Design Team revamps Trinity’s Mentoring Program

CHRIS BULFINCH ’18
NEWS EDITOR

College is a significant transition in anyone’s life. Academics, athletics, and social life all change radically and evolve during a freshman’s first year of college — and some people find more success than others at managing the transition. Trinity is aware of this, and has implemented a variety of programs aimed at easing the transition as much as possible. Bantam Beginnings, orientation, Quest, and notably the first-year mentoring program all serve to acclimate new freshmen to the Trinity experience. While all of that looks great on paper, in practice, these programs have been met with varying degrees of success, and this variability has very real consequences. Trinity’s retention rate is dropping. Increasingly, the college is seeing people leaving, citing a lack of variety in social options, a lack of genuine social connections, and a less-than-ideal location, among many other things. This is having profound repercussions. Retention is a factor considered in college rankings, where Trinity has been suffering of late. Fewer students enrolled creates, very logically, a drop in revenue, something Trinity certainly doesn’t need at the moment. Lastly, and arguably most importantly, Trinity misses out on the opportunity of having many talented students, who have the potential to enrich campus life. That isn’t a platitude either — most of the people who transfer generally don’t leave because they find

Super Bowl XLIX proves to be one for the books, especially for the Patriots

PETER PRENDERGAST ’16
A&E EDITOR

The New England Patriots are Super Bowl Champions, again. In fact, they have just been crowned world champions for the fourth time in the last fourteen years.

The Patriots bested the Seattle Seahawks, 2013’s champions, in a most stressful, exciting and gut-wrenching way. The game was slated to be one of the most evenly matched contests in Super Bowl History and it absolutely lived up to the hype. Seattle represented the NFC with arguably the best defense and the top ranked rushing offense in the NFL, featuring the “soft spoken” star running back Marshawn Lynch, the notoriously verbal corner Richard Sherman and the nice guy quarterback, Russell Wilson.

The Patriots, who were favored by Vegas odds makers by just a single point, entered the game boasting a five time Super Bowl veteran quarterback in Tom Brady, a towering wrecking ball tight end with Rob Gronkowski and Dwayne Revis, a star corner back who is feared by even the league’s fastest and more dominant receivers.

The game remained scoreless through the first quarter until Tom Brady connected with wide receiver Brandon LaFell for a smooth 11-yard touchdown pass with just 9:51 to play in the half. Seattle answered back minutes later with an all too familiar 3-yard touchdown run. With a minute to play

see SUPERBOWL on page 9

Bantam Bazaar to donate funds to Oxfam this year

JAKE VILLARREAL ’17
STAFF WRITER

The Bantam Bazaar is an annual event that is essentially a large tag sale. The items on display for sale are comprised of goods from several vendors, including clothing, furniture, games, etc. Right now the Office of Civic Engagement is soliciting donations from students for the event through things like their poster campaign, and mailer advertisements. You may have seen these around campus. If you have anything you’d be willing to part with, or need to clean up, deposit it in the box outside the Office of Civic Engagement in the downstairs of Mather, or contact Bridget Tovnan via her Trinity e-mail.

This year, all of the profits from the Bantam Bazaar are going to Oxfam, an international nonprofit dedicated to ending poverty by working with grassroots organizations in developing nations. In response to the Ebola epidemic, they are ramping up support for community health workers in West Africa by supplying water, hygiene equipment, and sanitation to treatment and care centers, as well as boosting mass publications about the disease. It’s particularly important that organizations like this, as well as Doctors Without Borders, are supported in the heat of the crisis so that they can maximize the good they are able to do. Hopefully this will lead to containment and eradication of the disease before it has a chance to spread even further. All of this means that any items the students choose to donate will help save lives, and support an established organization.

The Bantam Bazaar was started five years ago in 2010 by Lindsey Eichler ’08 (now Lindsey Tengatenga). She worked as a graduate assistant in the Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement from 2008 to 2011. The Bazaar was started as
FEBRUARY 3, 2015

Tripod Editorial

Measles outbreak provides reminder about the importance of vaccinations

Fifteen years ago the United States government eradicated the highly contagious disease known as Rubeola, more commonly referred to as Measles. An abundance of sources and concentrated efforts were focused on measles eradication through vaccination due to the highly infectious nature of the disease. Before the vaccine was invented, 500 Americans died annually from the disease.

Ninety percent of unvaccinated people who come in contact with the disease become infected, placing Measles among the most contagious viruses and also making the entire population very susceptible to sudden outbreaks. The respiratory disease is caused by a virus, which spreads through the air via coughing or sneezing. Once the virus is transmitted it lingers dormant in its host for up to two weeks. The first symptoms include high fever, cough, conjunctivitis and a runny nose. Then a dotted red rash, the hallmark of Measles, starts to spread from head to toe.

Despite the fact that the disease has been absent from the United States for over a decade, a sudden resurgence occurred just before Christmas at Disneyland in California. While we may have grown into pockets of unvaccinated people who come in contact with Measles, the hallmark of Measles, starts to spread from head to toe.

The Tripod is always looking for new writers and contributors. If you are interested in writing, please send an email to TrinityTripod@outlook.com and a member of our editorial staff will contact you.

Between bigotry and sensitivity: negotiating Political Correctness

Over the past week, Jonathan Chait’s article, “How the Language Police are Perverting Liberalism,” published in the New York Magazine has garnered a lot of criticism. Chait builds his article by suggesting the way the definition of ‘political correctness’ has weakened over the past twenty-five years, to a point where it is used to denounce excessive politeness, to evade ‘hard truths,’ or to prevent ‘micro-aggressions.’ That said, his argument turns on the idea that the description ‘indegenous people’ is where we have to acknowledge the different cultural contexts in which these decisions now rest on.

Between bigotry and sensitivity: negotiating Political Correctness

References a variety of situations across college campuses. This makes the question of the validity of ‘political correctness,’ through Chait’s lens, and otherwise, a topic worthy of further introspection. Although I have to acknowledge the flaw in Chait’s overarching argument, as it seems to reject any type of social change that could occur via the dismissal of particular ideas that legitimitously based on the freedom of expression and other legal frameworks can be comprehended as offensive or bigotry. Denying the variability of many sentiments, would stereotype the trajectory of moral progress that liberalism is founded upon.

