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Trump's actions send shockwaves through F&M, Lancaster City community

BY KATHERINE COBLE
News Editor

Donald Trump had been president for less than a week when he suddenly announced an explosive and controversial executive order regarding refugees and immigration on January 27. According to CNN, the order prevents people from "terror prone" countries from entering the United States for 90 days and suspends the country's refugee resettlement program for 120 days. The countries impacted include Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen, all of whom are more than 90% Muslim. In an interview with the Christian Broadcast Network, President Trump implied that his administration would prioritize Christians and other religious minorities over Muslim people trying to enter the country.

The order was signed as part of Trump's longtime campaign promise to stem the flow of Muslim immigrants to the United States under the argument that the current immigrant vetting process is not sufficient,



Photo courtesy of lancasteronline.com

An estimated 2,000 Lancaster residents rallied in Penn Square downtown as a response to Trump's executive order regarding immigration on January 31.

potentially allowing terrorists could enter the country. Critics of the ban have pointed out that none of the hijackers in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks were from countries impacted by the executive order and every lethal terrorist attack on American soil in the post-9/11 era has been committed by a citizen or legal

resident of the United States.

The executive order immediately caused chaos in airports worldwide and there remains confusion over how exactly the order should be enforced. Trump has already been sued by dozens over the order, with plaintiffs claiming it is unconstitutional and violates the right to reli-

gious freedom. The order has been condemned by lawmakers in both parties, including former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and former presidential candidate John McCain. It has also received widespread criticism from international leaders like President Francois Hollande of France, Austrian Chancellor Christian Kern, and humanitarian organizations like The International Rescue Committee.

The F&M community began reacting to Trump's actions almost immediately. On January 29, the Interfaith Student Council sent a school-wide email addressing the order, saying that they "stand together in the firm belief that no one's religion or place of birth positions them above or below another human." The email ended with encouragement for students to get politically involved and a call to "stand against Islamophobia and Xenophobia."

The following day, President

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Class of 2020 hosts first town hall of academic year in College Center

BY BORIS ZYUMBYULEV
Contributing Writer

Franklin and Marshall's class of 2020 had its first town hall meeting on January 31. The presidential cabinet convened in College Center to hear the voices of their class, discuss future projects, and focus on things that concerned students. The event started just after 6:30 p.m. due to a small technical difficulty and lasted approximately fifty minutes. Hargobind Vohra, the class president of the current first years, opened the floor by motivating his decision to hold a town hall without a clear topic: he and the rest of his colleagues wished to hear from their people directly. The thoughts and ideas of students are extremely valued by his cabinet, and if he were to do his job properly he ought to know precisely what

he ought to aim for. After that, he described how the discussion should proceed. Each member of the audience had a minute to talk openly for issues on her mind, before another attendee voiced her concerns. Students were able to oppose each other if they had different experiences with a certain topic. After several opinions were shared, the presidential panel would take the floor to address the issues that were brought up.

There were several categories that were brought up for the audience to voice their opinion on including academics, registration, student life, athletics, and sustainability. One of the main topics of the academic section, unsurprisingly, was the Connections courses and their usefulness. Several issues brought up were the ineffective

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Dean of Ware College House announces departure after thirteen years at College

BY JONATHAN ZELINGER
Contributing Writer

On Friday Jan 27, 2017, students belonging to Ware College House email from the House's longtime Dean, Amy Moreno. The message within came as a surprise. It read,

"Dear Warians,

I'm writing to share the news that I will be leaving F&M at the end of February after 13 years. I am leaving to be home with my family. I decided I want to devote more time to the people who matter most to me.

I have served as the Dean of Ware College House since 2008, and before that, I taught in the English Department for 4 years. I have taught, advised, advocated for, supported and listened to hun-

dreds of you and your families. This work has been inspiring and gratifying, and at times difficult. But mostly, I've really enjoyed watching you grow and develop into wonderful human beings during your college years.

I will miss you all, and I am thankful for the opportunity to have mentored you during your time at F&M. I wish you all the very best of luck in whatever path you choose. You will be successful if you work hard and know yourself, and I know you can all do it!

There will be someone to replace me, so you will not be left adrift--don't worry. And until then, I'm sure I'll have plenty of time to say goodbye in person. Stop "over" or "down" if you want to

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CRIME WATCH

Friday, Jan. 27, 1:12 a.m.: The Department of Public Safety (DPS) responded to a report of harassment in the Steinman College Center.

Friday, Jan. 27, 9:51 p.m.: DPS responded to a noise complaint on 441 W James St.

Friday, Jan. 27, 11:12 p.m.: DPS replied to a noise complaint on 446 W James St.

Saturday, Jan. 28, 5:21 p.m.: DPS responded to an incident at 608 N Charlotte in which non-students were doing parkour on the railings between buildings and were asked to leave.

Saturday, Jan. 28, 11:46 p.m.: DPS responded to underage drinking in Schnader Hall.

Sunday, Jan. 29, 1:00 a.m.: DPS received a report of disorderly conduct outside Meyran Hall after a student urinated on a statue.

Sunday, Jan. 29, 1:07 a.m.: DPS responded to a report of robbery and assault outside of Bonchek College House in the Residential Quad after a student's scooter was stolen from him by another student. The scooter was recovered, the thief was located, and the Lancaster City Police are now handling the case. The student who stole the scooter has been charged with a felony.

Sunday, Jan 29, 3:19 a.m.: DPS replied to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Sunday, Jan. 29, 4:45 a.m.: DPS received a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, 12:25 a.m.: DPS responded to a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Wednesday, Feb 1, 12:15 a.m.: DPS received a loud noise complaint in Ware College House.

Wednesday, Feb 1, 11:05 a.m.: DPS responded to a report of trespassing at the Facilities & Operations headquarters.

Thursday, Feb. 2, 2:20 p.m.: DPS replied to a report of arguing and noise in Weis College House.

Thursday, Feb. 2, 9:47 p.m.: DPS responded to reports of two students verbally fighting out another in Buchanan Park.

Trump: Campus and Lancaster City continue to respond to latest executive order

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Dan Porterfield released a statement expressing support for “members of our community who are Muslim, who hail from another country, or who are newcomers to America.” He added that “diversity, inclusiveness, and international connections are crucial to our mission and our future.” Porterfield said that the administration was reaching out to F&M students and staff impacted by the ban and advising them not to leave the country under any circumstances. He reassured students that F&M would not release information on students to law enforcement unless required to do so by law and said he was communicating constantly with legal and policy experts as the story surrounding the order developed. Porterfield concluded the email by saying that “our mission, our work, and our people matter—all of our people.”

When approached for comment, the College Democrats said that they think Trump “meant to target the Muslim population in these countries” by passing the executive order, not to protect Americans from violence. They derided the executive order for being un-American, saying it is “unconstitutional [and] morally wrong to turn away innocent people attempting to escape the unrest in their homeland.”

However, reaction to the executive order on-campus was not universal condemnation. Nick Stolte, the president of the College Republicans, said that “it would be foolish not to alter the vetting process to

ensure the safety of all Americans” and that “the College Republicans look forward to opening up our great nation to refugees in great need of help, but only after we can guarantee that The United States will not be susceptible to the dangers of outside terrorism.”

