

## Long-Standing Faculty Member Retires Unexpectedly



COURTESY OF HOUGHTON COLLEGE

Dr. Airhart has been at Houghton for over thirty years.

**ANNA SCHILKE**  
Less than three weeks into a new semester, Dean of Houghton College Buffalo and History professor Cameron Airhart has announced his retirement. This decision marks an end to a forty year career, more than thirty of which have been spent as part of the Houghton facul-

ty. Airhart came to Alleghany County in 1987, and – until two weeks ago – was one of oldest members of staff, running only a few years behind Paul Young.  
Originally a North-western graduate, Airhart began his studies with a BA and ended with a PhD in history

from University of California Santa Barbara. He is a medieval scholar with a particular interest in St. Frances, something which influenced his teaching. “There was no topic in the arena of medieval European history,” recounts Dr. Benjamin Lipscomb, a former colleague and friend, “or

in a whole lot of other areas where Cameron didn’t have something informed to say.” Students agree with this assessment, citing Airhart’s incredible knowledge of the period as a great asset. “He gave me some different ideas about what the Middle Ages were actually like,” remarked Katherine Stevick ’19, who took his Western Civ. course. Stevick is now pursuing a degree in Political Science.  
Airhart’s legacy, however, extends far beyond his role as a venerated professor. He was instrumental in creating Houghton Honors and Houghton College Buffalo - programs that most students now consider established and integral parts of the college’s identity. “He put together an honors track when nothing of the kind existed anywhere at any Christian college,” said Lipscomb. “The idea of bringing together a cohort of students for an intense formative experience... that was an utterly novel idea.” From this first honors ideas came others,

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## CAB CELEBRATES BEES

MELISSA HODDE

A local beekeeper came to Houghton on September 10th, as part of a CAB event put on by Abigail Taylor. “During the semester, each CAB member plans and puts on a small event for campus, called a Pop Up,” explained Taylor. “We don’t advertise until the day of the event. When I was in the planning stages for my pop up theme, I came across the random fact that September is National Honey Month. I love honey, I love bees, and I am passionate about the ‘save the bees’ movement, so I thought this would be a cool idea.”

Taylor’s theme found a warm reception from students visiting the table. “I loved the event!” said senior Tyger Doell. “I was really happy to see that she was promoting something that’s really important. A lot of people don’t think of bees that often, so I’m really glad that they linked it to the important aspect of

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## RADIANCE GOES TO BUFFALO

ELLIROSE EDWARDS AND CRHIS CILENTO

The Radiance Club took two vans up to Buffalo Comic-Con last Saturday. As the resident pop culture club on campus, members are a catch-all collection of Trekkies, Ringers, and fans of all things SciFi and/or fantasy, and the club caters to a large range of students interested in movies, TV shows, games, and pop culture.  
The annual pilgrimage to The Buffalo Comic Convention, organized and run by Queen City Bookstore, has become their largest event with several students opting to cosplay for the occasion.

This year the group left at 8:15am, and endured extreme temperatures and large crowds to spend a full day at the convention. With the multitude of vendors, VR Gaming experi-

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## Students Present Summer Research



JILL JORDAN

Students from the Biology and Chemistry departments participated in the Summer Research Institute

**MELISSA HODDE**  
Students from the Biology and Chemistry departments banded together to present their summer research at the first science colloquium of the

year on Tuesday. More than eighty students and faculty members gathered with laptops and lunch to listen to the nine presenters, including professors from both depart-

ments who assisted with research. The research teams and their projects are listed below.  
Emilia Gildemeister, Alexis Reitler, and Anna Trimble wanted to know if salamanders can

learn to identify a new threat based on the combined exposure of damage-released cues and predator kairomones, an example of classical conditioning. Alleghany Dusky Salamanders use chemicals to declare territory, communicate to potential mates, and stay alert for predators. The team captured Dusky Salamanders and Smooth Green Snakes from the Houghton Creek, and collected predator kairomones from the snakes to dilute and blend with salamander alarm pheromones. The snakes are harmless to salamanders, and therefore ideal pseudo-predators. They harvested the alarm pheromones by a process scientists call “homogenization”: putting salamander body parts in a blender. After running a number of trials, the group found the change in behavior for the salamanders to be insignificant, which they suspect may be due to the terrestrial environment of the captive salamanders limiting the effective spread of phero-

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# International // Severe Weather Patterns Cause Worldwide Destruction



ANNA SCHILKE

Manilla, Philippines: where traditional skyscrapers mix with Spanish architecture and the shells of mollusks decorate buildings. In the market one can buy all sorts of fruits that a typical US Citizen wouldn't even recognize, although our coconuts and mangos are most likely grown there, as the Philippines the foremost exporter of exotic fruit in the world. Although the coast of North Carolina cannot claim the record for mangos, they can claim part of the state's pennut industry, which produces over 320 billion nuts each year. In contrast, Hong Kong, China, isn't known for fruit or nuts of any kind. It can, however, boast the largest amount of skyscrapers found in a single city worldwide, and a population that routinely tops "population density" charts. The three places are separated by oceans, continents, culture and language. Yet this week they became irrevocably connected by a common experience: a massive and lethal storm.

