MARCH 18, 2021

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APP) process.
Academic Program Prioritization
position of 116 full-time equivalent
will no longer be launched at the
Center for Climate Justice (CCJ)
will not be housed at college

Proposed climate justice center
will not be housed at college

BY CAITLIN HOLTZMAN

The proposed Ithaca College Center for Climate Justice (CCJ) will no longer be launched at the college following the elimina-
tion of 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions as part of the
Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process.

Sandra Steingraber, distin-
guished scholar in residence in the Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, was one of the
main developers for the CCJ, along with Kathryn Caldwell, asso-
ciate professor in the Department of Psychology, and Fae Dremock, assistant professor in the Depart-
ment of Environmental Studies and Sciences. Caldwell and Dremock are co-chairs of the college's
Strategic Action Group on Climate Action. Steingraber said the CCJ would be a way for students to
engage with actionable steps to address the climate crisis.

Steingraber said that she is still trying to figure out the possible
future of the CCJ elsewhere and that the funding for the CCJ will
be going with her to a new ven-
tue. Steingraber did not disclose
who the funder was or how much
funding she received. She is leav-
ing the college at the end of Spring
2021 in solidarity with faculty
members being cut and the inabil-
ity to continue the CCJ.

"Somewhere along the line, I
thought, 'Ithaca College could be
this really great destination place,
especially for environmental com-
unication about the climate
crisis," Steingraber said.

Steingraber said she pitched the
idea to La Jerne Cornish, provost and senior vice president for academic affairs, and was giv-
en approval to start searching for
grant funding. Steingraber said she
then joined the Strategic Action
Group on Climate Action, which
was created as a way for the col-
lege to figure out how to respond
to the climate crisis as a higher
learning institution.

Steingraber said that when the

H&S requests benefits
following faculty cuts

BY ASHLEY STALNECKER

In response to faculty and staff
terminations made through Ithaca
College's Academic Program Priorit-
ization, the Humanities and Sciences
(H&S) Faculty Senate drafted a res-
olution that calls for the college to
provide resources for terminated
faculty members. The Faculty Council endorsed the
resolution at its March 10 special
working group meeting. Chris Mc-
Namara, clinical associate professor and clinic director in the Depart-
ment of Physical Therapy and chair
of the Faculty Council, said in an
email that the vote to endorse the
resolution was unanimous. The draft
was submitted to La Jerne Cornish,
provost and senior vice president for
academic affairs, and Hayley Harris,
vice president for human resources
and planning.

Claire Gleitman, women's and
gender studies coordinator, profes-
sor in the Department of English
and president of the H&S Faculty
Senate, said Cornish emailed her
an acknowledgment of the resolu-
tion and assurance that it will be
considered. President Shirley
M. Collado and Cornish approved a
plan to terminate 116 full-time
equivalent faculty positions amid the
COVID-19 pandemic.

"Those faculty and staff members who are losing their jobs, either
immediately or in another year, are
going to be facing a terrible economy
and, for a while now, the continued
impact of the pandemic," Gleitman
said via email. "It is hard to imagine
a more grueling time to find oneself
suddenly unemployed. We felt that,
as a matter of decency, the college
should do whatever it feasibly can in
order to mitigate these difficulties."

In the document, the H&S Fac-
ulty Senate calls for an extension to
family dependent tuition remission
for at least four years beyond the
end of the faculty or staff member’s
contract. This goes in con-
text of tuition for dependents, like
children of college employees. Additionally, the
document states that faculty and
staff members currently eligible for
free tuition should retain the bene-
fit for at least four years from their
point of termination.

To assist with the job search pro-
cess in a competitive climate for
academic jobs, the resolution also
calls for terminated employees to

Freshmen struggle with adjusting
to on-campus life amid COVID-19 pandemic

Freshman Scout Frost sits outside the Upper Quads, which are primarily freshman residence halls, March 15. After testing positive for
COVID-19 in February and having to quarantine for 10 days, Frost said they had to adjust to life as a college freshman all over again.

BY ALYSSHA KORBA

Freshman Kathryn Gilbride dreamt of attending Ithaca College since her fresh-
men year of high school, but her
first-year experience has her ques-
tioning whether she will return for
Fall 2021.

"I feel like I’ve tried everything to
make this experience work,” Gilbride
said. “I just don’t know if I can do it be-
cause it’s ruining me. There are very few
things that are keeping me here.”

Freshmen beginning at the college in
Fall 2020 had an unusual start to their
college careers, as classes were
held remotely because of the COVID-19
pandemic. Although the campus has
reopened for Spring 2021, the college
experience is limited by COVID-19
guidelines. Social isolation due to
COVID-19 has made it difficult for some
freshmen to make friends and has nega-
tively affected their mental health.

Brian Petersen, director of the Cen-
ter for Counseling and Psychological
Services (CAPS), said that in a typical
semester, freshmen generally struggle
in three areas of adjustment: living with
a roommate, homesickness and mak-
ing connections with people. Petersen

ART STUDENTS
THRIVE IN SPITE
OF PANDEMIC

READERS SERIES
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CIRCLING BACK
to competition
after a year

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FRESHMEN
Changes to be made at IC London Center

BY SYD PIERRE

After shutting down for the entirety of the 2020–21 academic year, the Ithaca College London Center (ICLC) is hoping to reopen in Fall 2021, with plans to make potential administration and structural changes.

Rachel Gould, director of Study Abroad in the Office of International Programs and Extended Studies, said the ICLC had planned to reopen for Summer 2021 but was unable to. All study abroad programming at the college has been suspended for the 2020–21 academic year due to COVID-19. Gould said the program might open in the fall.

“At this point in time, I would say that, unless we run into major issues with COVID as far as these variants that are springing up not being responsive to the vaccines, we don’t see any reason why we wouldn’t be proceeding with the fall semester in London and... then with a normal academic year in London,” Gould said.

Gould said the application for Fall 2021 was originally due March 1 but was pushed to March 15 to give students more time to think through their plans. She said the due date was moved to March 31 given the reluctance some students have to consider traveling abroad next semester.

She said she would guess that ILC will have an accepted group of 40–50 students for Fall 2021, lower than its normal 60–80 range.

She said there have been 72 applications submitted for the fall, including some applicants who originally applied for Fall 2020, Spring 2021 or Summer 2021 and deferred their applications.

“It’s not going to look exactly like a semester has looked in the past and travel to different European countries on weekends may or may not be possible,” Gould said.

COVID-19 cases are rising in Europe. According to the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control, there have been 23,255,514 total cases reported in the European Union and European Economic Area, as of March 17. The UK is currently under its third national lockdown and restrictions are set to be lifted by June 21.

Sophomore Sheila Walls said she is planning to study abroad at the ICLC during Fall 2021 but has concerns given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

“It just seems like every day there’s something new with COVID,” Walls said. “What if we’re there and we have pandemic 2.0, you know?”

Catherine Weidner, professor and chair of the Department of Theatre Arts, was appointed as interim director of the ICLC in March 2021. The former director, Thorunn Lonsdale, retired October 2020 and passed away in November. Weidner will fully assume the position in August.