Trump’s executive order received a particularly negative reaction from the residents of Lancaster. The city of Lancaster is overwhelmingly Democratic despite 56% of Lancaster county, particularly the surrounding rural areas, voting for Trump. It has also accepted and resettled more refugees than almost anywhere else in the United States. Refugees are increasingly becoming an important part of Lancaster’s cultural and economic makeup.

An estimated 2,000 Lancaster city residents, including many F&M students and President Porterfield, attended a pro-refugee and immigration vigil in Penn Square on January 31. The vigil featured speeches from local activists and refugees themselves. It was the work of local social justice advocacy group Lancaster Stands Up, which says their mission is to “protect the most vulnerable, to defend our democracy, and to do our part to build an America that works for all of us.” There is no doubt that the reaction from Franklin & Marshall and Lancaster residents to the executive order will continue in the coming days and weeks.

First-year Katherine Coble is the News Editor. Her email is kcoble@fandm.edu.

Town Hall: F&M first-year students share their concerns with class cabinet

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assignments that were given out and an unforeseen lack of critical seminar evaluation of the readings in class. The audience was also asked to talk about the registration process. Unsurprisingly again, a key point was the difficulty associated with managing to get into the courses students want, especially as a first year. The difficulty for student athletes to schedule classes around their team practices was also an issue.

Other topics the panel was urged to look into was mental health aware-

ness and reform of attendance policies. The common theme in both is the lack of awareness of faculty; in most cases they simply do not know what is happening with their students and that leads to unwanted results such as lowered grades (as discussed during the Town Hall).

The “student life” category circled around issues such as the meal plans, dining options, and sustainability. Members of the audience brought attention to the very limiting set of options for breakfast, namely the lack of plain yogurt and fresh vegetables,

and the subpar quality of food in the Dining Hall. In addition, students desire to have more easily accessible sustainable trash bins in the college houses.

The final category was sustainability, which the presidential cabinet brought up themselves to inform the public. There is not much information about what exactly happens to the compost bins from College Center and the Dining Hall, but the cabinet promised it would be investigated. In addition, the cabinet is pushing for acquiring a compost bin for Zime. This

ended the Town Hall discussion. As a final remark, the president of the class of 2020, Hargobind Vohra, stepped forward and assured the whole audience that everything that was said was noted and it will be looked into as soon as possible. Vohra noted that further concerns can be directly taken to him through email or in person to facilitate more change if the students wished.

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Ware: Dean Amy Moreno to leave College, replacement to be determined

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chat. Those are the moments I’ll miss the most ... Best wishes for the remainder of the semester.

Take good care, Dean Moreno”

The College Reporter reached out to Dean Moreno for an interview following the news of her upcoming departure, but she politely declined comment. However, many students and faculty were more than excited to share their

memories of Moreno and feelings regarding her departure.

One student, who requested to be anonymous, recounted her time in Dean Moreno’s classroom. “I can’t believe she is leaving. She was sort of a staple part of my freshmen experience. She is very laid back and fun when it came to class discussions.” The junior added that she “can’t believe [Moreno] is leaving... I’m still bummed that I never had her again as a professor. I wish I could take [her]

class again! She’s a tough woman and definitely has an edge, but she keeps class so interesting.”

Dean Moreno will be remembered for her direct, honest, and straightforward approach. One member of the English department said that “Amy will be missed. She is taking a brave step, a step many of us with families often consider but never have the courage to make.”

Now a question lingers of Ware College House: the question over who will replace Dean Moreno.

The school has not announced any potential replacements for Moreno, but Dean Hazlett and Dean Flores Mills typically conduct a national search for this type of replacement before looking into an internal replacement.

Franklin & Marshall will miss Dean Moreno, but will welcome her replacement with open arms.

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Contributing Writer Commentary

Pokemon Go provides outlet for people of different backgrounds to come together

BY JONATHAN ZELINGER

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With the shape that our country is in, it forces me to think back to a simpler time. A time where people weren't plagued with the effects of mass political polarization, fear of arbitrary and hateful Muslim bans, and a shit load of school to compliment our country's terrible state. I think back to this summer, where Trump was still considered as a joke candidate, there was less school work to be done, and most notably, everyone was chasing little virtual Pokemon around. This summer, as an erratic sleeper, I often found myself roaming the local neighborhood deep into late nights. Buchanan Park, adjacent to my house, was where these "worry walks of nocturnal over-analysis" usually ended. I'd sit at this rusty, wooden picnic table and stare out into the dark empty park and appreciate the moments on this earth I get to sit alone, my mind liberated by unbridled silence. This was my unscripted routine for about two years. That was, until midway through last summer. One night last summer at around 2a.m., as I surveyed the circumambient greens of the park, people began emerging out of every distinguishable shadow. At first thought, I figured I was just coincidentally vacating the same space as a religious cult, possibly about to witness my first sacrifice. But as the figures drew closer, they all seemed to have one thing in common. No, they weren't all in cloaks. It was their eyes. Their eyes were enraptured in their phone screens. As they approached, I kindly, with a tone of genuine curiosity, yelled, "so, what's everyone doing here?" Everyone's head sprung

from the ground, looking like floating eyes in the distance, feeling more like owls than humans. The voice of a grown man awkwardly responded, "looking for Pokemons." I winced out of embarrassment for the human race, facilely responding, "sounds good" and headed home. I had heard about the game, but knew very little about it. I was compelled. How could this game motivate so many people to leave their homes in the middle of night, sacrificing sleep? If I wanted to look for things that didn't exist, I'd have taken shrooms or hunt for golden treasure. What was different about Pokemon Go?

For the few us that don't use Pokemon Go, it's an interactive game played on smartphones. The game allows players to capture, battle, and train virtual creatures, called Pokemon, who appear on device screens as though in the real world. It is a free game that incorporates your smartphone's camera and GPS. After logging into the app for the first time, the player creates their avatar. The player can choose the avatar's gender, hair, skin, and eye color, and choose from a limited number of outfits. After the avatar is created, it is displayed at the player's current location along with a map of the player's immediate surroundings. Features on the map include a number of PokéStops and Pokémon gyms. These are typically located at places of interest.

As players travel the real world, their avatar moves along the game's map. Pokémon species reside in different areas of the world; for example, water-type Pokémon are generally found near water.

After interviewing Pokemon Go users around my neighborhood, the

appealing factors of this game became evident. For starters, it's a fad. On July 12th the game became the most active mobile game in the U.S ever with 21 million active users, eclipsing candy crush saga's peak of 20 million users. There is nothing new about joining a trend. It is gratifying to be apart of something that feels bigger than yourself. But that still didn't answer why it had everyone roaming the streets at 2am on a Monday night. Then after one interview with a 22 year old college senior, I was able to reach new insight. "I loved Pokemon as a kid, going home playing the Pokemon game on my gameboy, doesn't get much better than that."