The first location to suffer damage was the coast of North Carolina, when a Cat-

egory 1 storm hit the coast in Wrightsville Beach the morning of September 14. At its strongest point, the storm had winds of 140 mph, which upped it to a Category 4 hurricane and earned it a name: Florence. Although the storm was past peak when it finally hit land, the damages - especially those caused by flooding - were extensive. According to CNN, severe rain was still continuing through Tuesday evening; they report that "approximately 10,000 people are staying in shelters" and "responders have reported rescuing and evacuating more than 2,200 people." These statistics do not account for other kinds of damage, which include the death of 1.7 million chickens and substantial damage to key crops including tobacco.

Infrastructure was likewise affected. "It is impossible to get in and out of the city [Wilmington] now," the Washington Post commented. "Flooding closed interstates and secondary roads, choking it off by land. The airport has been shuttered since [last] Wednesday. It is not accessible by sea, with the Port of Wilmington on Cape Fear River closed." Most of the state is still without power, and despite the best attempts of rescue crews, many citizens are displaced and stranded. None of these damages, however, can touch those done to human life. The death toll has risen to 35 as of Tuesday evening.

In the Philippines, the situation is even worse. Unlike North Carolina, the storm hit at close to peak, strength. "Typhoon Mangkhut, also known as Ompong in the Philippines...quickly intensified to a Category 5-equivalent super typhoon" reported the New York Times "with

sustained winds of 125 miles an hour by September 11." The tragedy was compounded when the hazardous conditions trapped over 40 people in a mine. Rescue efforts produced only dead bodies, which joined the count, now thought to be above a hundred. Another 5.7 million were affected by damages, and countless more will be affected in the days to come as the nation begins to slowly rebuild.

After hitting Manilla, Mangkhut continued onto Hong Kong, where it took another 4 lives and caused over 350 to seek medical treatment. "Over 1,500 people sought refuge at temporary shelters" CNN stated. "Schools remain closed." By the time it had reached Asia, the typhoon had died down significantly, although it still managed to tear "off roofs and scaffolding from skyscrapers, [shatter] windows, [shake] high-rise buildings and [cause] serious flooding in low-lying areas as waves

of more than three meters (9.8 feet) lashed the coast." CNN also reported that this was the largest storm to hit Asia this year, and one of the strongest typhoons China has ever faced. Finally, after days of wreaking havoc on multiple countries and far too many lives, Mangkhut petered out over the weekend, leaving behind billions of dollars worth of destruction.

Although the storms were on separate sides of the world, both mark the beginnings of storm seasons for their respective geographical areas. Scientists from Stony Brook University, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and the National Center for Atmospheric Research claim that this unexpectedly strong start is a product of increasing ocean temperatures. "Forence's rainfall forecast is more than 50 percent higher than it would have been without global warming" a climate change website reports "and that the hurricane's projected size is about 80 kilometers

larger." Other researchers disagree, stating that the unusually sized storms have nothing to do with changes in the earth. In an opinions article for USA Today, Roy W. Spencer, a research scientist working at University of Alabama, commented "like most claims regarding global warming, the real effect [of the storm] is small, probably temporary, and most likely due to natural weather patterns." In either case, one fact is indisputable: storms have no regard for class, privilege, culture or tradition. No area of the world is exempt. In the third week of September the world has watched as three different cities were united under destruction, devastation and valuable human life. One can only hope that the next time such a union is achieved it will be under better circumstances. ★

*Anna is a senior majoring in Writing.*



Flooding in Hong Kong

COURTESY OF THE ATLANTIC

**SRI** from page 1

mones and kairomones.

Ellirose Edwards and Sahara Javner worked with Dr. Martino of the chemistry department to advance research in peptides (chains of amino acids) connected to Alzheimer's disease. The team hoped to improve the scientific community's understanding of peptide structures by improving on the process introduced by chemist F.M. Richards over a decade ago. Instead of using lots of water in their process, which reacts with carbene to make methanol and distort the shape of the peptide, Dr. Martino suggested they try electrospray ionization. They compared the process to spray-painting a crumpled piece of paper, and then unfolding it to see what is outwardly visible and what is not. The change reduced water use by a factor of

a thousand, and the experiment worked - in the four trials, the clarity of labeling improved with each slightly modified trial. Edwards described their results as "excellent", and the pair are planning to publish their research on this question. A critical extension to their initial research did not pan out so well, however. Their attempt to model the process of labeling the Alzheimer's peptide using melatin, a similar compound, led to inconclusive results. Future student research will attempt to find out why, and break through this obstacle to the next innovation.

Kelsey Barnes and Jacquelyn Lewis surveyed the ecosystem within the "trap" of the Northern Pitcher Plant, a carnivorous plant frequently found in North American bogs. According to Barnes and Lewis, researchers frequently use pitcher plants as model ecosys-

tems due to the huge variation in their ecological makeup due to external habitat and other factors. However, Lewis notes that the macro-organisms visible to the human eye are well-documented (such as mosquito larvae), while the micro-organisms remain largely unidentified. This gap in current knowledge directed the two student researchers to attempt a survey of the micro-organisms in a sample of pitcher plants from Moss Lake, so as to create a guide for future ecological researchers. The pair identified four strains of bacteria in the ecosystem, which they referred to for convenience as White Brain, Small Opaque White, Pale Orange, and Hot Pink. In future research, they would like to take samples from Hanging Bog in Caneadea, as well as identifying the non-culturable organisms and symbiotes present through RNA sequencing.

Keegan Frenya and Kirsten Blakeslee worked with Dr. Poythress of the biology department to study the effect of electrical stimulation (ES) on the rate of healing in the human body. They are the first research team to focus this question on smooth muscle tissue, which occurs in the walls of internal organs and blood vessels. To begin their presentation, they asked the audience if anyone had received physical therapy with ES: about seven people raised their hands.

