

# The Pauw Wow

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PAUWWOW.COM

## THE HOOKAH PEN TREND

BY ESSENCE ROGERS  
*Staff Writer*

Most people who go to Saint Peter's are probably familiar with hookah lounges. Adults, nineteen and over, can go to the lounges and mingle with others while smoking from hookahs. The lounges are typically smoked filled, as people smoke a flavored tobacco called shisha.

Outside of Saint Peter's, the hookah trend has become a social thing amongst people in their twenties. Celebrities, such as Drake, have been spotted smoking shisha.

This shisha, or hookah as most people call it, has become portable recently with the emergence of hookah pens. These electronic pens allow a person to smoke walking down the street, pumping gas, dancing, whatever they want to do.

Electronic hookah pens typically cost anywhere from seven to ten dollars and can be purchased online and at gas stations. They come in several different flavors including apple cider, mango, blueberry, and more.

Lately, they have become a trend. Many people own or have owned a hookah pen.

"My friend had one and told me told me he got it at Exxon so, once I heard that, I went and bought one," said John Smith, who chose to go by a different name.

Many people who own hookah pens at Saint Peter's have purchased them from the Exxon gas station on the corner of West Side Avenue and Duncan Ave. Behind the counter of the Exxon gas station, there is a display of hookah pens with a variety of flavors to attract customers.

"My favorite flavor is of hookah is peach and mango," said Quinn Berridge, a sophomore at Saint Peter's. "Those were my favorite fruits growing up."

Aside from the flavors, many people purchase hookah pens because they're simply cool to have.

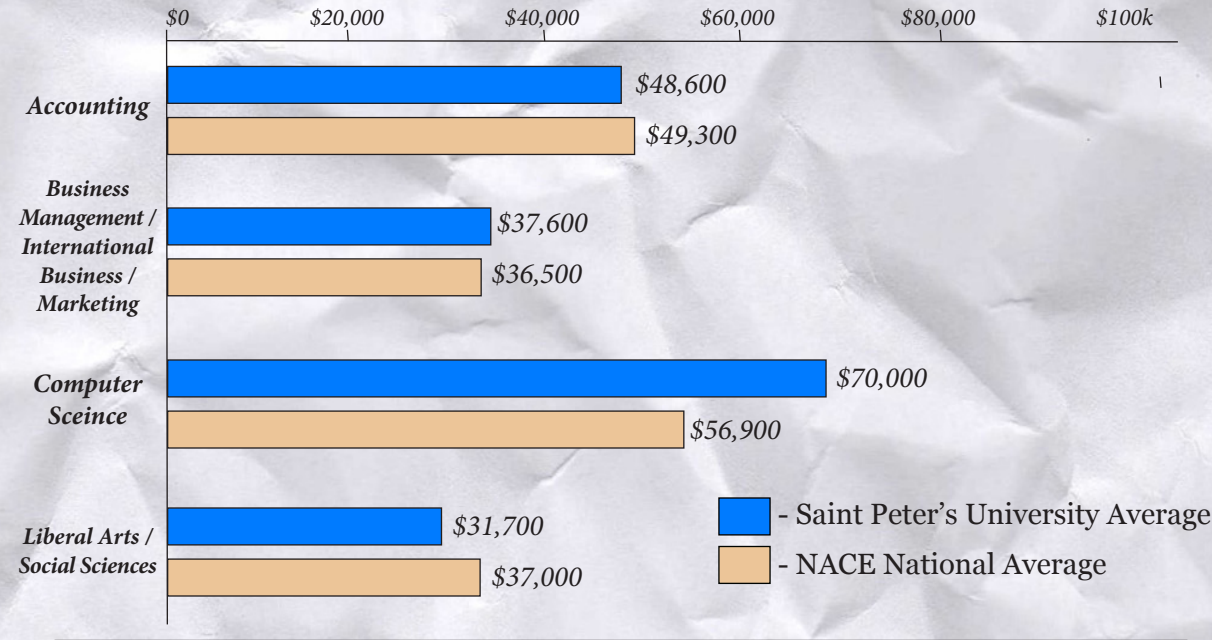
"People don't think it's addicting," said Mohamed Merdan, a sophomore at Saint Peter's. "It's portable, no side effects, it's legal, and you can do tricks with the smoke."

Hookah produces a very thick smoke that people

see [HOOKAH](#) / page 5



## YOU'RE HIRED!



INFOGRAPHIC BY DYLAN SMITH, Data From Class of 2012 Preliminary Salary and Employer Survey

BY TATIANA FERRARO  
*Staff Writer*

A few graduates from the Class of 2012 were fortunate enough to find a full-time job post-graduation, while a few decided that, after many years of school, along with working part-time jobs, they would take some time to soak in their accomplishments as a graduate and have some fun.

"Career services have displayed their expertise and knowledge of the working world," said Greg Fruehwirth,

Class of 2012. "It didn't take long for me to find a job that made me financially stable and emotionally satisfied."

The fear of not finding a job fresh out of college has been growing on students for some time. Some students may not be aware of the opportunities that await them in the right places. One office on campus is devoted to help students find a job after graduation: the Career Service Department at Saint Peter's strives to help students find just the job they are looking for post graduation.

"Well, I didn't job search

right out of graduation," said Michael Krohn from the Class of 2012, "because I had been working since I was 16 and going to school as well. I wanted to take some time to relax."

Michael Krohn now works full-time at Saint Peter's University's office of undergraduate admissions. "I'm an admission counselor. I recruit prospective students and review applications," explained Krohn.

Career services aims to inform students on job opportunities, help develop their

see [HIRED](#) / page 3



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CONVERGENCE The History & Media Conference saw faculty and guests speak on how modern media and history have more in common than people may think. Professor Demillo (Center) of the Communications department and Dr. Surrey (Right) of the Sociology department spoke at the event.

## FROM MICHELLE OBAMA TO LINDSAY LOHAN: HOW HISTORY AND MEDIA CONVERGE

BY YARLEEN HERNANDEZ  
*Staff Writer*

Saint Peter's held the Sixth Annual Media and History Conference titled "Star Struck: Creating and Covering Celebrity" on Thursday, April 4th in Pope Lecture Hall. With a focus on social media and celebrity interviewing, the audience received a variety

of interesting perspectives on social change and today's fast-paced media.

The first panel was "First Ladies: America's Earliest Celebrities" presented by Lisa Burns of Quinnipiac University, which focused on the fame that comes with being a first lady of the U.S.

The second panel involved social media and social change with "#FastandFurious

on #SocialMedia: From Celebrities to Social Change" presented by Professor Ernabel Demillo of the Communications Department and "Technology and Culture" presented by Dr. David Surrey of the Sociology department. Professor Demillo focused her speech on multi-platform storytelling, as well as the

see [CONFERENCE](#) / page 6

## SHOW ME THE MONEY

BY MICHELLE RAGHUNANDAN  
*Staff Writer*

Everyone can remember their first job, for some it was working at the mall, super-market, or maybe some fast food chain. It was a place that you loved or hated, but more often than not it was a job that probably would have paid minimum wage. In the ever changing economy, the minimum wage rate rarely changed. Until now, the President is taking steps to increase the federal minimum wage rate.

President Barack Obama made it clear in the State of the Union address that the minimum wage rate should increase. Obama stated that "no one who works full time should have to live in poverty." He urged the US congress to change the federal minimum wage rate to \$9.00, as right now the current amount for is \$7.25. Legislation to increase the rate has only occurred three times in the last thirty years.

While there are quite a few states that have gone above the standard wage rate, New Jersey is not one of them. In late January Governor Chris Christie veto a bill that would increase the minimum wage.

see [MONEY](#) / page 3

## MORE:

### LEGALIZE ME!: OUR FAILING WAR ON DRUGS AND MARIJUANA

• With debate heating up about the issue of legalization across the country, students share their thoughts on the topic of marijuana.  
**Page 11**

### THE REALITIES OF THE OVERWORKED STUDENT - WORK, CLASS, AND MORE

• Between all of your classes, the two jobs you may hold and other responsibilities, is it worth being overworked?  
**Page 3**

### SO... YOU WANT TO GO TO GRAD SCHOOL?

• Planning to go to grad school once your time at Saint Peter's ends? Jamie Lisanti has 5 tips that can help.  
**Page 5**

## PAY YOUR COLLEGE DEBT IN TRIDENT LAYERS

BY NATALIE CASTILLO  
*Staff Writer*

You can't pay your college debt in Trident Layers and you can't pay your college debt with a minimum wage job either.

According to the Labor Department, 284,000

graduates with at least a bachelor's degree were working minimum waged jobs in 2012; 37,000 of them have advanced degrees. Although this is less than the 327,000 in 2010, it is still double the number in 2007 and up 70% from a decade ago.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics recently reported

a drop in the unemployment rate which is now at 7.6%. So why is it so hard to find a job? Well, the rate is not lower because more jobs have been created. The lowering trend is due to more baby boomers retiring and more people participating in job search.

This affects college students all across America

because six months after they've stopped taking courses is when the bills start coming in the mail and six months is not enough time to save up for four-six years of debt.

People go to college because they want a career, not a job. So when you graduate and you're still getting paid the same wage as a high

school student's summer job, what's the point? Is a college degree the equivalency to a high school diploma? Should you stay in school and avoid your debt or do you go to graduate school to get a Masters or Ph.D. and watch your debt accumulate?

see [DEBT](#) / page 4



The Pauw Wow

since 1933  
pauwwow@pauwwow.com

2641 Kennedy Boulevard  
231 Dinneen Hall  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
(201) 761 - 7378

STAFF

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Rosemarie Driscoll  
*editor@pauwwow.com*
- ONLINE EDITOR,  
LAYOUT ASSISTANT**  
Dylan Smith  
*online@pauwwow.com*
- LAYOUT &  
DESIGN EDITOR**  
Michelle Chalen  
*layout@pauwwow.com*
- MANAGING EDITOR,  
OPINIONS EDITOR**  
Nicholas Mederos  
*oped@pauwwow.com*
- NEWS EDITOR**  
Yarleen Hernandez  
*news@pauwwow.com*
- ARTS &  
LIFESTYLE EDITOR**  
Emily Alequin  
*arts@pauwwow.com*
- SCIENCE &  
TECH EDITOR**  
Prajwal Niraula  
*science@pauwwow.com*
- SPORTS EDITOR**  
Francesca Rizzo  
*sports@pauwwow.com*
- COPY EDITOR**  
Sofia DePierola  
*copy@pauwwow.com*
- PHOTO EDITOR**  
Taty Lopez  
*photos@pauwwow.com*
- FACULTY ADVISOR**  
Ernabel Demillo  
*edemillo@saintpeters.edu*
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F R E E D O M   A N D  
RESPONSIBILITY

A letter from the Editor

My older sister once told me to “Enjoy college, because never again will you have so much freedom with so little responsibility.” While I do really love autonomy, I don’t enjoy a lack of responsibility. I’m lost without a pretty full schedule: six classes per semester and a twenty hour work week. Toss in this newspaper gig, a daily three mile run, and a couple hours hanging out with my partner every night, and there you have my schedule.

I don’t understand the fascination with skipping class to sleep, drinking until you black out, and all the other wonderful talents accredited to college students. And I don’t think I’m alone in this at Saint Peter’s. Most students are too invested in their work to party every night. The average student is riding on upwards of \$20,000 in financial aid, and wouldn’t be able to afford to attend if they lost it. I certainly wouldn’t be.

I hope it’s not just changes at Saint Peter’s, but a shift in the cultural idea of going to college. If a student is going to be buried in debt, they should be leaving with more than a paper degree and four years of partying behind them.

With this issue’s focus on what happens after college, it’s important to remember that what you do at Saint Peter’s could either help you in the future, or weigh you down. I feel confident that I’ll do well after I graduate, thanks to helpful and knowledgeable professors, the wonderful people at the Cooperative Education office, and a chilling terror of unemployment.

The Pauw Wow

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News   Arts and Lifestyle   Opinions   Sports   Science and Technology   Editorial   Variety »   Letters To The Editor

Featured News



Meet The New Girl on Campus:



March 14, 2013 at 9:22 am  
**A Balancing Act – Students Participate in ROTC program at NJIT**



March 14, 2013 at 8:41 am  
**One, Two, Three-PEAT – Women's Track Score MAAC Win**



March 8, 2013 at 6:24 pm  
**Meet The New Girl on Campus: Molly**



March 6, 2013 at 2:08 pm  
**Tricks, Treats and Tuition: Are**

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FOR MORE NEWS  
AND COVERAGE

Our Latest Issue

LIGHTS, CAMERA...

The Pauw Wow's own Faculty Advisor Ernabel Demillo is a veteran New York television broadcaster, who was recently nominated for an Emmy for her work on "Science and U"

Check out student anchors Matt Speckmen and Jessica Hartland in the newest episode of PauwWowTV, out now through the Pauw Wow's official website, PauwWow.com.



Q & A

WITH A PAUW WOW EDITOR

Why is it important to keep consistently updating The Pauw Wow's efforts and ways about doing things? Why does it seem like there's so many changes recently?


To find the answer to such a question, one much simply look at the field of Journalism

today. With the introduction of globalization and new media, Journalism is constantly changing and growing, so The Pauw Wow wants to keep up with it. We feel that it's okay we're figuring out along the way because, really, everyone else's too.

- Dylan Smith, Online Editor

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Make sure you 'like' The Pauw Wow on Facebook to get all the latest news first. Also, once we reach 500 likes on our Facebook page, we'll be giving away a special prize. The catch? You have to be one of the 500 people to have liked us on Facebook to be entered into the giveaway, so get to clicking and like 'The Pauw Wow' on Facebook!