This guy, like many others who search late at night for fake creatures, aren't so much looking for charizards or pichichus, as they are trying to recapture a part of their childhood. This game appears to have a latent tendency that allows users to transport themselves back into the more epicurean lifestyle they once lived. A time where they were able to seek out the maximum amount of pleasure and the least amount of pain. A time where you could go home and play pokemon on your gameboy instead of writing a research paper. When that grown man's voice yelled back at me, "looking for Pokemon!" I think he really meant to say "looking for some type of nostalgic happiness!"

Though, this is only part of the reason it's so successful. Yes, it's the gratification of connecting with a familiar form of happiness, but it's the interactive nature of the game that really sets it apart. All games, such as this one, can't bring you back in time. They can only emulate a feeling you once had. With its interactive style

it makes the chase more real. You are actively, with your body, chasing something you once felt. The actions masquerade the unbearable fact that moments are fleeting and ephemeral. It might be the closest thing to a time machine we have, and I can say for sure, that I would wake up at any-time of the night to make myself feel young again, to feel that familiar, safe passionate again. I refer to it as safe passion because the game, like every game, is designed to give it's users short tangible success, over and over again. There is no failing in Pokemon Go, and if there is, it's still not reality. It's safe to be passionate about something you can't fail at.

Is this the right way to capture happiness? I can't possibly say, but indulgence, is never a sound practice. Pokemon Go is a wonderful distraction from all that is happening in the world today. The game was released at such a great time. A time where people just need anything to distract themselves from the state our country is in and might be in the future. There is a lack of controversy with Pokemon, especially in a time of racial heat. Pokemons are multicolored. They have no preconceived notions of social paradigms that are connected with pigmentation of skin. No matter your political beliefs, I have to believe you want peace, even if I disagree with how you want to achieve it. There is peace in Pokemon. There is a crowded, Buchanon Park at 2:00 am on a Monday, filled with people talking, strategizing, bonding over catching fake creatures.

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Women's March gives voice to voiceless in protest of election, injustices

BY JAMES JARVIS

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In a time of grave uncertainty, when we are troubled by forces that we feel are not within our control, it is important to remember in what part of the world we live. There is great power afforded to us as Americans. We possess agency, not only to speak our minds, but to change our political system. We have opportunities not provided to most people, which is why our ideas, beliefs, and values are important to the rest of the world. It should be our goal, as Americans, to deepen our democratic institutions and promulgate ideas of equality, liberty, fairness and opportunity, declaring to the world that the United States is a country continually striving toward these ideals.

This theme extends to the Million Women's March, in which nearly a half a million people came together

on January 21 in Washington D.C. to celebrate the social progress America has made. The March was and is a testament to the resolve many millions of Americans feel to preserve the integrity of our democracy.

The Women's March extended beyond Washington to hundreds of cities around the globe as women marched in solidarity with the people in Washington. These systematic organized protests were a response to a woman's inherent rights threatened by Donald Trump's administration. The March revealed deep seated frustration felt by millions of people around the world.

Importantly, these Marches demonstrated, particularly to younger generations, that they also have an opportunity to exercise their rights in the form of civil dissent and public protest. The March is part of a long American tradition protesting human rights violations that includes not just the rights of American citizens, but

the rights of immigrants and refugees. The message from that day was about how human rights should not have to succumb to political ideology for they are inalienable and inherent for every person.

Talking to students across the Franklin & Marshall community who attended the Women's March, there was a consensus that President Trump is betraying essential American values and important democratic traditions. A fellow student at Franklin & Mar-

shall, Leah Issokson, offered her perspective after attending the March on Saturday. She described the March as: "A reaction to Trump being such an extreme candidate...waging a war on so many different groups...It wasn't just about [Women]. It was about every group that has felt fear, inequality and persecution or knowing somebody else that has experienced fear and persecution." Leah emphasized

see MARCH, page 4



Photo courtesy of Heavy.com

Women of all backgrounds, religions, and political views came together to protest President Trump's recent election and was effective in bringing people's views to the forefront.

Contributing & Staff Writer Commentary

March: President Trump came under scrutiny in recent march on Washington

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perienced fear and persecution.” Leah emphasized that the March was not necessarily an example of political activism. Instead, she said that it felt more like a fight for “moral issues” than about politics.

Henry Carmen, a sophomore who identifies as a conservative Republican, spoke to me personally about how the students on campus are pre-disposed to be critical of his opinions and political philosophy. I asked Henry to give an instance where he has been attacked by people on the opposite side of the ideological spectrum. Henry responded: “Having a political argument on social media is one of the most damaging things you can do... I got in so many fights and arguments in college... No one understood what I was saying. However, when I called them up and had a conversation in person I found that you can actually reason with people simply by hearing the tone of my voice. Talking personally to them gave me the opportunity to explain my thoughts and opinions more fully.”

Henry highlighted that he felt alienated at times by people who he cared about and grew up with because of his ideology. He argued that: “It is good to have morals and have values - I understand why you believe the things you believe. But, I think it’s bad to attack people recklessly... I think you can be ideological and not attack people... I think it is great that there is a lot of (physical) demographic diversity on this campus. But, I also

think there is a lack of ideological diversity... What we got to get better at here is practicing respect towards one another while we engage in debate over our ideological differences.”

Pivoting to Leah’s argument, I asked her if she has “witnessed or talked to a lot of people on both sides of the spectrum at the March”? Leah conveyed that solidarity was very important to the cause of the Women’s March, however, she also communicated: “It was not just about political activism or about being a Democrat or Republican. There were a lot of people on both sides of the spectrum [demonstrating that] being a Republican doesn’t mean this.” The Women’s March was perceived differently depending where on the ideological spectrum you are. To some, the Women’s March conveyed a self fulfilling prophecy that painted them as righteous, benevolent, and most importantly “morally right.” For others, the March conveyed a very different message: if you are not on the side of liberals, you are not “morally right.” The repercussions of this are that the schism is exacerbated further. It comes down to who is most right.

There are grievances that both sides of the schism have in common. I can’t speak to who is “more right” generally, but in this case I do think that the Women’s March is similar to past movements, such as civil rights or Women’s suffrage. Americans are right to try and protect human rights. The Women’s March served its purpose as a symbol of a growing human rights movement. It also set a pre-

cedent that there is a line that can be crossed within American Democracy. President Trump has crossed that line. It is important that we remember civil protest as a sign of a healthy democracy. President Trump has also set a precedent that certain groups/ethnicities/races/genders have more rights than others.

If Americans allow this to happen then what is to stop our current President from taking away the rights of more and more people? In American democracy, the law does not discriminate between anyone of any origin or inherent quality. The laws of our constitution, and the ideals of our democracy, exist to protect us from ourselves. But, it doesn’t happen if we stop respecting the standards previous generations set for us.

Since the night of the 2016 Presidential election there are many students, including me, who are resolved to oppose anything resembling “Trumpian” politics. I remain active on social media: signing petitions, liking newspaper opposition pieces directed toward Trump’s behavior and policies, sharing articles as well as my own opinions. I know that there are many of us on this campus who have acted similarly. However, there comes a point when Facebook and Twitter are not beneficial and instead exacerbates the existing schism. These artificial public forums are not dynamic enough in that our words, beliefs, petitions, articles aren’t reaching the other side. Instead our posts are filtered and purged to the point where we are only sharing with people with

whom we agree. The result is that I am not changing the minds of Trump supporters nor are Hillary supporters changing the minds of others. We are simply not breaching the sound barrier on either side of the spectrum.

