

# THE SOUTHEND

BACK TO SCHOOL



Protests around the world  
See pg. 13

WAYNE ST  
UNIVERSITY

An insight into student  
sex workers  
See pg. 11



STAFF

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

SLONE TERRANELLA

[EDITORINCHIEFTSE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EDITORINCHIEFTSE@GMAIL.COM)

MANAGING EDITOR

SUSANA HERNANDEZ

[SUSANA.HERNANDEZ@WAYNE.EDU](mailto:SUSANA.HERNANDEZ@WAYNE.EDU)

NEWS EDITOR

MALAK SILMI

[MSILMI27@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MSILMI27@GMAIL.COM)

FEATURES EDITOR

SEAN TAORMINA

[SEAN.TAORMINA@WAYNE.EDU](mailto:SEAN.TAORMINA@WAYNE.EDU)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

JACK FILBRANDT

[JACK.FILBRANDT@WAYNE.EDU](mailto:JACK.FILBRANDT@WAYNE.EDU)

SPORTS EDITOR

MATT WILLIAMS

[MATTWILLIAMS86@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATTWILLIAMS86@GMAIL.COM)

MULTIMEDIA EDITOR

JONATHAN DESCHAIINE

[JONATHAN.DESCHAIINE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JONATHAN.DESCHAIINE@GMAIL.COM)

COPY EDITOR AND GRAPHIC DESIGNER

GUNEET GHOTRA

[GUNEET.GHOTRA@WAYNE.EDU](mailto:GUNEET.GHOTRA@WAYNE.EDU)

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER

JARED GOLD

[JAREDGOLD.98@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JAREDGOLD.98@GMAIL.COM)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The South End welcomes letters to the editors regarding all inquiries and concerns from the Wayne State community. Please limit letters to 500 words. All submissions are subject to editing and may be published.

CORRECTIONS

The South End corrects all factual errors published online and in print.

ONLINE POLICY

The South End publishes articles online and in print. Visit our website at [thesouthend.wayne.edu](http://thesouthend.wayne.edu). While we support the right to free speech and expression, there are guidelines for morally and socially acceptable content. Comments and feedback deemed offensive are subject to editing or removal.

PUBLICATION

The South End is a daily online publication created by Wayne State students. The South End publishes special print editions at the beginning and end of the academic year. Copies of the print edition will be available free of charge at various locations throughout campus. The Student Newspaper Publication Board, established by the Wayne State University Board of Governors, acts as the publisher of The South End. The board establishes and ensures compliance with publication, editorial and news reporting guidelines. Business operations are handled through the Dean of Students Office. All complaints, comments and suggestions concerning the student newspaper should be directed to [thesouthend.wsu@gmail.com](mailto:thesouthend.wsu@gmail.com).

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Battle of the board: A South End guide for students 6

Elevator maintenance funds ‘not enough’ 9

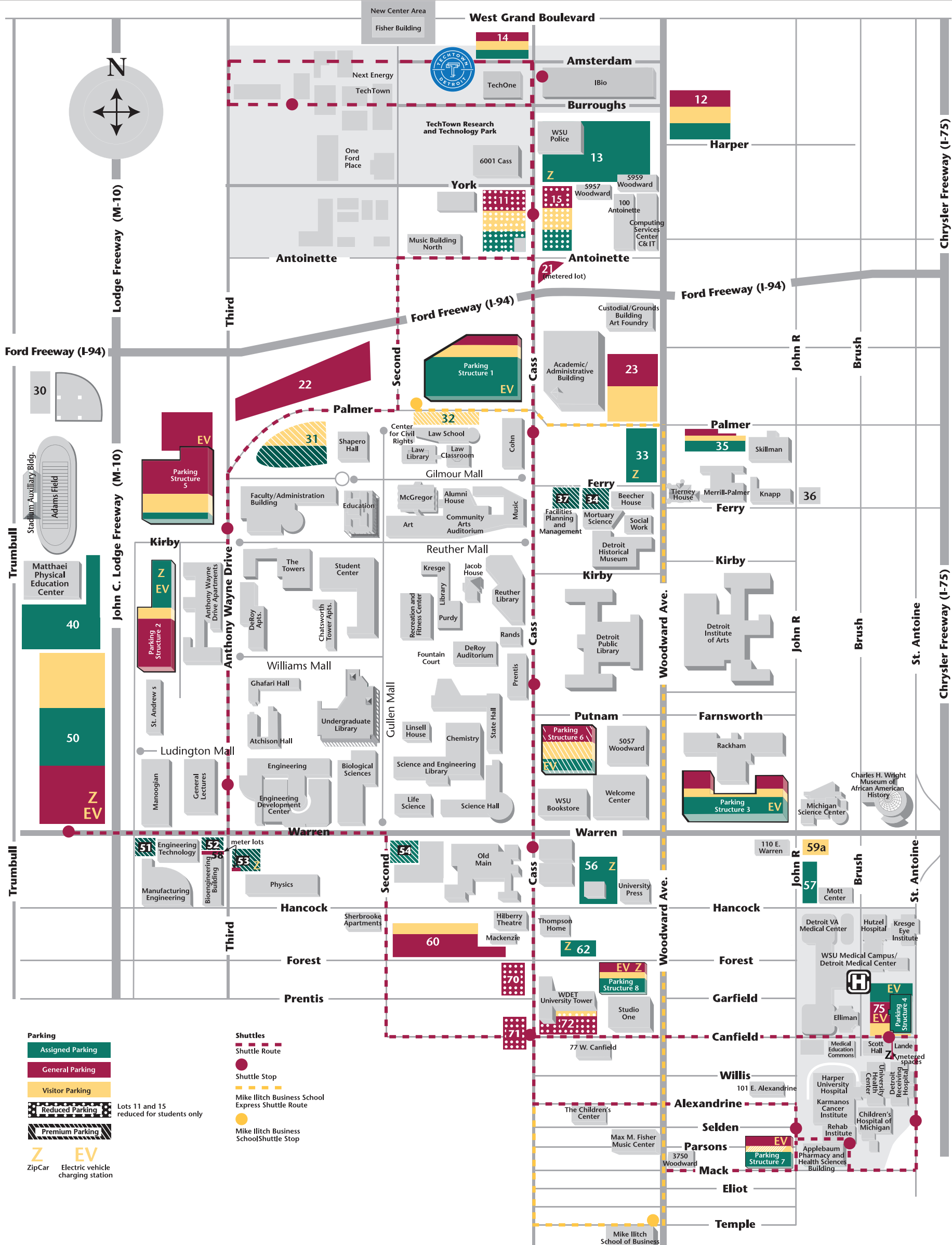
Full-time student, part-time sex worker 11

Students start their own record label 15

WSU athletics announces new basketball arena 19









# Letter from the Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor

Dear Warriors,

As we finish our first semester in our positions at The South End, we reflect on all the changes and breaking news happening within Wayne State, Detroit and countries across the world. In our own community, WSU has experienced unrest with our own Board of Governors — the body that controls every executive decision at this university. Throughout this edition, you’ll notice many stories center around political and social unrest whether it be abroad or on campus. We believe it’s important the WSU community is aware of global and domestic issues, and how Warriors are personally impacted. This year many countries have witnessed protests and movements for social and political reform. Despite these countries being thousands of miles away, we still have students with direct connections to Chile, Iraq and Kashmir, which are only three out of the many countries we discuss in this edition. In this edition, you’ll find a timeline and summary of the BOG conflict — a conflict making its name in Detroit media and causing a sense of public confusion. We feel it’s our duty as a student newspaper to make sure our readers have a thorough and accurate understanding of how the board got to this point. It’s easy to get lost in the partisanship of this ordeal, but we feel it’s important for the public to have a resource to refer to. Despite yearly budget cuts and being understaffed, our writers and editors are able to give the audience accurate, timely and relevant stories on top of classes and other personal commitments. We will always be grateful to have a staff who is equally as dedicated and passionate for journalism as us. We stand by any editorial decisions made this far and have confidence in the future decisions that will be made next semester.

This newspaper wouldn’t have come together if it wasn’t for our diverse staff bringing in multiple perspectives and ideas that allow us to create stories that truly represent the student body. As leaders of this paper, we want to recognize our predecessors who paved the way for us to evolve as a news-



paper. Former editor-in-chief and managing editor, Miriam Marini and Omar Abdel-Baqui, mentored us to always strive for important and pressing stories, and that’s exactly what we believe this edition reflects. There are many stories that highlight student’s struggles and achievements, which touch on topics often overlooked such as student sex workers and accessibility to contraceptives.

We hope you enjoy these stories and learn more about the community and the world we live in. We decided on this edition’s theme to be centered around the idea of unrest. We need to reflect on how we’re connected at WSU to global affairs. As you read this newspaper, we encourage you to think about the current state of our university, country and world. We hope you continue reading The South End, and we hope you have a wonderful semester. Sincerely,

Susana Hernandez and Slone Terranella  
Managing Editor      Editor-in-Chief



## EVERY WARRIOR HAS THE RIGHT TO LIVE AND LEARN AT WSU – FREE FROM HARASSMENT OR DISCRIMINATION

### TITLE IX

Title IX is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education. Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment, Sexual Assault, Sexual Exploitation, Intimate Partner Violence, Stalking, Complicity, and Retaliation are forms of sex discrimination prohibited by Title IX and by University policy.



### OPTIONS FOR REPORTING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Students may report sexual misconduct to law enforcement, to the university, to both, or to neither. All Warriors are encouraged to make the reporting decision that’s right for them.

### REPORTING EMERGENCIES

In cases of threats, imminent danger and other emergencies, contact the Wayne State Police at 313-577-2222.

### CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT

For confidential assistance, contact Counseling and Psychological Services at 313-577-3398. For after-hours crisis support call the crisis line at 313-577-9982.

