

The Trinity Tripod



Hartford, Conn.
Trinity College

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Volume CXVII
Number 1

Williams Accepts Paid Leave for Semester Changes to EPC

JOE DIBACCO '18
NEWS EDITOR

This past June, Professor Johnny Eric Williams of the Sociology Department sparked controversy. After releasing two Facebook posts in June that included the hashtag "Let Them F-----g Die", Professor Williams went on "voluntary leave" for this semester.

. His posts were focused on a Medium article by an anonymous author working under the pseudonym "Son of Baldwin." In the aftermath of the shooting of Congressman Steve Scalise, "Son of Baldwin" urged victims of bigotry to not help bigots when they are in life-threatening situations.

Campus Reform, a conservative online newspaper, misconstrued Williams' words, inciting national outrage. According to Wil-

liams, his statements were not meant to condone violence against white people, and he later made clear that it was not his hope to see Congressman Scalise die on that field without any emergency medical care.

Williams elaborated on the motivation for his posts, saying that he had been disillusioned and angered by the amount of black people being shot by white police officers, the most recent

case being a black woman in Seattle. His ultimate goal is to see the end of white supremacist ideology, and his purpose in sharing the work of Son of Baldwin was simply to raise awareness of this contentious issue.

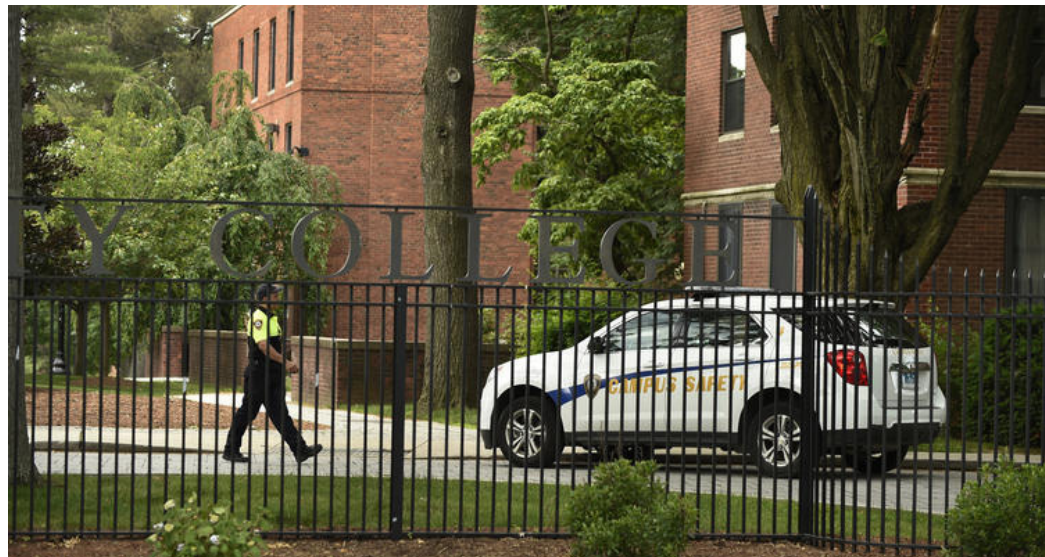


Photo Courtesy of Cloe Poisson for Hartford Courant
Trinity College was on lockdown following threats for Prof. Williams

see WILLIAMS on page 4

JOE DIBACCO '20
NEWS EDITOR

Last semester, Trinity's Dean of the Faculty, Tim Cresswell, rejected a proposal from the Educational Policy Committee (EPC) for the first time in Trinity's history. For the first time since the Educational Policy Committee's (EPC) role was changed from an authoritative to an advisory one over a decade ago, the Dean of Faculty has openly rejected a recommendation on which an academic department is granted the ability to hire a new faculty member.

see EPC on page 4

Cinestudio Preview: Al Gore's Documentary Soccer Teams v. Hamilton



A documentary on Al Gore and climate change premiered at Cinestudio to Trinity audiences.
Photo by Climate Depot

CHRIS BULFINCH '18
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power, for the pedigree of its name and the legacy that it inherits, feels less like a documentary and more like a manifesto, less a lesson than a plea. Former Vice President Al Gore assembled a remarkably non-partisan appeal to citizens of the US and the world to take action to fight climate change, an appeal that departs significantly from An

Inconvenient Truth. The ultimate product is forceful and resonant, and ultimately stops short of the searing indictment that it seems well-poised to deliver.

To be sure, it shares much in common with its predecessor. Its narrative structure centers around Al Gore's lecture, the science behind climate change is communicated and explored, and Gore reiterates his hope that the climate situation is not too dire. The film opens on Gore's lecture and consistently

returns to it. Gore focuses on the reality and immediacy of climate change, and the lectures are hosted around the world. Episodes from Gore's work of the last decade separate the lectures, and show the international climate advocacy work that has characterized much of the former Vice President's recent life. The crux of the film is the Paris Climate Conference in 2015 and the historic Paris Climate Accords.

see PREVIEW on page 10

MATTEO VAZQUEZ '21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

16 September, 2017:
What began as a cloudy day turned out to be a scorcher as the Trinity men's (1-3-0) and women's (1-4-0) soccer teams each took on Hamilton College. Searching for their first NESCAC conference wins, both teams came up short, falling 0-1 to the Continentals. Welcoming a new field has brought a fresh sense of enthusiasm to Bantam soccer this fall. New player dugouts, bleachers, and of course, the field bear striking resemblance to a FIFA stadium.

The women's team kicked off game day off at 11:00 a.m. The Bantams demonstrated their competence as soon as the game began. In the first half, both sides applied continuous offensive pressure and testing each other's defenses. The Bantams demonstrated excellent ball control and footwork as they made their way through the Hamilton defense. With 21 minutes left in the first half, the Bantams won a corner kick, igniting the crowd at a chance for the Bantams to take the lead.

see SOCCER on page 12



Both Trinity soccer teams are looking to improve this season.
Photo courtesy of Trinity College Student Photographers.

Trinity Tri-

Established in 1904

EDITOR IN CHIEF
CHRIS BULFINCH '18

MANAGING EDITORS
GILLIAN REINHARD '20,
BEN GAMBUZZA '20

NEWS EDITORS JOE DiBACCO '19 KATHERINE ROHLOFF '19	FEATURES EDITORS JENNA BEHAN '20 AMANDA SCOPELLITI '20
OPINION EDITORS MATT EPSTEIN '19 BORA ZALONSHNJA '20	SPORTS EDITORS NATE CHOUKAS '18 ALEX DAHLEM '20
A&E EDITORS TRIP SLAYMAKER '18 SAM SHIELD '18	SENIOR EDITORS JUSTIN FORTIER '18 WILL SNAPE '18 AMANDA MUCCIO '18 CHARLIE MCMAHON, '18
COPY CHIEF SARAH BECKMANN '18	
COPY EDITORS ALISON COFRANCESCO '20 EMILY TURNER '18 ELISABED GEDEVANISHVILI '20	STAFF WRITERS JAMES CALABRESI '20 CAM CHOTTINER '20
PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR MILOSZ KOWAL '18	
BUSINESS MANAGERS DANIELLE BIBEAULT, '19, MICAH ONDITI, '18	

The *Trinity Tripod* has been published by the students of Trinity College since 1904. Its staff members are committed to the reporting and distribution of news and ideas that are relevant to the College community. The *Tripod* is published weekly on Tuesdays during the academic year. Student subscription is included in the Student Activities Fee (SAF). For non-students looking to subscribe, a one-semester subscription costs \$30.00 and a one-year subscription costs \$50.00. Please address all correspondence to:

300 Summit St. Box 702582
Hartford, CT 06106-3100
Phone: (860) 297-2584

Opinions expressed in *Tripod* editorials represent the views of the executive board of *The Trinity Tripod*. Those opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the *Tripod* staff as a whole. Also, opinions expressed in the Opinion section belong to the writers themselves and do not represent the views of the *Tripod* staff.

The *Trinity Tripod* gladly accepts letters to the editor from Trinity College students, faculty, staff, and alumni. The *Tripod* reserves the right to edit for grammar and refuse publication. Please limit letters to 400 words or less. Email letters to tripod@trincoll.edu no later than the Saturday prior to publishing.

The *Tripod* is always looking for new writers and story contributions. If you are interested in writing, please send an email to tripod@trincoll.edu

Trinity College

HARTFORD CONNECTICUT

Please visit our website: commons.trincoll.edu/tripod. Articles are published online each week. Follow us on Twitter @TrinityTripod and visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/TrinityTripod.



CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

Journalism Important for Students

On July 21st, members of the Trinity community were inundated with calls, emails, and other methods of communication through the TrinityAlert system. Although each outlet essentially relayed the same statement, the student body, a majority of whom were off campus for the summer, were only warned that threats were received and that all buildings would be card ID access only. For hours, those of us hundreds or even thousands of miles away from Hartford were left to speculate what was going

on at our school. Many assumed there was an active shooter on campus.

Instead, a collection of Campus Reform readers were informed of perceived threats made by Professor of Sociology Johnny Williams towards white people. The original article published on the conservative news outlet, in an unabashedly biased article, created a narrative of Professor Williams as a black supremacist

and Trinity College as a wildly liberal school, lost to the left-wing of the American political spectrum. The use of the hashtag “let them fucking die” and the most provocative statements of the article shared (but not written by) by the Trinity professor were strongly suggested to be Williams’ own words. By the time the headlines had been repeated throughout national news outlets, the story of what had occurred at Trinity was widely exaggerated, dramatized, and inaccurately covered.

We are undoubtedly living in a time of “fake news,” where even the most formerly reputable news sources are met with distrust and skepticism. The reporting of Campus Reform, a borderline propagandist outlet, has created a right-wing interpretation of a professor’s private Facebook account that has ignited nationwide protest from conservatives. However, journalism used to serve a political agenda is constantly prior-

itized over accurately informing readers, in both left-leaning and right-leaning outlets.

At the Tripod, we are looking forward to embarking on a semester of ground-breaking and thought-provoking reporting. Our ultimate aim is to create an outlet for the serious engagement of difficult, contentious dialogues with student journalists and the community at large. While we will recognize and regulate our own incapable biases, we will remain committed to providing accurate information to readers. We encourage the administration to communicate with our offices and to promote transparency between all facets of the Trinity. Most importantly, the Tripod aims to bridge the undeniable gap between the administration and student body and keep all those who are willing to take a paper from our stands informed.

-Tripod Staff

NEWS

New Professors Introduced to Trinity Community

JOE DIBACCO '19
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity is welcoming several new faculty members for the 2017-2018 school year. Professor Lauren Caldwell is coming to Trinity as a visiting assistant professor of History and Classics. Her educational credentials include a Bachelor's Degree from Princeton University and a Doctorate from the University of Michigan. Erin Leigh Frymire is a new lecturer at the Allan K. Smith Center for Writing and Rhetoric. Frymire earned her Bachelor's Degree from Skidmore in 2009 and her Doctorate from Northeastern in 2017.

Lindsey Hanson, now an assistant professor of chemistry at Trinity, spent her formative years at Duke (B.S.) and Stanford (Ph.D.). She

spent the years between 2008 and 2014 as a graduate research assistant at Stanford. Kevin Huang, now an assistant professor of engineering, earned his undergraduate degree from Trinity, then moved on to the University of Washington where he received his Master's and Doctorate. James Kreinbihl is joining the Mathematics Department here at Trinity, beginning as a visiting assistant professor. He did his undergraduate work at Marist College and received a Ph.D. from Wesleyan 6 years later in 2017. He was the salutatorian of his class at Marist in 2011.

Lina Ma is a visiting assistant professor of mathematics who attended Peking University in Beijing as an undergrad, then going on to Purdue for a Master's and a Ph.D. Mitch McCabe, a Harvard

man with an M.F.A. from NYU, is a new member of the Film Studies department. Back in 2008, McCabe was a Rockefeller Fellowship Nominee.

The Men's Lacrosse Team has a new head coach this year. His name is Jason Tarnow, and he graduated from Salisbury University in 2000. From 2012 to 2017, Tarnow was at the helm of the Men's Lacrosse Team at Baldwin Wallace University. Tarnow also signed on to be an instructor of physical education while at Trinity. Hilary Wyss, a graduate of Hamilton College (1986) and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (1991, 1998), is a new member of Trinity's English Department. She previously taught American Literature at Auburn University for 6 years. Teresa Davis, in the process of getting her

Ph.D. this year, is going to be teaching International Studies at Trinity. She spent the last several years in Princeton's History Department.

Karen Polinger Foster earned three degrees from Yale in the 1970s. Now, she is signing on to teach Classics at Trinity. She has held teaching positions at Yale, Wesleyan, and Connecticut College. Luigi Patruno, a graduate of the Università del Salento in Italy, has spent the last several years studying and earning two degrees at Harvard. He joins Trinity's Language and Culture Studies Department. He was a teaching fellow at Harvard from 2011 to 2017.

Sean Tanguay, who just this year earned his B.A. from the University of Hartford, is coming to Trinity as a visiting lecturer of music. In the past, he was a recording engineer

at both the Yale School of Music and the Boston University Tanglewood Institute. Guanda Wu, who received four degrees in the last 9 years, is now a part of Trinity's Language and Culture Studies Department. The first degree she earned came from Wuhan University in China.

Toufik Khyat earned his first degree in Morocco and then spent a few years receiving two additional degrees in the great state of Rhode Island. He is one of the newest members of Trinity's Math Department. Lauren Lazarus joins the Math Department as well. She earned both a B.A. and a B.S. from the University of New Hampshire in 2010. She also studied at Cornell in 2016, leaving with a Ph.D. She was a teaching associate at Cornell in the Spring of 2016.

Trinity Drops in U.S. News and World Report Rankings

KATHERINE ROHLOFF '19
NEWS EDITOR

Earlier this week, Trinity College's US News and World Report ranking fell six positions from its spot at number 38 in 2017 to 44 for the 2018 school. This is a significant change, especially because Union College, which was tied for the 38 position last year, rose 2 ranks to 36 for the 2018 school year among other college rank upsets.

Trinity College administrators argue that the rankings are not an accurate reflection of Trinity's academic program. US News and World Report uses a variety of factors that determine a school's ranking. Part of the formula includes faculty re-

sources, money, the number of students in classes, selectivity and reputational ranking. However, Angel Perez, vice president of Enrollment and Student Success, isn't worried about the drop in ranking. "It's important for people to know that Trinity does not plan around ranking systems that are fundamentally broken," Perez said. "Only 7% of high school counselors returned the form that US News submitted about reputation last year so the system to a certain extent is deeply flawed."

Timothy Cresswell, Dean of Faculty and President for Academic Affairs, agreed, "It costs money to climb the rankings! That fact, in itself, points to some of the

flaws in the ranking system."

As a system predominantly revolved around opinions, Perez is also asked to rank hundred other colleges that he does not have expert knowledge about. As a result, it would not be a fair evaluation that he could provide for that school which is another flaw to the system when the reputation among other colleges is weighted at 22.5% in US News's ranking indicators.

Perez believes that the drop in ranking can be contributed to faculty resources. Faculty resources include number of class size data points and faculty compensation. However, Trinity did improve its scores in reputation among Presidents, Provosts, Deans of Faculty and High

School admissions counselors. "Reputation is scientific and rates of return are very low," said Cresswell as he explained the two 22.5% weighted categories that predominantly determine a college's reputation. "However, the reputation score is the hardest to change and it is encouraging that our reputation has improved," said Cresswell.

However, the college will continue to look for ways to improve its educational experience for students despite what a ranking says about Trinity. "I believe our reputation should continue to improve as we have more stability in leadership and a consistent vision shared by as many people as possible," said Cresswell.

"That is what we are working on with our strategic planning – we would like our faculty to be fairly and competitively compensated and that factors into the resources equation."

Although the measure of certain factors correlates to a college's wealth, both Perez and Cresswell are un-phased about what it says about Trinity's educational experience.

"[US News and World Report] has a deeply flawed system that parents, students and international students use in deciding colleges," said Perez. "We are going to make decisions for Trinity that provide the best experience for students and we won't let a magazine decide [that]."

Changes to the Orientation Process for Class of 2021

KATHERINE ROHLOFF '19
NEWS EDITOR

Big changes were made to the Class of 2021's New Student Orientation this summer. After months of careful planning, this year's Orientation program focused on engaging the incoming class with both Trinity and the local Hartford community.

This fall's orientation offered a number of special events that contributed to engagement in the local community. Once an optional opportunity to take in the sights and smells of Hartford, the Bantam Walks were revamped to include walking tours of the nearby eateries, establishments, businesses, and organizations within walking distance of the college.

Another major change to New Student Orientation was the simplification of the Move-in Day process. Instead of having students contend with the inevitable traffic jams around Summit Street, they instead designated to "unloading zones" in various lots and areas. This created a more efficient and lower-stress experience for both New Students and the assisting Orientation Leaders alike.