To put ES to the test, Frenya and Blakeslee cultured rat aortic cells in six incubated petri dishes, scratched half of them to create a wound and treated two "wounded" and two untouched cultures with ES. The scratches on the treated cultures recovered significantly faster than the untreated ones, with a p value of around .01. The two researchers hoped to

take the question further and examine what happens at a cellular level during the healing process with ES, but difficulty in gathering the data left them still wondering what specific quality accelerates cell regrowth. A round of applause accompanied each team's presentation, and facilitator Jill Jordan felt that the series is off to a strong start. "That was a great first start to our colloquiums this year!" she announced to the crowd, expressing her hope that some students will come away inspired to do similar research in their academic careers.

Science and math colloquiums take place on Tuesdays from 11:30 am to 12:20 pm in the South End room of the dining hall. The next colloquium (on September 25th) will feature summer research from students in the Math and Physics department. ★



**BUFFALO** *from page 1*

ence, demonstrations, and panels from featured guests, the party was occupied right up until it was time to leave, returning home only when their club founder Chris Cilento and current president Ellirose Edwards recognized the symptoms of exhaustion and reminded them of certain homework-related responsibilities.

Three students (Edwards, Cilento, and Emma Bruce) even participated in the Cosplay Contest. Although no awards were won, Cilento said, “I thought it was amazing how everyone who cosplayed was accepted without judgement. It was like coming into a wonderfully strange and loving family.”

Many other Radiance members participated in less extensive cosplay and pictures abound from their exploits. “It’s fun browsing shop stuff and seeing everybody’s cosplays,” said Bruce. “It would

be nice if there was a bit more to do there, or the chance to sit down once in a while.” Overall, students agreed that the convention proved to be just as much of a good time as previous years, even if the vendor’s floor seemed to be smaller than previous years. “It’s such a cool experience, seeing all these fans get together under one building,” said Sophie Tierney. “It doesn’t matter the level of interest you may have for comic books or superhero things.

Everyone is welcome, and there is something for every type of nerd.”

This March, The Radiance hopes to journey to Rochester Institute of Technology for the annual Tora-Con, an anime convention of epic proportions. The Radiance is open to all Houghton College students, and events are open to staff and faculty members as well. ★



Radiance members about to leave for convention

PHOTO COUTRESY OF THE RADIANCE

**BEES** *from page 1*

bees, instead of just talking about honey.”

Helen Draper, another senior who stopped by the event, agreed with the need for more education surrounding bees. “They’re often overlooked,” she pointed out. “When people think of bees, they think of bee allergies or bee phobias. Even if you have those issues with bees, that doesn’t mean you shouldn’t be concerned about their prevalence, because they play a key role ecologically.” Statistics agree with Draper: a study from Cornell University,

reported in The Ecologist and the USDA’s AgResearch magazine, found that honey bees contribute 14 billion dollars to agriculture in the US alone. While most of that money comes from boosts to crop harvesting through pollination, all of that work on the part of the bees results in a lot of honey.

While commercially farmed honey is available to students in the dining hall, Taylor wanted to offer something special at the event. “I invited a local honey producer from Fillmore, Wagoner’s Bees and Produce,

because I wanted to have local honey available to buy,” she said. “Deb, from Wagoner’s, also had a lot of educational material on bees and why they are so important to our earth, so that was really interesting.”

The approachable beekeeper also educated students on some of the surprising uses of honey, including its antimicrobial and wound-healing properties. As surprising as Wagoner’s account of curing her husband’s staph infection with honey might sound, it’s not implausible. A study from the National

Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) confirms the antioxidant, antibacterial and anti-inflammatory properties of honey, as well as its merits for pain relief. “It’s a good staple to have in your cupboard, because it’s useful for so many things,” affirmed Draper.

Alongside the hard facts, Taylor kept a lighthearted spin on the event. “I designed four different button pin inserts that people could color and then wear,” she said, “and we had free honey stix for everyone that stopped by.” Doell appreciated

the takeaway nature of the pins as a memento to keep the enthusiasm for honey and for bees fresh when September passes.

Overall, Taylor was pleased with the turnout. “It was a pretty easy event, very low key, but we got a lot of good feedback and people enjoyed learning more about bees!” she said. “And a lot of people walked away with yummy local honey, so that’s definitely a plus. It was a unique thing to do on campus, and I got to buy balloons shaped like bees.” ★

**AIRHART** *from page 1*

and under Airhart’s expertise as Director of Honors – a role he filled from 1996 to 2008 – the program expanded and multiplied. According to Lipscomb, this not only enriched student experiences but enrollment, significantly bringing up percentages. “Cameron is a force,” he commented. “His energy to make connections, to set up arrangements, to think and think and think about the creative and unexpected ways and to see the thing get done is something to behold.”

This is particularly true of the Houghton Buffalo program, which is based on helping students overcome obstacles: language constraints,

citizenship issues, day jobs. Although Airhart did not found the One Symphony Campus, according to Dr. Ron Oakerson, he was integral in its current success. “The program located there evolved into one that is almost entirely dedicated to the education of refugees,” he remarked. “It is largely [due to] his [Airhart’s] vision and energy.” Before his departure, Airhart also took steps to expand the Buffalo program into other areas of the city, including a campus for ex-convicts and another for the African American community on the East side.