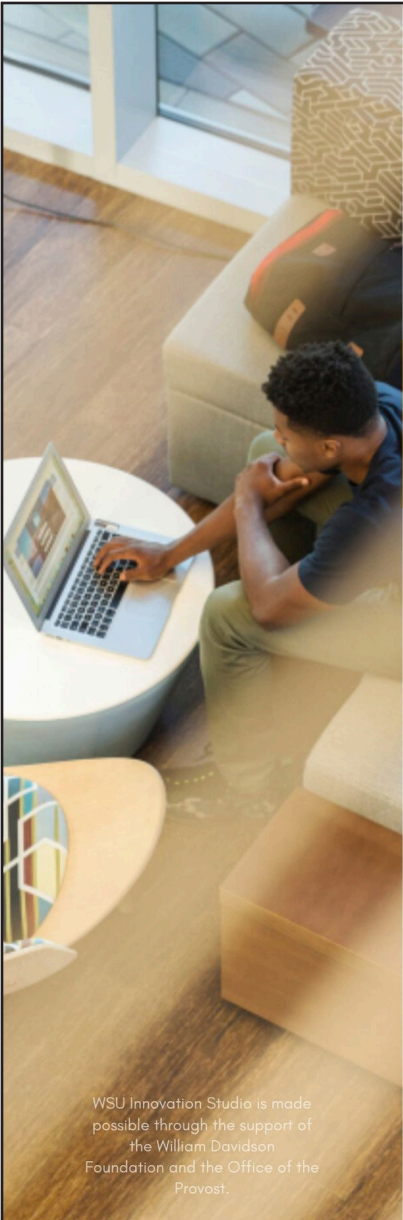
To learn more about support resources and reporting options, connect with the Title IX office.

313-577-9999

TITLEIX@WAYNE.EDU

TITLEIX.WAYNE.EDU





a collaborative space  
that sparks a student's  
entrepreneurial journey

**What we do:**

- ▶ create space for brainstorming and collaboration
- ▶ increase student's entrepreneurial competencies through one-on-one coaching, educational programming, and mentorship opportunities
- ▶ build a community of student entrepreneurs in the region's entrepreneurial community

WSU Innovation Studio is made possible through the support of the William Davidson Foundation and the Office of the Provost.

WSU Innovation Studio  
at WSU Industry Innovation Center  
461 Burroughs St, Detroit, MI 48202  
313.577.1533 | [innovationhub.wayne.edu](http://innovationhub.wayne.edu)  
Open studio: Monday - Thursday, 10am - 4pm



NOW OPEN • NOW ACCEPTING CREDIT CARDS



**DINNER SPECIALS \$9.95**

VISIT US ANYTIME TUES-SUN • SAT-SUN SERVING BRUNCH

4201 CASS AVE • DETROIT, MI 48201 • 313.502.5979



# GET INVOLVED

## FIND ORGANIZATIONS

Wayne State boasts over 400 student organizations on campus ranging from social to academic and everything in between.

## ATTEND EVENTS

Search, RSVP and check into events happening on campus. Wayne State is bursting with fun activities, sporting events and learning experiences to attend. Save your Event Pass to your phone for quick access to events.

## TRACK INVOLVEMENT

Record your activities and memberships on campus to showcase your involvement. Discover your Involvement Record under your settings.

**GETINVOLVED.WAYNE.EDU**

Take Get Involved on the go with Corq! Download at [corqapp.com](http://corqapp.com).





# Battle of the board: A South End guide for students

**Susana Hernandez**  
**Sean Taormina**  
**Slone Terranella**  
**Jack Thomas**

*Managing Editor*  
*Features Editor*  
*Editor-in-Chief*  
*News Correspondent*

Unless you've had time between midterms and finals to read dozens of articles across various Detroit news outlets chronicling the dispute between President M. Roy Wilson and factions of the Wayne State Board of Governors, you're probably having trouble understanding the conflict.

Dana Thompson, Michael Busuito and Sandra Hughes O'Brien have stated their distrust of Wilson at several BOG meetings since December 2018. All three point to a lack of transparency from Wilson.

## The board splits over Wilson's contract

O'Brien said she started doubting Wilson's leadership in the leadup to the Dec. 7, 2018 meeting where the board voted to extend Wilson's contract.

At the time, O'Brien was board chair. Two weeks prior to each meeting, the board chair meets with Wilson and his cabinet to review items appearing in the upcoming meeting's agenda. O'Brien said two weeks before the Dec. 7 meeting, there was no mention of Wilson's contract extension in the agenda. She claims she was not notified of the contract extension until three days before the Dec. 7 meeting took place.

"I think what drove a wedge between the board members was Roy's asking and pushing through his contract extension without informing the board chair, which was me," O'Brien said. "It's kind of a big thing, to not have that on the agenda. But things not being on the agenda is very typical for this administration."

Board member Michael Busuito said the reason he believes Wilson inserted his contract extension into the agenda was because he knew it could get the votes in the current session.

"He had nearly two years left on the contract. We asked 'what's the rush?' It was a lame duck session," Busuito said. "The two republicans who had lost their elections and weren't going to be present in January were going to be voting for the contract, and we felt the new

incoming board members should get a chance to vote on it."

Wilson's contract was extended through 2023 with a 5-3 vote. According to his contract, Wilson receives a base pay of \$606,343 with a 3% annual pay raise.

Trent said she doesn't think O'Brien, Busuito and Thompson were ever "fans" of Wilson and disagrees with their opinion that Wilson is the one who split the board with talks of his contract extension.

"People say they're mad because we didn't wait till the two new board members came on," Trent said. "Both of the new board members have said they would be willing to extend the contract. So really, it's a nullified argument. That seems to be the moment where my three colleagues decided they were going to dig in and demand the president's resignation."

## The med school kerfuffle

Animosity between members of the board and the Wilson administration came to a head the following year when issues around the School of Medicine, Henry Ford Health Systems, and the University Physicians Group flared up.

Busuito said he took issue with salaries paid to consultants WSU hired to oversee negotiations with HFHS.

In total, WSU paid out-of-state consultants \$7.5 million over 3.5 years to create a partnership with HFHS, according to The Detroit News.

In 2015, Wilson hired David Hefner as vice president of health affairs. Hefner was hired to improve WSU's position with the DMC and HFHS, and to "strengthen the alignment" between the SOM and the WSUPG, according to a WSU press release from June 17, 2015.

In a letter to the editor in Crain's Detroit Business on Oct. 29, 2019, Charles Parrish, president of the professor's union, AAUP-AFT Local 675 said "the present split in the WSU board is unfortunate, but it was caused by President Wilson's hiring of Mr. Hefner. He left a trail of political wreckage behind him as he was shown the door."

Parrish said Hefner pursued a "vigorous agenda" wherein he was tasked to make a deal to integrate the SOM

and HFHS, to "attack" the tenure of faculty "who were not high-research grant producers" in the SOM, and "divert money" that was intended to subsidize the salaries of physicians serving low-income Medicaid clients.

Parrish said that under Wilson and Hefner, a portion of money intended for Primary Care Provider Incentive Payment Program funds were diverted for use by WSU as "institutional adjustments."

On Oct. 30, The Detroit News broke that the FBI public corruption task force interviewed several sources — including Busuito — over complaints filed by several doctors.

There were multiple lawsuits throughout 2019 between University Pediatricians and WSU. UP sued WSU in February and September, and WSU sued UP in August.

UP's September lawsuit alleged Hefner and Wilson diverted more than \$330 million over six years from doctors treating Medicaid patients, The Detroit News reported.

UP left their partnership March 24, 2019 with WSU and signed a deal with the medical school at Central Michigan University after legal approval, according to Crain's Detroit.

As for the deal with HFHS, when he and other board members read the letter of intent between the SOM and HFHS, Busuito described it as a "dead giveaway of the school."

"Essentially, they would take charge of all the clinical operations," Busuito said. "It was functionally a giveaway, giving Henry Ford all those appointments in the medical school."

HFHS suspended the deal with the SOM on March 28, 2019. Trent said Hefner's role at WSU was misunderstood.

"We had tremendous confusion about how the funds flow in our medical school," Trent said. "I think that there's some people who are nostalgic for relationships that the university once had with certain entities, and I think it took somebody like David Hefner to come in and say, 'you know, while I appreciate that you once had that relationship, that's not what the relationship is now.' So, a lot of (Hefner's) time there was just doing forensic audits and figuring out what the heck was going on."



Members of the BOG at the Dec. 6 meeting. Credit: Jonathan Deschaine





Graphic by Guneet Ghotra



# Battle of the board: A South End guide continued

Hefner was voted out by the board in January 2019, according to Trent and Busuito. However Trent contends Hefner was already planning on announcing his departure before the vote.

### It's not free real estate

To replace UP, WSU launched a new clinician group called Wayne Pediatrics.

Wayne Pediatrics will serve as the SOM's clinical service group for pediatricians, according to a WSU press release from April 1, 2019.

WSU sought to purchase real estate located on 400 Mack Ave. for a new pediatrics center and to house university physicians, but four board members rejected the building proposal.

O'Brien, Thompson, Kumar and Busuito voted down the purchase of the 400 Mack Ave. building three times, O'Brien said. At a June 21 meeting where the building proposal was on the agenda again, Kumar was scheduled to be absent, putting the other three in the minority.

O'Brien, Thompson and Busuito did not show up at the meeting. However, on June 21 Trent, Kelly, Gaffney and Barnhill voted to purchase the Mack Avenue building while the other four board members were absent. WSU Vice President and General Counsel Louis Lessem said it was acceptable for the meeting to continue without the four members present.

As a result, O'Brien, Thompson, Kumar and Busuito sued Trent, Kelly, Gaffney, Barnhill and Wilson.

The lawsuit calls to invalidate any decisions made at the meeting — including an increase in tuition and the subleasing of the proposed building.

"Plaintiffs felt the proposed purchase price was too high and the Board had not been provided with any market analysis or comparison data," according to the suit.

On Aug. 1, Michigan Court of Appeals denied a

request by the four board members to overturn decisions made at the June 21 meeting.

According to the Detroit Free Press, Judge Cynthia Diane Stephens wrote that Wilson counted toward a quorum.

### Wilson's Legacy

Wilson became president after he was voted in unanimously by the BOG in 2013. During his presidency, Wilson created the position of associate provost for Diversity and Inclusion, and chief diversity officer in 2014, according to the president's page on WSU's website.

Wilson also created an Office of Multicultural Student Engagement, and focused on making WSU a premier research university with the opening of the IBio lab in TechTown in 2015. In addition, he created the Med-Direct program, which according to the website, allows for socio-economic disadvantaged students to be guaranteed admission to the SOM.

WSU had one of its largest incoming classes in 2018 with a 15% increase compared to the previous year.

"The university is thriving under (Wilson's) stellar leadership and his leadership is being recognized throughout the academic world," Trent said in a press release on Nov. 5, 2019. "In fact, today President Wilson is one of a few select university and industry leaders at the White House for a summit on research across federal agencies."

O'Brien said she has no problem with much of the work Wilson has done for WSU, but that it doesn't change her opinion about Wilson's lack of transparency and whether he's fit to lead the university.