"From conversations with families and students, this change received significant praise from many specifically noting how organized and efficient the process was," said Sarah Lucas, Assistant Director of Student Activities, Involvement and Leadership (S.A.I.L.) who also headed up New Student Orientation.

Another focus that New Student Orientation concentrated on this year was having more special events for students to feel welcome at the school. "A new tradition that was incorporated this year was a student-led initiative by Emily Claytor '17 (Orientation Leader and SGA President) in the form of a Campus Lighting," said Lucas. "This was an inaugural candle lighting ceremony for the Class of 2021, surrounded by upperclassmen, faculty and staff, that welcomed the first-year class with a visible display of support for our newest Trinity students that symbolized the 'lighting of their fire' on Trinity's campus."

This year, Orientation included 600 students from around the world with 28



Class of 2021 poses during pre-orientation program.

Photo by Trinity College student Orientation leaders from all years and majors.

"While there are still improvements to be made for next year, this plan was definitely a step in the

right direction," said Lucas. "It's [also] amazing to witness all the hard work that the various staff, students and constituencies put in finally come to fruition."

Update from the Education Policy Committee

continued from page 1

The Committee's recommendation of eight tenure-track lines at the assistant rank included a position in the Political Science Department focused on comparative politics in the global south. Dean Cresswell's final decision, however, allocated this position instead to a Religious Studies position specializing in Bible Studies.

The EPC consists of five elected faculty members who spend the spring semester reviewing and then voting on the proposals submitted by academic departments that want to hire a new faculty member. The Dean of Faculty acts as a non-voting member of the Committee, sitting in on and contributing to the deliberations. When considering proposals, the EPC takes into account several factors including, but not limited to, contributions

to general education, interdepartmental collaboration, and Trinity's broad-based curricular initiatives.

Up until 2003, the Committee's votes were authoritative, so that they had the final say in what academic departments got what positions. In 2003 however, the Trinity faculty voted to change the EPC's role to an advisory one, meaning that they only have the power to give their final recommendations to the Dean of Faculty. The Dean of Faculty can then decide to either accept or reject those recommendations. This past spring is the first time that the Dean of Faculty has ever declined a final recommendation given by the EPC.

The position that was advised by the EPC was one proposed by the Political Science Department for comparative politics in the global south. The position that was ultimately chosen by Dean

Cresswell was proposed by the Religious Studies Department for a position specializing in Bible Studies. When understanding the reasons behind Dean Cresswell's decision not to accept the EPC's recommendation, it is important to refer to the Annual Report sent out by the Dean of Faculty to the faculty regarding the EPC and his final decisions. Regarding the Political Science proposal, Dean Cresswell states that, although a "... strong and convincing proposal. What would have made this [proposal] more convincing would have been a more concrete collaboration with International Studies given the clearly international dimensions of the proposal." He also clarifies that, even though it was part of the EPC's final recommendation, "This proposal received strong, but not universal, support from the committee." Stephanie Chambers,

chair of the Political Science Department, declined to comment for this story.

In the Annual Report, Dean Cresswell also highlighted his reasons for his support of the Religious Studies proposal. The Religious Studies Department was seeking the return of a position that was reallocated following the resignation of Bible Studies Professor Seth Sanders in 2015. In his decision, Dean Cresswell considered the Annual Report from 2016 that declared that "it is imperative that College replace as soon as possible the Bible position." He further states that, "There is also clear evidence of the department pro-actively and successfully increasing its service to non-majors across campus." According to Dean Cresswell, in the cases of the Political Science and Religious Studies proposals, "the votes of the committee were split." When reached

for questions concerning his department's ultimate win for a faculty placement, Professor Ronald Kiener, Chair of the Religious Studies Department, declined to give any substantial comment.

For a department that has been fighting for years to reallocate a position that is at the core of Religious Studies as a whole, the Dean's decision is seen by most as a win for traditional liberal arts curricula. And even though the Dean's ultimate decision differed from the EPC's recommendation for the first time in over a decade, Dean Cresswell states that "I believe the members of EPC did an excellent job and their deliberations were better informed and more substantive than any I have seen elsewhere. All of these decisions are very difficult and there are pros and cons to every proposal. In the end, I disagreed with the majority (but not all) of the committee."

Professor Williams Accepts Paid Leave for Semester

continued from page 1

In response to numerous death threats sent to Williams, along with threats to the College, President Berger-Sweeney shut down the campus for 24 hours on Wednesday, June 21. Over the course of the week of June 21, Dean of the Faculty Tim Cresswell conducted an investigation into Williams' social media activity and whether or not he violated any academic policies. Professor Williams took some time off to be with his family far from Trinity's campus in order to ensure his safety.

Shortly after launching the investigation, President Berger-Sweeney announced that she would be placing Williamson paid leave for the Fall 2017 semester. In defense of her treatment of the matter, she told the Hartford Courant, "While I support Professor Williams' right to express his opinions, as I have previously stated, I do not condone the hashtag he chose to use."

Without mentioning them by name, Berger-Sweeney referenced Campus Reform when she said the majority of the vitriolic reaction nationwide was "fueled by misleading and incorrect reports of what he actually said."

Jeffrey Bayliss, an Associate Professor of History at Trinity, and a member of

AAUP (American Association of University Professors), an advocacy group for college professors, came out in defense of Professor Williams. "When I read Johnny's piece, I didn't take it as a call to violence," Bayliss said. He explained that Williams never actually expressed a desire for violence against white people, and that he only used the hashtag as a way of calling attention to Son of Baldwin's work of the same name.

"I'm pretty sure that Professor Williams has been on Campus Reform's radar for a long time," Bayliss speculated. That was a reference to Campus Reform's modus operandi, which is the targeting of left-wing college professors who question the status quo and attempting to get them fired.

"Johnny was linking to that, but talking about a separate incident in time," reiterated Bayliss as he revisited the Son of Baldwin piece. Professor Williams may have referenced that controversial piece about the congressional shooting, but he was not endorsing it or even focusing on the shooting itself. His gripe had to do with the shooting of a pregnant black woman in Seattle.

"I think in Johnny's case, though...he's commenting on what he works on, which is race. In many ways, whatever he's doing on

Facebook is sort of an extension of his teaching." In the eyes of Professor Bayliss, Williams used Facebook as another medium with which to teach his students about race, something he should not be punished for.

This past Friday, there was a teach-in about racism that featured Professor Williams as a keynote speaker. Williams, who patiently waited for the other Trinity professors to share their views on the issue, had much to say about Trinity's administration and how they handled his punishment. Talking about why he was punished at all, Williams contended that, "The college is interested in white supremacist money."

Addressing racism as a whole, Professor Williams explained to the crowd of professors and students that race is merely an ideology and that, "it's rooted in institutions like Trinity College." Professor Williams made clear his disgust at people identifying as 'white'. Describing his activism, Williams asserted, "I'm calling for the death of whiteness itself."

Professor Williams believes that colleges and universities, entities he believes are hotbeds of systemic racism. "Colleges and universities are functionaries of epistemic violence," he declared just before adding, "If we don't interrogate high-



Johnny Williams is a professor in the Sociology department.
Photo by Trinity College

er education, systemic racism will continue to reign."

He addressed Trinity's handling of his case towards the end of his talk. He began his remarks by saying "The college wasn't protecting me. I was punished before due process. It was all show." He continued to comment

on Trinity's administration with the following: "The administration had one thing in mind: to protect itself."

He ended his defense of his actions by stating, "Facebook is my classroom. Social media is my classroom. I've done my job and I did it well."

OPINION

Jumping Right In- An Orientation to Remember

JAYMIE BIANCA '21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

August 31st seemed so distant at the beginning of the summer. The day that I moved into college, in my mind, was far into the future and an aspect of my life that I did not believe could arrive so hastily. Now, three weeks into my freshman year at Trinity, I can honestly say that I feel quite acclimated with the campus. I know when to eat at Mather when it isn't too populated, and the meaning and purpose of Trinity Days. However, I have to attribute my fast knowledge and effortless familiarity of Trinity to all of the individuals who made our orientation an unforgettable five days.

At first, there were numerous presentations about vital campus issues such as safety, inclusion, and health. In all honesty, I wasn't thrilled about attending these presentations. Nevertheless, they were executed in an incredibly entertaining way. WGRAC sponsored two presentations for new students. They were both com-

edy skits, which created an intriguing atmosphere for every student in the room. The shows dealt with serious topics, which developed into deep and heavy discussions; but, they were insightful, and I can personally attest the abundance of lessons I learned to both of these performances. I now feel more comfortable asking questions and engaging in

“I now feel more comfortable asking questions and engaging in discourse regarding sexuality and equality”

discourse regarding sexuality and equality. Also, Martha O'Brien, Director of Health Services, talked to first-year students about how to remain healthy on campus, and steps we can take to do so. She was not mundane in her presentation, rather, she was humorous and engaging, which made the two hour discussion seemingly much shorter. Therefore, even though orientation consisted of a few mandatory presentations, they were executed in an

organized and exciting way.

