

# The Pauw Wow

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## The EOF Program: Sudden Departures, Changes and Moves

By Gineen Abuali,  
Staff Writer

Within a few weeks, the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Program at Saint Peter's University lost three members of its staff, leaving EOF students lost and confused. Director Anne Rosario, who has been a part of the Saint Peter's family since 1971, passed away on Feb. 12, 2020. Students were notified the next day, and they were told about grief counseling options. Then on Feb. 20 students were notified through email about an urgent and mandatory EOF meeting that day to discuss future changes in the EOF department. Students had no idea of the real change to come.

At that mass meeting, EOF students were told that both EOF counselors, Jose Lopez, Assistant Director and counselor, and Chelsea Rushing, junior and senior counselor, would be leaving Saint Peter's.

Students felt blindsided by this news. "I had my one-on-one with Chelsea, and she didn't even hint that she was leaving. We talked about future plans and more. Before Chelsea left, she started a women's empowerment club, and this is what's puzzling," said Adjeilyne Akrong, a junior EOF student.

Rushing left on Feb. 28, and Lopez left on Mar. 4. Originally, both planned to leave on Feb. 28, but administration asked if one of them could stay a little longer. Dejectedly, Akrong admits that the program was never the same anyway after her original counselors and advisors, Walvi De Jesus and Alexis Agosto, left Saint Peter's.

"Mr. De Jesus and Ms. Agosto were vital to my college and EOF experience. Their departure was very sudden, and students received a very weird video from Mr. Walvi about him finding a new job," she said. "We found out he was leaving the week he left."

De Jesus and Agosto's sudden departures were also felt by sophomore EOF student, Noemi Carranza, who was a freshman at the time. "We didn't get the TLC that the freshmen and sophomores before us received," she said. "We never got that personal relationship."

Freshmen EOF students must complete a summer

academic program before the start of their first fall semester. According to Carranza, when her class came in, De Jesus and Agosto were assigned to them in the summer. They left a short time after that, which is when Lopez and Rushing were brought in. By the time Carranza's class began to get familiar with them, they too announced their departure by the end of Carranza's fall semester as a sophomore. "Lately it's been people coming and leaving," she said.

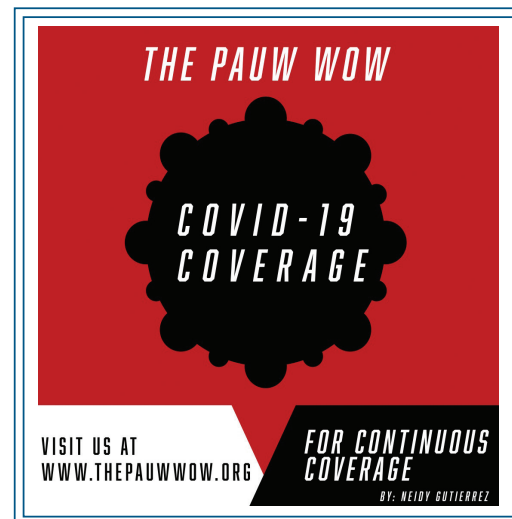
As an upperclassman, Akrong was optimistic about the new counselors, Lopez and Rushing. "We thought things would go back to normal, and then boom they left too on a very short notice," she explained.

For freshman EOF students, like Andrew Paredes, the sudden departures were even more confusing. Paredes says that EOF is like a second home to him; it is a tight knit community and being a part of the EOF program helped him adjust to college, as well as make most of his friends. "I would pop into my counselor Jose's office to say hello and stuff like that," he said. "We lost valuable counselors, and my usual peer meetings haven't met in a while so everything is kind of just in the air right now and has been ever since they left."

Students say that there has been no communication from the EOF department since their departures. Akrong and Carranza credit Thea Dogan, the EOF program's administrative assistant, as being the only constant keeping things together throughout all these changes. For her part, Dogan emphasizes how important students are to the EOF program. Freshmen, in particular she said, need to be able to build a connection with their counselors. Instead, she says, students coming into the office now feel abandoned. "Since they came back from spring break, the traffic in the office has completely ceased since the two counselors left. Since Monday, five students stopped by, and today is Thursday," said Dogan. "Usually 40-50 students stop by a week, and they are in and out."

### Why do counselors and employees keep leaving Saint Peter's?

One reason Dogan brings up is that the salary offered is not as high or competitive as other universities in New Jersey. She points out, however,



that Saint Peter's offers the Tuition Reimbursement Program. "The administration hires people that they think are going to stay because they have a bachelors, and you can get that masters free. That's two years," she explained. "After two years, they leave. That's what happens because there's no movement here, and then they don't offer increases or give you different incentives to help you want to stay here."

