

RACHEL MCCLATCHY

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Meilaender Awarded Research Fellowship at Biola University



LUKE LAUER

Meilaender will be away next spring semester.

SARAH HUTCHINSON

For Peter Meilaender, professor of political science, the opportunity to embark on a research fellowship next spring at Biola University is a "chance to sit down, free of distractions" to

work on a subject that has piqued his interest for almost a decade.

After applying last October, Meilaender was awarded a research fellowship at the Center for Christian Thought (CCT) at Biola University, a Christian, California-based school. Ac-

cording to its website, the CCT awards a number of research fellowships, with all research "[focusing] on a theme of contemporary relevance and importance, which has bearing on both academic and popular issues." The theme of 2014-2015 at CCT is "Intellectual Virtue and Civil Discourse."

Specifically, Meilaender will be embarking on a study of loyalty, a virtue that he described as involving a moral tension "between our duties toward particular persons with whom we stand in special relationships and our universal obligations toward all human beings." In relation to the theme of the CCT, Meilaender hopes that "by defending a virtue that involves commitment to others without requiring ideological agreement, I ... hope to strengthen an ideal of civility in our public discourse."

Meilaender became interested in the subject of loyalty through his work on immigration in a book published more than ten years ago (and currently available in the Houghton library entitled *Toward a Theory of Immigration*.)

See MEILAENDER page 2

Annual Student Juried Art Exhibition Opens Saturday

BEN LAYMAN

This Saturday, March 22, marks the opening of the 25th annual Student Juried Art Exhibition. Submissions were accepted from all Houghton students, provided that the works submitted had been completed within the last year. It will feature a wide variety of artwork including ceramics, printmaking, drawing, book art, and other forms of media, totaling nearly eighty pieces. The expansive selection of work makes it ideal as a sampling of what the art community at Houghton has to offer. "It's a show we look forward to every year, both for the celebration of creativity among our student body and the recognition of the visual art, design and media programs," said Jillian Sokso, chair for the department of art and director of the Ortlip Gallery.

See EXHIBITION page 3

Athletic Complex Update



LUKE LAUER

Current progress on the Kerr-Pegula Complex.

WYNN HORTON

The Kerr-Pegula Athletics Complex project plans were officially drafted in 2011 after receiving a letter of intent for a twelve million dollar donation from millionaire Terry

Pegula and his wife Kim (Kerr '91) Pegula. By mid-spring 2013, the initial plans were approved by the Board and a timeline set in place. While the timeline has since evolved to reflect weather and fundraising realities, the project has continued forward with due

speed. A walk past Shenawana Hall reveals the amount of work that has been completed already, and foreshadows the magnitude of these developments. David Smith, vice president of finance,

See COMPLEX page 3

HELP Day Gears Students Up for Future

GRETCHEN REEVES

This past Wednesday marked a continuation of the college's yearly Houghton Life and Evaluation Planning (HELP) Day. The event, which spans the morning and most of the afternoon of a chosen Wednesday in the spring semester, cancels classes so that students may meet with their advisors to plan out their majors as well as attend various sessions throughout the day concerning topics such as career planning, graduate schools, and loan repayment.

Planning for HELP Day began on the second Monday of this spring semester. A committee comprised of Sharon Mulligan, Marge Avery, Helena Oden, Greg Bish, Marc Smithers, Dan Noyes, Brian Reitnour, and committee chairman Mark Hunter met on a weekly basis to decide on what sessions and other services would be provided for students that day. Certain sessions geared towards underclassmen and upperclassmen, with a Grad Central Station set up for seniors to prepare for graduation and post-graduation plans. Dani Johnson of Career Services, who ran a booth at the station, explained that the purpose is to "give seniors a last chance

See HELP page 3

COMPLEX *from page 1*

is assisting in the flow of information to students and community members on behalf of the administration.

Of most pressing importance is the matter of fundraising and supporting this large venture. "The fundraising for this project has reached over \$15M including the \$12M lead gift by Terry and Kim (Kerr '91) Pegula with an additional \$3M given by hundreds of donors over the past 18 months," said Smith, "Individuals, foundations and corporations with affinity, capacity, and demonstrated generosity have been identified and are actively being solicited for this project."

While the long-term project costs total more than \$25M, the Advancement and Finance Departments seem enthusiastic and optimistic about reaching their goals. In a summary statement concerning fundraising, Smith said that he expects "to reach the fundraising goal by December 2015, which includes additional major capital gifts and endowment gifts designated for upkeep of the facilities, and a range of gifts from hundreds of dedicated alumni and friends."

Another lurking concern about the complex is if the recent drop in enrollment could affect the finishing or expanse of the project's plans. When asked this question directly, Smith seemed optimistic. "The size of the facilities reflects many factors other than just enrollment, and all the factors, when included in the overall strategy,

indicate our planning is still appropriate to our needs. For example, the size of this venue will be ideal for large multi-team track meets, concerts much larger than can be hosted currently, and other events that will promote Houghton College in our area/region."

When asked a similar question, student government vice president and representative to the student athlete advisory committee, Andiana Sidell '14, also exuded positivity, "I definitely think that this project will have an impact on enrollment in the fall. Coaches and admissions have been using it as a recruiting tool. The presence of updated or new facilities is good for any type of program especially one that will impact the whole campus."