Students were often tired after the day's events, however, we learned that Trinity does not sleep! I attended a variety of activities in the evening. One night I went to the Fred, where I had a barbecue dinner and watched a wonderful open mic. I did not work up the courage to sing, but maybe next time! I visited The Mill the next night as well, where I actually did let my passion for dance release

as my friends and I swayed to the melody of the band playing that evening. Additionally, our orientation leaders hosted a carnival for first year students, which included popcorn, cotton candy, ice cream, burgers (all free of course!) and music, an inflatable bounce house, and hours spent with our classmates. I found this to be a fantastic bonding experience where I actually met a majority of my friends. I am very thankful for the various organizations at Trinity that

took the initiative to offer these exciting nights for us.

Above all, however, I have to say that personally, my favorite event was the club fair. The heat was relentless, yet it was a beautiful sunny day, and all of the student organizations at Trinity were lined up with their own specific tables, eager to explain their clubs and hoping to recruit new members. I cannot even begin to count the number of times I wrote my email down on the copious number of email lists! Each activity sounded unique and enjoyable, and it will be difficult to narrow them down throughout the year. So far, however, I have au-

the class of 2021 will find their niche and discover their passions. The club fair was a great way of initially becoming involved with Trinity, and I am so thankful that Trinity already feels like a home because of the fair.

In conclusion, I believe orientation was exciting, fun, and a super start to life at Trinity. Because of the hard work and dedication of Trinity College students and staff, campus was thriving even before classes began. Trinity feels like my second home already in week three of being a student, and I cannot wait to see how my freshman year unfolds. Orientation was the starting

“Numerous opportunities to participate in with so little time, yet, I am confident each student of the class of 2021 will find their niche and discover their passions

ditioned for Macbeth, and joined Best Buddies and the Tripod. Numerous opportunities to participate in with so little time, yet, I am confident each student of

line I desperately needed for the beginning of my college career. I am excited to see its lasting effects as I cross the finish line of my freshman year in May.

Two Presidencies That Served to Pivot the Nation

JAMES CALABRESI '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Donald Trump and Jimmy Carter; outsiders, party dividers, men of change. How could two politicians - a centrist Democrat and an alt-right Republican - have such similar presidencies, while serving as commander in chief more than thirty years apart? And yes it's true, Carter with his Habitat for Humanity project and his Carter Foundation have done good around the world, while Trump and his organization have been quietly swindling customers for years. It is also true that Carter was more centrist relative to the average views of his party's politics while Trump is more a Reagan-Bush Junior mix of folksy charisma, poor decision making, and a love of relief for the rich. However, the presidencies of these two men share startling similarities, ones that in this recently ascendant age of the alt-right presidency, will only lead to as successful a democratic party as Franklin Delano Roosevelt's.

President Trump is his first seven months of office, has tanked his once decent inauguration-day approval ratings and alienated both his base and traditional hardline Republicans. He has insulted swing state moderates, stepped in the toes and eyes

of his Senate and House majority leaders, tweeted contradictory messages, and fired his FBI director; this job that has been done with a Republican majority, and the aid of a revived Republican Supreme Court, can only be called a disaster. The long-term consequences, given the history of Carter's own feud with his party, are catastrophically clear for Trump.

Carter's party, following Republican shame over the Watergate scandal, had a golden opportunity to pass strong healthcare legislation, to strengthen the New Deal programs, and to guide the nation. Carter's first two years consisted of a congressional supermajority, and by all accounts, Democrats were supposed to reconcile their differences and make good on their many promises. But it was not to be; Capitol Hill and the White House soon grew further apart than even the post-convention Kennedy-Carter divide suggested, and Democratic hopes were thoroughly dashed by Reagan's counter-populism in the 1980 election, cementing a popular far-right agenda that led to twelve years of Republican dominance.

The significance of the current trajectory, therefore, cannot be overstated. If Trump fails to pass

at least portions of two of the Republican party's big three promises- healthcare repeal, infrastructure spending, and tax reform- he

“Either way you slice it, President Trump is in a pickle, and Republicans are going to have to deliver on their promises soon,”

will bring his party limping into a midterm that could see their house majority evaporate. While Carter came into power with a larger advantage (a supermajority consists of at least 60 votes, while a simple majority is at least 51), he still managed to lose 4 seats in his midterms as Americans grew tired of uncertainty and incompetency as a common praxis. President Trump also seems unlikely to move toward serious compromise- despite a few recent efforts with Democrats, as he has often complained of the Senate filibuster which he says “must go” and, were his attention sufficiently shifted back to the concerns of the Republican Congress, could in fact be finished for good. However, the political repercussions of these rule changes would be enormous, especially if

Republicans were to try to force such rules on the country before the midterms. The damage that would be done to his cause and

his country would likely be worse than if he had simply blundered his way on, as he is doing now. On the other side of the aisle, the progressive blue wave that has been building steam with 17 cosponsors to Bernie Sanders' Medicare for All bill, would deftly maneuver a weakened candidate Trump in 2020. Every moment this ‘great negotiator’ along with the party that pledged to set things right once President Obama was finished, fails to make progress serves as more and more hard evidence to the country why a democratic government would be best. If Trump continues to blunder on, he would face a grim reelection: with little power in congress, with no border wall set up, with his base disillusioned. Trump would face a clobbering the likes we haven't seen since

Carter or Mondale v. Reagan (funny how well this analogy works).

One other point to consider when imagining the future of the political parties and their various movements is that of national security. Trump has been the law and order politician since he announced his campaign, which gives him, as it always has for Republicans, a distinct ‘tough guy’ advantage. If he could push already hawkish Republicans to go to war or stoke the fears of undocumented immigrants, he could theoretically scare the nation so much that any democrat attempting a challenge would have to situate her or himself to the far right on the military, just when the Democratic base is becoming more and more anti-war. Trump, who has tweeted ominous remarks about such plans, could use his general-stacked administration as a shield to any criticism for a hawkish or interventionist plan in either the middle east or on the Korean peninsula.

Either way you slice it, President Trump is in a pickle, and Republicans are going to have to deliver on their promises soon, because they won't have anywhere near as weak of a candidate as Hillary Clinton to face off against in the next time around.

A Better Alternative to DACA Needs to be Found

ELEANNA DAVOS '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

President Trump is not one to shy away from being in the spotlight, whether it reflects well on him or not. Most recently, Trump has been in the limelight for his strong statements about Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). In early September, he made a statement that he will end the program that provides support and services to children of undocumented immigrants who were born in the US, as well as undocumented minors. All of which in order to receive the services from DACA must fall within certain specifications listed in the policy that former President Obama implemented in June 2012. From the beginning of his presidential campaign, Donald Trump put illegal immigration and immigration policy changes at the fore-front of his campaign. President Trump made sure his supporters were aware that once he took office he would crack down on all forms of immigration, highlighting illegal immigration from Mexico specifically.

A little background information on DACA: it was implemented as a way to protect undocumented minors in the U.S. Under DACA, children were able to receive a renewable two year amnesties from deportation, to later then become eligible for a work permit. Ultimately allowing them to renew their

status as a DACA recipient with the ultimate goal of citizenship. To be able to apply for the vast benefits of DACA, applicants must have arrived in the US prior to their 16th birthday, be continuous residents of the US without a change in their legal status since June of 2007, be under the age of 31 as of June 2012 and at least 15 years old, enrolled in school or have grad-

"DACA, like most government programs, is flawed and should be stopped until a better program can be put forward."

uated high school or have a General Development Certificate (GED), or be an honorably discharged veteran of the US military, and lastly have not been convicted of any crime and not pose a threat to national security.

Since its implementation DACA has provided an umbrella of safety for almost 800,000 (not accounting for the people who applied and did not get accepted) people who reside in the United States. These members of DACA have every opportunity a legalized American citizen has except for the piece of paper that legally makes them a citizen. Their protection under DACA allows them to legally hold a job, purchase a home, attend college, and join the military etc. All these privi-

leges that legalized American never take for granted are handed to DACA members along with the benefit or never needing to worry about the threat of deportation as long as they maintain credible status within DACA.

DACA negates the need for citizenship for people who fall under this program because they are provided with the two most important

benefits as an undocumented member of the country. One being a temporary suspension of deportation and the legal authorization to work in the United States. These benefits lead to many other open doors such as the opportunity to get a driver's license which then funnels into the opportunity to be able to vote. When it comes down to the framework the members of DACA are able to do everything a legalized American citizen can do without themselves being legal members of society.

