

SGA Update

WILL SCANNELL '24
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

page 4 Trinity's SGA held its first public meeting of the semester, addressing the COVID increase and a proposed diversity course.

Rightfully Hers

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

page 7 Trinity is among many institutions who are commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment with a National Archives exhibit.

Monster House

MACIEJ PRADZIAD '23
A&E EDITOR

page 9 *Tripod* film reviewer Maciej Pradziad '23, in honor of Halloween, examines *Monster House*.

Winter Sports Cancelled

ANNA BAUER '23
SPORTS EDITOR

page 11 The NESCAC cancelled winter conference play this week in light of the ongoing pandemic.

To Our Readers:

Keep your eye out for the *Tripod's* new Sunday morning feature series on issues of importance and interest to the Trinity community. Check it out on Instagram or our website, trinitytripod.com.

This week, the *Tripod* considers the history and future of competitive fencing at the Trinity.

Trinity Annexes Stowe, Clemens as Housing for Infected Students While Outbreak Swells

BRENDAN W. CLARK '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
and
KIP LYNCH '22
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity has placed infected students in the Stowe and Clemens dormitories, and a single unit in the Vernon dormitory, to accommodate increasing reports of positive cases which have overwhelmed the College's primary isolation facility in Doonesbury. The decisions have raised widespread concern about the health and safety of students as coronavirus cases continued to rise at the College over the Columbus Day weekend.

Students with COVID-19 in isolation in these dormitories have been placed on the same floors as non-infected students without any notice to residents, a decision that was not acknowledged publicly by the College until Monday evening despite multiple requests from concerned

students and the *Tripod*.

In an email Monday evening, Vice President for Student Success and Enrollment Management Joe DiChristina indicated that "thirty-four of the [infected] students are in isolation on campus and 13 are at their homes." Trinity's positive, active COVID-19 cases had increased from 45 to 47 by Monday evening, a total which the *Tripod* previously reported on Saturday as the highest in the NESCAC.

Despite DiChristina's claim Monday evening that the College had "previously identified additional isolation spaces on and off-campus that add to our capacity for isolation" since the spring semester, College officials have repeatedly refused to identify those spaces by name since mid-September, when the *Tripod* first requested clarity on Trinity's COVID-19 mitigation plan.

Those in isolation, according to DiChristina, re-

main in "apartment-style spaces that are self-contained." These students receive "meal delivery and support," according to DiChristina, and also have ensuite bathrooms. Those in "off-campus isolation housing" will receive the same support. DiChristina declined to identify that housing, describing it only as "adjacent." Chief of Staff to the President Jason Rojas did not previously name the other isolation dormitories in his email Saturday, aside from reference to various "dedicated isolation facilities."

Parents and residents of Stowe and Clemens were not informed when registering for housing about the possibility of those spaces being used as isolation facilities. Following an extensive *Tripod* review of materials Monday, there was no mention of the College's isolation facilities by name—other than Do-

nesbury—in the College's "Community Contract," residential life agreements, reopening website, and communications that had been sent externally to the community before Monday.

Students at Stowe first learned that certain rooms would be used to isolate COVID-19 students when they arrived late Saturday. Cleaning staff, who arrived to disinfect dormitories, confirmed to *Tripod* reporters that evening that the relocated students had tested positive for the coronavirus and were beginning isolation procedures.

College officials first communicated with residents Monday evening, two days after the first students were moved, via an email from Dean of Student Life Jody Goodman which asserted that infected "students understand that will not leave their living quarters."

see OUTBREAK on page 4

Sharp Uptick in Positive COVID-19 Cases; Trinity Records Most Cases In The NESCAC

DANIEL J. NESBITT '22
MANAGING EDITOR

As of Monday, Oct. 12, Trinity has reported 47 active COVID cases within the student population with zero cases among employees and affiliates. This sharp increase in positive cases comes as a result of testing conducted for the week of Oct. 5, and during that time a total of 4,382 polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests were conducted. A breakdown of this past week's testing results is shown to the right. During this time period, there were 45 positive and 84 invalid test results, for a positive test rate of 1.03% and an invalid test rate of 1.92%. Three of the positive tests are listed as "prior" which, according to the COVID dashboard "refer[s] to the test results of individuals who previously tested positive for COVID-19 and received

another positive test result less than 90 days from the first." It remains unclear how the College has identified 47 active cases with only 45 positive test results in the relevant time period. In the week prior (beginning Sept. 29), 4287 PCR tests were conducted with no positive results and an invalid test rate of 1.49%.

The *Tripod* compiled COVID testing data from all New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC) schools to examine how Trinity fares with respect to the rest of the conference, both in terms of testing and current active cases. All the data comes from each respective schools' publicly available COVID dashboard. Trinity's dashboard is the only one that is not updated immediately

see CASES on page 3

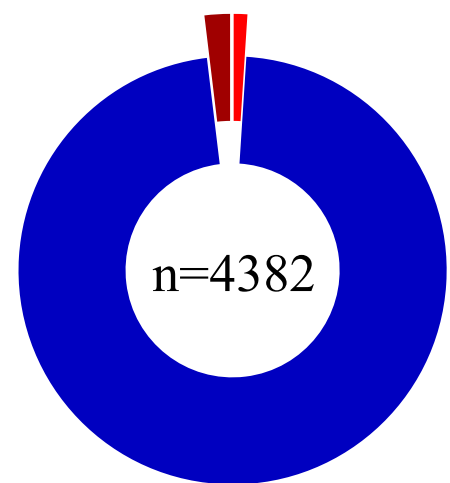


Figure 1: Trinity's COVID-19 positivity rate moved to 1.03% during the week of Oct. 5 as cases ticked higher in a growing outbreak. As of Monday, 47 positive cases had been reported and Trinity had surpassed its NESCAC peers in case totals by a significant margin.

The Trinity Tripod

Established in 1904
“Now then-Trinity!”

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CORRECTIONS

Tripod Editorial

Trinity's "Modest Proposal"

We, the Editorial Board of the *Tripod*, are compelled to condemn the blatant, egregious administrative failures that endanger the health and welfare on our Hartford campus.

We call upon the College administration to provide a detailed explanation to the student body about how they intend to ensure the community's safety as cases continue to rise.

As cases of COVID-19 have increased in recent days and overwhelmed the College's "dedicated isolation facility" in Doonesbury—which, as the *Tripod* has previously reported, was fraught with safety flaws—the College has looked to other facilities to handle increases.

Since mid-September, on at least three occasions, the *Tripod* has asked what specific facilities the College had designated for overflow. The responses: "we believe we can accommodate the students who would need to be isolated" and "we will consider other facilities and even off-campus options." Our belief—given that there was no good reason not to disclose the names of these facilities—is that the College was unprepared for a spike of this size.

We learned that the College's solution to "accommodate the students who would need to be isolated" was a simple one, "a modest proposal," if you will: place infected students in dormitories Stowe and Clemens, where non-infected students also reside, and the virus will abate in time.

Naturally, the College provided no notice to students, including residential advisors, who inhabit these dormitories until Monday evening. Nor were their parents—who pay substantial housing fees to the College—properly notified that their child would inhabit the same hall as an infected student. Nowhere in the Housing Contract or in the "Community Contract" that students (and parents) received is there a clause that suggests that infected students may be placed a mere dorm room away from those who have not tested positive.

Instead, residents of Stowe and Clemens watched as cleaning crews came late at night to surreptitiously disinfect hallways. These residents watched, with reported curiosity and concern,

as infected students were placed in adjacent dorms.

"What about the vents between my dorm and the dorm next to me?" these students may wonder, given that Hartford Healthcare (with whom Trinity has partnered) has acknowledged the possibility and dangers of HVAC systems in spreading the virus. That is not to mention that the World Health Organization has admitted that "aerosol transmission cannot be ruled out" and has urged consideration of these dangers.

No notice. No warning. No explanation. No cause for alarm, based upon the College's handling of this situation, as the realm of isolation becomes the dorm next door.

This is a new disease and the long-term complications that the virus can cause in those of any age remains unclear. Moreover, as Dr. Anthony Fauci has cautioned young people, "you have to have responsibility for yourself but also a societal responsibility that you're getting infected is not just you in a vacuum." We must agree: when the College places an infected student next to a healthy one—separated by a thin cinder block wall—any sense of a "vacuum" vanishes entirely.

How have we risen to have the highest cumulative case total in the NES-CAC league and the highest number of currently active cases? How does the College account for the rapid shift from zero reported active cases to 21 to 47 in mere days? Why do we still remain in "orange" while our case count doubles in less than a week?

Some may say, "didn't the students (and parents, by extension) assume this risk by going back to campus?" Indeed. But we made that decision based on the promises set forth in the "Community Contract" and the "return to campus" plan. Nowhere did we consent to a plan of action that would place us next door to those who have contracted a new and rapid-spreading disease. In every contract, there exists a presumed "covenant of good faith and fair dealing." Our opinion: that covenant has been trampled on and the contract terms breached by the College's ineptitude to address the reality of what is transpiring on campus.

Students in Stowe have requested hand sanitizer be refilled in their dormitory hallway (it has remained empty for 3 ½ weeks). The College has not responded nor taken action on that request. The College has repeatedly tarried between updates of the COVID dashboard, allowing case counts to substantially increase before alerts are sent to the community while rumor and uncertainty breeds along the Long Walk.