One employee who says he will not be leaving Saint Peter's anytime soon is Tushar Trivedi, who is the director of the Academic Success Program (ASP) and who has now been appointed as the new director of EOF as well. Trivedi says that this is normal movement always seen with young professionals. As he moves forward with the EOF program, for his part all he can do is motivate and collaborate with new employees to make them feel recognized, which will hopefully make them want to stay.

Trivedi's office is a relatively small office on the third floor of Henneberry Hall. His office is stocked full of notebooks, calculators and anything else his ASP students may need. He is also the only one in the office, practically single-handedly running ASP, as he types up an introductory email to his new students of the EOF program.

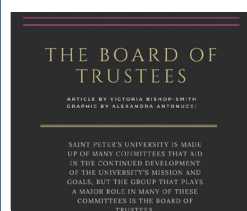
When asked if he could adequately handle running ASP, EOF and also teach as an adjunct math professor, Trivedi pointed out that he would be sharing most of his ASP load with Michael Doody in CASE. He also said that he can absolutely handle all his responsibilities. "I had at one point over 120 ASP students, and I was taking care of them, counseling them, advising them and teaching them. I am very confident. As long as I get the support of the students

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Thank you,  
Saint Peter's



# News

and the staff and faculty at Saint Peter’s, we could still adequately service and support our EOF students.”

He even plans on not only doing the administrative work, but to take on advising and counseling as well. Trivedi has a very optimistic view. He is very excited and passionate when he talks about his students, but he says that he also hears their concerns.

### EOF, ASP & TRiO Combined?

He knows that EOF students have heard that the university plans to move EOF into the same office as ASP and TRiO, another reason Dogan says they stopped coming to the office, but he wants to reassure them that if the move is not in their best interest, it will not occur. Despite rumors, ASP, EOF and TRiO are not being combined into one program, and all three will still be considered separate and

distinct programs. “The only thing the university is considering is to move all of these three programs into one common area if it’s feasible. That way all three programs can share resources,” Trivedi said.

He also pointed out that all three programs must be kept separate because of logistics: ASP is a Saint Peter’s homegrown program, EOF is a state program and TRiO is a federal program. Government programs like EOF and TRiO require reports and data that must be reported to the government. Trivedi calls this physical move “the best of both worlds,” but he admits that staff have been told to “optimize our resources, wherever we can consolidate we should,” by the administration because of the recent budget crisis Saint Peter’s has faced.

ASP, TRiO and EOF were advised and encouraged that this would be something they might like to look into. “When we were thinking about how can we consolidate, how can we combine our resources, we said ASP, TRiO and EOF we do have a lot of overlapping objectives, so why can’t we have one big space where we combine resources,” Trivedi explained. “It’s not like we’re cutting back on EOF staff, we’re just trying to consolidate resources that are available on campus.”

New EOF counselors will still be hired, Trivedi hopes by the end of this semester, at the same rate of compensation as the former counselors. Trivedi and Dogan, however, say that maintenance brought up some space and safety concerns when they looked at the office space. Dogan also pointed out that EOF, ASP and TRiO have close to 100 students each who would now have to share one space.

This is particularly upsetting for EOF students who feel like EOF is their safe haven and who like having their own space, despite arguments that the third floor is more modern. This consolidation will also impact the summer academic programs. Instead of having three separate summer programs, Trivedi explains the change as “one combined summer academy for incoming EOF, ASP and TRiO students.”

The program will now be three weeks instead of four, and students will have the option of more class choices based on their major. Trivedi says students can now earn more credits, besides the past history credits they were offered. Dogan and current EOF students are not happy with the new changes, however. They point out the logistics of only being able to learn so much within three weeks, and staff being able to handle all those students at once.

As for now, Trivedi is willing to listen to students, and he welcomes any concerns and suggestions they may have during this difficult time of transition. With the loss of the three members of the staff, the university had to take immediate steps to alleviate the situation, especially because Saint Peter’s EOF program is held accountable by the state, and students rely on that state funding. He points out that the interest of the students come first, and he is still new to the program and learning all the rules and regulations: “I just want to request the EOF community to be patient, to work with us, and to come up with ideas,” he said. “It was really tough, and we’re trying our best to keep everything going. I’m very hopeful and optimistic.”