"I think it's important that folks know that no one is a begrudging Wilson for any accomplishments that have happened here," O'Brien said.

Busuito said he wasn't always against Wilson.

"I've stated in previous (press) releases I was pro-Wilson for a long time. I came in pro-Wilson. I thought

Wilson was the real deal," Busuito said.

### Fired or not?

Busuito, Kumar, Thompson and O'Brien said they voted Wilson out during a Nov. 4, 2019 meeting with a 4-3 vote. Trent said the vote was illegitimate because it wasn't an executive — or public — meeting.

"There was nothing in the actual board notice that suggested this was an executive board committee meeting," Trent said.

O'Brien filed a complaint to Attorney General Dana Nessel's office regarding the vote.

Before the Dec. 6, 2019 meeting, Nessel's office sent a letter to Lessem and members of the board stating the decisions made at the Nov. 4 meeting to fire Wilson didn't hold.

"The response notes that certain procedural provisions under the employment agreement must be met, which did not occur as to the alleged executive committee meeting," a letter from the attorney general's office states.


"We are persuaded that any future meeting of the board on the matter of President Wilson's term of office should be conducted as a formal session of the board open to the public in keeping with, the spirit of our Constitution, the tradition of our democracy, and the need for public access to the workings of public institutions and agencies."

The board continued their divide by voting against a new code of conduct, the renaming of several departments and a budget increase for the expansion of Towers Cafe.


Wilson said he was disappointed about the board not passing the code and declined further comments.

On Dec. 12, 2019, it was announced that Trent would step down from the BOG to take a leadership role in the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity under Gov. Gretchen Whitmer. The next BOG meeting is on Jan. 31, 2020.


*This conflict is developing and will be updated on our site.*




Marilyn Kelly, Chair




Mark Gaffney




Bryan C. Barnhill II




Kim Trent\*




Sandra Hughes O'Brien




Michael Busuito



Dana Thompson



Anil Kumar



President M. Roy Wilson

In Support of Wilson

Against Wilson

Unknown

\*no longer on the BOG



# THC vapes cited as potential cause of lung illness

**Arben Gacaferi**  
*Contributing Writer*

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer called for the Michigan State Supreme Court to reinstate the temporary ban on flavored nicotine products and vapes to address the health issues surrounding the products.

On Dec. 12, 2019 she said on Twitter youth vaping is a public health issue and “we must do everything in our power to protect kids from its harmful effects.”

Dr. Andrew King, associate professor at Wayne State School of Medicine and doctor at the Detroit Medical Center, said that although the data compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Food and Drug Administration is not concrete, it should still act as a cautionary sign.

“People have to understand that there is a risk association with vaping even if the data gathered isn’t 100% accurate yet,” King said.

Although the Michigan vape ban has been temporarily lifted, the state issued a temporary halt on the sale of marijuana vapes on Nov. 22, 2019 and called for the retesting of THC-infused vape cartridges to ensure they do not contain vitamin E acetate.

The FDA reported the majority of e-cigarette or vaping product use-associated lung injury patients used THC products.

Vitamin E acetate is used as a thickening agent in vape solutions, and has been flagged by the CDC as one of the likely contributors of EVALI, since it causes lung damage when inhaled.

There have been 152 different THC-containing products reported by EVALI patients the CDC said. The most popular brand is Dank Vapes, and is largely counterfeit and unknown in origin, according to the CDC.

As of Dec. 10, 2019, the CDC reported 2,409 cases of EVALI in all 50 states and confirmed 52 deaths across 26 states.

Because vaping products are not regulated by the FDA, King said there is a chance they are related to serious lung injuries such as EVALI.

Both the CDC and FDA indicate products containing THC may be a major cause of EVALI and have issued statements recommending THC products be completely avoided until further developments are made.

The CDC said 77% of reported EVALI cases involve people under the age of 35.

Computer science major, Zain Zaidi said he vapes THC products daily and his smoking habits got him sick.

He said he had severe cold-like symptoms that worsened while he was smoking, but cleared after he took a three-week break from vaping.

“Me and my friends have been really good at avoiding

(fake THC cartridges) since I got sick,” he said.

Multiple advisories issued warnings to citizens to avoid obtaining THC cartridges from informal dealers, such as friends and street dealers.

King said it’s a risk for users to obtain unregulated cartridges.

“You run the risk of possible foreign substances to be in there. The intent of these foreign and unregulated substances could be detrimental to your lungs even if it was meant to ‘heighten the experience,’” he said.

Zaidi echoes similar advice.

“Fake carts are really really bad for your health. They’re appealing because they’re always so much cheaper than authentic ones,” Zaidi said. “I still use my pen (and) I don’t really plan on stopping.”

King said people should take the CDC’s warnings seriously.

“Until the causality is identified, you have to calculate risk. The CDC does not have a secret agenda, it simply is advocating for health consciousness,” King said.

# Elevator maintenance funds ‘not enough’

**Slone Terranella**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

**Jack Thomas**  
*News Correspondant*

Keeping the elevators running is a “balancing game,” according to Wayne State facilities senior director.

A limited budget, sparse staff and outdated infrastructure are to blame for inconsistent working elevators, Steven Pecic said.

According to the Facilities Planning and Management website, there are 10 buildings with elevator issues on campus. These include State Hall, Alex Manoogian Hall, Old Main, Gordon H. Scott Hall and the Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences.

Elevator maintenance is not included in the FPM budget. Instead the university’s deferred maintenance department fund elevator repairs.

Included in this budget is plumbing, custodial work, pest control and groundskeeping. In 2019, the Board of Governors allocated \$6.2 million to deferred maintenance, according to the 2019 general fund operating budget.

Pecic, who manages these funds, says this isn’t enough. Replacing an outdated elevator can potentially cost millions of dollars, he said.

“One set of broken elevators can wipe out my entire budget for the year which means nothing else gets fixed,” he said.

FPM has received an independent analysis of its financial situation, Pecic said.

“A more responsible annual allocation to deferred maintenance would be in the range of \$65 to \$75 million dollars,” Pecic said.

The university subcontracts maintenance to Schindler Elevator Corporation. According to Schindler’s website, they manufacture, install, and modernize, elevators, escalators and moving walks throughout North America.

On a typical business day, there are two full-time Schindler technicians on campus. This means there are two people responsible for the

upkeep of 170 elevators, Pecic said.

Schindler’s policy says as long as one elevator is working in a single building, technicians don’t have to respond to maintenance requests outside of normal business hours, Pecic said. However, if someone gets trapped in an elevator, the technicians must be on campus within an hour.

The BOG approved \$4.5 million at a May 1, 2019 meeting to refurbish State Hall elevators, according to the FPM website. State Hall was built in 1949 and still has its original elevators, according to the proposal presented to the BOG.

The proposal states the elevators are 63 years old and are unreliable due to their age. The recommended life cycle of an elevator before replacement is 15 years. Twenty years is “pushing it,” Pecic said.

The BOG approved \$2.5 million to refurbish the five elevators in Scott Hall at their Dec. 6 meeting.

Matt Lockwood, director of communications, said the university is doing all it can to get contractors to repair the elevators.

Student Disability Services specialist Ryan Wiseman said for students who aren’t able to get to a classroom on a higher-level floor, broken elevators are a serious inaccessibility issue.

“It’s difficult when buildings have intermittently working elevators where sometimes they’re open or operating and sometimes they’re not,” he said. “It creates barriers in terms of students counting on being able to get to class. They arrive, and they just can’t get to the fourth or fifth floor because of the broken elevators.”

Wiseman said broken elevators create a “domino effect,” where SDS must negotiate classroom attendance policies and switch classrooms to ensure the rooms are in an accessible location.

“So we’re trying to negotiate attendance policies or things of this nature, so students are not penalized for the university’s infrastructure,” he said.

For Wiseman’s personal caseload, he’s had to switch five classrooms so they’re accessible for students with disabilities, and he’s talked to 10 students who are regularly affected by broken elevators. Moving classrooms around is not a simple task, especially when other buildings are also experiencing unreliable elevators, he said.

“I think the building that comes up the most is Old Main. I know they’re doing a lot of switching of classes there,” Wiseman said. “But when we’re also trying to move classes around and with State Hall (elevators) being closed and there being no classrooms available there, the university doesn’t have a ton of room to move things around.”

Students and faculty members who see gaps in the administration’s response are taking steps to address the broken elevators.

Many have taken the issue to Student Senate. It’s a high priority on the council’s list, Student Senate President Stuart Baum said.

“When students see the broken elevators and they don’t see the university doing anything, they think the university is ignoring it,” Baum said.

Some Student Senate members are working with faculty union representatives on a “pressure campaign,” said Hayg Oshagan, professor and member of AAUP-AFT Local 6075. The campaign

will take place on social media and utilize the Twitter hashtag #FixTheElevators, a reference to the deferred maintenance department’s policy.

Oshagan criticized the administration’s “number of excuses” for the lack of functional elevators, including unavailable parts and labor.

“We just reject that as an explanation,” Oshagan said. “We’re not on some faraway Pacific Island, you know? If you spend money, people will come and fix it.”

The members plan to spearhead the campaign in early 2020, Oshagan said. The goal of the campaign is to spread additional awareness of the issue and to prompt a response from university officials.

“At the very least, administration should tell us what its plans are and how they want to go forward,” Oshagan said. “We just haven’t heard anything except excuses.”

Baum and others are employing an additional strategy to make it easier for students to report elevator issues. The council is working with Computing & Information Technology to add a new maintenance request feature to WSU’s app.

“You can take a picture or send in a text that describes a problem, and it goes right to the queue,” Baum said. “So that’s a very user-friendly option.”

C&IT has a long list of projects, and has yet to add the feature to the phone app, said Baum. Like the elevators, the app is waiting on administrators to prioritize it, he said.



# Yearly roundup: Student Senate pass major resolutions

**Kenya Burdo**  
Contributing Writer

The Wayne State Student Senate passed a resolution at their Dec. 5, 2019 meeting to support LGBTQ students and academic life in its mission to promote diversity and inclusion.

The resolution says WSU should hire at least one full-time faculty member dedicated to the field of queer studies to join the Gender, Sexuality and Women’s Studies Program.

“We did research and found that compared to all Michigan public universities, that we were in the vast minority of those groups for not having the student life piece, but also the academic life piece,” Senate President Stuart Baum said.

A project on LGBTQ housing was presented at a Nov. 7, 2019 Senate meeting that will give students the ability to choose their roommates.

