

# THE BELL TOWER

SAINT MARTIN'S UNIVERSITY MONTHLY STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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## Voting Rights Act has 50th anniversary, 4 million Americans still lack civil rights

**Denver Garcia**  
Staff Writer

March 7 of this year was the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery marches, when Dr. King along with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference led massive demonstrations against the practice, widespread in Southern states, of preventing African Americans from voting. The marches were successful and five months later, then President Lyndon Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act into law, abolishing racial discrimination at the polls. While many people celebrated the 50th anniversary of the marches, delegate Stacey Plaskett (D) of the U.S. Virgin Islands reminded Congress that the 4 million residents of U.S. territories do not have full rights.

Residents of Guam, Puerto Rico, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), American Samoa, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are not allowed to vote in

are not states; however the real reason is much more disturbing..

At the turn of the last century the U.S. embarked on an aggressive cam-



Photo retrieved from wikimedia.org

Guamanian vets march in parade

presidential elections. Each territory has representation in the House of Representatives by a delegate, but the delegates cannot actually vote on anything. Most people assume that territories lack full rights because they

paign of expansion, which resulted in the annexation of Hawaii and most of the current territories in addition to the now sovereign Cuba and Philippines.

see **Voting** page 11

## Music Club swings through the night

**Cassidy Ristine**  
Staff Writer

Most people have never heard of the music club at Saint Martin's University. This club has been developing behind the scenes for a couple years and often evades notice. On Thursday, April 9, the music club finally attracted more attention.

Beginning at 7 p.m. and lasting three hours, the "Swing into Spring" swing dance gave the music club an opportunity to welcome

others to partake in the festivities. The Norman Worthington Conference Center, the venue of choice, slowly filled with staff, students, and community members.

Jim Farley, an alumnus, and his wife Bonnie led the swing lessons. The Dukes of Swing, a live band hired to perform at the event, tuned their instruments and joined to the rhythms of classic jazz, songs like "New York, New York" and "Fly Me to the Moon."

see **Music Club** page H2

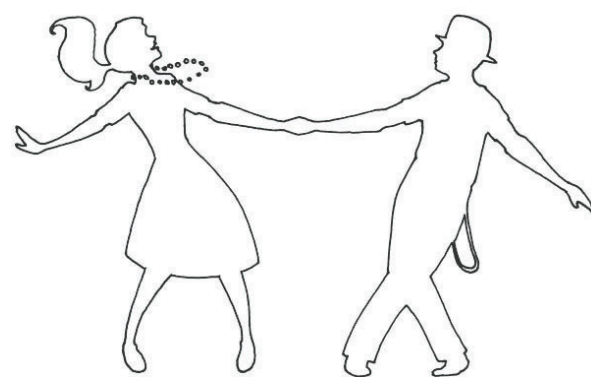


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### Around the World



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### Senior Plans



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### Explore Olympia



See Page D1

## Marine biology enthusiasts seek whales

**Cassidy Ristine**  
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 18, at approximately 11 a.m., the good ship "Adventure Bound" departed from its mooring in Westport, Wash. Aboard it, marine biology students, Saint Martin's University staff members and family, and other interested students all eagerly awaited their opportunity to see gray whales on the northward migration to

Alaska.

One day prior to departure, instructor of the marine biology course and Associate Professor of Biology Mary Jo Hartman, Ph.D., provided her thoughts concerning both the class and the trip.

Hartman explained, "by training, I'm a marine biologist, and so I teach many different courses here, and one of my favorite courses to teach is the marine biology course."

She continued, "I try to do



Photos courtesy of Cassidy Ristine

Mary Jo Hartman, Ph.D., and friends after their voyage

sort of an overlay of physical oceanography, so we talk about the ocean and physical currents and movements of the ocean and a little bit of the chemical parameters, but then we spend most of the semester talking about ecology and the different ecosystems."

The marine biology class planned a couple other trips in pursuit of further ecological knowledge, as well, including one to the Nisqually Wildlife Refuge when studying estuaries and

an upcoming excursion to Tolmie State Park, where students might examine the tide pools.

Hartman remarked that the weather promised to be excellent for the whale watching trip, which could be pleasant when it came to the boat ride. These conditions might not prove ideal for spotting gray whales, however, as the whales can generally be seen best on overcast days.

see **Whales** page 11



Sea lions congregate near a dock

### What's in this issue?

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Page design by Melissa Wright



# The Belltower

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## Our Mission

As fellow students at Saint Martin’s University, our staff is constantly working to keep you up-to-date on what is going on around campus, our community, and throughout the world.

Our newspaper will provide information that is valuable to our campus and especially to students at SMU. We will never back down from taking on any issue at our school and promise to give our best efforts to keep the community informed.

### Role of the adviser

The adviser is a journalist, educator, and manager who is, above all, a role model. The adviser’s ultimate goal is to mold, preserve and protect an ethical and educational environment, not to monitor the final content of the student newspaper.

### Guest Submissions Policy

Have an opinion about something you would like to write about? Consider sending an article to *The Belltower*. If you or someone you know would like to be a guest writer, submit articles to belltower@st-martin.edu for consideration.

## Editor’s note: Goodbyes are bittersweet

Graduation is just around the corner and that means saying goodbye to many people, activities, and groups that have been a part of my life for four years. I have spent these past years roaming the halls of Harned and Old Main, the stacks of the Library, the rooms of the residence halls, and the many beautiful walking trails around campus. I have made lasting friendships and been inspired by many of the wonderful professors here. What truly amazes me is that I have been working for *The Belltower* all four of my years here at Saint Martin’s.

All of the hours I have spent in classrooms is equal to the amount of time I have spent in the various offices of *The Belltower* over the years – first in Old Main where the mail room is now, and now here in Harned. *The Belltower* has been a huge part of my life at Saint Martin’s.

Being Editor-in-Chief for two years has been an amazing, frustrating, eye-opening experience. I have met many talented people during my time with *The Belltower*. I have also been tested in ways that I never dreamed.

There have been many times when I wondered why I do it...with the pitiful paycheck I receive every month and the endless hours behind a computer screen and the layout weekends that go into the very late hours of the night or even the wee hours of the morning. Why do I dedicate so many hours of my life? If it were just for the money I would have quit a long time ago.

The answer is really simple: for the love of it, for the people, for the feeling of pride you get when you see that new edition sitting outside the office door on Monday morning and knowing that you contributed to its production in some way. I love my job. I love the people I work with over layout weekends. I love the diversity of the larger team, the wide variety of people and perspectives and opinions makes this job an interesting and rewarding experience.

The passion and curiosity I see in our writers has encouraged me as I strove to increase the visibility of the newspaper. Without a strong group of passionate writers *The Belltower* would not be what it is today and it gives me hope for the future of *The Belltower* after I leave. The talented group we have in layout reassures me that *The Belltower* will continue to grow and create a dynamic pleasing layout.

I am so proud and lucky to have been a part of this group of people and this publication. I am confident in the abilities of the editing staff and particularly Dalia Pedro-Trujillo, who I will hand over the reins to at the end of the year. I feel confident in her abilities to lead the paper when I am gone and know she will guide *The Belltower* through even more growth.

As I look back on my time with the paper, a few things during my tenure as Editor-in-Chief (EIC) stand out.

- Writers tackling topics outside of Saint Martin’s – for the first time we had a group of writers interested in bringing news from the nation and the world to Saint Martin’s and relating it to students.
- Changing the masthead (or logo) not once, but twice
- Hearing buzz about *The Belltower* in the halls, not only from professors but also from students, and seeing the stands empty quickly. Nothing is more rewarding for the staff than hearing people talk about their articles.
- Ruffling feathers – we have consistently been tackling touchy issues that we have seen occur here at Saint Martin’s. We are here to voice students’ opinions and encourage them to think critically about their surroundings. We would not be doing our jobs if we did not ruffle some feathers.
- Consistency – this year we have consistently produced two 16-page papers and two 20-page papers each semester. When I first started writing we were lucky to have 12 pages, and 16 was practically a miracle.
- Our first ever ONLINE EDITION! This was a huge step for *The Belltower*. When I took over as EIC, we had just launched our website and less than two years later we had a completely online edition.

I want to thank everyone who has supported and encouraged *The Belltower*. It would be impossible to mention everyone by name – you know who you are and I am incredibly grateful for your never-ending support, both for myself personally and for *The Belltower*.

I will never forget my time here and have learned so much from being a part of *The Belltower*. I am sad to say goodbye, I will miss answering writers’ and editors’ questions about articles and contacts, I will miss the bickering matches that happen during layout weekend because we have all been in the room for far too long. I will miss *The Belltower*. But I am so excited to see what the future holds for it, all I can say is good luck to those of you still here and I look forward to seeing the next generation take ownership.

Goodbyes really are bittersweet.

All the best,

Rae Lamp  
Editor-in-Chief

Dear fellow students, faculty, and staff:

The past four years writing and editing for *The Belltower* has exposed me to every inch of the Saint Martin’s experience: the unique and inspirational stories of students, the events and clubs that students actively participate in, the varied cultures and traditions of international students, the endeavors of our professors, and the passions that drive Saint Martin’s students every day.

Each of these stories have resonated with me and encouraged me. I feel honored to have played a role in the evolution of this publication. Not only have I had the opportunity to write about a variety of students, special events, facts that irked me like pay inequality and student debt, but I have also developed some invaluable friendships with passionate, driven individuals. *The Belltower* has enabled me to have a high level of campus engagement, accompanied by the strong desire to tell the stories of SMU students, faculty, and staff.

Over the past four years, our publication has grown. We began writing more investigative pieces that all started with a curious spirit, we looked at national and world issues, and we took a stand against injustice.

Furthermore, our layout team has grown over the years and is now dabbling into more creative layout designs and logos for *The Belltower*.

I leave you with this, which is some of the most valuable advice I received during my four years here: remove yourself from the Saint Martin’s bubble. Go explore. Yes, campus is where you will spend most of your time, but this area offers beauty and inspiration off campus. The stories included within these pages contain the experiences of those who venture off in search of more. They travel, they volunteer, they build community here on campus and beyond, and most importantly, they have a burning curiosity for what lies outside this student experience.

I wish you all the best.

Yours,

Clarissa Strayer  
Managing Editor



Presidential candidate boom ... or likely bust?

Luke Chouinard  
Staff Writer

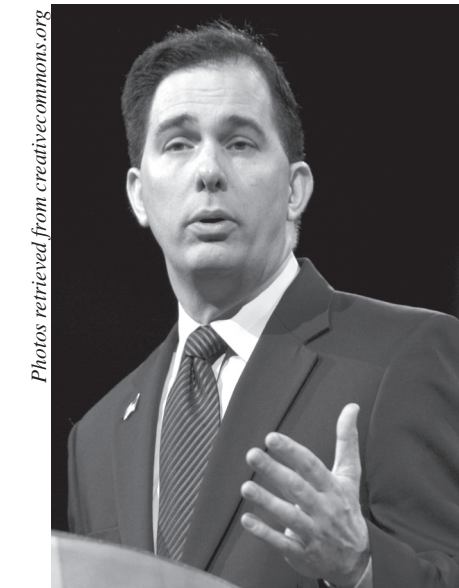
Free of the worries of another re-election, President Barack Obama has publically criticized Wisconsin Governor Scott Walker several times this year for his domestic and international policies. Presidents tend to distance themselves from such remarks, but this is Obama’s last term in office.

The first policy Obama took issue with was Walker’s Right to Work (RTW) bill, which was introduced in March. The bill weakens the power of unions in the state; which - according to a study performed by the Economic Policy Institute - will interfere with the ability of Wisconsin unions to bargain for higher wages and superior benefits.<sup>1</sup>

Obama released a statement to the media, reacting after the bill was signed into law by Walker: “So even as its [Wisconsin’s] governor claims victory over working Americans, I’d encourage him to try and score a victory for working Americans -- by taking meaningful action to raise their wages and offer them security of paid leave.”<sup>2</sup>

Walker also issued a response to the criticism from the oval office for the public’s eye, saying the RTW law, “put power back in the hands of Wisconsin workers by allowing the freedom to choose whether they want to join a union and pay union dues.”<sup>2</sup>

Recent studies have demonstrated the logic behind Obama’s criticism of RTW policies. According to the Economic Policy Institute, wages in right-to-work states average 3.2



Photos retrieved from creativecommons.org

Governor Scott Walker and President Barack Obama

percent less annually than wages in states without the policy.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, research has shown employers in RTW states are less likely to grant employees pensions, which RTW states do at a rate of 4.8 percent less compared to states without the law.<sup>1</sup>

Walker has been openly critical of the Obama administration’s approach to negotiations with Iran on a deal to deter their nuclear program. Walker claimed if he were president, he would immediately rescind any deal made with Iran.<sup>3</sup>

Once again, Obama responded, this time in an interview with Steve Inskeep of NPR: “It would be a foolish approach to take, and perhaps Mr. Walker - after he’s taken some time to bone up on foreign policy - will feel the same way.”<sup>4</sup>

Walker kept the public argumentation going, releasing his own statement regarding the President’s comments to his supporters via email.



“The president of the United States should be focused more on leading and doing the work of the American people than attacking governors,” Walker lamented.<sup>3</sup>

The public debate between Walker and Obama has catapulted the Wisconsinite into the Republican presidential race. The President’s comments seem to be fueling the political prowess of the governor, as he was invited to speak at the National Rifle Association’s Leadership Forum in Nashville in April.

The event promoted all potential Republican presidential candidates, and Walker’s rhetoric was focused primarily on criticizing Obama according to the New York Times.

“I want a commander in chief who will look the American people in the eye and will say that radical, Islamic terrorism is a threat, and we’re going to do something about it,” Walker said, to several rounds

of applause.<sup>5</sup>

The Wisconsin governor has scrapped and climbed his way from the bottom ranks to grab hold of the executive position. Walker began his scholastic career at Marquette University in Milwaukee, but left school without a degree, achieving a 2.59 grade point while attending- according to PoliFactWisconsin.<sup>6</sup> Walker’s website details his political career, beginning with the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1993, before moving to the position of Milwaukee County Executive, and finally reaching prominence as governor in 2011.<sup>7</sup>

Despite Walker’s recent popularity in the media, there may be cause for concern amongst republicans if Walker captures the party’s nomination. As a presidential candidate, Walker’s highly conservative domestic policies and lack of international experience may not bode well in a national election. Furthermore, Walker’s lack of experience may be tough to overcome, and could result in a loss for the Republican Party.