Dogan and Trivedi continue to work to keep everything going by keeping the office functioning, recruiting new EOF students and working with the state. As the university currently looks to fill the position of the two former counselors, Dogan points out that neither her nor students have been asked for input. At the same time, students caution the university not to make the same mistake: some of the potential candidates are current Saint Peter’s seniors with little to no experience.

The university also continues to lose valuable and important staff members like Victoria, the only TRiO counselor, who will be leaving the university on March 28. “The EOF program is important because it helps students like me stay here, and it’s important to Saint Peter’s identity. The youth is the future,” said Carranza. •



EOF students are assigned peer mentors, but students say that with everything going on, peer meetings have not occurred in weeks; photo by Gineen Abuali.

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Someone with business experience who can further develop marketing efforts, as well as someone who can help further our outreach by potentially selling advertisements.

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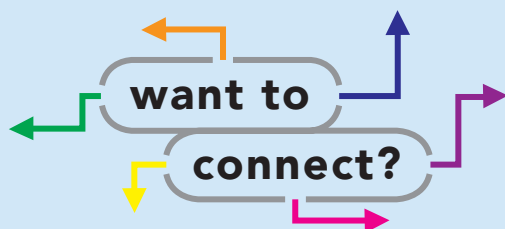
Someone with an interest in writing who is able to cover weekly events and pitch stories.

## Open Positions

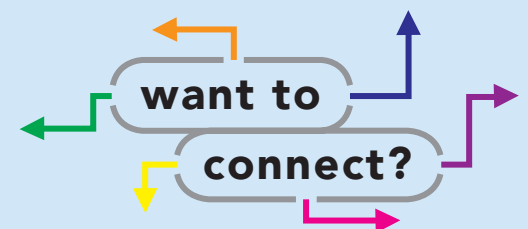
The Pauw Wow is looking for eager and talented students to fill the positions listed below. Any questions or inquiries can be directed to Alex Antonucci at [aantonucci15@saintpeters.edu](mailto:aantonucci15@saintpeters.edu)

### Lifestyle

Someone with prior journalism experience who is able to edit the Lifestyle section for print and



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# News

## Who Runs SPU: The Board of Trustees

By Victoria Bishop-Smith,  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Saint Peter's University is made up of many committees that aid in the continued development of the University's mission and goals, but the group that plays a major role in many of these committees is the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees, which currently holds 21 members, has the final decision in many affairs that the school partakes in. According to President Eugene Cornacchia, the committee makes final decisions over him.

The Board also elects the President of the University and creates the policies that the University follows. Fausto Rotundo, a 1991 graduate from SPU and 8-year board member, said that he wanted to join the board for a long time. "It was actually one of my goals after I graduated to be on the Board of Trustees, so I reached out to some folks at Saint Peter's and told them I wanted to get more involved," said Rotundo.

When Rotundo joined the committee, the yearly monetary requirement for members to donate to the university was \$5,000, but since has been increased to \$10,000, but many members, like Rotundo, choose to donate more.

But according to Cornacchia, the Board members have more responsibilities than just donating to the University. "Board members are expected to support the University in many ways-- time, talent and treasure," said Cornacchia. The Board of Trustees oversees 12 committees, which also includes two subcommittees. Each committee includes members from the Board that contribute ideas and make decisions on how to run everything.

Some of these committees include overseeing financial issues like budget planning, organizing fundraising events and creating marketing strategies. According to Cornacchia, the Board also has a say in the approval of the salaries of the University's executive and senior leadership.

So, how does one become a board member? According to Rotundo, members are nominated by the Board of Trustees themselves. After nomination, the potential member undergoes a background evaluation. Then, the individual is analyzed by the Governance Subcommittee and finally voted on by the Board.

Cornacchia said individuals who are selected are expected to agree to the financial support level put in place, have expertise in the fields that the Board desires, express commitment to the University's mission, along with any other criteria the Board requires at the time.

Currently, the Board has members from many different professional backgrounds, but according to both Rotundo and Cornacchia, it could be more diverse. "In terms of race, ethnicity and culture, the Board is much less diverse than we would like. In fact, the diversification of Board membership is an explicit goal of the Board," said Cornacchia.

Although the Board wishes to diversify its group, Rotundo said that he highly recommends alumni to join if they can to be a part of the contribution to the development of SPU.