At first sight the program seems flawless and in a certain perspective can fall along the lines of supporting everyone's right to the American Dream- but only making it slightly easier and more attainable. But let's be

honest; DACA, like most government programs, is flawed and should be stopped until a better program can be put forward. In the last year, the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said that 622 people had their deferred action status pulled due to criminal activity. In that group of 622 people, the crimes ranged from multiple misdemeanor convictions, gang affiliation, alien smuggling, assaultive offenses, domestic violence, drug offenses, DUI, larceny and thefts, criminal trespass and burglary, sexual offenses with minors, other sex offenses and weapons offenses. In the last four

just how low the bar was set to be eligible for DACA. Interestingly only a select few number of applicants were ever interviewed which contradicts President Obama's statement that every applicant would be thoroughly looked at which would also entail an interview with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. Unfortunately, this program could have had the to potential to be executed properly but at this time I believe it is time to end the program to protect and prioritize American citizens.

DACA's fate now lies in the hands of Congress, who will choose the program's fate

"Unfortunately, this program could have had the to potential to be executed properly but at this time I believe it is time to end the program to protect and prioritize American citizens."

years, roughly 3,000 people had their status pulled due to crime actions that endangered American lives.

Of course, this shows that the larger percentage of people protected under DACA are harmless, but that can't negate the fact that of those undocumented members of society pose a threat to society which should be stopped. These numbers show simply how incredibly unreliable and inadequate DACA's screening processes are, and

within the next six months. Trinity students who may fall under DACA's program should continue to feel safe and welcomed by all members of Trinity College and the Hartford community. In no way should anyone's opinion turn into hurtful words, actions, or behaviors that would put members of our society and Trinity College's community in danger.

DACA Serves to Protect Many American Dreamers

HENRY CHAVEZ '18
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Less than two weeks ago, President Trump moved to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, an Obama-era program commonly known as

"denied jobs to hundreds of thousands of Americans by allowing those same illegal aliens to take those jobs"; and that the program needed to be ended out of concern for "the millions of Americans victimized by this unfair system". The President

your student athletes, your fraternity and sorority brothers and sisters, they can be anyone on this campus. We were brought here when we were really young by circumstances out of our control. Dreamers are people that have come to call the United States their home, America is all they know. I came to the U.S. when I was two and a half as a refugee from El Salvador. There's this saying in Spanish that goes "Noy soy de aqui, no soy de alla" or "I'm not from here, but I'm not from there." This saying captures the displacement that we feel: I don't call El Salvador my home, home for me has always been Boston.

At the end of the day, Dreamers are people who are going to school, graduating, interning, starting businesses, and starting families here. We are the very people who are helping America to

go forward; ending DACA presents a barrier to them, and a barrier to American progress. The most upset-

they know". For one man in office to belittle everything I've done and make me feel insignificant is upsetting.

"This isn't the end for DACA or for Dreamers, they don't see this as the end of the tunnel."

"...Dreamers are your peers, your TAs, your RAs, your student athletes, your fraternity and sorority brothers and sisters, they can be anyone on this campus."

DACA. Both DACA and the DREAM act give nearly a million young adults, undocumented through no fault of their own, a chance to work, receive an education, and chase the American Dream. President Trump and Attorney General Sessions said in statements that the program

and Attorney General could not be further off base, with even Former President Obama chiming in, calling the decision "wrong," "self defeating," and "cruel".

I think that it's really important for everyone to know that Dreamers are your peers, your TAs, your RAs,

ting thing is that I've been pledging allegiance to the American flag for as long as I can recall. Here I am today, a senior at Trinity College who has interned at both Google and Facebook, an involved student on campus, and someone who does a lot to try to help the community that I'm in. I'm one of many, and in the words of President Obama, "it makes no sense to expel talented, driven, patriotic young people from the only country

This isn't the end for DACA or for Dreamers, they don't see this as the end of the tunnel. Over and over again, Dreamers have been left behind. As sad as it is to say, without immigration reform, we've sort of been forgotten about. Dreamers are CEOs, VPs, and business owners, and they don't give up. At the end of the day they get shit done, and I don't think that's going to stop.

FEATURES

Press Release: Student Photographers Partners with Trinity Tripod

MIŁOSZ KOWAL '18
PHOTO EDITOR

The staff of the Trinity College Student Photographers (TCSP) are proud to announce that the organization has officially partnered with the Trinity Tripod to take photographic coverage of events around campus to the next level. This marks a monumental collaboration between two influential organizations and signals a sea change in cross-organizational collaboration.

Why is this important?

The partnership between TCSP and the Tripod heralds a shift in the way we look at student organizations and involvement on campus. We believe that teamwork is the key to success, and that belief has been at the core of our mission since the group's found-

ing two years ago. The Trinity Tripod has been an organization that we wanted to work with since our inception, and now is the perfect time to realize our collective vision of enhancing the phenomenal work of the Tripod staff with exceptional images provided by the TCSP staff. We hope that this inspires other organizations to take the risks necessary to elevate their own work to heights never seen before.

What does the future hold?

From here, things can only improve. Chris Bulfinch, the editor-in-chief of the Tripod, says "I'm very grateful for our partnership with the

TCSP. With their help, The Tripod will look better than ever, with great photos and consulting!"

About Trinity College Student Photographers

TCSP was founded in 2015 by Miłosz Kowal, currently a senior at Trinity. Initially organized as an art appreciation group, the team has quickly grown into a juggernaut of photography, providing event coverage to dozens of clubs, teams, and groups around campus, including the Theater/Dance Department, The Trinity African Student Association, and Hillel.

Our mission is to provide exceptional coverage for student groups, expressed in the motto "Making Magic Happen."



Photo courtesy of Trinity College Student Photographers

Reflections on Trinity's Rome Study Abroad Program

TRIP SLAYMAKER '18
A&E EDITOR

The sun was setting over the ruins on Palatine Hill when I first noticed the signs. They were strung on fences around the colossal basin of the Circus Maximus: "Charismatic Renewal-- Featuring Pope Francis."

I was about three weeks into my five week program studying with Trinity in Rome, and I was in the height of a tourist frenzy. I wanted to leave the city after having seen every ancient monument, every church, and every piece of art within walking distance. I felt as though I was receiving an incredible windfall of extra credit.

I'm not very religious, and in Rome I experienced some low-level of anxiety about visiting holy sites. If I felt out of place taking photos in the church of Santa Maria Maggiore, I would surely feel invasive at a gathering of a million of the world's Catholics. But the Pope was not to be missed, so I came back the next day to see His Holiness give a speech. The following day at the Circus, it was unclear exactly when the Pope would be coming to the stage at the northwest end. In the meantime, the stage was covered with religious dignitaries speaking about the traditions of Pentecost in Italian, Spanish, and sometimes even English

with a thick Virginia accent. Half of the Circus was filled with legions of the faithful, all wearing red ball caps. It seemed as though a quarter of the people were nuns or monks.

The fenced-in area was only accessible to people who had paid in advance for tickets. I would have to stand in the dusty expanse outside of the reserved section with hundreds of other unfortunates. I had been wandering the Circus for over an hour when I sat down on the thorny slopes that border the basin. The Pope was now over an hour late, and there was a palpable sense of discomfort and impatience, even among nuns and the professionally religious. As the sun mounted higher in the sky and the temperature climbed, a young nun sitting to my left began to pass the time by tossing pebbles into the half-closed umbrella of one of her sisters. It took a few minutes before she noticed pebbles accumulating in the folds of her parasol, but by that time every member of the surrounding crowd was in on the game.

By the time the Pope finally arrived, I was sunburned and dead tired. When I saw him on stage, his white gowns flapping around his head, I was struck by how small he appeared. He looked like a tiny white dot beyond a sea of waving flags and red hats. When he ar-

rived on stage, the Pope sat down and stayed seated for at least another hour. I expected fanfare, maybe even trumpets for the man chosen to be the mouthpiece of God-- but there he sat, minute after minute, fully expecting the attention of the crowd to stay fixed on the many speakers who took the podium before him. By the time the Pope stood to make his speech, the mood on the outskirts of the Circus was downright resentful. However, all of the tension between his Holiness and the assembled crowds melted when the speech began. Speaking in slow, enthusiastic Italian, Pope Francis discussed the needed mutual respect and community across religious and cultural lines.

