The Trinity Tripod
TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2014

ARTS
Cinestudio Review: "The Wolf of Wall Street"
Samia Keman ’14 discusses Scorsese’s latest film.
pg. 10

FEATURES
Humans of Trinity College
Brianna Scelsi ’16 sits down with Maria Tursello ’15
pg. 8

INDEX
OPINIONS 3-4  ARTS 9-10
NEWS 5-6  SPORTS 11-12
FEATURES 7-8

HARTFORD, CONN.
Trinity College

"Take Back the Night" raises awareness about sexual assault
ISABELLE BOUNDY ’16
STAFF WRITER

This past Thursday, April 17, members of the Trinity community came together and braved 45-degree weather to take part in Trinity’s 13th annual "Take Back the Night" event. Huddled together on the Cavo patio, shivering in the cold wind, students, faculty, and staff alike rallied together to support survivors, end rape, and acknowledge that "It Happens Here (at Trinity?)." There has been a sharp increase in reports of sexual assault on Trinity’s campus and there have been 22 reports this school year alone. “Take Back the Night” was an effort by students to help bring an end to this violence on campus.
As Emcee Oludare Bernard explained early in the evening, Take Back the Night is "an international event uniting communities to end sexual violence against people of all genders, ages, and backgrounds." Striving for optimum clarity, Bernard went over basic facts in his introduction, defining sexual assault as "any intentional sexual touching without effective consent." He explained, "you need to ask questions every step of the way and get an enthusiastic ‘yes’ in response. If you don’t, stop!" Bernard explained that one in four college women will be the victim of sexual assault during her four years at school, and 85 percent of these women will never tell anyone. In one of the most moving moments of the night, Bernard asked members of the audience to raise their hands if they knew or were related to a survivor of sexual assault, domestic violence, or stalking. More than half of the audience raised a hand.
Take Back the Night was spearheaded by WGRAC, SECS, the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and other Trinity teams, clubs, and organizations. One of the major goals of Trinity’s Take Back the Night is to educate students about sexual assault.

see COMMUNITY on page 6

CHARTWELLS’ food changes stir concern within student body
ELAINA ROLLINS ’16
FORREST ROBINETTE ’16
EDITORIAL BOARD

The past few weeks have been full of food-related changes at Trinity College after Chartwells Dining Services announced meal plan alterations and the new Kitchen Truck on Vernon Street. Along with these formal new statements from the College’s official food provider, a variety of rumors about the closure of the popular Cave and Bistro dining options have also spurred debate and concern throughout the student body.
On Thursday, April 10, the Kitchen Truck made its first appearance on campus from 11:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. on Vernon Street. The Truck accepted Bantam Bucks, Dining Dollars, and cash, making the experience somewhat reminiscent of the famous "Late Night Bistro" dining option which was available last year.

Some of the food served at the Kitchen Truck included pulled pork sandwiches, mac and cheese, and "The King"—a sandwich made of cinnamon swirl bread with peanut butter, Nutella, and bananas on the inside.
"I could not even dream up a better food combination than the BBQ pulled pork sandwich which I had from the food truck on Vernon! We need to have these more often," says Katie Adams ’14.

The more striking change Chartwells introduced is regarding student meal plans. Beginning next fall, all students living on campus, including seniors, will be required to be on a meal plan. In the past, seniors have not had to be on a meal plan, and students living in cooking units did not have to register for a plan either.

see CHARTWELLS on page 6

Students perform in "Putnam County Spelling Bee" musical
W.H. BENJAMIN ’14
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" filled the Jones’ living room with singing, laughter and passion. The play, which revolves around complex emotions in a light-hearted tone, covered issues such as the acceptance of defeat, the aspirations of youth, pubescent eruptions, and complicated words well above this Contributing Writer’s comprehension.
"It’s great," President Jones says about the play, even before it began. The cast has been rehearsing in his house for the week leading up to the show, and the President had the inside scoop. The intimate "theater" held a few dozen audience members, most of whom were students and alumni. Framed between a hanging Persian carpet and a painting that was once displayed in the Wadsworth Museum, the stage and cast brought vivacity and spirit to a room that can at times feel sterile.

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" is a perfect play for the small space. With a limited cast size, interactive audience roles, and only a few props necessary to create a believable set, the play, which is directed by Gerald Moshell, matched the grand Jones residence. Besides the actors’ costumes, a desk, an unplugged microphone, and some stools were all that was needed to make the audience believe that we were in a Putnam County Gymnasium.

"It’s intimate for the performers and the audience, and most people coming to our little show here have probably never seen a play or musical in such close quarters," Moshell says. "You can go to the Bushnell and be hundreds of feet away from the stage and have to take out your binoculars to see what someone’s facial expressions are, and you know, you don’t have to do that here." In the close and personal settings all of the talented performers showcased their skills.
The current student and alumni cast presented uproarious characters that varied from a girl whose best friend is the dictionary, a Vice-Principal with a short temper, and an enthusiastic boy scout who is learning about the pros and cons of random boners. They are all in the gymnasium for one reason, to decide the Putnam County Spelling Bee champion. The occasional voice crack and missed note only highlighted the otherwise beautiful harmonies and stellar acting. Where middle school does everything perfectly anyway?
All of the characters in this play are misfits, and they would not be considered part of the "popular" crew.
"If you’re not the most athletic or the most good looking kid, or if you’re smart, you tend to be a little shunned," Mr. Moshell says, and this kind of glorifies those who take a different path than the normal path that many kids do at that age take to become popular. These kids don’t care so much about
Students reinforce Trinity stereotypes by constantly complaining about them

Trinity College is plagued by its obsession with stereotypes. Students and teachers alike are often quick to jump on the stereotypical image of a “Trin kid”—rich, preppy, ignorant, immature, clique-ish, simple-minded. The list goes on and on. The College has taken its own steps to diminish this reputation (in ways they personally see fit), which included increased cultural, social, and financial aid efforts and an overhaul of the social policy. However, I believe the administration is not doing enough. The driving force behind Trinity’s stereotype problem—it is the students.