Tweet us at @ThePauwWow with #3PEAT and let us know what you love the most about Saint Peter's Track & Field team. Make sure to include photo from meets that you would like to share online.



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**HIRED** *from page 1*

resumes, and steer them in the direction of obtaining the right job for their futures.

“Not only were they knowledgeable of the real working world, they also were willing to help me revamp my resume,” said James Driscoll from the Class of 2012. “Mr. Fonzo and I sat down one on one, and we got to work until I found my first job. With a huge network of Saint Peter’s graduates in the area, it wasn’t long before we found something suitable.”

Although the process of finding a full-time job isn’t easy, it is a reasonable goal for students when they graduate. Career Services is always available and willing to help students, even when they feel their prospects are entirely hopeless.

“Finding a full time job was a full time job. It was far easier with the people in the Career Services Office,” said Driscoll.

Crescenzo Fonzo has helped students before and after

they have graduated from the University. According to Michael Krohn, Mr. Fonzo worked with him on improving his resume for future jobs.

During a conference call with Crescenzo Fonzo and Sondra Riley, it was made clear that more students need to take advantage of what Career Services has to offer. They highly suggest applying to these services, especially for students who want to strengthen their chances of obtaining jobs when they graduate.

“The earlier they start the better,” emphasizes Sondra Riley of Career Services. “We both work with all levels of students that the co-op and internship offices focus on Graduate internships, part-time, and summer opportunities to help connect students to their future. The sooner the better, it’s never too early.”

The majority of the students Career Services have worked with are seniors. “For the current semester, 57%

of the placements were our senior level students, 27% were juniors, 14% were sophomores, and 3% were freshman,” Sondra Riley said.

Crescenzo Fonzo shared the statistics of students who take advantage of Career Service opportunities.

“Statistically, students that work with any career center have a 70-80% chance of finding something rather than the students who disregard the services.”

This percentage is a huge factor when students are in the pursuit of job hunting, and especially as an undergraduate who’s thirsty for a job when they graduate from university.

“Students really need to be encouraged to use our services as much as possible, the more they use it the better chance they really have of getting something,” he said.

Sondra Riley attested to the fact that competition is an important factor in the hunt for a job, “the competition is so stiff, you’re not only

competing against your fellow Saint Peter’s University students - there are college students everywhere in this area,” she said.

“You have Seton Hall, Fordham, and Montclair State,” said Fonzo. “The students we work with compete very well with students at other schools. We actually give them a more personalized test then some of the other schools, so that’s what really sets us apart.”

“It’s not only the experience that we all have together, but having gone through many recessions and many good economic periods too, but we have a perspective on this. We also have a lot of alumni that have been successful and actually give back to Saint Peter’s in terms of hiring your students that’s a big strand,” added Fonzo.

It is advised that students become experienced with different aspects of the services provided on campus. “As you progress through your

undergraduate education, you recognize the need to get experience before it’s too late,” said Riley.

The figures have improved over the years, according to Fonzo.

“If you asked me 4-5 years ago, it was tougher, but now it’s getting better, but getting better doesn’t mean easier,” he said, followed by a chuckle. “It means that the job market is still competitive, but the students that work with us do very well. We really reflect well on Saint Peter’s as a University, so it makes it a really positive thing,” he concluded.

Statistically speaking, Saint Peter’s University students are able to compete with the national average. Peacocks employed soon after their graduation which reflects uplift in the entry level job market.

# THE OVER-WORKED STUDENT

BY ROSE DRISCOLL  
*Editor-in-Chief*

It is a truth universally acknowledged that college students are going to fall asleep in class sometimes. Professors shouldn’t always be mad about this, though, because these days, students are more likely to have written a paper overnight after working at a job all day than they are to have stayed up all night partying.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, 40% of full-time college students ages 16 to 24 are also working at least one part time job. At private 4-year institutions like Saint Peter’s, 36% of full time students are employed.

Among full-time students, 17 percent work 20–34 hours per week. To put this in perspective, there are 168 hours in a week, and a full-time Saint Peter’s student is taking between 12 and 18 hours of classes.

One such student is Alexis Butler, a sophomore psychology student and member of the dance team. Alexis works two jobs: one at the Saint Peter’s Admissions office and one at a clothing store in her hometown of Piscataway, New Jersey.

“On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, I have class from 9am-2pm, work from 2pm-4:30pm, and then a short break before dance practice at 7. During my break, I start my homework and have dinner. I practice

from 7-9:45, then come back and do more homework. On Tuesdays and Fridays, I have class from 8am-10:45, then work at 11am-4:30pm. On Tuesdays, I have a break from 4:30-7 and I do homework, relax, and have dinner before [dance] practice. Practice is from 7-9:45 as well. On Fridays, I work in admissions from 11-1 then go home to work an evening shift at the Children’s Place.”

Students might obviously feel pressure to work a job or two while also taking classes because, as the Project on Student Debt reports that the average New Jersey college student will graduate with \$27,610 in debt.

However, this doesn’t explain why a student might join a team, a club, or take on a leadership position outside of classes. Students like Butler are looking beyond the financial aspects of having a full schedule.

“I like to stay busy and challenge myself,” Butler says. “If my day only consisted of class, I would have too much time on my hands and that will make me lazy. Being active is the best thing as a college student [and] it prepares you for the real world. There is never free time when you have a career.”

According to the American Psychological Association, “Millenials,” or people ages 18 to 33, are more stressed than members of any other age demographic. This is attributed mostly to the difficulty of finding a job post-graduation, or of working more than



© ROSE DRISCOLL  
WORKING HARD Students, including Alexis Butler, working at the Admissions Office at Saint Peter’s.

one job to make ends meet.

The APA’s survey, Stress in America, states that on average, Millenials, both before and after receiving a bachelor’s or other degree, experience stress on a level of 5.4 out of 10. The national average, for contrast, is 4.9.

However, some students seem to be thriving despite the high pressure and full schedule. For example, Laura Reinhart, a junior honors student, student government official, member of the volleyball team, also interns at Powerzone Volleyball in Denville, NJ as their Recruiting Coordinator.

“I do it all because, at the end of the day, I love it,” Reinhart says. “I may complain about not having time, being tired, or just being overwhelmed in general, but I wouldn’t have it any other way. . . . My college experience has been great because I’ve gotten involved and actually stepped outside of my comfort zone.”

She describes her schedule as split between interning and going to class: “Today, for example, I had practice from 6:30 to 8:30, some down time to grab coffee, take a shower and do some homework. I was at my internship from 11:00 to 4, I coached two private lessons from 4 to 6:30, then I had my adults practice 6:30 to 8:30, and I got back to Saint Peter’s around 9:30. On a class day, like tomorrow, I have practice 6:30 to 8:30, class 11 to 5, travel team practice 6:30 to 8:30, then I used to play in a league from 8:30 to 11 but it finished.”

To students like Butler and Reinhart, career preparation trumps some other activities that most young adults would hesitate to give up.

“The only sacrifice I have made with my busy schedule is neglecting my friends. Sometimes it’s hard to balance friendships when I’m busy, but I try my best to keep them strong,” says Butler.

Reinhart agrees. “The important aspect about sacrifice is that you only give up

what you’re willing to lose. I’ll give up an afternoon nap or going out one night with friends because I know I have that paper due or a tournament the next day I have to coach. I have my priorities in check.”

Although they might struggle to maintain balance, Reinhart also feels capable of this task. “I wouldn’t say I have a lot of spare time but I don’t feel like I don’t have a life at the same time,” she says. “I feel that I’m really good at managing my team and knowing when I need down time and when I need to work.”

The accepted attitude among students like Butler and Reinhart is that notoriously tough job markets necessitate hard work.

“I may not get to take as many naps as I’d like or relax as much as I want but what I’m getting out of everything I’m doing is so much more important to me,” says Reinhart. “I’ll sleep when I’m dead.”



© MICHELLE RAGHUNANDAN

**MONEY** *from page 1*

Yet he stated he would approve a bill that would increase the wages over the next few years. Across the Hudson New York is taking measures to increase wages using as similar method. New York State Senate voted on bill 9148; which is a bill to increase the low wage. The increase would start at \$8.25 gradually going up to \$9.00 over the next three years. According to a poll conducted by Quinnipiac University, 80 percent of New York voters support raising the state’s minimum wage.

Last month alumni and current students alike attended the annual Career Fair at Saint Peters University; in the hopes of getting an internship or job. Some students such as Aileny Santos, was there to meet employers and take advantage of the networking opportunity. “The college fair is a way for me to get my name out “says

Aileny. Aileny noticed that her friends, many whom are full time students are also working long hours at low wage jobs. “Employers only want the best, it’s getting harder to meet the qualifications that today’s jobs requires. Aileny who is a junior, has worked different jobs ranging from her aunt’s hair salon to a top finance firm. Aileny say she is looking for a job that will be more than a source of income but help her with her career path.

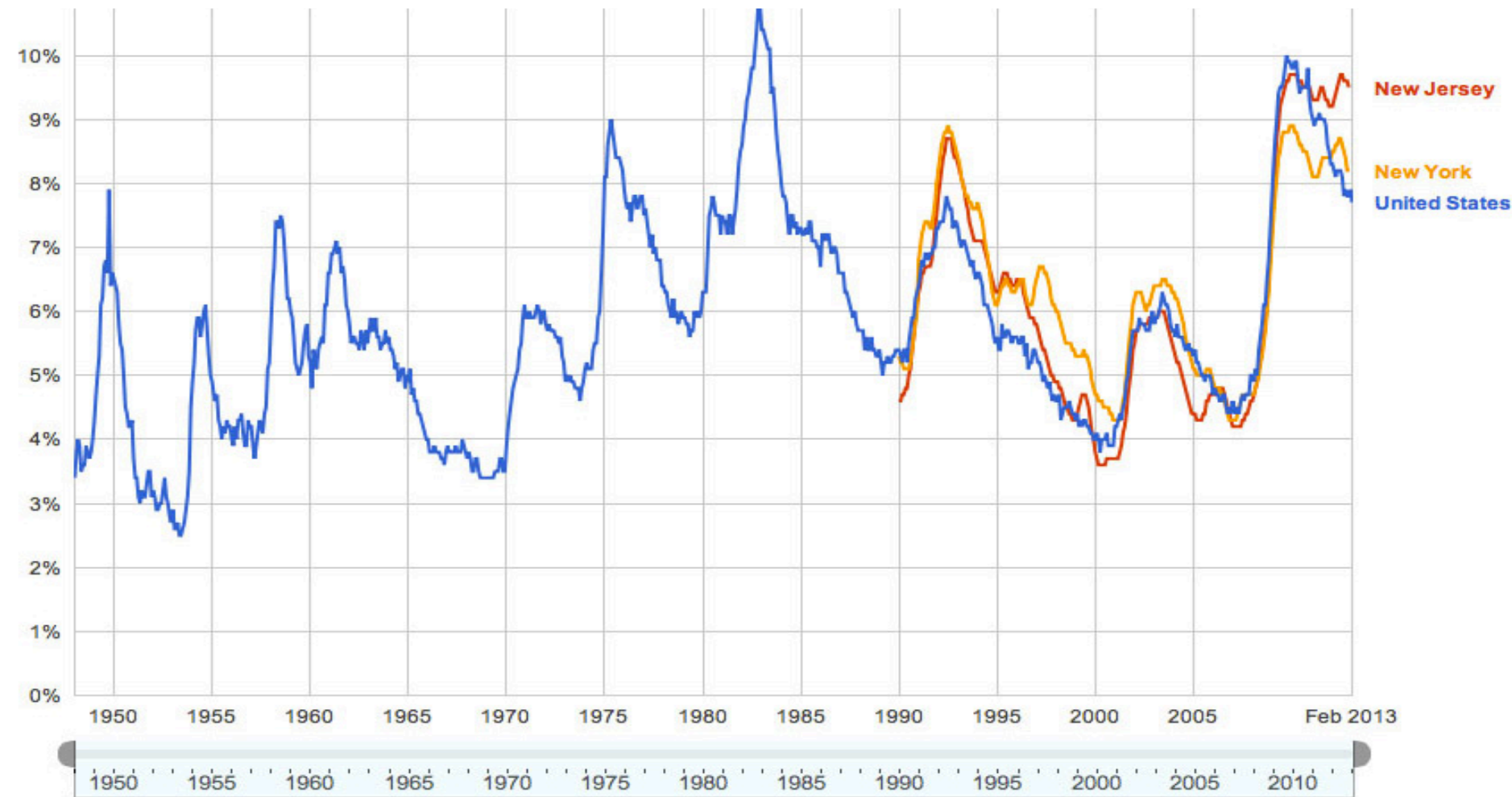
Many college students hope to find a job in their area of study. Yet there aren’t enough jobs for everyone. Some students may need to pay back loans, so working at a job that pays minimum wage might be their only option to avoid deferring payments. The Wall Street Journal reported last year an estimated 284,000, Americans with college degrees were working at minimum wage jobs. While the

cost of living and employment statistics are changing the federal minimum wage remains stagnant.

Seth Harris, the Labor Secretary met with workers who are barely making it by with a low wage income. Since the State of the Union Address, Seth has been touring through U.S cites speaking with low income workers. President Obama is optimistic that minimum wage rate will increase to \$9.00 by 2015. For a teenager the pay increase may not mean as much too full time college student or adult who view the increase as a means to a better livelihood.

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Data from U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Last updated: Mar 13, 2013

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STATE VS NATIONAL The current unemployment rates of New Jersey and New York compared to the rest of the country.