The hordes of ticketless people were pressing themselves against the fences, taking in every word. As the applause swelled and singing broke out among the crowds, I was struck most by the long curve of history. The center of Christendom had temporarily assembled itself in a vast Roman monument to Christian persecution. Where Christians had once been killed en masse, now Hallelujahs echoed. I still felt like an outsider snapping pictures at something I had no right to see, but as I left the ancient arena that day, I felt privileged to have read a new chapter in the ancient history of one of the world's religions.



Slaymaker was able to see Pope Francis during his trip to Rome.
Photo by Trip Slaymaker '18



Study abroad students were exposed to Christian history.
Photo by Trip Slaymaker '18

Thursday Night Trivia at Vernon Social a Weekly Hit

MEGAN CALJOUW '20 AND
JULIA KENNARD '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

It's a Thursday evening in Vernon Social. The green and orange chairs are filled with eager students excited for the possibility of winning an Amazon gift card or simply for the laughs with fellow teammates. Trivia Night, hosted by Mark Bernacki, is held every Thursday at 8:00 p.m. in Vernon Social, and for some, it's an essential part of the week. With students frequenting the Vernon bar throughout the night or bringing their own beverage, Trivia Night is an exciting kickoff to the weekend. Participants create obscure team names, listen to the categories, and leave their phones in the middle of the tables. The teams range anywhere from one person to eight, with names such as Shrukas, New York Football Giants, and Team Bonding.

The four rounds of trivia

each contain five categories with topics varying from technology to Disney. Some categories include true or false, dead or alive, sports, food and beverage, and spelling. Once Bernacki, the animated emcee of this event, asks a question, each team collaborates to submit an answer, making sure to wager a point value. Teams must wager using odd point values from 1-9 in the first two rounds and even point values from 2-10 in the second two rounds. Dedicated teams who want a correct answer religiously consult the "WhatTrivia! at Trinity College" Facebook page a few hours before trivia to obtain the exclusive "answer of the week." During breaks, teams use their phones, dance to the upbeat music, or visit Goldbergs for a snack.

At halftime, Bernacki and his assistant tally up the points while teams complete a challenging photo round. Past photo rounds includ-

ed identifying United States first ladies and identifying the names of cartoon shows. Afterwards, Bernacki lets the teams know where they stand, announcing the team names and current point tallies before the beginning of the second half. Next, teams complete two more rounds filled with strange questions and answers. This past week's memorable correct answers include "Go Fudge Yourself," "Genetically Modified Organism," and "Franklin Pierce." For most teams, the possibility of winning a coveted spot in the top three relies on the final question. Bernacki once again announces teams' point tallies, and teams must wager anywhere from zero to their current point value before answering the final question. The team with the lowest amount of points gets to choose from a list of categories for the final round.

With so much riding on this ultimate shot at redemp-



Many students at Trinity look forward to weekly trivia at Vernon Social.
Photo by WhatTrivia

tion, many teams choose to bet their full point tally for an "all in" approach. The closing question involves listing multiple items in a specific category. Once Bernacki reveals the last question, teams hurriedly combine their knowledge to finalize a list of answers. Past final questions include a list of Nintendo consoles, birthstones for each month of the year, and various places where The Real Housewives series is filmed. Once

Bernacki and his assistant tally responses and points, they reveal the standing and announce the top three winners. Students file out of Vernon Social either disappointed with their outcome or happily clutching prizes. If you are interested in being a part of this vivacious event, feel free to join this upcoming Thursday at Vernon Social!

Class of 2021 Profile: Sitting Down with Gavin Xu '21

SUYANG WU '20
FEATURES EDITOR

Stepping into college, students are eager to become acquainted with each other quickly. The Class of 2021 is a diverse group of both Americans and international students get along with each other well for the first few days. One of my close friends who I want to mention is Gavin. More specifically, I want to mention his insight about his experience so far at Trinity; about initial reactions and perceptions of Trinity are worth talking about, and other first-year students may well relate.

As an incoming international student at Trinity, Gavin seems to be enjoying his first couple of weeks in college. There are two reasons for this: he is a sociable and communicative figure. Whenever he meets any students on campus, he is the one who is always ready to engage in conversation, covering many topics, ranging from world cultures, customs, history, and his favorite, political science, which he plans to major in at Trinity. Everybody loves to share his/her opinions and viewpoints on different topics, which helps him to adapt to the culture of the nation and the college. His out-

going nature helps for adaptation to college life. Friendship is such an essential "instrument" towards socialization and happiness, and Gavin's approach to the first weeks of college seems to be paying dividends in this regard.

What's more, his strong engagement with professors is astonishing. Both in-class and around campus, he talks to professors about everything, from lessons learned in class to broader topics of world events. "I really love to communicate with professors on various subjects that are going on all over the world," he said in an interview. "By engaging with the milieu of knowledge, I am going through a beneficial and rewarding experience. I'm really grateful to be a member of Trinity college, which gives me a great opportunity to talk to many enthusiastic peer students and professors. I'm indeed thankful for encountering nice people here." His insight gives me a tremendous impression of how someone can be confident in new social situations; not just anyone can courageously talk to strangers.

Apart from socialization around campus, Gavin finds Trinity's geographic locaiton interest-

ing. Trinity College is a small liberal arts college with abundant resources for internships and job opportunities. It's isolated from other public universities, rendering the college a tranquil, serene place for students to commit to their academic performance. Gavin thinks that it is a great place to foster a future career. He firmly believes that Trinity college is going to be a place where he can explore different perspectives on society and his fields of interest, such as American government and international relations.

Although Gavin's confidence and ambition is worth examining, the great pressure of the past few weeks can be overwhelming to him. When talking about the challenges and difficulties of studying at Trinity, he says, "Sometimes the books of some courses can be very hard to read since the concepts of particular fields are not familiar to me, a new international student, plus adapting to the new academic environment in America is a hardship to me. However, the more challenging situations I am involved with, the more chances for me to learn the lessons and to obtain much knowledge to overcome any obsta-

cles." I am astonished by his statements and concerns. Yes, it's true that we have to challenge ourselves in order to fully discover our shortcomings. Gavin provides

an example of how first-year students, regardless of where they come from, can engage meaningfully with Trinity from the very start of their undergraduate years.



Class of 2021 participate in preorientation program Bantam Beginnings.
Photo by Nick Caito



Class of 2021 participate in preorientation program Bantam Beginnings.
Photo by Nick Caito

Arts & Entertainment

Schedule of Upcoming Arts Events

Schedule

CINESTUDIO, 7:30 pm. SUNDAY SEPT 17-WEDNESDAY SEPT 20. *AN INCONVENIENT SEQUEL: TRUTH TO POWER*
Al Gore's 2006 plea for environmental responsibility gets a timely update in this sequel.

TUESDAY SEPT 19. 12:15PM. PUBLIC READING WITH CHANTAL ACEVEDO
Acevedo is the author of this year's *THE LIVING INFINITE: A NOVEL, A FALLING STAR*, (2014) and was the winner of the Latino International Book Award.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20. 12PM-1PM. CARILLON TOUR AND CONCERT
An in-depth look behind the public face of one of Trinity's most majestic monuments, and the music it produces.

FRIDAY SEPT 22. 7:30, GOODWIN THEATER. GERALD MOSHELL FAREWELL CONCERT
Campus theater and music legend Gerald Moshell's final farewell concert.

CINESTUDIO, 7:30 THURSDAY SEPT 26- SATURDAY SEPT 30. (2:30 on Saturday) *LADY MACBETH*
A young English wife in 1865 resists against a loveless marriage and begins a dangerous affair.

CINESTUDIO, 2:30 & 7:30 SUNDAY, 7:30 PM MONDAY 25-WEDNESDAY 27. *WHOSE STREETS?*
A documentary about the 2014 uprising against police violence in Ferguson. MO.

MONDAY SEPT 25. 4:30 AK SMITH VISITING SCHOLARS SERIES WITH BETH SCHWEIGER
Schweiger is author of *The Gospel Working Up: Progress and the Pulpit in Nineteenth-Century Virginia*.

WEEKDAYS: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Easy Vehicles of Knowledge for an Enlightened and Free People: American Periodicals in the Watkinson, 1750-1950.

Cinestudio Preview: Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Sequel*

continued from page one

Visually, the film is striking. Its gravity benefits, however darkly, from the spate of horrific natural disasters; conversations with climate advocates in the Philippines are lent depth by footage of Typhoon Haiyan forcing the Filipino government to the roof of a building.

The footage taken by Gore's team from different events, such as the Paris Climate Summit, though not necessarily groundbreaking cinematically, do ground the film

in current events and offer an interest look at the front lines of the highest echelons of the climate change movement.