Senator for athletics, Michael Bova '15, also weighed in on the complex's impact, saying, "I believe it will impact enrollment, especially if we have a multitude of future athletes coming to visit during the later portions of April or during May when the complex is nearing its final state. The complex adds grandeur to the Houghton campus, which is not something individuals expect when they look at the location of Houghton College--it adds to the "wow" factor, in essence."

Smith holds hopes that the project will be completed very soon. "The overall project, including the fields and field house, is on schedule to be completed by mid-summer 2014 and the fundraising plan is on schedule to be completed by December 2015." ★

MEILAENDER *from page 1*

During that study, he was interested in using loyalty as a "positive case for special preference to fellow citizens" in the broader immigration debate which, by contrast, according to Meilaender, currently favors open-border policies. Since his introduction to loyalty through that study, Meilaender has explored the topic in greater detail and even offers a course entitled "Loyalty" through the political science department.

Meilaender expressed his hope that the "three or four conference papers" and research that he completes during the fellowship might result in several

book chapters for a book on loyalty. Though his planned research on loyalty next spring is not an official sequel to *Toward a Theory of Immigration*, Meilaender expressed that "intellectually, this is a sequel to the immigration book."

Because the fellowship will take him away from campus, and consequently decrease the political science department by half, Meilaender will be teaching a full load of courses next fall, which include "In Search of Justice," "Introduction to Political Thought," and "International Law and Organization" in addition to supervising the political science senior seminar. ★

WANTED

A highly-motivated, news-hungry individual to serve as news section editor for the 2014-2015 school year. The position is stipended and provides excellent writing and student leadership experience.

Interested? Send us an email at: houghtonstar@gmail.com

WORD ON THE STREET



"I think it is important to be respectful of each other's races, but make sure that we don't classify people into categories just because of their race."

Moeun Sun '15



I think the way that Houghton has approached the topic has been good so far.

Chandler Jones '17



I think at this point the most important thing for Houghton is to ensure that means of dialogue are left open and doing so in a very conscientious, methodical way. I think the issue should be presented as more than just a binary issue and the effort should be to incorporate as many perspectives as possible.

Lauren Bull '14

I think we should actually approach it....

I think if we are trying to, it's not very clear and I think that shows itself in the ways people react to different things. For example, I'm not really sure that people know what the Black Heritage Club is or what it's about.

Simba Kamuriwo '14



Bluntly, I feel like beating around the bush only makes it worse.

Caleb Hallead '16



How should Houghton approach the conversation about race?

A big part is that in order for people to understand we have to listen to each other to learn different perspectives.... When you talk about another race, you have to make sure you know their culture and background and how they interact. Just make sure that you are trying to listen.

Aicha Kuwong '16



HELP from page 1

to talk about job searching and graduate school and let them know we're here to help."

One of the new aspects of this year's HELP Day, according to Hunter and Bish, was the morning sessions given to students in the dorms and townhouses, with each speaker unique to each residence hall. Speakers included Rick Melson, Vice President for Advancement; Eric Currie, Vice President for Enrollment; David Smith, Vice President for Finance; Robert Pool, Vice President for Student Life, and President Shirley Mullen. "We wanted to start off in the residence halls and give the vice presidents and the president a chance to interact with students on their own turf," explained Bish.

Also new to this year's activities were some of the sessions offered to students. "We added a few new sessions this year, one about loan forgiveness," said Hunter. The college brought in Houghton alum Bruce Campbell '81, currently Director of Graduate Admissions at St. Bonaventure University, to speak on Houghton's loan forgiveness program and applying to graduate school. According to Hunter, the loan forgiveness session "was probably the most well-attended session. Our next best-

attended session was preparing for graduate school, and then 'Navigating Personal Finance.'"

Also added this year was a session on Gallup's StrengthsFinder, which was made available to students through the career services office. "I think that's an underlying big thing we brought this year--each person knowing their own strengths, getting to see others' better ... how together we form the body of Christ and are unique in what we bring to the table," said Bish.

However, HELP Day isn't solely a day for students. Faculty too attend sessions dealing with topics of professional improvement. Past HELP Days typically planned one session for faculty. However, this year, three were made available, one for a general faculty audience, one for department heads, and another for faculty in the process of writing for grants.

Hunter's gauge of student response was positive. "We actually had greater attendance of our afternoon sessions this year than last year," he said. As for planning for next year, he said that "we always welcome student input about how to improve HELP Day. We want it to be a thing that really is valuable for students when they think about the future, whether it's next fall's classes or a career or graduate school." ★



Students await the results of a HELP Day raffle.

LUKE LAUER

Student Schedule Changes Approved for Next Fall Semester

GRETCHEN REEVES

After several semesters of tentative planning and re-planning, a new schedule was approved for next fall semester. The new schedule, which moves chapel start time from 11:30 am to 11:05 am, is hoped to provide students with more time to eat lunch before afternoon classes. It also sets the earliest class time at 7:55 am instead of 7:45 am and eliminates five-minute breaks between classes, making sure most students have ten minutes to get from one class to another.

Reasons for changing 7:45 start times to 7:55 were complaints about its earliness, while five minute intervals between classes were found to be insufficient for students, especially those walking from one end of campus to the other and those with physical ailments. According to

Marge Avery, Director of Academic Records, "There was a proposal to do that to try to squeeze more time slots for classes in and still get things done in the time they thought it could get done in. Enough people said that doesn't work very well because not all the other classes get out on time."