Gould said the department will take the time to examine the administrative structure of the center. She said that while the potential changes at the ICLC do coincide with the Academic Program Prioritization process at the college, the two are not related. The ICLC currently has a director, associate director, program coordinator and program assistant.

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IC Creatives: Emily Jimenez
Artist and theater student senior Emily Jimenez shares her illustrations and love of acting.

“Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope” (1977)
Hosts Sydney Brumfield and Rachel Weinberg discuss what went into creating “Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope” and the massive franchise that followed.

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Ithaca College sophomore Irena Rosenberg is one of four faculty members who replied, two were in favor of the administration. She said that some of the messages she had received were threatening, and that having students and faculty members furloughed or laid off during the COVID-19 pandemic was a concern.

Some faculty members felt that a no confidence vote would alienate students and faculty of color. McNamara said that in a conversation with the president, he was told that the administration would not pursue a no confidence vote, with 25 in favor of the vote being a response to the administration's handling of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process, in which 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions are to be reduced.

The School of Music held an anonymous survey, to which 47 faculty members responded. Of those who voted, 28 were in support of a vote of no confidence, and 19 were opposed.

Some faculty members felt that a no confidence vote would further damage the reputation of the college, which they believed would be damaging to the college's enrollment and recruitment efforts and the process to hold a vote has been moving too rapidly and does not give the administration the time to announce its plans for phases two and three of the APP. Some faculty believed that the discussion of a vote of no confidence is raced with racism and sexism, and worried that the vote would further alienate students and faculty of color.

Faculty do not speak in one voice in their response to APPIC," the report stated.

The School of Business did not want to share the results of its vote publicly, but representatives said the faculty have many questions that they want answered. The president of the Roy H. Park School of Communications said the Park School held a poll but did not want to share the results with the public. She said the council heard the results in an executive session.

Contact Alexis Manore
amanore@ithaca.edu

Faculty Council will not hold no confidence vote for SLT

Ithaca College has received a $1,580,627 grant for its new Graduate Physician Assistant program. The college received the grant from the High-Education Capital Matching Grant Program (HECap). The HECap program provides capital grants to higher education institutions that support training in health sciences to fund the purchase of equipment and the construction or renovation of facilities on or near college campuses in New York state.

The program is run through the Downtown Community Authority of the State of New York (DASNY), which provides construction, funding and other services for groups involved in health care, higher education and public use facilities.

Over $57 million was awarded to 35 colleges March 12, a news release from Gov. Andrew Cuomo said. Campuses that receive grants are required to invest at least $1 of their own funds for every $1 of state funds they receive, according to the statement. This means that the college will be investing at least $1,580,627.

"As New York builds back, these investments are targeted to help attract and train people for the health sciences jobs that New York needs as we continue to reopen and reimagine our economy, and to strengthen and enhance our workforce and the college’s reputation of being a leader in education," Cuomo said in the statement.

The college’s Graduate Physician Assistant program is set for accreditation and will be housed in the Roothsfield Building in Downtown Ithaca.

Dave Maley, director of public relations, said the college is restricted from discussing the program until it is approved and therefore cannot disclose how the grant will be used.

"We hope to be able to make an announcement about this soon," Maley said via email.

Contact Alexis Manore
amanore@ithaca.edu

Ithaca College sophomore Irena Rosenberg attends her Intermediate Khmer II class, a course offered at Cornell University. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, she is taking the class remotely.

The School of Health Sciences and Human Performance held a meeting and polled those who voted, 28 were in support of a vote of no confidence, and 19 were opposed. Some faculty members felt that a no confidence vote would further damage the reputation of the college, which they believed would be damaging to the college's enrollment and recruitment efforts and the process to hold a vote has been moving too rapidly and does not give the administration the time to announce its plans for phases two and three of the APP. Some faculty believed that the discussion of a vote of no confidence is raced with racism and sexism, and worried that the vote would further alienate students and faculty of color.

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Chris McNamara, clinical associate professor, clinic director in the Department of Physical Therapy and chair of the Faculty Council, said she received approximately 165 emails before the meeting, 90 of which were from faculty members. She said that some of the messages expressed concerns about the possible vote and that some believed that faculty members were not considering the good of the college and the damage that a no confidence vote would cause.

Some messages stated that faculty members were being insensitive to staff cuts. At least 26 staff members have been furloughed or laid off since March 2020.

McNamara said she received messages from students and faculty who were not in favor of a vote of no confidence.

The group IC Alumni Against Austerity created a letter voicing its support for the potential no confidence vote. According to the letter, the group emailed the letter to the IC-CU Exchange Program, in which 116 full-time equivalent faculty positions are to be reduced.

"We want to reinforce that there are other ways forward," the letter states. "We join in many across the community to ask for a pause in the present order of things and a more serious retooling with sustained collaboration and buy-in among constituents. Accordingly, we would also support a Vote of No Confidence in the Board of Trustees, should the faculty council decide to move in that direction."
said this is still the case during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the pandemic presents new obstacles to the transition. NSTP and the Exploratory Program are holding events to help students make a four-year plan. NSTP and the Office of Residential Life are planning engagement opportunities for Fall 2021 with the hopes that most students will have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

“The Retention and Engagement Strategy Team is working with a number of campus partners to help students recover and thrive in the wake of a tremendously difficult year,” Winslow said via email.

Jennifer Whalen, administrative assistant for NSTP, said the office has also been working with students and families on an individual basis to support them through their freshman year. Freshman Darby Dunnington said she has found it difficult to make friends due to the COVID-19 restrictions. At the beginning of the semester, students were not allowed to enter other students’ dorm rooms. As of March 15, students are permitted to visit other dorm rooms within their residential building while wearing a mask and social distancing. There is a limit of one visitor per resident.

“It’s really hard because it feels like you have to pick between following what the school wants you to do and having a social life because the rules are just all over the place,” Dunnington said.

A 2018 study by Jaclyn Ko- pel, then-doctoral student at Walden University in Minneapolis, showed that students who remained at their respective college or university cited personal connections as their main reason for staying. The study is based on research at an unnamed private four-year not-for-profit university. Petersen said students who already have diagnosed mental health conditions like anxiety, and depression are more likely to struggle with the transition to college.

“If COVID raises everybody’s anxiety level, and if you’re already kind of at a pretty highly anxious state, that can become debilitating,” Petersen said. “For students that are already dealing with what I would call existential fears, about death and about illness and about healthiness, this is a nightmare.”

Gilbride said she struggles with mental health disorders like anxiety, and her mental health has deteriorated since starting college. She said she has struggled to find treatment at the college. Gilbride usually uses medical marijuana to manage her mental health conditions, but medical marijuana is not legal on college campuses under federal law. Gilbride said she has been seeking help from CAPS since her usual therapist is not licensed to work with clients in New York State.

Petersen said it is important for members of the college community to check on each other and on their own mental health.