Trailers and promotional materials for the film hinted that an accusation was going to be levied not only against the Trump Administration, but the political and media cultures that have fostered an environment of hostility to climate science. Such an accusation never really materialized in the film. President Trump's denial of climate change seems to haunt the fringes of the film; occasional

snippets of his comment to news outlets play, usually accompanied by commentary from Gore about resistance to climate science and difficulties faced by climate justice movements.

The opening of the film features audio of criticism from news outlets skeptical of climate change, with one faceless commentator equating Gore's work on *An Inconvenient Truth* with Nazi propaganda of Joseph Goebbels.

With such vitriolic comments to work with, it was surprising that the film

made very little effort to substantively address the concerted effort of right-wing media to destabilize the broadly-accepted scientific narrative surrounding climate change.

Only once does Gore directly address corporate influence in politics. The Trump Administration's cabinet appointments, despite being disastrous from the perspective of preventing climate change, are only mentioned once in passing.

For a film about speaking truth to power, *An Inconvenient Prequel* strikes an oddly

apolitical tone.

In all, the film is effective in its prescriptions and its focus on the work that has been done and remains to be done.

Yet, this insular focus on the movement and its milestones detracts from what could have been an acerbic engagement with the more short-sided constituencies that have diligently obstructed progress on climate change.

Nonetheless, the film conveyed its message, and its exhortation to "#BeInconvenient" is a timely rallying cry.



COURTESY OF BBC.com

Vice President Al Gore speaks about climate change and makes a plea for public attention in his new documentary *An Inconvenient Sequel*.

Trinity Music Legend John Rose to Retire in Decem-

BEN GAMBUTTA '20
MANAGING EDITOR

On the evening of Thurs. September 7th, across the finely trimmed grass of the quad, one could smell music in the air. The Chapel looked especially lofty from the

outside and its interior was filled with visitors. Enter, and you would have found Trinity students, alumni, Hartford residents, artists, and educators gathered together to celebrate one man's musical mind. It was 5:00 in the evening when the

event finally began. After a standing ovation upon his entrance to the organ, a tall and slender man, though moved by the outpouring, made a statement of thanks and a description of his program that night, consisting of Bach, Vierne, and others. This was the final organ concert of John Rose.

After 40 years of dedicated service to Trinity College and his beloved students, John Rose will step down from his post as College Organist and director of chapel music this December. His long-time pupil and world renowned concert organist Christopher Houlihan '09 will succeed him in both positions.

John comes from a distinguished line of organists. After graduating from Rutgers University, where he was also an instructor of organ, he went on to continue his studies with the legendary virtuoso, Virgil Fox. Famous for his Bach-Heavy concerts, Fox was in turn a student of the great organist and composer Louis Vierne (the man mentioned above). To take this stunning ancestry one step further, the great Cesar Franck was Vierne's mentor. Needless to say, John Rose learned from the best. He has gone on to master a technique of clarity and colorful richness in his playing.

He has performed over 1,000 recitals in venues such as Orchestra Hall in Chicago, Westminster Abbey in London, and Notre-Dame Cathedral in Paris. He has cemented himself as a titan of the organ world. However, merely stating Rose's lineage and personal success, though necessary and highly respectable, does not capture his whole essence.

John Rose is special for what he chose to actively do with his success. He is not selfish, nor is he isolated. To get a sense of how Rose passed his gifts and love of music on to his students, The Tripod sat down with his friend and colleague, esteemed pianist Dr. Linda Laurent.

When asked to describe John Rose in one word, she uttered, without hesitation, "gracious". She went on to say, "he has a tremendous ability to understand each individual and nurture them in a way that will let them be individuals."

Immediately, one can see the John Rose difference. Throughout his career, he has not only kept up a high level of personal artistry, but he has unceasingly been attentive and serviceable to students. He genuinely cares about the next generation of musicians, not just himself. The Tripod spoke to Chris Houlihan

'09: "John is an exceptionally intuitive human, both musically and interpersonally. He encourages students to think critically...about musical problems, to arrive at a well-thought and yet individual solution." Caring about his students in this way, Rose has had immense success with them at Trinity.

He has taken his Chapel Singers, Trinity's oldest student organization, to perform in Buenos Aires, England, Montreal, and Venice Italy. To this day, the Chapel Singers are one of Trinity's most beloved groups, who consistently perform at a high level all thanks to Rose. Many of these singers, indeed some from his first class in 1977, were present at last weekend's recital. Such dedication and respect is rarely seen anywhere else.

Throughout Rose's 40 years at Trinity, he has been a humble, respected, and gracious teacher, all while remaining one of America's premier organ virtuosos. We will miss him, but he will not be far. For whoever has heard him play has taken an invaluable piece of John Rose the man with them. Hold this treasure and do not forget. John, we thank you and we know we are in good hands. Christopher, we welcome you with open arms.



COURTESY OF Timesunion.com (Photo by Nate Howe)
Longtime College organist and director of Chapel Music John Rose

Album Review: London-Based Duo Mount Kimbie Return

AMANDA LAFFERTY '21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As I sat down with my Pamplmousse LaCroix in hand, over-the-ear headphones on, and Spotify open and ready to go, I knew it was the time to take my first listen. Dominic Maker and Kai Campos, who make up the art pop electronic duo known as Mount Kimbie, recently dropped their third full length studio album, "Love What Survives."

When trying to decide the most noteworthy tracks on this album, I was puzzled. By the fourth listen, I was still unsure. A complete appreciation for all tracks is rare on any given album, but entirely deserving in the instance of Mount Kimbie's most recent effort.

One thought that came to mind during the first listen through "Love What Survives" is strong resemblance to ambient DJs Oneohtrix Point Never and Chilean-American Nicolas Jaar. This is due in part

to the lofty ambient noise found on the first track.

The first track, "Four Years and One Day," encapsulates the entire tone of what's to come on the following tunes. Its most prominent aspects are the haunting and luminous synth noises that pair gorgeously with the crisp and dark bass notes.

Additionally, I noticed the tempo and danceability of this album were quite different than Mount Kimbie's prior releases. The duo elected to trade in their buoyant sound for a darker timbre.

Mount Kimbie's 2013 album, "Cold Spring Fault Less Youth," was characterized by its dance floor grooves. Tracks such as "Made To Stray," which were featured on the electronic mix album "DJ-Kicks: DJ Koze," were upbeat and closely adhered to the UK Post-Dubstep sound. The departure from their typical mixture of dance and downtempo tracks to an album that focuses consistently of the latter shows an increase in focus and

growth for Mount Kimbie.

The features are yet another aspect of this album where Mount Kimbie is successful. Repeat collaborator King Krule harmonizes quite well with the duo's recorded orchestration on "Blue Train Lines."

"We Go Home Together" is another impressive track. The equally breathtaking music video, is characterized by shaky and elusive film shots. It is bound to confuse, but also enlighten. James Blake's vocals depart from the usual deep and rich sound of his own solo work. Instead, the listener hears an intensely raw version of Blake's voice that pairs beautifully over the looping organ melody, another egress from the familiar piano sounds that are associated with Blake's work.

"Marilyn," featuring English musician Micachu, is a calming and heartfelt track.

It carries on this album's pattern of melodic synth sounds that will infiltrate your soul, mind, and blood—running through you

like a rush of good espresso.

Tracks such as "You Look Certain (I'm Not So Sure)," display elements of dreampop and shoegaze, heard through the distorted guitar performed over a playful drum-machine beat.

By the time I had finished the album (and the LaCroix) I had come to a conclusion. Each song on the

album stands alone, with its own energy and substance. As a whole, however, the album remains somehow cohesive, and stays in balance with the surrounding tracks.

Kimbie's first full release in four years exceeds the high expectations that stem from their prior efforts, while simultaneously raising the bar for their future work.



COURTESY OF residentadvisor.net.
Dominic Maker and Kai Campos make up the post-dubstep band

SPORTS

Trinity Cross Country Teams Off to Solid Start in 2017



COURTESY OF Trinity College Athletics
Captain Briana Daley '18 led the Bantams XC team both at Trinity, and in the UMASS-Dartmouth Invitational.

JOSEPH LADD '20
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trinity's cross-country teams opened the Fall 2017 season with first place finishes at the Trinity Invitational two weeks ago. Both the men and women's teams raced to the finish line ahead of 11 other schools, marking both teams' first wins of the season.

Captain Briana Daley ('18) finished third overall with a time of 19:51 in the 5K. Daley, along with co-captain Hannah Ells ('18), Anna Barnes ('19), Grace Harrison ('20) and Samantha Feenstra ('20), all finished inside the top ten, bringing the Bantams to a 36-point victory over second-place Coast Guard Academy Bears. On the men's side, Joe Ruggi-

ero ('19) Zachary Joachim ('19), and Stephen Tyler ('21) finished second, third, and fourth, respectively, leading the Bantams to an impressive victory. The Bantams solidified their first-place finish in the event with a dominating 256-point lead ahead of second-place United States Coast Guard Academy.