"It's a great way to give back to the University and a great way to shape its future," said Rotundo. •

### THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ARTICLE BY VICTORIA BISHOP-SMITH  
GRAPHIC BY ALEXANDRA ANTONUCCI

SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY IS MADE UP OF MANY COMMITTEES THAT AID IN THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION AND GOALS, BUT THE GROUP THAT PLAYS A MAJOR ROLE IN MANY OF THESE COMMITTEES IS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.




THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CURRENTLY HOLDS 21 MEMBERS

The Board also elects the President of the University and creates the policies that the University follows.

"IN TERMS OF RACE, ETHNICITY AND CULTURE, THE BOARD IS MUCH LESS DIVERSE THAN WE WOULD LIKE. IN FACT, THE DIVERSIFICATION OF BOARD MEMBERSHIP IS AN EXPLICIT GOAL OF THE BOARDS."

SAINT PETER'S UNIVERSITY  
PRESIDENT EUGENE CORNACCHIA,  
PH.D

### ROLES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

 PAY YEARLY MONETARY REQUIREMENT OF \$10K

 OVERSEES 12 DIFFERENT COMMITTEES

 ELECT PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY

 APPROVE THE SALARIES OF UNIVERSITY EXECUTIVE & SENIOR LEADERSHIP

## Arts & Entertainment

# Opening up Sensibility Through Photography: A Look into SPU Professor Frank Gimpaya

By Neidy Gutierrez,  
Social Media Manager

Walking into the photography studio in Rankin Hall, walls are filled with professional and student produced photographs. The studio has a sort of “funk” to it as it portrays different aesthetics and perspectives that all seem to share one thing in common— a sense of humanity.

“It’s an open intuitive about all this stuff,” said Frank Gimpaya, photography Professor at Saint Peter’s University and paint and drawing professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice. “So much has to do with an aesthetic... being exposed to different points of views, different visual points of views.”

The wall of photographs has become a sort of visual board with inspiration for the students to understand a photo’s dynamics and integrity. As he teaches photography I and II, he’s always encouraging students to see beyond what’s right in front of them. This mindset is what led him to produce a series in 2008 that would later be exhibited at the Bronx Museum of the Arts.

Gimpaya states that the exhibition almost happened by accident.

One day an international student on the Saint Peter’s basketball team was working on a portfolio when they attended the Museum of Modern Arts. There they came across French post-impressionist painter, Georges Seurat’s series of drawings titled “The Veil.”

Admiring the piece of a veiled woman, Gimpaya saw a learning opportunity for his students in trying to recreate the series with a digital camera.

The set up — natural light, a fan, grey background and an old Halloween mask from Party City. The

location — a small room in the back of the studio in Rankin Hall.

What was meant to be just a couple of sample photographs turned into a series about identity after Gimpaya noticed a change with each photo he took. As the model moved, so did the lighting and patterns of the window blinds reflected on the mask.



There’s always something new to learn, says Gimpaya as he overlooks a wall full of inspiration from photos he’s collected throughout the years; photo by Neidy Gutierrez.

“As I was looking at these shots I was saying my goodness there is a series and that happens sometimes,” said Gimpaya. “You come in with one intention and sometimes little accidents happen. So it’s kind of taking this idea and running with it.”

Running with it seems to be what has helped Gimpaya become the successful photographer he is today. He has had exhibitions in the U.S., Mexico, Cuba and Europe with recognitions from The New York Times and The Village Voice. He’s had a long line of experience photographing dancers, actors and shooting on movie sets. He also assisted fashion photographer, Arthur Elgort, a former college friend from Hunter College in New York.

But as much as he enjoys working in the industry, he enjoys teaching.

“To me, it’s like this wonderful ritual,” says Gimpaya. “Getting back into the dark room it’s like preparing yourself for this adventure and mostly it’s the discovery... you’re looking now but can you see.”

He’s always looking beyond the obvious and encourages his students to do the same. Where students see a mistake, Gimpaya sees a vision or a story unfolding. In art, he believes there are no mistakes, only beautiful accidents.

Sometimes in demonstrating to students, Gimpaya is reminded of the pleasant memories created by his passions for photography, drawing or painting. By touching a brush, smelling the oils, looking at an empty canvas or holding a camera, Gimpaya says he can feel the potential of something great to come. To him, that’s what teaching is all about.

“All this potential there and it’s kind of like you’re opening doors, you’re opening up sensibilities and who knows where it’s going to take you,” says Gimpaya. But at least you have that point of reference of what’s beautiful, what are people and what’s beautiful about them.” •



In 2016, “Masks: Photographs by Frank Gimpaya” was exhibited at the Bronx Museum of the Arts; photo courtesy of Frank Gimpaya.