The same vision and energy that allowed Airhart to creatively approach program building also served him well as a teacher. “He was a very good

storyteller,” recalls Stevick. “He made history seem alive... I really liked just listening to him lecture.” Lipscomb agreed, saying “it is possible... hard to say, and possibly alums from long ago would correct me...but he is the best pure lecturer I have ever heard.” Although Airhart had not taught a class on Houghton’s main campus for over four years – devoting his time to Buffalo instead – his legacy as a speaker remains intact.

Today Airhart is using those skills to pursue his own projects and spend more time with his children and grandchildren. His position in Buffalo has been temporarily filled by Rev. Steve Strand, who will serve as an interim dean until a permanent replacement can be hired.★



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**SGA ELECTION RESULTS RELEASED TODAY**

*Shaphan Hestick, winner of the 2018-2019 SGA election for Student Body President*



# Houghton Welcomes New Music Industry Professor

KAYLA SIMMONS

For those who missed his introduction in chapel the first week of the semester, Dr. Jetro Silva is Houghton’s new Professor of Music Industry and Director of Technical Arts. A native of Rio de Janeiro, Dr. Silva was raised in a Southern Baptist community, and started working with his church choir at the age of 7, at the encouragement of his uncle. He attributes his connection to the “Christian family” to his love of music, which has allowed him to relate with believers across denominations. Despite being from Brazil, Dr. Silva considers himself an American as he moved here in his early twenties, when he completed a B.M. from Berklee College of Music. He later did his masters at Andover Newton Theological School, to better lead his home group that had grown into its own congregation.

Dr. Silva’s favorite color is purple, and coincidentally his favorite novel is *The Color Purple*. He spoke of his affection for African American literature, saying “There’s something about being able to see myself culturally and physically in what I’m reading, that means a lot to me.” Cape Verde holds a special place in his heart, as the place was a major stop on the Portuguese slave trade to Brazil and holds a cultural significance for him.

Dr. Silva’s career consisted of working a myriad of jobs such as Sound Engineer, Sound Designer, Programmer, Keyboardist, Worship Leader, both for well-known names like Whitney Houston as well churches around the US in Mississippi, California, and Rhode Island. Senior Derek Chase noted that “I think he has a ton of knowledge and I love just listening to him talk because it’s kinda like I just learn so much from his experience and life.”

Already Dr. Silva speaks favorably of his experience at

Houghton. “I love the students,” he said, “the students are very, very very special, they are brilliant and they are passionate.” He was drawn to Houghton because of “the potential to build something,” specifically with the Music Industry program. Derek Chase adds that “I think he has really good ideas that are going to help the program start to become great again.”

“I want to establish my style of teaching, which is a combination of foundational theory and hands on,” Dr. Silva said. His ideal Music Industry program would include his classes working with other classes in the Music building as well as establishing a firm understanding of how the music business works. He hopes that a student, after completing the program, will “still be an artist, but with a wealth of information on technology, application of production techniques, and be able to be an artist of their own with the music business knowledge, and that way they can go into the



CURTISY OF HOUGHTON

Dr Jetro Silva has joined the Houghton faculty as Professor of Music Industry and Director of Technical Arts

music industry and successfully survive.”

His theological background provides a valuable foundation for his work. He says “it is my hope that the music we do triggers the ear of the seer to hear from God and speak to the people the world salvation.” Genre, style, instrument is not as impor-

tant as the intention behind the music created. Dr. Silva ended the interview with a reference to John 4:23: “Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.”★

# Drs. Giannini Join Philosophy Department

MORGAN SMITH

Two new professors, Heidi and John Giannini, and their toddler daughter Gloria, joined Houghton’s philosophy department this semester.

Prof. Heidi Giannini graduated from Houghton in 2006, with a major in philosophy and a minor in literature, before earning her Ph.D. in philosophy from Baylor University. Prof. John Giannini attended St. Olaf College in Minnesota, where he majored in computer science and philosophy, and then also earned a Ph.D. in philosophy from Baylor.

The Profs. Giannini bring a wide range of expertise to the philosophy department. Prof. Heidi Giannini specializes primarily in ethics. She said, “I am very interested in questions about right and wrong, good and evil. One of my primary interests is in how we ought to respond to moral wrongdoing. Thus, much of my research concerns forgiveness, anger, and grace.” These pursuits have also lead her to acquire, as she said, “an interest in early modern French philosophy, in part because of debates on the nature of grace involving figures like Pascal, Arnauld, Malebranche, and (though not French) Leibniz.” Prof. John Giannini’s interests include philosophy of language (questions about how language works and the rela-

tionship between language and reality) and philosophy of religion (questions about the nature of God, religious belief, and related topics). His research has focused what philosophers call the principle of charity, which relates to the interpretive assumptions we should make about someone else’s writing.

These interests are well represented by the courses the Gianninis are teaching this fall. Prof. Heidi Giannini is teaching a course on the 17th-century French thinker Blaise Pascal, which students can take for credit in either philosophy or

theology, along with two sections of the first course (“Ancient and Medieval World”) in Houghton’s new Enduring Questions sequence. Describing the Pascal course, she said, “Pascal’s status as a philosopher is controversial. Though a rigorous thinker, he recognized serious limitations on the power of reason. ... Some contemporary philosophers also tend to dismiss his thought because of its overtly theological content.” “In this class,” she said, “we [are investigating] the argumentative structure of the *Pensées*,” Pascal’s primary philosophical

work, “with particular attention to his thoughts on reason, the human condition, and divine grace.” Prof. John Giannini is teaching courses in the philosophy of religion – “Reason and Religious Belief” and “The Nature of God” – along with an Enduring Questions course on the modern Western world. Reflecting on his philosophy of religion offerings, he said, “I hope [these courses] give me a chance to involve some of you in reasoning about the same questions I’ve been fascinated by for years, for instance about whether the things we believe

about God are rational, or how we can make sense of a good God allowing the evil we see in the world.”