With respect to microagression, “small social slights that may cause searing trauma,” Chait provides an example of how professors must often attach ‘trigger warning’ while addressing things in a way that could be perceived as insulting. Another example, referenced a protest led by Native American students who found the description “indigenous with an uppercase I” to be offensive. The question of political correctness is a useful tool that allows us to create pockets of unvaccinated communities, which have subsequently weakened our country’s herd immunity. This, however, means that the vaccinated majority will protect a minority that is either too young to be vaccinated or compromised in some way. However if these pockets continue to grow, they will make the entire population vulnerable.

Despite evidence disproving the link between vaccinations and autism, many parents are still rejecting vaccines. The new basis for these decisions rest on the idea of a more natural lifestyle. Some parents have gone even so far as to say that they don’t want “too many toxins entering their children’s bodies in the form of vaccinations.”

While I believe in the freedom of choice and am against proposing a solution that forces reluctant parents to vaccinate their children, I do think there needs to be a system in place that better educates parents making these decisions. This is especially true since there are no effective alternative vaccine protocols and states are left to their own discretion in prescribing a policy. It is becoming increasing important that the U.S. healthcare system begins to more strongly encourage vaccinations. After all, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

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Tripod

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If you want to get your annual military movie fix, want a truly uncensored depiction of the brutality of life at war, or just want to get your blood pumping, look no further than Eastwood’s “American Sniper.” The film, which depicts the riveting and precise life of legendary American sniper, Chris Kyle, in the Iraq War, has grossed nearly $250 million and sparked controversy nationwide.

Many viewed Kyle’s actions in the war as heroically deserving. He is the type of person who killed hundreds of Iraqis to protect his country, carrying out his duties as a sniper and even abandoning his post to help serve on the ground with fellow soldiers. Kyle is definitely credited with 160 kills, a number that is widely accepted to be a huge underestimate. Kyle men­ tioned in his book that his sole reason for kill­ ing Iraqis was to protect his men. Bradley Cooper, who plays Kyle in the film, portrays Kyle’s protective instinct, showing the anguish he often felt when sniping theory.

The next stop on Senator Warren’s political journey

WILLIAM WINNER ’18 STAFF WRITER

While many believe Democratic and Repub­ lican presidential candid­ dates are nearly all se­ lected, some people have circulated rumors about Massachusetts’ Sena­ tor Elizabeth Warren as a potential and capable candidate for the upcoming election. It is believed that she can mobilize the liberal base of the Demo­ cratic Party with her pop­ ular economic message, appealing across the gener­ al election law spectrum. Warren is nominated as the leader, namely targets young, edu­ cated voters, upon whom an unfair burden has been placed as a result of the current political system. Warren is an author and former Harvard Law professor specializing in bankruptcy law, a key area of American financial reform. She has cultivat­ ed her political brand as a “specialist” aiming to reignite the progressive movement. Unlike many possible presiden­ tial hopefuls, Warren has delved into political controversial subjects, a rarity for na­ tional candidates. If Warren is a candi­ date for the Democratic nomination in 2016, she has yet to highlight her positions on a multitude of political, social, and economic issues facing na­ tional candidates. In her time as a United States Senator, Warren has paid particular attention to issues she personally cares about, like banking and federal oversight. In many ways, Sen. Warren is the Hubert Humphrey of this generation, un­ successfully committed to the problems she feels are in dire need of correc­ tion.

Humphrey, Vice Pres­ ident under Lyndon B. Johnson, castigated himself out of the political wilderness of Minnesota and onto the national stage by winning the 1948 Democratic Con­ vention in Chicago with his passionate speech de­ manding racial tolerance. Despite his senatorial prestige, Humphrey's platform fell short of the liberal party's call. He fought for the rights of African Americans, but his platform was too close to the established system. In the 1968 presidential election, Humphrey carried the democratic ticket but died on November 21.

Today’s political scene has changed. The movement founded by Humphrey is aligned with special interest­ es and well-funded Wall Street executives. Yet, Sen. Elizabeth Warren’s rise is the story of a woman who has struck a chord with the American electorate that has gone unheard for de­ cades, perhaps since the days of good of Hubert.

That said, a War­ ren-like individual may be too pronounced in one political area and, for that matter, not be the fringe candidate appear­ ing entirely un-presiden­ tial. Her marked sense of personal self prevents her from being viewed as anything other than what she has passionately prof­ ered in her legislative runs. In turn, her politi­ cal absoluteness can work against her in a national race when she inevitably becomes defined as any­ thing but presidential.

While the coming de­ cade demands a strong and confident leader in Washington with that direction the country is moving, it is difficult to see Warren having any significant im­ pact on issues unrelated to the country’s financial end. It is clear that Warren, with no foreign policy experience, charged with the responsibility of international relations, has never been the nuclear agreements and presiding over complicat­ ed diplomatic missions. The next president will inevitably confront these daunting tasks. Although she straight talk to the people of Massachusetts, she was not part of the Senate. She has never been a strong candidate and Warren never had the chance to be President. She is a lost candidate, but the political landscape will be different in 2016.
A professor's perspective: MLK's lasting legacy

We celebrate Martin Luther King as an American icon, and rightly so. But why is there the need to correct the record so we can turn briefly to King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," and his famous "I Have a Dream" speech from the Lincoln Memorial on Aug. 28, 1963.

Arrested with others for resisting an unjust law, King sent his famous letter primarily to white clergy in the South who had chided him for being a provocateur. He cites St. Augustine: "[A]n unjust law is a dream." In his "Dream" speech from the Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. calls those laws "natural laws" or "divine laws." He cites not only Augustine, but also Paul, Aquinas and various Christian theologians, as well as reaffirming the influences of both Socrates and other, later Western philosophers. King appeals to the twin wellsprings of Western Christian tradition and Scriptural teachings, especially the Christian variant focused on love and repentance. He appeals to what he calls the "American Constitution" or the "Declaration of Independence," the "natural right or natural law." King repeatedly appeals as well to the American Constitution and the Declaration of Independence, which he clearly believe are manifestations of those natural law premises. King does not criticize American or Western civilization for its principles: his criticisms center on the failure to live up to those principles. He stands on the American creed, the Judeo-Christian heritage, the Founding Fathers, the American Constitution and the Declaration of Independence. King asserts openly and proudly: "We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights." All men are sovereign individuals, children of God, with equal rights according to nature. It was the failure to treat everyone as an equal individual that was at the heart of King's Civil Rights campaign.