From a young age, Frank Gimpaya has been fascinated by art, the people who painted or produced the artwork and their vision behind it; photo by Neidy Gutierrez.





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## Lifestyle

# “Soled Out”; Gentrification in Jersey City

By Amanda Sanchez,  
Staff Writer

Soled Out is a sneaker consignment shop that focuses on the aftermarket of items and focuses on more exclusive pairs of sneakers and clothing. Saint Peter’s senior, Anthony Taveras’ job is to make sure that they always have the “latest stock while also giving the fairest of prices.”

“We do buyouts and consignments, buyouts are where we would buy an item off outright and sell for a profit, and consignment is where the person would leave the item with us and we sell it for them and split a percentage,” said Taveras.

As Taveras’ business thrives, Jersey City gentrification threatens their livelihood.

“The only problem is if the rent goes up so do our prices which would then cause less people to shop with us. We do not know if the new people moving in will shop with us or even have a passion for sneakers,” said Taveras. “Gentrification affects us because not only does it push our customers away from the store but it is increasing the rent around the local area.”

According to Curbed New York, the ongoing gentrification in Jersey City “have residents preparing for prices to soon rival Hoboken’s.”

“One real estate developer called the boom “unreal”

and says he has lost over 20 real estate bids in the increasingly competitive market,” the article read. “According to him, investors are buying buildings at high prices with low returns, which increases rents significantly. It’s a problem that’s priced out longtime small business owners.”

As Soled Out fights for their right to stay afloat, business owners like Taveras worry about the uncertain future and what lies ahead.

“Many businesses close around us because they can’t afford the rent or take a buyout for the business so they can be torn down and built into apartments,” said Taveras. •



Soled Out is a sneaker consignment shop that focuses on the aftermarket of items and focuses on more exclusive pairs of sneakers and clothing; photo courtesy of Anthony Taveras



As Soled Out fights for their right to stay afloat, business owners like Taveras worry about the uncertain future and what lies ahead; photo courtesy of Ibrahim Adewole



# TOP 4 THRIFT SHOPS IN NEW YORK

By: Diana Paredes



## L Train Vintage

Although there are a couple of L trains, the best one yet is the urban jungle located at:  
118 Knickerbocker Ave Brooklyn, NY 11237

## Beacon's Closet

With its unique style of 80's and 90's thrifted clothes Beacon's Closet can be found in the city and in Brooklyn at:

23 Bogart St, Brooklyn, NY 11206

## Buffalo Exchange

Party they got it! The glitter and glam can be found at buffalo exchange with the perfect mix of mesh and leather:

114 w 26th st, New York, NY 10001

## Doomsey Express IV

Some of the best mom jeans in town and the best corduroy jackets at this gem:

1379 Myrtle Ave Brooklyn, NY 11237





## Sports

# Military service delays studies proving advantage for Israeli athletes

By Neidy Gutierrez,  
Social Media Manager

Sitting in a circle surrounded by 50 other Israeli soldiers, Efrat Marom, experienced the mental abuse of the Israeli army for refusing to serve. All she wanted was her athletic title.

In the U.S, Americans bleed pride in sports -- it's part of the culture, especially when it comes to college sports such as March Madness and college football, which bring in big bucks to the NCAA and universities. But in Israel, some say that sports and athletes are unappreciated compared to the U.S. In Israel, school and sports don't go together.

By law, all citizens are required to serve in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) once they turn 18. Exemptions to the service are rare, but can be granted after intensive evaluations.

For athletes, only certain "outstanding athletes" are completely exempted from each sport every year. Athletes who wish to receive partial exemption such as being able to practice while serving, must be approved by the IDF. But refusal of an athletic title means the soldier is off to combat – the fate that Marom had to face.

Marom had applied for partial athletic exemption before turning 18. However, according to her, the IDF lost her papers and denied the exemption. Without her athletic title, she was sent to a base far from home.

While serving in the desert, Marom was assigned serious responsibilities such as monitoring a security camera aimed at the border for eight hours ensuring no one was coming into Israel from outside countries. But her coach and her family kept insisting that Marom refuse her military service because she deserved to be recognized as an athlete. However, in refusing, she was sentenced to prison for four days.

Refusers are sentenced to prison, in hopes they'll change their minds about denying commitment to their civic duty. Marom, an Israeli swimmer at Saint Peter's University, recalls officials would yell and curse at each soldier telling them they were an embarrassment to the country. But the abuse wasn't just mental.