Why is philosophy a valuable part of the Houghton experience? “Deep down, I suspect most people are interested in philosophical questions,” Prof. Heidi Giannini said. “Most of us care about whether there is God and, if so, what God is like. Most of us care about what it means to live a good life and how to become good people. Not everyone investigates these questions with the rigor demanded by professional philosophy, but many nonetheless earnestly wrestle with them to at least some degree. My experience suggests that college students, many of whom are branching out on their own for the first time, are especially concerned to make their worldview their own. And philosophy can help with that.” Prof. Carlton Fisher, a long-time member of the philosophy department who retired this year, concurred. “I am very pleased that the college recognizes the need for philosophers and was able to hire the Gianninis. I expect that they will be very good at what they do. ... Christian colleges, which by their very existence announce the importance of careful thought about the Faith, need to teach philosophy and do it well. We owe this to our students who make such a significant investment in a Christian education.”★



CURTISY OF ANNA SCHILKE

This semester the Philosphy department welcomes two new faculty members, Drs. Heidi and John Giannini



# A Mountain of Work, A Molehill of Time

TOBY FORWARD

Are you the kind of student with an eight page paper, forty pages of reading, and two sets of calculus problems due by Monday? Let’s not forget about that exam in your Intro to Psychology class on Tuesday, that you haven’t even thought about studying for. On top of all of that schoolwork, you got invited by a few of your friends to go to Letchworth this weekend and that cute student you met at freshmen orientation weekend is going to be there; you can’t miss out on that opportunity! There’s also church on Sunday and choir rehearsal Saturday night. It looks like quite the busy weekend and you only have so much time. How do you plan to juggle all of this?

College is stressful. It is hard to juggle our academic lives, work, our social lives, and our spiritual lives. Depression and anxiety have been on the rise on campuses across the nation since 2009, according to a study recently performed by Cindy Liu, PhD, a psychologist at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and her colleagues. Schoolwork can

seem endless, but you don’t want to spend your entire weekend stuck in your dorm room pulling your hair out over some calculus problems. How do you manage your time and alleviate some of this stress?

One of the biggest problems that many students face is that they don’t accurately give themselves enough time to perform a task. In social psychology this is referred to as the “planning fallacy”. This is the tendency to optimistically give yourself too little time to complete a task, not realizing your own role in your failure to complete it. How many times have you told yourself that it would only take two hours to complete an assignment and then that assignment took 3 hours to finish?

Instead of realizing that we didn’t give ourselves enough time, we blame it on the distractions that we didn’t account for, or that we’re tired or hungry. Sometimes this inability to complete an assignment on time can make us angry, we blame the professor. “He is expecting too much from his students!” We extrinsically evaluate the situation, rather than putting the blame where it really belongs: on ourselves. How do we remedy this situation?

An article by Heidi Halvorson, author of the blog The Science of Success, outlined a few ways to prevent the planning fallacy. The first is to be aware of our own role in how long it takes for us to complete a task. This awareness allows us to consciously plan extra time. Secondly, it helps to remember how long it took to complete tasks similar to the one at hand. We should also plan for distractions, and in doing so take steps to help prevent those. You will probably face more distractions if you are doing work where you are closer to the general public, than if you were working in a study room. Lastly, we should take into account what could go wrong while we are working. While this can often be difficult to assess, even giving yourself a small amount of extra time can be extremely helpful.

Stress is common for everyone, and there are many ways to remedy it. Sometimes it just takes a different perspective to properly act on our stress. By taking these steps, we can prevent some of the stress associated with college, more accurately balance our time between school and friends, and feel better about ourselves and our ability to complete our work.★

# Religious Diversity in Houghton

PAIGE COLLINS

“Catholics on Campus”, working with St. Patrick’s Campus Ministry, sponsored Coffee & Catholicism in Java 101 last Friday. A number of Houghton students gathered, to listen to Houghton College Registrar Keven Kettinger and Deacon Paul Ward of the Diocese of Steubenville discuss Catholicism. Deacon Paul Ward answered a number of both Kettinger’s and attending students’ questions, surrounding issues of what are the Catholics Church’s teachings regarding faith and works? Why is Mary, Mother of Jesus, so significant in Catholicism? Deacon Paul Ward also answered questions surrounding the Eucharist and the tradition it holds within the church, as well as the importance of tradition itself within Catholicism. Attending this event myself, I had a number of questions answered that have been swimming around in my head since studying abroad last semester with the Houghton in Tanzania program. In this program

I learned and experienced countless amazing things, diversity of religion was one of them. Every Sunday we would go to a different Christian Church, sometimes hiking 45 minutes to a rural church with twenty members, where the majority of the service was singing and dancing, and others driving to the city of Iringa to attend Mshindo Catholic Church. There was a wealth of religious diversity in Tanzania, from various Christian denominations, to Indigenous Religions, to Middle Eastern Religions such as Islam. That semester was my real first exposure to the diversity within Christian denominations and religion, it was a fascinating experience that left me wanting to learn more.