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Students get appreciated & the 2015-2016 ASSMU Senate swears-in

Erica Rodriguez  
Staff Writer

The annual Student Appreciation Night, along with the new ASSMU Senate swearing in took place in the Normal Worthington Conference Center on April 15 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The nominations were from the students for the students, for both the ASSMU senate and the awards.

Although most of the awards were leadership based, there were a few clubs who got awarded for their achievements, as well as events put on by the campus and students.

ASSMU votes for a Senator and Executive of the Year. This year,

the ASSMU Executive of the Year award went to 2014-2015 ASSMU Treasurer, Colin Chambers. Senator of the Year went to Ben Lopez. The Event of The Year award went to this year’s MLK celebration. LGBTQA\* Club got awarded the “Visionary Award”.

Founding club member Omar Santana expressed his gratitude of the award by stating via Facebook, “Great job this year team! Lets keep the momentum going for next year! Thank you everyone who was involved and helped support us [LGBTQA\*] this year. Thank you to the group of highly supportive staff and faculty.”

ASSMU elections took place during early April and the results for the new 2015-2016 ASSMU senate were emailed out to the student body on Wed. April 8. Alyssa Melder will be replacing current ASSMU President Jeneva Burton.

Melder said, “I greatly appreciate the student body’s support of my candidacy for president next year! But there is not much time for celebrating because we have a lot of work to do. The largest challenge I anticipate for next year is avid student

2015-16 ASSMU Senate positions

Name	Position
Alyssa Melder	President
Gavin Basuel	Vice President
Jacqueline Schmealing	Senator of Arts and Humanities
Hannah Wesselman	Senator of Athletics
Skylar Nelson	Senator of Business
Morgan Eikson	Senator of Clubs
David Rowland	Senator of Commuter Students
Chantal Arevalo	Senator of Cultural Diversity
Cameron Devine	Senator of Engineering
Cleo Pineda	Senator of International Students
Anna Agloro	Senator of Pure Sciences
Elizabeth Heying	Senator of Residence Students
TBD	Senator of Non—Traditional Students

participation with ASSMU. However, by creating feasible goals of participation and engagement with their student body, I look forward to opening lines of communication to keep our students informed, active and opinionated on current issues occurring at Saint Martin’s. The new senate appears to be gearing up for a great 2015-16 year and I am excited to work with them and see what we can accomplish together.”

Chantal Arevalo, who will replace Ricky Cardenas as Senator of Cultural Diversity , expressed her excitement when she said “I am so excited to be a part of the ASSMU Senate! As the Senator of Cultural Diversity, I hope to make Saint

Martin’s University a more inclusive campus. A place where we not only engage in each other’s differences, but feel inspired by them. A place where curiosity thrives. Lastly, I hope that I can use my role as senator to inspire students as well as staff/faculty to become curious about their own cultures as well as the cultures that surround us everyday.”

Current Senator of Education, Kendal Seeman, will not have her position replaced for the 2015-2016 senate. Seeman expresses her experience as current Senator of Education when she says, “At every ASSMU meeting I am blown away by all the awards, events, and accomplishments our student body brings to our school. My role on the senate is to provide support for the students; so they may continue to achieve great things and make us proud to be SMU Saints.”

Elizabeth Heying is eager to replace Melder as Senator of Residence Students.

“I am excited for this position and to take everything I have learned in the past three years of college and my experience around this campus.” Heying said.

The Senator of Non-Traditional Students is yet to be determined.

2015 student appreciation awards

Name/Group	Award
Circle K Club	Student Organization of the Year
The Interfaith Movement	Leadership in Diversity
LGBTQA*	Visionary Award
Black Student Union – MLK Celebration	Event of the Year
Carol Overdeep	Faculty Member of the Year
Nicole Phillips	Staff Member of the Year
Stephen Mahnken	Innovative Stewardship
Constance Uribe	Leadership Community Pioneer
Alyssa Melder	Ralph Swanson Leadership
Denver Garcia	Doug Ford
Heather Berg	Outstanding Student Leader



# Five headlines from around the world

Lucas Shannon  
Section Editor

## Albania and Kosovo

Edi Rama, the Prime Minister of Albania, caught the eye of some in the international community last week when he declared that the unification between his country and the former province of Kosovo, either within the European Union or outside of it, was “inevitable”, according to Fatos Bytci and Matt Robinson of “Rueters.”<sup>1</sup>

Marko Djuric, Serbian senior official and advisor to the Serbian President, denounced this announcement, saying Rama was “banging the war drums.”

Serbia and the West are weary of unification between Albania and Kosovo, and ruled it out when Kosovo gained independence in 2008, according to Btyci and Robinson. However, Albania, a NATO member, has been hoping to reunite with Kosovo under the EU flag.<sup>1</sup>

Even though no threat of war has officially been made, the fact that Serbia views Albania’s talk as threatening rhetoric should be enough to concern the broader international community, as the three countries, along with Croatia, Bosnia, Macedonia and Slovenia fought for a decade in separate but related military conflicts. The conflict is commonly referred to as the “Yugoslav Wars” and is considered the bloodiest event in Europe since World War II.



Photo retrieved from wikipedia.org

Edi Rama has been the Prime Minister of Albania since 2013

## Sewage in Gaza

The United Nations recently stated that the Gaza Strip might be left with no drinkable water unless vast changes are made to the infrastructural set up of the Strip, according to Jen Marlowe of “Al-Jazeera America.”<sup>2</sup>

According to Marlowe, the lack of drinking water is a product of the ongoing boycott imposed by Israel over the Gaza Strip, which has created an inadequate sanitation infrastructure, and has also severely hindered the Strip’s access to electricity and oil.<sup>2</sup>

Further complicating the matter is the fact that nearly 24 million gallons of raw or partially treated sewage pours into the Mediterranean sea every day, and the sewage that does not make into the sea pours into the Coastal Aquifer, the Strip’s only source of freshwater, according to Marlowe.<sup>2</sup>



Photo courtesy of Jen Marlowe, Al-Jazeera America

The U.N. also warned that the Gaza Strip may be unlivable entirely by 2020 unless conditions are vastly improved.

## Aid for Africa

Many West African Nations called for the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to cancel their debts and donate \$5 billion to \$6 billion over the next two years to help rebuild their economies, which have seemingly collapsed in the face of the Ebola epidemic, according to “Al-Jazeera America” and “Rueters.”<sup>3</sup>

Sierra Leone President Ernest bai Koroma called for World Bank President Jim Yong Kim to follow through on his promise of regional reconstruction, similar to the Marshall Plan enacted by the United States that rebuilt Europe after the conclusion of World War II.<sup>3</sup>

Koroma told Reuters, “Our social programs are ruined, our economies have halted, we need a real Marshall Plan to get us out of the woods.”<sup>3</sup>

The international community had previously pledged \$5.6 billion to help repair the ravaged economies of these western African countries. More than 10,000 people have died from the Ebola virus, and 25,791 people have been diagnosed with the disease.<sup>3</sup>



Photo retrieved from Wikipedia.org

Koroma has been the president of Sierre Leonne since 2007

## Communism in Japan

Japan held local elections this week, and while most of the headlines were stale, voter turnout was at a record low, and the ruling party, the Liberal Democratic Party, cruised to an easy victory; there was one surprising development, the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) emerged as the country’s largest opposition party at the local level, according to “The Economist.”<sup>4</sup>

The JCP took 136 seats across the country, and while the party has never been remotely close to taking power in the country, it remains a power nonetheless. The party is comprised of nearly 300,000 members, and its paper, Akahata, (which means Red Flag) has a daily circulation that is estimated to reach 1.2 million readers every day.<sup>4</sup>

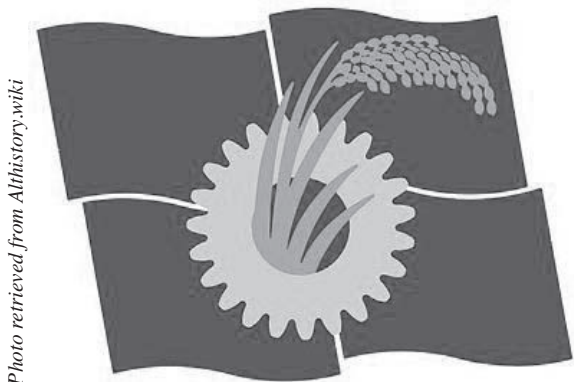


Photo retrieved from Althistory.wiki

## Saddam Huessin’s deputy dies

Izzat Ibrahim Al-Douri, a former top deputy to Saddam Huessin and also the supposed leader of the Sunni extremist group Naqshbandi Army, has been reported dead by Iraq-state run T.V., according to Michael Martinez of “CNN.”<sup>5</sup>

According to Martinez, Al-Douri was reportedly killed in an operation led by Iraqi security forces and Shia Militia members in the Hamrin Mountains.<sup>5</sup>

Al-Douri was the vice chairman of the country’s revolutionary command, and was effectively Hussein’s number two man before his ousted by American forces in 2003.<sup>5</sup>

The United States military has not yet confirmed the media reports of Al-Douri’s death.



Photo retrieved from creative-commons.org

In 2003, the United States led coalition created a set of playing cards in order for troops to identify the most wanted members of Huessin’s government, Al-Douri was the King of clubs.

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## A look into ASSMU: Functions and future

**Rae Lamp**  
Editor-in-Chief

**Dalia Pedro Trujillo**  
Assistant Managing Editor

With the recent ASSMU elections voting that took place April 6-8, the student body at Saint Martin's had the chance to elect a new student Senate to represent them next year. But what exactly does ASSMU do? Who is allowed to get money from ASSMU? Do the ASSMU senators really represent their constituents? These are just a few of the questions that arise when talking about ASSMU. As members of the student body, and as individuals who contribute to the money that ASSMU spends, students should think critically about what ASSMU does and how it spends its money.

The student government at Saint Martin's University, as described on the SMU website is supposed to serve "as the student voice to the University administration... [and to] represent the needs of the student population to the faculty, staff, alumni, board of trustees, and monastic community."<sup>1</sup>

In addition, ASSMU's constitution gives us further insight on what their role on our campus is supposed to be.

According to this document, ASSMU has four main functions: "(a) To aid, direct, manage, supervise, invoke policy, and coordinate student activities in conjunction with the Student Services Division. (b) To manage, supervise, and coordinate student appropriated funds. (c) To initiate and assist in the creation and maintenance of campus clubs. (d) To represent student interests in Saint Martin's Community."<sup>1</sup>

In theory, ASSMU is supposed to have a very active role in

representing the voice of the student body, however, there seems to be a perception that ASSMU's sole function is to give clubs money.

According to Virgil Alonso, outgoing Vice President of ASSMU, "organizations under the SMU umbrella can ask for funds."

Brendan Brunner, out-going Secretary of ASSMU, reiterated this idea, "the club handbook states that only clubs can ask for money. And then the finance code trumps that and says SMU affiliates can ask for money."

The line in the finance code that Alonso and Brunner were referring to reads, "Only Organizations (see Article III, Section 7) or Inner-office divisions of ASSMU may request a budget allocation from ASSMU."

Article III, Section 7 defines organization as, "Any club, media, program or department under Saint Martin's University or Abbey."

Where things get tricky is with the words "program" and "department", which are not defined and left open to interpretation. Under this code and definition, virtually any entity that is affiliated with SMU can ask ASSMU for money. However, is allowing any group that is SMU affiliated ask for money really the best use of Student Activity Fees? And does ASSMU actively engage and consult the student body on how they want their money spent?

Currently, memorandums - the formal way of requesting money from ASSMU - are given out to students and guests when they attend the 11 a.m. weekly open forums. How then will students know where their money is going, when: "As of right now, there is no legislation that states memorandums must be issued to the public a set time before a vote happens," according to the ASSMU Executive Board, and

"Discussing issues on the table is not required in a formal matter by any Student Senator, but feedback is solicited to a Senator's constituencies through unofficial channels, by talking to students in their day to day routine as students as well."

The Executive Board also trusts, "that each elected senator knows their constituents and knows how to best interact with them and receive feedback. Furthermore, we believe that the Senators will vote on memorandums for the benefit for their constituencies and the Senate will therefore, benefit the Student Body as a whole."

In other words, based on information given by the Executive Board, there are no policies to ensure that the student body is informed on what ASSMU is doing.

When discussing these loopholes with the ASSMU Executive Board, as part of best practices, Alonso said, "you take your current policy right now and see is there anything we need to do to make the system more efficient, more effective, make sure we close all these loopholes and leaks."

He went on to say, "we've had like 0 people question what the definition is [of organization]. And so what we would probably do is go find what, when administration talks about departments, what do they mean by departments, and whatever that definition is then we'll go with that."

This also raises the question, do students have input on the policies that ASSMU wants to change? The answer: yes and no.

"When making changes to the Bylaws, student-at-large input is not solicited because when making changes to the bylaws, changes are made to create powers and responsibilities for ASSMU Senators to

better serve their individual constituencies, and therefore, the student body as a whole," said the Executive Board.

However, they also noted that, "It would be more appropriate to solicit student input on changes to governing documents such as Finance Code and the Club Handbook, as those will directly affect students who participate in clubs."

The Executive Board concluded that, "Regardless, all of these changes are presented to the public at our ASSMU General Meetings, and we solicit student feedback on every motion, regardless of its content and who it affects. The ultimate power for that decision does ultimately go to the senators, who were elected and given power by the general student body."

As we look towards next school year, we shall see how the new ASSMU Senate evolves the direction of the student government. Alyssa Melder, student body president for the 2015-2016 school year, aspires to continue making ASSMU an entity that is well known on campus.

"This is extremely important because if students are unaware of such a powerful organization for change on our campus, then their feedback, suggestions, and ideas may not be as constructive of solutions," stated Melder.

Her vision "includes supporting a senate to be involved and seek out students who have ideas to approach challenges we face every day as Saints."

Melder understands that she will not be able to make everybody happy, however, what she strives for is students to think critically and voice their opinions.

Source:  
1. [https://www.stmartin.edu/campus\\_life/pdf/Constitution\\_2010.pdf](https://www.stmartin.edu/campus_life/pdf/Constitution_2010.pdf)

## Life after SMU:

### The finish line 1.5: Interest: Hidden in plain sight

**Alexandra Gardner**  
Guest Writer

As graduation approached, I thought, "Good, my payments for my loans are set up over 10 years. I shouldn't acquire too much interest. Everything will be great."