The project is set to begin fall 2020, said Nikki Dunham, director of housing and residential life.

There have been issues in the past where LGBTQ students are placed in uncomfortable situations for them and their roommates, Dunham said. She hopes this project will resolve this issue by giving them more choice.

The Senate also passed a resolution to apply the 30% tuition discount for spring and summer semesters to graduate and professional students at the Nov. 7 meeting.

Recycling on campus was also discussed at the meeting. Dunham said there aren’t easily accessible recycling options in housing.

Dunham said although there may be a recycling room, recycling becomes an inconvenient trip for students. Some students question whether the material they drop off is actually being recycled, she said.

Baum said issues around recycling are part of a “global” dilemma that is difficult to address on a local level.

“One part of the global issue, (is) people who used to purchase recycling, mainly in China, are not accepting it anymore,” he said. “So, the company that actually takes our recycling then doesn’t have that many buyers for the recycling after they handle it. So, there’s a concern that they will stop taking it, or raise the cost.”

The Senate took time to discuss the issue of malfunctioning elevators at a Sept. 5, 2019 meeting — an ongoing issue at WSU.

“Since January 2019 there were about 120 elevator entrapment reports through the police,” Senate Secretary Joseph Naman said.

The BOG approved \$4.5 million for the refurbishing of the elevators and for the addition of a third elevator shaft in State Hall on May 1, 2019.

Tanya Clark, a custodian from the Mike Ilitch School of Business, said she would like to see the elevators improved as part of the renovations.

“(The) elevators are too small (and) always break down,” Clark said. “A lot of the students don’t like to take the elevator, so they use the stairs.”

There is a scarcity of elevator maintenance companies that can fix the university’s elevators, according to Dean of Students David Strauss. Baum said at the Sept. 5 meeting, the issue with the elevators should be resolved in the spring.

Read more about the elevators on page nine.



Photo by Jonathan Deschaine

# Campus Health Center offers contraceptives and other forms of birth control

**Marisa Kalil-Barrino**  
Contributing Writer

The Wayne State Campus Health Center provides confidential, safe and judgment-free sexual health and products for all students.

The CHC promotes safe sex to prevent unwanted pregnancies or STIs, said Celeste Robinson, nurse practitioner at the CHC.

Robinson said they provide all forms of birth control and contraceptives, except the IUD.

“We provide the oral pill, birth control shots, Nexplanon, NuvaRing and birth control patches,” she said.

Robinson said the CHC doesn’t offer IUDs because they don’t have a provider that accommodates with their services.

For other forms of contraception and birth control the CHC doesn’t offer, Robinson said they refer patients to Planned Parenthood on Cass Avenue. The facility is less than one mile away from the CHC.

Planned Parenthood offers the birth control implant, patches, pills, shots, sponges, morning-after pills and vaginal rings, according to their website.

They also provide cervical caps, diaphragms, male and female condoms, fertility awareness methods, IUDs, spermicides, vasectomies and tubal ligations.

“We have a full-service pharmacy for most insurances,” Robinson said. “Patients’ insurance will be billed for any contraception.”

The CHC accepts 12 forms of insurance. If they do not accept your insurance, they will attempt to bill your insurance anyways — including lab work.

If they cannot bill your services to your insurance, you can pay with a credit card debit card, OneCard debit or cash.

For clients who are on their parents’ insurance and concerned about them seeing their medical record, they have an option to disclose information or medical records only to the patient and their doctor. If it’s billed to their insurance, it will not show what was billed and will stay confidential.

WSU student, Isabel Leader said the CHC has made it a lot easier for people to obtain contraceptives.

“I think it’s important because a lot of people don’t know how to get contraceptives,” Leader said. “They think it’s too hard or expensive to get, so many don’t even try.”

Leader said she wished purchasing contraceptives on campus was more publicized.

“I’ve never seen anything about purchasing contraceptives (or) birth control on



Graphic by Guneet Ghotra

campus,” Leader said. “That may be the reason why people aren’t aware.”

Robinson said students can receive a free illness visit every semester. The visit with the doctor is free, but prescribed medication or contraceptive treatment are not.

The CHC also has The Condom Club, a \$5 redeemable punch card for 50 condoms. Customers can buy five to 10 condoms at any time at the front desk with no appointment.

The condoms are latex free, and consist of male and female condoms, dental dams, flavored condoms and glow-in-the-dark condoms.

Leader has only visited the CHC once, but she said it was very helpful and they answered all of her questions.

Students can visit the new CHC location at 5285 Anthony Wayne Dr. They recommend visiting an urgent care or an emergency center if a student needs immediate medical attention.

The CHC’s hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Their phone number is 313-577-5041.



# Full-time student, part-time sex worker

**Emily Roth**  
Contributing Writer

*Stacy and Lauren chose to remain anonymous throughout the story to protect their identities.*

Stacy, a Wayne State public relations major, can remember the day she was first introduced to the idea of sex work.

While trying to find toilet paper in a cupboard under the sink at a family friend's house, 14-year-old Stacy came across something that would alter her life. Stacy found herself flipping through poorly hidden Playboy magazines and old pop erotica novels from the 50s and 60s. She said that she tried to go through everything as fast as she could so nobody would find out.

"I was so fascinated," she said. "Ever since then I would just think about it constantly. I loved the pictures — didn't read the articles."

Growing up watching older movies, Stacy became mesmerized by the glamour and the sex appeal of starlets like Rita Hayworth and Brigitte Bardot.

"I really liked the way they carried themselves, so I couldn't wait to grow up and be like that," Stacy said. "Over the years I discovered internet porn, and I thought it was pretty — it's not like I found anything hardcore. As I found out about other kinds of sex work, it all really appealed to me: escort, sugar dating, stripping, cam work."

Before she decided to go into sex work, Stacy said her original plan was to be a professional ballet dancer.

"I did ballet for 12 years and I got injured when I was 16, so I had to quit," Stacy said. "My original plan was to join a professional dance academy and do ballet for a living and then do choreography, but it just didn't work out. After graduating high school I took a year off and got four different surgeries, and while I was recovering from the last one I really started to think about my next move. Sex work was always in the back of my head."

A photographer friend connected Stacy with someone he knew in Los Angeles who worked in porn. The contact told her if she wanted to get into the professional porn industry, she should apply to agencies in LA.

Stacy applied and received a call the same day. At 18, she moved to LA to begin her new career. While living in LA, Stacy said she filmed porn once a week. Most of her income went toward rent and bills, she said.

"I did a lot of lesbian scenes, I did scenes with guys, nothing really too hardcore or intense. I really wanted to work with Kink.com but that never really happened."

Stacy said the porn industry isn't as lucrative as it once was.

"Porn stars used to get paid way more but because of free porn, the pay rates have decreased. The biggest porn stars make their money off Instagram. I know others do YouTube, Snapchat Premium and OnlyFans," she said. "It's not necessarily about how you look or what kind of content you're willing to do, it's just luck — like how big you get overnight."

After some problems with her apartment, Stacy said she decided not to renew her lease and move back to Michigan from California. When she got back, she enrolled in college and began doing cam work on the side to pay the bills.

She became a cam girl on the website MyFreeCams. Cam work is a lot different than porn, Stacy said.

"You do make more money than you do in porn," she said. "People feel more connected to you because you're doing things with them directly instead of just performing. You're doing things to appeal to specific people. It's more personal and I think people really like that. 90% of my time while camming is spent talking."

The intimate nature of cam work causes some of her clients to try and build relationships outside of her work, Stacy said.

"In reality I'm doing what I consider to be work and that they're consuming it and paying for it," Stacy explained. "Some people think you're interested in a relationship. You always have to make sure not to cross that line."

She tries to cam every day for about four or eight hours, giving her the flexibility to study and go to class. But she said she still experiences work and life conflict.

## 'I don't have a problem with taking my clothes off in front of people.'

Not everybody who's a student sex worker goes into the industry for the same reasons.

This is Lauren's first year of not being in school. After attending WSU last year for communications, she left after struggling with mental health and learning disabilities. She became a stripper for a semester to make money during her parent's separation.

"I don't personally see it as immoral or anything like that," she said. "I actually really liked it when I started — it was a lot of fun."

However, on top of issues with her mental health, she found herself drinking more and sleeping less while being a sex worker and student. This decline in her mental health led her to doing poorly in school. She said a lack of support from WSU's mental health services is what made her drop out of school.

More recently, Lauren has been feeling burnt out after 11 months of stripping.

"I've had to remind myself to just kind of think positively because you really do see the worst of people sometimes," she said.

Lauren found she was perceived differently when she told her clients she was a student. They viewed her as a worker rather than a sexual object, she said.

"When I would tell people I was in school they would respect me more than they would respect other girls," Lauren said.

Her experiences made her realize the privileges her background afforded her.

"I grew up with two parents who were able to send me to school," she said. "I find it kind of screwed up because the only reason I'm in school is because I started off in a place of privilege."

There is also an unnerving lack of protection from authority, especially in the strip club, Lauren said. Lauren recalled a time when a woman was crying in the locker room after being strangled by a customer for turning down their solicitation for sex. The security guards ignored her request to check the cameras.

"No one fights it because it's just not a fight you're going to win," Lauren said.

Along with issues of security, Detroit strip clubs make strippers pay "house fees" for the space they use she said.

"I have to pay to work there, so I have to pay a tip out to the DJ and house mom," she explained. "But if I go and use a private booth because I do lap dances for someone, I'm also asked to pay a minimum fee — sometimes \$50 at some clubs."

Some clubs even make you pay if you're late or want to go home early, Lauren said.

Stripping is easy to start but hard to quit, Lauren said. While applying for jobs outside the industry, Lauren said she doesn't want to put stripping on her resume, but she's concerned about the five-year gap.

"What if I do get hired and then they find out and fire me," she said.

She wonders if she will have any legal rights in that situation.

## Protecting Sex Workers

The murky laws around sex work make it difficult for both workers and consumers to navigate. Some advocate for decriminalization of sex work, but argue purchasing should remain illegal. Others say sex work should be decriminalized but regulated.

Stacy said people should listen to what sex workers want instead of imposing their beliefs on them. She feels sex work and consumption should both be decriminalized and not federally regulated.

"A lot of people are pushing for the Nordic Model or End Demand, which is where the purchasing of sex work remains illegal but sex work is legal. It's complete bullshit," Stacy said. "It reinforces the idea that doing and consuming sex work is bad. That's like saying it's legal to make cookies but illegal to eat them. The idea makes zero sense to me."