The Trinity student population is predominantly white and affluent; this fact cannot be disputed. My courses this semester have been filled with many current students’ obsession with “those kids” on campus, or their peers who seem to embody the “Trin kid” image.

During my time at Trinity, I have heard people complain about the stereotypical Trinity student. Some will even argue that “everyone” on campus shares these negative traits. Those students who complain separate themselves from the stereotype, thus often inadvertently claiming that they are an “exception” while everyone else is the “norm.”

There is nothing wrong with having a few rich, preppy, ignorant, immature, clique-y, simple-minded kids on campus. These are problems that exist, often in very harmful forms. However, problems arise when students are more concerned with stereotypes than they are with actual, real, issues.

A stereotype is a perceived image, often held by a large group, which oversimplifies a particular type of person. A problem, however, is a matter or situation that can often be directly fixed. Bigotry is a problem.

The “biggest Trin kid” is a detrimental stereotype—a publicized fact that ultimately harms this campus’ progression and diversification.

Students and faculty perpetuate the typical Trinity student stereotype when they constantly lament over the perception. During my time at Trinity, I have heard from many townhouse residents who absolutely love living in the Crescent Street Townhouse. I’ve also heard that many of them are so happy to be there because they can feed themselves—will now be forced to participate in a meal plan. For many students, this will eliminate one of the best aspects of the townhouse life. Throughout this year, I have heard from many townhouse residents who absolutely love the opportunity to cook for themselves. I’ve also heard that many of them are so happy to be freed from the mediocre food that is served in the dining halls.

This email carried no good news for students. It simply informed us that, with these new changes, we will not be enjoying the options that many previous students enjoyed. The administration has made a huge mistake by stripping us of our already limited autonomy. When members of the Trinity community talk about what is wrong with our school, many students say that there is a complete lack of relationship between students and the administration. For me, it is the kind of small place-changes that lead to that strained relationship. Some people might say that meal plan policy is a trivial thing, but for students it’s very important. This meal plan change makes students feel that the administration is unsympathetic to our needs and wants. We will not be eating—or at least paying for food. This is a college, we cannot simply complain about Chartwells food. This is ludicrous considering all the racism, sexism, and elitism of “those Trin kids.” We cannot simply complain and hope things will change. We need to stand up against the stereotype, be more concerned about stereotypes and start talking about the actual issues that created it. As a college, we cannot continue to feed ourselves—will now be forced to participate. They are students as well as townhouse residents who are completely capable of feeding themselves—will now be forced to participate. They are students as well as townhouse residents who are completely capable of feeding themselves—will now be forced to participate. They are students as well as townhouse residents who are completely capable of feeding themselves—will now be forced to participate. They are students as well as townhouse residents who are completely capable of feeding themselves—will now be forced to participate.
College’s new meal plan policy will not benefit students or staff

ANDREW FISHMAN '16 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Here at Trinity College, we attempt to foster a sense of community by looking out for each other. However, the proposed changes for the next academic year will do the exact opposite. Trinity has plans in place to close The Cave by next January. The university has already begun to decrease the hours that The Bistro operates, and the school is considering a decrease in the hours of operation for the other dining halls. If we, the student body, allow these changes to happen, we could be eliminating many of the people working there and severely damaging our college experience.

While talking with my peers about Trinity’s plans to close The Cave and The Bistro, the first question is almost always, “Are they going to extend Mather’s hours?” The answer: “No!” The money from extending Mather’s hours is distributed by Trinity’s administration about two weeks ago. Mather will continue to open at 7:30 a.m. and run until 7:30 p.m. on Monday through Friday. On Saturdays and Sundays, Mather will operate from 10:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. Between the hours of 2 p.m. and 5 p.m., “limited, menu-based food will be offered.” Closing down The Cave and Bistro will only exacerbate problems like Mather’s inability to seat everyone comfortably at lunch. Finding a table in the dining hall on a given day is hardly enough. Mather is not suited to serve the entire student body at the same time.

With Mather only opening for an extra three hours per day, 24-hour service will go away; twenty-four hours per week, what will happen to all the staff that is seen as excess? This semester, Mather, The Cave, and The Bistro employ 2,115 hours of labor per week and 670.5 hours of labor per week respectively. By spring of 2015, Mather, The Cave, and The Bistro will employ 2004 hours of labor per week, ZERO hours of labor per week, and 692 hours per week, respectively. The only additional hours will be required to open The Cave, next semester. This store will employ 698.5 hours of labor per week. This leads to a total net loss of 364.5 hours of labor per week.

The proposed changes will cut hours by almost 10 percent. This may decrease in total hours of labor will directly hurt dining staff employees’ ability to financially support themselves. The proposed changes look to reduce the amount of food offered. This will cut the amount of food by 14, or by 13 percent of the workers receiving benefits in the three main dining halls.

This isn’t the first time that Chartwells has made workers’ hours cut. During my freshman year, the falls semester 2015, the department cut the hours of Chartwells during the summer. The department had planned to discontinue this plan, but now, the university is continuing the same plan. The fall semester 2015, the department cut the amount of food the Chartwells workers would receive. This was done in an effort to financially support the Chartwells workers.

The department has proposed a new meal plan policy for next year. The department has proposed this new plan because they believe the current plan is too costly. The new meal plan policy for next year requires that students purchase a meal plan before the fall semester begins. The university has proposed several new changes for next year, the first part of their plan is in place. I believe the university needs to sit down with the students and create a new plan executed here at Trinity.