The Retention and Engagement Strategy Team (REST) has been partnering with other offices and organizations on campus to support freshmen. REST and the Exploratory Program are holding events to help students make a four-year plan. NSTP and the Office of Residential Life are planning engagement opportunities for Fall 2021 with the hopes that most students will have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

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– Dyani Taff

FROM FRESHMEN, PAGE 1

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FROM RESOLUTION, PAGE 1

keep full access to the library, email and Zoom

from November 2019 to April 2020 on creat-

ing the Strategic Action Group on Climate Action. Caldwell said she and Dremock worked on a proposal that was sent to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) about recommendations for how the college can handle the climate crisis. The top recom-

mendation was the creation of the CCJ.

The proposal laid out ways the college could be able to engage with the climate crisis through the CCJ. The proposal also touched on the strategic plan’s goal for most students will have received the COVID-19 vaccine.

“The climate crisis is unjust because people, through no fault of their own, are being victimized,” she said. “They’re losing their health, they’re being put in harm’s way often because they’re poor, often be-
caused by non-Hispanic white communities.

Dremock said social issues the United States has been deeply interwoven with climate issues.

“The people that will be most affected by climate justice and environmental just-

ices are the most marginalized of almost any community,” Dremock said. “The primary portions of the population that will be affected first and most seriously and that are least爱护ing are populations of color.”

She said that not having the CCJ at the college will be detrimental to both the campus community and broader commu-

nity, as the college will be lessening its engagement with climate justice. Caldwell also said that she is upset about the CCJ no longer being built at the college and that she feels like the administration did not give it the proper attention.
Professor receives $196,000 grant

Matt Sullivan, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Ithaca College, received a $196,000 grant from the National Science Foundation earlier this month.

The grant will help fund a three-year research project Sullivan is working on with students and members from SUNY Polytechnic Institute in Albany and The College at Brockport. Sullivan’s research project involves niobium oxide being used in neuromorphic circuits. Niobium oxide is a chemical compound that can be used in glass, optic and ceramic applications. These circuits are used to mimic neuron architectures in the human nervous system. The goal of Sullivan’s project is to study these materials and integrate them into electronic components while also training undergraduate Ithaca College students to use the nanofabrication facility at Cornell University.

Sullivan spoke with staff writer Jordan Broking to discuss his project.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Jordan Broking: What made you interested in this type of research project?

Matt Sullivan: All academic programs have to be reviewed periodically, and I was one of the faculty members reviewing the program at [The College at Brockport], just outside of [Rochester, New York]. In the process of that review, I met another faculty member who was there, and we had a lot of related interests that were similar, and we just got along really well. He said, “You know, we should write a proposal together.” And I was like, “Okay,” and he was like, “So, I look in these materials because I work on them when I was a post-doc.” He’s got this collaborator at [Brockport]. He has contacts at the national lab, and so he’s like, “So we can try to work with them to make films, and then I’ll do all the structural characterization.” He’s going to look at their crystalization, and he’s going to heat them into furnaces. … I’m not an expert in niobium oxide, and I’m not an expert in memristive materials. My expertise is in superconductors, not oxides or semiconductors, but I do have a lot of expertise in electronic characterization and electrical measurements of materials and films, as well as taking the films and patterning them into devices.

JB: Why do you think it’s important to actually get involved in this type of project, not just for yourself, but also for your students?

MS: I’ve spent a lot of time thinking about this, and it also comes down to the sort of why you want to work at Ithaca College. Let’s say, I’m an expert at Cornell. Because Cornell is a great institution. Research institutions are fantastic — we are with the best in the world, and there’s a need to exist? And the answer for me is that I do research. I do research not because I want to advance the fundamental science. The main reason why I do research is to train undergraduate students how to do research. The context that I use to train them is this research project or other research projects that I’ve used that were previously funded or even funded whatsoever. … But for me, it’s really about teaching students how to do science, and what’s that? It’s why I’m important for me to do science. It’s a two-tier system. I get to advance fundamental knowledge that human beings have about the universe, and I get to train students how to advance human beings’ knowledge about the universe.

Matt Sullivan, professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, received a grant from the National Science Foundation to fund his three-year research project on neuromorphic circuits.

The Faces of Austerity

By Harriet Malinowitz

Megan Graham, assistant professor in the Department of Writing, is 39 and has been at Ithaca College for nine years, rising from part-time to full-time contingent faculty status and finally, just this year, becoming a non-tenure eligible (NTEN) faculty member.

Identifying as queer and disabled, Graham has focused on her identity as an NTEN and how she navigates what it means to work at Ithaca College, let’s say, as compared to working at Cornell because Cornell is a great institution. Research institutions are powerful. … Why do I work at Ithaca College, let’s say, as compared to working at Cornell because Cornell is a great institution. Research institutions are powerful. … Why do I work at Ithaca College, let’s say, it’s because of the National Science Foundation to fund his three-year research project on neuromorphic circuits.

English to immigrants from around the world for the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. She came to Ithaca as a graduate student in English literature at Cornell University and fell in love with the Ithaca Farmers Market, the local farms, restaurants and the community. She lives with her partner, an American citizen.

“I had planned to make this my home forever,” she said. “I was in the process of applying for a green card. I loved my job. I loved working with my students and I loved this town. My friends and my partner are here.”

Graham said her recent hire as an NTEN made the timing of her termination even more troubling.

“It’s cynical and unkind to put people through the application process that they want to work at Ithaca College, let’s say, it’s because of the National Science Foundation to fund his three-year research project on neuromorphic circuits.

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“It’s cynical and unkind to put people through the application process that they want to work at Ithaca College, let’s say, it’s because of the National Science Foundation to fund his three-year research project on neuromorphic circuits. Graham is an NTEN, and it’s not necessarily because the upper administration holds, she said.

Graham is a non-U.S. citizen herself and will lose her H1B visa along with her job, resulting in likely deportation to Canada.

This is after she has lived and worked in Ithaca for fifteen years.

Graham is originally from rural Manitoba, where she taught English to immigrants from around the world for the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. She came to Ithaca as a graduate student in English literature at Cornell University and fell in love with the Ithaca Farmers Market, the local farms, restaurants and the community. She lives with her partner, an American citizen.

“I had planned to make this my home forever,” she said. “I was in the process of applying for a green card. I loved my job. I loved working with my students and I loved this town. My friends and my partner are here.”

Graham said her recent hire as an NTEN made the timing of her termination even more troubling.

“It’s cynical and unkind to put people through the application process that they want to work at Ithaca College, let’s say, it’s because of the National Science Foundation to fund his three-year research project on neuromorphic circuits.
Ithaca College Wellness Clinic open for both in-person and virtual visits

The Ithaca College Wellness Clinic is now open for faculty, staff and students both virtually and in person.

Services are free to all campus community members, and membership is required to access virtual personal training and in-person services. In-person services include group exercise classes, fitness evaluations, 90-minute workout sessions and exercise testing.

The clinic is following New York state and Ithaca College COVID-19 guidelines, and its health and safety plan has been approved by the Tompkins County Health Department.