For some employers, having a Masters or Ph.D. means you are too qualified and for others, college credits are not enough experience. But how

determined to graduate and are doing everything they can possibly do to impress their future employers; but what most of colleges students do

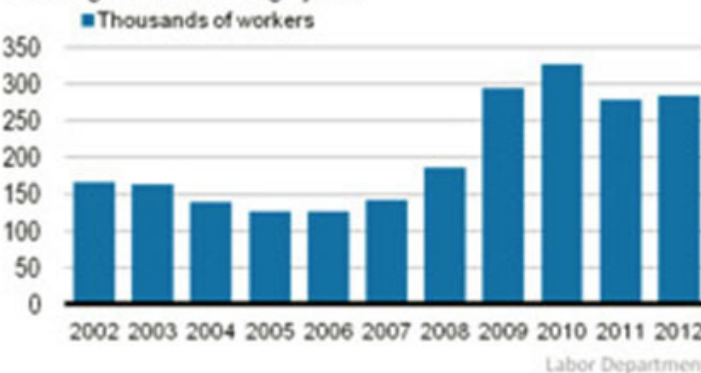
Pablo Orantes, the Associate Director of the Financial Aid Department at Saint Peter's University.

By logging onto the site, students will realize that their loans are serviced by one of five companies the government uses to collect back loan money. Students can even make payments to the website or set up the autopay option and the government can offer incentives.

"A lot of students don't realize that if their loan gains interest while they're in school, that by the time they finish, their loan amount [due] is more than they borrowed due to the interest that has been accrued," said Mr. Orantes, "So we usually recommend students to at least

### Major Letdown

The recession has left many more college graduates working minimum-wage jobs.



Labor Department

high enough to pay their loan amounts, they need to contact the company in order to get a deferment or forbearance that will help students either lower their payments or stop it for a certain amount of time," said Mr. Orantes.

income or forgive any remaining debt after 20 years (10 years for those in public service). This new law is a little too late for most, but it even took the President of the United States almost 9 years to pay off all of his own student loans.

Failure to pay student loans on time or not paying them at all can result in late fees, collection fees and bad credit score. All of these consequences can keep you from buying a car, getting a credit card, paying mortgage for a home or even getting a job.

A diploma can symbolize the amount of knowledge a person has, but it does not automatically add a bunch of convenient cash to your bank account. The earlier and the more you save up now while in college, the less stressful it will be to pay loans later on.

"A lot of students don't realize their loan gains interest while they're in school, their loan amount [due] is more than they borrowed due to the interest that has been accrued."



© NATALIE CASTILLO

can you gain experience if you cannot get hired?

The Congressional Budget reported that 3.9 million workers who should be in the labor force are not because of the weakness in the job market. If that number was added to the employment rate, it would be up to 9.8%.

Many students are so

not know how to do is track their student loans.

"This website [The National Student Loan Database System] (www.NSLDS.ed.gov) will give each student the most up to date information on all their loans from day one of their college education and it includes loans borrowed at any school," said

pay the interest on the loan while they are in school.

In many cases, a student will not receive a bill till after that six month grace period which is why it is important to know the amount of your loans and the interest beforehand.

"If students are unemployed or not earning an income

To ensure that Americans can afford student loan payments, the Health Care and Educational Reconciliation Act gives student borrowers more options to pay off their loans. Under this new law, students enrolling in college in 2014 and after can limit payments to 10% of





# STUDENTS REACT:

## The Issues Around Student Debt

BY NATALIE CASTILLO  
*Staff Writer*

When it comes to the actual topic of paying back student loans, many people end up divided between two ways to eventually dig themselves out of the massive hole of debt they’ve found themselves in: pay now or pay later, once they graduate. Below, two students and their plans to pay back their debt is examined:

**NAME:** Lusmary Jimenez  
**GRADE:** Sophomore  
**MAJORS:** Psychology and Criminal Justice  
**WILL GRADUATE:** 2015

**Pauw Wow:** If you have taken out student loans, what is the estimated amount per year?

**Lusmary Jimenez:** “The estimated amount ranges from \$2,000- \$2,500 per year depending on how much financial aid I receive; this is only in loans. However, I also pay about \$700 throughout the year so I wouldn’t have to get a unsubsidized loan.”

**PW:** How much do you think your debt will be by the time you graduate?

**LB:** “As an undergraduate, my debt would be about \$8,000.”

**PW:** Do you think the school does a good job of teaching students about the dangers of taking out too many loans?

**LB:** No, I had to do my own research in order to find out the dangers of certain loans and how it will affect you in the long run.

**PW:** How do you plan to pay off loans/debt (while in school or after graduation)?

**LB:** I plan and have begun payment plans with my loan service in order to minimize my debt towards the end of graduation.

**NAME:** Claudia Loh  
**GRADE:** Freshmen  
**MAJOR:** Undecided  
**WILL GRADUATE:** 2016

**Pauw Wow:** If you have taken out student loans, what is the estimated amount per year?

**Claudia Loh:** “\$10,000 Per year.”

**PW:** How much do you think your debt will be by the time you graduate?

**CL:** “Around \$40,000”

**PW:** What resources do you know of to check your loans and estimated debt?

**CL:** “FAFSA”

**PW:** Do you think the school does a good job of teaching students about the dangers of taking out too many loans?

**CL:** “No, they really don’t tell you much about the dangers. They are more interested in helping you get money, which isn’t a terrible thing, but they really don’t inform you that taking out a loan is a big deal.”

**PW:** How do you plan to pay off loans/debt (while in school or after graduation)?

**CL:** “I plan to pay off my loans/debts after graduation by saving while I am still in school and paying it off slowly after graduation.”

# SO... YOU WANT TO GO TO GRAD SCHOOL?

BY JAMIE LISANTI  
*Staff Writer*

Whether you are a junior, senior, or just thinking about your future, pursuing an education beyond an undergraduate degree is an option for many students. A number of students choose to apply to prestigious universities to obtain masters or doctoral degrees. Unlike applying to colleges while in high school, applying to graduate school means you will be competing for spots with other college graduates, as well as a diverse group of adults.

In order to be competitive in your graduate school applications, it is crucial to consider the following five factors throughout your academic career.

Grades. This may seem like an obvious requirement for a graduate school application; however, it is important to understand exactly what you’ll need, and what you won’t. The common misconception among students, especially those who do not currently attend an Ivy League or highly renowned school, is that in order to be accepted, students must have a perfect 4.0 GPA. While it doesn’t hurt to have a flawless grade point average, most schools are not going to make a decision based solely on this factor. That being said, your grades still have to be average or above average, especially in courses corresponding to your major, but don’t fret if you slip up here or there. As long as you show your ability to focus

and be successful academically, admissions will take notice of your efforts.

Test scores. Depending on the graduate program you are applying to, some schools do not ask for any specific tests, while others will require you to take graduate school admission exams, such as the GRE, GMAT, LSAT, or MCAT. Just as your SAT and ACT scores were quite important when applying to undergraduate school, these standardized test scores will also determine your future as a graduate student. High test-scores on these exams can reinforce an application lacking a strong GPA. Because these exams are usually tailored to a specific field of study, such as the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT), they are designed to give admission committees a good idea of your knowledge of a particular subject. For those students who did not attend an Ivy League undergraduate school, these tests provide an opportunity for admissions officers to compare students from different schools, where grading standards and curriculums can vary.

Internships and work experience. A graduate school application is very similar to a job application. In addition to your education and background, the admissions office wants to know what kind of experience you have in a particular field. Remember, older applicants who are not college graduates will also be in the applicant pool, so it is important to make sure you have also gained knowledge outside

*HOOKAH from page 1*

sometimes manipulate into cool designs in the air. However, this thick smoke may carry some health risks. If you ask most people, they think hookah is a lot healthier than smoking cigarettes, but they may be wrong.

According the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Hookah smokers are at risk for the same kinds of diseases as are caused by cigarette smoking, including oral cancer, lung cancer, stomach cancer, cancer of the esophagus, reduced lung function, and decreased fertility.”

The charcoal that is used to heat the tobacco in the hookah device produces high levels of carbon monoxide and emits harmful carcinogens. However, charcoal is not needed nor used in a hookah pen. Hookah pens use electricity to heat up the shisha, so the smoke exhaled is a lot safer.

People typically smoke hookah from a hookah device before hookah pens. A hookah device is usually shared among friends as they pass around the hose and inhale. Infectious diseases can be passed around this way since each person’s mouth has touched the hose.

Some people use plastic caps to prevent that from occurring, while others do not. Even using a plastic cap, however, is

not always safe due to the fact that germs migrate. The second someone puts their mouth on a hookah hose, their germs get in the hose.

Since people have their own personal hookah pens now, sharing infectious diseases is being prevented, unless you



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decide to share your hookah pen, which is not the smartest thing to do.

The main danger with hookah pens is that people tend to smoke by themselves and smoke a lot more often than those who smoke from big hookah devices. And any smoke that is inhaled into the body can do some sort of damage.

However, there is a limitation on hookah pens. A typical hookah pen only allows five hundred to seven hundred pulls so, when you are done, you have to buy a new one. If you smoke hookah a lot, you will probably find yourself spending about ten dollars a week, which adds up after a

# STUDENTS LOOK TOWARD FUTURES AT CAREER FAIR

BY JESSE KICKEY  
*Contributing Writer*

Students were looking to their futures at the recent Saint Peter’s University’s Career Fair. With the Labor Department reporting current national unemployment rates to be at 7.7%, it is never too early to begin searching for a career.

“I figured I’d come and browse and see what is interesting,” said John Meys, a freshman who did not yet declare his major.

At 11am, the fair was not necessarily buzzing although, as it became closer to noon, the din picked up as the number of students visiting the fair increased. A large amount of younger students were at the fair, and they appeared to be a bit shy as many did not immediately approach the recruiters, but rather stayed along the sides of the gym.

“I actually just arrived at the fair,” said Marcel G., a sophomore business major. “I figured I would just come and check it out and look around for a bit.”

For the most part, students appeared optimistic about getting their dream career, as a recent Bureau of Labor statistic revealed that the unemployment rate for those with a Bachelor of Arts degree was 5.8% – however, not all students felt this way.

“It seemed that no one was actually hiring, they just kept saying to go to their website – but why would I even need to go to their site if they’re not hiring,” remarked Anthony C., a junior business major.

There were a total of 56 companies scheduled to be at the fair – and the gym was visibly filled with row after row of tables with company recruiters at them.

“This is our first time here and the attendance seems to be now picking up,” said Bed Bath & Beyond recruiter Scott McKenzie, who also remarked that they were seeking both junior and senior students for “jobs and internships.”

The fair featured a wide range of companies ranging



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from banks and bakeries to schools and law enforcement agencies. Tables were filled with interested students the entire time – although at least a few tables were noticeably vacant of both students and

was sponsored by Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Hudson City Savings Bank – both of which were also on hand to talk to interested students.

“For the most part, this seems to be a good turnout,” said Hudson City Savings Bank representative Richard Zaborowski.

Zaborowski did note however that while he received a good amount of resumes, he wasn’t too sure if any would even be hired. Just a couple of months ago, it was announced that the bank would be merging with another.

“We’re actually merging now with M&T Bank,” said Zaborowski. “Due to that, we are really only looking for full-time employment – no part-time openings or internships are currently available. Ideally, we prefer juniors or seniors.”

Despite this, optimism still seemed to be present in the room. There was a sense of hope as many appeared to believe that their dream job was only an interview away.



© MEGHAN IANIRO

recruiter. One of these was the Jesuits. The fair ran smoothly though as many recruiters commented.

“We’re pleasantly surprised with the turnout actually,” noted Baked by Melissa recruiters Derek Burks and Katie Cannell. “Right now, we are looking for either part-time employees or graduating seniors to fill a full-time management role.”

Students were all dressed up as they walked around, table to table, handing out their resumes to those companies they wished to work for.

The Spring 2013 Career Fair



*GRAD from page 5*

of the classroom to remain competitive. Internships, work-studies, jobs, and research studies are all examples of experiences that will strengthen your application. Demonstrating that you have already gained valuable experience in a particular field will show your interest in pursuing a career, as well as add to the complete package schools are looking for.

Letters of recommendation. Most graduate school programs ask for a minimum of three letters of recommendation, and it is important to choose these individuals carefully. The letters of recommendation provide the admissions office with a different viewpoint of an applicant that cannot found anywhere else. A faculty member, professor, sports coach, or a manager are all potential candidates – just be certain the letter will be about a positive experience. Don’t wait until the last minute before the application is due, and provide each individual with all of the necessary information and materials to make the process as smooth as possible.

Personal statement and other essays. In my opinion, this is the part of a graduate school application where you can make the most impact and is considered very crucial. It is in this section that an applicant is given the opportunity

to speak directly to the admissions officers about his or herself. In a personal statement, it is critical to not only describe your personality and unique attributes, but to also demonstrate how these characteristics fit into the program and the school, all while remaining under the word count! A personal statement takes time to develop and can’t be written overnight, but when it is complete it should be a true reflection of your personality, education, and career goals. The additional essays that some schools require are also an opportunity to explain other parts of the application, such as a low GPA or a particular work experience, and to demonstrate your enthusiasm for your field of study.

Overall, the key to a dazzling graduate school application is to distinguish yourself from other applicants while demonstrating your passion and interest to further pursue an education in a particular subject, at that specific school. Don’t get discouraged by the number of pages or length of an application, or by other people who are also applying. Have confidence in yourself and competence in your abilities and an acceptance letter may be sitting in your mailbox before you know it!