The new meal plan policy for next year requires almost every student to purchase a meal plan. The university is proposing that all students will either have a meal plan or be eligible for a University of Miami workers who represent Chartwells, a huge mistake. The university representative said, “We love working at U.M. and taking care of the students, faculty and staff here. Now, we can begin to afford to take care of our own families too.” Many of the workers at The Cave and The Bistro echo this message. They love interacting with students and making their day. The new plan looks to maximize profits and cut costs, while not wanting to be able to pay their rent and take care of their families. The university’s motives behind this change is to drive the workers away. The university hopes it will send the idea that the new plan is for Trinity. Trinity has to balance the budget in order to provide the wide variety of services they offer, such as financial aid. Still, I would ask them to reconsider. Chartwells’ history of giving money by cutting workers’ benefits and hours does not create any substantial economic gains for the school in which they operate, because they end up charging higher fees. As an example for the changes for next year, the first part of their plan is in place. I believe the university needs to sit down with the students and create a new plan executed here at Trinity.

The new meal plan policy for next year requires almost every student to purchase a meal plan. The university is proposing that all students will either have a meal plan or be eligible for a University of Miami Unlimited or the 15 Flex Plan: both are $2,550 per semester. The Mather Unlimited plan comes with $1,125 in flex and the 15 Flex Plan comes with $1,125 in flex. Students who purchase a meal plan are only allowed to eat on their plan. This means that students will either have to purchase a meal plan or be excluded from the university’s meal plan. Judy Whitaker, a junior at Trinity, said, “We are against laws being insti­ tuted that can help who can get a gun. These laws can be a help to society, but I am not sure why? Some people who have such beliefs, that is to say people with such ideas in a violent manner is another thing entirely. At the end of the day, I keep com­ back to the same thought of what it takes to warp some­ one’s mind to the extent that they think it’s okay to kill oth­ ers for their causes.

Is it a change that occurs in childhood, the teenage years, or one that happens in adult­ hood? Will we always be able to stop such a transformation? Not only do these questions plague my mind, but also this question: what did Glenn Miller do before the FBI discovered him in 2006? It was not long before Miller ended up fleeing and a man­ hunt was started that led to Glenn Miller being imprisoned for more than three years. And there is the gun issue.

I am a not a gun advocate doing what the administration believes is best, rather than allowing students to exercise their own judgment. Trinity administration needs to discon­ tinue these plans before they harm their own long-term goals.

No matter how hard the school tries to force inter-stu­ dent bonding, there is nothing that can be forced. Through extended orientation programs, the new first-year program, or any other first-year activities, it is impossible to create genuine connections between students. Students must be able to do this on their own.

During my freshman year, a lot of spontaneous, sincere bonding happened while I was hanging out with friends in The Cave or The Bistro. Sitting down together for a few hours with my closest friends created a sense of com­ munity among us that would not have happened without this last year. Without these experiences, many of my best friends and I would not have become the friends we are today. Friendship cannot be forced. At any time, you can walk into The Cave or The Bistro and witness a group of students simply hanging out. Having this space and time is a valuable asset to the Trinity community. My favorite bonding program that Trinity runs is the Quest program.Going onto the Appalachian trip, the students forge bonds between incoming freshmen and the upperclassmen leaders. These connections could not be created from silly games or forced picnics on the quad, or any other pre-planned orienta­ tion programs. Students will always find a way to make the social events that are a part of being a first-year student interesting. This is what the school needs to encourage more of, not reduce. Both The Bistro and The Cave facilitate student bonding and at this college, we need to protect them.

The Bistro and Cave are valuable assets to this school and they enable a lot of friend­ ly, loving people to pay their bills. In no way will these pro­ posed changes benefit the stu­ dents of Trinity College. By making the students pay for food, The Bistro’s hours, students will have less access to food on campus. This is what the school needs to encourage more of, not reduce. Both The Bistro and The Cave facilitate student bonding and at this college, we need to protect them.

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A senior's memory of her grandfather teaches a lasting lesson

TANYA KEWALRAMANI '14 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I put my Barbie dolls in a brown, cardboard box and handed it to my mother. I was excited and ready to be a grown-up. I was only twelve at the time. The sunlight entered the empty room and I knelt down and closed my eyes and I could see the dust on the floor. I took a deep breath and ran out the room, eager to see the empty dorm room and drive home. My last home cooked meal was so tempting, so relaxing. The flickering lights of silence to honor and represent unity as a community. Silence is the 13th most embarrassing, and shameful. We are better than that.

Day of Silence is a chance to examine Trinity LGBT experience

MAGGIE ELIAS '17 OPINIONS EDITOR

According to the Princeton Review, as of 2013, Trinity College was ranked the 13th most gay-friendly college in the United States. Thirteenth! Before then, Trinity had not made the top 20 list. Boring. It takes place this afternoon, each one of us, as a member of this tiny school and community, should take a step back and reflect on this issue. With the acceptance and recognition of gay marriage and rights taking place throughout this country every day, we do want to be moving in the complete opposite direction? Do we want our beloved Trinity community to close their ears, label others as closed minded that we cannot accept someone who has not your place. Let each person be themselves. Make an effort to welcome and include each person for who they truly are. Stand up to those who may be giving this campus that homophobic reputation. And please, please, please make a genuine effort to remove Trinity from that ranking. It is sad, devastating, and shameful. We are better than that.
Brown '06 talks about his love for modern and black literature

The Trinity Tripod

BART HARVEY '16
NEWS EDITOR

On Thursday, April 17, 2014 David Sterling Brown '06 delivered the Annual Ann Plato Lecture in the Reese Room of the Smith House. His lecture entitled (Early) Modern love for two different genres of Literature: Then and Now, focused on the different themes that arose from the mixture of African-American literature and early modern literature.

By looking at Shakespeare with a critical eye towards how he portrayed black characters, one is able to see that Shakespeare contributed to the stereotypes of the African American race. When Mr. Brown's class attended Shakespeare's Macbeth in New York City, they were able to notice that many of the black characters were aggressive and violent in their manner.