Boy, was I wrong. I have been making the minimum payment for my loans for the last three months, not giving the loans any other thought besides that I was glad I had paid on time. This month, while hitting the "make payment" button, I noticed the totals on my loans, and became instantly puzzled. Surely what I was seeing was not an actual reflection of the remaining loan? Curious, I went back into the statement page and found myself horrified. While one of my loans had decreased roughly \$40 since I began paying, two of my loans had increased. All three interest rates are different, so while one had only increased \$5, the other had increased \$40.

An interest rate is an increase, but I had assumed that, by making my monthly payment, surely it would decrease—even if only a little—each month, and I would be rid of

it within a short while. WRONG! I understand the concept of an interest rate, but I had never had one applied to an amount so large. Even with my payments, my loans are larger than they were than when I first made payments on them. I should have anticipated this, expected the increase, but somehow I had not.

I hope each reader takes this into consideration. We all know that loans will have interest, and that it has some sort of "percent" that will increase over time, but how many of us understand just how much that percent is? What will it look like in the scope of things? If you are like me, and super particular and nit-picky about knowing what to expect of an investment, then I suggest you talk with a financial counselor or do some online research. Here is an interest calculator I found online, it is meant for a mortgage, but it works for any loan. Feel free to enter your loan totals and interest rate, and figure out what you'll owe over time.

<http://www.bankrate.com/calculators/mortgages/loan-calculator.aspx>  
School truly is an investment. You have to be willing to take on the charges that come with the

education. I should have researched my loans and interest rates more thoroughly. I underestimated what was going to happen with my balance. I did not expect the increases because I figured my payments would outweigh the interest amount—which would be true, if I was paying more than the minimum

amount. However, with other bills and concerns, who has the money to pay more than the minimum? Not many minimum wage earners, that is for sure. I'm lucky to have caught this oversight so early. I can now adjust my payments, and hope to pay down my principle balance and avoid further surprises.

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# Out and about Olympia

**Lee Kaplan-Unsoeld**  
*Section Editor*

Having grown up in Olympia, it never ceases to amaze me when my Saint Martin's classmates stare at me blankly when I mention one of the quintessential Olympia spots. Quality Burrito, Burial Grounds, Olympia Coffee Roasters, Priest Point Park, the Chehalis Western Trail, or the Artesian Well are all places that most Olympians know off hand, and if you do not know them already, it is high time you were introduced. The Chehalis Western Trail even comes within a mile of our campus. There is a world outside of Lacey that is ready to be explored, and with free access to Intercity Transit with your Saint Martin's student ID, there is no excuse not to explore it!



Photo courtesy of Thurston Talk

The owners of the Nineveh Assyrian food truck located at the corner of 4th Avenue and Plum street.

## Food Trucks

Food trucks are popping up everywhere, not just in Portland, and Olympia

has a few great ones of which to boast. A group of them are clustered on the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Plum Street in downtown, including: Nineveh - Assyrian food; California Tacos - Mexican-American food; and Arepa - Latin American food. Sprinkled around Olympia are tons of other food trucks, with the Hot Box at the new West Olympia Community Park, Tamales Fusion at Common Grounds community space, and a parking lot close to the transit center featuring BBQ, burgers, and more during the summer.

## Priest Point Park

This park is a local gem, set along the waterfront on the east side of the Puget Sound, just a few minutes' drive from downtown. On a sunny day, you can see the Olympic Mountains from the vast beaches, and on a rainy day you can stick to the forested slopes that line the beaches, sheltered by the beautiful Evergreen, Maple, and Madrona trees. If you want to get even further away, Burfoot Park is another 10 minutes' drive out of downtown on East Bay Drive.



Sunset as seen from the beach at Priest Point Park

Photo courtesy of confusednime



Photo courtesy of Steve Bloom

Walkers enjoy the 21.5 mile Chehalis-Western Trail

## Chehalis Western Trail

This bike trail seriously has it all. It goes from all the way out near Burfoot Park, close to Priest Point Park, to a small town named Rainier, about 20 miles from start to finish. Starting from campus it is about the middle point, so start either way and just cruise. You will ride past ponds full of ducks and forests full of birds, and if you keep riding for long enough toward Rainier, you will get to the Deschutes River. Just before the trail goes through the town of Rainier, there is a bridge and a tree you can jump off of into the river when the water is high enough. The bridge is about 15 feet, the tree can be up to a 40 foot drop if you climb up high enough!

## Heritage Park Fountain

Are there tons of kids playing around in the fountain on a hot summer day? Yes, naturally. Does that mean adults cannot use the fountain as well? Definitely not. While people might overlook this iconic fountain that sprays throughout the summer between the Capitol building and Percival Landing in downtown, it can be the best spot to spend a lazy summer afternoon. Yes, there are kids screaming and running through the fountain streams, but adults can have fun in the fountain as well. Cooling off in the fountain or the shade, or going to Heritage Park across the street to play Frisbee or soccer can turn a stiflingly hot summer day into a day to remember.



People play in the Hertiage Park Foundation on a hot summer day with the Capitol building in sight

Photos courtesy of Olywaguide

## Vic's Pizzeria

While Old School Pizzeria downtown is a great spot if you want to rock out and eat good pizza, Vic's Pizzeria, located on the West Side of Olympia by Grocery Outlet and in Tumwater by Olympia Coffee Roasters, is a more creative, culinary, and family friendly spot. With all sorts of specialty pizzas like The Raleigh, Oly Four Cheese, and The Greener, Vic's has created a new style of pizza. They might be said to be more healthy – they do have vegan slices available every day with their special vegan sauce – but there are plenty of offerings for meat lovers as well. Also, for students 21 and up, their selection of locally brewed beer on tap is impressive.



The interior of Vic's Pizzeria on Division Street in West Olympia

Photo courtesy of Russell Bernice

## The Evergreen State College

Yes, I know, they are technically our rivals, but Evergreen has a lot of stuff to offer. The woods on campus go all the way down to the beach on the Puget Sound and are full of trails, and their campus is full of opportunities. Their free bike shop is open to anyone with a bike problem and an interest in learning how to work on it. As Saint Martin's students, we have access to their recreational facilities with a huge pool with a diving board, a sauna, a rock climbing wall, soccer fields and tennis courts. Additionally, they have exercise classes of all types, and one yoga class even offers free massages at the end of the session!



The Evergreen State College's mascot, Speedy Q Geoduck, poses with Evergreen administrators. It has been voted one of the weirdest school mascots in America many times.

Photo courtesy of Evergreen State College Athletics Department

## Live Music

There are lots of local venues that offer live music, for all different types of tastes. For rock music, places like Obsidian, a new café/bar in downtown, Le Voyeur and Deadbeat Records on the West Side of town offer live, often free shows, sometimes even all ages' events. Other venues for live music that feature more folk music or blues music are Rhythm and Rye, Traditions Café, and Swing Wine Bar and Café. There are tons of other bars, cafés and venues that feature live music in Olympia waiting to be found.



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org

Still stumped for ideas on things to do this summer? Listen to KAOS Radio at 89.3 for the Community Billboard with a frequently updated list of local events that you will not want to miss! Have a great summer!



# Journey to Pakistan

**Heather Berg**  
Staff Writer

Sabihey Namazi, a business major at Saint Martin's University, gave a presentation in the Trautman Student Union Building on April 8 about her home country, Pakistan. Those in attendance received first-hand accounts of the country's traditions and culture, as well as an outsider's perspective to the educational system in the United States and the environment on SMU's campus.

"I want to share some of the great things about Pakistan that you won't find in the media," Namazi explained while introducing her presentation.

"A Journey to Pakistan", Namazi's self-titled discussion, presented a well-rounded overview of the country's history and Namazi's experience as a Pakistani woman going to school in the United States.

The slideshow that aided Namazi's presentation showed the lesser-known landscapes of the northern countryside, as well as little-known facts about the country. A table was also set up with traditional jewelry, clothing, and models of vehicles from Pakistan for the attendees to observe. Namazi also provided attendees with traditional Pakistani foods to try while listening to the presentation.

Pakistan, as Namazi explained, means "land of the pure" in Urdu, the official language of the South Asian country. It has been governed as a parliamentary democratic republic since the country's independence from British rule in 1947. The country was ruled by

the Mongol empire and affected by many other powers surrounding the country before coming under British rule in 1857. Pakistan is almost exclusively Muslim in population- 97 percent of the country is Muslim- and hosts many Muslim celebrations throughout the year.

Namazi shortly explained Basant, a kite flying festival held each year to welcome spring, as well as Dandiza, a festival that is a uniquely Pakistani celebration and boasts traditional dancing with sticks as well as colorful attire. Vibrant colors is a common theme throughout the country, as Namazi pointed out repeatedly.

"It is a very colorful country," said Namazi, explaining both the vibrant colors present in the pictures she highlighted of the land, the celebrations, and even images of the streets of Pakistan.

Rickshaws, three-wheeled carts used as transportation through busy city streets, are often brightly colored and have become moderately iconic for the country. Buses used as public transportation throughout the country are also brightly colored, nicknamed jingle trucks, and are customized with indigenous Pakistani art of floral patterns and calligraphy.

In addition to the many celebrations throughout the year to celebrate Muslim culture, Pakistani weddings are equally colorful and exciting.

"There is a lot of expense but a lot of celebration as well," said Namazi about the traditional weddings in her home country.

Pakistani weddings are extravagant and large-scale, week-long

events.

Each day's celebration will often last until two or three in the morning and house up to 1,000 guests. Court- ing lead- ing up to the

wedding is commonly minimal and established by the engaged couple's parents.

"Dating is not very accepted," Namazi commented when asked about the culture of her country, "love marriage is taking hold but usually it was frowned upon...parents have the final say always."

The wedding celebration itself is something that requires extensive planning even for attendees. As a week-long festival, Namazi explains that a wedding invitation means that one must prepare for a week's worth of party dress. Traditional clothing consists of long, ankle-length dresses and colorful scarves for women.

"Just give us an occasion and we'll dress up!" Namazi explained when asked about women in Pakistan.

Following her discussion of weddings, Namazi opened her presentation to the discussion of the stigma her country often gains.

"Without discussing what my religion says about killing or terrorism, would be an injustice to my country," said Namazi.

The idea of Pakistan being the "land of the pure" is developed from its religious ties.

"Islam is a religion of peace," Namazi said, "it did not come as something to fight for or to imprison women. Those who do not know what kindness is are not a part of my religion."

Namazi very eloquently described the peaceful and nonviolent roots of her religion and the influences Islam has on everyday life in Pakistan. Terrorism and violence is a radical interpretation of the Quran, according to Namazi, and paints a very extreme picture of what Islam



Sabihey Namazi in traditional Pakistani dress, preparing to present on her home country

teaches.

After developing the cultural and historical background of her country and commenting on her experience as someone who grew up in Pakistan, Namazi opened her presentation up for questions. Attendees, students, staff and faculty alike, asked questions regarding tradition and media, which Namazi answered with impressive first-hand accounts of experiences in each cultural difference pointed out.

"We have superstitions and folktales, but Muslims are monotheistic," said Namazi when asked about Pakistani beliefs, "if a black cat passes you it'll ruin your day."

Sports and athletic events were brought up in discussion as well, and Namazi explained, "Cricket is a craze...like the Super Bowl here. We don't like losing...it's a big thing." Hockey is also popular in Pakistan and the country hosts a national team, and soccer is popular on the college level in many places throughout the country.

"Life there [in Pakistan] is not very different," Namazi concluded. "We watch Netflix and shop on Amazon.com; we have wifi and smartphones. It's traditional and progressive at the same time."

Namazi's presentation, despite several technical difficulties with the images and music made to aid her in educating the audience, was very informative and the audience was very interactive when she opened the floor for questions. Attendees were invited to take pictures with Namazi, who was dressed in traditional celebrational dress, as well as with the Pakistani flags and shawls she provided after the presentation had ended.



Students and faculty who attended the "Journey to Pakistan" presentation donned Pakistani flags and smiles

## "America's Got Talent" finalists coming to campus

**Denver Garcia**  
Staff Writer

On May 1 Marcus Pavilion will fill with students attending the Spring Festival, also called Spring Fest, the last major campus event for the school year. One hundred and twenty students or more are expected to attend and there will be a wide variety of activities to celebrate the end of this year and look forward to the coming of the next.

"Spring Fest is an end of the year celebration for events, this year it's going to have a carnival theme. It will be extremely fun because at

four we're going to have the Chicago Boyz perform, they're an acrobat troupe that was a finalist on 'America's Got Talent' so I'm really excited," said junior Programing Specialist (PROS) Jackie Borgonia.

Other events will include a bouncy house, food and games sticking with the carnival theme, and a raffle with some major prizes.

"We saw the Chicago Boyz at a conference that the PROS members go to every year where there are a number of different acts like musicians and comedians who perform hoping to get campus gigs. They were amazing and we knew we had

to have them come to SMU, and the Spring Festival was the perfect event for them," said Assistant Director of Campus Life Brittany Reed.

Many clubs participate in Spring Fest by having booths where they provide games and food sticking with the carnival theme and nature of the club. Every year there is a tie-dye station where students can decorate a shirt with the name of their residence hall for next year written on it. This year there will also be shirts for commuter students, something that has never been offered in previous years.

The Spring Festival will provide the campus community with an opportunity to come together, and having the Chicago Boyz perform will end this school year in style.





# She came, she sang, she conquered

Sabihey Namazi  
Staff Writer

Ever wondered who founded the a cappella group that sang so beautifully in the recent Hope Concert or who voices your residence life concerns at ASSMU meetings? Well, she is none other than the person you may see around campus wearing a bright, cheerful smile on her face - Alyssa Melder. With her senior year just beginning in fall 2015 and a cumulative GPA of 3.67, Alyssa's college achievements are above and beyond impressive. It is amazing to know there are enough hours in the day for her to complete everything she is involved with.

Alyssa is from Billings, Montana

and presently completing her undergraduate degree at Saint Martin's, with business as her major and a double minor in communications and creative writing. Being the senator of residence life for ASSMU and President of the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), she enjoys being a part of the residence life on campus and voices out the concerns of the students living in the residence halls.