*CONFERENCE from page 1*

connection between fans and celebrities. She used the popular television show *Pretty Little Liars* as a key example of multi-platform storytelling with fans going on fashion blogs to imitate the character’s styles, using instagram, twitter and facebook to connect with the stars and live tweeting when the episodes air.

Dr. Surrey’s presentation on technology and culture described society’s evolution through technology and the way we have transformed social media into social uniforms. He also emphasized the need to be connected pointing out that most of us can’t go a day without our phones.

“Cell phones are part of our bodies,” he said during his speech.

Following the afternoon keynote address, given by Academic Dean Velda Goldberg, was the third panel of the afternoon titled “Movie Stars and Politicians: The Pleasures and Perils of the Interview” presented by Professor Meryl Gordon of New York University.

During her presentation, Professor Gordon described her experiences with celebrities and politicians.

In a later interview, Professor Gordon imparted advice to aspiring journalists.

“Do as much writing as you possibly can as an undergrad,” said Gordon. “Try to write for

the school paper, try to get an internship, try to take classes that involve writing interesting stories because we always look for talent and interest and we take people who have no experience whatsoever but at the same time, it helps if you could show that you really care.”

As a professor, she also emphasized the importance of going to graduate school.

“That traditional path in journalism is gone,” added Gordon. “It used to be, you started small and so I feel like this current environment going to grad school can be enormously helpful in terms of learning, getting the contacts, having the background, I always tell people when they apply--do both. Apply to me but if you can get a job, that’s great. But if you can’t get a job, there’s a lot things that you can learn with us.”

The final panel of the afternoon, “Celebrities: Who Decides?”, was presented by two Saint Peter’s students - Blake Boles representing the communications major and Laura Reinhart representing history. They covered everything from Fatty Arbuckle and Ingrid Bergman to Lindsay Lohan and Honey Boo Boo who serve excellent examples of how the media can make or destroy careers.

“The focus of my speech was on Ingrid Bergman and how the media essentially made, destroyed, and rehabilitated her career within a twenty year period,” said Reinhart.

“I don’t think people realize how much media affects us. We see so many advertisements daily and its almost like its natural. We idolize celebrities and when they do something sinful, such as Bergman cheating on her husband, we almost act like it has happened to us. I think its important to look at a topic that is relevant to people today and I think the career of Bergman does just that.”

The students emphasized the importance of taking back control from the media and giving it back to the audience, and to also realize how harmful it is to idolize the likes of Justin Bieber and Kim Kardashian.

“There’s enough content out there that you can turn off what you don’t like and find something else of quality that isn’t pushed necessarily by the massive media corporation,” said Boles. “You can’t control anything that is global and I’d be hesitant to stop someone on the other side of the planet from liking Justin Bieber.”

Dr. Walker, Associate professor of Communications, shared the same sentiment yet felt that the media was not the culprit but instead, the audience is to blame.

“Everybody says they hate [them], but they have a million views,” she said. “It isn’t big media, it’s us.”

“I can’t impose my beliefs; however, I do have the right to shut it off,” said Boles.

LIFESTYLE

THE NEW FLIRTY INTERFACE

BY MICHELLE CHALEN  
*Layout Editor*

A new mobile dating application called ‘Tinder’ is the new flirtation platform that is becoming increasingly popular among college students. Up until now, there has never been an application that combined flirting and an online “dating game.”

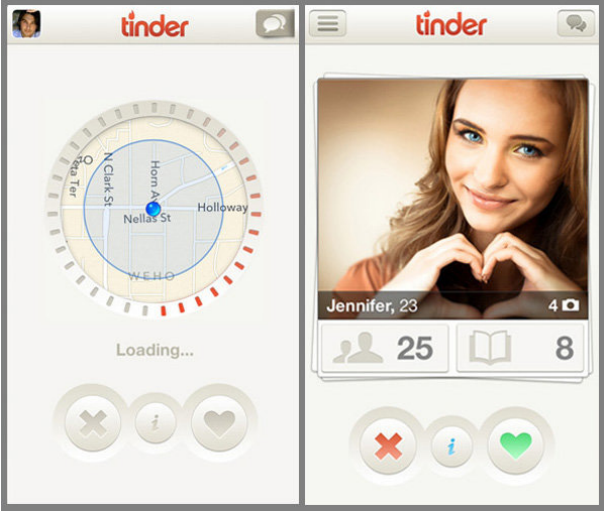
The Tinder “experience” is designed to “be familiar and emulate the way we interact in real life [yet] digitally reproduced, enhanced, and made mobile,” according to the Tinder site.

After signing up for the mobile application, Tinder users set their gender,

location, and sexual orientation. Users then swipe through profile pictures and tap the green heart to “like” what they see or tap the red “x” if they don’t.

Every time the app user “likes” a person’s picture, the other person receives a notification of a “match” and the app opens a private chat room so the two users can get to know each other. Some people use the app to make friends and not just to meet a potential match.

“It’s a little creepy, but a good way to meet new people and socialize with people



outside of your own college,” said Tiffany Hansen, a sophomore.

Tinder is not an online dating platform like Match.com, E-Harmony, Black People

Meet, or Christian Mingle, that require the user to pay money in order to sign up.

“Tinder is not necessarily taken as serious as those other websites since it’s free to subscribe,” said Julio Herrera. “[A membership to] E-Harmony you pay for because the person is probably seeking something serious.” These dating websites use information put in by the user and Tinder uses Facebook as the source of information to match singles.

Although Tinder requires the user to connect through Facebook, no information will

be published on a users’ page. The app solely uses Facebook’s information to match singles based on your friends’ friends so you do not need to worry about someone you know coming across your Tinder profile.

“I just don’t really think the whole online dating is my thing and, now that Tinder is becoming popular, it makes me think what ridiculous app can be thought of using your information without you knowing next,” said Anthony Pizaro. “Now Tinder being able to find you a match by using your Facebook - now that, is something we should think more about.”

ARTS

DROP THE BOOK, GRAB SOME POPCORN!

BY EMILY ALEQUIN  
*Arts Editor*

Once studying’s out of the way, the finals have passed, and most textbooks have been sold back for a lesser amount than what they were purchased for, summer will finally

be here! Whether you decide to go on vacation, stay at home, or go right back to Saint Peter’s for summer classes, you’ll still have a good amount of free time to yourself at some point, so why not spend some of it at the movies? This summer is packed with premieres of long-awaited films, sequels and prequels, and they’re all spread out through the heated months from May to August. The films listed below are just a few of what moviegoers can expect out of their summer.

1. *Iron Man 3* (May 3rd)  
Continuing from the events in *The Avengers*, *Iron Man 3* connects what happened in New York to this now more vulnerable Tony Stark. After the chaos at NY, Tony feels haunted; he is unable to sleep, has nightmares and now a new enemy has emerged: The Mandarin, a genius scientist with supernatural abilities that he has gained from ten

rings of power. Tony’s life is completely coming apart and he’ll have to fight to gain it all back and learn what it truly means to be Iron Man.

2. *The Great Gatsby* (May 10th)

An adaption of the novel by F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby* is the story of Nick Carraway, a newcomer to New York who meets the very wealthy and very prominent Jay Gatsby. Gatsby throws wild and lavish parties every night in his mansion and seems to be known by at least half the people of New York, but Gatsby is also a man of secrets, obsessions and desires. Nick Carraway is soon lost in the tides of all the madness that surrounds Gatsby and his past, and it seems like all of it might just end in havoc.

3. *Star Trek: Into Darkness*

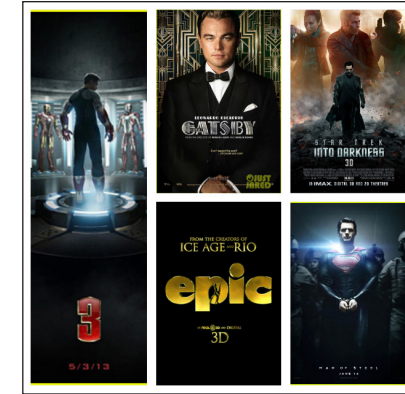
(May 17th)

Captain Kirk and his crew of the USS Enterprise return home to discover that Starfleet has been destroyed by an evil from within the organization and the world has been thrown into chaos. Now the man-hunt is on to find the person responsible for this destruction and the ultimate game of sacrifice, loss, struggle and perseverance begins.

4. *Epic* (May 24th)  
Another tale of good vs evil in a magical and wonderous forest. Based on a children’s book, *The Leaf Men and the Brave Good Bugs*, by William Joyce, who is the same creator of *Rise of the Guardians*. In *Epic*, a young girl named Mary Katherine lives with her father in a home just outside of a vast forest. Her father speaks of tiny guardians that live in the forest and protect it against

evil, but Mary Katherine isn’t so sure if she believes him or not. One night, her father doesn’t return from one of his walks through the forest, so she goes searching for him just as a storm coming. In the forest, she notices a falling of leaves that have begun to glow and, when she catches one of them, she suddenly shrinks and later meets the guardians of the forest her father spoke of. Mary Katherine now has the find a way to return home in her real size, while also trying to help the guardians defend their world against evil.

5. *Man of Steel* (June 14th)  
Following the traditional and well-known story of the iconic hero Superman, *Man of Steel* tells the tale of a child sent to Earth when his home



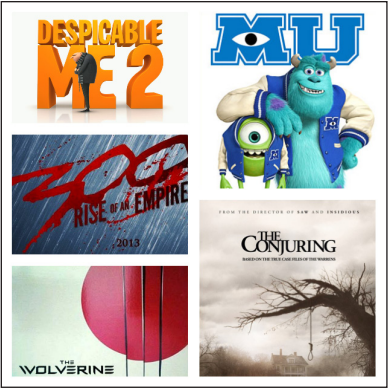
ly be here! Whether you decide to go on vacation, stay at



FILM from page 6

planet is being destroyed. The child lands on Earth and is found by a couple in Kansas. As he grows up, the young boy realizes how different he is because of his superhuman strength and powers. Later, when he is in his twenties, he is simply known as Clark Kent, the young journalist who is quiet and shy, but soon evil begins to threaten the planet he has come to call his new home, and he must rise to protect it.

6. *Monsters University* (June 21st)  
Anyone who remembers watching *Monsters Inc.* back in 2001 when they were younger remembers the story of how two monster best friends, James P. Sullivan (or ‘Sully’) and Mike Wazowski, faced the terrifying, 2-year old killing-machine named



‘Boo.’ While fans expected the sequel of *Monsters Inc.* to focus on continuing the story of Boo when she is older, *Monsters University* far from that. As the title suggests, *Monsters University* is a prequel to the original movie, taking place 10 years before, and follows the story of how Mike and Sully met in college at the University of Fear. After learning that they are both majoring in ‘scaring’, Mike and Sully start a rivalry with

one another about who can graduate at the top of their class.  
7. *Despicable Me 2* (July 3rd)  
Gru and his minions return in this surprising sequel. A new supervillain, who goes simply by the name ‘Eduardo’ (voiced by Al Pacino), starts to pose a threat and soon Gru is recruited by the Anti-Villain League to help stop Eduardo. And, before you think that the sequels end here, there is already another movie in production titled *Minions* and will tell the origin story of the short and yellow assistants to Gru’s “shenanigans.” The movie, *Minions*, will be released in 2014.  
8. *The Conjuring* (July 19th)  
It wouldn’t be summer with at least one horror movie, would it? The usual elements exist in this film; an old farm house, creepy birds flocking

and flying into windows, scary little girls who see everything and try to warn the adults. When the family living in this farmhouse begin to suspect there may be an evil entity living with them, they hire paranormal investigators Ed and Lorraine Warren, but even the investigators might not be able to handle this case. As the hauntings become increasingly violent and terrifying, they begin to realize this is the most dangerous case they have ever encountered.  
9. *The Wolverine* (July 26th)  
The X-Men have disbanded and Wolverine is once again feeling isolated and forgotten. This time, the adventure takes place in modern day Japan, where Wolverine meets an old friend, faces an enemy from the past, and learns that his immortality is now being threatened. He’ll have to battle

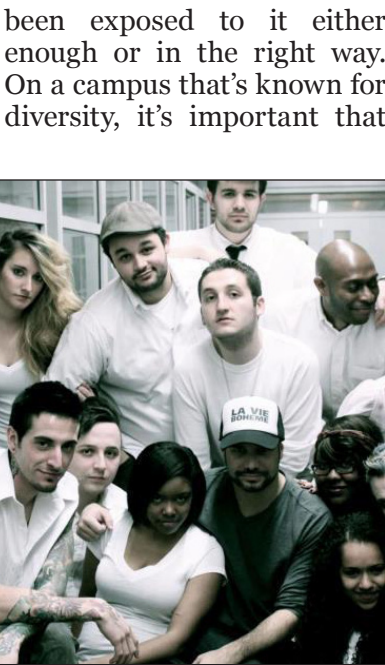
samurai, yakuza and his inner struggles.  
10. *300: Rise of an Empire* (August 2nd)  
There hasn’t been much information released about this film yet. It’s a prequel to the 2006 film, ‘300’, of course, and it follows the origins of Xerxes, the nemesis from the first movie, and his quest for gaining “godliness.” *300: Rise of an Empire* will take place on the battlefields of Greece and features more action, more hostility and even more bloodshed.  
If these films aren’t enough to satisfy your tastes, then there are even more movies to come once the fall and winter months arrive. Sequels to *Thor*, *The Hobbit*, and *The Hunger Games* are set to release all before next year, but, for now, let’s focus on the summer blockbusters.