The final schedule had to pass through multiple organizations on campus before reaching a general consensus required for final approval. Student government, Academic Council, faculty, Student Life, Sodexo, Dr. Jordan, the admissions office, the dean's office, and the athletics department all provided input and approved of the final product.

"I know a number of people liked having chapel back at 11:00," said Avery. "I think that will help. One of the main things is that it gives students more time to eat lunch." ★



*The weather's getting warmer,
and 5 Bites has cool new
Addie's Ice cream products!*

EXHIBITION from page 1

Each student can submit up to five pieces for the show, though only three are placed in the exhibition. This year, all submissions were subject to a jury process by artist Ian McMahon. McMahon is the co-founder and co-director of The Belfry, an artist-run exhibition venue located in Hornell, and his work in sculpture has been shown both nationally and internationally. Many Houghton art majors are already familiar with him and his work, having spoken previously during a Fine Arts Seminar and given critiques.

Amanda Irwin, assistant to the gallery and a junior Art and English double major, says that the great majority of work to be done leading up to the opening had concerned dismantling the previous gallery exhibition. In contrast with a visiting artist who would have specific parameters on how their work was to be displayed, this show requires a certain amount of responsibility and organizational skills from the gallery assistants and Sokso. "Jillian will go and look at all of our pieces and arrange them... and us as the gallery assistants go and hang everything and do the technical

aspect of it. Later on we also do lighting ourselves." Irwin assists alongside Alex Hood, Jordan Smith, and Lydia Wilson.

A number of awards will be designated during the event, also determined by McMahon. These awards include those such as the Ben Moser Award (3rd Place), the Alumni Award (2nd Place), and the Paul Maxwell Memorial Award (1st Place), along with the Ortlip Award for Best in Show, with cash prizes for each. Additionally, there will be a personal selection bid for two pieces of artwork by the College President and the First Gentleman, respectively.

The student show provides an opportunity for the college to acquire Houghton student artwork to display on campus. "We usually have a large turnout for this show," says Irwin "just because it's student work, so it's really fun to see if you got in and what they got or if your friends did that sort of thing." Jillian Sokso also comments on the contemporary nature of many of the pieces. "The Student Juried Exhibition is an exciting showcase of what is happening in the visual arts," she says. The entire exhibition will be available for viewing in the gallery until April 18th. ★



Student assistants prepare for the exhibition.

LUKE LAUER

We want to hear your thoughts!

Send us a letter at editor@houghtonstar.com

High Hopes Met with Springsteen’s New Album

JIM VITALE

We cannot say that Bruce Springsteen is at it again because, honestly, the man never stopped. On January 14th, 2014, the Boss released his 18th studio album. It was his 11th #1 album in the U.S., putting him in third place for most hit albums ever. Previously, Springsteen had success with albums such as *Born to Run* (1975), *The River* (1980), *Born in the U.S.A.* (1984), and *The Rising* (2002) to name a few. Springsteen is famous for his immensely poetic song lyrics, for representing the “working man,” and for performing concerts upwards of four hours without once stopping to take a break.

But for Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, it is not just about making hit albums and staying afloat. With so many old rock bands attempting to revive themselves these days, it is easy to write him off as just another nostalgic, fuddy-duddy who should put his guitar away and enjoy his wealth and fame. No, for Springsteen, new music is about spreading his gospel. In an interview with Jon Stewart in



High Hopes album cover.

ROLLINGSTONES.COM

and “American Skin (41 Shots)” are songs that have been revamped, taking their original acoustic sound and transforming them into proper hard rock ‘n’ roll. “Tom Joad” specifically features solos from Tom Morello, and vocals from producer and songwriter, Phil Spector.

Other songs that previously did not make the cut are the rock ballad, “Frankie Fell in Love,” the jumpy “Just Like Fire Would,” and the stark, grimy, ode to the mafia, “Harry’s Place.” “The Wall,” which features organ music from another deceased band member, Danny Federici, depicts the grief of one standing at the Vietnam War Memorial. “This is Your Sword,” and “Heaven’s Wall” take on the feel of gospel tunes and reflect the message of hope found there, while “Down in the Hole” and “Hunter of Invisible Game,” are heavy laden with sorrow and nostalgia.

Most notably, *High Hopes* starts and ends with two cover songs, something never before heard on a Springsteen studio album. The Havelinas’ full-blast “High Hopes,” and Suicide’s restrained “Dream Baby Dream” reflect the E Street Band’s ethos: hope in the face of adversity, faith in the face of doubt, and acceptance for all who struggle through this life.

