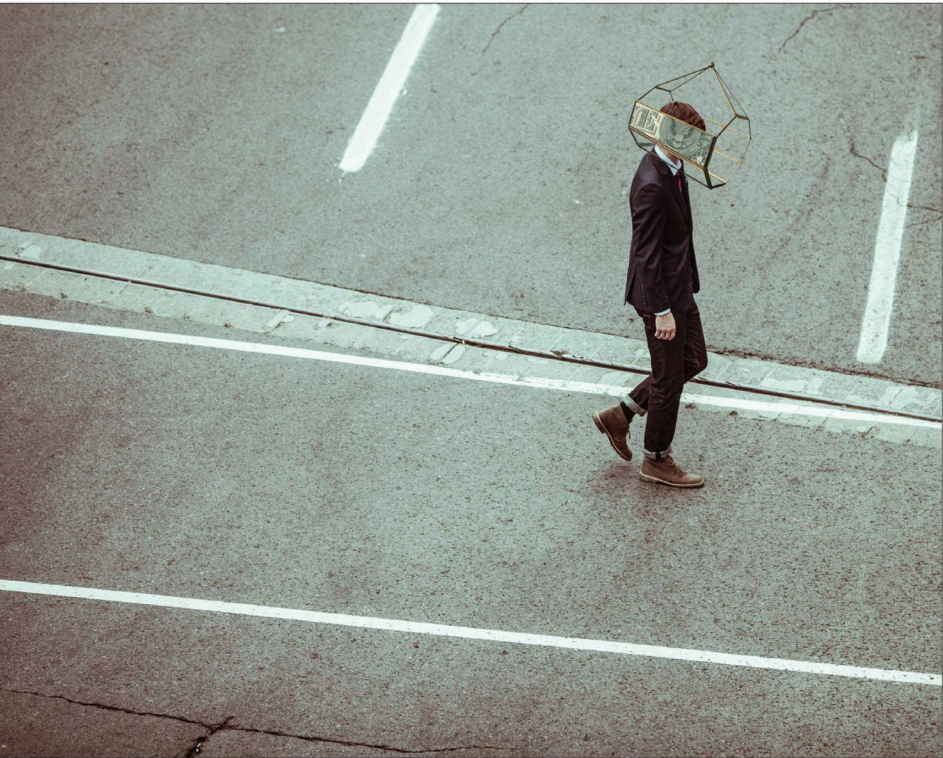
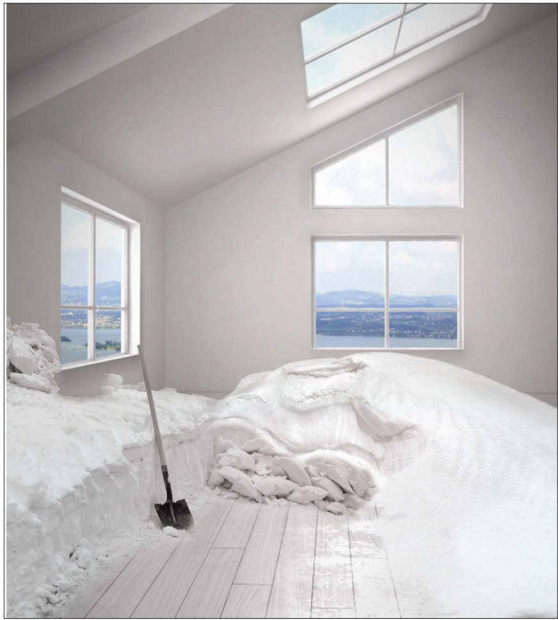
She uses art to visually explore her experiences, struggles, & thoughts.



ANTHONY BURDO



“ Inspiration is everywhere & what you can imagine is what you can create. ”
-Eric Johansson



Titles & Media

Left to right, descending

owl's head lighthouse
digital print

victim blaming,
digital print

studying loss (1)
digital print

isolated in your rightness (1),
digital print

studying loss (2)
digital print

isolated in your rightness (2),
digital print