In 2018, congress passed the Fight Online Sex Trafficking Act and the Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act. Advocates argue that while these bills may protect sex trafficking victims, they unintentionally make it much harder for sex workers to do their jobs by censoring and shutting down websites sex workers use to communicate.

Zee St. James, a former WSU student, who works as an escort and advocate for sex workers' rights, said sex work is becoming less safe because of bills like FOSTA and SESTA.

"The internet is a really important safety tool because if you're a sex worker — like a lot of people who are on Backpage — that was the only thing keeping them from working on the street which could be a lot more dangerous," St. James said.

These bills have affected St. James personally as an escort. They've had months where they've had to do things that weren't safe, St. James said.

"We use the Internet to talk to each other and to give each other resources, so whenever that's under threat, it makes it a lot scarier," St. James said.

For students interested in pursuing sex work, whether as side hustle or career, Stacy said it's better to view it like any other job.

"Finding the time to work, go to school, do homework and study, take care of myself, be social and everything else is overwhelming," Stacy said. "You probably won't make six figures, it takes a lot of self-motivation and consistency. Be yourself, don't do whatever is popular, find your niche and be okay with people knowing."

Lauren feels differently.

"It's hard to quit because it's instant money — it's addictive," Lauren said.

"Don't do it."

As the stigma around sex work begins to fade, Stacy said that instead of ending the demand for sex, people should be taught how to engage in sexual relationships in healthy and consensual ways. The includes consuming services from sex workers.

"Exchanging companionship and/or sexual services for money appeals to a lot of people for many different reasons," Stacy said. "For the most part, people want their physical needs met without having an emotional relationship — and that's totally understandable."



# World of Unrest: Iraq

Sean Taormina  
Features Editor

*Wayne State Iraqi students see hope for the future of the country in recent protests.*

Wayne State student Sally Alrawi said she couldn’t watch news about the protests in Iraq — at least not at first. It was too traumatizing, too real for her. During the first few days of the protests, she said she could barely eat or sleep.

Still, images from Iraq found their way to her. Sally remembers seeing a picture from the protests on social media one morning. She said she’ll never be able to forget it.

“It was a (tear gas) canister that was shot into a young man’s skull,” she said. “It was an X-ray. You could see the can in his head. It was just crazy, just seeing those people dying and blood being shed just for demanding the simplest rights.”

If you can withstand the macabre, you can find a video of the incident’s aftermath online. In the video, a young man lays face down on the pavement. People crowd around him, some filming with their phones, others attending his body. Smoke billowing from the back of his head like the last drag of a cigarette. On the side of his body is an Iraqi flag.

For Sally, the protests brought back memories from before she and her family came to Michigan in 2010 — memories from the American invasion of Iraq. Though she was only 12 when they left Iraq, she still recalls the constant sense of unease that came with living in a war zone.

“As much as there were some forms of safety, you never really felt secure, you always felt like someone could come and bomb your house at any moment,” she said. “You’re just basically living on your nerves all the time.”

But while she tried her best to avoid coverage of the protests, deep down she knew she had to get involved. Iraq still felt like her home, she said. It was the place where she’d spent the first half of her young life. A place where before the war you could walk at night without fear. Where neighbors were like family and the narrow streets of Baghdad buzzed with commerce and community.

She has lived in both versions of Iraq — in peace and in war, she said. And even now, an ocean away, she saw in the protestor’s demands the same things she wanted for her homeland.

“I did have the privilege of seeing what it’s like to have a peaceful country, a country where you could go out at 3 a.m., and you can actually feel safe and secure when you’re walking in the streets,” she said. “No one is going to shoot you, no one is going to raise their gun and put that to your head. You know, you’re just very safe in your own country. I got to experience

that. So imagining what it would be like back in, you know, the 90s. I would definitely long to go back to that country.”

The protests began in earnest on Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2019 when thousands of — mostly young — Iraqis poured into the streets of Baghdad and cities throughout the country’s southern districts.

“They’re protesting for basic human rights, which the government is not providing with its current economic decisions,” said Lyan Alsabti, a member of WSU’s Iraqi American Student Union and a supporter of the Iraq protests. “These include things like electricity — so like heating and cooling — clean water, safe shelters, better medical treatment and economic opportunities.”

The government answered calls for reform with tear gas, rubber bullets and eventually live ammunition. From Oct. 1 to Oct. 6, more than 100 protestors were killed and as many as 6,000 were wounded, according to NPR.

Since then, estimates of deaths have risen to over 300, with at least 15,000 wounded, according to a report by the Iraqi Parliamentary Human Rights Committee.

The young men — some as young as fifteen — who made up the bulwark of the early protests organized through social media and the online game “Player’s Unknown” Battlegrounds, a “Fortnite” like game popular in Iraq, Sally said.

“It’s funny because the older generations always joke about the young people, about how they are lazy and don’t study enough and just play their video games,” Sally said. “But then this happened, and people I think now see these young people are uniting together and aren’t what they thought.”

What marks these protests from others that have occurred since the U.S. invasion in

2003 is that the grievances that sparked the current uprising are not sectarian, said Frederic Pearson, a professor of political science and the director of WSU’s Center for Peace and Conflict Studies.

“I think there is an anger at the Iraqi political elite,” Pearson said. “Most of the protestors are Shia, and are calling for the collapse of a what is essentially a Shia regime — which is interesting. I think people easily recognize the system is corrupt at the top. The frontline services that people experience everyday are still as bad as they were several years ago and in some places they’ve gotten worse.”

Sally said she believes the fact that different sects were coming together under a single cause led by the country’s young people is what is most inspiring about the protests.

“For the longest time, we’ve had a lot of issues when it comes to different sects, Islamic sects like Shia and Sunnis, and I feel there’s a blessing in disguise with these protests. For the first time in so long — in 16 years — (sects) have actually come together hand in hand to fight,” Sally said.

The Iraq protests occur at a time when similar unrest seems to be popping up all across the world, Pearson said.

“The first thing you’ll notice is that many — perhaps not all — of these protests are organized around issues of wealth inequality, cost of living, education, etc.,” Pearson said. “It doesn’t seem like a coincidence. Inequality is a global issue and if it continues on the trajectory it is now, I expect we’ll be seeing many more protests in the future.”

Pearson believes a central question for the future stability of Iraq lies in how much of the country’s oil revenues are being invested back into the Iraqi economy and social programs.

“Under Saddam Hussein, for better or worse, Iraq had one of the best records in the Middle East of putting money back into the economy,” Pearson said. “The Baathist party did have social programs, and the quality of life index under that regime was higher in terms of medical care and things like that than in other parts of the Middle East.”

While the protests in Iraq haven’t been ignored in U.S. media, Alsabti said she has noticed more of a focus around the current protests in Hong Kong.

“If you’re going to declare support for Hong Kong you should also be getting behind Iraqi human rights issues,” Alsabti said. “I personally haven’t seen this a lot on the news, or in any media, like on Twitter, etc. It’s important for the people to use their voices now especially when the media is not doing the best job to raise awareness around it.”

In October, WSU’s IAU held a vigil in Gullen Mall in honor of the fallen protestors. Alsabti said the event turned out great. People showed up, and they read some Iraqi poems. Sally spoke at a similar event held in Dearborn. There, things got messy, she said.

A man shouted from the crowd blaming Iranians for the current state of Iraq. The speaker tried to stay on track, but things got rowdy. On Nov. 19, The Intercept in collaboration with The New York Times released hundreds of leaked documents detailing Iran’s network of influence over Iraqi politics.

Sally said Iran’s influence over Iraqi politics has been an open secret. “Basically the government that rules Iraq right now is Iran,” Sally said. “If you search (politicians’) pasts, you’ll find evidence, they’re mostly like Iranian. (Iraq) is a country that’s known for its riches, for its natural resources, for its knowledge, for just so many good things, and then you have some other countries interfering trying to take over because they want what’s in that country; even if it’s like the last bit, even if it’s only bread crumbs that are left.”

“Inequality is a global issue and if it continues on the trajectory it is now, I expect we’ll be seeing many more protests in the future.”

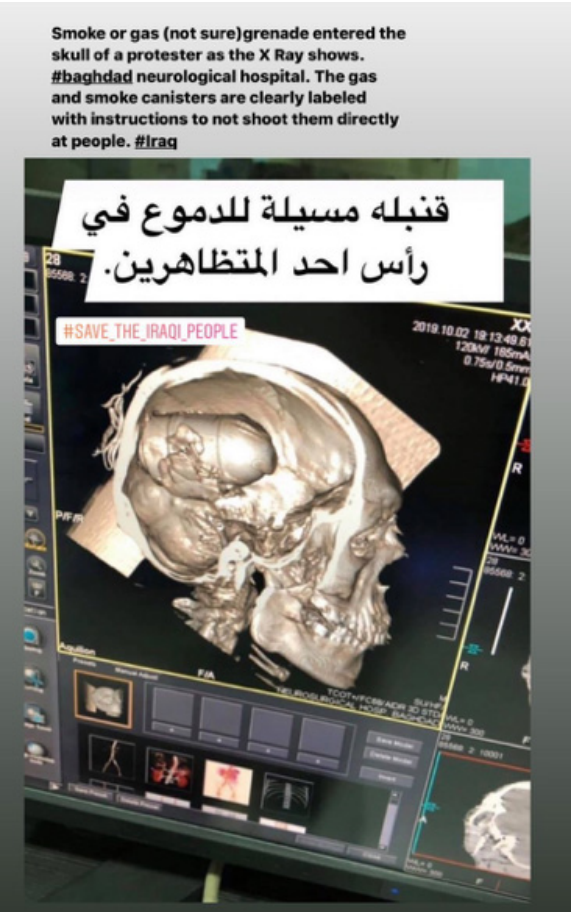


Photo by Sally Alrawi



Photo by Sally Alrawi





Photo by Sally Alrawi

Pearson shared similar sentiments.

“Iran to a certain extent is viewed as running the show there,” Pearson said. “The U.S. sort of agreed to that in order to avoid losing the country altogether. The U.S. essentially destabilized the country. Stability is not always by itself good or ideal, but sometimes it’s better when the alternative is chaos and corruption.”

Sally said she doesn’t blame Iranian or American citizens for the problems in Iraq. She knows it’s governments, systems of power, and the individuals in charge of them who cause the damage — it’s all the “political game” as her father likes to say.

“So just from Iraq and now living in America, I genuinely feel that it’s really not the citizens fault,” she said. “It’s not the people’s fault. It’s the specific individuals that have contributed to it that need to be held accountable.”