High Hopes is by no means Springsteen’s best work, and with his band on tour so often, it is not hard to see why. Bruce and the E Street band have come to focus more on their performances and less on their recordings. Ultimately, nothing will ever live up to *Born to Run*, or *Born in the U.S.A.*, but what the Boss has created here with *High Hopes* is something special. It is a reminder of hope in hard times, and it is, for all intents and purposes, just some really great music. For a man his age and a career that long, it is a marvel that he can continue to produce such high quality music. And for that I say, keep the albums coming, and keep the shows long! ★

DAILY CALENDAR

21 / FRIDAY

Fashion Show
6:30 PM | Van Dyk Lounge

Athletics
3:30 PM | SB @ Kenyon College

22 / SATURDAY

Athletics
2:30 PM | SB @ Hiram College
1 PM | BB @ University of Pittsburgh-Bradford
3 PM | WLAX @ Elmore College
College
25th Annual Student Juried Exhibition Reception
7 PM | Ortlip Gallery

24 / MONDAY

Graduate Recital: Katie Pitts, clarinet
6:30 PM | CFA Recital Hall

Graduate Recital: Gregory Austin, voice
8 PM | CFA Recital Hall

25 / TUESDAY

CAB Coffeehouse
8 PM | Java 101

Athletics
2 PM | BB vs. Cazenovia College
4 PM | MLAX @ Alfred State

26 / WEDNESDAY

Student Recital:
Jonathan Hardy, guitar
8 PM | CFA Recital Hall

Graduate Recital:
Michele Walton, flute
6:30 PM | CFA Recital Hall

27 / THURSDAY

Spring Career Fair
11 PM | Van Dyk Lounge

Rolling Stone, Springsteen said, “It’s never going to be wrapped up. You’re never going to hear anything called an E Street Band farewell tour – that’s never going to exist. It just goes until it stops, and then it keeps going.” For Springsteen, it is about the music, the message of hope it represents, and the joy it delivers.

High Hopes does not shy away from its heritage. If you listen to it alongside *Born to Run* (1975), you will notice some major differences. First of all, the folk sound that Springsteen adopted during *The Seeger Sessions* (2006), has continued to influence his work in subsequent albums. *Wrecking Ball* (2012) is probably the best example of this. Another major

difference is that the E Street Band has sadly had to replace the legendary sax-player Clarence Clemons who passed away just before *Wrecking Ball* was released. Although the loss of Clemons is noticeable, Springsteen chose his replacement well: Clarence’s nephew, Jake Clemons. In addition, the E Street Band has added the legendary skills of Tom Morello, guitarist from *Rage Against the Machine*, to its inventory.

The album *High Hopes* is a conglomeration of songs that Springsteen has been writing since the turn of the century. Most of the songs are ones that did not make the cut on previous albums, and a few are songs that have been revamped for this album specifically. “The Ghost of Tom Joad”

Faces Behind the Kerr-Pegula Athletic Complex

SAVANNAH DOVIAK

If you have walked by the Kerr-Pegula Complex construction site in the past few days, you will have noticed a great deal of work has been done on the project in the past few months. Each day progress continues to be made from the finishing touches being put on the softball field, to the more major construction underway on the field house.

Less visible are the faces behind the project that include the contractors, architects, and construction workers from companies outside of Houghton who are working long hours in tandem to reach their goal: a completed and open-for-business athletic complex.

Harold “Skip” Lord, executive director of athletics, explained that bi-weekly OACM (Owner, Architect, Construction Manager) meetings are held to keep everyone up to date on the project. Lord, who has been heavily involved in the complex during all of its stages, discussed the major progress in construction, ensuring a finished complex by this coming summer.

In addition to Lord’s involvement,



Groundbreaking at the Kerr-Pegula Athletic Complex in August.

LUKE LAUER

Keystone Associates architect Kenneth Gay has served in the role of senior architect for the construction of the complex. In charge of the architecture, engineering, and surveying, his company has been there since the

beginning stages which included meetings with the owner, selecting locations, and drawing up designs, and

Science Honors Tackles Climate Change

THOMAS ECKERT

In Paine 212, there are 11 students working to analyze and learn more about climate change. They are the selected members of Houghton College Science Honors.

This year's Science Honors Program is centered around learning about climate change while collecting data to add to the compendium of research on the topic. At the same time, students also study the humanities through the lens of science.

The course incorporates two foci of research, the primary being to design and build a radiosonde. A radiosonde is a box of sensors that records atmospheric data and sends it by radio to students on the ground. It will be attached to a weather balloon and sent into the upper atmosphere when the students launch this May.

The secondary focus is researching the effect of climatic variation on fish. Using chillers, the students will alter the temperature of their aquaria to simulate forecasted climate change. They will then measure cortisol levels in the fish compared to the water temperature. This will attempt to measure the survivability of fish in the altered climatic state of the future.

Students will also record the rate of melting of the ice at local lakes over the next few weeks. "This is the beginning of a long data set that we will be trying to collect. A lot of people are doing this all over the world," explained biology professor Dr. Wolfe, "We'll also be taking representative shrubs and trees on campus and we'll be measuring when they start to leaf out and flower."

To tackle the task of building a radiosonde, the students have split



Science Honors group.

into three groups. These being so named Sparkles, Maple Leaf, and The Flying Monkeys. Each has its own hypothesis it is looking to test. Team Sparkles is working to find out how the amount of UV radiation absorbed by the ozone layer affects temperature in the stratosphere. Team Maple Leaf is collecting data on how the concentration of carbon dioxide changes as altitude increases. The Flying Monkeys is researching the levels of infrared light that is absorbed by the atmosphere at each altitude.

Each group will build their own system to attach to a weather balloon. They will be programmed to record data relevant to what the students are testing and send it to them while in flight.

When they are not investigating the science of climate change, the students of Science Honors have been able to take trips relevant to their studies. Last semester, they took a trip

to Canandaigua Lake to study glacial recession, took a boat cruise, and ate grape pies on the way back home. They went ice fishing on Cuba Lake earlier this semester. Right before spring break, they visited the oldest fish hatchery in the western hemisphere in Caledonia, NY.