PAYING THE ‘RENT’ - ARGUS EYES DRAMA SOCIETY TACKLE A THEATRE CLASSIC

BY FRANCESCA RIZZO  
Sports Editor

Saint Peter’s University’s drama club Argus Eyes has a knack for taking on big productions and this year is no different. The cast is eager to debut their latest production, the world renowned show, *RENT*.  
*RENT* is the story of a group of young friends living in the Lower East Side of Manhattan during the end of the 80’s. Like many city residents, the collective of characters are starving artists just looking to get by and, as one could say, pay the rent. However, they are shadowed by the HIV/AIDS epidemic of the time, which impacts their lives on a daily basis.  
The cast is being led by director Alex Perez. This is his third production at Saint Peter’s after directing *Hairspray* last year and *Boeing Boeing* this past fall. Perez has plenty of experience in the theatrical arts.  
“I have been directing/choreographing for about 20 years and have directed over 80 productions in NYC, off Broadway, Regional, London, Scotland, and in New Jersey theaters as well as colleges, universities and high schools,” explained Perez. “I am also a performer and actor with film, television, off Broadway and Broadway experience.”  
With all of these outstanding credentials, Perez is looking forward to presenting Saint Peter’s University with his cast’s production of *RENT*.

“*RENT* is in my lifeblood,” said Perez. “I have performed and directed a few incarnations regionally and in other venues over the last 17 years it has been out there. It has and still creates very poignant memories and valuable lessons for all audiences and teaches the overall messages of love and acceptance.”  
Perez is not the only one who shares such a deep passion for *RENT*. Sophomore cast member Meghan Ianiro recollects on her first encounter with *RENT* and how it has impacted her life.  
“As dramatic as it may sound, *RENT* has completely changed me for the better and I speak for many people when I say that the show has literally saved lives,” explained Ianiro. “If you’re going through struggles or having trouble finding yourself, *RENT* is like that hug you get from a friend that lets you know that everything will be okay.”  
*RENT* tackles topics such as HIV/AIDS, sexuality, and drug use, which may seem surprising to be featured in a play being presented at a Jesuit institution. However, they are issues that the cast feels *RENT* deals with realistically and that audiences shouldn’t be afraid to be exposed to.  
“I feel that it’s perfectly reasonable for a Jesuit institution to put on shows that may be a bit more racy or controversial,” stated Ianiro. “I feel like the main reason people are so uncomfortable with certain things is because they haven’t



© ARGUS EYE DRAMA SOCIETY

been exposed to it either enough or in the right way. On a campus that’s known for diversity, it’s important that students experience diversity in every aspect.”  
“At the end of the day, this is a story, a story that needs to be told,” continued Perez. “Like many stories that have been handed down through time and misinterpreted by many, at least this story is a real story based on Jonathan Larson’s life and friends that he had lost to AIDS. It speaks volumes of truth, but shows the strength and struggles of a community trying to survive a hurdle through hope and survival. It also educates the audience about tolerance, love and acceptance of all people, which is rooted in all of Jesus’ teachings, isn’t it? Jesus taught us to love. Not hate or discriminate anyone.”  
With such a heavy story being told, the cast finds it important to lean on one

another for support and to make the most out of their time together throughout the production. Perez describes his cast as “giving, accepting, and vulnerable.”  
He continues on, saying, “These three qualities they have attained through this process have allowed them to accept the material with an open mind and heart. Without these qualities, you cannot do *RENT*. You need these qualities in order for your show to find its resonance and importance. They have all been so energized and I am hoping they take with them not only the memories of the whole process, but the life lessons they have learned and hopefully they will pass that on to everyone they touch.”  
“When you’re doing shows, especially a show like *RENT* where some of the main themes are love and friendship, it’s extremely important to have a close-knit cast,” added Ianiro. “Of course you get to know your cast mates during rehearsals and while building the set, but we’re not even just cast mates anymore, we’re best friends. We’ll all be texting each other all day or hanging out outside of rehearsals. We’ll have a day when there’s no rehearsal, one day apart, and we all miss each other!”  
With such a close-knit cast, a determined director, and a story to be told, this year’s production of *RENT* is not one to be missed. The cast has been preparing tirelessly to put on the best show possible for anticipated audience

members.  
“We are working on every aspect of the show from sets, costumes, dance, blocking, vocals, music, and timing- every single day up until opening night,” emphasized Perez. “And even after opening night, we will still be fixing and doing our best to give our audiences a perfect show until the last show. I won’t let them off that easy!”  
Needless to say, this production is one that is intended to make a mark not only on the cast members, but on the audience as well. With all of the hard work and dedication that Argus Eyes has put into making *RENT* a success, it goes without saying that it will be a production worth seeing again and again.  
The show will be running April 16th through the 20th at 7PM, with shows Saturday, the 20th, at 2PM and 7PM. It is free for Saint Peter’s University students who show their school I.D’s, and \$10 for the general public with tickets being sold at [www.showtix4u.com](http://www.showtix4u.com).

EMILY’S LIT PICKS - THE FAULT IN OUR STARS

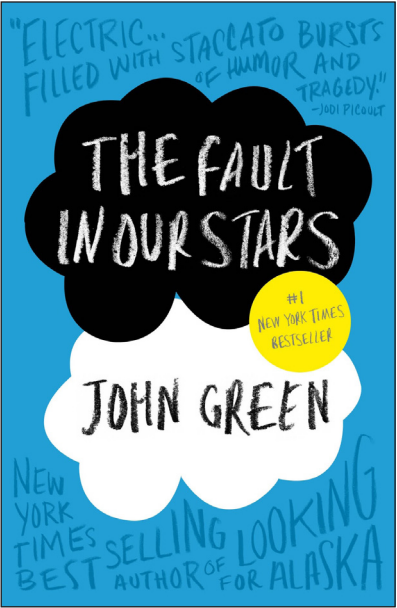
BY EMILY ALEQUIN  
Arts Editor

By now, many readers have at least heard of *The Fault in our Stars*, the YA novel by New York Times best-selling author John Green. Written in January of 2012, it has become one of John Green’s most beloved and appreciated books - mostly because of it’s two main characters, the teenage lovers with ‘quirky sarcasm and wit.’ Let us also not forget the never-ending abundance of intriguing and inspiring quotes that bloggers never seem to stop posting on their sites and Tumblr; quotes such as:  
“Some infinities are bigger than other infinities.”  
“You gave me forever with-in numbered days.”  
“I fell in love the way you fall asleep, slowly at first and then all at once.” and of course, the ever popular “Okay.” (If you’ve read the book, you’ll understand this last one.)  
So it’s easy to see why

someone who reads a book filled with heartening quotes, thought-provoking observations on life, and teen love would fall in love with this book but, unfortunately, it did not have that effect on me. While I applaud the meaning and purpose behind this story, I cannot say that it is a favorite, but I’ll first explain what the novel is actually about.  
Hazel Grace Lancaster is a 16-year old girl suffering from Stage 4 thyroid cancer. She is taking a “miracle” medication to help battle the cancer and prolong her life, despite her lungs often begin to fill with fluids, while she cannot breathe well on her own, so she is constantly carting around her very own oxygen tank which she has named ‘Phillip.’  
Because Hazel prefers spending most of her time reading the same book, staying in bed and prefers not leaving the house, her mother has decided that Hazel must be depressed and has her attend a support group for

people living with cancer.  
Every group meeting is the same; say hi to fellow group member Isaac - a teenage boy who only has one eye (the other is a glass eye) -, sit in the “literal” heart of God at the center of a cross-shaped church, and take part in group discussions and prayer led by the group leader Patrick, a man who enjoys deep conversations about emotions and fears and talks way too much about how he survived testicular cancer and now only has one testicle. Hazel has already become accustomed to the monotony of this support group when Isaac’s best friend, Augustus Waters, decides to come to a group meeting in support of Isaac.  
Augustus is only a year older than Hazel. He is alluring, charming, humorous, witty, and, as Hazel puts it: “I liked that he was a tenured professor in the Department of Slightly Crooked Smiles with a dual appointment in the Department of Having a Voice That Made My Skin Feel More

Like Skin.” He is also in remission and only has a prosthetic leg (I’m sensing a pattern of men with only 1 body part; Isaac’s one real eye, Augustus’ one real leg, and Patrick’s one real...well you already know that one.)  
Augustus immediately starts to flirt with her; calling her beautiful, gorgeous and pointing out that she reminds him of Natalie Portman in *V for Vendetta*. Hazel’s never seen the movie, so Augustus tells her she needs to watch it at his house and she eventually agrees, just a mere hour after meeting the boy. Putting that fact aside, the two teens start to feel a strong connection forming between them and it’s because of that growing connection towards Augustus that Hazel decides to tell him about her favorite book, *An Imperial Affliction*, which is narrated by a girl named Anna who is also living with cancer, but Hazel says that the book is much more than another ‘cancer book.’  
Peter Van Houten, the



author of this book, is someone Hazel greatly admires because of his work. She encourages Augustus to read the book and promises that it’s worth it even though its last chapter ends mid-sentence.  
A few weeks pass and Hazel and Augustus spend more time together. They have slightly flirtatious conversations over the phone and



PICKSfrom page 7

even send and receive personal emails from Peter Van Houten. In one of his emails, Van Houten mentions that he would love to meet Hazel in person to discuss her love of the book and all questions she has about the unfinished ending.

Hazel can hardly believe it, but she knows there is no way she can ever go to Amsterdam; however, Augustus has all the answers, of course, for Hazel's problem. He tells her that he never used his wish from "The Genies", which is the fictional version of the "Make A Wish Foundation." Since Hazel had already used her wish when she was 13 and wanted to go to Disney World, Augustus tells her that he wants to use his wish so they can go to Amsterdam and meet Peter Van Houten together. Hazel questions why Augustus would give his wish so easily and he tells her that he has already gotten his wish: meeting Hazel. The two then begin making plans for their trip to Amsterdam where their feelings for one another will continue to strengthen, as will their bond and what it really means for them to have met each other.

For months, I had been hearing the hype surrounding this book. The title was inspired by a quote from Shakespeare's Julius Ceasar: "The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,

But in ourselves, that we are underlings." If readers weren't going on about how

amazing Hazel's personality and mind was, then they were 'fangirling' over Augustus Waters. The boy puts cigarettes between his lips, but doesn't smoke them (he calls it a metaphor that involves not letting something that kills have the power to do its job); he also constantly reminds Hazel of how perfect she is and he owns a suit, which he has never worn because he bought it when he believed he was going to die, so he kept it as his 'death outfit.'

Hazel, on the other hand, is worried for her parents and does not want them to stop living once she is gone. She sees herself as a 'grenade', just waiting to do its destruction and she doesn't want to cause Augustus pain by becoming too close to him only to leave when she loses her battle with her cancer. She also thinks constantly about the meaning behind things such as what it would mean to leave a mark on the world and other conspiracies, such as why eggs are only accepted as a breakfast food and not considered for dinner.

I understand that this book was meant to go beyond just being another 'cancer book.' Readers are going to focus more on the emotions, fears, doubts, and the love these two characters have for each other, but I still felt that the plot was like any Young Adult Romance book. Normal and inclusive teenage girl feels that nothing will change in her life and there is an unargued inevitable end to it all. Suddenly, a handsome stranger comes

almost out of nowhere and shows an interest in this girl. A connection soon forms and the fateful teen romance begins.

Except, in this case, there are teenagers that are drawn to analyzing almost every thought and are overly descriptive or nearly too sarcastic in their sharp wit. At times, the story is almost too unrealistic to even relate to, mainly the idea of meeting a boy and, within a few weeks, he's willing to travel to a completely different country with you. It's also a little surprising how fast the relationship progressed, even for stereotypical teenage standards.

I'm not saying there's anything wrong with romance or relationships that seem to sprout as if they were fated to be. I get it; it's a story about looking past the bad and discouraging things in life and trying to live everything to the fullest. Make the most of your time, don't worry about the scar or mark you'll leave on the world, fall in love when you can and believe in all that you can. It's a look into life, love and our existence, no matter how seemingly small we might think we are. Hazel and Augustus' story is cute, full of 'fluff' and 'quirky' moments that might make you laugh or you might cry over the moments that aren't as laughable. If you think you might enjoy this kind of read then, or you're still curious about The Fault in Our Stars, then go ahead and try seeing for yourself whether or not you'll like it.

# THE RESULTS ARE IN THE DESIGN

## Seniors in the Graphic Arts program prep for final thesis exhibition

BY DYLAN SMITH  
*Online Editor*

Rankin Hall may be known to some as the building located so far down Montgomery street that it doesn't appear to be a part of Saint Peter's University at first glance but, as the home to the Fine Arts & Graphic Arts departments, it has also been a place of comfort, inspiration, and growth for the student-artists who walk its halls. Out of these students, nine seniors are currently planning and preparing for the collective gallery showing of their college careers and hoping that, despite the department's small size, the event can reach an audience across the entire college community.

"I know that, even after graduation, my professors will still be there for me," explained Samantha Ellis, a graphic artist who pairs her major with a Elementary Education double major. "[They] will always be looking out for my best interest. The department is small and the professors really take the time to get to know you and want to see you succeed."

For many of the seniors, this will be the final time their work is showcased at the school, leaving them to the 'next step' which worries any soon-to-be college graduate: getting a job. Though many stereotypes paint art students as most likely to stay unemployed after college, the reality is that the seniors in the Graphic Design department have very clear ideas about what they want to do once May comes and goes.

Entitled FINAL SKETCH SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION, the exhibition will feature work from seniors on route to graduating from the Graphic Arts program, showcasing their work in graphic design. As opposed to solely natural medias, the exhibition will include pieces created in programs such as Adobe Photoshop, InDesign, and Illustrator, and also QuarkXPress. Several students' work in digital photography will also be part of the exhibition's content.