Imprisoned in the desert, prisoners were forced to perform unnecessary tasks like running from wall to wall in the middle of the summer, trying to break their spirits and force them to serve in the army. And many did just that. By the end of the four days, only seven people remained. Marom was one of them. "I don't know how I did it," said Marom.

According to her, those were the worst four days of her life. "They treated me like I murdered someone," said Marom. "It was awful." But Marom hadn't murdered anyone and she hadn't refused to go to the army for an invalid reason. In fact, she refused because she wanted to fight for her dreams -- continue swimming and eventually attend college in the U.S.

The hopes of a brighter future, is what pushed her to survive prison and go to trial for her athletic title. According to Marom, she was "risking it all" for her career, but in the end, it was worth it. She finally had

her title and could finish her two years in the IDF.

Israeli athletes who wish to accomplish more with their sport after high school must attend college overseas. But they must complete their civic duty of serving in the IDF before that. This means Israeli athletes enter college much older than the average freshman and some would say they're more mature than their American classmates.

In order for Israeli athletes to enroll as student athletes in the U.S, they must be deemed eligible by the NCAA and receive an amateurism certification that recognizes them in their sport. But before this recognition comes the recognition as an athlete by the IDF, which allows them to train while fulfilling their civic duty.

Receiving this recognition comes with a couple of privileges. The athletes can't serve more than 30 miles away from home and can't do more than six hours a day of service. They are allowed flexible hours for training and absences throughout their service for professional competitions. But approval to leave the country for competitions was a hassle in itself.

Bar Botzer, a tennis player at Wake Forest University in North Carolina, had difficulties traveling abroad for tournaments while as a soldier. "I had a tough time traveling," said Botzer through a phone call interview. "I couldn't go into certain countries that I wanted to go to like Turkey to play tournaments.

Israeli soldiers are not allowed to go to Turkey." But traveling wasn't the only struggle for the athletes; their entire military service was a mental and physical grind. • ("Article was cut short for print. Full article available online.")

Bar

David



To read  
the rest  
visit  
[www.thepauwwow.org](http://www.thepauwwow.org)

Efrat

Igal

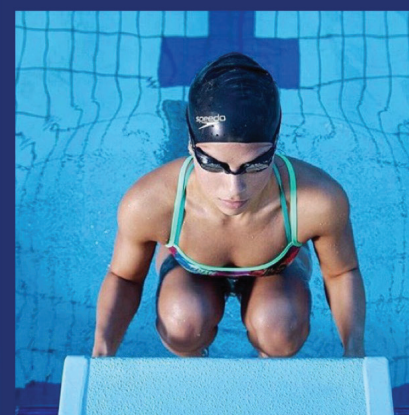


Photo 1: Botzer (middle) alongside his mother celebrate his younger brother's service in the IDF; photo courtesy of Bar Botzer

Photo 2: Dolgitzer knew he could be a good combat soldier, but swimming was too important for him to give up; photo courtesy of David Dolgitzer

Photo 3: At the age of five, Marom went to learn how to swim, but instead she fell in love with the sport and hasn't stopped swimming ever since; photo courtesy of Efrat Marom

Photo 4: Igal Oren, right, enters his second year as assistant coach for the Saint Peter's swimming and diving team; photocourtesy of Igal Oren

Collage by Neidy Gutierrez



# Opinion

## Thank You, Saint Peter's

By Alexandra Antonucci,  
Editor-in-Chief

It has all felt like a dream. I don't think there are any amount of words that can adequately describe how I feel, from when Saint Peter's cancelled face-to-face classes until March 25 and then for the rest of the spring term.

As I stated before, I don't know how to describe how I feel, but I'm not really good for anything else if I don't try to write and I also feel that it's my responsibility to somehow translate what me and my classmates are feeling.

In short: it sucks. It completely, absolutely, 100 percent f\*cking sucks.

I never believed people when they described college as "the best four years of their lives" and let's be real, these have not been the best four years of mine.

But I met some pretty damn good people and made some amazing memories along the way, and to me, that has made attending college and drowning myself in student debt a little more worth it.

And sadly, that makes the pain sting so much more.

We all complained about Saint Peter's when it was convenient for us, but we weren't ready to leave. We unknowingly attended in-person classes for the last time, ran to Quick Zone with our friends to grab an overpriced bag of chips to eat as we walked to our dorms and stayed up late watching reality shows when we should've been doing homework. I wasn't ready to give all of that up.