This past weekend, both Bantam teams traveled to North Dartmouth, Massachusetts for the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth Invitational. The women's team fared well, placing 2nd out of 40 teams. Again, Captain Daley led the Bantams, running 5,000 meters in 18:37, finishing only 43 seconds behind Abby Shafer of New England College. Harrison and Feenstra turned in solid performances, finish-

ing 11th and 14th, respectively, while Barnes finished 17th. The Bantams edged the third-place Brandeis University Judges by 34 points. In the same event, the men's team finished 10th overall. Ruggiero was the first Bantam to cross the finish line, marking a 25th place individual finish. The Bantams totaled 274 points. The match showed the team's progress and gave insight into the upcoming season.

Next weekend, the Trinity men's and women's XC teams will travel to Lehigh, Pennsylvania, in the hopes of building on their initial success in Lehigh's Paul Short Run. Next time you see our Bantam runners practicing around campus, be sure to wish them luck!

Field Hockey Wins One, Suffers Two Tough Losses

CAM CHOTTINER '20
STAFF WRITER

Following a strong 2016 season that led the Bantam Field Hockey team to an NCAA DIII Tournament berth, Trinity opened the 2017 season ranked 10th in the country, and got off to a blazing hot start against Smith College on September 7th. The Bantams were held off the scoreboard for almost 20 minutes thanks to strong play from the Smith goalkeeper, but finally broke through at the 19:51 mark on a goal from Kelcie Finn ('18). The Bantams used that momentum to score four more goals in the second half, including 2 more goals from Finn to complete the hat trick. Chandler Solimine ('19) and Alison Slowe ('19) also added to the goal scoring frenzy, and the Bantams went on to win 5-0.

After a dominant victory in the season opener, Trinity lost a hard fought NESCAC battle against the Williams College Ephs. The Bantams got off to a slow start, falling behind 2 goals just 11 minutes into the game, but came back quickly with a goal from Kelcie Finn early in the 2nd half. That goal, however, was answered minutes later by an Ephs goal that opened up another 2 goal lead for the visitors. A goal by Alison Slowe at the 51:42 mark brought the Bantams back to within 1, but to no avail, as the Williams defense held strong to close out the 3-2 victory.

Following the tough loss

to Williams, the Bantams went back into action on Saturday against another NESCAC foe, the Hamilton College Continentals. As two of the top 15 teams in the nation, this game was destined to be a battle. Hamilton struck first at just 59 seconds into the contest. The Bantams charged back, with Finn scoring yet another goal to level the standing just 10 minutes later. In a very back and forth affair, Hamilton answered with a goal of their own 14 minutes later to regain their one goal lead. The home team, however, was not to be outdone. Kendall Brown ('21) answered back at the 30:19 mark to even up the score going into the halftime break. Unfortunately for the Bantams, the Continentals were the last to punch in this fight, scoring at the 49:54 mark in the 2nd half. Trinity fought until the end, but was held off the scoreboard by Hamilton's strong defensive unit and goalkeeping.

The Bantams have a long stretch of NESCAC bouts coming up, making this a crucial point early in their season. Trinity returns home in October with games against Keene State and the Bowdoin Polar Bears. Stay tuned, and come out to support the Trinity Field Hockey Bantams!



COURTESY OF Trinity College Athletics
Trinity Field Hockey opens the season (1-3), defeating Smith College but falling to NESCAC Conference rivals Williams, Hamilton, and Tufts .

Trinity Zen Group



Tuesday nights in The Chapel
(take a right at the main altar and go down the stairs to the Crypt Chapel)
6:30 - Orientation and Meditation Instruction
7 - Chanting and Meditation
WWW.TRINITYZEN.ORG
FB: TRINTY ZEN GROUP



Trinity Soccer Struggles With Hamilton Continentals

continued from page 1

The Bantam kick curled just inside the goalie box, but Hamilton’s defense stood strong and regained control of the ball. Into the second half the score remained 0-0, with neither side forfeiting any real scoring opportunities. The Continentals, who were buzzing in the final five minutes, had numerous attempts to take the win. Trinity’s defense and goalkeeper Julia Pitino (’18), fought hard to keep the game tied through regulation. However, Hamilton continued on the offensive in overtime. Five minutes into overtime, Hamilton senior Katja Dunlap corralled a loose ball near the Trinity goal and buried it for the win.

The men faced Hamilton at 2:00 p.m. It was obvious from the players’ expressions that they were excited about Trinity’s fantastic new facilities. From the get go, both sides played hard and aggressive soccer. Hamilton



COURTESY OF Trinity College Athletics
Nigel Gustave (’21) got good playing time and showcased strong footwork skills.

was ruthless and chippy as they tried to gain control of the ball. The Bantams held their composure and played even with the Hamilton Continentals for much of the first half, demonstrating excellent ball control and foot skills. Nigel Gustave (’21) showed off his advanced footwork on a nice

rush, making his way down into Hamilton territory. At 34:06 Hamilton freshman Hagop Kouchakdjian scored the contest’s only goal, and the first of his collegiate career. In the second half, Trinity had several good scoring opportunities, with the best chance coming in the 65th minute. Alistair

Matule received a pass with space in the Continental box, but fired the shot into Hamilton keeper Linds Cadwell. Cadwell turned away several more Bantam chances later in the game, and finished the shutout with an impressive seven saves. As one Trinity fan put it “The potential to win was there.”

Yet, despite the numerous attempts to make a comeback, the men’s team also suffered a lost 0-1 against Hamilton.

The Bantams now take to the road, hoping to build on the very good moments from this weekend and win some games. When they return home, remember

Bantams Stomp Mules in Football Season Opener



COURTESY OF TRINITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS

MADISON VAUGHN ’21
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The afternoon of September 16 was sweltering hot, but the stands were packed as Trinity and Colby met on Jessee/ Miller Field for the first contest of their 2017 seasons. Although just the first of a nine game season, Trinity had an opportunity to keep alive its storied win-

ning streak dating back to 2015.

The Bantams took home the victory over the Mules 35-0, in what proved to be a lopsided NESCAC tilt. With this win, they were able to keep several streaks intact: 10th win in a row, 11th victory over Colby, 23rd season opening win, and 19th season opening win in a row on their home turf.

Running back Max Chipouras (’19) led the Bantams to victory by rushing 131 yards and completing two touchdowns. After a scoreless first quarter, Trinity dominated, scoring three touchdowns in the second quarter to take a 21-0 lead. Tri-captain and quarterback Sonny Puzzo (’18) connected for a thirty yard completion to wide receiver John Spears (’19), putting the Bantams deep into Mule territory. From there, Chipouras brought in the first touchdown of the game.

The Bantams came out firing in the third quarter as Chipouras ran for 82 yards on the first play. A few minutes later safety Samier Madden (’19) intercepted a Colby pass near midfield, providing the defensive spark for an-

other fruitful Bantam drive. The home team hot streak continued when tight end Matt Hirshman (’18) earned his first career touchdown with 7:20 left on the clock.

Trinity entered the final quarter of the game with a thirty five point lead and kept the Colby Mules in check the rest of the way. When it was all said and done, the Bantam offense had garnered 478 total yards, compared to just 220 for the Mules. The Trinity defense was tenacious when it mattered most, holding Colby to a single third-down conversion in 15 tries. Chipouras averaged 8.7 yards per carry to reach the 131 yards on 15 rushes. First-year, Colin Beaulieu, added 51 rushing yards on six carries. Koby Schofer (’20) led

all receivers with 112 yards on seven catches, and Hirshman added five catches for 58 yards.

The Bantam defense provided a stellar contribution as well. Linebackers Shane Libby (’19) and Sean Smerczynski (’19) had five tackles each. Libby also added a sack. Corey Jean-Jacques (’19) and James Christiano (’21) made five tackles each as well. Defensive back Matt Patry (’20) added one tackle for a loss and broke up two passes. Overall, the team proved their competence and training had paid off.

After a dominant start for what hopes to be another NESCAC championship season, Trinity travels to Lewiston, Maine next Saturday to square off against the Bates College Bobcats.

Bantam Sports This Week:



Sat.

Volleyball vs. Maine Maritime 10:00 am;
Mount. St. Mary 2:00 pm

Football @ Bates 1:00 pm

Men’s Golf @ Williams Invitational

Sun.

Men’s Golf @ Williams Invitational