In the third segment of his lecture, he discussed how his course creation became a demonstration of his scholarly self. "Lack many students who enter early modern classrooms across the country I, David Sterling Brown, never encountered an instructor of color who taught and got excited about early modern literature until I became that person," he said. "And even when that transformation occurred and I joined the club, I learned that within early modern studies there are only a handful of scholars of color." He provided an anecdote that helped to contribute to finding his true calling. The first he found in his second semester of freshman year.

In the fourth part of his lecture, he discussed the effort to include and diversify the scholarly ranks of modern literature in order to help increase student interest in early modern studies. He used the following quote from Professor Ayanna Thompson to help get the message across, "If the [early modern] field were to support the inclusion of race studies more systematically and consistently, then our ranks may diversify more rapidly and thoroughly. I find it incredibly depress ing that I can name most of the Shakespeareans of color despite the fact that our professional organizations are relatively large. On the most simplistic level, this means that we need to encourage our postgraduates and graduates who are interested in both Shakespeare studies and race studies to pursue a career in academia."

Mr. Brown finds that by intertwining early modern literature with African-American literature, one is able to find many parallels between the two and discuss the texts simultaneously. The topics that arise from these discussions include misogyny, power, class, gender, race, homosexuality and death.

In the final portion of his lecture, Mr. Brown discussed his dissertation entitled, "Placing Parents on the Early Modern Stage" in which he focuses on parental authority in early modern plays. He finds that in many plays he is able to see the various sources of parental authority and see how that authority affects children. For example, Shakespeare's Hamlet showed how parental debt can affect a child.

Mr. Brown finished his lecture by stating that his course needs further exploration. By combining Shakespeare with African-American literature, it allows for discussions to be productive but also innovative. Mr. Brown is the first ever alumnus to become the Ann Plato Fellow after he graduated in 2006 with a B.A. in English Literature. He is currently working towards his PhD. at NYU.
Community gathers to show support for sexual assault victims

Following Bernard’s introduction, Laura Lockwood, WGRAC Director and Coordinator of SART, and fellow SART member and Title IX Coordinator of sexual assault, rape, disclose anonymously online, to investigate, (4.) ask the police to investigate, (5.) talk followed by Associate Head Coach Acquarulo remembers raging fraternity parties that ended with the football team at lowed by Milei Bristow ’14 who delivered a beautiful poem and support of survivors of sexual assault at Trinity and in the larger community.

She continued to reiterate, “most rape is not committed by strangers or strangers who are the result of the transitioned into a round form. The enthusiastic crowd clapped and cheered on their friends. The Shondan steppers were followed by a far more somber night with a beautiful and dancing rape culture. Following Schulman’s speech, Bernard took to the stage to discuss three ways to be an active bystander. Bernard encouraged students to (1.) directly address the situation, (2.) distract the potential attacker or victim, or (3.) delegate another individual to help intervene. “We can do all our part. We can all do something. This is how we change the rape culture of Trinity,” Bernard concluded.

Undoubtedly the most heart wrenching moment of the night was when Nicole Lukac ’15 spoke of her experience as a First Year student when she was sexual assaulted after the infamous Tropical party. Lukac conveyed her experiences with self-harm, PTSD, and panic attacks following the assault. She said walking into class was impossible for her as the fear of seeing her attacker dominated her. She turned to friends and support from the counseling center, Lukac reported the assault to the school, and she was able to come to terms with her fears. Regardless of the outcome of the hearing, she was able to bring a new face-to-face and made her real-”

Chartwells Dining Services introduces a slew of new changes

The only students who will not have to register for a meal plan in the 2015-2016 academic year will be members of Trinity’s female a cappella groups, the Quirks and the Trimitees, closed out the night with a beautiful and inspiring rendition of Sara Barielle’s “Brave.” The night concluded with the message that by speaking up and respecting survivors, we can change the slogan “It happens here” to “It used to happen here.”

Mather Unlimited Plan is just what it sounds like—unlimited meals at Mather, along with Chartwells dollars to use at the Bistro, the Cave, or the C-Store. The 15 Flex Plan offers 15 meals at any dining option on campus, as well as 300 Chartwells dollars. Seniors can enroll in a “Senior Plan,” which offers 10 meals a week and 400 Chartwells Dollars.

On top of the Kitchen Truck and meal plans changes, there have also been rumors circulating that the Cave will be shut down and that the Bistro will be closed during the weekends because of financial reasons. Some students have speculated that these changes are the result of the widespread popularity of Chartwells. With Chartwells as an option, more students might be choosing non-Chartwells food.

If the Cave is closed and the Bistro begins running on limited hours, Mather will become the only full-service dining location on Trinity’s campus.

There have also been rumors that Chartwells will be opening a new, small dining location on Crescent street to service the student population that resides in the newly-built townhouses.

Students do not know what form this Cave option will take, but it is assumed that it will be similar to the C-Store that opened in Vernon Social Center at the beginning of this school year.

Some students on campus have expressed major concerns with these new changes. Claudia Trotman ’16 created an online survey for Trinity students to comment on the new meal plan, which she intends to show to the Manager of Dining Services Tony Chenette.

Andrew Fishman ’16 launched a petition to “Save the Cave” shortly after hearing that the dining location would be shut down. He has argued that these proposed changes would put many Chartwells employees out of work and that part-time workers with limited benefits. He has talked outside Mather to express his disappointment about Chartwells’ decisions.

The email detailing the new meal policy did not explain why these new changes are going into effect. As a result, many students have expressed a desire for an explanation regarding the recent change in dining options.
Trendy Trinity: A look back at 1969 through The Trinity Ivy

Whether walking around campus, dancing, and enjoying life, the Trinity students of 1969 epitomized amazing style. Whether walking around campus, dancing, relaxing, running hand in hand, and tanning on the quad, or catching up with friends, the Trinity students of 1969 epitomize amazing style.