King borrows a thought from the Christian theologian Reinhold Niebuhr that "groups are more immoral than individuals." It is a canny, and veiled, cautious insight that Black followers not to descend into hatred on dismissing all white Americans as the same thing that Christianity or America itself. He especially cautions against what he sees as the danger of Black nationalism. He specifically cites the case of Education, the 1954 Supreme Court ruling that "separate is never equal." He further cautions his followers not to lose faith in America, but to be the agents that call all Americans back to their own principles.

Patriots were the victors with a 45-7 win over the Indianapolis Colts. It was a time for celebration because the Patriots were going to the Super Bowl for the first time since their fourth point loss to the Giants in 2012. However, the celebration was cut short as speculation arose that the balls used by the Patriots in the AFC championship had been deflated, erasing DeflateGate, the scandal that now eclipses the excitement for the biggest football game of the year.

Soon after the Championship game was completed, Bob Kravitz, a sports columnist in Indianapolis, wrote an article that the Patriots were under investigation for having deflated balls. Based on his report, the footballs were below the pounds per square inch (PSI) of air pressure range of 12.5 - 13.5 that is required by the NFL. Chris Mortensen, a reporter for ESPN stated that 11 of the 12 balls used by the Patriots were under-inflated by 2 PSI. The fact that a locker room attendant was observed going into the bathroom with the Patriots balls for about 90 seconds before bringing them back to the locker room for a test indicated a record-keeping issue. Ultimately, the NFL published an article stating that the PSI of the balls was not recorded when they were put into the game. The problem, though, did not end there for the Patriots who have been under fire for a supposed scandal in the past. In 2007, the team and Bill Belichick were fined for tapping the signals used by the Jets during a game. The Indianapolis Colts also have their own suspicions. During the game, Colts players felt that the balls thrown by Tom Brady seemed lighter. To add fuel to the fire, linebacker DQwell Jackson had a ball that he intercepted weighed 14 pounds, more than the required 12 pounds. He managed, only to find that the ball was under-inflated. The Colts have also suggested that this has happened in the past, particularly during the November 16th game. Two of the balls that were underinflated were found to be underinflated.

Subsequently, some are labeling the Patriots as cheaters. In a poll taken by 362,929 people, 63 percent of them believed that Tom Brady and the Patriots were about to win the game because the balls being under-inflated, something that they have denied since the accusations first came out. A recent petition started by Scott Latham on Change.org that states the Patriots should be disqualified from playing in the Super Bowl. Additionally, the appeal says the two teams that the Patriots faced prior to the Super Bowl should be given a chance to play against each other to see which would face the Seahawks. The petition has received over 1 million signatures, mostly from fans who believe that the Patriots did not have enough faith in themselves to play a fair game seemed wrong to me. Yet, when one considers that some things do not add up. First, the Patriots outscored the Colts 28-0 during the second half of both games, which would have been the proper weight and PSI. If the balls were underinflated, why did Tom Brady only have 11 completed passes out of 21 attempts, as well as an interception during the first half? At the end of the day, the Patriots had a good game and despite whatever accusations people may have, I think that they deserved to go to this year's Super Bowl. I understand why there are some suspicions present at the game, but especially with the attendant not taking the balls straight to the field. Even so, the better team won and the second half as a testament to that. Moreover, it was proven that only one of the balls was deflated, two days later. Robert Kraft asked that the Patriots receive an apology for this supposed scandal, and it now seems that will be the case. The laid to rest because even if that one ball was underinflated, it was not the same ball that will play out the game. The Patriots put forth their best effort to win the Super Bowl now that this cloud of accusations is diminishing. The Patriots will win the Super Bowl if the Super Bowl winners are over the Seattle Seahawks will definitely be a great way to celebrate not only their amazing season but the end of DeflateGate.
Mentoring Networks redesigned by Trinity students

The current first-year mentoring program, built around first-year seminars, is widely liked and provides a disconnect between the administration and among their mentees. Orientation communicates valuable information, and does its best to give students a lay of the land for Trinity, at least in a general sense. The Bantam Beginnings programs give freshmen the option to see a little bit of Trinity before classes start, and Quest allows students to bond and prepare for the rest of their lives in college while engaging themselves in an outdoor setting. Despite the well-intentioned and often successful programs that Trinity has in place, many students still do not manage to find that important "niche" that is banished about so widely in any discussion of higher education. The question has become one of how to utilize Trinity's existing resources and how to innovate a more effective system to introduce new students to the Trinity community.

Fortunately, Trinity's administration is taking steps to grapple with these issues, notably through the creation of the "Design Team Challenge" at the end of this past semester. The challenge entails five teams consisting of Sumner Scholars and student leaders competing to draft a new mentoring program and reworking many aspects of campus life, ranging from orientation to uses for the soon-to-be vacant space where the Cave eatery is. The teams have been tasked with four specific goals. The first goal involves fine-tuning the Trinity experience of the many upperclassmen on each team. To properly kick off such an endeavor, the Design Teams met for a retreat on January 19, 2015, spending a full day deliberating and brainstorming. In addition, they attended fascinating lectures about different aspects of the challenge put on by Trinity administrators. Topics such as the normalizing and routinizing the use of academic resources, the implementation of a Big Brother program to operate alongside the existing Big Sister program, and the rebuilding of a theor's basement were discussed.

Trinity community helps to open Museum of Jewish History

SONJAY SINGH '15 SENIOR EDITOR

Thanks to contributions from the Trinity College community, the "POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews" has opened recently in Warsaw to highlight the impact of Jewish culture in Poland.

The museum exhibits a dizzying number of historical artifacts for visitors to examine. These include animations on the history of Judaism with emphasis on local Jewish heroes, interactive installations that show ancient production processes, such as printmaking, and recreations of historical artifacts using traditional techniques.