Here at Houghton College, though we are affiliated with the Wesleyan Church, there is a diversity of denomination and religion among the students. I hope to give those students a platform to speak with the Religious Diversity in Houghton column. This includes every denomination within Christianity, as well as non-denominational Christians, and every religion

and spiritual background within Houghton College.

The Religious Diversity in Houghton column hopes to explore this wealth of diversity on campus and give students a chance to express their beliefs. This column isn’t meant to change anyone’s faith or be an argument over who got it right, but to get a conversation started, and give students a chance to share their faith, their beliefs and their passions regarding religion.

In chapel last Wednesday, the 12th, Dean Jordan challenged the room to work hard, not just with one’s hands, but with one’s mind as well. That got me thinking that expressing beliefs, or listing to a belief different from my own can be hard work, but I think it will add to both individual knowledge and the knowledge of the campus.

Throughout the semester there will be a series of articles that will present a different individual and their religious views on Houghton Campus. If any student or faculty is interested, has any questions or would like to be featured please contact the Houghton Star at editor@houghtonstar.com.★

# Frosh Parade on Campus

*This re-run column features various Houghton STAR articles from our archives. These articles do not contain current information, but are meant to show the past culture and events on Houghton Campus throughout the College’s history. This particular article is from Volume 25 Issue 1 of the STAR, published on September 23, 1932.*

Every week must come to an end, and even special weeks as Freshman Week must conclude sometime. Friday afternoon on the campus the final event of Freshman Week took place as the annual crop of Frosh were put through their paces by a handful of Sophs. It was the Frosh Parade, rapidly becoming a Houghton tradition. This observer was particularly amused by the fact that if the Frosh had turned on their tormentors they probably could have “wiped up the map” with them, and we have a sneaking hunch that the Sophs who so authoritatively ordered them about must have felt like an animal trainer (please don’t take this figure too literally) handling a bunch of new lions. Nevertheless the Frosh were good sports and submitted peaceably to the various devices the Sophs had arranged for the amusement of everyone except the yearlings. After decorating the new faces with dabs of ink and the usual amount of beauty lotions, the initiation began in earnest, a phrase that reminds us of the woman, who after throwing a teakettle, a flat-iron, and some crockery at her helpmate, declared that she felt almost mad enough to fight. Three-legged races were held, followed by a

mixed quartet, in which Mr. Bucky Davis was especially prominent. We may say that he stood out above all others. The number rendered (we always think of bacon when we come to that word) was “How dry I am.”

The male members of the Frosh were duly conducted through a barrel, assisted by some of the Sophs. This went along smoothly until Valgean Luckey got caught in the barrel, his over-sized middle-section causing him some difficulty in passage, and the procession was held up until he could be extricated. During an intermission several of the champion bottle rollers indulged in their favorite sport.

The Grand Parade, led by the verdant class colors, formed on the track and advanced to the rear of the college building where it halted for its members to dispose of their footwear. The parade proceeded, and thanks to the suggestion of the music department (Isn’t it music that is supposed to be one of the higher things in life?) the stocking-footed Frosh were led through cinders and finally through several mud puddles. The Frosh took it nicely, except for one who attempted to make a bolt for it, but ran into the arms of Titus the Titon [sic].

Fron Bucky Davis down to Henry White, the long and the short of the Frosh, the spirit of cooperation was outstanding. There were one or two refractory ones, but as a whole the class of ’36 can look forward to their next initiation with a clear conscience.★

## Houghton Highlander Sports Statistics from 9/18/2018

**Men’s Soccer:**  
RIT-4 Houghton-3

**Women’s Tennis:**  
St. John Fisher-7 Houghton-2

**Women’s Soccer:**  
St. John Fisher-0 Houghton-0

**Women’s Field Hockey:**  
St. John Fisher-4 Houghton-0

**Women’s Volleyball:**  
Elmira-1 Houghton-3

Courtesy of the Houghton College Athletics web page



# Learning to Love Language



MICHAEL SIEVERS

SHANNON MOORE

How many of you were eager to go away for college? If you fit the generic college freshman description, as I did, you must have been very excited to go to Houghton. However, according to student tradition, you either will or will soon discover that the excitement drains away. For me, it happened when I realized that the vague “Subway” mark on Google maps did not mean that it was a train station there, when Houghton became a desolate, frozen wasteland for approximately 8 out of 12 months of the year, and, when I learned that at some point I had to take a language credit in order to fulfill my general education requirements.

To put it in today’s cultural terms: I was shook. I thought that I had finished putting in my time during high school, but apparently, I was wrong. Sure, I thought that learning a language was cool, but I also thought that about learning how to skateboard and weave baskets. It was something that appealed to me, but I didn’t have the “time” to spend learning it. I feel like this is the case with a good deal of American students and if you don’t believe me, walk around the quad and ask students how many languages they speak. Then ask them how proficiently they speak those

that there was more to learning a language than memorizing a stack of flashcards. What actually impacted me in that class was not the course itself, but rather my professor and the compassion that he had for the Spanish speaking nations of the world. To know a language is to love a people and vice versa. The act of learning a language, in itself, is an act of love. Now as I explained before, I wasn’t taking Spanish because I wanted to; it was a requirement that I was fulfilling. But that is exactly why I didn’t learn anything. I thought Spanish was cool, yet I didn’t have the mindset

day. However, what I am saying is to learn a language, and retain it, you need to have a certain capacity of love involved. Sure, you can learn a language without having this as a driving factor, but what would you gain from that? You can speak the language, but if you don’t love it, you won’t understand it or the people that speak it. Language is a gift that opens up our minds to viewing our own perspectives as well as those who speak the language being learned. When you open yourself up to loving a language, you open yourself to love the language’s people; you bring yourself to a new level of intentionality and purposeful relationship. There really is no right or wrong way to go about learning a

language. Have you always had a language you wanted to learn but never did? Then why not start there? It’s not an easy journey, but it is a rewarding one. What if you want to learn a language, yet you don’t have enough “time?” To be honest, I know that people will make time for what they hold to be important. If right now you could care less about languages, then I don’t expect this article to radically change you into becoming a die-hard linguist. Yet open yourself to the possibility of fellowship that you can experience with others when you share the language of love. ★