On Nov. 29, 2019, Iraq’s Prime Minister Adel Abdul-Mahdi announced he would step down. Though she sees the resignation as a sign that the protests are working, Alsabti said she doesn’t believe it matters who is in charge of the country so long as people’s basic human needs go unmet.

“Even as different players come to power, the basic struggle stays the same,” Alsabti said

Sally said she won’t give up speaking about Iraq until the country is finally the one she knows it can be — whenever that may be.

“I saw pictures on social media the other day of protestors holding signs that said ‘we just want a country’— I just want a homeland,” she said. “People are just so tired and just like sick and hurt of all that has happened, and the continued denial of simple human rights. They’re in desperate need for peace and getting that sense of comfort and security that they’ve longed for, for so long.”

Sally said her younger brother and her have both struggled with mental health issues set on by the death of her sister, the experience of immigrating to another country and traumas from the war. Talking to a therapist has helped her open up a lot, she said.

Her life experiences and talking with a therapist have also helped her decide to seek a new calling at WSU: helping others deal with their trauma, she said.

“I actually switched majors to psychology. I was doing dentistry first and I actually was kind of trying to convince myself to like it, but I knew deep down it wasn’t for me,” she said. “And the funny thing is, sometimes when things are meant to be, they are probably already there, but they just need to inspire you.”

Sally said she saw another video on social media involving an Iraqi protester and a tear gas canister. In this one, a canister spirals toward a young man’s head, coming inches away from hitting him. But before it strikes, another protester jumps from the crowd wielding a tennis racket, knocking it away at the last moment, probably saving his comrade’s life.

“People are just so tired and just like sick and hurt of all that have happened, and the continued denial of simple human rights.”

# World of unrest

Sean Taormina  
Features Editor

This year has seen hundreds of protests spring up across the world. From Chile to Iraq to right here in the U.S., civil unrest around issues like economic inequality and climate justice have sparked calls for accountability and action.

The South End has attempted to chronicle some of these protests and connect them to students and faculty here at WSU in an ongoing series, “World of unrest.”

Americas:

Canada (Northern British Columbia) - January 2019 - Earlier this year, Indigenous

communities and allies gathered to protest a proposed TransCanada pipeline in Northern British Columbia set to be constructed through First Nations territory. Protesters set up checkpoints along the planned construction site in an attempt to block TransCanada from accessing the area, according to the CBC.

Detroit - Sept. 2019 - Detroit joined hundreds of cities across the globe in strikes to demand world governments to take immediate transformative action on climate change. The strikes were inspired, in part, by Swedish climate change activist Greta Thurnberg. Roughly six million people participated in the international strikes, according to estimates by The Guardian.

New York - November 2019 - Demonstrations were held in New York City after multiple videos went viral showing NYPD officers cracking down on subway fare evasion — a policy protestors say unfairly targets lower income riders and people of color. Demonstrators held rallies, hopped turnstiles and occupied stations delaying services, Vox reports.



Protestors at the Climate Strike in Hart Plaza Sept. 20, 2019

Credit: Fernanda Manzanares

Chile - October 2019 - Ongoing demonstrations erupted in Chile after Santiago’s mass transit system announced it would be increasing subway fares. The protests have transformed into mass civil unrest around issues of privatization, cost of living and growing economic inequality.

“The last straw was the subway fare and that’s what got them in the streets, and that momentum carried on to everyone. There were all these price increases, but at the same time if your job or income stays stagnant there’s gonna be a lot of rage because people need to survive,” Josefina Diaz, WSU junior and Chilean immigrant, said.

Read more about the Chilean protests on TSE’s website.

Bolivia - November 2019 - Protests and counter protests have wracked Bolivia following the ousting of Bolivian President Evo Morales in November. Morales is considered the first indegionous Bolivian president elected to office. Morales resigned after the Organization of American States published a report accusing Morales’ Movement for Socialism Party of “manipulating” voter data. MAS officials say the ousting of Morales was a military coup, and their families have been victims of targeted attacks by political rivals. At least five pro-Morales demonstrators were killed by Bolivian security forces in November, according to reports by The Guardian.

Colombia - November 2019 - Inspired by the Chilean protests, hundreds of thousands of demonstrators took to the streets across Colombia to protest government corruption and austerity policies. Demonstrators organized a 12-hour nationwide strike on Nov. 21, 2019. In preparation for the protests, the Colombian government shut down the country’s borders, prohibited the sale of alcohol and instituted a nationwide curfew, The Washington Post reported.

Read more about the Colombian protests on TSE’s website.

Haiti - February 2019 - Protests broke out in Haiti again this year, continuing civil unrest around issues of cost of living and broader issues of economic inequality. In February, demonstrations prompted mayors in two major Haitian cities to cancel annual pre-Carnival celebrations, according to reporting by The Miami Herald.

Middle East/Africa:

Iraq - October 2019 - The ongoing protests in Iraq are centered around unemployment, a lack of working public services and government corruption. Since the protests began on Oct. 1, approximately 1300 were killed, with at least 15,000 wounded, according to a report by the Iraqi Parliamentary Human Rights Committee.

“They’re protesting for basic human rights, which the government is not providing with its current economic decisions; these include things like electricity — so like heating and cooling — clean water, safe shelters, better medical treatment and economic opportunities,” Lyan Alsabti, a member of WSU’s Iraqi American Student Union, said.

Read more about the Iraq protests on page 12

Iran - November 2019 - Initiated by a 200% rise in fuel prices, protests in Iran have spread



# World of unrest continued

to over 21 cities across the country. At least 106 protesters have been killed by Iranian security forces, according to a report by Amnesty International.

Lebanon - October 2019 - Motivated by their government’s failure to address Lebanon’s ongoing economic crisis and perceptions of widespread government corruption, Lebanese protesters have organized massive demonstrations, including general strikes and occupations of Beirut streets. Despite economic concessions from the Lebanese government and an announcement that Prime Minister Saad Hariri would resign from his position, protests have continued calling for the formation of a new government, according to The Economist.

Read more about the Lebanese protests on TSE’s website.

Egypt - September 2019 - Eight years after Egyptian protests brought down President Hosni Mubarak, thousands returned to El Tahrir Square to call for the resignation of current President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi. Egyptian authorities clamped down on the protests, detaining 2,000 demonstrators, and closed off main cities squares like Tahrir across the country, according to Reuters.

Sudan - April 2019 - Technically beginning in December 2018, the protests in Sudan deposed the 30-year long reign of President Omar al-Bashir in April 2019. The protests began around public anger at rising bread prices and quickly sparked into calls for civilian rule of the government, according to The New York Times.

Asia:

Hong Kong - February 2019 - Probably the most well-known protests occurring this year, the 2019 protests in Hong Kong have escalated since they began in February. What started as demonstrations against a bill that would allow the Chinese government to extradite fugitives in Hong Kong to mainland China quickly shifted into calls for democratic reforms and independence.

India - December 2019 - Thousands have taken to the streets to protest a recently passed

Citizenship Amendment Act that excludes Indian Muslims. Demonstrations have sprung up in cities across India, with students in the Indian state of Assam calling for a mass hunger strike and clashes in Delhi between protesters and police, according to Al-Jazeera.

Kashmir - October 2019 - The Indian state of Kashmir has a long history of protests followed by retaliatory clampdowns. The abrogation of Article 370 of the Indian constitution in August marked a major shift in how India managed its relationship with the a semi-autonomous region. Since Article 370 was abrogated, India has enforced a communications blackout in the region, making it difficult for Kashmiris to communicate with each other and the outside world.

“They implemented the shutdown so no one can see what’s happening, My mom actually just came back and she was telling us (my family) about how bad things are on the ground. The blackout is concerning, but what’s more concerning is the violence,” Safwaan Mir, WSU alumnus and president of Michigan’s chapter of Stand with Kashmir said.

Read more about the Kashmir on TSE’s website.

If you think our map is missing any key protests send us your comments and tips by emailing us at [thesouthend.wsu@gmail.com](mailto:thesouthend.wsu@gmail.com).

**La Palma**  
MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

**Welcome Wayne State Community**  
*Start Your School Day with a Great Healthy Meal*



1133 W. Canfield St., Detroit, MI 48207  
One block West of Woodward - (313) 533-5000  
Parking available for our customers  
Ask for parking pass

Hours:  
Mon-Fri 10am-5pm  
Sat-Sun 11am-5pm  
[natilapalma.com](http://natilapalma.com)



Bring in this ad to receive 10% off entire meal  
- Dine-in Only -



**Warrior**

Warrior Life and Wellness is a collaborative effort of on and off campus resources focused on building a healthy community for all Warriors by classifying programs and events into the 8 dimensions of wellness by coordinating a cohesive calendar and programming to foster Warrior Success.

**WARRIORLIFE AND WELLNESS** **WARRIORLIFE.WAYNE.EDU**

**WARRIOR**

**SPIRITUAL**

**INTELLECTUAL**

**PHYSICAL**

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

**FINANCIAL**

**OCCUPATIONAL**

**SOCIAL**

**EMOTIONAL**



# Students start their own record label

Jack Thomas  
News Correspondant



A group of eight guys sit around a table. They're snacking on doughnut holes, sharing laughs and listening to music — but they mean business.

These eight guys are carefully deciding which artists will be signed to Old Main Records, an emerging student-run record label at Wayne State.

At the head of the table sits President Brendan DeRey. Over the summer, he and fellow music student J. Vincent Arniego decided to pursue the idea. They hoped to fill a gap for students wanting to break into the music industry.

"I found myself slightly frustrated," DeRey said. "I'm a musician and have taken classes in music business. But as far as actual experience, I don't really have any, which is the reason why starting this label was very important to me."



Credit: Jack Thomas Chris Simpson (left) and Brendan DeRey (right)

Old Main Records is a student organization with 14 members and is looking to expand. The label hopes to enlist students from other departments, like film and media arts majors, to work on creative projects, according to a press release sent out by the group. This could include traditional music videos or more experimental pieces.

The record label hopes to expand and bring in students with a background in business, marketing, writing, photography and graphic design.

"We're in startup mode," DeRey said. "We're all kind of wearing multiple hats at the moment."

Record label experience for students is "far and few between" at least locally, according to music lecturer Jeremy Peters. This is one of the reasons he's excited to be a faculty advisor for Old Main Records, he said.

"Developing a way for students to synthesize all the stuff that they learned in class and use it in a more hands-on way seems like a good win," Peters said.