These accomplishments have in part been made possible due to substantial contributions from published author and Trinity College Charles H. Northam Professor of History, Samuel Kassow. Kassow, the Northam Professor of History, has taught in the Modern Jewish history class, as if our better selves got to the better of us, as an educator saying, "Now and only now the museum is open, and its core exhibition opens to the public, we notice the extent to which the unprecedented partner- ship between this cultural and educational center have effectively challenged the stigmas, as if our better selves got the better of us, as an American idiom goes. In this case it was the better selves of the public and private partners e.g., the federal government, city of Warsaw, and a Polish Jewish NGO and its diaspora supporters - that got the better of them. And I believe we will be the better for it."

While Professor Kassow has served as lead historian of two of the museum's galleries: "Encounters in Modernity" and "On the Jewish Street," he examines secret archives created by prisoners in the Warsaw Ghetto, exploring a Jewish history that he was born amidst. Due to his extensive knowledge and commitment, in 2015 Professor Kassow examined最难的 museum roofs of the federal government, city of Warsaw, and a Polish Jewish NGO and its diaspora supporters - that got the better of them. And I believe we will be the better for it.

For Penn, it is very difficult to see the progress of history when living in it. However, during times such as this, with the opening of a new and powerful museum, provide a glimpse at how far we have come.

Living up to its name: Polin, the Hebrew word for "rest here," the museum has truly been a safehold for the Jewish people in Poland who still feel the reverberations of the Holocaust. Thanks to contributions from Professor Kassow and Ms. Penn, it will continue to be a beacon for the progress and preservation of the worldwide Jewish community.

All Northam Professor Kassow and Ms. Penn may be interested in discussing the recent event regarding the opening of the museum in person, you can learn more about the museum through its website.

NEWS

Rediscovering a Hidden Archive from the Warsaw Ghetto

Sasha Penn is equally involved with this project. "We are very involved with the Jewish community," said Penn. "We are very involved with the Jewish community, staff. The museum, on the other hand, is an educational center that tries to make the public aware of the importance of preserving Jewish history."

Shana Penn and Professor Kassow are involved in a project to re-open the Warsaw Ghetto, a hidden archive that was created by prisoners in the Warsaw Ghetto. The project is led by Professor Kassow, who has taught in the Modern Jewish history class, as if our better selves got to the better of us, as an American idiom goes. In this case it was the better selves of the public and private partners e.g., the federal government, city of Warsaw, and a Polish Jewish NGO and its diaspora supporters - that got the better of them. And I believe we will be the better for it.

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Bantam Bazaar continues tradition of tag sales for good causes

continued from page 1

a fundraiser in response to the devastating earthquake in Haiti. The initial Bazaar raised $1,630, and each of the subsequent Bazaars has had great successes, raising over $9,000 total over the last few years. This is a great example of what students can do when they are passionate about an issue, as well as a demonstration of the wealth of students willing to throw funds at camps, or one that I truly enjoy.

The Career Development Center takes an interesting approach to helping students find jobs. Their philosophy is that not everyone is class- and majoring to find a specific job, but rather one of finding jobs with a certain major, and finding jobs that fit an applicant's interests and skills. In this spirit, they tailored the opening sections of their program to articulate this mode of thought.

The program opened with a speech from a successful businessman named Ben Carpenter, who detailed his meandering career path, and the lessons in life and work that he picked up along the way. His professional acumen lent itself to some excellent advice to the freshmen just beginning to think of such things.

The program continued, building on a personality test, which all participants had taken before arriving, that assessed students on a variety of personal traits, ranging from preferred learning style to ideal social atmospheres. Participants were asked to group with people with similar tested traits and to each other had gone to some sort of natural disaster relief effort. Past recipients of the funds have varied, with many organizations benefitting from the Bazaar.

In 2011, the Pakistan Youth Alliance was a recipient, after the floods in its native country. This year, the Central Vermont Community Action Coun-

ci / Mad River Recovery for Hurricane Irene relief efforts, given donations to help those affected.

In response to Hurricane Sandy in 2013, the Disaster Accountability Fund was created and maintained by people from the Bazaar. This year, Bantam Bazaar proceeds are going to Oxfam's Typhoon Haiyan Relief and Recovery Fund. The event normally raises between one and two-thousand dollars for charity each year. This year, the Bazaar was open to the public, including non-Trinity affiliated residents, and anyone can join in. As an event run by the Office of Civic Engagement, it is important to engage the surrounding community of Hartford and Connecticut, as well as build events that bring students, faculty, and staff can enjoy together.

Members of the Trinity community should know that the event is welcome to one and all, as there are plenty of unique and functional things on sale that can cater to a wide array of interests.

The event combines the exciting activity of shopping for a good cause, for a fun way to give back to the world.

Freshmen plan for life after college at career workshop

CHRIS BULFINCH '18 NEWS EDITOR

Though many a student may not want to believe it, college is a really great opportunity for good causes. For example, one student mentioned, "I'm excited to be involved with the Bazaar this year and find some deals."

The event combines the exciting activity of shopping for a good cause, for a fun way to give back to the world.

Freshmen are in an unusual position when thinking about their futures. They have the ability to change their academic and professional courses relatively early in four years. Workshops such as "Exploring Your Options" throughout the semester would be a good idea.

Freshmen are in an unusual position when thinking about their futures. They have the ability to change their academic and professional courses relatively early in four years. Workshops such as "Exploring Your Options" throughout the semester would be a good idea.
Whether hanging inside with friends or bundled up outside, Trinity students braved the weather and enjoyed the blizzard and time off from classes. 