We joked about how we couldn't wait to leave Saint Peter's -- this is too soon.

Fortunately, this will all end someday. When -- who knows anymore? A vaccine will be developed and we'll emerge from our homes and continue life as normal. Classes after us will talk about "the one time Saint Peter's completely shut down." I don't know when that day is coming, but I hope it's soon.

I'm also trying my best to not turn this into a list of things that I won't get to do now that my senior year has effectively ended against my will. I'm trying to be optimistic, so instead I'll talk about all the things that I did get to do while I was at Saint Peter's.

I got to keep doing theater and choir. I went to Junior/Senior formal. I went to Kansas City, Missouri (and hated it.) I went to Oxford and London, England (and loved it.) I met my best friends. I met my boyfriend. I met my family. I spent more money on NoodleFan, Taqueria Gloria's, VIP and Wonder Bagel than I want to know. I worked at a newspaper and a U.S. Senator's office. I was Editor-in-Chief of my school newspaper. I became hooked on "The Bachelor."

I guess at this point all I can say is: thank you. Thank you to my parents. Thank you to my brothers. Thank you to my best friends (and second family.) Thank you to The Pauw Wow. Thank you to SChorale. Thank you to Argus Eyes. Thank you to the Admissions Department. Thank you to Patrick.

Thank you to Saint Peter's and Jersey City and everyone else who made these dorm halls feel like home.

Stay well. •



The famous, well-known Saint Peter's Bridge; photo by Angelica Vasquez



It's a bitter sweet feeling to see these four years end so abruptly without any preparation for a goodbye; photo by Angelica Vasquez



The source of all student activity and events, a place everyone found time to relax; photo by Angelica Vasquez



# Photojournalism

## Holiday in England

By Patrick Cucurullo,  
Opinions Editor

There were plenty of virus jokes getting on the plane, but those same jokes just don't apply today. During this past spring break, my class was probably among the last group of people to safely travel to and

from Europe for a while, and to say we were lucky was an understatement. We had the opportunity to experience the rich history of a beautiful country first-hand and now, as borders close and we hunker down for a long wait, I reflect on this once in a lifetime experience.

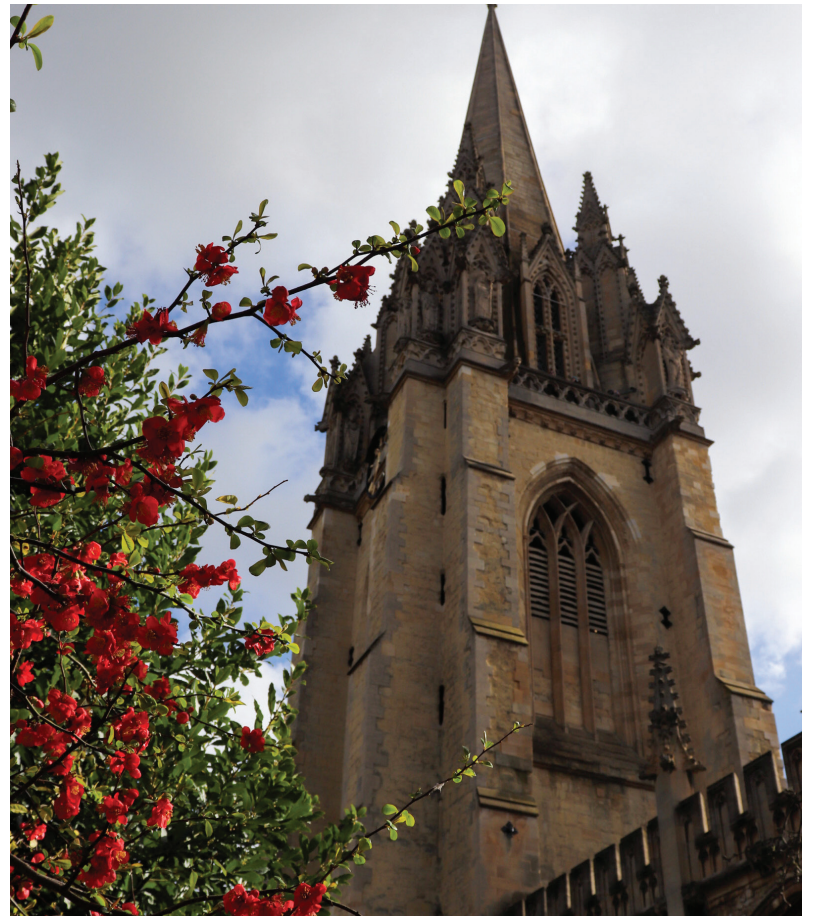
Our trip had two main stops, first in Oxford and later in London. The former was the home to many great scholars from around the globe who left their mark on the sciences, literature, mathematics and more. For instance, in class we read the work of author C.S. Lewis, and then visited the dormitory where he lived and studied, seated among a vast array of gothic architecture, bucolic gardens and

marvelous stonework.