Old Main Records is divided into four sections.

The artists and repertoire department is responsible for recruiting and managing artists. Music technology student David Jackowicz is in charge of the tech department and the distribution department, where he helps record the artists and releases their music on different platforms. Music business student Chris Simpson is the marketing director.

The label will utilize existing university resources — mainly the professional recording studio in Old Main. The label hopes to provide a service to local music acts, DeRey said.

Music technology student Patrick Norton is creative director. For the past year or so, Norton has devoted much of his energy to Nice Place, an art and music venue where he also resides. As of recently, crowds have begun to exceed the venue's capacity, Norton said. He hopes to bring the community he's helped foster at Nice Place to a "bigger ballcourt."

Norton and Old Main Records member Samuel Sprague are in Dirt Room, a local band. They plan on dropping their upcoming album "Summer Salts" through Old Main Records.

"Building a world around a specific project is something that I think we can accomplish with this organization," Norton said.

Promotion is included in the package to help recording artists expand their reach. This will allow smaller artists to build their following and larger artists to market to their fans.



Credit: Jack Thomas Patrick Norton (left) and Samuel Sprague (right)

"It's very much a case by case basis," DeRey said. "We are not going to say 'no' to whatever the (artists') needs are."

The members are planning an on-campus showcase Jan. 17 at Saint Andrew's Hall, the church next to Alex Manoogian Hall. It will feature performances from Dirt Room, and local acts Mac Saturn, Craig Garwood and The Stools. A number of visual artists will also display their work.

The label is still accepting music submissions, DeRey said.

Still in its early stages, the label is trying to spread awareness of its services on campus and in the local music scene, DeRey said. He hopes to solidify its standing for future generations.

"I'd like to think that there is a kid in elementary school right now that doesn't know he's going to be interested in music at some point, but one day he will inherit this organization," DeRey said.

# PULL AHEAD THIS SUMMER AT MACOMB!

Apply now!  
Classes start  
May 18

Apply as a guest student.  
Transfer credits to Wayne State.



"Taking summer classes was the best decision I ever made. It felt like a mountain was taken off my shoulders with every class I finished."

Vivyan, Macomb 2019 graduate now pursuing a bachelor's degree

Visit [macomb.edu/guest](http://macomb.edu/guest)  
or call 586.445.7999  
and select Admissions



Discover. Connect. *Advance.*



# Student threads together passion for art and education

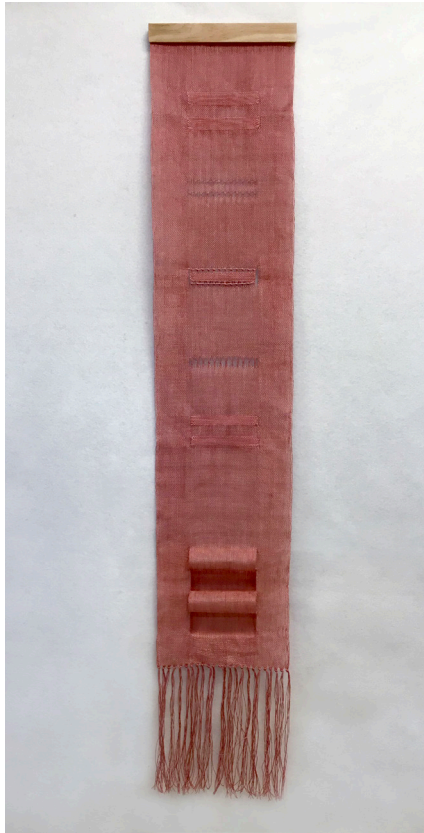
**Jenna Prestininzi**  
Contributing Writer

After retiring from a career in education, one Wayne State student decided to pursue her passion for the arts.

Evelyn Hoey, 69, set out to study art at WSU because of its proximity to her home in Southwest Detroit and the tuition discounts it offers to seniors, she said. Along with being an artist, Hoey is a mother of five and grandmother to eight.

Hoey said she began as a self-taught artist at a time when art wasn't the main priority in her life. She taught herself to sew, basketweave and crochet.

Photos by Heather Macali



"I just did a lot of trial and error or watched videos or things like that because I had an interest in it, but I really didn't have (the) opportunity," Hoey said.

Hoey's daughter, Alana Hoey Moore, said her mother's nontraditional path to becoming a WSU art student has broadened her idea of what success looks like.



Photo by Annabelle Hoey

"I think she's opened us up to the idea of pursuing what you really love (and) what you really want, rather than just being practical forever," Alana said.

Beginning last spring, Hoey took on a project that uses natural dyes as an alternative to chemical dyes, which are often used in labs at WSU and in the fashion industry, she said. She plans to eventually establish a garden in her backyard in order to grow plants for the dyes.

"For me the big draw to natural dyes is that they are natural. That I can grow them and that they are scientifically interesting to me," Hoey said.

Susan Moran, art and art history professor, said she admires Hoey for taking on such a difficult project.

"One thing about the project she's doing now is it's very complicated. You have to be quite scientific about it," Moran said.

"I have a lot of respect for what she's doing because it takes an extraordinary amount of work."

Hoey's work utilizes weaving, print, dye, metal and other fiber arts. These artistic materials and techniques are used to make pieces including chairs, wall hangings and more.

Prior to her time at WSU, Hoey helped found the Charlotte Mason Community School in Detroit. Art is a key educational component at the school, with Hoey having a direct role in teaching art, she said.

"It (art) is like part of the regular curriculum that kids are involved in, not



Photo by Robert Hoey

only the typical arts but also handcrafts. I helped with some of that. That wasn't the only thing I was teaching," Hoey said.

She said her experience at the Charlotte Mason Community School inspired her to pursue an education in art.

"The school that I was working in, the philosophy there was very conducive to lifelong learning and to art," Hoey said. "I think the idea that once I retired, I would do something else has kind of been there for me."

Moran appreciates Hoey's commitment to developing as an artist and refining her skills, she said.

"I think that she's a role model in terms of being a very hardworking and dedicated student," Moran said. "She's super responsible."

Alana said her mother is driven by her inquisitive nature to push herself to grow and expand.

"She's a deep well of humility and curiosity and kindness. She will always keep learning and growing and seeing the world in a different light," Alana said.

"She genuinely pursues her art in order to bring more beauty to the world."

Heather Macali, assistant professor for fashion and fibers, said Hoey strives to inform herself on different techniques and processes.

"Even if we do not offer a technique in a course, she will investigate the process and become proficient at it. That is a quality that will lead to success," Macali said.

Hoey said studying at WSU was positive because of the support from her professors.



Photo by Susan Moran

"I think the university could do a little more in terms of equipment or just facility for the art program, but the professors are wonderful — very encouraging," she said. "(They're) always kind of pushing you a little to think more about things, but respecting you and respecting your ideas. If I have an idea, professors always want to make a way for it to happen."

WSU student and Evelyn's granddaughter, Annabelle Hoey, has been positively impacted by her grandmother's work ethic, she said.

"One of the biggest things she taught me, no matter what you're doing make sure it's done with excellence," Annabelle said. "It has motivated me to be more creative and think outside of my own box."

Graduating in spring of 2020, Evelyn hopes to combine her educational and artistic experience by teaching art classes for adults in her Southwest community. Hoey said she wants to uplift others in her community through creative expression.

"I think there isn't enough of that," she said. "We don't have enough of it in schools for our kids, so we have people who are growing up, and they're not really given (an) opportunity to look for what they might be good at creatively."



Photo by Heather Macali



# Sophomore business student flips restaurant ownership

**Malak Silmi**  
News Editor

After only two months of flipping burgers and taking orders, a Wayne State sophomore was able to flip into a leadership role and take over City Burger in Warren, Michigan.

Abbas Barjaoui said he had the dream of opening a restaurant of his own. Little did he know that dream would soon turn into a reality.

On Oct. 28, Barjaoui and his older brother Mohamed Barjaoui became co-owners of the burger joint.

The previous owner, Assad Sobh, opened City Burger in March 2018. After a little over a year, Sobh said he decided to let go of the business.

“It was very successful, but I got burnt out and couldn’t keep the staff,” Sobh said.

Sobh works as a property manager and owns the City Burger building. He said he still visits the restaurant.

Sobh said he trusted the brothers to take over the business because he has been close friends with their father for years.

“I worked with them in the past and I know their father well, (and) I think they’ll be successful,” he said about the brothers.

Barjaoui has over three years of experience working at restaurants, and said he was excited to take over the business.

Barjaoui said he had experience managing employees at Eclipse Burgers, where he worked for two years during high school.

“It came to a point where I (realized) I can do this. I can be my own boss,” he said.

A month into new ownership, Barjaoui said the business boomed.

“Sales have gone up at least 30% since we took over,” he said.

This is mainly because he began to incorporate skills like building connections, advertising and marketing that he was learning in his business classes, he said.

Barjaoui is working full-time at the restaurant, about five to six days a week. He manages a full-time course load toward a business management degree through a combination of online and on-campus classes.

“Little things I learn in school, I apply them here. I’m trying to pay attention in classes because I can use this information and it’s beneficial,” he said.

Barjaoui’s older brother, Mohamed, said Abbas excelled at every position he has ever held and is hardworking.

“He puts in double time maintaining a business while working toward his business degree,” he said.

Mohamed said there was some hesitation and fear before accepting ownership, but they made the right decision.

“The opportunity for growth is what ultimately allowed us to move forward,” he said.

Barjaoui emphasized the relationship and connection he has with his family. He said his dad sometimes comes in to help out when the brothers need it.

“The support I have from my family is what’s keeping me sane,” Barjaoui said. “The days I got school or I got homework to do, they’re there to back me up.”

Barjaoui is supposed to graduate in 2022 and said he wants to open up more locations in the future. But for now, he said he’s just working toward finishing his degree while managing the restaurant.

It’s important to take advantage of the chances you come across, Barjaoui said.

“Opportunities come out of nowhere. (Sobh) gave me the opportunity and I was like, ‘why not?’” he said.



Abbas Barjaoui sitting in front of his restaurant's logo.



Cheese burger offered at City Burger



All photos by Malak Silmi



# WSU Department of Music celebrates 100 years

**My’Kila Allix**  
Contributing Writer

This scholastic year, Wayne State’s Department of Music celebrated a milestone.

What began as a two-year music education program at Detroit Central High School in 1918 evolved into WSU’s music department — which has educated composers, singers, and musicians for over 100 years, music department Chair Norah Duncan said.