"After graduation, I am going to find a job in New York in the advertising industry and freelance on my own time," said Amanda Schaffer, who will be featuring some of her design work at the senior thesis exhibition.

"I'm inspired by everything around me – fashion is very interesting to me," explained Tagliareni. "I love bright colors and interesting patterns, [so] I hope to one-day get into jewelry design. That is my ultimate goal."

The exhibition will showcase the strongest work of the departments' students; however, for the students, a strong portfolio is not the only thing they feel the program has given them.

"Honestly, I enjoy that we are a small department," said Lindsay Tagliareni, a Bayonne native hoping to go into jewelry design after graduation. "We're all pretty close to one another and we all help each other out with our work. I have met people in this department I will be friends with forever."

Marquez, who owns up to her self-professed love for both travelling and photography, will be featuring many of the photos she has taken across her global travels and hopes to eventually live abroad.

Ellis, with her love for both education and design, has a very different idea of what she wants to do after graduation.

"I am an aspiring children's book illustrator, which [allows] me to utilize both my degrees," explained Ellis. "For students, reading is a fundamental part of education and creating fun, eye-catching illustrations to gain the attention of students and draw them into a story helps in the learning process. After graduation, I hope that I will be able to combine both passions into one career, whether it be illustrating children's books, or bringing my designs into a classroom of my own."

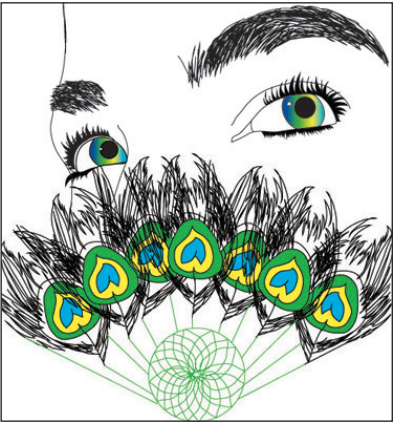
On the topic of education, Ellis reiterates that though she hopes the showcase will be a success, she also wants the family-like feeling of the department to stay long after she's gone.

"I hope that, as the department grows, the family-like atmosphere between faculty and students will always remain," added Ellis.

Opening receptions for FINAL SKETCH SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION will take place on Wednesday, April 17th, from noon to 1 PM at the Fine Arts' Gallery in the fifth floor of the Mac Mahon Student Center and on Thursday, April 18th, from noon to 1 PM, at the Display Case Gallery located in the 2nd floor of Rankin Hall. The galleries will be then open from 9 AM to 5 PM and will be free of charge to the public.

"What I like about the art program at Saint Peter's is that the classes are small and you get to become a little family," explained Jessica Marquez, a senior with an interest in photography. "The professors are always there when you need them as well."

"The professors are awesome and genuinely care," added Tagliareni. "They do their best to make sure you are doing your best work, and [that] you are taught everything you need to be taught in order to land a great internship or job."





# COURSE LOAD:

## THE GROWING BURDEN OF COLLEGE FEES

BY MARIAN WANG  
*ProPublica*

At the University of California Santa Cruz, where tuition runs to nearly \$35,000 for non-residents, students every year pay more than 30 additional fees — including a small charge for what’s billed as “free” HIV testing. Students at Oklahoma State University pay a handsome sum to attend one of the state’s flagship schools, but they are also responsible for covering 18 different fees, including a “life safety and security fee.”

The \$100 “globalization fee” at Howard University is listed — without explanation — in the school’s tuition and fees brochure. A school spokeswoman said the fee “supports internationalization initiatives” such as study abroad. Students pay the fee even if they have no intention of studying abroad themselves.

**Tell Us Your Story**  
Have you had problems with the servicing of your student loans or with your lender? We’d like to hear from you. Worcester State University in Massachusetts, however, might have one of the most arresting fees. Students fortunate enough to be admitted face the challenge of paying the required tuition. But before they step foot on campus, they also will be hit with a fee to, well, step foot on campus. A portion of the school’s “parking/pedestrian fee” goes to the upkeep of the sidewalks on campus.

Student fees have been something of a known irritant for years, often criticized as a kind of stealth, second tuition imposed on unsuspecting families. But such fees are still on the rise on many campuses. And though their names can border on the comical — i.e., the “student success fee” — there’s nothing funny about how they can add up.

“It’s a way for colleges to increase the cost that may not be as apparent to as many students,” said Mark Kantrowitz, a financial aid expert and the founder of finaid.org and fastweb.org. “You focus in on tuition and when you get the

bursar’s bill, there are lots of little lines for all these fees, but because each is a relatively small amount, you may not notice it as much. You focus in on the big figure but not on these little figures that collectively add up to a lot.”

This week, anxious high school seniors will be opening letters and emails of acceptance or rejection. For them, there will be a mix of joy and disappointment. But for those students and their parents, there will also be an initial reckoning with the expensive, often opaque issue of college fees.

Lauren Vaughn, a senior at UMass Amherst, is also an organizer for the UMass Students Against Debt coalition. She said appreciating the collective cost of additional school fees is often critical to determining whether any particular school is, in fact, affordable.

“It does seem as though we are not informed about these fees often until it is too late,” Vaughn said, noting that such fees “can be the thing that puts some students who are financially strained over the edge.”

The federal government has made efforts in recent years to make true college costs more transparent. U.S. Department of Education data shows that in more than half the states across the country, degree-granting institutions reported that fees comprised a greater portion of combined tuition and fees in the 2010-2011 school year than they had in 2008-2009.

But fees for specific programs and courses typically get left out of that data. The same goes for fees that apply to specific pockets of students, such as honors students or international students.

Many school officials say they do their best to make sure the necessary information about tuition and fees is clear to students and their parents. But there’s no one definition that schools stick to when deciding what’s covered by tuition and what falls under fees, and the very structuring of tuition and fees can vary wildly between different schools.

“It’s all smoke and mirrors in some ways, the issue of tuition and fees,” said Terry Meyers, a professor of English at the College of William and Mary. “It seems to be one area of the academic world where no one is looking and no one wants to look too closely.”

To best appreciate how confusing — even upside-down — the world of college costs can get, consider this: At state schools in Massachusetts, where the state board of higher education has held tuition flat for more than a decade, “mandatory fees” wind up far outstripping the price of tuition. At the University of Massachusetts Amherst, the flagship of the UMass system, mandatory fees are more than six times the cost of in-state tuition.

And that isn’t the end of it: Students are then hit with still more charges — the \$300 “freshman counseling fee,” the \$185 “undergraduate entering” fee, and several hundred dollars more if your parents or siblings attend freshman orientation. Honors college and engineering students face still more fees.

A number of forces are driving fees upward. For public institutions, declining state support has left many schools scrambling to find other types of revenue. As well, since the notion of straightforward tuition hikes is often politically toxic, there is considerable appeal to using fees to make up shortfalls.

But it has all required ever-greater attempts at creativity. In the last few years, a number of public colleges across the country have added fees with vaguely pleasant names — “academic excellence and success fees,” or “student enhancement fees,” for instance.

Some school officials admit openly that these fees aren’t all that different from tuition.

Since 2009, students at Georgia’s public colleges have been paying hundreds of dollars a year in what are called “special institutional fees,” separate from tuition. The fees vary, depending on the campus; at the Georgia Institute

of Technology, which charges the most, they now top \$1,000 a year. All of it goes straight into schools’ general funds.

“The special institutional fee goes to the exact same things your tuition goes to,” said John Millsaps, spokesman for the state Board of Regents.

The charges are simply called “fees” instead of “tuition,” he said, because at a time when the state slashed funding, several classes of entering students had already been promised that their tuition would be locked in at the same rate as part of a “guaranteed tuition plan.” Calling any increase “tuition” would break that promise. The intent was also that the fee would be temporary, Millsaps said. Instead, the fees have grown on every campus.

College administrators also acknowledge that sometimes a “fee” is easier for students to stomach than a “tuition” increase — even if the difference is more about semantics than substance.

“Unfortunately, the word tuition is a little bit of a lightning rod these days,” said Colette Sheehy, vice president for management and budget at the University of Virginia. “And not just here, but in other places as well.”

This year, the university began imposing two new charges on students taking engineering courses or enrolled in the nursing school in order to better reflect the higher costs of running those programs. But rather than take the step of raising tuition on certain students, the school opted to implement the new charges as fees, as many other schools have already done. For an engineering major, the new fee typically adds up to an extra \$750 per year, Sheehy said.

Within the 23-campus California State University system, six schools have adopted some form of what’s called a “student success fee” since the beginning of 2011. The annual fees, which different campuses have been using to cover a broad array of things from technology to mentoring programs to athletics, range

from as little as \$162 to as much as \$430 a year depending on the school.

At Auburn University in Alabama, mandatory fees have been steadily increasing for several years. They now make up 16 percent of an in-state student’s combined tuition and fee costs. Part of this increase stems from self-imposed fees that students voted for because they wanted a new recreation center, said Mike Reynolds, executive director of student financial services.

But a major component of the increase is Auburn’s new \$400 “proration fee,” also introduced in 2011 to make up for a loss of state support. Reynolds said the charge was labeled a fee because it was intended to be temporary.

“That fee could go away. Whether that will happen, I don’t know,” Reynolds said.

Critics suggest that some schools likely keep their fee costs fuzzy as a way of seeming more financially attractive to prospective students. But if students are still paying for the additional costs in the end, any marginal marketing benefit on the front end may engender bad feelings after the bill arrives.

“It is hard not to feel a little misled,” said one parent of a student at UMass Amherst who did not want to be quoted by name. “Yes, they are on the web somewhere, but they are not always easy to find. Unless you dig out the list and closely analyze it, you don’t realize there are all these extra expenses. Schools don’t go out of their way to publicize it.”

School spokesman Ed Blaguszewski said in an email that the school makes an effort to be clear about total costs.

“In publications and [on] our website, extensive details about the tuition, fees and the estimated overall cost of attendance are shared with students in advance,” Blaguszewski said. “Our Admissions and Financial Aid staff believe prospective students are well informed about cost, and the info is publicly posted.”

## SCIENCE & TECH

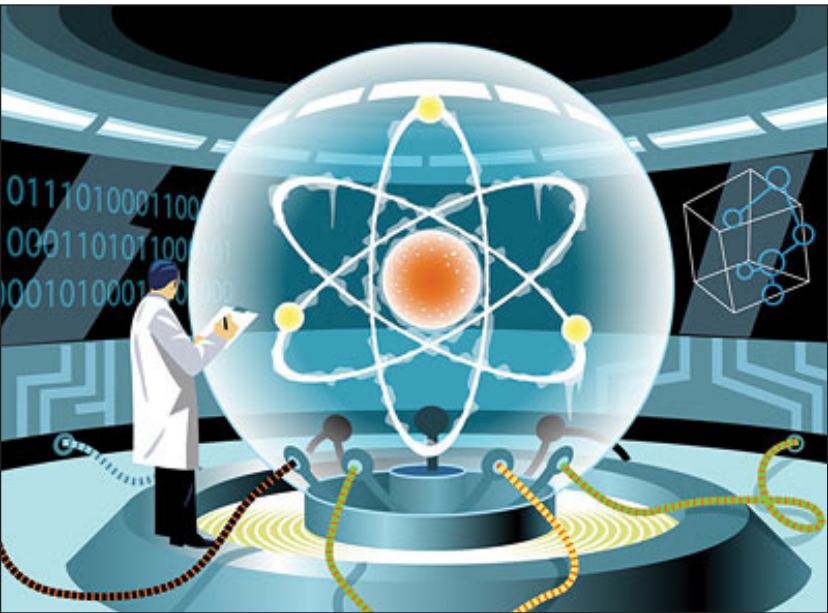
# QUANTUM COMPUTERS: THE NEW FRONTIER OF TECHNOLOGY

BY PRAJWAL NIRLAULA  
*Science & Tech Editor*

The world of quantum mechanics was initially populated with physicists trying to reveal the secrets of atoms. Indescribable in our normal vocabulary and uncommon to our wits, the domain became an epitome of the weirdness, and one of the hardest philosophical conundrums mankind has so far dealt with. As the physicists gained better rein over the regime, many possibilities began to materialize - one of them, which is becoming increasingly popular, is quantum computers. The field is increasingly becoming a shared space

between physicists and computer scientists, who are collaborating to bring out the next generation computers.

The world of computers was destined to inevitably enter the quantum world. In the middle of the twentieth century, co-founder of Intel, Gordon E. Moore, had predicted that the number of transistors in an integrated circuit would double within two years. This has been fundamentally made possible by the miniaturization of the transistors. In other words, every two years there is double the number of transistors in every computer. However, there is a limit to which miniaturization can be achieved with without encroaching the territory of the quantum



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world. And we are nearing that limit, which would bar the classical computers from

continuing Moore’s law. This problem is then directly tied to how the quantum computer

is becoming the new frontier in computation.

The idea of quantum computation started taking the shape in 1980s, when physicists pondered over the use of simulation of physics experiments in the computers. Richard Feynman, one of the pioneers, related the need of quantum computer, saying in one of the conferences, as, “If you want to simulate the nature, you better make it quantum mechanical.” With the development of the superconducting industry, and increasing research into ultra-cold devices working within the range of few Kelvins, the realization of this dream is getting nearer. The question



now is – how near?