Fall 2021 registration time tickets available to students March 29

The Fall 2021 course schedule will be made available to students March 29 at noon. Students will also be able to see their registration time ticket on HomerConnect on the same day. Registration times are based on credits earned. Classes currently in progress or registered summer classes do not count for total credit hours earned.

Students with 90 or more credit hours can register April 14, undergraduate students with 60–89.9 credits can register April 15, students with 30–59.9 credits can register April 20 and students with under 30 credits can register April 22.

Career Services to host career fairs for students in specific industries

Career Services is hosting a week of a career fairs March 30 and 31 and April 20 and students with under 30 credits can register April 14, undergraduate students with 60–89.9 credits can register April 15, students with 30–59.9 credits can register April 20 and students with under 30 credits can register April 22.

The Communications and Publishing Career Fair is from 12 to 3 p.m. March 30, and it is a career event focused on media, writing, sports, communications, publishing, marketing and public relations.

The STEM and Technology and Data Career Fair is from 2 to 5 p.m. March 31 and is a career and grad school event focused on computer science, data, analytics, programming, digital communication, biology, biochemistry, business, chemistry, economics, environmental science, mathematics, physics, politics, public policy and technology.

The last career fair, Nonprofit and Social Justice Fair, is from 4 to 6 p.m. April 1 and is focused on people looking to work for a nonprofit organization or a social justice-oriented organization.

Hearing clinic evaluations open to campus community members

The Sir Alexander Ewing Ithaca College Hearing Clinic is now accepting clients for audiology testing and services.

The clinic is offering free evaluations for members of the campus community experiencing hearing issues like difficulty hearing over Zoom, as well as general baseline hearing tests. Those interested in receiving treatment or testing can contact the clinic at ewingclinic@ithaca.edu or (607) 274-3714.

IC Kosher Korner looking to hear from students about Passover

Ithaca College’s Kosher Korner in Terrace Dining Hall is looking to hear from students in need of kosher food for Passover.

Students can meet with Chaim Goldgraber, college affiliate in Terrace Dining Hall, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday through Friday to discuss specific requirements, questions or concerns regarding what kosher food will be available.

Students can also email Goldgraber at cgoldgrab@ithaca.edu. Students can also check <@icshokerkorner on Instagram to see daily Kosher menus.

Faculty and staff have opportunity to test run replacement for Sakai

Ithaca College faculty and staff can participate in a limited pilot of the college’s new learning management system (LMS), Canvas.

There are two engagement levels people can participate through based on personal schedule and interest.

The explores level is a self-paced exploration of Canvas tools and course design. This level is open to all faculty and staff to explore Canvas’s tools, but faculty and staff cannot implement them in current classes.

The pathfinders level allows faculty and staff to create a sample course to test and explore Canvas and its tools and design. There is also student access for a limited roster of up to 500 students. Faculty and staff can substitute a Sakai quiz, assignment or activity with a Canvas tool.

The pilot will be available from late March through August 2021, and Sakai will remain the primary LMS through Spring and Summer 2021.

There will be minimal support and training from the IT department and the Center for Faculty Excellence during the pilot program. However, Canvas Tier 1 support will be available to users via email, phone and chat.

A webinar session is being held at 4 p.m. March 24 to further discuss the pilot program and the levels of engagement and provide an overview of Canvas. The webinar will be recorded for those who cannot attend.

Bombers tip off to show basketball skills

Junior Jaye Kayne goes for a 3-point shot at the Bomber Ballers Skills Competition — the Office of Recreational Sports’ first basketball competition of the year — at the Ben Light Gymnasium on March 14. Seven people attended.

LOCATIONS: All Other

SUMMARY: A caller reported a verbal disturbance.

LOCATION: East Tower

SUMMARY: Sergeant Don Lyke responded.

MARCH 4

OFF-CAMPUS INCIDENT

LOCATION: All Other

SUMMARY: A caller reported receiving alarming text and visual messages from a known person. The officer responded to a local police agency and contacted a check on the welfare of a person. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon responded.

SCC COLLEGE REGULATIONS

LOCATION: Gannett Center

SUMMARY: A caller reported a person was refusing to wear a mask while indoors. The officer reported the person was located and referred for visibility of the Community Agreement. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS-RELATED

LOCATION: Terrace Dining Hall

SUMMARY: A caller reported an unwell person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Joe Opperman responded.

MARCH 5

CHECK ON THE WELFARE

LOCATION: All Other

SUMMARY: A caller requested a welfare check for a person who did not show up for appointments and has not been heard from in 24 hours. The officer reported the Ithaca Police Department was notified and made contact with the person, but determined the person to be danger to themselves or others. Master Patrol Officer Bob Jones responded.

MEDICAL ASSIST/ILLNESS-RELATED

LOCATION: Garden Apartments

SUMMARY: A caller reported an abnormal medical issue. The officer reported the person would seek medical attention from the health center when able. Master Patrol Officer Waylon DeGraw responded.

MARCH 6

FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL

LOCATION: Circle Apartments

SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by an art piece. The officer reported the fire alarm alarm was caused by an art piece. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a ceiling fall. Patrol Officer Shawn Lansing responded.

MARCH 7

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE

LOCATION: Lot South

SUMMARY: An officer reported a vehicle parked in a parking lot while running. The driver left the area before making contact with the officer. Patrol Officer John Norman responded.

FIRE ACTUAL FIRE/FLAME/IGNITION

LOCATION: Circle Apartments

SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. The officer reported a fire alarm was caused by a mattress. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a mattress. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a mattress. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a mattress. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a mattress. The officer reported the fire alarm was caused by a mattress.
The show must go on, even during a pandemic

Though COVID-19 put the world on pause, students took hold of their college experience and found creative ways to adapt to a pandemic. At Ithaca College, students in Dillingham are continuing to put on shows through the spring semester, and in the Cerrache Center, students are still creating art.

COVID-19 has brought considerable hardship to the community, but the arts have served as an escape to many as a healthy coping mechanism. According to Harvard Health Publishing, creative activities can alleviate stress, aid communication and prevent cognitive decline. The pandemic, especially during quarantine, has provided opportunities to grow skill sets. Continuing that creative momentum will only further strengthen our spirits and health.

In downtown Ithaca, a nascent affordable housing project called Ithaca Arthaus is being constructed to provide affordable housing catered to local artists. It is reassuring to see how the arts are being prioritized during this time.

Although the pandemic created and exacerbated issues in the community, it has also been a time of strength and passion. COVID-19 has forced community members to find alternative ways to continue pursuing their interests while following safety guidelines. It has, in many ways, brought us together despite physically distancing us. Under their masks, students persevered and carried on a successful show. While the college may be undergoing drastic changes, students have been able to push past personal and academic challenges in order to produce art. Their impressive accomplishments deserve a standing ovation.

Students are doing what they can to improve their experience and build memories that will last a lifetime. We must continue that momentum. This pandemic has stolen a lot from us, but it has taught us we can build new and become more innovative in the face of challenges.

Furthering campus divide will not help the college

The Ithaca College Faculty Council discussed holding a vote of no confidence against the administration, but it ultimately decided not to. It was a feat of courage and a testament to the well-being of the college.

The Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process has been received with mixed reactions. Evidently, the college community is divided. A vote of no confidence would have only furthered the divide.

Now, more than ever, it is crucial to bridge the gap between the administration and its constituents. A vote of no confidence would be counterproductive to creating effective civil discourse, which is already lacking. Deciding against the vote is admirable. Although some have vocalized how they wished the administration would have handled the APP process alternatively, a vote of no confidence would not solve anything nor protect anybody. The vote, which is a symbolic gesture, would only further injure the college’s reputation. It would be damaging to the college’s enrollment and recruitment efforts, which are already struggling. Even more, voting against women of color, with little to no deliberation about the implications of the matter, could be perceived as racist and sexist. What kind of message would that send to current and prospective students?

The APP process has left the campus community frustrated. Whether in agreement or not, the administration has approved the Academic Program Prioritization Implementation Committee’s recommended faculty cuts.

Now, our focus must be directed toward bringing our campus back together, not furthering the divide that exists. We must increase our efforts to share an open dialogue and apply the necessary pressure to do so. But a vote of no confidence would suggest that there is nothing left to fight for at Ithaca College. Our faculty, staff and students deserve a college that unites under hardship.
Reframing Ithaca College’s vision

BY NAEEM INAYATULLAH

President Collado has hit the future of Ithaca College on swiftly hiring a diverse leadership team and improving the college culture, thereby attracting students looking for diversity, equity and inclusion. One of the first things he did was to recruit the president’s brand.” Our administrators tell us that their employment equity and diversity will make the college more attractive to students and faculty.

Some professors cheer for a leadership team that is by design composed almost entirely of people of color. Others wish to be allies, believing that support is obligatory and that criticism reveals shades of racism and of sexism. Many believe that the administration is cynically weaponizing race to shut down discussion. Still, others remain unsure of their footing in this fog of insinuation. In such an environment, merely articulating critical questions has required resolve.

What is the price of the administrative vision? Pursuing a ‘caste system’ created by disaster capitalism, with its authoritarian methods and humanizing the cruel indifference of the APP policy severs the lifetime of fully equivalent faculty and their families. This amputation is especially pernicious for tenured professors who admit that the college is not in financial exigency. Of course, exercising our collective voice is especially efficacious during a disaster. President Collado and his team have pointed out repeatedly that the pandemic permits them to make changes, and our administrators have merely applied what is known as the shock doctrine. Why tenure is an institutional value

By Naeem Inayatullah

We write to respond to claims made by President Collado and Provost Cornish in the national press in recent weeks. Speaking in Inside Higher Ed, they remark:

“The [Faculty Handbook] … outlines the order in which faculty positions should be eliminated, a process that protects the most privileged in the academy: our tenured and tenure-eligible faculty. While we are committed to tenure … , the rules guiding the elimination of faculty positions mean that … the college will lose some wonderful academics due solely to their status as non-tenure-eligible faculty. We hope … this reality will invite a conversation among faculty about the status we wish to create: how to privilege tenure and tenure-eligible status moving forward.”

Cruz, who is hired and later tenured once lines are granted — have clear accountability. Our society, to be sure, that render the pathway to tenure inaccessible to many. Racial, gender and class-based biases have, historically, resulted in fewer women, Black, Indigenous, people of color and differently abled people entering the professoriate. Here, faculty — who are centrally involved in determining who is hired and later tenured once lines are granted — have clear accountability. Our current administration has done admirable work in making bias training a regular compo- nent of our hiring and evaluation processes.

That said, the appropriate response to systemic inequities is to broaden tenure and the protections it affords to larger numbers of people. That is within the power of college administrators.

It is reassuring to hear Provost Cornish and President Collado state that they do not oppose tenure. But the language they have used in two public venues has appeared to under- cut that claim, arousing legitimate concern.

Comparing tenure to a caste system does not facilitate the vital conversations we need to have about extending tenure’s reach, so as to decrease job insecurity in an increasingly embattled higher education climate. Instead of questioning whether faculty should continue to privilege tenure-eligible status, we should make full-throated arguments for wid- ening its embrace.

Signed by Professors Claire Glettman, Di- ane Bire, Pyti Soyinka-Urewele, Hugh Egan, Carl Gilden, Tom Suenschen, Chris Holmes, Jennifer Jolly, Party Zimmermann, Raj Subrah- maniam and Stewart Auyash.

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**crossword**

**ACROSS**
1. Yearn (for)
5. Free ride
9. Mail pouch
12. Not resist
13. European capital
14. Ms. Lupino
15. Strait of—
17. Kind of dance
18. Pointed tool
19. Motif
21. Water slide
24. Vacuum part
26. Not polluted
27. Desire
28. Giraffe feature
32. — Khan
33. A Miss America host
34. Storage with bangs
35. One and only
37. Caesar's law
38. Polluted air
39. Drying oven
41. Rancher's wear
42. Sabrina, Kelly or Jill
45. Happy feeling
46. — alai
47. Vaccinated
53. Calendar abbr.
54. Meet edge to edge
55. Ephron of "You've Got Mail"
56. Scarlet
57. Noblewoman
58. Vincent van —

**DOWN**
1. Written record
2. Ginza purchase
3. Bird beak
4. Whirl around
5. Laz around
6. Ego ending
7. Gulf st.
8. Lawsuit bases
9. Take the bait
10. — Clayton Powell Jr.
11. Yawn
12. Blow away
20. Squawker
22. Duasmodo's creator
23. Siberian river
24. Keller or Hayes
25. Black gemstone
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**sudoku**

**easy**

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3 4 1
2 6 9
8 2 7
1 9

3 1 4
2 6 1
4 5 2
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**medium**

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6 4 2 5 8 1 7 9 3
8 3 1 9 2 7 5 4 6
9 7 5 3 4 6 2 1 8

2 1 9 7 6 5 3 8 4
3 8 7 4 9 2 1 6 5
5 6 4 1 3 8 9 7 2

1 5 8 2 7 4 6 3 9
7 9 6 8 5 3 4 2 1
4 2 3 6 1 9 8 5 7
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**hard**

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4 1 2 7 3 9 5 6 8
6 9 5 8 4 1 7 2 3
5 7 8 2 1 6 3 4 9

2 6 3 9 7 8 4 1 5
9 4 7 1 2 5 8 3 6
1 8 5 4 6 2 9 7

7 9 1 8 4 2 6 5 3
8 5 6 3 9 1 7 2 4
3 2 4 6 5 7 9 8 1
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**last issue’s crossword answers**

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ACROSS
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The Sudoku Source of “The Ithacan”
Local writers share their Odysseys

Ithaca City of Asylum hosts reading series

BY MADDY MARTIN

The April reading will feature poet Valzhyna Mort and Raul Palma, novelist and assistant professor in the Department of Writing. The May reading will feature novelist Minfong Ho and poet Kenneth A. McClane.