I was waiting for the now deceased printer to warm up in The Trinity Tripod office when I came across some old books. I soon realized that what was before me was a discarded stack of about fifteen Ivy yearbooks from years ranging from 1960 to 2004. As I waited for the printer to work, I began to flip through them, beginning with the most recent one from 2004. Luckily for me, the printer was especially temperamental that day, allowing me to have time to turn the pages of the many years of Trinity history before me. The more recent the yearbook, the more it felt like a standard collection of official photographs chronicling departments, fraternities, sports teams, and other associations on campus. But as I traveled back in time through the pages of the Ivy, I noticed that the number of picture captions was certainly in the 1960s in New England. Without a translation or an interpretation, the Ivy showed me unfiltered fashion from a decade I so much admired. I loved the way men had such a polished and uniform look to them. The large pictures of men in class all wearing khakis and oxfords inspire freedom. When one has an American history as an era that we can be rowdy and have fun because there is no need to fuse over what to wear.

The women in the Ivy from 1969 capture a style and sex appeal that I'm sure most of our generation wouldn't be able to understand. It seems as if every woman wanted to be Brigitte Bardot: long hair, strong eye, and a short shift dress. The shift dress is a look I think should make a comeback. Though seemingly more conservative than a body hugging tube dress made of cotton, the body is able to move underneath the fabric, and thus the suggestion of sexuality is always present. It's both hidden and hinted at, making these women seem discoverable as well as conservative and classy female academics.

The past style of students is clear. It can be seen only after the turn of a few pages, but what is great is the humanization of our past at Trinity. On the pages is the real 1960s apart from history books, pop culture, highbrow art, and advertisements. The facial expressions shown and activities being enjoyed, from sports, to studying, to dancing, to flirting, to drinking, and even lying on the quad with their warmth are all still very alive at Trinity today more than forty years later. I urge all of you to go out and find an Ivy or two and flip through them. I promise that you too will be able to understand. It seems as if every woman wanted to be Brigitte Bardot: long hair, strong eye, and a short shift dress. The shift dress is a look I think should make a comeback. Though seemingly more conservative than a body hugging tube dress made of cotton, the body is able to move underneath the fabric, and thus the suggestion of sexuality is always present. It's both hidden and hinted at, making these women seem discoverable as well as conservative and classy female academics.

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Catherine Hultgren ’14 on life and travel while studying abroad

CATHERINE HULTGREN ’14 CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I was 18 years old I decided to study abroad during high school. I had won a competition to apply to programs, so when I applied to School Year Abroad Spain, the program was already full. Instead of just outright declining me, they asked me if I would like to go to China instead. Being the adventurous 18-year-old that I was, I didn’t have to even think about it and accepted immediately. Since my time as a high-schooler living with a host family in Beijing, Chinese culture and language has become part of who I was.

None of my close friends went to China on the program with me in the fall, and I was only friends with a few of the boys from the Trinity program. I couldn’t rely on them to hangout with me all the time, so the first week was rather lonely. I remember going to the Art District alone and exploring all the galleries. I thought it was incredible, but watching people with their friends made me realize I was alone in a foreign country. I decided to make an effort socializing with the kids in my classes at Fudan. Since Fudan is such an international school, I made friends from all over the world. By the end of my first semester, my three best girl friends were from France, Belgium, and Germany, and through them I met my boyfriend who was also German.

The semester was going to be over when I decided to take a trip with my friends up to Beijing. They had never been there before so we were planning on doing all the touristy things like hike the Great Wall, tour the Forbidden City and spend an afternoon in Tiananmen Square. The first day we hit up Tiananmen Square, where we went to see Mao’s Mausoleum. We got into a big disagreement over whether or not the body was Mao’s actual body or if it was wax. To this day I still don’t know if I actually believe it is him.

After this, I decided to go alone and pay a visit to my boyfriends family who had gone to school in high school. We had been texting since my arrival in China and he had been trying to get me to take the train up to Beijing for a while to visit him and my host mom. When I arrived at my old apartment, I saw the dining room table set for two. I was confused but just assumed my host mom wasn’t going to be eating. I then began to look for her in our apartment, when I came across an altar with incense and a giant picture of my host mom. She had passed away, and no one had told me! I was devastated, not because no one had told me, but because while she had been sick I hadn’t even known to make an effort to call. I decided to cancel the rest of my tourist excursions with my friends and stay the weekend with my host dad. By the time I came back to Shanghai, I was confused and depressed in a foreign country. But luckily for me, I didn’t have to deal with it alone. All my friends were there for me.

Time went by and my Beijing experience began to lose less of an impact on my daily life. I focused on trying to see as much of Shanghai as I possibly could. I had many favorite adventures abroad. I spent one weekend hiking Yellow Mountain in rural China. Another time, my boyfriend and I tried as many restaurants out of the Shanghai Time Out magazine without getting completely broke, and I tried making Chinese friends so I could practice all the Mandarin I was learning in the classroom. After my first semester, I knew Shanghai like the back of my hand and my Chinese had improved tremendously.

Once my second semester came, some of my new friends had stayed and some had left. One of my best friends was coming on the program from Trinity along with a good friend of hers. The whole dynamic changed and this semester proved to be as enriching as the first one. My friends, Kate Burke and Sade Parham, and I would explore the ins and outs of Shanghai. I would take them to some of the places I had discovered in the fall or the three of us would try something new. We would hangout at the nightclubs in the tall buildings in the world, or have picnics in parks with views of the skyline. We would always get amused taking the subway places because Chinese people would stare at us like we were aliens—after all we were two blondes and an African American who could all speak Chinese.