In an email to the College community yesterday evening, DiChristina communicated that of the 47 cases, "Thirty-four of the students are in isolation on campus, and 13 are at their homes." He confirmed the College's reaching its capacity to house infected students, and stated that in sharing these details, the administration hopes to "provide clarity and reassurance about our protocols for housing and caring for students who test positive for COVID-19, as well as for housing and caring for all other students on campus." This statement is concerning. If housing positive and negative students in the same residence halls is purportedly reassuring, there exists a complete and utter disconnect between what the students need and what the administration thinks we need. We need frequent updates and communication regarding the status of isolation protocol and cases on campus, not a delayed response three days following the start of a significant outbreak on campus. We need explanations on how the College plans to move forward in a more timely manner, and we need utter transparency from the administration, not a vague response to the community a few hours before our print issue.

Let us attempt, then, to state the College's proposal as Swift might have done: "I have been assured by a very knowing Administrator of my acquaintance in Hartford, that an infected student is a delightful vehicle to ensure the rapid spread of the virus, a most infectious creature that, whether isolated or placed adjacent to the healthy, will no doubt equally serve in the noble cause of multiplying tenfold our coronavirus cases on campus in short order."

-The Trinity Tripod

NEWS

Active Case Count Increases to 47

continued from page one

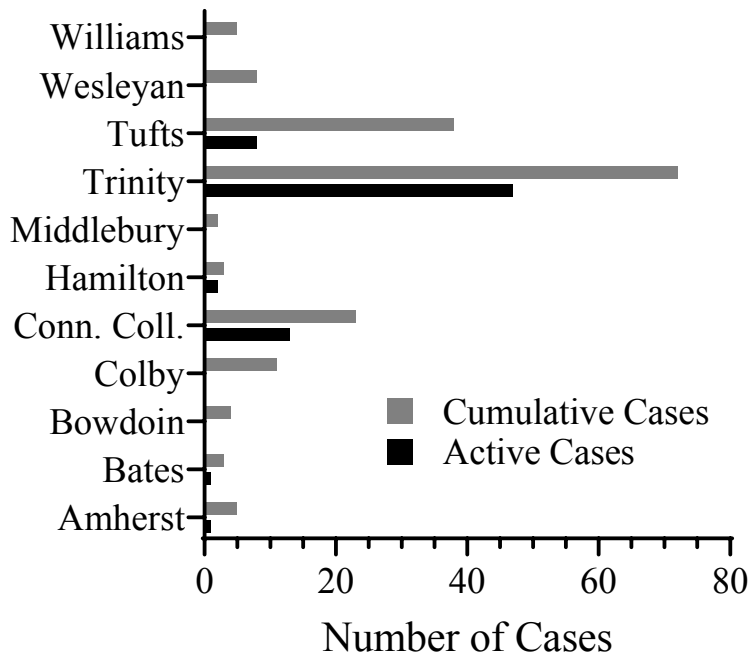
upon receipt of new test results. In addition, every NESCAC school has chosen to partner with the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, thus all testing data comes from the same PCR assay allowing for comparison of test outcome rates without having to account for differences in the test itself. There are some shortcomings to the dataset that must be considered. First, the current in-person student, faculty, and staff populations are not readily available, so test outcomes cannot be analyzed in proportion to total on-campus individuals. Second, though six of eleven NESCAC schools require students be tested twice per week, one school tests three times per week, and the weekly testing protocol information was not readily available for four schools. Lastly, NESCAC schools began their testing protocols on varying dates, ranging from July

13 to Aug. 24, which could have an effect on the overall number of tests processed and the positive test rates.

As of Monday, Oct. 12 at 7:00 pm EST, Trinity has 72 positive cases, the most of any NESCAC school. The number of active and cumulative cases at each school is shown below. Trinity leads the NESCAC in both active and cumulative COVID cases with 47 and 72, respectively. Tufts University has the second highest cumulative case total in the conference with 38, but only 8 active cases in isolation. Compared to Trinity's positive test rate of 0.26%, Tufts' positive test rate is just 0.04%. Additionally, Tufts has performed more than three times as many tests as Trinity, possess a significantly larger testing population due to its various graduate schools and larger undergraduate population, and began testing approximately two weeks before Trinity. Connecticut College has

the second highest active case total with 13 positive cases as of Monday, Oct. 12, however they only have 23 cumulative positive cases. Apart from Trinity, Tufts, and Connecticut College, all other NESCAC schools have 11 or fewer cumulative positive cases.

Trinity also has the highest positive test rate in the NESCAC with 0.26% of all tests performed returning positive results. Connecticut College has the second highest in the conference with 0.10%. The rest of the conference have positive test rates ranging between 0.01% and 0.04%. Of the five schools that report invalid test result totals, Trinity also has the highest invalid test rate with 1.49% of all tests conducted returning invalid results. Amherst, meanwhile, has an invalid test rate of 0.31%. Bowdoin, Colby, and Wesleyan have invalid test rates of 1.15%, 1.02%, and 1.07%, respectively.



Total number of active and cumulative COVID cases among NESCAC schools as of Monday Oct. 12. Trinity has the most active and cumulative cases with 47 and 72, respectively. With the exceptions of Tufts, Trinity, and Connecticut College, most NESCAC schools have relatively few COVID cases.

Trinity, Aramark Face Injury Lawsuits

KIP LYNCH '22
NEWS EDITOR

Trinity College and Aramark are jointly named as defendants in a recent workplace injury lawsuit by Alvaro Alvarez, while Aramark faces a separate workplace injury lawsuit from Frank Colaninno. Both plaintiffs sustained injuries after falling down staircases in dormitories and are suing for \$15,000 in damages, exclusive of interest and costs.

Represented by the law firm of Jainchill & Beckert, Alvaro Alvarez filed suit against Trinity College and Aramark, Trinity's housekeeping, grounds services, and maintenance operations contractor, for damages related to a fall in Seabury Hall on Jan. 25, 2019. The complaint alleges that Alvarez was descending to the lower level of Seabury on the morning of Jan. 25 when he "was caused to slip and fall down the entire length of stairs due to an accumulation of water then and there existing." Alvarez sustained injuries including a rotator cuff tear to his left shoulder and a lumbar spine injury resulting in his seeking medical care and incurring expenses for "hospitals, surgeons, surgical care, doctors, diagnostic testing, physical therapists, pharmacists, medications." The complaint alleges that Trinity "should have known of the dangerous condition caused when the stairs were wet, yet failed to install any tracking mats, runners or pads to make the stairs safe." Alvarez is seeking damages of "more than \$15,000, exclusive of interest and costs."

Both Trinity College and Aramark appeared to have not originally filed a response to the matter. Although there was no default judgement in favor of the Alvarez, his lawyer William Beckert was granted a motion to add the Trustees of Trinity College as a defendant. President Joanne Berger-Sweeney and the Trustees of Trinity College were served around the end of Aug. 2020.

Frank Colaninno, represented by the firm Riscassi & Davis, separately filed suit against Aramark and Lead Custodial Supervisor, Wilhem Acosta, for damages after falling down a staircase in Doonesbury Hall on Apr. 1, 2018. The complaint alleges that the fall was "due to the dangerous and/or defective condition of said staircase, thereby causing the plaintiff to sustain and suffer the personal injuries and losses herein-after set forth." Colaninno claims damages at trial in excess of \$15,000, exclusive of interest and costs after sustaining injuries and being "forced to incur financial obligations for hospital and medical care and treatment, diagnostic studies, medicines, and the like."

The *Tripod* reached out to General Counsel Dickens Mathieu for comment, but did not receive a response.

The cases are *Alvaro v. Trinity College*, Docket No. HHD-CV-20-6126980-S, before Hartford, JD, and *Colaninno v. Aramark Management*, Docket No. HHB-CV20-6056848-S, before New Britain, JD.

College Campus Safety Report: Sept. 28-Oct. 7

Monday, Sept. 28
Allen Place

Aggravated Assault.
This case remains open.

Tuesday, Sept. 29
Funston Hall

Vandalism - Property.
This case remains open.

Saturday, Oct. 3
High Rise

Liquor Law Violation.
2 students received disciplinary referrals.

Saturday, Oct. 3
Hansen Hall

Liquor Law Violation.
6 students received disciplinary referrals.

Saturday, Oct. 3
Jackson Hall

Liquor Law Violation.
4 students received disciplinary referrals.

Saturday, Oct. 3
162 Allen Place

Aggravated Assault.
This case remains open.

Monday, Oct. 5
High Rise Parking Lot

Larceny - Theft from motor vehicle.
This case remains open.

Wednesday, Oct. 7
On Campus

Sexual Offense - Fondling.
This case was referred to the Title IX Coordinator.

Confusion Abounds Over “Dedicated Isolation Facilities”

continued from page one

The College has not clarified how access to the dormitory is controlled or how Trinity can restrict infected students from exiting their rooms.

In Clemens, the *Tripod* has independently confirmed that student Resident Advisors (RAs) received conflicting reports from College administrators on the relocation of infected students. RAs have indicated that Residential Life officials initially denied that infected students had been relocated over the weekend to Stowe and Clemens in telephone calls, later reversing that position Monday after the relocation had become widely reported. Rojas did not respond to the *Tripod*'s request for clarity on how instructions regarding

these dorms were given to residential life employees.