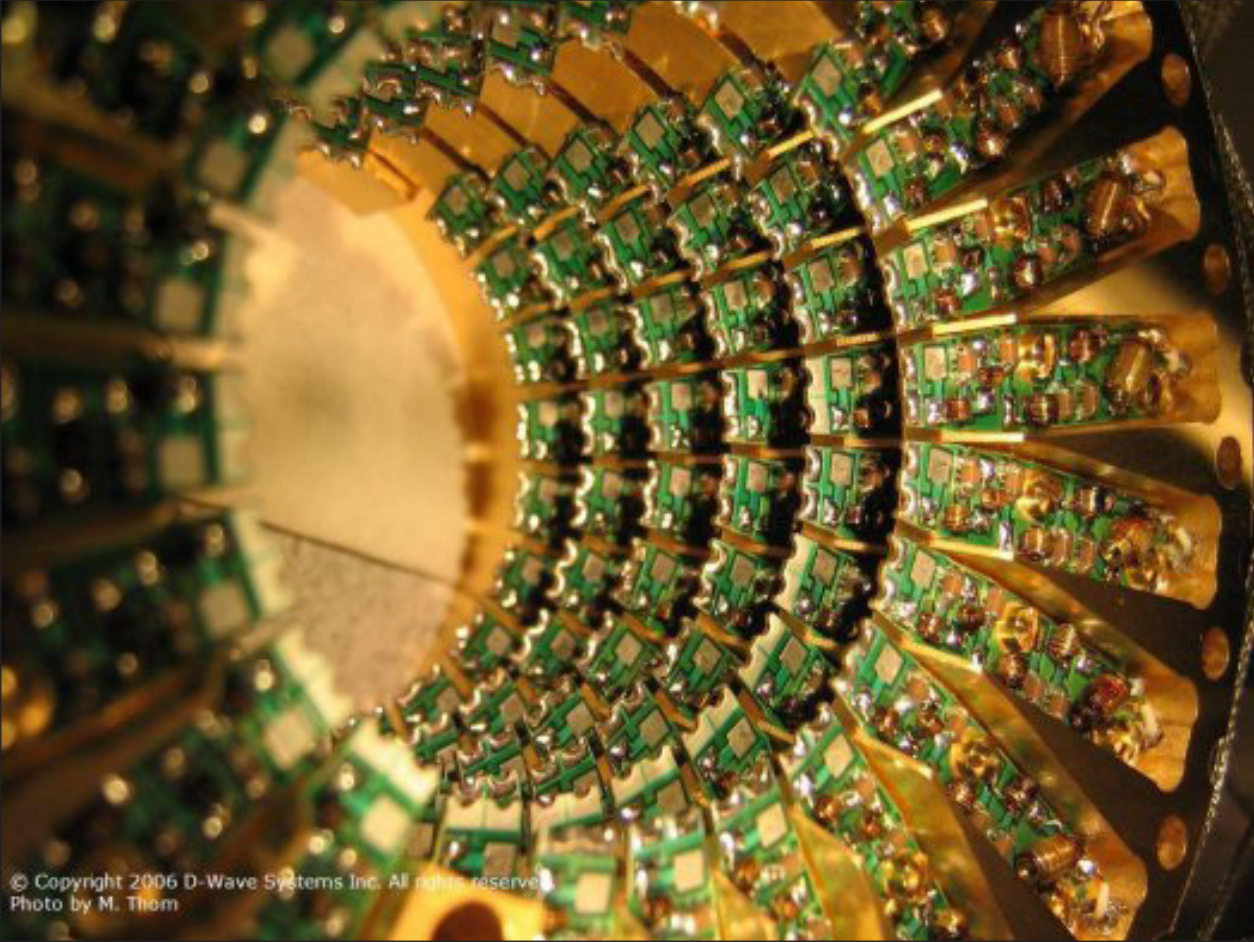
In 2012, Serge Haroche and David J. Wineland were awarded Nobel Prize in physics “for ground-breaking experimental methods that enable measuring and manipulation of individual quantum systems.” In a gathering in NIST Colorado, following the declaration of the Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Wineland said that his work would take a step nearer to quantum computation. However, he warned that there are still some decades between present and the time when quantum computers should be commercially available.

The quantum computer promises to be a disruptive technology. Perhaps realizing this fact, leading tech companies like IBM, Microsoft, and Hewlett Packard have been investing in the research in this field. More interestingly, a Canadian Company, D-Wave, has made claims that it has already built the first announced technology-based quantum computer. However, a certain controversy has surrounded the claim, as many leading researchers, including Dr. Umesh V. Vazirani, thinks the claim to be premature. However, with the recent investment of companies like Lockheed Martin to get a quantum computer, this information could possibly change the entire scenario.

So what this fanfare is all about? What big changes will the quantum computer bring? As already mentioned, this would allow a real time simulation of the physical world. But this may not be extremely exciting for many people except for physicists. For general use, the most exciting part would be the promise of the help of Shor’s Algorithm, would easily solve this problem – a feat which excites many researchers working in even better encryption methods with entanglement, which is theoretically supposed to be 100% secure. If there is any concern saying, “It will take some time for the society to catch up with the technology. It could mean a lot of damage.” This is perhaps the main reason why the quantum computer is garnering greater attention.

Building quantum computers would require a whole new set of hardware. In order to manipulate an atom, which works fundamentally as qubit (quantum bit), a range of new instruments would be needed. This also means replacing the traditional computer programming methods. Also, there is a need to create a system, which is sufficiently isolated from its environment, otherwise the interference would cause decoherence, which essentially is the loss of information. Decoherence is currently considered one of the great hurdles in making a quantum computers.

With the dream of quantum computers materializing, we may conclude that we live in the exciting decade for computers as it was for the physics in the 1920s and 1930s, when many ground breaking works in quantum mechanics changed the field of physics. While it is a good idea to remain skeptical about every emerging technology, the enthusiasm surrounding quantum computers, the research investment, and Nobel Prize of Physics, this all perhaps means that quantum computers at least deserves a place in the list of the next disruptive technology.



OPINIONS

THE REALITIES OF A DREAM JOB

BY NICHOLAS MEDEROS

Opinions Editor

I spend most of my day on YouTube. The only reason why I made an account was to watch videos by RoosterTeeth, an Austin based internet-comedy company that’s best known for their series Red vs Blue. I found myself, over time, watching their videos for more than just their hilarious content. I found myself watching because the people behind RoosterTeeth are living their dreams.

RoosterTeeth started off with a basic premise. Their founders were tired of working their previous jobs and decided to take a chance and start an internet company based around releasing videos and starting a community based on those videos. Ten years have passed since their start and they have 4 million subscribers on YouTube and one of the highest ranked podcasts on iTunes. RoosterTeeth inspires me on a nearly daily basis.

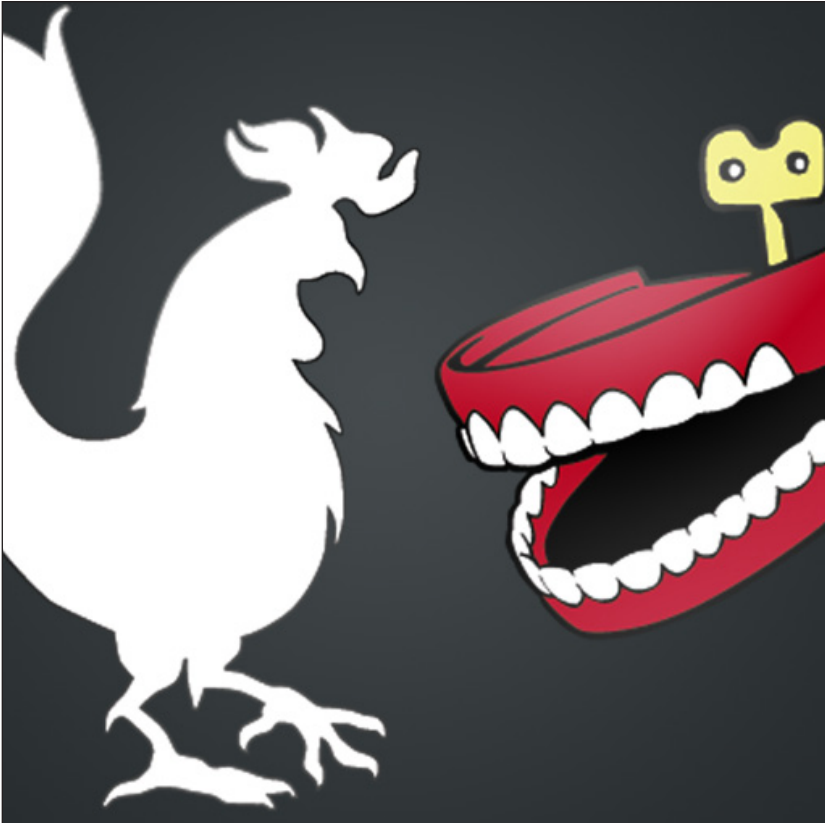
I was always raised on the notion that work was something that you had to do and, more importantly, that you had to force yourself into liking or be forced to be miserable. The people at RoosterTeeth have showed me that not only can you have fun at your job, but that your job can be having fun. I understand that not everyone can choose their job and that the people that work at RoosterTeeth are incredibly lucky. Yet somehow,

I’m just sentimental enough to refuse the notion that the idea of being able to do whatever you want to do as your career is impossible.

When I was in my senior year of high school, I wanted to be a doctor. I was so sure that this was my vocation that I had convinced everyone around me that I actually wanted to be one. By the time I reached graduation, I realized that being a doctor seemed like the most practical thing to do, and not the most interesting. I was ready to commit my life to being miserable for the sake of being safe. My parents sacrificed a lot to make sure that I wouldn’t have to work as many jobs as they had to or as many hours. I don’t intend to have that be in vain by having me be miserable.

When I came to Saint Peter’s, I switched my major to English. I didn’t do it with the intention of having a career in the field (very few English majors do). I chose it because I

people are in a certain major if those people have their



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because they want to be successful in that field or because they know that the major has a solid job market. I wonder own happiness in mind when making those decisions.

We live in a world that embraces creative solutions to practical questions. Can I get a job in my field? Maybe not, but I can make one. In the age of the internet, we no longer have to abide by the rule of going to interview after interview trying to find a job working for someone else. My parents came to the land of opportunity because it embraced the idea that anybody can start a business of their own with

the right intentions and the right creativity. The founders of RoosterTeeth started RoosterTeeth on the premise that people like laughing and playing video games. While they did have very solid business knowledge and their fair share of luck, it’s their abundance of creativity and ambition that drive them to be as successful as they are.

I have to say that any student that needs help finding a job in a field that they find interesting, major or not, has plenty of resources on campus that can help them find what they’re looking for. I know that, for me, the Co-op/ Internship department on the second floor of Hennebury Hall was incredibly informative and helpful in my search for an internship as well as the process that followed (resume writing, cover letter formatting, etc.). For those who think that job experience is the way to get to their career, then I strongly recommend going to this office to get that first gear turning.

I recently applied for an internship at Marvel Comics in the editorial department. If you’ve read any of my other articles or had a conversation with me that’s lasted more than ten minutes, you know how much I love comic books. I have an interview coming up soon and I wouldn’t have this opportunity if I didn’t take the initiative to do something that I’ve wanted to do for what feels like forever. Taking this step towards the career of my dreams makes me feel as though it’s entirely possible for anyone to do what they find interesting, whether that means making your own job or just applying for your dream job - at least it’s a step towards something you like.



# LEGALIZE ME: OUR HOPELESS WAR ON DRUGS

BY SUSAN RAGHEB  
*Contributing Writer*

The war on drugs is a campaign undertaken by the government to reduce the illegal drug trade. However, ever since this ‘war’s’ commencement, legislators and lobbyists have failed to successfully define what to wage the war on. They are, at present, wasting money on a pointless war against marijuana use.

The US is ranked sixth in the world in the rate of degree attainment, but first in the rate of incarceration. New Jersey spends an average of \$16,841 per student in the public school system per year and \$44,000 per inmate for a year in state prison. It costs less to attend Saint Peter’s. Even more shockingly, 25% of these prison inmates are non-violent drug offenders. Thus, the great state of New Jersey will possibly spend \$44,000 per year for a person convicted of smoking marijuana, yet will not appropriate enough education funds for needy students.

A survey of 100 Saint Peter’s students asked their gender, year, and whether they oppose or support the legalization of marijuana, and why they do or do not support it. The campus was quite split: 53% of students are for the legalization of marijuana, 46% are against legalization and 1% remains undecided. Students’ explanations regarding why they believe marijuana should not be legalized ranged from “The smoking of marijuana is against the values that I have been raised with” to “Marijuana is a harmful drug with deleterious effects on the body.”

Those in favor of legalization argued everything from

“I see no logical reason as to why marijuana should not be legalized” to “Alcohol and cigarettes have more harmful effects than weed but are legalized for recreational use.” A female junior replied saying, “It has relatively few harmful effects and none when used responsibly. Legalization would revive the floundering economy in some parts of the country.”

According to the Business Insider magazine, marijuana is used to treat symptoms commonly associated with AIDS, ADHD, multiple sclerosis, chemotherapy- caused nausea, Crohn’s disease, glaucoma, epilepsy, insomnia, migraines, arthritis, and lack of appetite. Physicians also prescribe medical marijuana on terminally ill patients to alleviate their pain.

For comparison, cigarettes and alcohol do not have any beneficial effects, despite their legal status. The Department of Health and Human Services states that the average commercial cigarette contains approximately 68 different carcinogens (cancer causing chemicals). Alcohol can cause clinical depression, liver-failure, kidney-failure, arthritis, heart disease, hyperglycemia, hypoglycemia, malnutrition, nervous disorders, fetal alcohol syndrome, and a good many accidents. It is quite an extensive list.