We are shouting into an echo chamber where we block, unfollow or ignore those who challenge our beliefs. We tend to like people that agree with us and are averse to those that contradict our ideas, opinions or beliefs. These are the ideal environments we desire and construct for ourselves because it supports our self-image and need for inclusion and approval. Indulging in this, however, neglects an important responsibility as Americans.

The ideals we strive for depend on the proliferation of many different ideas and discourse that cause us to think critically about why we believe something to be true; is it true because it’s fact, or because we just want it to be true. For me, my job will be to challenge my version of reality by having an open mind to ideas and opinions that I don’t agree with.

As the Women’s March demonstrated, I believe it begins by finding common ground and starting constructive conversations with ideologically diverse people. It is possible that many people you talk to will choose not to listen. But regardless, it should always start and end with a handshake.

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Op-eds staff writer expresses dissatisfaction with Trump administration

BY NICK RIEBEL
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Well, the Trump administration has been going about as poorly as I thought it would. At least World War III hasn’t started, but I’m sure it won’t be long now. The Republican party has sold its soul, and the Democrats seem to believe that the best option is to be the adult in the room, because of how well that’s worked for us. Now, many things about the Trump era have caused me to lose hope. I literally do not have enough words to describe just all of the horrible things that Trump is doing- the ones that we actually know about. I won’t ease time listing absolutely everything Trump has done horribly recently (although his incompetent, butcher mission in Yemen is one of the most egregious). Yet, one of the things that depresses me the most is that too many Democrats seem to have learned nothing during the Obama years.

I have discussed with my friends, classmates, and professors about how Democrats should handle, amongst other things, Trump’s Supreme Court pick, Neil Gorsuch. Unfortunately, particularly amongst the more “establishment” Democratic friends I have, they appear to view a policy of accommodation and appeasement to the Trump regime. They feel that this appointment will go forward, and that Democrats should not put up a fight,

saving their political capital and energy for other battles. I view this as great mistake. Why? Democrats have tried this approach through Obama’s time in office towards the Republican party. It has failed.

For so many years, going back to I believe 2010, I have worked for the local Democratic party of Lancaster county. They are nice, intelligent people, but they are of course establishment, and their views differ significantly from mine. As they are more connected to political figures, they have assured me that their knowledge, judgment, their wisdom in these matters has been greater than mine. They told me, (since I think at least 2010), that if Democrats were not so nice and polite as a party, that the public would hate them for their aggressiveness and rudeness, and they would be punished at the polls. And, in 2010 and 2014 and 2016, it would appear that this idea is wrong, but they seem to be sticking with it. And here, I do not mean the local Democratic party necessarily, I mean the Democratic establishment overall. They do not believe we need a liberal Tea Party, they think that we need to reach for bipartisan consensus.

Having Senator Chuck Schumer for the Democratic Senate leader and Representative Nancy Pelosi for the House minority leader is not wise, and neither would be having anyone other than Keith Ellison become the DNC chair (I personally like Tom Perez, but he is the wrong person, for the wrong

time, and should run for Maryland governor instead). We need a new strategy, one of confrontation, my progressive friends, and that begins with filibustering Gorsuch. Do you honestly believe, that if we hold off obstructing this judge, that if a liberal justice dies, that the GOP will respect our earlier restraint, and offer a more moderate justice for that vacant seat? If you believe that, I must sadly state that you are choosing to ignore history, and are therefore doomed to repeat it. Even if we lose this battle, we force the Trump and Republican administration to spend their own resources, energy, and political capital to win this fight. Do not back down on this. The Republicans will, I believe, view this as weakness, and sensing blood in the water, become far more aggressive. What will Trump, in particular, do if he feels Democrats are too afraid to stand up to him on something as important as a stolen Supreme Court seat? No, the Republicans cheated, the Republicans have obstructed, and they will not get away scot-free from this. Even if we lose, voters won’t remember or care for the midterms next year. We have nothing to lose by filibustering Gorsuch forever, and we may even gain the seat back.

Otherwise, we unwisely apply a disadvantageous double-standard to ourselves: the Republicans can do whatever the hell they want, and get away with it, while we voluntarily self-compromise and violate our own

principles, and in return the Republicans attack us and our values harder, ramming through more outrageous and unjust legislation and policies because, for them, being nice is weakness, and to acquiesce is to surrender.

I went to the vigil for refugees this week. These people will be the first to primary Democrats who surrender to the Trump regime, trust me, they will not buy your arguments, as they are logically unsound, and have been proven wrong over and over (what would Albert Einstein say about doing the same thing over and over, and expecting a different result?). And if we follow the path of appeasement, not only will Republicans defeat us in the 2018 midterms after our Democratic “leaders” have, once again, demoralized their own base, but Trump will be re-elected, with these same Democrats lining up once again to give up, fighting only when it’s politically convenient (which the Republicans will ensure will happen less and less often).

We should fight the Republicans as much as we can, especially the illegitimate usurper Trump. Or we might as well admit that we’re too scared, weak, and corrupted to do so, and let our political enemies do what they want. Don’t worry, we’ll fight them another day.

Someday.

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Campus Life

Professor Crannell discusses connection of Liberal Arts, math, life at Common Hour

BY LIN PHYU SIN
Contributing Writer

This week's Common Hour, entitled "A Math Geek Looks at Art and the Liberal Arts," was given by Dr. Annalisa Crannell, a Franklin & Marshall Professor of Mathematics as well as the recipient of F&M's 2016 Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching. She additionally received other awards for distinguished teaching from local and national mathematical societies. Professor Crannell's presentation included two parts: a reflection on her time at F&M, what she claimed as an "extended thank you" note, and the "Mathematics of Art," that is, applying projected geometry to perspective art.

Since Professor Crannell joined F&M in 1992, the way she perceives the world around her has been changed by the Liberal Arts. At the Evolution Table she joined, Professor Crannell initially resisted the claim by Dr. Lisa M. Gasbarrone, professor and chair of the French department, that "evolution by selection is narrative." Nevertheless, later on, the narrative has shaped the way she teaches her classes and was even the basis of her Common Hour presentation on narratives.

One of Professor Crannell's narratives was focused around her receiving tenure. The day she got tenure, she bought a banjo, which she did not know how to play, and went to the Facilities & Operations (F&O) to learn. Recalling her banjo learning experience, Professor Crannell noted that "by practicing the impossible, it becomes possible." Congratulating her on the achievement of receiving tenure, a colleague mentioned that "you don't feel different, but people will treat you differently." This comment changed Professor Crannell's perceptions on circumstances as well as made her wonder about how these circumstances could shape an individual.

Later on, she experimented with a teaching style of looking at her students as her senior tenure colleagues.