When the semester came to a close, I was sick of Shanghai. I was craving cheese and steak and other products that were harder to find in China. At the same time though, I wasn’t ready to go back to Trinity. My friend Natalia Diehl, who was from Paris, convinced me that my time studying abroad shouldn’t end just yet and so I applied to go to Paris for my senior fall.

Paris was a far cry from Shanghai. My apartment was smaller, my money got me almost nowhere compared to China (I was living like a king on almost nothing), and the Paris skies were actually blue—pollution free with real clouds. The experience was like coming home, since the Parisian culture is so much more similar to Chinese culture than China’s culture. If I hadn’t gone to China first, I am not sure whether or not I would have had trouble adapting to Paris. But because I had gone there before, I adapted to Paris almost instantly. I spent the weekends hanging out with friends from Trinity, friends I had met in China or taking the three-hour train to visit my boyfriend in Southern Germany. All in all, I truly enjoyed my time in Shanghai more, because it was more unique and different. At the same time, this experience in Paris allowed me to see a whole new side of the world, and I wouldn’t trade my Paris experience for anything.

One of Hultgren’s many wonderful pictures from her three semesters studying abroad.

At Trinity and around the world: Humans of Trinity College

BRIANNA SCALESSE ’16 STAFF WRITER

On April 6, Marisa Tornello ’15 embarked on a project that would take her to Trinity campus by storm. That is the day she created the Facebook page ‘Humans of Trinity College.’

In the summer of 2010, a New Yorker named Brandon began his own journey of photographing people all over the city and the world. He accumulated over four million followers. Alongside each picture Brandon includes a snippet of the conversation he has with the person he photographs. One day, Marisa came across a post on Humans of New York that pictured a homeless man. To summarize the caption, the man had been jailed after he was accused of murdering his wife and daughter. When he was freed, he was unable to reconstruct his life and became homeless. Marisa thought about the New Yorker habit of ignoring the homeless and the stories that all the people around her had to tell. Then, she began to think about all the stories that the people on the Trinity campus around her had to tell.

This year as a junior at Trinity, Marisa began to feel disconnected from the campus that surrounded her. As a Staten Island native, Marisa says, “In New York City there are millions of people that pass by each other. At Trinity, we are such a small campus, but we still have that same disconnect. We shouldn’t be strangers to each other on this campus.”

For Marisa’s 21st birthday, earlier this month, her parents bought her the camera of her dreams and her hopes of starting the page became a reality. The first day, Marisa, who has social anxiety, passed twenty people she wanted to photograph but was too nervous to approach them. Now she snaps photographs of students daily and says that the project has helped her to get over her anxiety. “I needed a reason to find beauty. I thought if I sought out the beauty in each person it would help. And it has. We have to attempt to find the good in things. We’re all holding onto a little bit of hope.”

Now Marisa is connecting Trinity students, one photograph at a time. “Humans of Trinity College” has 763 likes to date and is growing everyday. Marisa’s future goals include photographing professors, who have been at Trinity for years and have seen it change and grow, and delving into the individual stories of the students.

“I’m not brave enough yet to ask people about their own stories. But it’d be great to get to that level of comfort with each other.”

But, even by simply taking a picture, Marisa is individualizing Trinity. “A picture is so telling of a person. The way someone smiles, or stands, or tilts a little bit, or squints their eyes. A picture says a thousand words.”

A photo of Brandon, one of the first people Marisa photographed on campus.
AASA hosts Eliot Chang for a night of comedy

KIRSTINA XIE '16 ARTS EDITOR

It is without a doubt that everyone enjoys listening to good music. Whether it's electronic dance music (EDM), Hip-hop, K-pop, or pop music, makes any event a little more relaxed and entertaining. This was the case when east coast performer on Comedy Central, Chelsea Lately, and East Coast and all over the country for his "Scandalous Comedy Tour." The show was divided into two sections: the first half consisted of Chang's standup routine and the second half was centered on Chang's "Asians in the Media" question and answer workshop.

Chang's routine started out with general jokes centered around technology, like the iPhone and Facebook, to more personal topics that ranged from anonymous, and also his jokes were nicks and picks of different races everyone was listening to the entire time.

The combination of the comedy show before hand, which featured a question and answer workshop, and the cultural workshop afterwards made this a unique event centered around awareness. The sensitive discourse offered realistic solutions to current problems as Chang was able to keep the audience engaged and aware.

These events are vital in helping students have a greater understanding of different cultures and how to properly spell words. The production of all songs recorded, "I" explained Quattrochi, one of the managing editors of the studio. With the initial stages of studio development, they hope to increase student usage and awareness of the studio. He also hopes to get professors and administration engaged by sending their students to the studio to do class projects and learn how to produce a track.

The Mill's recording studio will help students produce music to reach the borders of our campus. It is also a way to generate publicity for themselves and to create records. The Mill's recording studio will help students produce music to reach the borders of our campus. Hopefully, the positive reception and words of admiration, was praised by all who attended the event. The Trinity students are not accustomed to people being kind to him. Austin Jones, the President's wife, is frustrated with life and is going through some impossible for anyone who had to produce a CD with a compila- tion of all songs recorded," stated Quattrochi, one of the managers of the studio. With the students in a safe and environ- ment. Chang started the workshop by asking the crowd how they thought Asian American students handle the media and why some Asians may be afraid to portray cultural pride.

The discussion was to educate the audience and make sure everyone left with a greater awareness about the choices they make and how people may identify culture based on appearance. To do this, Chang explained, you need to learn about your culture, history, and language and then make educated decisions about who you are and then you will have your own culture means for you.

Chang continued to make the crowd laugh and knew how to hold the audience's attention. This event was unique in its ability to turn a cultural work- shop into a humorous and interactive conversation about typically sensitive topics. Chang used humor to talk about difficult topics like racism, emphasizing the importance of laughter and tolerance throughout the rest of the routine and the workshop.