Housing students with COVID-19 on the same floor as non-infected students—with access to the building's central ventilation system in each room—has raised concerns from some epidemiologists, given that the virus is novel, and the extent of aerosol transmission remains uncertain. The World Health Organization (WHO) and Hartford HealthCare, with whom the College has partnered, have likewise warned in public statements of the uncertainties around HVAC transmission.

NPR, reporting on a study in June by researchers at the University of Oregon, found “genetic material from SARS-Cov-2, the virus that causes COVID-19,

inside “a hospital’s HVAC system.” This, the University of Oregon researchers argued, demonstrates that it may be possible “for the virus to be transmitted through HVAC systems.”

The Yale School of Public Health has also released a report on the importance of commissioning indoor ventilation systems, noting their importance in limiting the spread of the coronavirus. Trinity has only indicated that “HVAC building systems have been operational” since March. The College has not responded to requests for comment from students and the *Tripod* on the adequacy of the ventilation system in the dormitory or on what specific improvements had been made to ensure student safety given the relocation of infected students to the same floor.

According to DiChristina, these protocols were developed in “close collaboration with the Health Center and our partnership with Hartford HealthCare,” though no comment was attributed to Trinity’s yet-to-be-named Hartford HealthCare infectious disease specialist in Monday’s email.

Residents in Stowe have expressed concern over other aspects of the College’s COVID-19 mitigation plan. Residents have requested hand sanitizer for three weeks at dispensing units near the dormitory, a request that has not been addressed by the College.

DiChristina’s comments Monday came three days after the *Tripod* first reported on the possible use of the Clemens dormitory and two days after

multiple independently confirmed reports that the College has utilized alternate spaces without providing notice to dormitory residents.

While Trinity remains at an “orange” alert level, the College has reauthorized “passive recreation” at the track at Jesse/Miller Field and in the “grass field adjacent to Hansen Hall.” Trinity continues to bar “gatherings of any size.”

College officials, including Rojas, DiChristina, and Director of Residential Life Susan Salisbury did not respond to multiple *Tripod* requests, though the *Tripod* confirmed via Outlook notifications that DiChristina and Salisbury had read the messages Monday morning.

SGA Holds First Meeting, Discusses Diversity Course

WILL SCANNELL '24

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Trinity’s Student Government Association

(SGA) held its first meeting of the 2020 fall semester on Sunday, Oct. 11. The meeting, led by SGA President Giovanni Jones '21, included a discussion about the student-specific ramifications of the recent increase in cases of COVID-19 as well as brainstorming ideas for a future student survey that will seek to assess different aspects of campus life.

With Trinity’s recent transition to the “orange” COVID-19 campus alert level, the meeting started with members of SGA discussing the situation. Senator Jaymie Bianca '21 pointed out how there are some students who are able to go home if they get infected while other “less-privileged students” may not be able to do the same if they test positive for the virus.

Senator Clare Donohoe '22 spoke on the responsibility that SGA members have during Trinity’s heightened alert level. “I do hope that people in SGA... are taking this orange really seriously,” said Donohoe. “I think it’s our responsibility to call out people too for not wearing masks.” Maddy White '22—one of SGA’s Co-Vice Presidents of Communications—added that “showing...compassion” and “checking in with

people” are also important for quarantined students. “Nobody wants to be in quarantine. And nobody ends up in this situation maliciously,” said White.

SGA President Giovanni Jones introduced and discussed the campus life survey, which would allow SGA to gauge students’ thoughts and feelings on the issues that students currently face on campus. “We want to get answers for the committees,” said Jones. SGA members from each class divided into breakout rooms to discuss which issues to analyze. Upon reconvening, class groups shared the issues that the survey could potentially address.

Many of the issues discussed centered around the aspects of campus life that have been most complicated by COVID-19. Sophomore Class President Jason Farrell, Jr. '23 brought up academics during Trinity’s switch to the orange alert level. Farrell suggested “How well has [the] school provided resources to you?” as a potential question on the survey. In addition, First-Year Senator Aarti Lamberg '24 would like the survey to assess daily situations during which students are not physically distancing. For instance, Lamberg pointed out how the line to swipe into Mather Dining Hall can oftentimes be tightly packed with stu-

dents. “Should we set up times? Something to maintain distance and follow the rules,” suggested Lamberg.

Junior Senator Jerrick Estrella '22 indicated that the survey should include both open-ended and specific questions that extend beyond the issues concerning COVID-19. He suggested including the question “How is [the] racial climate at Trinity?” Senator Lamberg additionally suggested asking “Do you feel safe here?” on the survey. “It’s really uncomfortable to walk around here...as a student of color...[and] as a woman,” Lamberg added.

According to Jones, the survey will involve students answering questions by rating their experience on a one through five scale (also known as a Likert scale). Students will be allowed to elaborate on their ratings.

Towards the end of the Zoom meeting, Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Anita Davis joined to discuss plans to implement a course to educate students, faculty, and staff on diversity. “We would also do some level of required education for our whole campus,” said Davis. “Of course, one course isn’t enough...and we know that we need to have conversations because conversations and interaction and behavior all go together.”

Davis specified those

who are required to take the course: “So, this is really juniors, seniors, IDP grad students...not the 2023 and 2024 classes because 2024 basically all did it and 2023—this is props to them—over ninety percent have completed it.”

SGA members and Davis then discussed when the course should be implemented and when it should be due. Finals schedules and uncertainty surrounding COVID were brought up by SGA members as potential timing issues for the course. Nevertheless, Davis stated why she thinks the course should be completed during the first semester: “That was one of the commitments we made...that we would make this available in the fall semester...because we’re already experiencing a lot of racial and other types of incidents and we want people to be mindful. To be... going through the whole semester without kind of bringing [these issues] to their attention...seemed like a lot of time to wait. So, we wanted to start offering education that might change what it feels like to be here even during this semester as early as possible.”

The student government also finalized the list of chairs and representatives to be appointed to each committee.

The Chair of the Student Life Committee will be SGA Vice President Jack Stone '22. The Commit-

tee’s five representatives will be Donohoe, Farrell '23, Lamberg, Terrence Bogan Jr. '24, and Marquise Brinkley '21.

The representatives of the Academic Affairs Committee currently include Gabrielle Desrochers '24, Allison Rau '23, and Stone.

The Chair of the Sustainability Committee will be Amelia Huba '22. The Committee’s five representatives will be Leah Winters '23, Myles Little '21, Gabrielle Desrochers, Leah Herbin '22, and Dennis St. Jean '23.

SGA members of the Faculty Curriculum Committee will be Josh Jacoves '23, Shawn Olstein '22, and Jaymie Bianca.

The Chair of the Food Committee will be White. The Committee’s representatives currently include Allison Rau '23, Leah Winters '23, Jordan Lewis '22, and Felicia McDevitt '21.

The Chair of the Facilities Committee will be Drew Gardner '21. Members include SGA’s Vice President of Finance Camille Valentincic '22 as well as Gabi Seguinot '24, Aadiv Sheth '22, and Lewis.

The Chair of the SGA Communications Committee will be Maddy White, and the Committee’s student representatives include Donohoe, Liz Foster '22, Desrochers, and Bianca.

OPINION

The Twenty-Four Hour News Cycle Might Break Me

LIZ FOSTER '22
MANAGING EDITOR

I consider myself to be the last person in a room to make an argument against the Internet and its endless terrain, yet the age of information, and misinformation, may destroy everything I hold near and dear about the world wide web. It's too easy to receive bad news. I willingly select to expect a minimum of two emails a day from the *New York Times* chronicling everything that went, or is going, wrong. I wake up, I read my morning briefing, sometimes followed by more specific updates on subjects such as the ongoing coronavirus pandemic or the upcoming presidential election. I'm greeted most often with nothing but disappointment and fear. Threats to democracy, death counts soaring over 1,000,000, and the plethora of attacks on human rights throughout the world (see China, Armenia, Palestine)—and the very “freedom” that the United States proudly asserts as the foundation of the nation itself—are just a few bits of information that lodge themselves into my brain from sunrise until sunset.

It's unfair how easy it is to discover bad news. I

imagine centuries of the past when people waited for messengers, or even physical newspapers, to carry only bits of information. Now I can Google everything wrong with the world and steep in the anxiety of existence in just a matter of mere moments. Citizens could easily ignore what was wrong if it was not directly impacting them and their livelihood. At times, I feel selfish and riddled with self-pity when I want to stop knowing. To understand the sheer amount of suffering throughout the globe and to feel so powerless in the face of all of it, to be thrown words like “just vote!” and “we'll pack the court” by your consistently disappointing par-

are now muddled. Trauma porn rules our news cycle and is ruining our brains. No matter where the source, disregarding the angle, bad news

ing in our current world. Even our on-campus reality is becoming uncomfortable and uncertain.

But my reason for writing now isn't to preach

“I'm greeted most often with nothing but disappointment and fear. Threats to democracy, death counts soaring over 1,000,000...”

spreads like the plague.