These trips are designed to grow the students' understanding of science and the world around them, but they also serve to unite them in a bond of camaraderie. "I will never forget the day in Science Honors on our way home from Canandaigua Lake when Dr. Wolfe bought us grape pies. We sat in the grass surrounding a Dollar General parking lot and chatted together as we ate our dessert. The adventures that we encounter on field trips: priceless!" said honors student Olivia Morse.

Another student, Ruthanna Wantz, said, "One of the most unexpected fun things about being in Science Honors has been hanging out with prospectives when they come for the interview weekends. And hearing the stories of the upperclassmen who were in Science Honors before."

Though challenging, the students enjoy accomplishing tasks that get them closer to their goals. Said student Jordan Scott, "Science Honors has been a very enjoyable experience

thus far. I have made 10 great new friends and developed relationships with three professors from different science disciplines that I never imagined I would have had when coming to college. This program has helped me further my thinking in all aspects of science and created a unique culture for learning through experience with assistance from professors and peers."

The students have been very successful in working in a new and more flexible scientific environment. Guided by professors rather than fed knowledge, they are beginning to emulate the methods they will use when working as scientists in the future. Dr. Brandon Hoffman applauds their efforts, "It has been great to see the students getting excited about their projects. Some have charged far ahead, downloading manuals and developing systems they believe will be helpful to their project."

The students have been recording their scientific adventures and discoveries in a blog at balloon2014.blogspot.com. They encourage all who have an interest in science to follow them as they prepare to launch their balloons during Mayterm this year. ★



This year's Science Honors group walking with Dr. Wolfe.

KERR-PEGULA

from Page 4

they will see the project through until the end.

For Gay, the Houghton community is no stranger, having his wife and daughters as both alumni and current Houghton students. During a phone interview Gay explained, "We've been coming to Houghton from 1983 to now, so for me to have a project at Houghton is neat; it's a unique community."

"In the end, Houghton is going to be proud, the donors are going to be proud, and I know that our office is going to be proud," expressed Gay. "It's a great project with so many elements that fit with our company."

Mike Norton, owners' representative from Pike Company, has also put in a lot of work on the complex. "I represent Houghton College in the project," Norton explained. When describing his job, he explained he works as the representative of the complex. This means overseeing the site and making sure everything is being done as it is supposed to be. Apart from these responsibilities, he participates in numerous meetings discussing the complex, as well as supervising the pay schedules.

Growing up in Hornell, Norton is familiar with the area; as is Pike Company, a fifth generation, family business, located in Rochester, NY.

When discussing the project with Norton he simply replied, "Every project is kind of exciting in its own little way because what it means to its owner." "What I like about this business is when its done you can step back and say I was a part of that and it stays for many years," said Norton.

Apart from the planning and supervising, LeChase Construction Company is responsible for the actual building of the complex. They are the general contractors, having numerous employees working long hours in often not-so-friendly weather conditions. Recently, LeChase workers have been busy putting up the steel, roofing and siding, and even beginning stages on the second floor. LeChase is also involved in the hiring of subcontractors for other work including things like electric and plumbing.

Other Houghton staff involved in the project includes Phyllis Gaerte and Jason Mucher, who aid in design; Robert Pool, vice president of student life; and Dale Wright, chief business officer.

"The Houghton team has been very focused on making sure that this building responded to a bunch of different needs and uses; not just athletics but campus wide and community wide," said Gay. The field house will be a future home not only to athletic events, but also youth events, concerts, graduation, and many other things. ★

Want to write?



Send an email to:
editor@houghtonstar.com

TWO VIEWS

Should today's Christian students steer their careers toward nonprofit work or at least the 'helping' professions?



LUKE LAUER

FRANK MELLACE

It seems quite natural to assume that a Christian's vocation lies somewhere in the nonprofits. Their goal of serving the public seems to mesh well with the Christian calling of serving others. Why would any Christian look for employment in a company that exists to maximize shareholders' wealth?

Well, if this model describes all for-profit companies, then that general assumption would be warranted; however, many charitable organizations are finding that the for-profit model allows them freedom, and that this extra freedom is worth any tax incentive that the government can offer.

NIKA Water, a small for-profit bottled water company, donates 100% of its profits to bring clean water and safe sanitation to less developed areas around the world. Jeff Church, Co-Founder of NIKA, claims that the for-profit model allows them more autonomy over their giving and doesn't tie them down to donors. He stated, "NIKA's model is one that doesn't need to rely on economic cycles or donor priorities but rather it uses the market place to create the profits which are then contributed back into the causes. Businesses such as NIKA are challenging to get to a critical mass level but if done correctly they can result in a steady stream of profits to be donated."

NIKA isn't alone in their philosophy. Companies around the country are foregoing the tax benefits and other incentives of a nonprofit and adopting the for-profit model. Toms Shoes, commonly mistaken as a nonprofit company, adopted

the model for similar reasons. Blake Mycoskie, founder of Toms, stated, "We've never had to ask anyone for a donation and that shows that you can sustain giving through the power of commerce." This charitable trend towards the for-profit model has led to the creation of two new entities: the benefit corporation and the L3C. These dual-purpose organizations focus on turning a profit as well as creating a general public benefit. The tax exemptions vary for each, and though there are obvious issues with the dual-purpose model, I mention these new types of corporations because of what they highlight. They show that society is seeing business in a new light. People are starting to understand both the importance of the profit seeking model and the importance of using it for the public good. All this to say, if Christians limit themselves to seeking only nonprofit work, they are not only failing to see the big picture, but could also be missing out on for-profit companies who are just as focused on serving the public.