This is not to say that marijuana does not have any deleterious effects, as it does. Any drug that is abused will have deleterious effects on its user. However, marijuana’s effects are not as harmful as alcohol and cigarettes and the damage it can cause to the body not as extensive. Countless researches have repeatedly proven that alcohol and tobacco have many harmful effects. On the other hand,

marijuana has been proven to have medical benefits. As a nation we should take into account the researches made and reconsider the prohibition of marijuana.

By decriminalizing marijuana, the incarceration rate will dramatically decrease. Fewer US adolescents will be imprisoned, as young adults make up the majority of those convicted of nonviolent drug offenses, which will lead to less money spent on our prison system. Then, perhaps, the government could allocate these much needed funds to education and, hopefully, ensuring that students will graduate with lower debts.

According to a recent report published by PublicAdministration.net, since 1987, national corrections spending has increased by 127%, while education has gone up only 21%. That is fewer education grants being administered to needy students and thousands of dollars being spent on people doing time behind bars. That is - not enough financial aid from the state and national government to cover a needy student’s college tuition but enough money for use in the drug court system. That money is being spent in the wrong places, and could be the reason why the US is lagging in degree-attainment.

As a nation, we make up 5% of the world population, but hold 25% of the world’s incarcerated inmates. This is not a characteristic of our “highly-effective” legal system, which “seeks” justice. It is due to the fact that, as a nation, we are directing our time and energy at the wrong problem.

According to the Pew Research Center, a majority of the public supports the legalization of marijuana. The so-called war on marijuana is



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PUFF-PUFF-POSTER CHILD Actor James Franco being used in a mock-advocacy poster about legalization due to his openness about previously smoking weed when he was younger.

failing -- in fact, it was never succeeding. We should eliminate the immense expenditures aimed at enforcing strict measures against recreational consumers and dealers which have failed to the end the illegal drug trade. We should instead experiment with models of legal regulation to emasculate the power of organized crime.

Through my business and economics studies, I have

learned that politics have a money trail. In this case, most state prisons are run by private companies, which have been long lobbying against the legalization of marijuana so that they can continue to make a living out of incarcerating more people. I cannot be the only person rankled by the concept that profit is always being placed before principle - that is, if a principle even exists even more.

# ARE INTERNSHIPS REALLY THAT IMPORTANT?

BY JESSICA HARTLAND  
*Staff Writer*

Throughout college, professors and mentors consistently stress the importance of internships as an undergraduate, but are they really as necessary as spoken about?

I understand that internships could truly open many doors for people. It allows them to get hands on experience, all while networking with possible companies that you could potentially start a working relationship with. It gives future employees a different perspective of the prospective employee, by demonstrating their work ethic and personality much different than how a person may appear on paper. However, in many majors, workshop classes are offered to show the student what it takes to be successful. As far as networking, that could be done in many different ways. Personally, I have

met managers, CEOs, writers, videographers, and so much more in everyday life.

Just the simple start of a conversation could lead to endless opportunities. I work at a restaurant, so I am constantly interacting with a new set of people; ones you would have never even thought of meeting, especially if I was just sitting in my apartment waiting for an internship to accept me. But does that make me any less credible? Will possible jobs simply look past the way I could immediately interact with others, ultimately showing them my personality from the very beginning?

Or does that just mean that any company would be taking a major risk by hiring me without internship experience? Sometimes it is the ones without the experience that make the best workers. We’re the ones that are willing to learn, ready to escape our comfort zones in order to be the best we could be. We are the people that have made

the everyday choices to take on jobs we necessarily did not want, just to make ends meet. We are the ones that know what it is to handle everyday stresses including school work, having a full time job and attempting to maintain any sort of social life after putting all priorities first. This allows for people like me to think out of the box, offering a different outlook based on all the different life experiences that we have already faced. Many people simply cannot afford taking on an unpaid internship, basically taking a one-hundred percent pay cut, leaving no time to fulfill daily duties of posting rent, bills and everything they need to survive. What about those 22 year olds who are doing it on their own? The ones that work just as hard, or harder than others in school, and still have the weight of finances over their heads? Does that mean their hard work simply won’t pay off? Or are they now less suitable for a job?

When anyone asks me about what I am majoring in or when I’m graduating, the next question is usually whether or not I have an internship. It is very clear, even to me, that there are positive effects of obtaining an internship, especially with the unemployment rate and stance of the economy. But when professors tell me that I need to have an internship in order to be successful, I feel as if it is a nice way of saying that my college career will basically be void. It could be their way of saying, “Thanks for the thousands of dollars and time spent, but good luck landing a job”. Maybe they are right, “No one takes a waitress seriously,” but am I just being naive in thinking that my own hard work will not go unnoticed?

When did an internship constitute as a student’s opportunity for happiness? When did the phrase “hard work pays off” go completely out of the window? Or what about having the motivation to go forward until your dream is

achieved? Ever since I was a little girl, I knew exactly what I wanted to do with my life. Of course I went through those many stages where I wanted to be a veterinarian or a professional athlete, but I would always say, “I don’t want to do that, Mommy, I want to stay as a news reporter”. I was that girl, as a 5 year old, who would put on my mom’s heels and grab a hairbrush to report the news to my family. I always have been motivated with achieving my goals. Its very difficult for someone to have the same dream for over 17 years and I know that I am passionate with what I am choosing to do. So, does having an internship really determine how much a person loves their chosen profession?

Internship or not, I will not let anything get in the way of my dream. Ultimately, I’ll let my passion soar through and, in turn, there is no doubt in my mind that success will come my way.

# LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD

**QUESTION - Do you think Saint Peter’s University has a diverse and all inclusive kind of community that promotes diversity and well-being amongst all, no matter their race, sex, class gender identity or sexual orientation?**  
Go online to PauwWow.com

and vote in our poll featured on our website’s sidebar. Votes are anonymous and the results to the poll will be published in the next issue of The Pauw Wow.

Or write in to us at pauwow@pauwow.com and tell us your thoughts are on just what Saint Peter’s should do

regarding diversity at Saint Peter’s or reactions to the above article.

Regarding our last poll about the FA/absence policy, 84.6% of our readers who voted said, yes, they would like to see the policy removed.

*Due a limited amount of space, please keep all written entires sent into The Pauw Wow at a limit of 400-500 words. The Pauw Wow Editorial Board reserves the right to not publish any entires that are submitted in. All entires that are published, however, will remain untouched and will not be edited by anyone on staff, leaving the writer’s own work as is.*

# REMINDER



# The Pauw Wow

## SPORTS

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## THE POSSIBLE PEACOCK OLYMPIAN

BY GARVEY POTTER  
*Staff Writer*

The morning sun shines on the official United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs as a man walks through its doors at around 9:00 am. His body is weary from the jet lag of the nearly 4 hour plane ride and his breathing is heavy because of the thin, mountain air. As he looks around, he sees people at the peak of physical excellence with the fire of determination illuminating their eyes, most of them tower of his 6 foot frame. He feels intimidated, but determined.

This man is Joe Maini, a senior at Saint Peter's University majoring in Secondary History Education, and he is here to tryout for the United States National Under 23 Handball Team. After days of drills, games, scrimmages, and getting knocked around on the handball court, he has been accepted onto the team.

"It feels good," said Maini on his success of making the team. "It's still setting in. I'm not trying to put it as my first priority, but I always take a couple seconds of the day, think about what exactly I've done and the steps I have taken along the way."

Maini has been training for the national team for about two years. While Maini might not be quite as tall as his competition, his intelligence has helped him keep up.

"They would rather have a smart player, than a tall player," said Maini.

Maini's love of handball started in the 8th grade when he was introduced to a similar game called androball at the Saint Peter's Preparatory School's Higher Achievement Program (HAP). Androball and handball very similar games, but differ in some

aspects, such as dribbling, net size, and shooting distance.

Handball to Maini has become an escape that he has used to get through some particularly dark times in his life.

"When you're playing that game [handball] you don't think about anything else," said Maini. "You just think about the next pass you're going to make or the next move you're going to make. You don't think about work or school or anything like that. It's a release. As soon as you pick up that ball, you drop everything else."

Handball, as Maini describes, is a like a combination of "basketball, football, and soccer." While handball may not be a well known sport in the United States, handball is very popular in other countries like Brazil, Spain, Germany, Argentina, and many other countries throughout South America and Europe. In fact, handball is often considered the world's second most popular sport, behind soccer.

"You wouldn't know it from his somewhat timid personality, but Joe is an extremely goal-oriented person," said Victor Badaracco, a senior at Saint Peter's University and longtime high school friend of Maini. "He saw this opportunity in front of him and there was no turning back."

The next Olympics will take place in 2016 and is set for Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Maini is not officially an olympian, but will continue to train and work hard in hopes that he will representing his country in the global athletic event.

"I am just going to keep bettering myself and better my abilities in the team," said Maini. "Now I have something in the back of my head all the time and I have at least an affirmation that the work I have done so far has paid off, so why stop here?"

## PEACOCKS AND BOBCATS AND HAWKS, OH MY!

BYKRISTI KANEYUKI  
*Staff Writer*

The nine schools that make up the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference are excited to welcome Monmouth University's Hawks and Quinnipiac University's Bobcats into the MAAC for the 2013-2014 year.

Both Monmouth and Quinnipiac come from the Northeast Conference, which differs to the MAAC in that the teams they play. The competition in the NEC is considered to be on the same level as the MAAC.

Monmouth is now the third team located in New Jersey along with Saint Peter's and Rider. Quinnipiac is now the second team from Connecticut, along with Fairfield. The Conference will now consist of 11 teams with Loyola of Maryland moving to the Patriot League, and the addition of the two new teams. The MAAC now consists of 11 teams, including Niagara University, Canisius College, Rider University, Fairfield University, Marist College, Sienna College, Manhattan College, Iona College, Saint Peter's University, Monmouth University and Quinnipiac University.

The Athletic Director at

Saint Peter's, Joe Quinlan, spoke of his excitement about the new teams entering the conference when interviewed.

"The Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference is a highly competitive league and the addition of both Monmouth and Quinnipiac will add quality opponents to the league, said Quinlan. "Just like everyone in the league, Saint Peter's looks forward to the added competition in 2013-14."

Most teams offered at Saint Peter's are also competitive at the other schools, along with a couple other sports not offered in Jersey City.

"Quinnipiac and Monmouth both sponsor baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, men's and tennis and men's and women's track & field and Quinnipiac also fields a volleyball team," Quinlan explains.

The Saint Peter's University Track and Field team has been the MAAC champions for the past three years. Next year, however, they will face Monmouth's Track and Field team, who has won the NEC Championships for the past two years. Quinnipiac is also competitive with LIU Brooklyn each year. Many students feel that this will

bring more competition for the Peacocks next year.

Sophomore Paige Vicari is excited for the new competition. "I think it will be a good change for the Peacocks," said Vicari. "Knowing that Monmouth and Quinnipiac are so good at track, it will make it even better when we win."

Monmouth and Quinnipiac will bring not only bring their competitiveness to the MAAC, but will also bring two beautiful newly renovated arenas. Quinnipiac built a \$52 million TD Bank Sports Complex, while Monmouth built their \$57 million Multipurpose Activity Center in 2009. Some say the other MAAC schools would not compare.

Both schools are enthused about entering the MAAC, and look forward to the upcoming year.

"We are delighted to be joining the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference that will continue to advance us both athletically and academically," said Quinnipiac President John L. Lahey in a statement released by the school.

All the schools have reported this excitement about the changes and look forward to the new competition for the upcoming 2013-2014 athletic season.



## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: AN ATHLETIC Q & A

BY CARLOS GONZALEZ  
*Staff Writer*

Jamelia Johnson is a sophomore track star. She has broken school records in long and high jump and is recognized on a national level for triple jump, all while being a full-time biology major at Saint Peter's University.

Q: What events do you do in track?

A: I am a jumper and short sprinter. I run the 200 meters and 100 meter and I triple jump & long jump

Q: What are some accomplishments that you have achieved as an athlete before college and while at St. Peter's?

A: I was named athlete of the week in high school and won counties in long jump and made it to states my junior year of high school. In college I was a MAAC champion two years in a row: my freshman year for Indoor and

Outdoor season for long jump, and sophomore year I was a double MAAC champion for long jump and triple jump. I was also named the 'Most outstanding field event performer.' And I am currently ranked 38th in the nation for triple jump with a jump of 40'2.

Q: Why did you choose to do track for St. Peter's?

A: I liked the idea of being close to home and my coach sold me on the team. My coach told me how the track team was like a family & that is the best kind of team.

Q: What do you study at St. Peter's and why?

A: I major in Biology. I want to become a Physical Therapist so I can stay connected to sport even when I'm old and gray.

Q: What has attracted you to keep doing track during your college career?

A: Simple, I love track. It's still fun like it was in high school.

Q: Would you like to pursue track after graduation?

A: I don't know yet. Hopefully if I am jumping after graduation, I will qualify for the Olympics.

Q: Being a college athlete is a lot of hard work, how do you stay on top of track, studying and still manage to have a healthy social life?

A: I'm used to it. It was the same way in high school. You just have to have your priorities straight.

Q: What are your goals for the rest of your time as a St. Peter's athlete?

A: Right now my jumping record is 19'4ft in long jump and 40'3ft in triple jump. I want to jump 20ft plus in the long jump & 42ft in the triple jump.

Favorite pastime: I love to watch movies.

Favorite movie: Easy A

Favorite food: Lasagna

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