Spring of 2014 saw me embark on a journey that was meaningful, insightful and enriching in several ways. I had the chance to spend a semester studying abroad in Istanbul — a city with a heart so big that ten Texas' could fit in it! A question I have often been asked is, “Why Istanbul?” The answer is surprisingly easy: baklava, baklava and more baklava. Sweet Turkish treats aside, I was seeking quality association with new people to understand their way of life, and the opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and learn the culture, history, religion, and politics of a place previously unknown to me. Turkey seemed especially compelling because it is at the intersection of two great civilizations: the East and West. Quite literally, the Bosphorus Strait, which separates the continental boundaries of Asia and Europe. The first time I ferried between the European and Asian side of Istanbul was truly mind-blowing — was it even real life anymore? To have breakfast in Europe, lunch in Asia and dinner back in Europe all in a single day? The Ottoman Empire, in its heyday, extended from parts of Central Asia to the Middle East, Mediterranean and Europe and to immerse myself in this melting pot of cultures seemed immensely appealing. Walking around Istanbul (once Constantinople), it was fascinating to discover remnants of heterogeneous influences embedded in the fabric of social and cultural life - in architectural sites, bazaars, cuisine, historical relics, and music. I studied in Istanbul through a program called IES Abroad that required participants to arrive in Istanbul in January to complete a three-week intensive Turkish language and culture course. Studying the language was fascinating for me as I found Turkish vocabulary peppered with words that were similar to Persian and Urdu (languages I had previously learned) and my native tongue, Hindi. Having a decent handle on basic Turkish was extremely important in navigating daily life in Istanbul. Turkish people are easily touched even by the smallest attempt at communicating with them in their tongue. I once had a grocery lady delightedly give me a big hug all because she was pleasantly surprised I said “No, thank you” in Turkish, when she offered me eggs! I was surprised and relieved by how accepting locals were of my near-abysmal language skills. But I soon realized that this just exemplified the general warmth, kindness and affectionate nature of Turkish people. They are some of the friendliest, most hospitable and generous people I have encountered. In my time in Istanbul, my friends and I frequented a tiny home-style restaurant run by a couple who, within a month, had not only lovingly fed us exquisite Turkish food and dessert but also happily adopted us. I cannot write about Istanbul without making a special mention to Murat and Mehtap, their beautiful daughters, Elif and Defne, and our Turkish grandmother Babannem, who invited us into their homes and heart like we had known them our entire lives.

I was enrolled at Bogazici University, aptly named because it overlooks the beautiful blue Bosphorus. It is incredible to engage with the city that runs through their veins), and do not bat an eyelid at nationalist paraphernalia everywhere, especially Turkish obsession with plastering Atatürk’s (the nation state founding father) face on everything. I learned how to expertly navigate a transport system that included jumping on off buses, ferries, trams, funiculars and dolmus (shared taxis) in a thriving, bustling city. My study abroad experience has been invaluable in several ways. Many people describe studying abroad as “life-changing” which may sound clichéd to some. I agree that specific experience but I personally have felt a tide turn within myself. I came to a cul-de-sac with my language skills. But I soon re-evaluated my stereotypical perceptions of Turkish culture from its generalizations to its specificities. To be in a new environment, especially one that pulsates with energy and vibrancy like Istanbul, was thrilling but to discover the world and people in a way that was previously unknown to you is astonishing. Not only did it inculcate a deep respect for the diversity of our planet but also presented a rich learning curve - navigating a foreign culture can be challenging, stimulating, frustrating and rewarding in equal measure. This experience has pushed me to reevaluate my stereotypical perceptions of the world and become a more open-minded and accepting person. By spending a semester abroad, every person I met, every new experience, I had, every mistake that I made and learned from has made me so much more than when I had left.
Trendy Trinity: College in 1900s embodied camaraderie

KELLY VAUGHAN '17
FEATURES EDITOR

As I walk down the Long Walk and revel at the sprawling quad, I can't help but consider the history that lies beneath the elms. I decided to explore the history and culture of Trinity by looking back at editions of The Ivy yearbook from 1900-1910. These yearbooks serve as a look back on the college's past, providing a glance at the atmosphere of the college during the 1900s.

The pages of The Ivy reveal that the student body was a genuine brotherhood, in which each class consisted of no more than twenty students and nearly everyone was a brother of one of the eleven campus fraternities. As Trinity currently works to expand the diversity of its student body, utilizing places such as Vernon Social Center to bring students of different backgrounds together, this goal was met in a different way during the early 1900s.

The pages on the inclusion of extra-curricular activities, such as sports or academic societies in The Ivy, are important. In the 1900s, it would be hard to imagine that anything could thrive under such conditions. Against all odds, however, a small group of students learning outside of the classroom, or have professionals, found success.

The Literary Department, Academic societies in The Ivy, and the College's past, providing a glimpse into the atmosphere of the college. Reading The Literary Department, the student body was a brotherhood above all else. For example, the sophomore class consisted of no more than twenty students and near the college's past, providing a glance at the atmosphere of the college during the 1900s.

The pages of The Ivy depict a senior graduate student on the cover of the yearbook, blowing smoke from a pipe, with a cloud of smoke surrounding him. The young student's journey to the university is smoking a pipe and traveling around the globe, expressing the idea that graduates will often explore many options before finding their passions.

On the contrary, in the introduction to the sophomore class, a quote reads, "Long in depth it has been known that the sophomore class is no good." However, fraternities were less about being the center of campus nightlife and more focused on the values and principles of the fraternity and brotherhood. Freshman year was clearly the time of developing, as the freshman year illustration depicts a young boy in polka dotted pajamas with a dark shadow behind him.

I'm sure many would agree that sophomore year tends to be the most fun and frivolous, as the anxiety tied with freshman year has died down but the more serious nature of junior and senior year has not yet occurred. Sophomore year is often when students gain a sense of what truly interests them.

Fraternities were the focal point of campus social life, as one can see by the incorporation of the history of the college's past. However, fraternities were less about being the center of campus nightlife and more focused on the values and principles of the fraternity and brotherhood. Freshman year was clearly the time of developing, as the freshman year illustration depicts a young boy in polka dotted pajamas with a dark shadow behind him.

Scanning descriptions, a student would be hard-pressed to choose between such interesting, engaging subjects. What may be regarded as fun, joke classes designed to fill time for a half credit are actually extremely serious, valuable experiences. Vexations of phenomena that translate in the real world. In fact, this is what makes this set of classes so special. They emphasize their curricula's manifestation outside of the academic purpose in a way other class新鲜man. The senior class illustration of 1906 depicts a young male smoking a pipe, with a cloud of smoke forming the words "hopes" and "dreams." The piece symbolizes the young student's journey to adulthood. Other editions of The Ivy depicted a senior graduate student carrying a tree to plant in a cap and gown, or a graduate is smoking a pipe and traveling around the globe, expressing the idea that graduates will often explore many options before finding their passions.