During her talk, she drew parallels between student's journey through college and the faculty member's journeys through college. She highlighted how they were alike by pointing out processes such as admission interviews, campus tours, and orientation. During her interview for the job at F&M's Math Department, she discovered that the department chair as well as the college was "hungry for a richer intellectual diet" and had high standards. Nonetheless, to her, F&M was not just a "crunchy intellectual center." The college had an "atmosphere of warmth and welcoming." She still remembered a welcome letter she had received from Professor Jay Anderson, professor of computer science. The letter was simple yet meaningful.

Her orientation time at F&M massively shaped her upcoming years. Ranging from the Faculty Writing Workshop to the tour of the college museum, these experiences, even before she set foot in the classroom, influenced her perceptions as well as her papers. Throughout her career at F&M, her colleagues have shown "incredible kindness." Professor Robert Gethner, professor of mathematics, for instance, had sat down and read a book on transitivity with her, the experience of which made her pay attention to simple questions and produced her paper on "The Role of Transitivity in Devaney's Definition of Chaos." Dean Marion Coleman, Associate Dean for Multicultural Affairs, was with her during the Interim Review which was a "deciding point" as well as a period of "identity crisis." Through her colleagues' support and her achievements, Professor Crannell had come to realize that what she has accomplished is not really far from what she dreamed of.



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Dr. Annalisa Crannell, recipient of F&M's 2016 Lindback Award for Distinguished Teaching, presented at Common Hour about the link between liberal arts and math.

Professor Crannell also shared three F&M stories that had impacted her personal and academic life. The first story was a personal story—about how, during her time at F&M, she had found her partner, and therefore her family and the orientation of her personal life. The second one was about how discussions had led her to be more contemplative of current social, economic and moral issues. The third story, which she claimed to be perhaps the most compelling, was about her joining a book club, being inspired by a leader and following that person's footsteps. Professor Crannell made a more conscious effort to be more involved in the community. She volunteered with patients, from which she got to know her first adopted son Nigel. Later, she adopted more kids and expanded her family.

Recounting her stories, particularly the third one, she posed a question: Is this story she had just told—the book discussion which led to her volunteer work which shaped her family life—her story? Or, she wondered if it was a

great story about the Liberal Arts which, to borrow Henry Crimmel's words, stimulates "the capacity and inclination for rational inquiry."

Afterwards, Professor Crannell switched gears and spoke of the "Mathematics of Art." She is a professor who makes math enjoyable by bringing art into it. Mentioning her students' significant improvement in their three-dimensional drawings after taking her math class, she introduced to the audience the "Mathematical Notion of Perspective" and the concept behind vanishing points. By asking the audience to look at a painting as well as a simplified three-dimensional figure, she demonstrated how the rectangular cuboid transforms into a cube as one looked closer. She then ended the Common Hour with the following note: "Sometimes, we need to get closer to something to see it the way it is supposed to be seen."

Sophomore Lin Phyu Sin is a contributing writer. Her email is lsin@fandm.edu.

Interfaith profile on president of Muslim Students Association, Sarah Hafiz

BY JULIA RAMSEY
Contributing Writer

This semester, Interfaith Student Council is focusing on a different religion each week, with the goal of increasing religious literacy and highlighting the role faith plays in students' lives. Through this project, the ISC hopes to expand students' understanding of the religious diversity at Franklin & Marshall and provide an opportunity for students to learn about the

backgrounds and practices of their fellow peers.

This week, the ISC is focusing on Islam and will be distributing flyers around campus with interesting facts about the religion! My student profile is Sarah Hafiz, president of the Muslim Students Association.

JR: How would you describe Islam to someone who's never heard of it before?

SH: Islam describes a spiritual

state of a believer. 'Islam' means "submission and surrender to the will of God." Islam's adherents are called Muslims. 'Muslim' means "the one who submits to God." While Islam is not a monolith, what unites all Muslims is the belief "There is no god but God, and Muhammad is the messenger of God."

JR: What do you think is commonly misunderstood about your religion?

SH: That Allah is a "Muslim/Islamic god," when, in fact, 'Allah' is simply the Arabic word for God—the same God Jews and Christians believe in. Case in point: Christian Arabs use the exact same word for God as Muslims do.

JR: What does being Muslim mean to you?

Interfaith: Student Sarah Hafiz shares experience with her faith

continued from page 5

SH: Being Muslim to me is a central part of my identity. Since Islam is a lifestyle, it influences everything I do as a Muslim. These include my interactions with others and the way in which I view and appreciate the world around me, where I aim to uphold the legacy of the Prophets and other(s) heroes. To me, being Muslim means I always have direct access to God, such as through the five daily prayers. As a Muslim, I am relieved by knowing that God does not burden one with more than one can bear. Despite taking precautions and putting in effort from my end towards accomplishing a goal, ultimately, I place my trust in God. In the end, as a Muslim, I believe that God does what is best, even if I don't see how in the moment.

JR: When have you experienced no one sharing your same beliefs?

SH: Growing up in East Hempfield here in Lancaster, I was always the only Muslim in school. While I was somewhat embarrassed to be different, and kind of dreaded doing my yearly Ramadan (month when Muslims fast) and Hajj (pilgrimage to Mecca) presentations to the class, I realized over the years that a lot of people genuinely liked learning about my religion. I recognized that in order to teach others about my religion, I had to know about it myself. I definitely questioned aspects of my religion growing up--which I think is healthy and is encouraged in Islam in order to grow and develop as a Muslim. In the process of understanding my religion more, I actually became more in love with Islam. I was blessed to have parents

who took my sisters and I to national and regional Islamic programs since I was a wee toddler and who sent me to Muslim youth camps, where I got to meet and form relationships with really inspiring kids from across North America. These kids were not only strong in their understanding and practice of Islam, but were high-achieving students, athletes, and community leaders--they were do-ers. I realized that I wasn't supposed to be "Muslim" in a vacuum--only at home, once a week, or just on holidays--but rather, everyday, everywhere. My Islam needed to be integrated into my everyday life as a Muslim, and doing so wasn't holding me back from pursuing anything in my life.

Want to get involved? Please join the Muslim Students Association (MSA) in the Steinman Col-

lege Center anytime from 10a.m. to 5p.m. on Friday, February 10, for hot chocolate and cookies. During this time, the MSA will have small activities and tidbits regarding some concepts in Islam. Friday, February 10 marks the two year anniversary of when Deah Barakat, 23, Yusor, 21, and Razan Abu-Salha, 19, were murdered in their home in Chapel Hill, North Carolina for being Muslim. The trio, or Our Three Winners, were community leaders and activists who embodied what it meant to be both Muslim and American. The Franklin & Marshall Muslim Students Association is hosting a Day of Light to reflect upon and honor Our Three Winners' lives and their legacy.

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Workshop provides students with knowledge pertaining to fake news

BY SHIRA GOULD
Staff Writer

On Tuesday, January 31 during Uncommon Hour, Shadek-Fackenthal Library hosted a workshop for students, professors and community members to identify fake news. Between Facebook, Google, and Twitter, information is infinite, and seemingly universally accessible. However, it turns out that users are only shown the information that those outlets deem personally relevant. As such, it is easy to become trapped in a "filter bubble," says Meghan Kelly, the Research and Emerging Technologies librarian at Shadek-Fackenthal Library.