Now, for the Christians who have no issue with the whole for-profit vs. nonprofit debate but still find "the helping professions" more noble than the others I would again say the same thing. It's not that going into the medical field, missions, or any of the obvious helping professions (as I've termed them) is wrong but it is important for Christians not to limit themselves based on their preconceived ideas of a worthy calling.

A passage from Matthew comes to mind: "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you who practice lawlessness.'"

Why do I mention this? Because in the grand scheme of things Christians who are overly concerned about whether to work in nonprofit or for-profit businesses have most likely missed the point.

Christians who are overly concerned about whether to work in nonprofit or for-profit businesses have most likely missed the point. You can spend your entire life looking for occupations that fit well into a "Christian" resume but God's calling should trump all. Keep an open mind, follow the call of Christ, and don't let the negative connotations of a for-profit business inhibit you from living out God's call in the for-profit world. ★

or business management, have most likely missed the point. You can spend your entire life looking for occupations that fit well into a "Christian" resume but God's calling should trump all. Keep an open mind, follow the call of Christ, and don't let the negative connotations of a for-profit business inhibit you from living out God's call in the for-profit world. ★

Frank is a senior business major



LUKE LAUER

MICHELLE MAHONEY

I don't think it is necessary for Christians to steer their careers toward nonprofit work or the helping professions. I think Christians should steer their careers towards the skills and passions the Lord has blessed them with and that they have gained throughout life. As Christians, we can often get wrapped up in thinking a calling only means becoming a full time missionary or being a pastor. Though some are called into those fields, many are not. A calling can be in almost any place of employment, whether it is a "helping profession" or "non-helping profession". It could be a stock broker, a realtor, a computer engineer, or a music teacher; we can still serve God wherever we are working.

With that being said, what about the Christians who do have the skills and passions that can be used in a nonprofit or go into a help-related profession? These Christians must still be wary of the implications behind this line of work. Sometimes Christians jump into this realm of work thinking that since they are working for a nonprofit organization or are in the "helping profession" they are automatically "helping" and serving other people. Unfortunately, just the intention of "helping", especially internationally could actually hurt those they are trying to help and serve.

Our society in the West often promotes the idea that we know everything and have all the answers to the world's problems. In the book *When Helping Hurts* by Brian Fikkert, Fikkert talks about this issue and the unconscious "god complex" that many Christians in the West have. This "god complex" is a way we sometimes act

towards the "economically poor," in that we are superior and they are inferior. We believe that if we provide the "things" the poor are lacking they will rise out of poverty and have better lives. Though this can be a part of the solution, solely giving out monetary or material goods will not solve the issue of poverty. I am not trying to steer people away from this field of work (I myself hope to work in this field one day) but as Christians, and really anyone who steers their career toward non-profit work, we need to be very aware of this false concept.

When we do approach the nonprofit and helping professions world with the humble understanding that we do not have all the answers to poverty, and that money and material goods will not solve all the world's problems, we can then be a small part of the process of changing people's lives. Throughout my college experience, I have gained

a better understanding of what this looks like through becoming more culturally sensitive, looking at poverty with a bottom-up holistic approach, and realizing I do not have all the answers.

In Bryant Myer's book *Walking with the Poor*, he talks about this holistic or transformational form of development which is "seeking positive change in the whole of human life materially, socially, psychologically, and spiritually". When we approach these fields of work this way, we will not only go in with the right intentions but also the right mindset.

At the end of the day, no matter what field of work we as Christians go into, whether it's working as a financial planner for a corporation or as a development worker in Guatemala, God can use us in those places in unexpected ways. ★

Michelle is a senior international development and business major

Companies around the country are foregoing the tax benefits and other incentives of a nonprofit and adopting the for-profit model.

Our society in the West often promotes the idea that we know everything and have all the answers to the world's problems.

Solely giving out monetary or material goods will not solve the issue of poverty.

Disce aut Discede /Working For an Uncertain Future



LUKE LAUER

LYDIA WILSON

This past Wednesday was HELP Day, the day upon which I usually rollover in my bed at about 10 am and sleep-think to myself, “Why can’t this day occur on a Friday so we can have a long weekend?” This year, however, I was awakened early to the realization of what HELP Day signified for my life.

I had a senior seminar group critique that was rescheduled to take place on HELP Day. My fellow art majors and I are in the process of preparing our work for the senior show, with a looming deadline set in late April. There are times when I feel as though my past years of art classes have been leading me towards this ultimate goal, as they

should, and then there are times when I feel that I’ve been dropped into my senior year at random, scrambling to fully realize what my art is even about. In that respect, all of us in the group seemed to be testing the waters that day. As an example of print size for some of our projects, Professor Rhett pulled out an image he had printed. It depicted a ripped and weathered manuscript covered in what looked like Sanskrit. He explained that it was recently discovered sheet music, written in organ tablature notation by a 15-year-old Johann Sebastian Bach. “Gee,” said a fellow student, “What am I doing with my life?”