“This series is a way to celebrate writers whose works, interests and even lives draw on this idea of immigration or migration or Odyssey,” said Barbara Adams, associate professor in the Department of Writing and co-founder of ICOA.

ICOA is a project of Cornell University’s Center for Transformative Action and part of the International Cities of Refuge Network. The organization provides sanctuary for writers who were not safe in their home country. Since its founding in 2001, the organization has provided residence for seven writers.

The reading series features writers who are former residents of ICOA and other writers from the community who are from foreign countries. The reading series will highlight eight writers in total. During each reading, two writers present their work with a Q&A session at the end.

“People are very excusable and friendly. “Everybody kind of knows each other, but there are so many interesting, talented, humane and kind people in the community. “If we had one event with only two journeys, that would only be two journeys, but it turns out that Ithaca has a wealth of journeys, not just external journeys. They’re also internal journeys, journeys of the spirit of evolution of your overall political and social and cultural consciousness, how it evolves. And once again, Ithaca is such an amazing place that it enables so many people to undergo that experience because of the kind of community that we have here of writers, artists, musicians, academics, scholars, students and young people, that it becomes very constitutive environment for inner journeys.”

Rumi said that ICOA has brought a huge amount to the college. “What was a really reassuring and very heartwarming experience was to meet so many interesting, talented, humane and kind people in the community, especially the writers and the artists.” Rumi said. “Everybody kind of knows each other, but people are very excusable and friendly. This is a unique thing. … I found the environment really affable.” Adams said that in the past, ICOA writers in residence held a two-year teaching position at the college as an International Visiting Scholar in Residence. The college has decided to end the Scholar in Residence program.

“We become more insular, less international, less global, which is unfortunate,” Adams said. “Each of [the visiting scholars] has brought a huge amount to the college. We’re losing that.”

Rumi said that ICOA serves as a home for many communities, including refugees, and that it is a place that enables and facilitates journeys. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.9% of the population in Tompkins County was born in another country as of 2019.

“So many people in the world are displaced or searching for homes,” Rumi said. “People are displaced by war, conflict, climate change. It’s important to pay attention to those journeys. But all these journeys are not just external journeys. They’re also internal journeys, journeys of the spiritual evolution of year overall political and social and cultural consciousness, how it evolves. And once again, Ithaca is such an amazing place that it enables so many people to undergo that experience because of the kind of community that we have here of writers, artists, musicians, academics, scholars, students and young people, that it becomes very constitutive environment for inner journeys.”

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“The theme of Odysseys implies lots of journeys, not just one,” Blackwood said. “If we had one event with only two writers, that would only be two journeys, but it turns out that Ithaca has a wealth of writers from all kinds of places with all kinds of experiences.”

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The reading March 16 featured two writers from Pakistan. Sarayya Khan, author of the novel “Noor” “Five Queens’ Road” and “City of Spies,” and Raza Rumi, journalist and director of the Park Center for Independent Media. The reading had approximately 70 attendees.

Khan started off the event by reading a section of a memoir she is working on that described her childhood. In the section she read, Khan described her relationship with her mother and the impact the execution of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former prime minister of Pakistan, had on her family and country.

Those memories as a child stay with me and I think about how they are and are not connected to the narrative of what was going on at the time,” Khan said during the reading.

Rumi was ICOA’s writer in residence from 2015–17 and is now an ICOA board member. Rumi is also currently working on a memoir and shared the chapter about his move to Ithaca in 2015 at the reading.

Rumi said that when he first came to Ithaca he was struck by the town’s natural beauty and then by the welcoming of its community.

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Rumi said that ICOA serves as a home for many communities, including refugees, and that it is a place that enables and facilitates journeys. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.9% of the population in Tompkins County was born in another country as of 2019.

“So many people in the world are displaced or searching for homes,” Rumi said. “People are displaced by war, conflict, climate change. It’s important to pay attention to those journeys. But all these journeys are not just external journeys. They’re also internal journeys, journeys of the spiritual evolution of year overall political and social and cultural consciousness, how it evolves. And once again, Ithaca is such an amazing place that it enables so many people to undergo that experience because of the kind of community that we have here of writers, artists, musicians, academics, scholars, students and young people, that it becomes very constitutive environment for inner journeys.”

The reading series will highlight eight writers in total. During each reading, two writers present their work with a Q&A session at the end.

“The theme of Odysseys implies lots of journeys, not just one,” Blackwood said. “If we had one event with only two writers, that would only be two journeys, but it turns out that Ithaca has a wealth of writers from all kinds of places with all kinds of experiences.”

The reading March 16 featured two writers from Pakistan. Sarayya Khan, author of the novel “Noor” “Five Queens’ Road” and “City of Spies,” and Raza Rumi, journalist and director of the Park Center for Independent Media. The reading had approximately 70 attendees.

Khan started off the event by reading a section of a memoir she is working on that described her childhood. In the section she read, Khan described her relationship with her mother and the impact the execution of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, former prime minister of Pakistan, had on her family and country.

Those memories as a child stay with me and I think about how they are and are not connected to the narrative of what was going on at the time,” Khan said during the reading.

Rumi was ICOA’s writer in residence from 2015–17 and is now an ICOA board member. Rumi is also currently working on a memoir and shared the chapter about his move to Ithaca in 2015 at the reading.

Rumi said that when he first came to Ithaca he was struck by the town’s natural beauty and then by the welcoming of its community.

“What was a really reassuring and very heartwarming experience was to meet so many interesting, talented, humane and kind people in the community,” Rumi said. “Everybody kind of knows each other, but people are very excusable and friendly. This is a unique thing. … I found the environment really affable.”

Adams said that in the past, ICOA writers in residence held a two-year teaching position at the college as an International Visiting Scholar in Residence.
Community establishes local gift-giving economy

BY SYDNEY BRUMFIELD

In a time when communication and interactions that build up communities are forced to occur online, Ithaca community member Yaoi Koizumi has managed to bring a chapter of the international Buy Nothing Project to Ithaca. The group's mission is to connect members of the community with the intent of increasing awareness about sustainability and promoting the resistance of buying new.

The Buy Nothing Project began as an experimental local gift economy project in Washington, D.C., in July 2013. Since then, it has become a worldwide social movement. The Buy Nothing Project offers people a way to give and receive, share, lend and express gratitude through a network of local gift economies, promoting the narrative that wealth is found in relationships rather than material goods.

Koizumi said she started the Ithaca chapter of the group in September 2019 primarily with a waste reduction in mind. Her initial Facebook page was a success, gaining large support from the Tompkins County community.

There is now an Ithaca group, a Lansing group and a Newfield/Danby-South Hill Ithaca group, the latter of which started in February 2021. All of these groups try to keep their membership numbers below a roughly 500-person maximum.

“Every project that we do and touch has to be small,” Koizumi said. “That’s our strength. When the group is so big, it gets messy because we’re trying to plan big competitions for items. We want to keep it small and keep it in the neighborhood so people can get to know our neighbors.”

Ithaca Arthaus to provide affordable space for artists

BY KATHERINE KROM

From art galleries to sidewalk murals, the Commons to artistic bike racks, art has always been a fundamental part of Ithaca. This fall, a new affordable housing project will be catered toward the artists in Ithaca who contribute to the community.