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Freshman year, she found most weekend nights one of Trinity’s five student residences for the Quirks and the rest is history. Rehearsing with the Quirks, singing in her high school choir. In the spring of her freshman year, she auditioned for the Quirks and the rest is history. "Singing was never too serious for me before college," said Ghani. "but once I joined the Quirks it became a big part of my life. It’s a really welcoming and supportive community. I still can’t believe how close I have gotten with these girls over the last two years."

For Ghani, the Quirks are not just a group she sings with but a collection of close friends with a shared interest in singing and a collective need to make the best music they can. She feels that singing has brought together an eclectic and diverse group of people. "We’re such different people," Ghani explained. "I’m not sure we would have crossed paths otherwise. We all come from different backgrounds. We have art majors, biology majors, economics majors and music majors but they are some of the most supportive friends I have met."

Ghani is returning to the Quirks this spring after spending her fall semester studying in Paris, France. She explained that she benefited in a number of ways by living in one of the most culturally and artistically relevant cities in the world. "Paris is known for its art and I actually learned a lot about some of my favorite writers like Ernest Hemingway and Victor Hugo when I was there," said Ghani. "I really got a feel for how the city influenced them."

Ghani, who majors in English literature with a minor in urban studies, is more than excited to be back with the Quirks and to start singing again. The group performs a wide variety of songs, including two of Ghani’s favorites to perform, "With or Without You" by U2 and "Send Me On My Way" by Rusted Root.

The Quirks just finished holding their spring auditions and are looking forward to a number of upcoming shows with their newest members. Their next concert will be held on Valentine’s Day, Feb. 14 with another Trinity a cappella group, the Accidents.

Outside of the Quirks, Ghani enjoys a diverse taste in music. Her favorite artists include bands like Neutral Milk Hotel and the Dave Matthews Band. Her favorite album of all time is "In the Aeroplane Over the Sea" by Neutral Milk Hotel.

Ghani is still unsure if she will continue singing after college, but what she learned from her time with the Quirks will stay with her forever. "I’m not sure if I will continue singing after college," said Ghani. "But being in the Quirks has taught me a lot about leadership, discipline, hard work and how to work and blend well with others."

Joey Eada$$’ album B4DA$$ was released on Jan. 20, 2015. The fact that Joey collaborator rated with a few hip-hop northern New Jersey based artist, he has seen this album to have additional artists piggy back on their champion. It is unforeseeable whether Joey’s next project be a development of his style, or simply his connections in the industry. I believe "B4DA$$" is a stepping stone that will come and go within the same month. He may have seen this album as the equivalent of a Wu-tang member releasing his first solo project, but it was certainly not uncovered from one of the 36 Chambers.
Trinity students frequently critique the lack of social options offered on campus during the week, lamenting the absence of events that extend beyond the Greek scene. One alternative that is often overlooked is the Mill, a social house wedged between Pai U and Dean Alford’s home on Vernon Street. The student run music and art scene is the result of an array of creative ventures that include an art studio and gallery, recording studio, jam room, and fully functioning concert venue.

This weekend their members brought “West End Blend,” the local, yet highly sought after band, to campus for a third time. Always heralded as a groovy explosion of soul and funk, the 12 piece group attracted more than a hundred students to the house throughout Friday night.

Opening for the established group was Trinity’s own rock quartet “Lolita,” featuring Eban Maeda on guitar, Henry Mi- not ‘17 on bass, Alex Rusbarsky ‘18 on drums, and Lydia Haynes ‘18 on lead vocals. Each member brought a unique presence to the stage both in their flair for entertainment and eclectic wardrobe choices. Rusbarsky graced the stage with an amusing combination of American flag board shorts and a GoPro perched atop his skateboard helmet. Yet nothing could detract from Haynes’ adept chops. She deftly crossed her way through Lolita’s rendition of Alannah Mycle’s “Black Velvet,” as students started to meander onto the dance floor. Hoping to foster a firm connection with the audience, Maeda beckoned everyone forward. “We don’t bite,” he laughed. “I do,” added Haynes.

Lolita played six more songs, including the crowd-pleaser, “Baracuda,” by Heart. Part of the band’s appeal is that they possess the ability to bor-row skills inaugurated by new wave 70’s artists and power chord-driven 80’s rockers, and translate them into a modern performance. Spoful would characterize them as the love child of Pat Benatar, Melissa Etheridge, and The Cars. Most audience members were surprised to learn that the band was formed a mere two weeks prior to the performance.

Although Lolita’s performance was built around covers, Maeda’s experience as a longtime member of “The Micks,” a Brooklyn based independent rock band, will surely enable the infant group to evolve into their own entity with original songs and secure a spot in the college music scene.

Transitions to West End Blend’s setup took relatively little time considering the group includes a horn section, keyboardist, guitarist, bassist, drummer, rapper, and vocalist. Named aptly for the band’s formation in Hartford’s West End, their shoer size never detracts from their energetic gig. Rather, each member contributed to a cohesive sound that brought every student to his or her feet. Unencumbered dancing raised the venue’s temperature and counteracted the harsh winter winds and dropping temperatures outdoors.

Front woman Erica Bryan and rapper “Tanga” possessed a delicate, dynamic, and their words bounced off one another with jovial spirit. Bryan has a smile that even Julia Roberts would lust after, and she moved her slim figure in time with the beat. Tanganse re­ mained restrained until it was his turn to entertain. His ability to spit words to a sound comprised of a variety of genres was unlike any other contemporary performer.

Although most of the band’s setlist featured original songs, such as “What It’s All About,” and “The Split,” highlights of the night included various covers. The Notori­ ous B.I.G’s “Mo Money Mo Problems,” was decon­ structed into its original sample of Daft Punk’s “Tu Tu Ou Come Out.” West End Blend, however, featured an expanded freestyle featuring original lyrics alongside improvised sections. Yet the real crowd pleaser was The Isley Brother’s “Shout.” The energy kin­ dled in the venue mirrored the iconic theme song in “Ani­ mal House.”