The large turnout split into two groups, one meeting in the SparkSpace, and the other in the classroom on the second floor. It began by having participants share their news outlets of choice. The most common responses included CNN, PBS, The New York Times, and NPR. Participants discussed the engaging headlines, and accessibility, noting that many of the outlets send brief daily emails, which makes staying informed an easy feat.

With that being said, in a world filled with information, it is easy to fall victim to fake websites. Participants split into groups, each sitting by a computer with an open webpage. They were asked to investigate the validity and reputation of each website. Participants then shared their findings.

They found that it is important to be attentive to the copyright date, the URL type, and the author's writing. It can also be



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Shadek-Fackenthal Library hosted a workshop last Tuesday on how to identify fake news. Attendees were split into groups and taught to identify the various factors that contribute to the validity and reputation of a website, including copyright and URL type.

useful to search the reputation of the site in order to ensure that it is reliable. One of the websites was entitled "Channel 7 News," which sounds reliable. Participants found, however, that the URL was not consistent with the name, thus undermining its reliability.

Following this exercise, participants watched Eli Pariser's TED Talk, "Beware of Online 'Filter Bubbles.'" In his TED talk, Pariser explained that each person lives in a "filter bubble," simply because they interact with specific people. The place a person lives and the people with whom they associate create a bias through which they view the world. Pariser's talk from 2011 states that this concept is emphasized by the internet, which gives the illusion of being all-knowing, fair and balanced, and yet filters

users' searches to their interests. Facebook and Google use users' histories, location and interests to tailor their search results. This contributes to society's ignorance about their own ignorance, according to Pariser. He warns that it is immensely important to be aware of one's filter bubbles, and to try their best to pop it.

Workshop participants were challenged to pop the hypothetical filter bubbles described in two scenarios. One was a college student who received most of his news from Facebook and other social media platforms. He typically did not do research of his own, but rather kept informed through the echo chamber of his surrounding community. The other was a college graduate who was more aware of the news, but wanted to learn more. Participants

were asked to provide suggestions for the two hypothetical people. They suggested that turning on notifications for various news outlets is a good way to remain informed throughout the day. They also noted that it is important to read the contents of the articles, rather than just the headlines. Additionally, it can be useful to subscribe to print newspapers in order to get an unbiased compilation of articles to read, as even news websites tailor the suggested content to each user.

The library has also posted a document containing ways to identify fake and reliable news sources on their website.

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Arts & Leisure

***The School of Life* YouTube channel realistically educates youth on variety of subjects**
Bite-sized lectures on important topics, people paint pessimistic, yet hopeful image of world

BY VANESSA CHEN

Staff Writer

The School of Life is a YouTube Channel with close to two million subscribers and 442 videos. It covers a variety of topics such as philosophy, literature, political theory, relationships, pop culture, and the self. The channel aims at educating the public, both on humanities subjects and emotional intelligence.

The School of Life has a curriculum that gives bite-sized lectures (usually under 10 minutes) on the lives and ideas of famous philosophers, artists, psychotherapists, and writers. It introduces the viewers to Nietzsche and James Joyce without the intimidation of big books with hard language. The channel also tackles interesting topics such as “Why You Will Marry the Wrong Person,” “Why Germans Can Say Things No One Else Can,” and “Pop Culture: Taylor Swift’s Legs & Climate Change.”

The School of Life incorporates a unique blend of cynicism and optimism. One of its most viewed videos “The Darkest Truth about

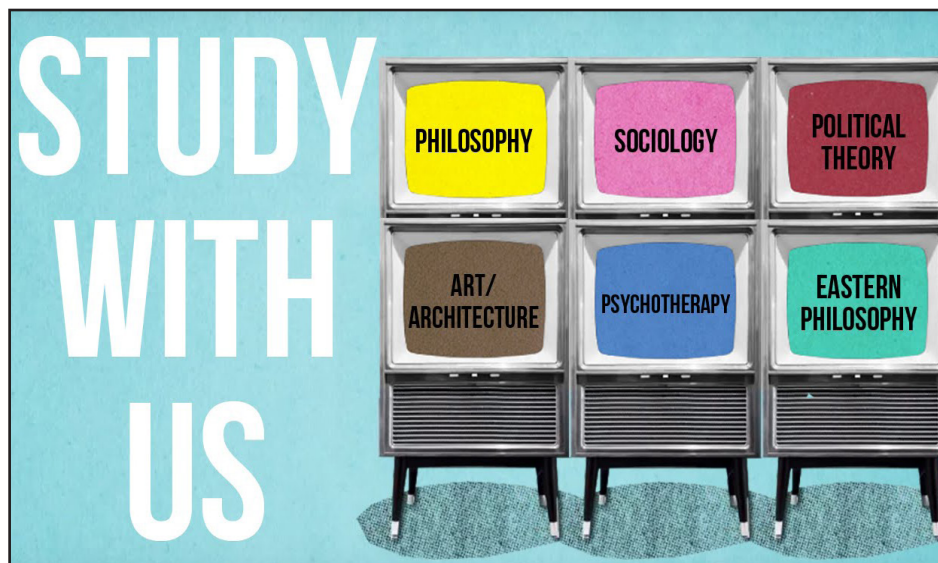


Photo courtesy of youtube.com

The School of Life was founded in 2008. Its YouTube channel currently has 1.8 million subscribers and posts videos three times a week.

Love,” states “you will never find the right person...you are irredeemably alone...you will not be understood.” In a world that force-feeds positive thinking, it confirms the cynicism we secretly hold and the reality of life. *The School of Life* addresses our subconscious fear of “there is no love” by putting our ideas of “love” in perspective. It makes us realize that perhaps our ideas of “love” are unattainable, yet continuously perpetuated by society. The channel never fails to urge us, earnestly, to keep loving.

However the channel suggests to its viewers not to just chase the “love” society has defined for us, but a more realistic one a person must define for themselves.

An especially fitting video for the political turbulence we are currently experiencing is “The Fragility of Good Government,” in which we are reminded that good government is enjoyed by a few people in a few parts of the world for a few periods in time. If the structure of good government seems to be falling apart, it is not becoming worse, but re-

verting to how it was. We should recognize that good government is fundamentally fragile, which requires all of us to commit to restoring it to its delicate state of “goodness.” The video can be deeply comforting because it exposes all the reasons why things will go wrong, but can still “go right.”

Besides pessimism, another major quality *The School of Life* wants its viewers to have is empathy. It teaches us that everyone is vulnerable, weird, and awful at communicating their wants to others. The channel is perfect for when you are angry at a friend, a lover, or a family member, to remind yourself that everyone is selfish and neurotic, yet pitiable and lovable, and they desperately need your generosity.

The lessons from *The School of Life* are melancholic yet heartwarming. They reaffirm that everything and everyone is just as bad as you think, but still manage to convince you to be hopeful and to try.