Trinity's gates offer no protection from this absurd and upsetting news. As the campus moves into code orange, thus restricting resources such as the athletic center and the library, fewer and fewer options remain for distressing on campus. With the majority

about how and why the world is ending. There is no solution to the perma-crisis mode that rules the airwaves and the numerically coded screens glued to our palms. There may have been times when the world was this chaotic—see the coexistence of World War I and the 1918 Spanish flu pandemic—but I cannot imagine information and awareness spreading with the ferocity of 2020. With unlimited access to knowledge, humanity suffocates under the weight of cognition. Freaking out appears the only reasonable response to times like this. The sensation of existing in our ronavirus, riddled with conflict in every walk of life, creates a gaggle of symptoms akin to anxiety or panic attacks combined with lethargy and a general lack of motivation, wrote Tara Haelle in her article “Your ‘Surge Capac-

ity' Is Depleted — It's Why You Feel Awful.” Haelle similarly asks how we can expect a semblance of normalcy in times like these.

If life is so “strange” and “unprecedented,” then how can we pretend that they're not? To my professors and peers, I must ask, do you really find anything normal anymore? How is one supposed to study for an exam when they are, for lack of better words, tweaking over their physical and mental health, their rights, their loved ones, their way of being, the planet they inhabit? We are strapped into a roller coaster ride of negative feedback loops filled with nothing but evil truths, scary lies, and general untrustworthy, uncomfortableness. The entire world is a Sunday Scary and humanity woke up at 10 a.m., groggy eyed and without the sweet comfort of a hearty breakfast or lunch—or brunch. It's hard not to be a Negative Nelly. We're at a collective breaking point. There appears no finish line for this way of being and at this point, I don't know if the race is going to end. I cannot encourage nihilism, but neither can I ignore the growing clouds casting shadows over the College and greater community.

“The entire world is a Sunday Scary and humanity woke up at 10 a.m., groggy eyed and without the sweet comfort of a hearty breakfast.”

ty of choice, to be able to count down the planet's death via a billboard (that may or may not be fully accurate)—it's too much. One can only dwell in moments of misery, death, and tragedy for so long before it begins to impact their regular view of the world. The rose-tinted glasses

of people sheltered in their dorms, either for mandatory or self-imposed quarantine, general unwellness permeates all too well throughout campus. I've watched people who haven't batted an eyelash at essentially anything break down due to the overwhelming feeling of exist-

The Changes that Need to be Made in CoVerified

SKYLER SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

Last week, there was an article published by the *Trinity Tripod* online about the failure of CoVerified. I agreed wholeheartedly with that opinion piece as I, too, was disappointed in the app's lack of communication with me about reporting symptoms and making an appointment. This week, I write to air some of my personal concerns as well as compliment CoVerified on some recent improvements I have witnessed. There are still some major

Beginning with the concerns, I still get no reminders on setting appointments from CoVerified. Since I have been using the application for weeks, I would believe that there would be some sort of monitoring system tracking when I have been and when I should be getting my COVID tests. When I make an appointment a couple days ahead of time, which rarely happens, I get a reminder notification within hours of me making the appointment! I never receive another notification for my COVID test. I wish Co-

dents to get regular, scheduled tests. CoVerified's simple reminders could be something that gets

to risk human mistakes in entering these dates manually. With concrete and technological data

“CoVerified's simple reminders could be something that gets the College back to green.”

the College back to green.

Regarding the specific scheduling mechanism CoVerified uses, I do not enjoy it. We have to choose a date range each time we make an appointment. I would wish there would be some definitive software tracking the dates in which we are scheduled. If we have concrete scheduling practices in the software we all are utilizing, less chance would be made available for human error in scheduling their appointments too late or too early. CoVerified should have our weekly schedules included, so we do not have

delineating our testing routine, Trinity students will be tied to a schedule, ensuring little error and healthy students.

Though my gripes with CoVerified are the main purpose for this article, I must compliment CoVerified on an improvement I have seen that can strongly affect the health and behavior of students. I have been receiving daily, scheduled notifications for the past week about reporting my systems. While I know plenty of individuals who receive no such notifications, these daily reminders give me hope in Co-

Verified's competence and insurance of safety to college students all over the nation. With these little reminders, students will be more likely to submit their symptoms on a daily basis, providing the College with up-to-date information on the symptoms of students on campus.

With coronavirus cases on campus spiking, Trinity is in a very tough predicament. If CoVerified could be altered to maintain our testing schedules and to issue closer and more frequent reminders, Trinity students' testing schedules would be more accurate and their health would be prioritized. If we want to return to green, we must work together to stay safe; however, these tiny changes in CoVerified's functioning could dramatically alter the speed of our transition back to a functioning, slightly social campus with safety at the helm of the process.

“I never receive another notification for my COVID test.”

changes CoVerified could make that could dramatically impact Trinity's and other college's outbreaks.

Verified would be more strategic in issuing their reminder notifications. It is crucial for Trinity stu-

The Judiciary Should Stand Apart from Partisanship

SKYLER SIMPKINS '23
OPINION EDITOR

The judicial branch should stand above the partisan polarization plaguing our legislatures and executives. It should stand as a bastion of justice and legal precedents defining the difference between what is fair and what your ideology supports. In our heavily polarized system, driven by politicians' desire for continued power, our judicial system has become a plank in the platform of politicians trying to please the American people with promises of judicial change. This fundamentally disrupts our crucial system of checks and balances by making justices tantamount to public policy. Because of this, the selection of justices has become increasingly polarized to match the opinion of the politician appointing them and therefore satisfying the demands of the politician's constituents. We see this phenomenon today with the recent death of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. While most jump to opinions based upon political preference, I believe this opinion on

replacing Justice Ginsburg should exclude partisanship and focus on the omnipotence of constitutional and legal justice partitioned in our constitution to the judicial system.

Unfortunately, our judicial system has never been immune to the cries of the constituents and the promises of politicians. One of the first prominent cases in American legal history was *Marbury v. Madison*, a dispute created from political jealousy amidst a transition of power from one party to another. Perhaps the founders hopes of the judiciary being free from the partisan plague were optimistic, but I believe there is still time to change this dynamic and to pull our judiciary from the hands of bureaucracy and popular opinion. We should judge judicial nominees by their history in establishing just legal precedents and upholding our constitutional rights not by their conformation to popular political values. With the confirmation hearing for Amy Coney Barrett commencing today, I believe it is incredibly important to establish the guidelines in which we are

judging these candidates.

Since President Trump has nominated Barrett, our country has seen an outcry of hatred from the left and admiration from the right, but Supreme Court justices should not be judged from the one that nominated them. We should judge nominated justices as we should judge anyone else: by their individual actions and motivations. It is unfair to assume that Amy Coney Barrett will hold all of the beliefs of Donald Trump; while she has a conservative record. We need to view her as an individual woman, not as a Trumpian Republican defined by the president's views on policy.

In response to concerns about confirmation in the midst of a presidential election, I believe we should continue the judicial confirmation process regardless of what political process is co-occurring. In this, I believe President Trump has the right and should nominate a new justice for the Supreme Court; accordingly, I believe former President Obama had the right to nominate a justice in the place of Antonin Scalia. While both presidents have

nominated in the time right before an election, the split legislature ensured that no nominee could make it through the confirmation hearings. The legislative

party in which they identify. We should remind our legislators what the judicial branch is responsible for. We should encourage them to protect legal phi-

“...the selection of justices has become increasingly polarized to match the opinion of the politician appointing them and therefore satisfying the demands of the politician's constituents.”

branch is truly where we see the chaos surrounding partisan polarization, but how can we ensure that partisanship is put aside in judicial confirmation hearings? This a process that will take time, as we have to separate political polarization, an ingrained part of policy-making from legislative responsibilities. The only way to change their way of thinking is to challenge their most loved possession: political power. We, as their constituents, should challenge them to think without divisiveness, to judge the individual by their own actions, not those of the political

philosophy from becoming plagued by political partisanship. If we continue to fail to confront partisanship, our federal governmental system will become increasingly divided and unproductive. When landslide victories occur for either party, we will begin to see the formation of a political system unrestrained by checks and balances. For the sanctity of our government, we must stop political polarization by encouraging individual judgement separate from our cherished party affiliation and raise our voices in support of bipartisan cooperation and compromise.

Community Must Be More Vigilant Regarding COVID

LUCIUS BRYANT '22
STAFF WRITER

As the school begins to tighten its regulations on quarantine procedure, the evidently overlooked circumstances where one could be exposed to COVID are becoming increasingly apparent. The fear of exposure has never been higher after last week's emails from the administration addressing the college regarding the current state of virus control. This comes, ironically, after the *Tripod* published an opinion piece

consequences. The state of emergency on Trinity's campus is directly a result of the number of confirmed cases, after all, and the more positive tests that go through Ferris, the worse the situation will get for everyone involved here.

So, in an attempt to limit as much unnecessary contact, both indirect and direct, I propose the *Tripod* take the initiative in prioritizing the health of the students and faculty of the college by ceasing all print editions of the newspaper and its articles.

This year, the *Tripod*

papers grow higher and higher. It seems no one wants to handle any object that they have not personally witnessed being sanitized in rubbing alcohol by a professional viral expert with hands made of Purell. This same fear is why we have been ordered to remain in our own rooms and advised away from any social gatherings whatsoever.