There we were, on the day of preparation for our graduation after four long years of study, sitting around a table looking over the fruits of our labor, and we were questioning whether or not it had all been one big waste of time. Our culture looks up to renaissance men and women, innovators with unique life stories who achieve far above and beyond the norm. Benjamin Franklin became a self-made man starting at the tender age of 12, and on top of his numerous

contributions to the United States as a country, was also the creator of nine indispensable inventions. Steve Jobs was a college dropout who completely revolutionized the computer industry. Daily our televisions and newsfeeds are filled with stories of one prodigy or another, a 6-year-old who can sing like Aretha Franklin, a Pakistani teen raising awareness for education rights.

It’s a tough standard to be faced with when contemplating

“Pulling yourself up by your bootstraps” is no longer a realistic option, or even an option at all.

the very strong possibility of being unemployed following graduation. Several of my alumni friends searched for over a year before finding a job, and in many cases they were eventually forced to settle for a job

they dislike. Two simultaneous and contrasting truths seem to be held in the minds of every 20-something in America right now: first, that they most definitely do not want to be stuck in a 9 to 5 job that they only tolerate in order to pay the bills. They want to change the world. They want to do something that they love. And second, that the job climate is tentative at best, and they’re not entirely certain how they will survive. In light of this paradox, what exactly does a viable

career path look like in present day America? “Pulling yourself up by your bootstraps” is no longer a realistic option, or even an option at all.

When I was making my plans for life after high school, whether or not to attend Houghton was not a question. College was what I’d been advised was best since my very first day of kindergarten. My interests in writing and making art were only ever highly encouraged. Not once was I cautioned that I should choose a more marketable subject in which to major. I was told, without hesitation, to follow my dreams. But with the arrival of HELP Day came the knowledge that there is no opportunity guaranteed for me. What has my liberal arts education truly accomplished? It’s made me a “citizen of the world.” It’s encouraged me to think critically. Are these skills that will pay my rent and cover my loans? Or are they only useful to me under circumstances in which I already have a steady income? Please don’t mistake me—I value my years at Houghton. I am grateful for all that I’ve learned here, and for the connections I have made with professors who care about my future and my well-being. I do not doubt for a second that it will pay off—in the long term. Short term, however, I am wondering--what will I do with my life? ★

Lydia is a senior art and writing 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,

After reading both articles regarding Ukraine in last week’s Star, I would like to propose another variable regarding Russia’s actions in Crimea. Encirclement. Already, numerous states bordering Europe are either members of, or partners with, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), of which the United States claims membership. Although NATO professes to be a purely defensive organization, its seemingly act of aggression against Yugoslav forces in Kosovo are cited by Moscow as proof that NATO is actually on the offensive against Russian interests (Serbia being a very close ally of Russia). Perhaps one reason Russia was so harsh on neighboring Georgia during their 2008 war is because T’bilisi is a close NATO ally.

Outside of Europe, this encirclement argument remains. In the Cauca-

sus, Azerbaijan is a staunch American ally and Armenia hosts an influential lobby in Washington. In Central Asia, Uzbekistan receives significant American military aid. Afghanistan and Pakistan also act as counters (albeit questionable ones) to Russian allies in Central Asia. Even China, having abstained from voting on the resolution condemning the referendum in Crimea, further shows Russia’s isolation.

So what can Russia do to counter this perceived NATO aggression/encirclement? There are a few options (destabilize Syria and the Middle East, for example) but also make Ukraine as impotent as possible. If Moscow cannot make Kiev pro-Russia, it will do the next best thing and reduce its military assets, including taking the naval base in Crimea. Moscow is nervous, and thus will counter NATO when it can.

Best,
Caleb Johnson ‘14

SPEAK OUT

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less

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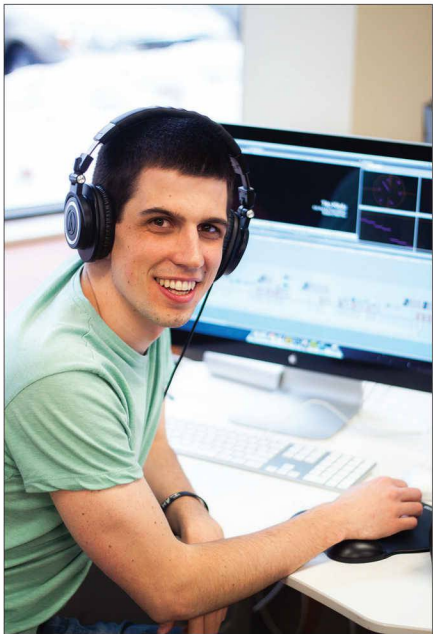
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Artist of the Week

Steve McCord *//senior communications major*

“Kenyan. Father of 34. Ears. Pie. Moving Pictures. I love airplane food.”