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Spanish & Latin American Film Festival to screen films weekly throughout month
Sergio Diaz Luna, of Spanish Department, is director for fifth annual film festival at college

BY ZHIFAN YANG

Contributing Writer

Last Thursday, February 2, the fifth Franklin & Marshall Spanish and Latin American Film Festival gave its first screening Stahr Auditorium. The festival, which started in 2013, has been held successfully every year. The Spanish and Latin American Film Festival shows one selected film from across Spain and Latin America every Thursday in February and aims to evoke “reel inspiration.”

“The Spanish and Latin American Film Festival is a good opportunity for students to learn the numerous cultural, socio-economic, political, and ethnic manifestations found in the Spanish-speaking communities all over the world,” Professor Sergio Diaz Luna says.

Films screened at the festival are all carefully selected. According to Professor Diaz Luna, the director of the festival this year, in order to choose those movies he, along with Professor Felipe Quintanilla and Professor Anastasiya Stoyneva, established

a committee to discuss the movie choices. If they had a disagreement during this process, they would bring the choice to a vote. They not only focused on awarded movies from the Oscars, Spain Goya Awards, and Berlin International Film Festival, but gave a lot of attention to the diversity of their selected films. The first movie *Sleep Dealer*, shown on February 2, is a science fiction movie from Mexico, the second movie *Tad, the Lost Explorer* is a computer-animated adventure comedy from Spain, *Juan of the Dead* is a comedy zombie film from Cuba, and finally, *The Wind Journeys*, is a drama film from Colombia. According to Professor Quintanilla, they want students to know that there is a wide range of Spanish speaking countries. Spanish is not only spoken in Spain, but also in Latin America. By showing such a wide variety of films, they want students to get to know and appreciate the diverse cultures of Spanish speaking countries.

The food served during the event is a surprise. On February 2, the first day of showing, they served Mexican pork and chick-

en tamales, because the movie shown that day was from Mexico, with popcorn and soda.

“I really like the food. Watching movies as well as having food is really enjoyable” according to Jingxin Tian, a first-year student who is taking Spanish this year.

The next three shows will also provide food from different Spanish-speaking countries. Watching a movie from a country and while also enjoying their food is a perfect, fun way to experience a culture.

The festival is open to all F&M students, staff, and colleagues and the entire Lancaster community. All the movies have English subtitles for those who do not understand or study Spanish. According to Professor Diaz Luna: “We do not live in a bubble, and we need to keep in touch with the community.” The festival is also a good way for students and the school to build connections. In Lancaster, there are many members of the community who are either immigrants or refugees from Spanish-speaking countries—the festival welcomes them to come



Photo courtesy of fandm.edu

Professor Sergio Diaz Luna is the director of this year’s film festival.

and enjoy the movies and food.

Overall, the festival is a good opportunity for students to enjoy movies, get to know other cultures, and build connections with the community. You will definitely have a great experience if you go to the screenings at 5:30 p.m. every Thursday throughout the month of February.

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Arts & Leisure

La La Land lives up to hype, depicts moving success story in modern musical format Emma Stone, Ryan Gosling, John Legend star in Oscar nominated film, tying Academy Award records

BY JESIKA ISLAM
Layout Assistant

After months of hearing friends, critics, and commercials praise *La La Land* I finally caved and decided to watch the Oscar nominated movie. Other than that the film is directed by Damien Chazelle, that it is a musical, and that it stars my favorite *Crazy Stupid Love* duo, Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone, I knew nothing of the film.

The first thing that scared me was the idea of watching a musical, the second thing that scared me was that it's a two hour musical, but I took a deep breath and allowed myself to be immersed in the film.

The movie is set in a quasi-modern day California. I only say quasi because there is a mystical retro factor that is constant through the film despite their use of iPhones and Tablets. The entire movie has a whimsical factor, a factor that

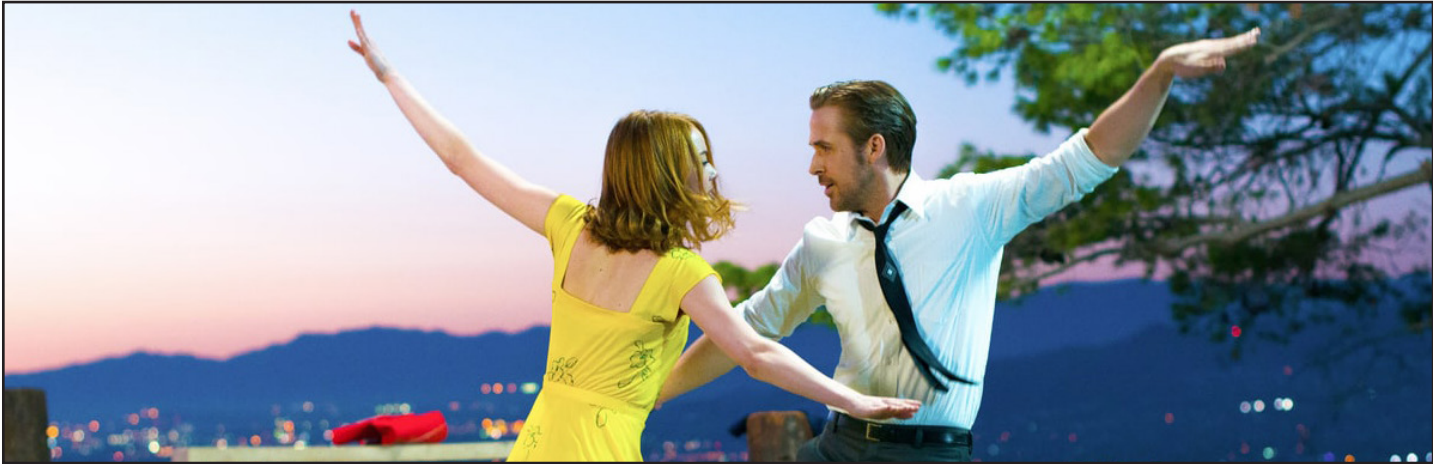


Photo courtesy indiewire.com

La La Land has been nominated for fourteen Academy Awards, tying the nomination record with *Titanic* and *All About Eve*. The nominations include Best Picture, Best Actor for Ryan Gosling, Best Actress for Emma Stone, and many others.

fills it with warmth and wanderlust. For me it was the combination of the distinctive soundtrack, vivacious color scheme, deliberate movement and wonderful costumes. The movie was clearly very well done.

The first hour and forty-five minutes spans over one year, arguably the beginning of Mia (Emma Stone) and Sebastian's (Ryan Gosling) careers. Although the

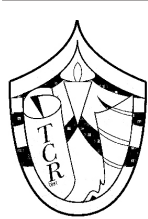
story is a little clichéd for the first year, following that of any typical love story, the ending is what truly made this a masterpiece for me. The decision to have them achieve their dreams separately, move on from each other, and still be able to smile and wish each other well truly made this story different than others. It was painful, yet hopeful. It realistically depicted the major sacrifices needed to create life-

long success with positivity. *La La Land* lived up to the hype that surrounded it and I would recommend for anyone to see it, especially if you need a special film to brighten your day. John Legend's performance definitely helped mine.