The night abruptly con­ ended with the house’s fire alarm going off due to unknown causes. One might contest that it was a product of the Mill’s ability to host a sizzling event. The house acts as a welcoming space to all students of Trinity, and weekly meetings are held on Sunday’s afternoon. They also want students to be aware of upcoming events including student curated art galleries, open mic nights (live EDM), a concert featuring The Rooks, a Wesleyan alumni-turned Brooklynites soul band, and a highly polished companion concert to Barn­ yard’s Spring Weekend.

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Elise Kei-Rahn ’16
STAFF WRITER

Mill concert was so hot it set off the fire alarm

Cinestudio Review: Chris Rock’s comedy, “Top Five”
TRIP SLAYMAKER ’18
STAFF WRITER

As subversive and edgy as comedies about race in the United States should be, it still takes a careful and tal­ ented hand to get the job done right. Luckily for us, Chris Rock is a clever man with a good sense of self, and he knows what he’s doing. In the film, Rock plays Andre Allen, an African American comedian and recovering al­ coholic who is struggling to make it big in the world of serious drama. He feels as though his golden age may have passed him by. Allen can’t bring him­ self to act in another idiotic comedy about his signature character, “Hammy the Bear,” a role which sees him confined to a bear costume. He is also beginning to realize that the world is gone. It was his heyday in standup comedy, there is a black president in the White House, after all. In other words, the lines between races are breaking down, and Allen’s comedy has suffered for it.

So what can he do? Allen films his first dramatic role as the leader of the Haitian slave rebellion: a movie called “Uprize,” which appears so ridicu­ lous it could be real. “Uprize” is an unabashed rip-off of 2012’s “Django Unchained.” The hilarious poster for the fic­tional movie shows Chris Rock leer­ing with a machete high above his head, and a jumble in the background.

The critical failure of his movie and his impending tabloid wedding to a Kar­ dashing-esque woman whom he hardly knows (honorable mention for “Bring It On! (Gabrielle Union) force Rock’s character to take a good hard look at his life since the early 2000s, and make some tough changes. So with the help of his New York Times interview­er Chelsea Brown (Rosario Dawson), he spends the day delving into his urban roots, trying to discover what all his life has been missing all this time, and growing ever closer to his beautiful journalist friend along the way.

Top Five (which Rock also directed) is a curiously somber of a sharp and poignant drama that appears at first to be about being black in America. This is not, however, the main conceit. Rock wants us to see the balance between success and happiness in a way that only he could exp­ ress it: to see that sometimes the humility and simple times of the past outweigh the flashy wealth and superficiality of Andre Allen’s present, a place where all a comedy movie needs is Tyler Perry’s after ego “Mades” in a haunted house. It’s just a matter of sorting them out and choosing past or present?

Top Five is not perfect: It makes jumps from the tropes of a sharp and poignant drama to formulaic jokes that nev­ er quite land they way they should. The upside, though, is what amounts to a comedian’s love letter to comedy itself, and few things are more re­ warding.

The best and funniest scene in the movie comes when Rock’s and Dawson’s characters go to Rock’s child­hood home in Brooklyn. There they meet his old friends, with whom he laughs, jokes, and reminiscences for a good long while. The friends are almost all played by celebrities in cameo roles, (Sherri Shepherd) with a few of Rock’s fellow Saturday Night Live alumni, and a highly polished companion to Barn­ yard’s Spring Weekend.

Remember, it’s a wonder­ ful positive jump for Rock - his last directorial movie was 2007’s generally panned romcom “I Think I Love My Wife.” The idea that he could have come from the world of his post-“Mad Love” movies to arrive at a solidly good movie in the style (not the quality) of Woody Allen is a strange thought indeed. The question is what did he see?

At the end of the living room scene, where Andre All­ en has just met with his old friends, and is heading back home, Leslie Jones, Rock’s last member and newly appointed Ghostbuster, shouts after him, “Don’t forget where you come from!” It seems Chris Rock took that advice to heart, and gave us his finest work for a long time.
Amherst avenges loss; Trinity still remains No. 1

Samantha Beati '18
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A 10 game winning streak was broken on Friday night when the Bantams visited the Amherst College Lord Jeffs in a tough road loss. The game was filled with exciting plays and penalties, but the win ultimately gave the Lord Jeffs a three game win streak bringing their record to 12-3-2 (38-3-0 NESCAC), while the Bantams left the game with a record of 14-2-1 (9-0-1 NESCAC).

Amherst started the scoring midway through the first period when at 9:21, Jake Turrin put it past Bantam goalie Nathan Arnold in favor of rookie Michael Hawkridge ’16. This gave Amherst a goal advantage going into the second period, which turned out to be helpful when Amherst’s Mike Rowbotham scored early in the second period giving the Bantams their second goal, 2-0 lead. This further allowed Trinity to secure a goal during a power play, but the goal was not able to alter the momentum that Trinity had held the entire game. Despite the change in goaltending made by Hamilton, this still enabled Trinity to score 2 goals late in the period by Michael Hawkridge ’16 and Anthony Sabitsky ’18. This gave Trinity an additional 8-1 lead.

Trinity’s own Paul Burns ’15 was able to score midway through the second period on a Bantam power play that finally allowed them to put a score away scored one. This brought the score to 4-0 to begin the third period and forced Hamilton to take their time. It was at this point the Patriots can and will win, Malcolm Butler carved out his identity to the annals of football history, Richard Sherman shed a tear, Marshawn Lynch continued his dominance, and Tom Brady solidified his legacy. Bill Belichick reminded the country that as long as he is around, the Patriots can and will win, Malcolm Butler carved out his identity to the annals of football history, Richard Sherman shed a tear, Marshawn Lynch continued his dominance, and Tom Brady solidified his legacy. Bill Belichick reminded the country that as long as he is around, the Patriots can and will win.

The Patriots are back. They did not cheat, they did not tamper with their footballs and they certainly did not let their dynasty fizzle out. Cue the Duckboats.