David Jung '14, co-president of AASA, commented, "Chang's tactics, stating 'What I thought was awesome was the text messaging he had set up to go and make sure all the listeners were aware, and also his jokes were nicks and picks of different races everyone was listening to the entire time.'

The second half of the night consisted of a question and answer session, which opened up a dialogue between the students in a safe and envi- ronment. Chang started the workshop by asking the crowd how they thought Asian American students handle the media and why some Asians may be afraid to portray cultural pride.

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Leonardo DiCaprio stars in Martin Scorsese's most recent thrilling film about the infamous Wall Street trader Jordan Belfort.

**THE GALLERY LIVING at Trinity College**

Furnished Off-Campus Housing

Here's who we are and what we have to offer...

Trinity Alum announces BEAUTIFUL off-campus housing in 20th-century brick Victorian home on 21 Brownell Avenue. Three flats available for a total of ten rooms. Each floor features a living room, bathroom, and kitchen. Comfortable. Bedrooms are furnished with a desk, dresser and queen-sized bed. Porches or balconies for outdoor living. Eject a triple or quad or rent the whole house with all your friends. 10 rooms total and parking onsite. The house is on a very well maintained street and is very quiet and serviced by the Trinity shuttle. If you don't have such a good lottery number or just want to have your own place with a group of friends, this is the best off-campus location around. Enjoy your personal freedom in style. Come see for yourself. Text 646-730-3180 for an appointment.
Trinity Men’s Golf team continues success in the spring season

JT MEHR  STAFF EDITOR

After an incredibly cold and long winter season in New England, the Trinity Men’s Golf team was finally able to hit the links at the end of March. The Bantams had a successful fall season for the most part and they are looking to build off of that.

The fall season included a victory at the Trinity Invitational, with a field of nine teams, a second place finish in the NSCAS Championships, and a third place finish in the Manhattanville Invitational. Playing at one of the best golf resorts in the nation was certainly a privilege for the team, as first year player Mark Boynton ’17 remarked, “It was probably the most fun I’ve had in my competitive golf career... the course was very thick, the greens were running incredibly fast, and the relatively cold and windy weather conditions made it all the more challenging.” He went on to say, “No. 2 was undoubtedly one of the hardest courses I have ever played, especially with temperatures in the mid 30s to low 40s.”

The Bantams only competed in one match in North Carolina where they battled against the Amherst College Lord Jeffs in a match play scoring on March 17. Mark Boynton ’17 and Jake Yanulis ’15 both won their matches 3 and 2 for the Bantams. Despite the strong efforts from Boynton and Yanulis, four different Amherst pairs were victorious, giving the Lord Jeffs a 4-1 triumph over the Bantams.

Returning to Hartford after the unique Spring Break trip, the Bantams competed in the ECAC Invitational on April 12 and 13 in Bloomfield, New Jersey held at Forest Hill Field Club. It was a par 71 course, playing about 6600 yards long. With 12 teams in the field, the Bantams finished in fifth place, behind NESCAC rivals Williams College. Jeff Durkin ’16 and Nick Buenaventura ’15 led the way for Trinity, opening the first round with a score of 77 and 76, and concluding with a score of 74 and 75, respectively.

This past weekend the Bantams travelled to Williamstown, Massachusetts to play in the Williams Spring Invitational, held at the historic Taconic Golf Club. Greg Palmer ’15 won the tournament outright by a margin of five strokes. Palmer shot a 68 in the first round of play on Saturday, giving him a lead of six strokes. On Sunday, Palmer recorded a final round score of 74, allowing him to finish the tournament comfortably as the runner up. Cam O’Connell ’17 finished in 21st place, shooting a 78 in both rounds of play. The Bantams finished in 4th place as a team, behind the likes of Williams, Middlebury and Hamilton.

The Bantams will travel to Middlebury, Vermont this weekend to play in the NSCAS Championship tournament. The post-season expectations have been set very high for this year’s team.

Bantams Multi-Sport Athlete of the Week: Chanel Erasmus ’15

BRIAN NANCE ’16  STAFF WRITER

Did you know that our women’s rowing team is ranked number one in the entire country for division three rowing? Needless to say, our Lady Bants have been putting in work this season while climbing both the regional and national leaderboards. A CIRCU/Srowing preseason coaches poll that came out in March had the Bantams 16 points out of first place while being tied with Bates and two places behind powerhouse Williams. However, despite the fact that Williams has won nine division championships in the past twelve years, this year looks extremely promising for Trinity as they have both the talent and mindset to get the job done.

You may already be familiar with Junior Chanel Erasmus due to the fact that she just helped to bring back yet another women’s national championship to Trinity. Or you may have also seen her on stage because she has been a part of three thesis productions. You also may know about Chanel because of her involvement in myriad campus activities. But did you also know that the South African squash star is also on our women’s rowing team? Well she is, and she’s looking to add another championship to her resume. Erasmus began rowing when the woman’s rowing coach, Wesley Ng, emailed her after squash season when one of the rowers in the novice boat got injured and the team needed a rower to fill in in order to have a novice boat for the New England and ECAC Championships. Within a week of learning how to row, Chanel and her boat finished in second place at the New England Championships. “My most exciting moment for rowing has to be winning ECACs and my boat beating Williams for the first time in a very long time. That victory also came just a short two weeks after I started rowing. I feel as though I am still going to be telling that story when I’m in my墓,” she said.

Chanel credits most of her love for the sport to her teammates. “The Trinity Women’s rowing team is literally the hardest working team I have ever come across and I have been lucky enough to experience that hard work on the squash team too. I appreciate hard working and driven people and that’s exactly what this team has. They truly are an inspiration to me, to push myself as hard as I can every single day,” in the words of Chanel. Additionally, Erasmus said that she loves being the only international rower on the team, because her teammates often try to imitate her accent and joke around with her about it. She says that she loves being the single one of her teammates and she feels inspired every time she is around them.