LUKE LAUER

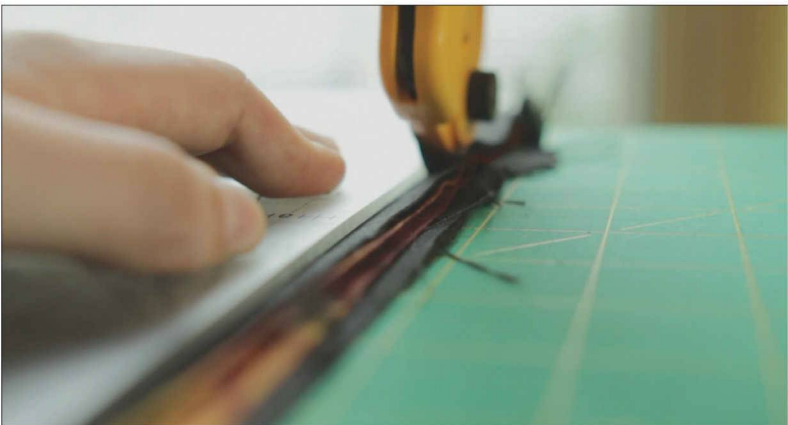
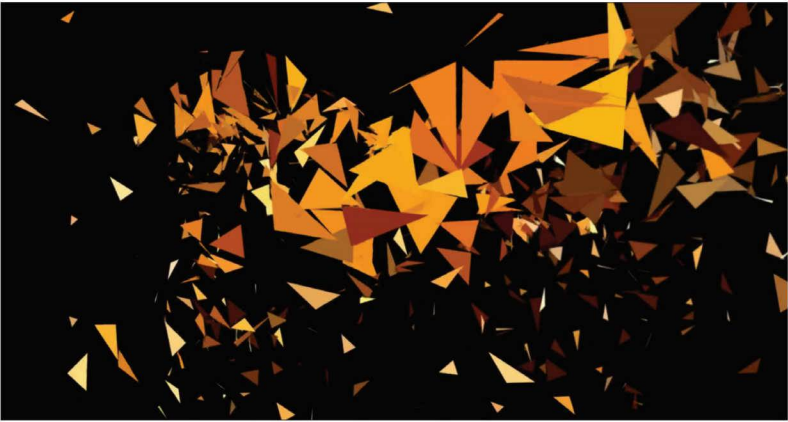
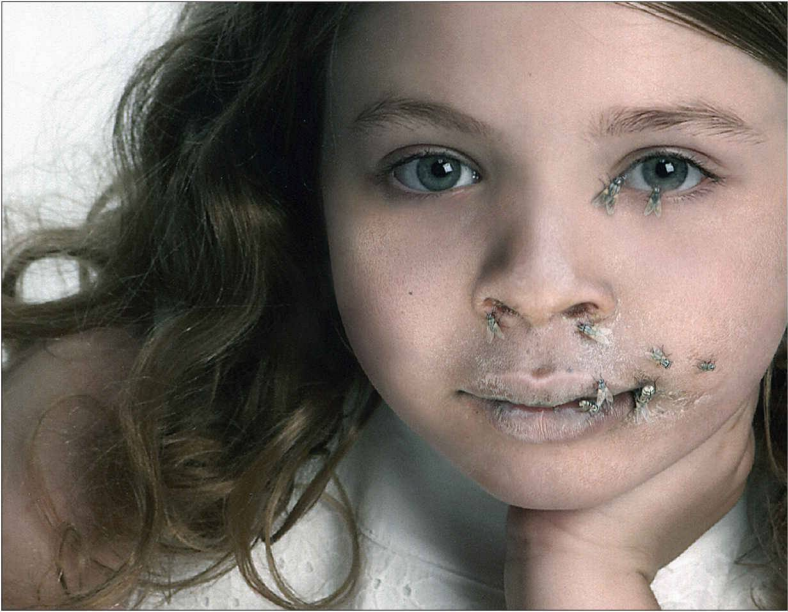
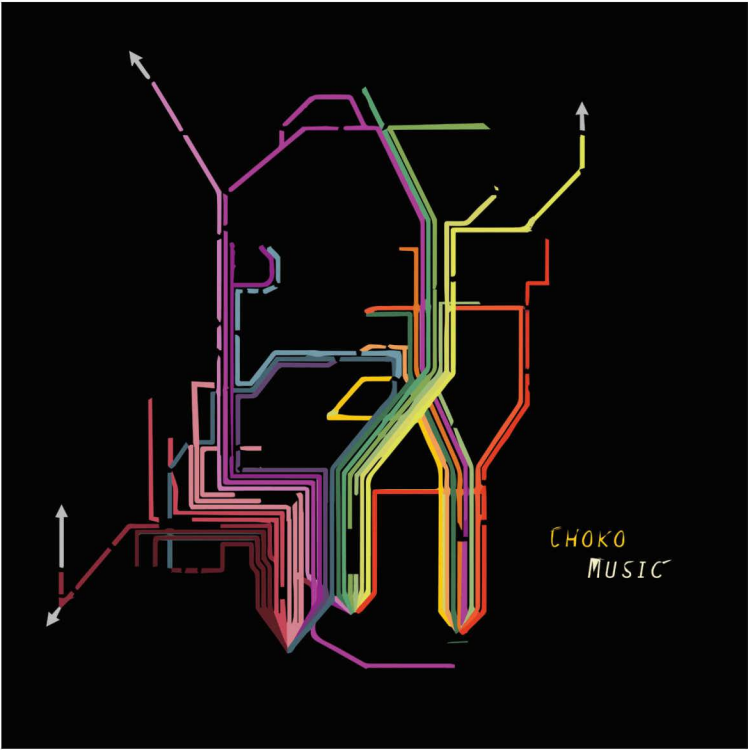


Titles and Media

Clockwise from top

Being Different, *digital photography*
Just a Pose, *digital imaging*
Fox's Answer, *animation still*

Smiling Mango, *video still*
Choko Music, *album cover*



“Film lovers are sick people.”
- Francis Truffaut

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