Amherst avenges loss: Trinity still remains No. 1

COURTESY OF nescac.com

Michael Hawkridge ’16 was on the board. Amherst’s Aaron Deutsch towards the end of the second period brought the momentum back to the Lord Jeffs, in a goal that would end up becoming the game winner.

During the third period Trinity’s Stephen Cold Fayla ’17 would give the Bantams their second goal, but by then the damage had already been done. They took goalie Nathan Arnold in favor of Heath ’16 out of the game with 33 seconds left to put another skater on the ice, but this didn’t give Trinity the help that they wanted to have. The game was a back and forth battle, that the Bantams ultimately were not able to secure with a win.

The loss was a tough one for the Bantams which ultimately broke their 10 game win streak, but en
Students packed the Kel¬leri Center to watch the Yale Bulldogs take on the Trinity Bantams two weeks ago for a Squash Senior Day extrav¬aganza for both the women and men's teams. At the start of the match the Trinity Men's Team was ranked no. 2 overall for the Bantams two weeks ago for a Bulldogs take on the Trinity torious from the Yale match, with a perfect record. Both Trinity teams entered vic¬torious from the Yale match, each with decisive wins. The men's team won 8-1 and the women's team won 7-2.

Despite the final score lines there was a great deal of ex¬citement in individual match play. Both Mostafa Hamar¬da '15 and Julius LeCoi '18 played thrilling 5 set matches in which they came back from losing the first two sets. When players on the women's team like Kany El Defrawy '16, Raneem Sharaf '15, Karolina Holinkova '18 all easily won in three sets, it was good to have some close matches to keep the Yale game interesting.

Yale's Liam McClintock '17, playing at No. 4, dropped his first two games to Trinity's Karen Min '17-15 with two Bull¬dogs already facing an 8-0 defi¬cit. However, McClintock came back to life with a determined 11-4 win in the third game. From there, he fought his way to the finish, taking the final two games 14-12, 13-11 with a dogged effort that ensured Yale would not leave the men's match empty-handed. After the Yale match, Trinity took top seed nationally for both the men and the women, but as the men's next match would prove, the road to the national championship is far from over.

The University of Roch¬ester might not be known by most of the students on the Trinity campus, but the Yellow jacket's men's team has been a top ten team for quite some time. No. 5 ranked, Rochester entered the match last Saturday with a 9-2 record, but would improve to 7-3 after they shockingly beat Trinity 5-4. This was the Basil's first loss at an NCAA Division III opponent since a 7-2 setback at Amherst in the 1995-96 seasons. This defeat in no way detracts from the strength of the Trinity squad, but does emphasize what was foreshadowed in the 2011-2012 season: the competition is stronger than ever in college squash, and a recreation of the absolute dynasty Trinity once had will be near impossible to recreate.

On Sunday Jan. 25, both the women and the men added another win against Cornell. Kanny El Defrawy '16 led the men's team from the num¬ber one position to a 9-0 win over the Cornell Big Red to advance the team's record to 12-0. Vishesh Kotian '17 led the men to an 8-1 win, to secure the team's 12-1 record. Due to the massive snowstorm last Tuesday, the planned matches for Harvard were rescheduled to Feb. 10 for the men and Feb. 4 for the women. The NESCAC championships are this com¬ing weekend, and both Trinity teams are positioned to take a well-deserved title, before moving on to secure the Na¬tional Championship later this month.

Basketball: men dominate, while women struggle

RYAN MURPHY '17
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The 2014-2015 season has brought a reversal of fortunes for the Trinity basketball teams. On the one hand, the men have gone from 0-6 in NESCAC play in 2013-2014, to first place in the conference with a three game left in the season. Unfortunately, the women's team has had to deal with the loss of six se¬niors, and have struggled to a 6-12 mark thus far.

The men's success can be attributed to the fact that they lost no key players from last season. All nine players that played significant min¬utes in 2013-2014 are back and playing at a higher level this season.

This year's squad's big¬gest addition came in the form of transfer Andrew Hurd '16. The guard original¬ly played at Division 1 Cen¬tral Connecticut State Uni¬versity, and has provided the Bantams with a reliable man off the bench, who is often on the court with fellow point guard, and leading scorer, Jaquann Starks '16 at the end of games.

The emergence of Chris Turnbull '17 and Rick Nayar¬lor '16 as knockdown outside shooters has helped the Bar¬tams average 69.8 points per game, nearly 4 more than in 2013-2014. Naylor said the team "is much more experi¬enced and understands what it takes to win games."

In the frontcourt, the growth of Ed Ogundeko '17 has been the glue of the team, not necessarily putting up big numbers, but being an asset for a younger group. Ogundeko helped his biggest change from his fresh¬man year to his "improved shooting." At 6'5, "he is a physical presence down low, and the ability to stretch de¬fenders out to defend his shot helps spread the floor."

Co-captains Hart Glied¬man '15 and Steve Spirou '15 are the glue of the team, not necessarily putting up big numbers, but leading by ex¬ample for the younger guys. Gliedman unfortunately suffered a hamstring injury against Amherst on Jan. 24, but has remained vital to the team as a vocal leader.

The Bantams are current¬ly 16-5 (6-1 NESCAC) after two hard-fought victories over conference foes Bowdoin and Colby. With three games left on the schedule, all on the road against conference opponents, the Bantams look to maintain their spot as the top team in the NSCSC, and make a run in the na¬tional tournament.

The women's team hasn't had quite the same success this season. They've had to overcome the loss of six se¬niors, including All-NESCAC forward Hannah Brickley and the rest of their starting line up. However, there have been some bright spots for the lady Bantams this sea¬son.

Center Mackenzie Griffin '16 is playing at an all-con¬ference level, averaging 14.7 points and 6.8 rebounds per game. Fellow center, Emily Llerena '18, has stepped up this season as well, adding all freshmen on the team in scoring and rebounding.

The team's biggest win came against rival Bates, in which they rallied from a 15 point deficit to notch their first conference win of the season. Bates took it to the wire, but the Bantams made a push in the final games to play in the NESCAC tournament.

Leading scorer Jaquann Starks '16 runs a tight ship from the point guard position.