*Shannon is a Senior majoring in English with a concentration in Writing.*

“The act of learning a language, in itself, is an act of love...to learn a lanugage and retain it, you need to have a ceratin capacity for love invovled.”

languages. I rest my case. I took Spanish in my sophomore year, managed to make it out alive, and left with much less Spanish than I should have for the amount of time that I spent on classwork. But even though I didn’t thoroughly learn Spanish, I instead learned

to learn it, because I was too focused on completing my G.E. requirement. Don’t get me wrong, I’m not going to turn this into an argument on whether taking a language should optional or not in a collegiate setting. That is another argument for another

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# Marvel Goes Rogue



MICHAEL SIEVERS

CALEB FESMIRE

Of all twenty films MARVEL Studios has released over the past ten years, the Guardians of the Galaxy films are two of my favorites. The 2014 original was a dark horse (who would’ve thought a trigger-happy anthropomorphic raccoon and a talking humanoid tree from space would be box office gold?), and both films have been funny, unexpectedly heartfelt, and wonderfully quirky. The success of this franchise can be largely attributed to director James

Gunn, who took this obscure band of misfit c-list characters and thrust them into the spotlight. Almost overnight the Guardians became a pop-culture sensation. It’s the kind of success upon which MARVEL Studios has built their brand, and the franchise (under Gunn’s direction) was poised to take a position of even more prominence after the fourth Avengers film. That is, until something even more unexpected happened. On July 20th, 2018 my phone’s newsfeed was overwhelmed by a flood of articles with titles to the effect of “James Gunn Fired from Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 3 by Disney.” Confused, I opened the first article and began to read. In short, Gunn was fired after a series of old tweets from 2008 to 2011 resurfaced online. These

“Can and should a creator be fired for something unrelated to the project they are working on? ... Disney’s decision to sever ties with Gunn has set us on a concerning trajectory...”

tweets were full of dark, shocking attempts at humor from a time in Gunn’s career where he viewed himself as a provocateur, joking about taboo subjects specifically to provoke a reaction. I’ve read the tweets, and while I won’t go into detail the content is truly disgusting: a kind of shock humor that appeals only to a small, niche audience. That said, Gunn made these comments ten years ago. Since then he has addressed them several times and

affirmed that he has moved past that stage in his comedy and in his life. And yet, Disney fired him, declaring that “the offensive attitudes and statements discovered on James’ Twitter feed are indefensible and inconsistent with our studio’s values”—never mind that they hired him in 2012, just a few years after the tweets in question were published. As an aspiring filmmaker and writer, I found Gunn’s firing distressing. It sets a terrifying precedent: if Gunn can be fired for tweets made 10 years ago—which he has since apologized for and moved past—what happens when the next generation of aspiring filmmakers are shot down because they said something immature and offensive on Instagram while in high school or college?

Is it now acceptable to fire someone within twenty-four hours of a similar discovery, without a proper investigation, or even time for the dust to settle? Can and should a creator be fired over something unrelated to a project they are working on? It’s still too early to know for sure, but Disney’s decision to sever ties with Gunn has set us on a concerning trajectory for the future of the film industry. There is a bitter irony to this. At its core, Guardians of the Galaxy is a story of redemption and growth. Yet its director was fired for actions he took ten years ago, before he was even in talks to direct the first film. It’s a response that undermines the central tenant of the franchise: that we can be better than we were before. But you need an opportunity to be better, an opportunity that James Gunn was making the most of before it was pulled out from under him. ★

*Caleb is a sophomore majoring in Writing and Communications.*

“These tweets were full of dark, shockng attempts at humor...that said, Gunn made these comments ten years ago.”



# Ice Cream of Our Own



ABIGAIL REETH

It’s no secret that we, as Houghton College students, love our ice cream. In fact, we have good reason to be proud of our ice cream eating reputation. According to our dining services, Houghton College consumes roughly 3,000 gallons of ice cream per year. Moreover, Houghton students have concocted novel ways to enjoy ice cream in a broader range of contexts than just a traditional cone or dish. In the dining hall, I have marveled at the ingenuity of students as they enjoy hand-churned milkshakes, banana splits, orange soda floats, and ice cream melting over waffles fresh from the iron.

With our dedication to cultivating the art of ice cream consumption, a question naturally arises: why not create a unique Houghton ice cream flavor? After all, the dining hall serves flavors dedicated to other schools, such as ’Cuse 44 after Syracuse University and Tiger Tracks for R.I.T. If any college deserves an ice cream flavor in its honor, Houghton College does.