Alyssa also strongly believes in empowering people to put their best foot forward and when asked what is her idea of leadership, she states, "Leadership is the act of building, organizing and empowering others to work together in order to achieve a common goal. There

are many different leadership styles, it depends on the individual but there are certain qualities and expectations I believe all leaders should bear: making mistakes is acceptable (and should be

expected), know when to ask for help, be adaptable, listen more than you speak, and don't expect the credit."

Now you must be wondering, "Does she have a social life?" Well, yes! Alyssa loves singing and started the a cappella group with her friend Amy Pollard, a junior English major two years ago. She also loves cooking in her spare time and if you ever have a craving for taco soup, she is the one who knows how to make it just the way you want! She also enjoys reading books in her free time and writing poetry sometimes as well. She relishes simple things in life and make the most out of them.

Alyssa has achieved a number of remarkable accomplishments, some of which she recalls as, "Getting NRHH (National Residence Hall Honorary organization) off the ground by learning and conveying information about the organization as a whole, focusing meetings, and supporting individuals to take on new leadership positions in the organization and on campus all together! I was also selected as RA of the year last year. I was and still am so grateful because that is a difficult position but I learned a lot about how to program effectively, how to facilitate meetings, and all



Alyssa Melder and Sarah Moore pose as twins.

Photo courtesy of Sarah Moore



Alyssa enjoys the outdoors during Easter break.

about confrontation and now I am able to really put those skills into practice."

Lastly, she has a short yet a meaningful message for her readers: "Don't be afraid of hard work because you get out what you put in."

## EXTENDED HOURS

## O'Grady Library

Sun.	April 19	1:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Mon. - Thu.	April 20-23	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Fri.	April 24	7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sat.	April 25	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sun.	April 26	1:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Mon. - Thu.	April 27-30	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Fri.	May 1	7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sat.	May 2	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Sun.	May 3	1:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

## EXAM WEEK

Mon. & Tue.	May 4 & 5	7:30 a.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Wed.	May 6	7:30 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Thu.	May 7	7:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Fri.	May 8	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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# Healthy habits: Spring into nutrition

**Heather Berg**  
Staff Writer

The end of February marked the beginning of a pilot program in the Charneski Recreation Center (the Rec) that offers nutrition assistance to faculty, staff and students at Saint Martin's University. On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2-4 p.m., Cherrie Mortensen, certified nutritionist, takes camp in the lobby of the Rec to offer her expertise. Whether you are curious about the nutrition labels on the foods you are already eating, or you are someone actively seeking a change in diet, Mortensen has resources and helpful tips for all students and staff.

"Some people come in to get help with weight loss specifically, others ask for help with cooking or shopping," said Mortensen when asked about the common requests she receives from clients, "post and pre-work out food is also a common question."

Although athletes are common clients of Mortensen, she emphasized the fact that the program was not exclusively intended for SMU athletes. In fact, about half of the people who participate in the nutrition program are non-athletes. Alumni and faculty are also not uncommon participants when Mortensen holds her open forums. The purpose of the program is to reach out to all associates of SMU and help build healthy eating habits.

Mortensen first encourages those who ask for nutrition help to track their habits for four days on a calendar: when you sleep, when you exercise, when and what you eat. From there, she personalizes her advice and works with you toward your nutrition goal. She begins with basic changes and works into more in-depth change as the meetings progress. Her first advice is usually to add water to daily habits.

"So that they are aware," she explains, regarding the focus on hydration.

Mortensen said a common theme she encounters is senior athletes who are concerned with their eating habits becoming detrimental once the competitive organized athletics are no longer in their schedule.

"Failing to plan is planning to fail," said Mortensen when asked what advice she would give a client regarding nutrition. "Planning meals and portions is key. 90



The nutrition program is for students, faculty, staff, and alumni to ask questions and gain a better understanding of how to develop healthy eating habits.

Photo retrieved from nutrition

has to offer," said Mortensen.

She also encourages students to buy fresh fruits off campus, specifically highlighting farmer's markets around the Lacey and Olympia area.

Mortensen has high hopes for the program and is looking forward to its continuation. Mortensen said the return rate of people coming in and asking questions is very promising.

When asked about the services offered by the program Mortensen explained:

"I try to give students ideas... and they're learning as they put it into practice. Often they stumble because they don't know where to start, and that's why we're here."

Mortensen will be taking health coach classes over the summer to prepare for fall semester.

The nutrition program is open from 2-4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Rec's lobby. If you have questions contact Dan Parine, wellness supervisor, at dan.parine@stmartin.edu.

percent compliance is key."

The 90 percent compliance rule she suggests is simply having clients stick to the plan that they set out. If their week's schedule calls for seven days of healthy, well-balanced breakfasts as an example, 90 percent compliance would mean six of the seven days would consist of healthy breakfasts regardless of circumstance.

The nutrition program also works around the unique eating habits and options university students encounter.

"I'll peruse St. Gertrude's and come up with ways to implement healthy food options into the students' diet with what Bon Appétit

## Soccer intramurals winding down

**Kahili Novikoff**  
Staff Writer

With the school year coming to an end, so is the intramural soccer season. On April 7, four games hit the court. This week single elimination rounds began April 15. Single elimination rounds consist of two 20-minute halves with a 5-minute half time.

So far Team #1 is at the top in the seating for intramural soccer. Team #1 consists of Luke Chouinard, Jovanny Centeno, Kari Inch, Justin Meyer, Brandon Meyer, JJ

Olson, Hannah Masee, and Rene Caro. The single elimination rounds will continue to April 28 and then the championship game will be on April 29 at 8 p.m. in the Charneski Recreation Center. Don't forget to cheer on your fellow Saints as they compete for the title of 2015 intramural soccer champions! Next up is intramural bowling beginning on April 27 at Westside Lanes. So if you want to play don't forget to sign up in the TUB in teams of five.

## Major Works Spring Concert

**Andy Nicoletta**  
Staff Writer

On April 25 at 7:30 p.m., the Saint Martin's music department will be hosting the annual Major Works Spring Concert in Marcus Pavilion.

Darrell Born, professor of music and fine arts,

has organized and collaborated this event with Claudia Simpson-Jones of the Olympia Chamber Orchestra. SMU students will be joined by the Olympia Chamber Orchestra in their performances of selected pieces from Antonia Vivaldi's "Gloria" and John Rutter's "Magnificat." Simpson-Jones will be conducting the orchestra. The Opera Pacific Chorus will also perform.

The concert will feature solo performances by seniors Valerie Smith, Rachel McCoy, Valerie Acuff-Neumeyer, and Rachel Steadman. Smith says she will be singing an aria from Vivaldi, a duet with Acuff-Neumeyer, and a solo from "Magnificat."

"We've all been working every day since the Hope concert," Smith commented. "Darrell [Born] has been working with us very thoroughly and has done a great job."

This is the ninth year of the Major Works Spring Concert collaboration between the music department and the Olympia Chamber Orchestra.

"It's all really fun though," Smith said. "Once you get into [these pieces] it's clear how powerful they are."

The concert will be open to all with a \$5 suggested donation.



Photo retrieved from creativecommons.org



Photo courtesy of Kahili Novikoff

Chelsea Luna kicks the ball to her teammates.



# Saints seek conference marks

**William Louttit**  
Guest Writer

This is the time of year when track athletes start to get nervous. Each individual athlete has to qualify in their event for conference and it is not an easy task. Only the top sixteen athletes in the conference in each event make it in, and that only if they hit a minimum performance mark, called a provisional mark. That means that sometimes an event will have less than sixteen athletes. Last year, only ten men hit the provisional mark in the javelin (nine competed) and ten women hit the provisional mark in the 3000m steeple (nine competed).

Knowing that, our athletes took advantage of beautiful weather and light travel to hit good marks at the University of Puget Sound Shotwell Invite. David Durden, sophomore, and Ty Sissel, senior, went

one-two in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 55.36 and 55.53 respectively. Durden's time is a full second below the provisional mark and ranks them five-six in the conference as of April 16. Brian Chalkley, sophomore, also improved his mark almost three feet to 208'2" in the javelin. That ranks him fourth in the conference and 12th in Division II.

It was also the first steeple race of the season for four athletes. The steeple is a 3000m race, almost two miles, in which athletes jump over four barriers and a water pit each lap of the 7.5 lap race. The four are currently ranked fifth, eighth, 10th, and 14th in the conference, though only Nathan Morgan, junior, hit a provisional mark with his time of 9:49.08.

On the women's side, Lisa Peterson, junior, ran her fastest 100m-hurdle race of the season with a time of 15.50. That puts her 12th in the conference, though she needs to shave another 0.16 seconds off her mark to hit a provisional

mark. Kahili Novikoff, first year, and Kirby Neale, sophomore, went 1-2 in the shot put with throws of 41'7.75" and 41'5.25". That was only 0.75" off Novikoff's season best and was a season best for Neale. They both hit the provisional mark and are ranked fourth and fifth in the conference respectively.

Unfortunately, the WAR VIII meet in Spokane was ex-

tremely windy and there were few good marks for any team at the meet. However, that did not mean there were not any good performances. Kalli Walker, sophomore, and Deanna Alvalos, first year, went 1-2 in the javelin. Mikel Smith, junior, took second in the high jump, and Shannon Porter, junior, took second in the 1500m.

Megan Teigen, sophomore, did a steeple, 400 hurdle double, a difficult and unusual combination, and still ran a conference provisional mark of 1:05.52 in the hurdles. That ranks her fifth in the conference.

Novikoff and Neale also had good performances, this time in the discus. They threw 131'6" and 124'4" respectively, giving

Novikoff an auto conference mark and Neale a provisional mark and placing them 6-7 in the conference.

A few athletes competed in California this past week. Results will be posted on the team's Facebook page, Saint Martin's University TF/XC. Additional photos from meets can be found there as well.

Saint Martin's will be hosting the conference multi event championships on April 27-28.

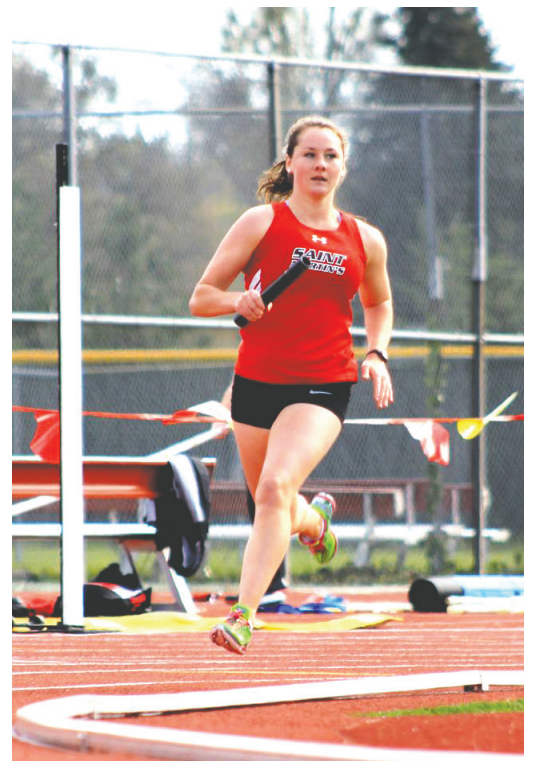
The full track team has two meets left before conference, one at Western Washington on April 25 and one here at Saint Martin's on the May 2. Those athletes who have not hit provisional marks will be giving it all they have to earn a spot to conference. So when you need a break from studying for finals, come cheer our athletes to the finish.



Nathan Morgan jumping over a water barrier.



Shannon Porter runs the 5K in 16:38, breaking the school record.



Claire McCloskey coming around the corner on her 4X4 relay race.

## Softball sweeps Simon Fraser

**David Bellamy**  
Staff Writer

Coming off of a successful tournament in Turlock, Calif. in which the Saints softball team went 6-1 to win the silver bracket, SMU continued their success on Monday afternoon against Simon Fraser University (16-17, 5-7), winning both games of the double header to complete the sweep.

Sam Munger pitched a complete

game for the Saints in game one, giving up five earned runs on nine hits, while striking out two and walking three. Simon Fraser struck first in the second inning off of a 2-run home run, but the Saints responded in the bottom of the third inning when Mary Dettling scored as Taviah Jenkins reached on an error. The Saints added two more in the third when Dani Wall singled to left field scoring both Munger and Lindsay Miller.

As the game progressed, both teams traded turns scoring until the Saints broke through in the fifth inning, taking the lead for good as Kana'i Smith scored on an error to make it 7-6. Jenkins extended the Saints lead in the 7 on a 2-run home run to left field as the Saints went on to win game one 10-6. Dettling, Wall, and Munger each had two hits at the plate to lead the Saints offensively.

Dettling credited the Saints

success in the first game of Monday's double-header to the energy and intensity both on the field and in the dugout. "We realized they weren't going to go down without a fight so we had to keep the energy up and keep putting pressure on them."

Game two of the double header featured a dominant pitching performance from first-year Kim Nelson, who pitched a complete game giving up two earned runs on eight hits while striking out three in the 8-2 win.

When asked about how she was able to have so much success Nelson said, "Simon Fraser is a solid team so going into the game I knew I had to match their intensity every pitch. The girls behind me made some amazing plays both offensively and defensively making it easy for me to just focus on getting the ground balls and pop outs we needed."

The Saints continued their success at the plate in game two scoring eight runs on 11 hits, featuring three hits from both Jenkins and Munger. Jenkins also added her second home run of the day on her way to a four RBI performance.



Taviah Jenkins hits the ball.



## Track and field's newest addition

**Brooke Rickard**  
Staff Writer

The track and field team of Saint Martin's University welcomed their newest member a little later than most. Zack Olivera, a 23-year-old from La Center, Wash. was welcomed to SMU in December 2014. After just four months of working with the Saints, Olivera has learned just as much, if not more, than his athletes while figuring out how to adjust from competing as an athlete to coaching them.

All four years of his high school career were spent competing in the 300m hurdles, the 110m hurdles, and pole vault. Olivera also played four years of football and basketball, and played club soccer during his high school years.

He continued his pole vault career at the University of Mary in North Dakota. After three years, he decided to transfer to Lane College in Oregon where he spent his last two

years and graduated with his Associates Degree in General Science.

While looking to transfer from the University of Mary, Olivera was introduced to SMU, as they were one of the schools trying to recruit him to their program. After graduating from Lane, Olivera moved to Yelm with his grandparents. He remembered SMU as one of the schools trying to recruit him and chose to pursue an opportunity to volunteer as a coach for SMU.