The Ithaca Arthaus is currently going up on 130 Cherry St. through the Vecino Group, a national construction company that builds affordable housing. In addition to providing housing for artists, Ithaca Arthaus includes housing for formerly homeless and foster care youth from ages 19 to 26. Bruce Adib-Yazdi, vice president of development for the Vecino Group, said the housing will be available to anyone who qualifies within the income limits, from 60% to 80% of the area median income.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the median household income in Tompkins County for 2019 was $60,340.

Adib-Yazdi said Ithaca submitted a request for proposal for affordable housing in December 2018, and the group was chosen to start construction. Arthaus will have 120 units and is expected to be completed in 2023.

“Every project that we do and touch has to have a broader community issue that it solves, and in this case, it is the fact that Ithaca needs affordable housing, period,” Adib-Yazdi said. “We asked the community what sort of housing they need, and in this case, it is the fact that Ithaca needs affordable housing, period.”

“We always want to make sure it is hyperlocal and not coming in from out of our boundary just to grab stuff,” Miao said. “There are plenty of other buy and sell groups out there. We really want to focus on building the community and trust between neighbors.”

In order to be accepted to join the Buy Nothing Project’s Facebook group, an individual must be within a certain geographic area, over 21 and not in any other Buy Nothing Group. Koizumi said the group tends to keep the group between local residents. The Facebook pages operate by utilizing a series of three different types of posts. A member can post regarding gifting, receiving or gratitude.

Gifting is when members gift items, knowledge or time. Koizumi said that gifting knowledge and skills is just as important to the functioning of the group as tangible objects. Community member Rachel Loa La Valle is an admin of the Facebook group as well and said that to her, the process of gifting items helps place that emphasis on a lifestyle of life.

“There is something that is literal waste to one person that someone else just around the corner who is two minutes down the road might actually be looking for,” La Valle said. “People see that they don’t need to throw trash or toss items, there are people who will take it and use it, that feels good.”

Receiving is when members ask for help, answers or objects. A gratitude post is when members give thanks for something they received through the project. For instance, Koizumi said that last summer, a member grew her own catnip in her garden and offered it up in a gift post at the end of last year. Now members who received the catnip have been posting about it in the group, showing videos of their cats playing with the catnip.

Jason Hamilton, professor in the Department of Environmental Studies, offered more insight into the impact of environmental grass-roots movements. Hamilton said that any action that is taken by one person has no real positive impact on the environment because it is only one person compared to the total population.

Whether it is a hyperlocal gift economy or anything else, the way to make this have any positive impact at all is to make it a community and try to take whatever lessons you learn and encourage other people to do it also,” Hamilton said. “It’s absolutely crucial to do the personal everyday things because if you don’t do that, you have no credibility, and you don’t inspire anybody, and you don’t build communities.”

The Ithaca Arthaus is an affordable housing apartment building for artists currently under construction at 130 Cherry St. The ground floor will feature an art gallery.
**Disney delivers dazzling fantasy**

**MOVIE REVIEW:** "Raya and the Last Dragon" Disney

**BY AVERY ALEXANDER**

Walt Disney Animation Studios has not wowed viewers with an original concept since releasing its powerhouse film "Moana" in 2016. While the 2018 "Ralph Breaks the Internet" and "Zootopia" were both well-executed and widely acclaimed, "Raya and the Last Dragon" sits among the most anticipated Disney releases in years. "Raya and the Last Dragon" is a stunning, beautiful animation inspired by Southeast Asian culture. It was completed in quarantine.

"Raya and the Last Dragon" is a beautiful animation inspired by Southeast Asian culture. It was completed in quarantine.

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**Series is beautifully surreal**

**TV REVIEW:** "WandaVision" Disney

**BY DARIESE SEIFERT**

"WandaVision" is the newest addition to the Marvel Cinematic Universe, currently streaming on Disney+. Instead of the usual summer blockbuster action, this miniseries is more of a character study about anti-hero Wanda Maximoff (Elizabeth Olsen), also known as the avenger Scarlet Witch. Throughout the nine episodes, "WandaVision" creates a surreal world that explores the superhero genre, and it works fantastically, leaving Wanda's story open, causing excitement for the future.

"WandaVision" creates a surreal world inspired by classic television series.

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**Media is harsh on young stars**

**BY HANNAH SANSON**

Pop culture has taken an active role in covering the deeply personal aspects of celebrities' lives without care or compassion. In most cases, this has taken a toll on their mental health without much acknowledgment or worry from audiences.

The "Free Britney" movement has recently reestablished public attention after the "Framing Britney Spears" episode in "The New York Times Presents" documentary series. The documentary, released on Hulu and FX on Feb. 5, highlights Spears’ struggle to fame and against the changes that came with her stardom. Her first album "...Baby One More Time" was released in 1999, when she was only 17 years old. Under the changes that supervised her fame toward Spears’ life, her father was not present in her life, largely shrinking her support system.

While Spears was pulled into the public eye as a result of her music, her private life followed into the spotlight. Her success quickly led to a nationwide obsession with her personal life. When Spears went on tour with NSYNC, she began to leak pictures of her onto the internet. The media became obsessed with the concept of Spears’ virginity and what she must have done wrong when the relationship ended. She quickly had to learn how to answer uncomfortably personal questions.

Often for young female stars, media cover- age is predatorial, misogynistic and extremely unfair. In 2008, Miley Cyrus’ MySpace was hacked, revealing pictures of her onto the internet. The media characterized the event as "scandalous" and "dirty." Despite Cyrus being a child, she was ruthlessly sexualized by the media, and Cyrus found herself having to defend her "wild child behavior." Deemed crazy by the media, Cyrus found herself unable to grow up in privacy without judgment.

Similarly, Lindsay Lohan had her share of media attention for her drug use and indiscreet fixation on her weight, and in 2006, Lohan admitted that she struggled with an eating disorder and drug use. Attempting to recover, Lohan took several trips to rehab, returning each time she had a relapse. But of course, she was mocked in the process.

The media’s fixation on body image has al- ways been an issue, and the dangers have been felt by Taylor Swift as well. Swift discusses this issue and other media problems that formed alongside her rise to fame in the Netflix documentary "Miss Americana." Despite speaking out against aggressive media, Swift has been ignored, proving that even if a female celebrity voices concerns, they are not taken seriously.

Until the media stops criticizing women for everything they do and gives them the space to be who they are, opening the eyes of young female celebrities will continue to be victims.

Time and time again, audiences have watched the media dehumanize and exploit female celeb- rities. Some people eat it up as a form of entertainment, and some are disgusted by the media's treatment. If the media won’t stop, audiences need to at least think critically about the media they are consuming.