Though there are palpable differences in behavior and schedule with the constituents of the college, there is still glaring oversight and ignorance when it comes to removing all possibility of infection (just walk to Ferris or Mather or Vernon Street to see for yourself if you haven't already). In fact, just this weekend, infected students have been placed in residences where healthy students already live.

Sounds like a bad idea, but I am certainly no virologist so who's to say.

I think the largest oversight when it comes to keeping the virus away

from campus is the lack of restriction of visitors like family and friends, and delivery vehicles from the likes of Uber Eats and DoorDash. When the school set up its mandatory quarantine when returning to campus, the idea was to create a bubble where if the virus did pop up, we could have some control on the

to restrict contact with delivery services to specific places on campus.

Any capacity of limiting oversight when it comes to infection helps. If not for reducing the risk, then for setting a precedent that the situation is not where it needs to be, and we have the ability to change it. The students can make the

“For the past three weeks, I've watched the pile of newspapers grow higher and higher.”

about how well the return to “green” had proceeded. Guess who wrote that one.

I think by now the students, faculty, and staff have a firm grasp that any sort of unregulated action could result in negative and perhaps irreparable

has published four print editions and two online. The print editions are distributed around campus to different buildings and left for anyone to take a notice. For the past three weeks, I've watched the pile of news-

spread of things by limiting contact with things from outside campus. A college already provides enough for one to sustain themselves without outside help. Though I think there is next to nothing that can keep students from having their friends from high school visit or their parents driving through, we may be able

most behavioral difference than others here. All of us would prefer to go back to simpler times, and the only way that would be possible is through proactive measures, and through looking through the dirt to see what lies beneath. We must try to make it a priority to not be careless when our futures are at stake.

FEATURES

Trinity College Students Discuss Differing Opinions on Jump to Code Orange as they Navigate New Restrictions

KATIE CERULLE '22
FEATURES EDITOR

The COVID-19 virus is sweeping the Trinity College campus this week as 47 have recently tested positive. As Trinity's alert system appears to draw near code red, the student body attempts to react to new policies and provisions provided by the school. These new guidelines include: no in-person classes, the library being completely closed, no leaving campus for any reason other than those that are approved on a case-by-case basis, no forming groups of any kind indoors or out, no students from off-campus housing allowed in on-campus housing or vice versa and a few others. These limitations being as drastic and ever-changing as they are, many students have differing emotions towards Trinity's progression to code orange.

Dana Parker '22 explained that except for the

library being closed, her life has remained relatively stable since the switch to code orange. While she is taking four classes and a lab, only one of her classes has taken a shift from in-person to completely remote. For Parker, her academic life has not plundered as the College shifted online. The one thing that has changed in her opinion, however, is the campus climate and tension between different student groups. Students are scared of many different outcomes during this time, and fear can transform into animosity towards one's peers as students make different decisions on how to personally handle the code switch.

Theodore Komjathy '24 feels transitioning into code orange brings being sent home closer to reality. Having the case count skyrocket to 45 over the course of two days sets a possible trend that could end in evacuation from

campus. Additionally, the constant change to his athletic schedule deprives him of the ability to consistently progress with the team. This season holds more weight for Teddy as his senior high school season was scratched, but the possibility of normalcy is fleeting as the color system progresses closer to red.

Nick Fitzpatrick '22 tells the *Tripod* that he is grateful to members of Trinity College faculty and the testing center for handling these numerous outbreaks with the utmost diligence and concern for student health and safety. Despite his positive disposition towards the school, he is upset with the reality of having all of his four classes being conducted completely virtually. One of the main reasons he came back to campus for the semester was so that he could resume some in-person learning. Being in this new orange territory has negated in-person

events until at least Friday, Oct. 16, and potentially longer.

Caleb Prescott '22 discussed Trinity's impact on the greater Hartford community. He highlights the disservice that we have done to our surrounding neighborhoods by continuing the spread of the coronavirus. By coming onto campus from numerous different states, spreading the virus among the student body and residents of Hartford, and potentially vacating the area to go home, students leave the area with Trinity's mess to clean. Prescott explained that it is particularly unfair to families in the direct community that must deal with the ignorance and selfishness of some students on campus.

Lastly, Anders Klass '22 illuminates the idea that many students attending Trinity College are independent thinkers who choose to engage themselves academically,

athletically, and socially. The code system places restrictions on the student body that make many feel disconnected from any sort of decision making. He highlights that the school should attempt to improve the code system by implementing an aspect of administrative transparency. Specifically, Klass expressed a wish for the administration to help students understand the inner workings of the decision making process and how Trinity jumps from one color alert to the next.

Additionally, Klass stated that as many students return home as they test positive or have the potential to, they risk spreading the virus to many other communities. He argued that those who leave campus have a certain responsibility to the community, in that "students who return home must be diligent with who they come into contact with."

National Archives' Rightfully Hers Exhibit Visits Trinity

OLIVIA PAPP '23
FEATURES EDITOR

The Rightfully Hers exhibit has recently been presented by the Watkinson Library. Months of planning has gone into attaining this exhibit from the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Any member of the Trinity community interested in seeing this pop-up exhibit can do so by signing up for library appointments until the COVID-19 alert level is lowered from orange.

This pop-up exhibit includes a detailed account of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. This year celebrates the centennial of this ratification. As such, the creators of this exhibit, which include both the National Archives and the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission, planned to commemorate this achievement by giving academic institutions the exhibit. Contingent upon a lengthy application process, Trinity College was amongst 2,500 schools to be awarded this exhibit.

Director of Special Collections & Archives in the

Watkinson Library Christina Bleyer recounted the process of attaining the exhibit, and described the process involved in contacting the National Archives over the summer to be considered. "We happened to be one of the institutions selected. There are great photos and great information in this exhibit," said Bleyer.

This exhibit is an excellent way for the Watkinson Library to further educate students and faculty about this election-altering moment in history, and according to Bleyer, "it gave women fuller citizenship, which provided a more expansive democracy for our nation. This exhibit has simple messages about the expansion of the vote."

Bleyer continued to describe the challenges posed by holding the exhibition in the midst of the pandemic, stating that it is "not a document, but rather a cardboard exhibit with descriptions. We originally had planned on doing a larger exhibit throughout the library which highlighted Connecticut suffragettes. However, COVID-19 put a stop to that," Breyer explained.

"The pop-up is still great. I'm glad we're still able to celebrate a little bit of the hundredth anniversary."

"We were one of the institutions that were chosen to receive this special, historic exhibit." As Breyer

explained, anyone feeling uncomfortable about seeing this exhibit in person, can access online exhibits, records, and primary source sites that include information about the nineteenth amendment.

As long as members

of the community are doing their part to follow CDC guidelines by wearing a mask and remaining socially distant, it is possible to see this exhibit which illustrates such a crucial turning point in American history.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES MUSEUM



NATIONAL ARCHIVES MUSEUM

(Above) A snapshot from the Rightfully Hers archive, currently on display at the Watkinson.

(Left) The pop-up exhibition celebrates the 19th amendment, giving women the right to vote in the United States.

The Lawyer's Corner: An Interview With H. Rodgin Cohen

BRENDAN W. CLARK '21
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

H. Rodgin “Rodge” Cohen—a familiar name to those here at Trinity who have studied Wall Street, banking regulation, and the legalities of the 2008 Financial Crisis—is a seminal player on Wall Street and the world of financial regulation. The senior partner and former managing partner of Sullivan and Cromwell, LLP, a major New York full-service law firm, Cohen has seen a long tenure in S&C’s bank regulatory division since joining the firm in 1970.

The *Tripod* spoke with Cohen in September, seeking to gain insight from a practitioner on “big law” in New York and how aspiring lawyers can channel their work in law school and enter practice in the field of bank regulation.

From the beginning, Cohen told the *Tripod*, he wasn’t sure what he wanted to do after College. “I considered teaching,” Cohen added, and he “valued his liberal arts education at Harvard.” Ultimately, Cohen noted, the “closest approximation” to continuing that education was law school. After graduating from Harvard Law School, he served in the army and worked on legal matters before entering the world of a New York firm.

Cohen’s shift into bank regulation—where he would eventually leave a significant mark—was to some degree a result of chance. After joining S&C, Cohen learned that two associates were leaving the banking group. When asked to join the team, Cohen recalled that he “didn’t know anything about banking,” but expressed that “he would learn.”

Law school “without a doubt teaches you about how to think.” However, Cohen stressed that bank law and regulation, during his time in law school, was not an area of focus. “I don’t think there was a course offered on that in law school.” Instead, learning the practice was a matter of “observation and being involved in matters where you could take a leadership role.” Cohen noted that that tradition of leadership and involvement is one of the many things he is proud of at S&C, where the culture ensures “associates have many roles”

and “regularly engage with clients.” Having the opportunity to engage with client-facing roles, for Cohen, is critical as “so much of the law involves speaking with people.”

Banking practice in the 1970s was “very much loan work and loan origination,” and in those early days the focus was also on “clearing houses” (exchanges which facilitate the sale of securities and derivatives). In those meetings, Cohen “didn’t yet have a seat at the table, but did have a seat in the room,” which was tremendously important for his growth at the firm.