Squash might be her top priority, but with the end of rowing season coming soon, Chanel Erasmus ’15 is most focused on continuing to give her best effort so that her team can win the New England Championships, ECAC Invitational, and hopefully the Division III National Championship Regatta held in late May in Indianapolis, Indiana.
This spring, both the Trinity College Men's and Women's crew teams have competed and continue to compete in a number of races, spanning from New England Small School Athletic Conference (NESCAC) matchups, to nationwide events. The women's rowing team's first regatta of the season came on April 6 as they traveled to Malden River to compete in a four-team race. In Trinity's heat, the first varsity eight sailed past the Hamilton College Continentals, beating them by nearly 30 seconds. The team finished with a time of 7:04.6 while Hamilton finished with 7:33.5. In the first round, Tufts also advanced as they bested Mt. Holyoke by 10 seconds. In the Grand Final, the Bantams starting eight won again, beating Tufts by a time 7:13.5 to 7:18.6. Mt. Holyoke bested Hamilton in the petite final by 5 seconds. The number two boat also found success as they bested Hamilton in the first round, beating them by over 35 seconds. They went on to best Tufts in the Grand Final with a time 7:09.6 to the Jumbos' 7:12.4. The third varsity boat won their race against Tufts, with a time of 7:35.7. The women's freshman boat also won, defeating Mt. Holyoke with a time of 7:24.4, giving the Bantams a sweep of all seven of their races, concluding their first regatta with ultimate success.

On April 13, the men's team competed in a five-team race at WPI, alongside Bates, Rochester and Wellesley. The varsity eight won by a hair in their heat as they finished with a time of 6:43.6, just beating out Wellesley who came in at 6:44.5. Trinity's second varsity boat came in second as they finished just two seconds behind Bates, with a time of 6:57.52. The third varsity eight also finished second with a time of 7:12.13. The novice boat beat Wellesley with a time of 6:58.1.

On the other side of the boat bay, the men began their season by sending their first varsity boat to the San Diego Crew Classic in San Diego, California on April 6. In their preliminary heat, the Bantams posted a time of 6:35.82, just beating out WPI. The varsity eight won by a hair in their heat as they finished with a time of 6:43.6, just beating out Wellesley who came in at 6:44.5. Trinity's second varsity boat came in second as they finished just two seconds behind Bates, with a time of 6:57.52. The third varsity eight also finished second with a time of 7:12.13. The novice boat beat Wellesley with a time of 6:58.1. On the other side of the boat bay, the men began their season by sending their first varsity boat to the San Diego Crew Classic in San Diego, California on April 6. In their preliminary heat, the Bantams posted a time of 6:35.82, just beating out WPI. The varsity eight won by a hair in their heat as they finished with a time of 6:43.6, just beating out Wellesley who came in at 6:44.5. Trinity's second varsity boat came in second as they finished just two seconds behind Bates, with a time of 6:57.52. The third varsity eight also finished second with a time of 7:12.13. The novice boat beat Wellesley with a time of 6:58.1. On the other side of the boat bay, the men began their season by sending their first varsity boat to the San Diego Crew Classic in San Diego, California on April 6. In their preliminary heat, the Bantams posted a time of 6:35.82, just beating out WPI. The varsity eight won by a hair in their heat as they finished with a time of 6:43.6, just beating out Wellesley who came in at 6:44.5. Trinity's second varsity boat came in second as they finished just two seconds behind Bates, with a time of 6:57.52. The third varsity eight also finished second with a time of 7:12.13. The novice boat beat Wellesley with a time of 6:58.1.

On April 19, the men's team competed in a six-team event at Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester, Massachusetts, hosted by WPI. The varsity eight came in third place with 5:57.65. The second and third boats both came in first and second, respectively. The novice boat lost to Ithaca by a hair, with a time of 6:02.69. On the same day, the women's crew team competed in Worcester as well, winning all four of their races.

Both teams have worked diligently this season to compete with some of the top regional schools. The coxswain for the men's third varsity boat commented on the progress of the two teams over the course of the semester and her excitement for the rest of the season, "Both the men's and the women's teams have made huge strides since the fall. Each day, we're making improvements on and off the water to refine technique and power. We know that by working together we can achieve success at ECACs, (Eastern Athletic Conference) our championship race coming up in three weeks. Last year, Trinity brought home the ECAC combined team points trophy and both the men's and women's teams won the conference title. The women's team is looking ahead to the NCAA finals, where they placed third out of fifteen teams a year ago. Because of their clear improvement and hard work this season, they have been seeded as the number one team in the Division III tournament, which will be held the week of May 30, in Indianapolis, Indiana. Both the men's and women's team are predicted to continue their success on the water with the weeks to come.

The Women's Lacrosse team swept Colby in a three game series over the dates of April 18 and April 19. They won the first game 7-1, the second game 2-0 and the final contest 5-0. Hannah King '16 started on the mound in all three matchups and allowed only one unearned run in three outings. The Bantams are currently ranked third in the NESCAA East Division with a conference record of 7-5, and an overall 9-16.

The Men's Baseball team won two games in a three game series against Bates on April 18 and April 19. They lost the first game 9-2 and the following day lost the second game of the series 12-7. They bounced back to win the second game of the double header in an over time walkoff victory as Connor Sullivan '15 scored off an RBI single from Scott Huley '15 to win the game 2-1 in the 9th inning. Trinity advanced to 10-16.

The Women's Lacrosse team defeated Hamilton college on April 19, with a final score of 11-5. Renee Olsen '14 led the offense with two goals and an assist. In goal, goalie Emily Mooney '16 made five saves on eleven shots. The nationally ranked no. 6 Bantams have won seven straight games and are currently second in the NESCAA standings. They will host undefeated Amherst on April 23 in the final regular season game, that will decide the conference's no. 1 seed.