When asked what he likes most about working with SMU athletes, Olivera replied, "They're fun to coach."

Olivera has decided to continue coaching at SMU for the 2015-2016 indoor and outdoor seasons. We look forward to seeing how his expertise will assist the athletes next season.



Olivera competed in pole vault for nine years before coaching.

## One step closer to GNAC

**Kahili Novikoff**  
Staff Writer

Saint Martin's baseball team hit off the Great Northwest Athletic Conference against Northwest Nazarene. The game started off with SMU playing defense while NNU scored four runs. After getting three outs, the Saints were up to bat. David Bellamy started the first hit off with a ground ball out to shortstop. Bellamy said, "The last few weeks we've been playing decent baseball we just need to come up with one more big hit or one more defensive play late in games."

Blake Lord got singled to second base and Carl Svanevik struck out swinging. Then two were left on base. The bottom of the second came and the Saints failed to have a man cross home plate.

However, the Saints came back

with a run in the bottom of the third inning. Chandler Tracy singled to right field bringing Svanevik home. The Saints scored another run after Sontag singled to center field bringing Eskil home. The score was then 2-4. At the top of the seventh inning NNU scored three runs. Unfortunately, the Saints failed to score for the rest of the game. The final score was 2-7.

Bellamy also added, "We played well defensively and put ourselves in a position to win, we just need to get better at closing games out."

The Saints have Central Washington and Montana State left to take on. So go out and cheer on the baseball team as they finish their season.

### Softball Box Scores

Date	SMU vs.	Final Score
4/4/15	Western Oregon University	9-5, 1-6
4/5/15	Simon Fraser University	10-6, 8-2
4/11/15	Simon Fraser University	15-3, 10-4
4/12/15	Western Washington University	4-5, 1-4

### Baseball Box Scores

Date	SMU vs.	Final Score
4/4/15	Northwest Nazarene University	3-4, 1-9
4/5/15	Northwest Nazarene University	2-7, 4-5
4/11/15	Western Oregon University	1-7, 2-3
4/12/15	Western Oregon university	4-13, 5-6
4/16/15	Dixie State University	4-3

For the most recent scores visit the Saint Martin's Athletics webpage.

## Great Saturday for women's soccer

**Brooke Rickard**  
Staff Writer

Women's soccer played their first games of the 2015 spring season on their home turf. Despite the downpour the previous evening, the Saints took the field the following morning slipping and sliding through warm ups but fired up for their first game since November.

For their first game, Saint Martin's University took on fellow GNAC rival Central Washington University. After losing both conference games to the Wildcats during the fall, the Saints showed some fight and it was apparent that their 6 a.m.'s have paid off.

"Playing Central in the spring is different because we are more fit. We've put in a lot of time in the weight room and on the treadmills, and it's definitely paid off. Unlike in the fall, during spring season we can run for a full 90 plus some," said sophomore Taylor Gersch.

Gersch was named All Academic and Second Team All-GNAC this past fall and was also named the Most Valuable Player.

Though she's in just her second season with SMU, Gersch has displayed great leadership qualities and a keen IQ for this game. When asked about the tie and what is expected of their next face-off with CWU, Gersch replied, "Our offense like theirs did a great job in checking for the ball, making long wide runs, and penetrating passes. But also the defense for both teams was solid. We communicated but more importantly played for each other knowing we lack in bodies on the bench for subs. We need to keep our fitness up over the summer, keep

our foot on the ball, and continue to work on our defensive shape (playing out of the back), and our offensive penetrating runs. There are always areas for improvement. Next year, I hope we can capitalize on their defensive line, they were a little shaky in the back and I know we can take advantage of that weak part of their game."

Following the game against CWU, the Saints had just a few hours of rest to prepare for Corban University. The first time SMU met Corban was at the start of their fall season. That game resulted in a tie.

The Saints sought revenge and were able to come out victorious. Sophomore Kelli Bannerman scored the sole goal of the game in the second half. The goal came off a cross from first-year Camryn Althaus and junior Chelsie Still. Bannerman's goal sparked the up-keep of intensity of her team and put a damper on Corban's spirits just enough to finish their second game of the day, despite exhaustion from over 180 minutes of soccer.

"We definitely stepped up to the challenge. Our legs were a little heavy for the second game but with some good stretching we felt great," said Gersch of the double header. "And we are extremely thankful to have some returning seniors play with us since we are low on bodies."

Women's soccer was happy to welcome back seniors Kari Inch, Sasha Dini, Hanna Masee, and Nikki Roberts for the two games. The ladies of SMU look forward to even more support from their fellow students in their remaining spring season games.



A tie and a win builds excitement for this spring season

Page design by Blake Cloward



# What are graduating seniors doing?

Erica Wetterlind  
Staff Writer

Graduation is one of the most transitional moments in a student's life. The comfort of continuous education is left behind as scholars go forth into the unknown, seeking to establish themselves in the world. Perspectives vary between students. Some see this transition as something to look forward to, something to fear or both. Heart, soul and wallet have been poured into attaining a degree that can excel and fulfill us. Excitement and apprehension dance together as we boldly step forth, rejoicing in all that we have accomplished. With such a diverse student body, it is exciting to think about the future accomplishments that we will achieve. Here is what some Saints shared about their post-graduation plans...



Shannon Childress, social work major and mother of four, has spent the past four years advocating for children as a court appointed special advocate, interning at child protective services and running a business with her husband. Fall semester of her senior year she gave birth to her youngest son, Emmett. With such a busy schedule Shannon is looking forward to finding a local social work position and finally getting to spend some serious quality time with her family!



Will Bond, business major, stated, "I had a great four years at Saint Martin's University, I received a great education and developed lifelong friendships along the way. I plan on playing professional basketball overseas after I graduate."



Laura Krupke, sociology and cultural anthropology major and religious studies minor said, "After graduation I plan on attending an Archaeological Field School in the United States, where I'll be able to get archeological field work/lab experience and camp in either Idaho or Colorado for eight weeks. This will help me pursue my career goals of obtaining a Ph.D. in osteoarchaeology by bumping up my résumé for future grad schools. I have decided to take a year off from school to save money and to better evaluate my graduate school options. I plan on getting my MA in the United States and then looking outside the country for my Ph.D. Someday you'll see me leading my own dig!"



Candice Pedroza, psychology major is looking forward to work and graduate school, "After I graduate I'm going to be moving home to La Conner, WA and take a year off from school to take the GRE and apply for graduate schools to become a school psychologist. In the meantime while I am home, I will be coaching middle school volleyball at La Conner Middle School and will also be working as a legal advocate for the Skagit Valley Prosecuting Attorney."



Austin Brenner talked about his future in law enforcement: "I plan to go into the law enforcement field. If I were to give any advice to underclassmen it would be start applying early for the job you want. And to not be discouraged if you don't get it the first time, just keep applying and keep working toward your dream."



Omar Santana, psychology and sociology major, looks forward to continuing with his legal advocacy specialist position with local nonprofit, SafePlace. Santana plans on doing this for the next year and then applying to counseling graduate programs. Santana encourages students to "Help whenever possible, because service to others is not just service to them but also service to you." Santana plans to continue living out this motto in his future!



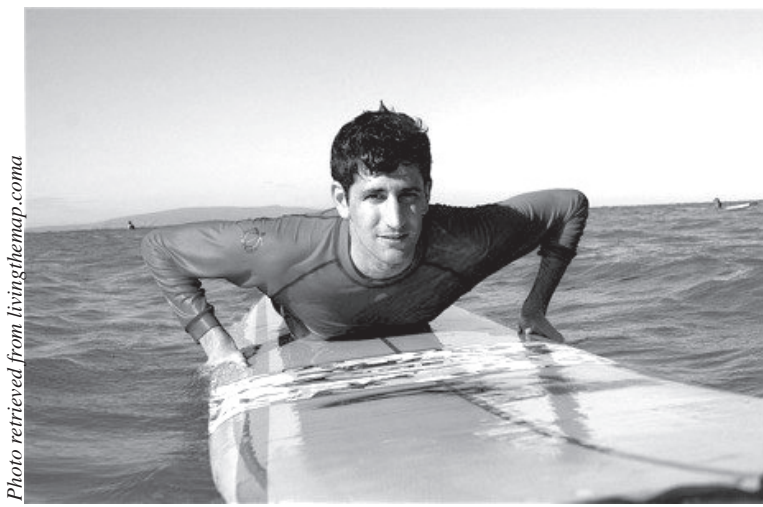
# Take a risk: 50 jobs in 50 states

**Sophia Donan**  
Staff Writer

As Commencement quickly approaches, many seniors are beginning to wonder what lies beyond the Grand Staircase, in a world that seems so distant from their academic routines. Finding a new career can be a daunting task for many graduates. Resources, like Saint Martin's Office of Career Development (aka the Career Center), are not always available, leaving students often dazed and confused about what their first steps, as graduates should be. This was just the case for Daniel Seddiqui.

Seddiqui graduated from the University of California with a degree in economics in 2005. With more than forty job rejections, he knew opportunity was awaiting him in another way. When speaking to the Saint Martin's community on April 8, Seddiqui began by stating that as a new graduate he wondered, "if I grew up in a state other than my own, how different would I be?"

It was not long before he left behind his life in California to complete a daunting task— 50 jobs, in 50 states, in 50 weeks. He began his pursuit with a jeep from Craigslist, \$300 in his pocket, and a mission to explore diverse careers, environments and cultures across the United States.



Daniel Seddiqui worked 50 different jobs that were unique to each state, one of which was teaching surfing in Hawai'i.

From his experiences he learned seven tips to live an amazing life, which he shared with the audience. One of his tips was to fail more. To not fail in itself is a disadvantage to one's growth, but to fail can also create great opportunity. Secondly, do not care what others think—this is your life, and no one has to live it but you. His third tip was to always be willing to learn, and his fourth was to read. These two tips collide to create an outpour of opportunities if students open their minds to enriching our education.

His fifth piece of advice was to be curious—you never know what the future holds for you, if you are not willing to explore the unknown. His sixth tip was to ask questions.

According to Seddiqui, asking questions demonstrates a desire to learn, and also that you either have a deeper understanding, or a desire for a deeper understanding. His last tip was to face reality, discover the world around you and never

keep yourself from an opportunity to grow.

When Seddiqui set out on his journey he could not have had any worse conditions. Gas prices were nearly five dollars a gallon, and America was in a recession, making employment a more daunting task than ever before.

But Seddiqui had confidence in his journey, "give yourself an opportunity to make these discoveries."

He embraced the idea that it is important to have a positive attitude during bad times, because if someone waits for the perfect conditions, they will never get anything done. It is important to overlook all the negatives and find positive notes in life that make tough times worth

it. Everything that he has accomplished in the past ten years, from his numerous job titles, to his TED Talks or even his own Discovery Channel show offer (which he turned down), he attributes to his willingness to take a risk.

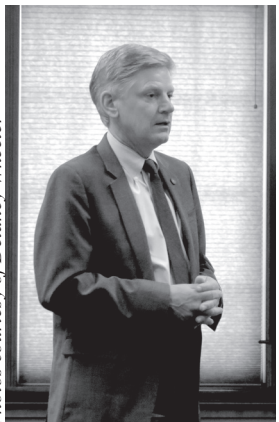
If someone's 'why' is strong enough, it makes everything else easy. While Seddiqui has experienced the journey and traveling, he knows that others should have the opportunity to try different jobs as well. He has created a program through his website called "Jump Start Your Journey: 5 states, 5 jobs, 5 weeks." Giving yourself the opportunity to find what is best for you in your career, Seddiqui says, can enlighten the task that lies ahead of any graduate looking for work. Using adaptability, networking, risk taking, endurance and perseverance—Seddiqui is confident that his advice will work for anyone searching for the right fit.

If you would like to learn more about Seddiqui's journey visit his website: [livingthemap.com](http://livingthemap.com) or follow him on twitter @danielseddiqui.

For more information on resources at Saint Martin's, such as "Saints Have a Plan", internships, careers, job shadowing, networking and more—visit [www.stmartin.edu/CareerCenter](http://www.stmartin.edu/CareerCenter) or follow them on twitter @SMUCareerCenter.

## Strategic Plan 2.0

**Delaney Wheeler**  
Staff Writer



President Roy Heynderickx speaks to the forum attendees.

On April 14, faculty and staff gathered in the Norman Worthington Conference Center for a strategic plan open forum. President Roy Heynderickx, Ph.D., Genevieve Chan, vice president of marketing and communications, and Molly Smith, Ph.D., provost and vice president for academic affairs, led the meeting to discuss the changes already made to the strategic plan for 2020 and asked for any additional input that faculty and staff members had. There were approximately 40 faculty and staff members that attended this event and voiced their thoughts on the plan. They also voted on which version of the plan would best represent Saint Martin's.

At this meeting, the presenters discussed enrollment, fundraising, and over-arching institutional goals.

Heynderickx said to the crowd, "All institutions look differently at strategic planning."

He later described how their plan is centralized around the identity and vision of the institution and

goals that they plan to meet in the years ahead. The discussion began with a conversation about enrollment.

Heynderickx stated to the audience, "Our applications were 62% ahead of last year. It is great to see that growth in applications. We're being taken seriously as a university with some very strong competition in the area."

The next step in the process is watching for deposits to start coming in as soon as late April or early May. Heynderickx also said that there were nearly 100 applicants for the Benedictine Scholars program this year and he looks forward to these first-year students being a part of Saint Martin's future.

Regarding fundraising, the audience was told by Heynderickx that the majority of the tables for the 2015 Gala were already sold and it will be a great event for the Saint Martin's community.

The strategic plan itself has had a countless number of alterations in wording and structure as it has been brought to several committees and task forces for diverse perspectives. Chan served as the primary author and collector of ideas and initiatives for the strategic plan along with the operational plan. Chan described the operational plan as a list of the institution's realistic goals and objectives. She stated that her strategy

was to not only include aspirational, but also attainable goals.

The operational plan is built around these pillars: forge a distinctive Catholic Benedictine experience, enhance academic excellence, and cultivate a diverse, global, inclusive community. The topics that were included in the operational plan were: identity, fiscal resources, physical resources, human resources, learning, external validation by students, and external validation by the university.

Overall, the meeting on the strategic plan focused on proud moments and systems that need to be reviewed, but the document was deliberately put on display for everyone to contribute their thoughts. The next organization that the strategic plan visits for perspective is the Associated Students of Saint Martin's (ASSMU), and this will give students and representatives of students an opportunity to give their own opinions on the plan.