In London we saw the classics: Big Ben (though coated in scaffolding for renovations), the Houses of Parliament, Tower Bridge, The London Eye and the list goes on. What's striking about this city is the juxtaposition of new and old. We walked through an apartment complex, built in the 1970's, which flanked a Renaissance-era church where Oliver Cromwell was married which was next to the walls of the ancient city of Londinium, bricks laid by Roman hands. Everywhere we turned we saw history and tradition, but also progress and modernity. It was familiar and foreign and in a word, unforgettable. •



The Radcliffe Camera ("camera" is Latin for room/chamber) is perhaps the most iconic structure on Oxford's campus and is used as a study hall by current students; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



The university can trace its roots as far back as the 11th century A.D; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



Oxford is also home to several gardens and meadows that complement the architectural artwork nicely; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



# Photojournalism



The Coldstream Guard of Her Majesty's palace are ever watchful; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



A perfect example of where London has been and where it hopes to go, taken from the Tower of London; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



Borough Market is an outdoor shopping center where small vendors sell food, produce, sweets and more. There's free samples so if you find yourself in London, go!; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



London has a robust busking culture with some fantastic street performers. Some, like those pictured here, can draw quite the crowd; photo by Patrick Cucurullo



# In the Quad

By Victoria Bishop-Smith,  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

## How has COVID-19 affected you?



**Elissa Rojas, Senior:**

“As a senior, the outbreak has changed my last semester of college. This is supposed to be a happy time where I’m preparing to graduate and spend time with my friends before we go our separate ways. Instead, I’m in my room and half of my friends have gone home in fear of the virus. It’s really sad and scary.”



**Lamuel Pierre-Charles, Junior:**

“It’s affected me in different ways and first and foremost is that it has basically made me move out early with just enough stuff to stay home for a couple weeks.”



**Tierney Hartnett, Junior:**

“It’s made me more concerned for my own health because of other things. I fall into the immune compromised category for how likely I am to get it, so it’s made me a little more concerned as far as trying to keep germs away.”



**Jacía Whitfield, Junior:**

“With COVID-19, it’s given me the ability to work from home with my internship, but it has also stopped me from working at my weekend job because my mall has changed its hours. And also I really want to buy snacks but I’m scared there’s nothing left.”



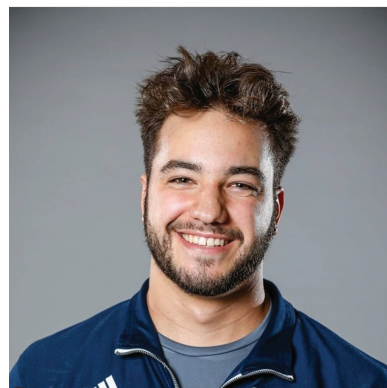
**Natasha Solano, Junior :**

“Well first, classes got moved online because of the outbreak, which made me happy because I didn’t have to drive into campus anymore. But then COVID-19 was the reason my season got cancelled. And that was really hard for me because it meant that softball was over and I wouldn’t get to play again until the fall.”



**StarDaysha Santos, Junior“:**

The COVID-19 outbreak is honestly a really frustrating time. Classes aren’t going to be the same. One of the professors I have, changed my project assignment and I have to redo it due to not being able to have in person classes. I am worried not all teachers will know how to relay all the information they have for us online, not every teacher knows how to navigate online.”



**Matt Xenitelis, Junior:**

“Fortunately, I’m lucky enough to live in NJ so when the eventual closing of the school happens, I won’t be needing to fly or use public transportation to get home. Mainly, I’m concerned about my grandmother who’s older and is currently in a nursing home but I’m also concerned for my friends who either have to travel into a higher risk country, as well as those who are misplaced and have no way of getting home.”



**Angel Kyra Gabinete, Senior:**

“The way COVID-19 has affected me is I am forced to stay home most of the time and I feel very unproductive. Having classes online can be convenient but face-to-face is what I prefer the most. I can’t get out of the house without feeling anxious. Also, since the school is shut down, I can’t work and haven’t been making some money.”

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