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The College Reporter's full Staff Opinion


If you haven't been sick yet, you're one of the lucky few. Coughs and sneezes have become commonplace in the classroom and the flu is claiming more victims by the day. With all this illness floating around campus, we at The College Reporter believe it is best to know when to step back and take care of yourself. Putting your health as a priority can be scary sometimes when you have a mountain of homework to do, but it is essential. To avoid sickness, it is important to practice good handwashing and to not share food or drinks. Other things like getting a good night's sleep and exercising regularly can help keep your immune system up. Eating right is a hard one with a busy schedule, but getting into the habit of having healthy, wholesome snacks and including fruits and vegetables in your diet can help. If you are sick, it is time to buckle down and get rest, making sure to drink plenty of fluids. If you're feeling sicker than usual, get a friend to help you to the Student Wellness Center so you can get a proper diagnosis and prescription. Regardless of whether you're now sick or not, maintaining a healthy lifestyle in college is essential to your overall success. Make use of the health and wellness resources available to you at F&M!



The College Reporter

Transparency. Accuracy. Credibility.

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The College Reporter was formed in 1964, as a successor to The Student Weekly, which was formed in 1915 by the union of The F&M Weekly, founded 1891, and The College Student, founded 1881. The crest of The College Reporter was designed in 2004 by Kim Cortes '05.

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The College Reporter welcomes story ideas from the college community. If you have or your organization has an idea for a Reporter story, email it to us at reporter@fandm.edu with the subject heading "Campus Story Idea" by Monday at noon the week before publication. Story ideas will be accepted at the discretion of the Editorial Board.

The Women's Basketball team has battled through adversity all season long. Read more below...


photo courtesy of logos.wikia.com

Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor have been locked in a year long feud. Read more below...

Franklin & Marshall Sports

Women's Basketball battles through tough stretches, continues to fight

BY GABBY GOODWIN
Assistant Sports Editor

Nineteen games down, six more to go. Franklin & Marshall Women's Basketball has faced plenty of adversity this season, but still has to time to fight back from their 8-11 season record and break even. In their game against Swarthmore last Tuesday, F&M Women's Basketball clenched a 65-57 win over the Garnets of Swarthmore College. F&M's Ashlyn Peterson scored a game-high 27 points moving the team's record to 8-9 and 6-6 in the Centennial Conference. The start of the game did begin well for the Dips as Swarthmore jumped out to a 7-4 lead before Peterson's threes on back-to-back possessions. This gave F&M a 10-7 lead in the first quarter.

At the start of the second, the Dips built their lead with six points from Sarah Haddon in the first three minutes. A three from Pilone and a basket from Hamill made it 27-22 with three minutes left in the half. AnnMarie DiCarlo gave F&M a double-digit leading into the half and the Dips never looked back, clinching an import-

ant road win. Coming of this important win, the team faced a tough loss at Gettysburg and looked to rebound against Ursinus. The Dips faced yet a tough loss against Ursinus at home this past week, losing a tough one to the Bears by a score of 53-35. Both teams struggled to find the net at the start of the game, with neither providing much offensive output. A three-pointer from F&M's Haley Pilone with 5:49 left in the first quarter brought F&M within striking distance of Ursinus, who lead the game 6-5. In an action-packed two minutes, the Bears scored a total of

eight points, closing off the first quarter with a 14-6 lead. A layup from F&M's Sarah Haddon started off the second quarter with promise, but another seven-point run by the Bears expanded their lead to 21-8 with a 4:57 left in quarter. Baskets by Kristen Hamill and Erica Brown left the halftime score at 23-12, with Ursinus having the advantage. One more burst from Ursinus extended their lead to sixteen points and a subsequent ten-point response from the Dips brought the game much closer.

However, the Dips fell short in their comeback and F&M fell by a final score of 53-35, in what

was their fourteenth Centennial Conference game of the season. The Dips closed out a tough stretch of games with a game against Muhlenberg and they lost 79-47. The team will return to the court this Tuesday with a home game against Johns Hopkins at 7:30 p.m. As the team makes a push for the playoffs, come out and watch the F&M Women's Basketball team as they take on the Blue Jays in what will be a crucial sixteenth conference game of their season.

First-year Gabby Goodwin is the Assistant Sports Editor. Her email is ggoodwin@fandm.edu



Photo courtesy of godiplomats.com

The F&M Women's Basketball team has been battling all season long in the hopes of gaining a playoff birth. They have lost some tough games but they refuse to let it get them down. They hope to make a run as the season comes to a close.

Mayweather, McGregor embarrass themselves in promotion of potential fight

BY JOE GIORDANO
Sports Editor

It's no secret that money makes the sport's world go round. Money benefits every side of the sport. From the athletes to the promoters, everyone makes more money if the event is a success. Therefore, the promotion leading up to these events is often the most important part as it is the hook for people to tune in and genuinely want to see what will happen. However, sometimes promotion just for promotion's sake ruins sports. Such is the case in the ongoing saga of Floyd Mayweather and Conor McGregor.

For over two years now, Mayweather and McGregor have been linked to a potential "superfight" in what would no doubt be a pay-per-view blockbuster, breaking every single viewing record to date. Both are mega-stars and have no problem selling pay-per-views on their own. For example, Floyd sold over four million pay-per-views in his fight versus Manny Pacquiao, in a fight that generated over \$410 million in revenue. Mayweather has also surpassed the million mark 7 other times in his boxing career, making him no doubt the biggest draw the boxing world has ever seen.

On the other hand, Conor McGregor, who calls the Ultimate Fighting Championship his home, hasn't been doing too badly for himself either in terms of drawing power. Leading up to his first title opportunity in December of 2015, the UFC had only surpassed the million-buy mark 8 times in their history.

Since that fight McGregor has passed that mark 4 times in only one year's time, including 3 times this past calendar year. There is little to no doubt that these two, even though Mayweather is now technically retired, own the pay-per-view game in their own sports. The question remains, however: Why tease a fight between these two when everyone knows what will happen?

The proposed fight between these two would not only make a mockery of boxing, but also of mixed martial arts as well. The proposed fight between the two would take place inside the boxing ring, where Mayweather has amassed an incredible 49-0 record, taking on all-time boxing greats Oscar De La Hoya, Juan Manuel Márquez, Victor Ortiz, Canelo Álvarez, and Manny Pacquiao in the process. McGregor himself has never stepped foot inside a boxing ring. This is no fault of

McGregor's as he has been taking the MMA world by storm. However, how can one expect him to compete with someone who has a boxing pedigree like Floyd's, having never stepped in the ring?

The same would be said of Floyd had he decided to make the jump into MMA and face McGregor. McGregor has a record of 21-3 inside the octagon, while Floyd has never had a fight. McGregor would make short work of Floyd under MMA rules, while Floyd would destroy McGregor in the boxing ring. It is not a slight on either competitors abilities, it is simply just

the facts and how fighting works. Therefore, no matter how many times they mention each other's names, make fun of each other, or say that the fight will happen, it will not matter. The end result is it will lead to a lot of promotion with little actual substance when they step foot in the ring. Both need to stay in their own lane and look to build up their own sports rather than their own brands and names.

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Photo courtesy of celebrityinsider.org

Mayweather and McGregor have been locked in a rivalry over the past year. However, they both need to stay within their own sports rather than worrying about each other.