**POPPED CULTURE** is a weekly column written by Life & Culture staff writer, that analyzes pop culture events. Hannah Sanson is a junior media major. Contact her at hansan@ithaca.edu.
BY ARLA DAVIS

On March 12, 2020, then-sophomore thrower Luke Tobia stood outside a hotel in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where the Ithaca College men’s track and field team was staying. The Bombers were set to compete in the NCAA Division III Indoor Track and Field Championships on March 13. Just moments prior, Tobia found out that the national championship was canceled due to COVID-19.

“I remember going out to the parking lot to call my dad,” Tobia said. “My parents drove down to watch me compete, and I was just shocked. There were probably 50 or 60 people outside in the parking lot. People crying, on the phone, people giving each other hugs. For a lot of these people, it was their last shot.”

After his first opportunity to compete for a national championship was canceled, Tobia said he and the rest of the track and field team hoped for a chance to compete outdoors, but they found out quickly that they would lose that season too.

“I think it gives me a competitive edge just because I’m in it year-round, so I get a lot of experience just in competition itself,” Tobia said. “I’ve always had an ‘adapt and overcome’ mentality. Whatever the situation is, you got to just take it and do whatever you can with it, especially now. You can’t take anything for granted.”

Tobia’s mindset has not been overlooked by his teammates. Junior defensive lineman Ed Longest, Tobia’s roommate since freshman year, said he has noticed this mentality day in and day out.

“He shows up every single day. He’s an athlete on the field, and he’ll do it round, so I get a lot of experience just in competition itself,” Tobia said. “I’ve always had an ‘adapt and overcome’ mentality. Whatever the situation is, you got to just take it and do whatever you can with it, especially now. You can’t take anything for granted.”

Tobia’s mindset has not been overlooked by his teammates. Junior defensive lineman Ed Longest, Tobia’s roommate since freshman year, said he has noticed this mentality day in and day out.

“He shows up every single day with a great attitude and level of focus,” Longest said. “He attacks the day with whatever it is he’s got going on, whether it be classes, school, practice, film sessions, things like that, and at a really high level of focus, attention to detail and effort that’s just contagious to be around.”

Tobia said this mindset has helped him transition from track and field season to football season not only mentally, but in his physical training as well. Head football coach Dan Swanstrom said the strength and power required to compete in the shot put and hammer throw events complements Tobia’s position as a defensive lineman.

“Picking up something heavy and throwing it a couple hundred times a day and being explosive can only help him be a better football player,” Swanstrom said. “It’s just going to make him a more well-rounded athlete. He’s added so much strength.”

Tobia has been very focused on his goals. She said since meeting him in January, Tobia has been very focused on his goals. “He’s super driven,” Craven said. “He comes to practice every day and wants to work hard. He’s very determined to qualify for nationals and return to where he was last year.”

Craven said Tobia brings a positive spirit with him to the throwing circle that makes himself and his teammates better.

“He definitely contributes significantly to the atmosphere of practice,” Craven said. “We try to keep things light and fun, and whenever Luke’s at practice, I think everyone’s engaged and having a good time. … I can feel the level of camaraderie rise when he is around.”

Junior Luke Tobia plays defensive line for the Bombers football team. COURTESY OF ARIE TOBIA

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Tobia works on his orbit in the hammer throw at practice March 11. This is one of three events he competes in during outdoor track and field. ABBEY LONDON/The ITHACAN
**Women's crew alumni compete at Olympic trials**

BY EMMA KERSTING

When former Ithaca College's women's crew and sculling team members Saraann Brja '18, 20 and Katie Feitner '18 joined the program in 2015, neither had any experience in rowing. Nearly six years later, the two participated in Olympic rowing trials for the first time ever held in Sarasota, Florida. Brja was able to advance all the way to the 2K time trial on the first day.

Both athletes came to Ithaca with the plan of playing a sport, just not rowing. Brja started her career as a student-athlete as a member of the women's soccer team, while Feitner played women's lacrosse. Brja began rowing her freshman year, but Feitner waited until her sophomore year to give it a try. They didn't learn that there's more to it than lacrosse and then they developed that competitiveness. They just brought it into rowing, and they developed here in Oklahoma City. Feitner said she believes that Brija mot-ivated her to become a better athlete and a better person in the process. While both Brja and Feitner have their sights on Olympic bids this next time around, Feitner enjoyed seeing her former teammate compete against her at the trials.

"I was so happy that [Brija] was there with me," Feitner said. "She's truly one of the fiercest competitors I've ever met."

**Athletes consider using extra year of eligibility**

BY ARLA DAVIS

When senior football player Andrew Vito first found that Ithaca College and the Liberty League canceled Fall 2020 sports competition, he said he knew right away that he would take a gap year in order to compete one last time. While he said he was not shocked by the postponement of events, Vito, who is a business administration major and is where Feitner currently resides. She moved there two years ago after her father passed away. Feitner has been flexible for each member institution and the postponement of events, and the postponement of events, which is sculling and crew," Feitner said. "Rowing, typically, it's sweep rowing, so athletes have one oar compared to sculls, which have two. They would not have been able to compete in [the time trials] had we not have that sculling opportunity as a team.

"When we look at Division III athletics, this is it," Roberts said. "Very rarely do they go on and play at a professional level, so these are their competitive days. Just try to give people to understand, 'Why would a student want to delay just to go and graduate.' This is what they've been doing their whole lives."

Junior track and field athlete Meghan Matheny has decided to stay at the college for a fifth year while pursuing another minor. She currently majors in business administration and communication studies and is a fitness professional. She also enjoys being a part of the track and field team as well as working with the varsity sports teams.

"Because it was my first elite race, said he is just one of two football players in his graduating class at the trials. I just wanted to post a time that I think I would. I was so happy that [Brija] was there with me," Feitner said. "She's truly one of the fiercest competitors I've ever met."

"T o come back just to play one semester of football is not conducive for a lot of people, especially myself," Vito said. "I wasn't going to spend $X amount of dollars just to come play football, so that's why I mapped it out the way I did. For some guys, scholarships didn't carry over, or they thought they might get into a grad program but weren't given the scholarship they previously had. Money gets tight, and you know it's Division III football at the end of the day, despite how much we love to play."

"While Dick said it was difficult to make the decision to end her field hockey career, she felt that she was ending on a high note after a rather strong and conditioning coach spoke kindly of her at the team's senior banquet, which was held in December over Zoom.

"My injury definitely played a part in my decision because my dad had so many injuries that have required surgery now that he's older," Dick said. "I can't be waddling around hurting for the rest of my life. Like, I'm still only 21, I still have a lot of life left in my legs."

While Dick said it was difficult to make the decision to end her field hockey career, she felt that she was ending on a high note after a rather strong and conditioning coach spoke kindly of her at the team's senior banquet, which was held in December over Zoom.

"I feel like some people are ready to be done, but I wasn't ready to be until after their photo was taken," Dick said. "I was like, 'Alright, if that's how people are going to remember me, I'm happy with that.'"
Sophomore Ethan Tuomela pours fresh maple sap into a barrel March 14 at the sugar bush in the Ithaca College Natural Lands. Students in the Non-Timber Forest Products course have started collecting sap from maple trees to turn it into maple syrup and will then sell it through their business, South Hill Forest Products.