Over the years, the music department’s impact has stretched beyond Detroit’s city limits, Duncan said.

“We also have reached out beyond Detroit, to (the) country, if not the world,” he said. “We have scholars, musicians, and performances whose works are performed in other parts of the world.”

Dean of the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts Matthew Seeger said the department’s connection to the community and its legacy makes it a renowned institution.

In a city known for Motown Records and techno music, WSU’s music department combines traditional and contemporary customs, Duncan said. Various different performance groups are offered to students.

There are many things that set WSU’s music department apart from other university music programs — one factor being location, Duncan said.

“If a music major wants an urban, big-city experience with the arts and music, they have to come to Detroit,” he said. “With close proximity to Detroit’s cultural center, students have the accessibility of resources including the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Detroit Public Library, the Detroit Opera House and the Max M. & Marjorie S. Fisher Music Center.”

Notable alumni also help make a significant impact on the department, Seeger said. A few renowned graduates from the music department include music professor and conductor Robert Harris, George Shirley — who was the first African American tenor to perform at the New York Metropolitan Opera — and jazz guitarist Kenny Burrell.

In 1918 David Mackenzie, Detroit Junior College head, felt the institution was missing something, according to the department of music’s newsletter. Louise Conklin was soon hired as the first chair of the music department, with the program beginning during the 1918-1919 school year.

Conklin helmed annual performances of “Messiah” by Handel, according to the Walter P. Reuther Library. She also directed the men’s and women’s glee clubs.

Another area that is important to the department is the diversity among faculty and students, which can’t be found in other university music departments, Duncan said.

Music department faculty member Eldonna May said personal bonds within the department help make it strong.

“Familial, it’s a word that describes the department best,” she said. “All the music majors, professors, and faculty all know each other. We work together as a cohesive unit. This department also builds a sense of community that separates and distinguishes it from other campus parts.”

It’s rare to find faculty dedicated to the general learning of students said Samantha Spicuzza, a WSU instrumental music education major. The department had a huge impact on her. She switched from a major in engineering to music education.

“The professors, the faculty are just amazing,” Spicuzza said. “The faculty is committed to helping you prepare. They also provide extra help with a subject you are having difficulty with.”

Instrumental music education major Peyton DeSchutter said the music department positively impacted her by giving countless opportunities that help her outside of school.

“They will wholeheartedly support and give you all the skills and tools that you need to succeed in your career,” she said. “The faculty always supports us. They would give tons and tons of resources to use as well as the organizations within the department of music and even outside of that.”

As WSU’s music department begins to build toward the next 100 years, the department is preparing for accreditation and hoping to join the National Association of Schools of Music.

“As far as celebrating the 100th year of the music department, the faculty members and students did an excellent job with the performances, the showcased concerts and the huge centennial to represent the music here at Wayne State, as well in Detroit,” Seeger said.



Courtesy of Walter P. Reuther Library



# Baseball alumnus reflects on whirlwind year

Jonathan Szczepaniak  
Contributing Writer

The backyard of a home is the site of various football, baseball, and soccer games between families and friends. But for former Wayne State baseball pitcher and current Houston Astros prospect, Hunter Brown, it was where he developed his love for the game.

Brown’s mother, Kimberly Brown, said tossing a baseball outside with Hunter was very common as he grew into the game.

“He is just a hard worker and has always loved baseball. He had me pitching whiffle balls to him at the age of two in the backyard,” Kimberley Brown said.

Despite posting a 1.54 ERA in his senior season at Lakeview High School, Brown wasn’t heavily recruited. His only offer was an opportunity as to walk-on at Eastern Michigan University.

However, those plans changed once Brown met with WSU baseball coach Ryan Kelley and the two formed a bond.

“Coach Kelley is the absolute man,” Brown said. “He’s easy to talk to and if you’re in a bind, he’ll help you out.”

In his first two seasons with WSU, Brown showed an ability to consistently strike out opposing batters, posting 64 strikeouts in 74 1/3 innings pitched.

The junior year for most college baseball pitchers is significant as Major League Baseball scouts travel across the country looking for future prospects.

Brown wasn’t immune to this process. He said he can recall getting a group of officials’ attention during a warm up session

“There was this one game in Florida and I was throwing bullpen with 20 or 21 scouts lined up around the bullpen,” Brown said.

He went into his junior year “completely confident”, and that confidence translated into on-field success for Brown last season as he went 9-0 with a 2.21 ERA in 14 starts Brown said.

Brown posted a league-high 114 strikeouts, held opponents to a .203 batting average and had 10 games where he struck out at least eight batters.

Brown’s dominant regular season set off a period where he received numerous awards, including All-American honors from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year and he was named Midwest Region Pitcher of the Year by the D2CCA, American Baseball Coaches Association and the National Collegiate Baseball Writers of America.

However, the biggest honor for Brown happened in June as he was selected in the fifth round of the 2019 MLB Amateur Draft by the Houston Astros.

Brown said the phone call with his family after he was drafted is something he will never forget. “It’s such a surreal moment. It sinks in that this is actually happening right now and it was an unbelievable moment,” Brown said.

Brown’s selection made it back-to-back seasons where WSU had a player selected in the MLB Draft, and his selection with the 166th pick was the second-highest selection for a Warriors player, one pick behind Anthony Bass, who was drafted 165th overall 11 years earlier.

Brown said Bass became someone that he could rely on for assistance. “He was someone to lean on and be able to ask questions (and) he helped me believe and figure out that I could play at the next level,” Brown said.

After signing his contract, Brown head to Troy, New York to start his professional career with the Tri-City ValleyCats, the short-season affiliate for the Houston Astros.

“Tri-City was a little like summer ball where you pretty much have a game every day (but) everyone’s main goal is to get to the big leagues, so the vibe is a little different,” Brown said.

Brown appeared in 12 games with the ValleyCats, going 2-2 with a 4.56 ERA, while notching 33 strikeouts and he held opponents to a .157 batting average.

Kelley said Brown has turned into an ambassador for WSU and has matured into a professional.

“He’s become a very good professional (and) he handles his business on and off the field,” Kelley said.

Brown said adjusting to life as a pro is a transition, but he wants to put himself in position to succeed.

“I’m just trying to be prepared for whatever they want me to do,” Brown said. “I’m trying to stay in shape and be ready for whatever they give me.”



Courtesy of WSU Athletics

# WSU athletics announces new basketball arena

Matt Williams  
Sports Editor

The area surrounding the Matthaei Physical Education Center will soon start to look a little different.

The new \$25 million arena for WSU’s basketball teams, slated to be completed in the summer of 2021, will also be the new home for the Detroit Pistons G-League team.

Athletic Director Rob Fournier said the process for getting a new basketball facility began shortly after the Pistons announced their move to Little Caesars Arena in 2017.

“I thought, ‘Geez, they’re probably building their headquarters close to campus,’” Fournier said. “So to me the timing seemed to be right and maybe there was a way to engage the university in that process and the G-League.”

Fournier said he didn’t know anyone within the Pistons organization but he thought the idea was too good to ignore.

“(I) just picked up the phone and called one day and said here was an idea I had and wanted to talk about it,” Fournier said. “And after they reviewed it for a little bit, Arn Tellum ( Pistons’ vice chairman and minority owner) and his leadership group came down to campus and met with me.”

In the early years of WSU men’s basketball, the team played at various high schools locally and even played games in Old Main.

A stable home for the squad emerged as the Matthaei was built to strengthen Detroit’s bid for the 1968 Summer Olympics. However, Mexico City won the bid for the Olympics that year.

While the building wasn’t completely finished, there was enough of an infrastructure to house multiple sports, including the basketball team.

Flaws and all, the Matthaei has served its purpose as a big part of the athletic campus, Fournier said.

“It’s been a home and unless this opportunity came along with the Pistons, it would have continued to be the basketball facility,” Fournier said.

Despite the improvements made to the Matthaei over the last decade, Fournier said the teams play in a structure that wasn’t built exclusively for them.

“It’s never really been a basketball facility,” Fournier said. “We’ve made it look like a basketball facility, we’ve added bleachers and things like that but just as they designed it back in ‘65, it was never intended to be a basketball facility, and when the Matthaei was built the whole idea of having a facility that accommodated women was not even a consideration, so (the new arena) changes everything.”

Fournier said students shouldn’t be negatively impacted by the funding for the arena, which consists of university bonds and private funding.

“The cost to the students won’t be impacted at all (and) student fees won’t go up because of this,” Fournier said. “This is a typical business scenario where the university floats bonds, people of course buy those bonds (so) the university fronts the money, but then in the arrangements, the Pistons pay back the money, and so over time it’s actually a good deal for the university.”

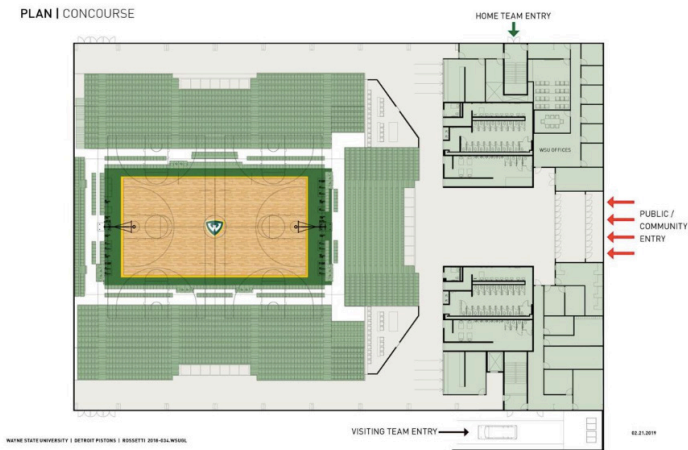
The 75,000-square-foot arena is slated to have 3,000 seats — a significant increase from the Matthaei’s current seating capacity of 1,331— with an increase in bathrooms and expanded locker rooms.

Fournier said an additional feature that fans will enjoy is the view from the atrium as they enter the arena.

“This will be a sunken bowl, so you’ll walk in at ground level and then you’ll be looking down at a basketball court, which in my mind created this enormity, this very pleasurable view of a basketball setting,” Fournier said. “It seems very elaborate, very big-time, so I think that’s a nice piece of it.”

Fournier said since the structure will be a basketball-only facility, the Matthaei will be expanded to accommodate other teams in the department as well as benefit intramural sports.

Construction on the new arena is slated to begin within the next six weeks with the project scheduled to be completed by July 2021.



Courtesy of WSU