Faculty and staff listen to the elements of the strategic plan for 2020

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# “The Male Perspective”: Talking about sexual violence

**Andy Nicoletta**  
*Staff Writer*

On April 9 at 7 p.m. in Cebula Hall, the student led organization Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) invited Mollie Monahan-Krieshman, Ph.D., to give a presentation titled “The Male Perspective”, which focused on the issue of sexual violence and how it relates to men. This presentation co-aligned with Sexual Assault Awareness Week.

Monahan-Krieshman has worked for over a decade with men who have been victims of sexual violence such as stalking, rape, and physical abuse, and men who have had friends and family members victimized. Her work revolves around helping men and women end sexual violence.

The attending students were predominantly male athletes and non-athlete male students, though the event was open for everyone.

“I was excited to see an event like this on campus,” senior student-athlete Joseph Keeton commented.

SAVE member Chandler Tracey introduced Monahan-Krieshman and she began her presentation by discussing the “Ten Man” plan, a program instilled into the fraternity communities at the University of Maryland to help both raise awareness about sexual violence and to

also provide a safe space for any students who might need to talk or seek help. She also established a “Ten Woman” plan as a parallel program for sororities. After the introduction of the kind of work Monahan-Krieshman does, she shared a personal story of her own experience with sexual violence. It is crucially important, as Monahan-Krieshman noted in her presentation, that victims not only have a voice, but are also heard.

Some harrowing statistics were then presented to the audience, such as the fact that one in five women will be victims of rape in college, and that 84 percent of those victims will have been abused by someone they know. These statistics, Monahan-Krieshman stated, increase when trans-identity and sexual orientation are factors.

“While men commit the majority of sexual violence, it is a small number of men who are causing a lot of harm,” Monahan-Krieshman said.

The audience became fully engaged in the presentation, and did not shy away from opening a dialogue. When Monahan-Krieshman asked, “What do you think rape culture is?” several voices offered their thoughts and opinions. The presentation shifted into an open discussion, as the students became more engaged in asking and answering

questions about an issue that is not often talked about in a public setting.

“Just because a guy is not a rapist doesn’t mean that it’s not his problem,” Keeton said in an interview after the event. “We need to keep pushing these [issues] into the light.”

Monahan-Krieshman talked about the power language has when propagating rape culture and sexual violence. She stated that joking about sexual violence and rape often helps normalize the issue, which only creates further problems.

Her presentation then turned to the subject of how to help victims of sexual violence, emphasizing the importance of listening without judging. She also explained that it is important to not turn to violence when someone reveals that they have been sexually abused. While it is an understandable reaction to want to get revenge on the perpetrator who violated a friend or family member, Monahan-Krieshman pointed out that this can be harmful to the survivor.

“[The] mind can only handle so much trauma,” Monahan-Krieshman said. “All of their control has been taken away, and it’s important to give them back their control.”

Male student athletes often have a negative stigma against them, according to members of SAVE,

and the presentation that Monahan-Krieshman led, helped them get their message across that stereotypes do not define the beliefs and identities of male athletes, just as stereotypes do not accurately reflect any group, culture, race or gender.

One student stated that it is important to break down the narrow-minded view of masculinity and what it is to be a man, “To set an example for young men that most athletes do not support sexual assault.”

“Men are told at an early age that to be a man is to fit into a very narrow space,” Monahan-Krieshman said.

Communication and discussion are significant methods of tackling and lessening the degree of rape culture and sexual violence.

Towards the conclusion of her presentation, Monahan-Krieshman noted that there have been many women doing this work for decades, and that it is important to recognize these women. The extensive work that women have contributed to understanding and ending sexual violence cannot be overshadowed by men.

“We have to maintain a space for everyone at the table,” Monahan-Krieshman commented. “We have to do this together.”

## Scholars Day preview

**Erica Rodriguez**  
*Staff Writer*

On April 28 many SMU students will not be attending class, instead, they will be presenting their research at this year’s annual Scholars Day. Scholars Day will take place in Harned Hall from 1 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.

fortunate to have an event like Scholars Day on our campus and for the opportunity to support each other as we delve deeper into subjects that inspire us to seek understanding or broaden our perspectives.”

Warnell has presented at Scholars Day before and spoke briefly about her experience. “I had a presentation during my first year about

abstract and research statement I had to offer. This year it was a new thing to add the references section to the application. I liked that new add on because it got me a chance to show how much knowledge I had on the topic.”

Another student who applied to Scholars Day this year, Denver Garcia, described his experience as a “ground breaking work effort that unfortunately we [his group] didn’t get accepted.”

Garcia expresses that although his creative writing based group did not get accepted into the conference this year; he has gained confidence to apply to Scholars Day when he writes his thesis next year. Lastly described his experience as, “overall worth it.”

The event is sponsored and funded by Provost Molly Smith’s office. All students, though primarily seniors who have worked on a thesis project, are highly encouraged by their professors to submit and apply to Scholars Day. Some professors make it mandatory for their students to submit and present, while others leave it as an option. If a student does decide to submit

to the conference, they must prepare for the application process, which can be found on the Scholars Day web page via SMU’s website. Guidelines are set that students must adhere to during their application process in order to better prepare their research. There are guidelines for abstracts and research statements, as well as for either individual or co-authored presentations, topic panel presentations, and group or team presentations. If a student wants to present in poster format, there are guidelines for poster sessions as well.

These guidelines are intended to help better prepare students for conferences or presentations they may encounter in the future. Many students will go on in their professional lives to do research that they will likely have to present. Scholars Day gives students a chance to prepare for this beforehand.

Scholars Day is an open event that all students can attend, and will be taking place on April 28 from 1 - 3:50 p.m. in Harned Hall.

Source:  
1. <https://www.stmartin.edu/academics/scholarsDay/>



Professors actively engage in asking scholars questions.

The event began back in 2001 and has had research work presented in the forms of scholarly papers, group projects, and research posters, according to the SMU Scholars Day website.<sup>1</sup> Kathleen Allan, Ph.D., and Father David Pratt are the Co-chairs of this year’s Scholars Day Committee. The committee is a very diverse group, made up of various professors from different departments within the university, this year’s committee include: Serin Anderson, M.L.I.S., Julia Chavez, J.D., Ph.D., Heather Grob, Ph.D., Nathalie Kuroiwa-Lewis, Ph.D., Riley Moore, Ph.D., and Paul Slaboch, Ph.D.

Student Annabel Warnell expressed appreciation for Scholars Day, “I think we’re incredibly

a video project the Benedictine Scholars had produced to share with the community what these values mean beyond the printed word. After that I was continually drawn back to being a Scholars Day presenter because it was a way for me to share my excitement about sustainability-related issues with the community.”

SMU senior, Megan Brown, who applied to Scholars Day this year, described her experience: “It was my first year applying, so going in I did not know what to expect. The application process was fairly easy; it was all online. I spent a lot of time prepping for my application. I made sure I submitted the best



Scholars Day presenters demonstrate knowledge on a variety of topics.

Photos courtesy of Saint Martin's University



## Music Club, from cover

Tamara O'Donnell, president of the music club, and Jackie Borgonia, a club member, contributed their thoughts on the event.

Discussing how the idea for this event came about, O'Donnell said, "Two years ago, our former president, Garrett Mason, and Neil [a member of the music club] were kind of spitballing ideas of what we could do, ... and they were like, 'Why don't we do a swing dance?'"

A new budget granted this year by ASSMU opened up the possibility for putting on a larger-scale event, especially as the club grew and was able to elect officers. In addition to other considerations, the music club recognized that a swing dance could be an attractive event which would bring both the club and the university's music program to the attention of the campus and the larger community.

"It took a lot to get the ball rolling because we had to get more members. ... At first, it was just a bunch of people that were in pep band. ... It seemed really exclusive," said

O'Donnell. As people who were not part of the music program decided to begin participating, the music club slowly expanded. Then, the developing question became how to delegate tasks in order to transform the swing dance event from a good idea into a reality.

Borgonia commented, "I remember them talking about it, how many years ago, and I was like, 'That would be really cool,' because we haven't had any event like that, and ... because the club was really small in the beginning."

Borgonia felt unsure about the amount of people the event might attract because nothing like it had been done before on campus, a concern that was also shared by O'Donnell.

O'Donnell's ultimate goal for "Swing into Spring" was for people enjoy themselves. Before the dance began, she truly hoped that people would actually attend the event.

"We were really worried that nobody would show up," said O'Donnell. Fortunately, this fear was not realized, as several dozen

people — both students and community members — attended.

Borgonia also commented, "I think it was really nice to do the lessons before, and that probably

brought more people in, too."

Borgonia went on to discuss how this event will assist in the general conversation on campus about the music club. People who attended this event might spread their knowledge and share their positive experience, inviting others

to come to future music club events.

Discussing her goals for the music club, O'Donnell said, "We want people to know our name. ... We want to be recognized as a positive influence on campus. ... We help out the music program and do things for the music program."

O'Donnell continued, "I think it will also help, too, because any money that we raise with this event, we're hoping to increase not only the music club but just the music program's name because we want to do an event in the fall with a completely different feel to it. We want to get a reggae band here."

Involving the music faculty and advertising their courses would be just two positive opportunities available at this reggae music event,



The Dukes of Swing in action

according to O'Donnell. She also mentioned the possibility of creating t-shirts for the club which will hopefully be available, as well.

As a final comment, O'Donnell wanted to express her gratitude to all those who helped with the event. Music 6000, the Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, the bookstore at Saint Martin's, Olympia Cards and Comics, and Housing and Residence Life donated to the raffle portion of the dance.

"We had a lot of donors, and we weren't expecting this much community support and inner support, and we had a lot of our students step up," said O'Donnell.



Photos courtesy of Cassidy Ristine

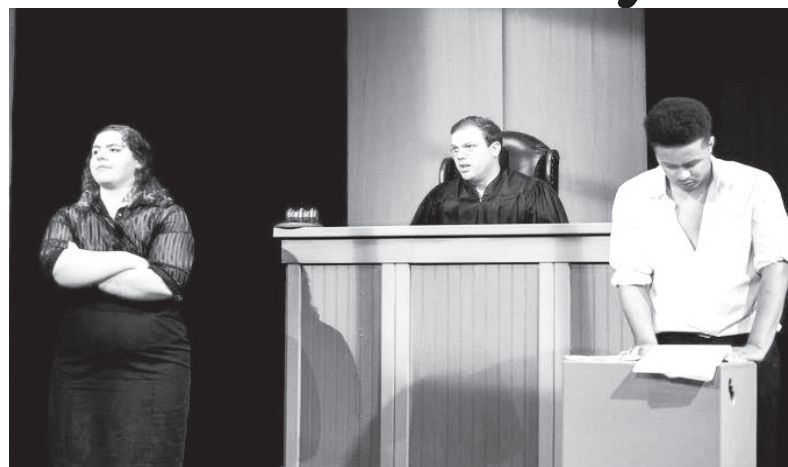
Club president, Tamara O'Donnell, and club member, Jackie Borgonia

## Saints star in "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot"

Erica Wetterlind  
Staff Writer

Saint Martin's University and Abbey take pride in supporting students, especially when student's push the conservative limit. On April 11 at 7:30 p.m., the controversial and thought provoking play, "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot" premiered at The Capital Theater in downtown Olympia. Directed by senior theater and psychology major Grace Caruso and stage-managed by senior psychology major and theater minor Rebecca Franklin, "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot" is set in time bended purgatory, where several historical and biblical characters discuss implications of free will and eternal damnation. This deep play seeks to declare the Bible's most notorious sinner Judas, as guilty or not guilty, thereby deciding his eternal fate, going to heaven or hell. The plot twist being, free will.

Starring both first time and experienced actors, "The Last Days of Judas Iscariot" made viewers question perceptions of good and evil, free will and even educated the audience. While director Caruso particularly liked the play's colorful language, Caruso stated that her main reason for picking this play



Sarah Geiger, Ryan Miller and Jalen Penn played the main roles of Cunningham, the Judge and El Fayoumy.

was because of its message.

"I like the fact that it asks questions and doesn't give you answers. You can come up with your own decision about what happened," ensured Caruso.

As a result of the play's language, Caruso and Franklin were nervous about going forth with production, but decided that the deeper message was worth it. Despite their concerns, during the first audition Caruso was able to cast half of her characters and the show went on. The dynamic duo even asked the monastery to sit in on rehearsals and readings to give advice and insight.

"We have some religious support from Father Peter," stated Franklin, "He was there to support the students."

After Father Peter's first sit in on rehearsal, he confided to a student that there was a line and then proceeded to exit the room.

However, after reflecting on the play's message, he approached Caruso.

"He came up to me the next day and said when you got past the language, that it was a very pro-catholic play," explained Caruso.

The language, a hot topic surrounding the production, was put there intentionally because the writer, Stephen Guirgis, was from a New York Latino alliance theater company. To get people to think about these religious questions, he added the urban dialect because it appealed to the population of which he was a part.

"I know that if people don't realize what this play is about, they're probably going to leave halfway through," confided Caruso.

Even if you are not familiar with the story of Judas, the play offers a number of perspectives not available in everyday conversation.

"We don't all know Judas's story, because not all of it is in the Bible," stated Franklin.

The play takes you through the good and bad deeds done by all of its characters, including icons such as Mother Theresa, Sigmund Freud, Judas Iscariot, and Jesus Christ. It leaves the viewer confused, excited, and reflective.



Senior Ryan Miller portrays Caiaphas the Elder.



# Baccalaureate Mass: The end of the journey

**Delaney Wheeler**  
Staff Writer

The annual Baccalaureate Mass and hooding ceremony will be held May 8 at 4:30 p.m. in the Marcus Pavilion. This is a Catholic service for seniors (and their families) that marks the end of their undergraduate studies and the beginning of their working lives, or in some cases, further education. The ceremony is open to all graduating seniors and is a reminder of Saint Martin's Benedictine traditions.

Ben Lopez, senior, said, "It is a way for the university and the Benedictine tradition to send us forth into the working world. It is complementary to the convocation at which the first year students are welcomed by Abbot Neal."