From Cohen’s start, he saw that the practice area “changed as the needs of the industry grew.” These developments were very much the “function of the needs of clients.” Indeed, as Cohen grew at the firm, he saw a change in the pace and spirit of the industry, referencing the “old adage that bankers practiced the 3-6-3 rule” (bankers gathered deposits at 3%, lent them at 6%, and were on the golf course by 3:00). “How true that was, I’m not certain,” Cohen added, though he did note that there was an increasing role for legal and regulatory practice in the industry.

By the dawn of the financial crisis in 2007, when Cohen had been managing partner at S&C for more than five years, the firm counted among its clients leading investment banks and financial firms in the United States: Bear Sterns, J.P. Morgan Chase, and American International Group (A.I.G.). Cohen described the collapse of mortgage issuer Countrywide Financial as the first sign of the crisis, describing it as a “wake-up call” that portended the larger financial instability that followed.

S&C, under the direction of Cohen, would later oversee the acquisition of Bear Sterns and the acquisition of Washington Mutual by J.P. Morgan. S&C was also instrumental in facilitating the provision of government-backed assistance for A.I.G. in 2008, among numerous other deals. Cohen described the process in 2008 as one where he and others were “making a lot of ad hoc decisions,” because “nobody had ever seen anything of this scope before.” Still, the

structure of the firm—Cohen believes—helped to ensure that deals could occur and that the tremendous amount of work could be completed. Cohen was able to focus on bank regulation because he knew that he could “rely on other skilled senior partners” for management of the firm itself.

2008 was “certainly a lot of negotiation,” Cohen added, acknowledging that “sometimes you don’t have much leverage.” Still, the full-service nature of a firm like S&C allowed for many “skilled lawyers” to be employed throughout the restructuring process in practice areas of bankruptcy and restructuring. S&C has “a lot of talent and has been fortunate to retain that talent,” Cohen added, crediting many associates and partners with the important restructuring work in the wake of the crisis.

For students and future practitioners, Cohen stressed the value of finding a firm that values you. As one litmus test, Cohen suggested practitioners consider this: “Does the firm not merely permit, but encourage associates to meet with clients?” If you don’t get to participate in meetings, you’ll be “a partner without all of the skills.” Ultimately, good lawyering for Cohen is centered around the value of relationships. They are “essential” for the success of any practitioner and these communication skills are important “most of all” in fostering trust as a counselor.

The firm atmosphere, too, often provides an opportunity to engage in “legal and intellectual debates.” Cohen, who has engaged in law review articles and op-eds in numerous publications, noted that S&C tries to encourage that intellectual interest, especially among partners, as the “more senior you become, the much more likely it is that you have a wider platform.”

Concluding our discussion on the topic of client relations, Cohen noted that the COVID-19 pandemic has upended the legal industry too, changing how these interactions occur. While it is “certainly different” to work with the “imperfect medium of Zoom,” Cohen stressed that people “do adapt” but lamented the loss of “seeing your colleagues in the office.” That

is “essential” to professional development and engagement with complex legal issues. Still, S&C—Cohen estimates—“suffered far less than small businesses who contend now with the loss of the consumer.”

As students, firms, and many others ponder their work and their futures, Cohen struck a more positive note, asking English Romantic poet Percy Shel-

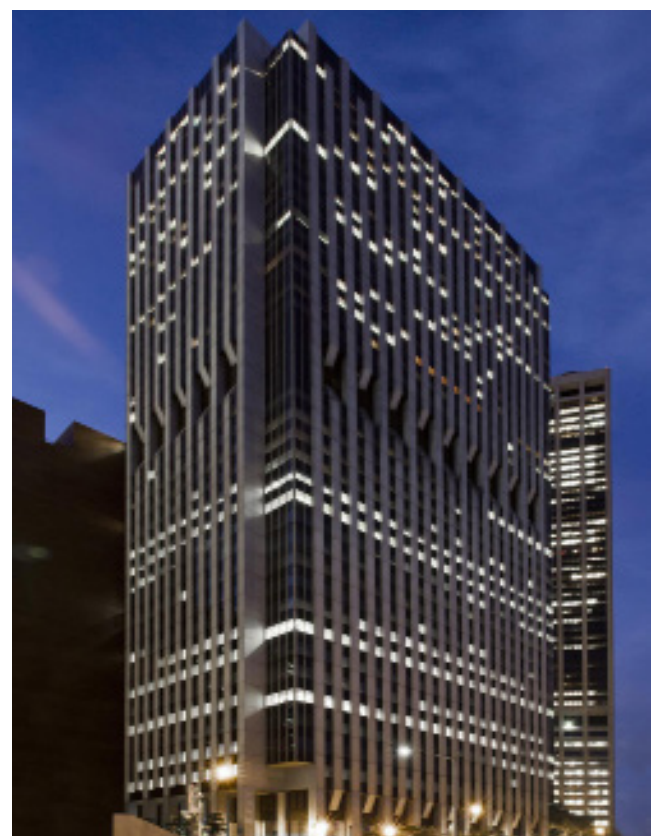
ley’s perennial question: “if Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?”

This interview—the first in a series of articles in the *Tripod*’s “Lawyer’s Corner” by Editor-in-Chief Brendan Clark ’21—examines career opportunities in the legal field by engaging seasoned professionals who have had a significant historical impact in their respective practice areas.



NICOLE BENGIVENO/NEW YORK TIMES

(Above) For future practitioners, Cohen stressed the value of finding a firm that values its employees.



WITKOFF

(Above) Cohen joined Sullivan and Cromwell, one of New York’s leading law firms, in 1970.

Arts & Entertainment

Monster House, Still Scary in 2020

MACIEJ PRADZIAD '23
A&E EDITOR

If you've never seen or haven't recently rewatched Gil Kenan's animated horror classic *Monster House*, you are doing yourself a great disservice this Halloween season. Although the film presents itself as a "children's horror film," it is filled with a surprising amount of mature content that explores the fine line between love and death as tiptoed by an extreme form of grief that keeps the former alive in spite of the latter. The film's greatest assets that allow for the exploration of these complex themes are the intricately intimate screenplay by Dan Harmon, Rob Schrab, and Pamela Pettler; the beautifully fluid cinematography by Xavier Grobet; and the hyper-realistic animation direction by Norman Newberry and Greg Papalia.

Monster House revolves around three children named DJ (Mitchel Musso), Chowder (Sam Lerner), and Jenny (Spencer Locke) as they attempt to rid the violent, haunted house across the street of what they believe to be the soul of their crotchety, old neighbor, Mr. Nebbercracker (Steve Buscemi). With less than 24 hours to go, the children must act quickly as the house intends to harm innocent trick-or-treaters and children alike that knock on its front door on Halloween night.

The screenplay by Harmon, Schrab, and Pettler has an extremely humanistic and down-to-earth quality that is true to the conversations and the attitudes held by kids transitioning into their teenage years. One of the most engaging aspects of the film is the relationships between the three leads and their environment because they're well-meaning in their intentions, but misunderstood by the adults in their life. This is taken to a comical extreme as all the adult characters are endearingly ignorant of the danger the children are in and are too busy dealing with their own struggles to even notice. However, a critique of the screenplay that is glaringly obvious is the unfair treatment of the only black character

within the film, Officer Lister (Nick Cannon). Although all the adults in *Monster House* are idiotic, they are not made equally stupid as the screenwriters decided to make Officer Lister the dumbest character of them all, making for a problematic viewing experience that is unfortunately all too common in film. Fortunately enough, the adults within the film are not the main focus, allowing for the clever and heartfelt writing to be seen and heard through the children for the majority of the film.

The fluidity of the cinematography combined with the detailed environments and character animations make this film more beautiful than one would expect. This is made especially apparent through the way the camera seamlessly moves from one character's perspective to the next without ever once breaking the viewer's attention. It certainly helps that the environments, particularly the haunted house, are animated with a certain level of realism that feels familiar and warm, but can quickly turn horrifying and dark in a matter of seconds. In addition, due to the use of live action motion capture animation (like in *The Polar Express*), the character's movements are extremely realistic and make them feel like genuine people you may have known growing up. However, not all of the animation was created equally as the facial animations are absolutely horrendous. While some characters, like Mr. Nebbercracker, have a design that is intricate, memorable, and easy to look at, the rest look like a blob of flesh colored Play-Doh with eyes. Fortunately enough, the facial animation can be easily overlooked as the voice acting from the main cast brings a humanity to the characters that makes you forget you're constantly looking at terrifying humanoids from the uncanny valley.

Monster House is an animated film that captures the wonders of childhood horror and allows even the most jaded of audience members to re-experience the magic of Halloween.

Arts This Week:

Oliver Sacks-- His Own Life
Virtual Documentary;
Available This Week Via Cinestudio

Live Carillon Music
College Carillonneur Ellen Dickinson plays music from the chapel to be heard across the Trinity campus
Thursday at 12:55 P.M.