Obviously, the question now becomes what ice cream flavor would best represent Houghton? We could have blackberry lemon to show off our school colors. Or we might want to support athletics with some Luckey Lion Licorice. Perhaps we should embrace the wintry weather that blankets campus for most of the academic calendar with a Highlander Hot Chocolate flavored ice cream. What about SPOT ice cream (Salted Peanut Oreo

“However, maybe a single ice cream flavor cannot possibly encapsulate all of the spirit and creativity of Houghton College. Maybe the best way to approach a Houghton ice cream flavor is to have a Flavor of the Year.”

Taffy)? We could pay tribute to our Scottish heritage with Banana Brownie Bagpipe Brigade. Instead, we could remember our theological roots with John Wesley’s Purified Vanilla or observe the Statement of Community Responsibilities with a grape-flavored Can’t-Believe-It’s-Not-Wine! If we are feeling especially audacious, we might even try to image a flavor called Shen Bloc Shock (or maybe we had better not. . .)

Needless to say, there are endless possibilities for a Houghton College

ice cream flavor. But who gets to decide which flavor best represents Houghton? Like any good diplomatic decision, we clearly would need to form a committee to narrow down the options to the best contenders. Of course, we would then need to hold a vote in order to give all students, faculty, staff, and alumni an equal opportunity to influence such a historic decision.

However, maybe a single ice cream flavor cannot possibly encapsulate all of the spirit and creativity of Houghton College. Maybe the best way to approach a Houghton ice cream flavor is to have a Flavor of the Year. A new flavor could be unveiled each year at homecoming. Alternatively, we could make the ice cream choosing process a senior privilege. Only students planning to graduate during that particular academic year would get to submit a flavor

idea and vote for the annual winner. The flavor could be revealed at graduation and could be served during the following school year as a sort of class gift or continuing legacy of the recent graduates until the next graduation flavor is disclosed. (Or perhaps this is a foolish system as it might tempt graduates to play mischievous tricks on underclassmen by leaving them with flavors such as a medicinal Houghton Plague Antidote or Letchworth Liver and Leek.)

Regardless of the logistics for deciding on a flavor, Houghton College undoubtedly needs its own ice cream. Perhaps this pressing issue can make an appearance on the agenda for the next meeting of the Sixth Executive Council. With all the ice cream connoisseurs nurtured by this school, it is simply inconceivable that we do not have an ice cream flavor of our own. ★

Abigail is a Senior majoring in Writing and Art.

“With our dedication to cultivating the art of ice cream consumption, a question naturally arises: why not create a unique Houghton ice cream flavor?”

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.

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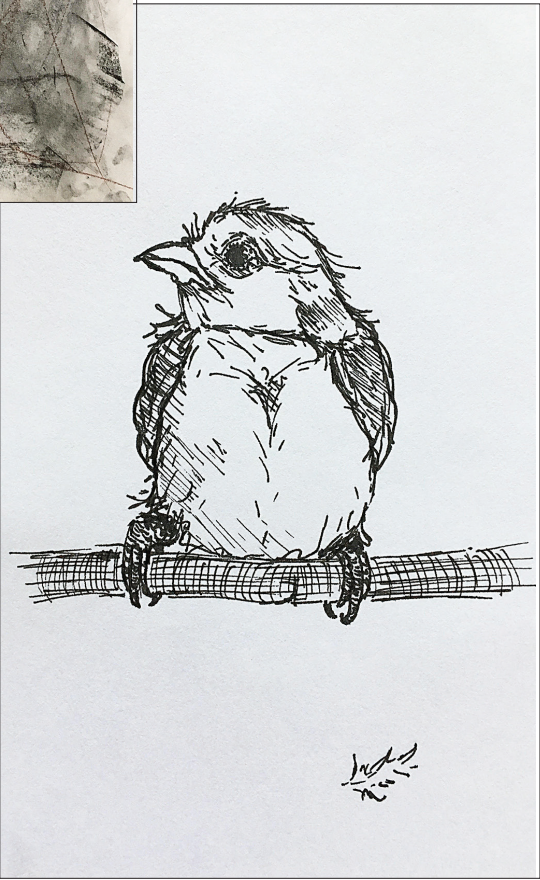
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# Artist of the Week

## Helen Draper

// senior psychology major



“Ever since I can remember, I’ve loved to draw.”

“Over the years I have slowly improved and expanded my art skillset through taking classes and drawing in my spare time. Realism has always been my forte but in the past couple of years I have done more experimenting with abstract art. I have just recently begun working with three-dimensional media in Ceramics I under the direction of Professor Harrison and Naomi Woolsey. Much of my drawing work tends to be in black and white, with occasional color additions. This is partially because I have not studied how best to use color, but I also appreciate how grayscale art allows the viewer to focus on the line and shading of a piece. A lack of color invites the viewer to look more at the form and subtle detail of a drawing for emotional appeal. I also prefer to draw images that provoke emotions of sadness, amusement, or thoughtfulness. I find birds especially fun to draw because their facial expressions are often personified into human expressions of angst, curiosity, and desperation. I also love to draw plants, trees, and mountain scenes. One of my favorite names for God is ‘Creator’, and I love to look at his creation and see his attention to detail. I would love to improve my drawing skills to the point where I can draw close-up scenes illustrating moments of struggle in one’s faith walk and show the places where Jesus is present in our suffering. I will be graduating in the spring with a major in Psychology, the Applied/Pre-Therapy tract, and a minor in Family Studies. I don’t have specific plans following graduation, and I will likely be found tending to my family’s vegetable garden, serving at my church, and who knows where else.”