Lopez's quote encompasses the university's commitment to not only welcome the students and commend them on graduating, but also to support their future endeavors. It also brings up the idea of the convocation or welcoming of students to the Saint Martin's campus and emphasizes that from beginning to end the students are offered a connection with the members of the monastery on campus. Having the monastery on campus and cultivating this relationship throughout their years here is a unique experience for students that not many other college-aged individuals get to encounter.

Virgil Alonso, senior, stated, "It is a deeply Catholic Mass... It brings the whole history of Saint Martin's full circle because the monks saw a

Photos courtesy of Delaney Wheeler



Saint Martin's University was founded in 1895 by the members of Saint Martin's Abbey, a Catholic Benedictine monastery.

though this Mass is centralized around the idea of giving thanks to God and the monks who founded this Catholic university, there are seniors who are not Catholic. In fact, there are seniors who do not believe that God was the reason that they received an education. Does the Baccalaureate Mass recognize the beliefs of these students?

Corby Schamber, member of The Interfaith Movement, said, "It is a Catholic Mass, however, individuals do not have to be Catholic to attend. There are ways to participate without being Catholic."

The monastic community holds this service as a way of acknowledging and validating all of the work that all of the seniors, Catholic or not, have put in during their years here at Saint Martin's. Whether the student is using this ceremony to thank God, the Saint Martin's

need to educate people and we are giving thanks to God for this opportunity for education during the Baccalaureate Mass."

A l-

professors, their family, or their own perseverance, everyone is not only welcomed, but encouraged to attend.

Tony Kern, senior, said, "God is why I'm here, God is why I was able to graduate. That is why it's important for us to celebrate Mass."

This service is a celebration for many students, including Kern, who want this chance to thank God for the knowledge and opportunities that they have been given.

Regarding students of other faith and non-faith backgrounds, Lopez said, "Catholics respect and welcome all people. The term catholic means universal which means our faith is inclusive of all people in the community and the world."

In fact, Krissy Schutt, a sophomore who practices Islam, said, "The Baccalaureate Mass is important to seniors of all faith because it provides them with a sense of belonging and love from all their peers. ... to let them know that they have a place here at Saint Martin's and that no matter what you believe, you are accepted for who you truly are at Saint Martin's."

The Baccalaureate Mass is a time of congratulating students on their previous achievements and wishing them well on all of their accomplishments yet to come. The service may not include the practices of all faiths, but it acts as a final step in Catholic higher education and an opportunity for students to thank someone, whether human or divine, for blessing them with an education.

## Whales, from cover

Among her concerns and comments regarding the trip, Hartman noted that her goal was twofold. In the first place, she hoped that the adventure might spark interest in students to examine the possibility of a career in marine biology. Secondly, she preferred that students and visitors alike leave the experience with an increased positive conviction to support the environment.

"Maybe it will trigger somebody to think about, 'Oh, this is a possible career or interest I could have. Even if I go into another career, this will be something that I think is important that I should support in whatever political or active way that I can,'" Hartman said.

Hartman commented further, "I'm just out there trying to keep it alive. That ecology and the environment is a good thing to think about, and also there are careers that are available."

Despite her true interest being in marine invertebrates, Hartman appreciates larger marine creatures, or what she calls "charismatic megafauna." She lived in Alaska for some of her life, which has also helped develop this appreciation.

According to Hartman, the group going on this whale watching trip is one of the largest since she began taking these outings. In the beginning stages of an event like this, she generally starts by inviting a group from her class, gradually expanding the invitation to faculty and other students, depending upon how much interest her class shows.

Looking toward this particular trip, Hartman expressed concern for the milder seasonal climate and its effect on migration patterns.

The whales, "might start changing their migration patterns because, if we see warming trends, and the things that they eat are actually coming up a little bit earlier, then they need to get there earlier, and that's not necessarily programmed into their migration brains."

March and April, according to Hartman, are usually the best months to observe gray whales during their migration.

"Being able to see gray whales in the natural environment, or any large organisms in the natural environment, is worth any kind of admission ticket that you would want to pay, I would say," said Hartman.

Hartman also expressed hope that the people going might enjoy spending time together on the boat and discussing their various roles and experiences in the community at Saint Martin's.

"I hope people then walk away with a sort of appreciation of where we live and what lives around us, and also thinking about ways that we can practice ... better environmental standards or stewardship," said Hartman.

Although the trip lasted roughly three hours, no gray whales made an appearance, despite a whale spotting on the trip directly preceding that of the Saint Martin's group. The group did, however, enjoy seeing multiple pelicans and sea lions, several seals, a variety of sea birds, and at least one porpoise.

## Voting rights, from cover

Photo retrieved from wikimedia.org



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. marches with others in Selma.

In 1901 a string of Supreme Court trials known as the Insular Cases were held to determine the status of territorial residents.

Justice Henry Billings Brown wrote a landmark ruling which stated that territorial residents should not be granted full Constitutional rights on grounds that the territories are "occupied by alien races incapable of understanding Anglo-Saxon laws and customs."<sup>1</sup>

Justice Brown is most notable for his infamous "separate but equal" ruling in Plessy vs. Ferguson, the ruling that justified segregation in schools until 1954 when overturned by the ruling in Brown v. Board of Education. Despite the blatantly racist language of the decision, the decision regarding territorial citizens remains in place, which means that there are still American citizens who lack full rights because of their race.

Saint Martin's University has a small but visible and growing presence of students from the various territories, so this is an issue that directly affects an entire segment of our student body.

"Growing up in Saipan I never questioned why we couldn't vote for president, it's just a fact that's taken for granted. We never learned why, and finding out about the insular cases is really shocking," said senior business major Deveney Dela Cruz.

"There isn't any interest in the Northern Marianas gaining statehood, at least not that I've ever heard. Because we're an archipelago closer to Asia than the U.S. mainland most of the issues we face don't really affect people in the states. We are largely self-governing and most people are satisfied with our system. However Northern Marianas Islanders residing in the states can vote for president, but can't vote for anything back home if they do," Dela Cruz explained.

The United States military enlists a disproportionately high number of recruits from U.S. territories, Guam has the highest percentage (an eighth) of veterans and American Samoa boasts the most successful recruiting station. For the president to declare war there must be the approval of Congress, but territorial delegates cannot vote on it. This means that the territories have zero say in whether or not the United States will go to war, meaning the future of a large segment of their constituents is decided by outsiders.

"Guam doesn't have much interest in statehood but it is a topic that comes up occasionally. We have a presidential straw poll that has a higher voter turnout than the real election, people want to make their

voices heard but many find it very demeaning that there vote doesn't count," said senior biology major Amber Camacho, "like CNMI [Constitutional Northern Mariana Islands] our government is very independent and adapted to our unique issues, but any decision related to a war has a strong effect on us because we have so many troops. Finding out why we lack certain rights is very horrifying."

For most people the consequences of the Insular Cases is out of sight and out of mind and it seems that the Insular Cases are omitted from the public education system of areas it affects, no doubt because of the outrage exposure would cause.

Satiric news anchor John Oliver succinctly described this decision as "written by a racist a hundred years ago and meant to be temporary."<sup>1</sup>

Plessy v. Ferguson effectively blocked African American civil rights for years until it was overturned by the Voting Rights Act of 1965, so there is hope that the Insular Cases decision will too be reversed. The 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act shows that we have come a long way as a society, but the Insular Cases demonstrate that we still have a long way to go.

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# Hui 'O Hawaii hosts annual Luau

**Sophia Donan**  
Staff Writer

The Saint Martin's University annual Hui 'O Hawai'i's Luau has attracted hundreds of students, faculty, staff, community members and alumni each year. Bringing the traditions of the Hawaiian Islands to Lacey, students in the Hawai'i club turn months of preparation and planning into one great evening. The board members of the club meet at the beginning of every academic year to look over budgets and share ideas for what they hope to bring to the Luau. From the homemade Hawaiian food cooked by students and volunteers, to the performers on stage the spirit of Hawai'i shines through to all that come. This year, the theme was *'O ka ikaika 'O ka mana'o me ke kino* "be strong in mind and body" graced the event as everyone gathered on April 11.

The pavilion was transformed into a Hawai'i themed occasion when they walked through the pavilion



Student and staff performers pose for a picture.

doors. There was a booth for children's activities, as well as a country store and goldfish swimming in vases on the tables. Volunteers dished out Hawaiian favorites such as Kalua pig, mac salad, chicken long rice, and Guava cake. All the dishes were homemade for the approximately four-hundred guests that attended, and the preparation was overseen by Brooke Rickard, a junior from Hawai'i and the club's food chair.

The Kalua pig (imu) was possible thanks to the kindness of Uncle Clay and Uncle Alika, who led students in readying the pig and cooking it throughout the night before luau. The cooking could not have happened without the help of students and volunteers, including but not limited to: Lauren Taga,

Auntie Robin Pellerin, Ishikawa Ohana, Ah Mook Sang Ohana, and Brooke's father, also known as Uncle Rick.

During dinner, the sounds of island music could be heard from the stage, and as the lights dimmed, guests took their seats and prepared for the show. From the faculty and staff dance, to the traditional hula, and the chanting of the haka the dances all took weeks of practice and led to one amazing sequence of performances.

Many guests were able to participate throughout the evening with on stage competitions as well as raffle tickets for prizes such as Big Island Candies' chocolates, or original photography of Hawai'i by former

student Tey Hali'ilani Wilson.

As the club progresses, the board of Hui 'O Hawai'i hopes that Luau will prosper in the years to come. The board, which includes President Kerrigan Ah Mook Sang, Vice President and Luau Chair Shannon Ishikawa, Secretary Jaime Rosenberg, Treasurer Sophia Donan (your writer), Marketing and Advertising Chair Sharmaine Sebastian, Entertainment Chair Jayla Kahailani Kealoha Tamashiro, Decorations Chair Kaimana San Nicolas, and Food Chair Brooke Rickard —are now preparing to pass on their positions to the new board.

On behalf of the Hui 'O Hawai'i board, mahalo to all our volunteers, members, performers, donors, and advisors that made this event possible. If you would like to learn more about Luau, donate to next year's Luau, or volunteer, contact the board by email at [luau@stmartin.edu](mailto:luau@stmartin.edu). For more photos from the event, visit the site of our event photographer, Suhyoon Cho at [www.suhyooncho.com](http://www.suhyooncho.com).



A performer gives the well-known hang loose sign.



Abbot Neal and Father Kilian walk into the Luau.

## Are you buying it fair?

**Sabihey Namazi**  
Staff Writer

Fair Trade, a phrase so commonly used and yet so easily looked over. As a part of my exchange program, I interviewed a local entrepreneur who has been working for the economic development of Fair Trade artisans in over 72 countries for the past 42 years in the city of Olympia.

Dick Meyer, the owner of the Fair Trade shop called "Traditions Café and World Folk Art" located in downtown Olympia, believes that artisans in the less developed part of the world are exploited by big multinationals. Their handicrafts are bought cheap and sold at exceptionally high prices in countries such as the U.S., thus making huge profits from somebody else's labor under the scorching sun and broken roofs.

Meyer started this store after a trip to Mexico in which a woman accompanied him to her small community where local people weaved beautiful carpets. Such was their misery that they hardly sold one carpet per year, thus leading to a very hard life. Meyer bought as many carpets and rugs from them as he could and brought them back to the U.S., selling them through his network of contacts here.

From there, Traditions came into existence and is now a part of various development networks such as Fair Trade Federation and Marigold

Fair Trade Imports, which help artisans all over the world sell their products without being exploited. For example, he works with Ganesh Himal, who exports sweaters weaved by refugees from a small town in Bangladesh to the Traditions store. It is all about bringing together the art and creativity of different communities in a single place.

Meyer believes that it is important to understand the whole idea of a fair trade system- it is not only about buying what appeals to your eyes, but it is also about understanding the struggles of the artisans and their families that goes on the colorful threads and motifs that you see. It is about helping someone have two loaves of bread instead of going to sleep on an empty stomach.

Unfortunately, fair-trade systems do not receive much support from the local or federal government and therefore, the entire success of the system depends on the consumers. This makes it even more imperative for the people to have awareness about what fair trade systems are and how they work. An example of these systems being used here at Saint Martin's is the Service Immersion Program's annual coffee fundraiser which supports fair-trade systems by purchasing Fair Trade certified coffee beans for their "Monks Brew".

You can make a difference, no matter how little it is, if for once you

do not buy at Target, Marshall's, or Nordstrom and instead support Fair Trade through your purchases. Supporting Fair Trade does not mean you are compromising on the quality – Fair Trade products are often handmade, and better quality than

you may find in big retail outlets. And while a big retail giant will perpetuate the exploitation of artisans, a Fair Trade purchase goes toward making somebody's life better.

I hope the next time you buy, you buy it fair.

**LAYOUT TEAM MEMBER**  
Experience with Photoshop, InDesign or Wordpress preferred

**WANTED**

Interested persons to join the student newspaper, preferably first or second year students. Flexible hours, minimum one weekend per month.

APPLY, [belltower@stmartin.edu](mailto:belltower@stmartin.edu)



# Treatment of adjuncts contradicts Benedictine values

Lee Kaplan-Unsoeld  
Section Editor

The issue of how adjunct instructors are treated by universities and colleges has made headlines for a number of reasons in recent years. While some educational institutions have begun to cover the majority of their teaching needs with adjuncts, even institutions that have maintained relatively healthy tenure-track to contingent faculty ratios have had their difficulties. Saint Martin's University is no exception to this rule, and while we do not have as high a percentage of adjuncts as other institutions, the way that we treat our adjuncts remains as problematic as at other institutions. Paying adjuncts less than minimum wage, ignoring their hard work, and preventing them entry to official university groups like the Faculty Senate are just a few of the ways that Saint Martin's treatment of adjunct professors calls into question our supposed commitment to Benedictine values.

One of the quintessential Benedictine values listed on the Saint Martin's website is justice.

While the term is widely interpretable, the website's definition of the value is, "To work toward a just order in our immediate environment and in the larger society."

Art Peterson, an adjunct professor in the music department at Saint Martin's, has been here for over 10 years teaching generally the same courses, yet the administration has forgone giving him a tenure-track position because it saves money. In one of the courses that he teaches that is mandatory for music majors, he is paid only \$360 for 45

classroom sessions throughout the semester. Even when we exclude the work that Peterson puts in out of class, this wage works out to be about \$8 an hour, less than Washington State's minimum wage of \$9.47.