Virtual Performing Hartford
Jolet Creary (Studio 860 company owner, hip hop choreographer)
Appears Online Thursday at 6:15PM

BUSINESS:

MBA
Professional MBA
JD/MBA
Accounting
Business Analytics
Organizational Leadership¹

EDUCATION:

MAT-Elementary
MAT-Secondary
Educational Leadership
Instructional Design¹
Special Education¹

COMMUNICATIONS:

Creative Production Management
Innovative Media & Communications
Journalism
Sports Journalism
Public Relations¹

ARTS & SCIENCES:

Molecular & Cell Biology

HEALTH SCIENCES:

Advanced Medical Imaging & Leadership
Biomedical Sciences
Cardiovascular Perfusion
Occupational Therapy
Physiological Assistant
Physician Assistant
Radiologic Assistant
Social Work
JD/MSW

NURSING:

MSN-Adult Gerontology or Family Nurse Practitioner
MSN-Operational Leadership¹
DNP-Nurse Anesthetist
DNP-Post-Master's¹

ENGINEERING:

Cybersecurity¹

LAW:

JD-Law Degree
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JD/MELP
JD/MBU
JD/MGLP
JD/MSW
LL.M. in Health Law

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³Master's degree from Vermont Law School

Weekly Skylights: The *Tripod* Looks to the Clouds

JOEY CIFELLI '23
A&E EDITOR



October 5, 2020

(Left) A mother cat carries her kitten by the scruff of its neck along a cool grass field. She places it down in a small clearing where the grass is matted down and soft. The kitten, young as it is, rolls around the clearing like an air hockey puck, chirping little meows and whines as it fights a battle unseen. The mother cat watches from the grass' edge, supervising. A rustle in the grass. The mother cat freezes instantly and shifts her coat to blend in with the vegetation. The kitten, too, does this, oblivious to any danger but obeying its instincts nonetheless. They don't make a sound. Don't breathe. A mottled yellow hound steps into the clearing with teeth bared and saliva dripping from its maw. It makes its way through the empty space, head flicking from side to side like a snake's tongue. Its hooked paws land inches from the kitten's body. Imperceptibly, the mother cat's claws slide from their sheaths. A howl in the distance, and the hound dashes off. The family has survived, for now. **7.4/10.**

(Right) Two ants:

LEONARD: What do you make of this gap in the forest Herman?

ANT 2: *munch munch*

LEONARD: To think, until yesterday, we thought it to be an endless void! I haven't got a clue what our boys in development are thinking, but it sure as heck is something. We're on the cutting edge now! Yes sir. Only five more days out on the floor, scouting, hunting, and then its straight to the hive for us. By the Queen: I cannot wait! Say, Herman, got any plans once we get back?

ANT 2: *munch*

LEONARD: You sicken me.

Presently, the ants are obliterated by a toddler waddling her way over to something she thought was a rock but turned out to be the wrapper of the Snickers bar her dad ate by himself earlier. **6.6/10.**



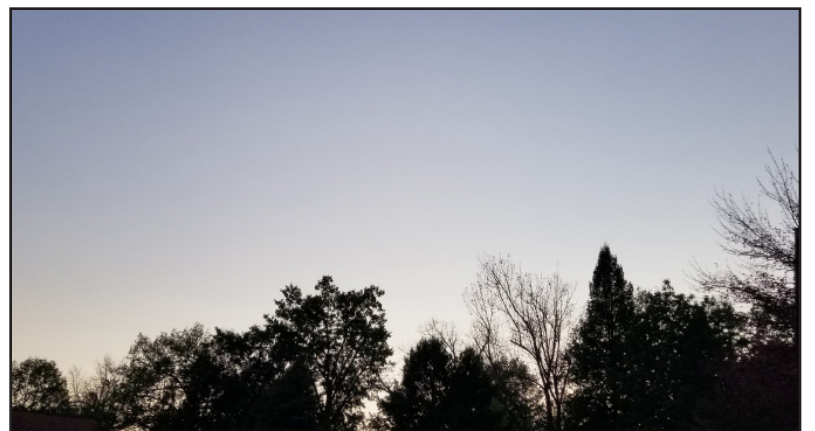
October 6, 2020



October 7, 2020

(Left) There's a storm brewing. Leaves on the pavement rattle down the street. The telephone wires shake. Your grandmother says she can feel it in her bones. Even you can feel the heavy pulse of ruin in your marrow. It's going to be a big one. Crows caw in trees and on fences. You ask your grandmother what to do. She shakes her head. She says there's nothing anybody can do about this kind of storm. She says you should get in the basement and hide. That way it may not find you. The wind is a howl now, a wolf scratching against your door. The wind chimes ring their bells in a stunted melody. It is the sound dread makes when it is afraid. In the basement, curled up under a shelf, you breathe heavily. You hear it all, even underground. The sounds pause for a second. You feel the world holding its breath. Then the storm hits at last, and all is black. **8.2/10.**

(Right) Following the hustle and bustle of the market comes a brief period of respite for Timbley, who had just spent the better part of the day selling fish at his father's stall. The smell of fish clings to his apron still, and it never comes out even when he uses Ereden's cleaning elixir, which is rumored (by Ereden) to be so strong as to remove the freckles from a child's face and keep it smelling clean all the while. With his chores done, Timbley takes a long walk along the edge of town. The trees in their fiery vestiges of life on his right, and dingy brick buildings on his left. Eventually, he arrives at his favorite spot on a small hill with a beautiful view of the lake for which his town is named. As the sun sets, young Timbley lays down and dreams in his heart of the adventures he'll go on some day. **8.0/10.**



October 9, 2020

SPORTS

All Eyes On Commissioner Goodell for NFL and COVID

MATEO VAZQUEZ '21
SPORTS EDITOR

The manner that the NFL has chosen to handle COVID within the league has been quite different and unusual compared to many other leagues. No doubt, this year people will look back and question the shortened conference season, lack of fans in attendance and numerous game cancellations as the season that is defined by COVID-19. The same thing occurred back in the day during World War II, when baseball had a limited season, the games were played at one stadium and the most unusual teams were the ones making it to the world series. However, for the NFL, what will stand out the most is how they managed the virus while attempting to play a full

game season. One of the things that stands out most in the league is that they are still attempting to have "bye weeks," which amidst the chaos of COVID-19 is not an option this season.

If one accounts for game cancellations and rescheduling the classic "bye week," these decisions do not serve an effective purpose for the 2020 season, especially with it already being shortened. Within the NFL, each team has already been dealing with the virus in different ways.

The Tennessee Titans continue to retain positive test results and have not played a game since Sept. 27. The abrupt schedule changes and moving around of teams is more similar to a game of Whack-a-Mole, in trying to fit games in wherever they can in order to complete the season. The

league is in a chaos and going through something that many other leagues have not experienced to this extent.

One of the questions circulating throughout the league at the moment is why they did not opt for the bubble system like the NBA, and what are the options as they continue through with the rest of the season. The league stated early on that they did not feel the bubble system would be effective or appropriate for the season and that the precaution of the bubble was unnecessary and went to extremes that were not rational to control the virus.

They suggested that the best option for the teams within the league would be to continue as is with other precautions in place, and still host games at their home stadiums. However, throughout this entire process there has been a lack of uniformi-

ty that Goodell has failed to establish within the league. For example, the difficult decision that every sports team has dealt with in opting for not allowing fans at games. There are still fans allowed at the Titans, Steelers, and Texans games.

A large concern amongst those is the Titans, who have not controlled the virus and allowed fans at the venue. They are not only putting the general public at risk, but the players and the rest of the league. Hence, there is no question that these last two weeks, there have been many eyes on Goodell to see what kind of leadership he is putting into place to protect the league and the rest of the season. At the front of the issue, teams are suffering and the top

level of sportsmanship is not yet attainable. Cam Newton is still testing positive and must refrain from play, which ultimately puts the Patriots at a disadvantage on the field, and once again begs the question of what kind of season is 2020 if the best of athletes must refrain from playing due to COVID-19 concerns.

Given the large amount of prep time that the NFL had to prepare for the upcoming season Goodell has continually said that the situation is under control but the lack of preparation and failure to have uniform control is showing. The future of the league for the 2020 season is still up in the air and a push for a bubble is still something that many fans and coaches want to see implemented to ensure that they can carry on with the rest of the season.

Lakers Win the National Basketball Association Finals

MATEO VAZQUEZ '21
SPORTS EDITOR

What has been probably one of the longest seasons for the NBA has finally come to a close and the victors of the long awaited season are the Los Angeles Lakers, led by none other than the king himself LeBron James. This year's 2020 championship marks James's fourth ring, and makes him the only player to accomplish this with three different NBA teams. However, the road to get to this point was no easy feat. Just a few weeks ago, we saw the Lakers battle it out against the Denver Nuggets with what can only be described as James rushing around the

court, being there at the right time to seize opportunities for the Lakers. Then, just this past weekend, the league got to see once again just how crucial James is for this current Lakers team. Throughout the finals, LA and the Miami Heat were going back and forth with wins.

When it looked as if the Lakers were coming out in front the next game, the Heat would respond with a vicious offense that let everyone know not to count them out just yet. However, Sunday night's last game for the finals truly demonstrated just how in control of the game the Lakers were. The team demonstrated their ability to not only play an aggres-

sive offensive game, but also a stonewall defense. In every period but the fourth, LA destroyed Miami on the offensive end of play, pummeling the defense with shot after shot on net and in the second quarter put up a 20-point lead against the Heat.