This is known as pro-rating, and happens when there are less than seven students in a class. Since there is only one student in Peterson's class, he is paid 1/7 of the normal \$2,520 paid out for normal classes. This structure is inherently unjust though because the wages do not go up if there are over seven students in a class. Saint Martin's has the luxury to save money on unpopular classes, and make huge profits on popular classes taught by adjuncts.

How is this legal? Shawn Newman, another adjunct instructor at Saint Martin's, explained that "adjuncts are salaried professionals exempt from minimum wage and hour laws. Like other faculty, adjuncts are willing to put in long hours based on their love of teaching and concern with student success."

Peterson, Newman, and dozens of other adjuncts at our school embody that dedication to students and selfless commitment to their educational enrichment. Yet for all their efforts, they are not welcomed into the Saint Martin's community, as the Benedictine values of community living and hospitality would suggest they should be. They do not receive benefits, they do not have any voting power in the Faculty Senate, and they do not take on students at advisees.

The Saint Martin's website states that value of community living means, "To become who we are by our relationships with others."

When those relationships are restricted by institutional policies, we risk pushing our adjuncts away from our community and doing a great disservice to students that depend on building and maintaining relationships with their professors to help their learning grow.

While many adjuncts with multiple years of experience working in their field have financial stability, not all are so fortunate. With years of experience in their area of expertise, many adjunct instructors command much higher pay in the private sector. For adjuncts supporting their children, paying off student loans or going back to school themselves, they simply cannot afford to give their time away.

Working as an adjunct, simply put, is more of a donation than a career. There is little hope of progressing to tenure track positions, and many adjuncts at Saint Martin's are here because of their love for their students and what they do, not the money. Nevertheless, when long-standing community members like Petersen depart, the University will be faced with the challenge of what to do next, and the sustainability of this institution should not be based on the willingness of highly qualified individuals to donate their time. This reduces the pool of candidates that will apply for adjunct positions to a select few who can afford to donate their time and effort, or those who will take whatever job they can get. Serious applicants looking for a long-term job with living wages will simply keep looking, and this, again, is an inexcusable disservice to students.

This brings us to the final two Benedictine values listed on the

Saint Martin's website, stability and stewardship.

Stability, "To cultivate rootedness and a shared sense of mission," and stewardship, "To appreciate and to care lovingly for all the goods of this place," are not embodied by our volatile relations with adjuncts.

In the interest of planning for our University's future, we must look at how adjuncts are treated, and ask ourselves if it serves as stewardship of a stable community, or if the administration is simply exploiting the hard work and dedication of adjunct instructors to increase the University's cash flow.

The Benedictine value of moderation, "To be content with living simply and finding balance in work, prayer and leisure," should serve as a guide in dealing with this issue.

Our University's president, Roy Heynderickx, Ph.D., who received over \$280,000 in salary as well as \$42,000 in allowances and \$44,000 in deferred compensation in 2013 is hardly an exemplar of moderation, even by American standards.<sup>1</sup> I wager that if we were to moderate the exorbitant salaries of the administrators at Saint Martin's, it would free up a hefty chunk of money that could be reallocated to invest in living wages for adjunct professors. Not only would it be the right thing to do, it would put us one step closer to making Benedictine values an integrated part of our institution instead of just words we put on our website.

Source:  
1. Saints Martin's 990-N Form from 2013

# Comcast and you: What employees sign up for

James Ollero  
Staff Writer

"NOW HIRING" scream the big red letters of a certain Help-Wanted ad. You can find this particular ad posted in several locations on Saint Martin's campus and residential areas. Given the economy, finding a job after college may be a pressing issue for students, especially seniors preparing to graduate. However, I would like to shine a light on what you'd be heading into before anybody jumps at this opportunity.

The company behind these ads is a telecommunications company known as Comcast. Comcast has quite a reputation, as many of their customers would be happy to confirm. Customers have been quoted as saying things like, "We pay high prices for slow internet"<sup>1</sup> to "@#%\$#@!#. COMCAST is SOOO BAD!"<sup>2</sup> With responses like these, it should come as no surprise that they went as far as to charge a family who lost their home.<sup>3</sup>

The readers of "The Consumerist" magazine were right to vote it in as "America's Worst Company of 2014."<sup>4</sup> I'm sure you all have your ideas of America's worst company, so what would

Comcast need to top any of those? Bribing government politicians would be a good start. How about bribing politicians to pass laws that allow them to control the flow of information, making sure only certain kinds of news and media gets out to the average eye? An organization called Fight For The Future has been vigilant in their monitoring of Comcast's attempts to kill net neutrality legislation. Their goal is to charge websites for faster speeds in addition to Internet customers by throttling websites speeds unless they pay up.

Despite all of this, Comcast does offer between \$600 and \$1800 per

## NOW HIRING!

D2D Account Executives to enroll customers with Comcast services!

> EARN \$600 TO \$1,800 WEEKLY  
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> TRAINING PROVIDED



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Approved by:  
CAMPUS LIFE

week to be an account executive and enroll new customers with Comcast services. This does not sound too bad, especially for a position that requires no experience.

However, there is a catch, earning that \$1800 is a matter of how many customers you can rope in. Every week employees

need to meet specific sales quotas if they want to get a bonus, which can be up to double the base pay. If they fail to meet the expected sales numbers though, this bonus takes a hit. Even getting as high as 75 percent of the demanded amount of new clients may disqualify you

from earning that bonus.<sup>5</sup> Given all the unflattering information about Comcast, new customers will be hard to find down the line. In other words, unless you're some sort of marketing genius, don't expect to be paid more than the base wage.

I cannot say that I'm happy with Campus Life's decision to approve of these ads, but I do not know why they made this decision. I have tried to get into contact with them, but they have not replied to my request for information. In hopes of hearing their side of this situation, I leave this question for anybody in the Office of Campus Life reading this article:

Did you know about Comcast's actions before approving these ads, and if so, are you sure this is where you would like to send our students and graduates?

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# Who is SAVE saving?

**Brittany Blake**  
Guest Writer

**Lee Kaplan-Unsoeld**  
Section Editor

You have probably seen the posters. Black and white photos of SMU's arm-crossed, mug-faced, male-athletes from track and field, baseball, basketball, and soccer teams to name a few. Whether intentional or otherwise, the photo illustrates a 'tough-guy' group image. This is SAVE (Saints Against Violence Everywhere), an independent male-athlete student organization bred out of the athletic department as of last semester. With any newly formed group, it is natural for the start-up process to be confusing, especially when it is publicized.

At first glance, the photo seems to embody the very issue they seem to be fighting against—violence. The group's name alludes to addressing the inclusion of all Saints, however, SAVE is exclusively and intentionally comprised of all male-athletes. Their intentions for such exclusion stems from their vague but overarching goal: to educate and empower the sub-culture of male-athletes in collegiate-athletics, in order to become advocates for anti-violence, in response to the violent reputation given to male athletes by the media.

With SAVE's recent publicity during sexual assault awareness month, many students have already mistakenly associated this group as being strictly proponents fighting against sexual assault and rape culture in college, however this is only one area of concern in their ambitious efforts to stop violence everywhere.

These details and others have created some confusion and mixed messages for students. With such high standards placed upon them as advocates tackling powerful global issues such as violence, being responsible for presenting a clear message and mission to the intended audience is essential. In order to further understand the missions and goals of SAVE we took the liberty of interviewing the group's faculty advisor and primary founder, Alice Loeb sack for more information.

Loeb sack has been sure to emphasize the fact that the group is still trying to figure out its trajectory. She admits that as a newly formed group tackling very complicated issues, SAVE is "stumbling along through this" and "working their way, with nothing really set in stone" for the

immediate future, however with the hopes of possibly incorporating a separate female-oriented conversation among female athletes on similar topics for next year.

If a Saint Martin's student wants to join SAVE to take action, but is not a male athlete, they will have to look elsewhere for groups to become involved in. While the group has sought a public presence through advertisements such as posters, vlogs, and public events, this public presence provokes much of the confusion.

To make a group public that is tackling a social problem like violence, sexual or otherwise, and then to say that only male student athletes can join is extremely divisive. There is a strange similarity that can be drawn between this behavior and boys putting a "No girls allowed" sign on a tree fort. In other words, they are their own intended audience.

What needs to be understood by those outside of the athletic bubble, is that their efforts for education on topics of sexual assault and violence is heavily geared just for SMU's athletes. One of Loeb sack's internal goals for SAVE is to provide a safe space for male-athletes to "have these tough conversations" regarding sexual and other forms of violence. External goals include things like generating positive PR for male athletes and countering stereotypes they feel that the media unfairly propagates.

When students sign NCAA contracts they agree to do things like gender equality seminars mandated by the NCAA's Title IX clause, which Loeb sack also coordinates. While there is a core of around 15 members of SAVE that stepped forward initially as volunteers, pressure has been applied by coaches, teammates, and indeed Loeb sack herself to encourage attendance at public events like "The Male Perspective", where over 50 male athletes attended. If the majority of public involvement in SAVE is coerced, how can we take the group seriously, and will the members even take this group seriously?

SAVE, at this point, seems to be as much of a support group for male student athletes to work through issues in a private setting as it is a public group challenging stereotypes of male athletes as perpetrators of violence. As it stands now though, this group's goals, whether explicit or implied through their public presence and events, range from helping survivors on

a one-on-one basis to dismantling rape culture. These are not trifling tasks.

While SAVE, according to Loeb sack, has chosen to form a group loosely based on the University of Maine's group Men Against Violence, the Coalition Against Sexual Violence (CASV) at The Evergreen State College employs a different model.

CASV is open to any and all students that wish to participate. It focuses primarily on providing peer advocacy services for students, but puts on periodic workshops and public events to contribute to the public debate surrounding rape culture and sexual violence. In essence, they do most of the things that SAVE seems to be geared toward doing, but anyone can join.

The co-coordinators of CASV explained that their "approach to combatting rape culture is based on the philosophy that education and resources about consent are a means to counteract the ways that rape culture socializes everyone to normalize patterns of violence. Violence is not perpetrated or experienced exclusively by people of any identity, and working to create safer spaces and communities is everyone's responsibility."

While Loeb sack has encouraged the creation of other groups like SAVE, we question the necessity of having multiple student groups working on the same issue instead of combining forces. Creating an all-male group that seeks to address issues that concern everybody is dangerous because it will almost inevitably perpetuate age-old gender roles that cast males as the

protectors and females as the victims.

This in turn can perpetuate the dichotomous stereotype that rape culture is only a heterosexual male-female issue. It is undeniably more complicated than that. However, according to Loeb sack, complicated is not what SAVE is ready for, as she plans on meeting them half way with baby steps, especially when dealing with issues regarding sexual violence.

While we understand that the perpetration of stereotyping gender roles may not be the intention, it is an interpretation that will likely be made unconsciously by people, especially when they see their posters. While taking action on these issues is commendable, it is important that this simple approach to a complex set of issues does not create unintended consequences.

The concerns we are raising here should not be interpreted as a call for the dismantling of SAVE. Instead it should be read as a call to open it up and expand even more. It is great that people are engaging in difficult topics and taking on destructive aspects of our society like sexual violence and rape culture.

Good intentions are not everything, but it is also important to make sure that other stereotypes and social problems are not perpetuated in the attempt to combat stereotypes and social problems. We encourage SAVE to open their group up if it is to have a public presence, and we similarly encourage more people to engage in these issues in any and all ways they see fit – no matter what your identity.



- Are you good with numbers?
- Do you have people skills?
- Experience with Excel and budgeting preferred

Interested?  
Contact [belltower@stmartin.edu](mailto:belltower@stmartin.edu)



## Letters to the Editor Policies

Everyone is invited to submit Letters to the Editor in response to previously published material, or about things not in the paper. All Letters to the Editor (LTE) will be responded to either by personal response or in print in *The Belltower* as space allows.

1. All letters must be signed by the author to be published. Names can be withheld upon request of the author and at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief (EIC). They must have some credible contact information (email, telephone number and/or address) for notification and verification.
2. *The Belltower* reserves the right to edit letters for length and grammar.
3. Letters of questionable taste will be evaluated by the Editorial Team and in applicable situations will be voted on and handled as the Team sees fit.
4. Letters of questionable origin will not be published until confirmation of the author has been made.
5. As time permits, writers of letters will be contacted for confirmation.
6. *The Belltower* reserves the right to not publish letters deemed libelous, obscene, in poor taste, or otherwise unfit to print. The EIC will make this final decision upon consultation with the Editorial Team and the Faculty Adviser.
7. *The Belltower* reserves the right to print a selected number of LTEs. The EIC makes this decision on a case-by-case basis.



K1

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

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

Want a free coffee?

Complete the word search, solve the Sudoku, unscramble the words, find the hidden whale and find the differences in the Olympia photograph to win a \$10 gift card to Mocha Magic Espresso in Lacey! Bring your complete page and drop it off at *The Belltower* office Harned Hall, room 200 (just slip it under the door if we are not there). Don't forget to put your name on the completed page when you drop it off! We will draw a winning entry on April 30, and if the entry is filled out completely and correctly that person will receive the \$10 gift card.

Good Luck!



Address: 1155 Marvin Rd NE  
Lacey, WA 98516  
Phone: (360) 455-1648  
Hours:  
Mon - Fri: 5:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Sat: 6:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Sun: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm



Belltower Word Scramble

1. viontg irtsgh
2. aulu
3. ajsud iotasirc
4. ehwla twahcing
5. iutiotnrr
6. isgwn daecn
7. ktcr dna elfdi
8. rduoan eht wloedr

Belltower Word Search

Q F U A J S B K X Z R O J B T  
D K E V I G P O Z A W U D E C  
E M T N P P L R L Y D G T L N  
A A A V U W M O I A Q S G L U  
K W E T V T H Y S N I W Z T J  
E J R E Q C R X L L G P O O D  
I G U I S H U I A O G J L W A  
Z D A U G L E I T N V O C E V  
C L L Y A O C F C I S U M R J  
S W A Q M E R H O V O T I N G  
H Q C U P J L L P B P N V O I  
K B C S E L E C T I O N S B Z  
Q N A R N N A T S I K A P A V  
S E B C C J N V E F B B F M F  
Z R F E Q O V M C X X H T A Q

- Adjunct
- Baccalaureate
- Belltower
- Elections
- Judas
- Music
- Nutrition
- Obama
- Olympia
- Pakistan
- Scholar
- Specialist
- Spring
- Violence
- Voting



Can you spot  
all seven  
differences?