This is not to mention that the real show in the second quarter was the Lakers defense, only letting up 16-points in total played a crucial role in allowing LA to stay out in front during the game. These were the little things on the court that made a key difference. Many players did not want to play with James as they felt robbed of the show, however, getting Anthony Davis (someone who is of MVP talent, but does not yet have

one) to play with James made a big difference. The combination of the two stood out on the court and demonstrated that they are both the MVP athletes that, when in sync together, can prove to be a lethal weapon against any team they play against.

The Miami Heat had to deal with this issue, and struggled to combat the two of them. With James' speedy work moving the ball down the court and Davis' long arms and coordination around the basket, it was inevitable that the Lakers would be coming home with some kind of victory this year. Perhaps a quote that sums up the finals was best expressed

by Davis, who got his first NBA championship: "It just makes it all worth it," he said after recording 19-points, 15 rebounds and two blocks. "It was tough times [in New Orleans], but like I said, I'm a champion. When I got traded, that's all I wanted was to be a champion, to be able to compete, be able to win. I was able to do that my first year with the Lakers."

The Lakers were able to craft together an intricate team in which each player truly complemented the other. Each player's talents on the court made it hard for other teams to take them on, and fans got to see this compliment of talents working with one another to achieve victory.

Winter NESCAC Athletics Cancelled Due to COVID

ANNA BAUER '23
SPORTS EDITOR

This past Thursday, Oct. 8, Trinity Director of Athletics Drew Galbraith released an email explaining that NESCAC Presidents have decided to cancel the "NESCAC-sponsored competition and championships in winter sports for the 2020-21 season." This announcement followed the cancellation of the Fall 2020 athletic season for the NESCAC, a decision seen throughout other athletic conferences in the nation.

Disappointing and

breaking the hearts of many of winter athletes at Trinity, this announcement leaves the NESCAC community wondering what comes next.

In his email, Galbraith makes clear, however, that though no team will be able to win a NESCAC championship this season, this is not the end for winter sports.

Institutions within the NESCAC are not restricted from creating their own individual plans for winter sports competitions and practices. As a result, other institutions

who choose to compete could compete with each other and the Trinity Athletic Department is trying its best to be one of these schools.

Furthermore, because they know how important competition is in sports, the Athletic Department is tirelessly searching for ways to allow winter student-athletes to compete. The only catch is that whatever decision is made must follow Trinity, the State of Connecticut, and NCAA guidelines.

As revealed early in the year, winter sports were supposed to begin practices on Oct. 15, however, giv-

en Trinity's alert orange, that start date is likely postponed alongside all fall and spring sports practices and lifts. In other words, when one resumes, it seems that they all will. Nevertheless, the intention for winter sports remains the same and, assuming students remain on campus, winter sport athletes will practice until the end of the fall semester, Nov. 15 as final exams for 10-week courses will be occurring from Nov. 16 to 20.

Following this, winter student-athletes

are expected to return to campus in early January for quarantine, testing, and a return to athletics.

While this remains the goal, the Athletic Department is still trying to determine what other things need to be done in order for students to safely return to campus and resume practice.

At the end of his email, Galbraith told winter athletes that they will have an update by the end of October regarding the structure of the winter season, so stay tuned with the *Tripod* to keep up to date!

The Athletes of Color Coalition Pushes for Visibility

ANNA BAUER '23
SPORTS EDITOR

Two weeks ago, the *Tri-pod* spoke with the founders of the Athletes of Color Coalition (ACC) to see what strides have been made towards creating a sense of community for student-athletes of color on campus.

In 2019, the Athletes of Color Coalition was brought to Trinity by Dakota Foster '21, Charles Barsella '21, Kinnard Hughes '22, Hareena Johnson '22, and Peace Kabari '20. When these student-athletes began to see that Trinity did not have the same support or resources for their athletes of color as other NESCAC schools did, they took matters into their own hands and founded the ACC.

The Athletes of Color Coalition is an alliance intended to create a safe and diverse environment for student-athletes of color at Trinity. Essentially, the ACC wants athletes of color to be heard in the Trinity community. Everyone has a voice, but not everyone can so easily use it nor is everyone so easily heard: the ACC creates

an environment with a support system, encourages that voice to be used, and provides a way for it to definitely be heard.

To get a better understanding of the importance of the ACC, Hareena Johnson '22, a member of Trinity's varsity volleyball team told the *Tri-pod*, "as the only Black woman on my team, ACC is really important for me because it gives me a safe space to talk amongst those who share similar experiences and challenges as me."

Johnson wants to "ensure that student-athletes of color who come after [her] have a space where they can build a community around people that share similar interests and backgrounds."

Foster and other members of the ACC believe that the most important focus for them right now is to have more of a presence on campus. It is a step-by-step process, but essentially the ACC intends to use the platform they have created, where student-athletes of color can voice their opinion, to then collaborate with other organi-

zations on campus and open up the conversation, thus bridging the gap between students of color and student-athletes of color. Moreover, Makayla Boucher '23 spoke on just how key these Community Conversations are as they unite students of color and student-athletes of color and form a safe space to "talk about common misconceptions and the overall campus climate."

Members from the ACC tell just how valuable a resource the athletic department has been as "Drew Galbraith, Athletic Director, and Kristen Noone, Associate Athletic Director, are fully engaged in [their] meetings; listening to [their] ideas and making efforts to push [their] initiatives forward to make the athletic department a more diverse environment." A great priority for the ACC is ensuring that the community is growing: that more student-athletes and coaches of color are being brought into the Trinity community. Highlighting the benefits of having a coach an athlete can identify with, Foster talks about his own position coach, Denver Williams, as a "tremendous resource"

who has been able to develop strong relationships, not just with Foster, but with others as well.

Covid-19 has made doing almost everything infinitely more difficult, and the same goes for the ACC and making their presence on campus greater. Because of the pandemic, Foster and other members of the ACC recognize that actively engaging with the community is significantly more of a struggle, however, they

have a positive mindset as they told the *Tri-pod*, "Right now, it is about being creative and making sure we stay true to our mission."

The Athletes of Color Coalition has formed a safe space where voices can be heard. If you'd like to connect with them, check out the Bantam Sports page about the ACC, email them directly at Trinity-Athletes-Color@trincoll.edu, or follow them on Instagram @trinitycollegeacc.



BANTAMSPORTS

Members of the Athletes of Color Coalition provide an outlet for student athletes at Trinity.

Strength and Conditioning Program in the Works

BAILEY MCKEON '22
FEATURES EDITOR

Head Strength and Conditioning Coach Bill DeLongis describes himself as a "barbell based human." DeLongis' reality was shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially since access to barbells began to diminish with the emergence of this virus. Dedicated to his athletes and to the progression toward perfecting the athletic functioning of the human body, DeLongis, with the help of his colleagues, delivered his first five-week, all-team inclusive, COVID-19 restriction-based workout program to Trinity athletes preparing for whatever shape their sports take this year.

"This program is more like slow cooking," DeLongis said. "Right now, I'm preparing every team to be ready for practice. I'm not

worried about any games or even a season because no season, for any sport, has been announced yet. We are taking our time a little bit more with the progressions."

The slower progressions of the program are also attributed to the importance of prioritizing health and safety as we continue to experience the effects of the pandemic, "this year there are a lot more things I have to juggle to make sure the student athletes are safe during their workouts." In past years, DeLongis has worked with the athletic trainers to design return-to-play programs for injured athletes. This year, however, DeLongis has been challenged to design a workout program, universal to all athletes, that accounts for the return-to-play for student athletes who have had COVID-19,

been in quarantine, and/or have faced limited access to weight rooms since last March.

The workouts of the program, which intend to carry athletes from Sept. 14 to Oct. 17, take place primarily outside in order to better comply with COVID-19 regulations. As a result, the workouts are more bodyweight-based or require minimal equipment, and DeLongis stated that he has "never done so much without a barbell... I've realized just how much we can get done with bodyweight alone."

Additionally, students attend the workouts alongside athletes from various other teams on campus rather than their direct teammates, and DeLongis found this to be a very refreshing sight, "I've never before seen the athletes interact with other teams the way they have been this semester... It's been special

to see more friendships be created via the weight room or workout space."

When creating the program, DeLongis focused primarily on designing challenging workouts that would surprise student athletes with how much they are capable of achieving despite the restrictions they face this school year. "I wanted the kids to say 'Wow, I can't believe we are getting to do this much while the restrictions are so tough.'" The program is currently suspended because of Trinity's recent transition to code yellow and, now, code orange.

Despite this, DeLongis has celebrated a very successful start to the semester as strength and conditioning training has been taking place consistently when the campus has been able to foster a safe environment for organized workouts. DeLongis credits his successes this semes-

ter to his amazing staff: "by far this is the best staff I've ever had... They make it so much more enjoyable and easier to navigate because I trust them to get things done and they take the initiative on their own. They bring an unbelievable amount of energy despite the very grueling schedule that we have right now."

Each member of DeLongis' team is coaching nine one-hour sessions every day. "Although those nine hours are much more taxing than ever before, my staff is absolutely dominating... Without them, none of this would have been possible," said DeLongis.

The department hopes to begin conducting his new programs as planned on Oct. 19, but is prepared to re-adjust and "do a little improv as we go" if the campus remains in code orange.