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University of Missouri-St. Louis

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UMSL'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWS

Students from Western Cape Visit UMSL, Discuss Tuition Increases in South Africa with SGA Senators

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR

A GROUP of students from the University of the Western Cape in South Africa visited the University of Missouri–St. Louis campus for four days last week to tour the university and discuss the increasing cost of attending universities in South Africa. Student protests ensued at Johannesburg and other universities last fall after the government proposed a nearly 8 percent tuition increase.

Some of the students who visited UMSL are representatives within their local Student Representative Council (SRC). Those students had lunch with six members of the Student Government Association (SGA) at a Student Leader Luncheon in Century Room B on Wednesday.

"It is all part of the student-student program to have student leaders interact and discuss the role of the SGA on college campuses," explained Dr. Jerol Enoch, International Program Coordinator in the Office of International Studies and Programs at UMSL.

The students from Western Cape and the UMSL SGA representatives discussed current issues on their respective campuses during



Students from the University of the Western Cape and SGA representatives and senators from UMSL gather for a luncheon.

the luncheon.

"You see, we have students who cannot afford to study currently as we are sitting here," Sibulelo Ganda, Secretary General for the SRC, explained to a few members of SGA during lunch. He referenced the tuition fees that have put many students in debt in South Africa and said that many students there do not even have places to live.

According to BBC News, student

protests erupted last September in South Africa after the government proposed a tuition fee increase of up to 8 percent for 2017. Students began calling for free education following this proposal. Government subsidies, student fees, and private sources are universities' three main sources of income in South Africa.

In fall 2015, student protests ensued after tuition fee increases between 10 and 12 percent were

proposed. A #FeesMustFall protest was started by students in response to the proposal. President Jacob Zuma later announced in October 2015 that fees would not increase in 2016, according to the Washington Post.

The SGA representatives also spoke with the Western Cape visitors about some of the current issues that are specific to UMSL. SGA President Kathryn Loucks,

senior, biology, and SGA senator Joey Dordoni, freshman, anthropology, discussed the problem of space constraints for student groups and organizations at UMSL.

"I think the biggest thing we hear right now is that we don't have designated student spaces for different identities for students," said Loucks. She proceeded to talk about the need for safe spaces on campus where students can feel comfortable expressing their points of view. "We really need to find a solution to where we can give students a space where they feel safe," she said.

"And it's difficult because once you start making spaces for one identity or an organization then you have to start doing that for all of them," she continued.

Loucks and Dordoni also discussed the difficulty of increasing SGA's visibility on UMSL's campus due to the primarily commuter student body.

"Sort of an issue that we have—and it sounds like you guys on your campus and your student government really has a place and a lot of people paying attention to it—our student government here has less of that. I've talked to students before that didn't even know we had a

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ISI Provides Friendship and Food for International Students

LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR

NEW ENVIRONMENTS, new languages, new foods, new cultures, and new customs compound the already stressful transition from high school into college for international students. However, through International Students Incorporated (ISI), international students at the University of Missouri–St. Louis can meet, chat, and form a community with other international students and local St. Louisans over the manna of many college students' existence: free food.

ISI held one of its free lunches in the Fireside Lounge of the Millennium Student Center (MSC) on January 25. The group works under the umbrella of the Catholic Newman Center on campus, according to Mort Whitman, the Campus Minister for ISI. The organization partners with local churches in order to connect international students at

UMSL, Maryville University, Lindenwood University, Washington University, and St. Louis University with food and community. "We basically are what they call a Christian service organization," Whitman said. "We are here to serve international students and help them out."

The First Baptist Church of Ferguson supplied the money for the free Subway sandwiches in the Fireside Lounge on Wednesday, but other local churches have paid for the food or supplied it themselves in the past depending on the location of the event. Patryk Golinski, freshman, computer science, and UMSL swimmer from Poland, said that he tries to attend all of the free lunches. "It's very nice because there is a lot of people from other countries," he said. "You can talk about just anything. ... There is a very nice community here."

"It's an opportunity where they can communicate with each other and so on, but then also if they

have to rush, if they have to go to class and stuff like that, it's something that they are able to grab so that they don't miss lunch," said Whitman.

Though ISI supplies students with food, they also offer other services to international students, including trips around the city, conferences, and Bible study for interested students. Through their program Professional Partners, ISI also matches students with local St. Louisans who work in their fields of study. "We match them and they get invited into the person's business place to see how [they do] things, dealing with business ethics and so on, which you don't normally get elsewhere," Whitman said.

Whitman also serves as a mentor to several of the students, guiding them in areas as diverse as helping students choose their majors, find living arrangements, and navigate through more dire circumstances as well. "I am a trained hospital



Pastor Mark Cote, UMSL student Patryk Golinski, and ISI Campus Minister Mort Whitman.

chaplain, and I went through my CPE [Clinical Pastoral Education] here in St. Louis. I'm trained in interventions, too. I come as a package. And it's very important. Students can go through terrible

problems," Whitman said. "When crises come in a student's life who is far away from home [and] has no family here, it is devastating."

Whitman cited several instances

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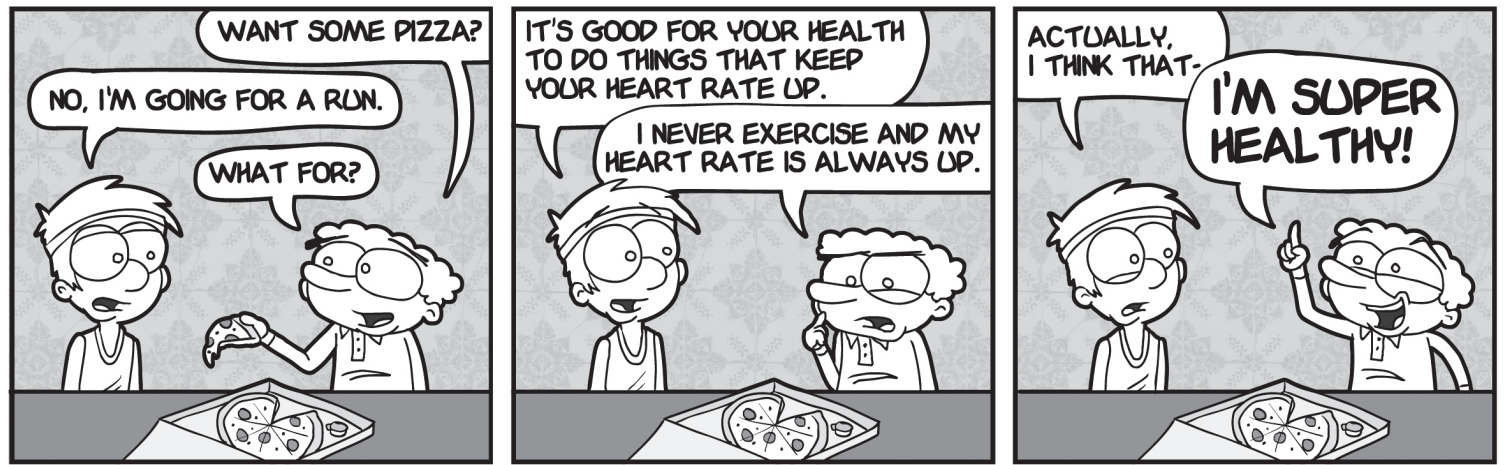
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ON THE QUAD BY MIKE DILBERTO

Wednesday
FEB. 1
 11am-1pm

GRAND OPENING OF WHOLE-U

Whole-U is an space in the MSC that allows you to incorporate all aspects of wellness in your life from physical to mental to financial.
 2nd Floor MSC (Next to the TritonStore)

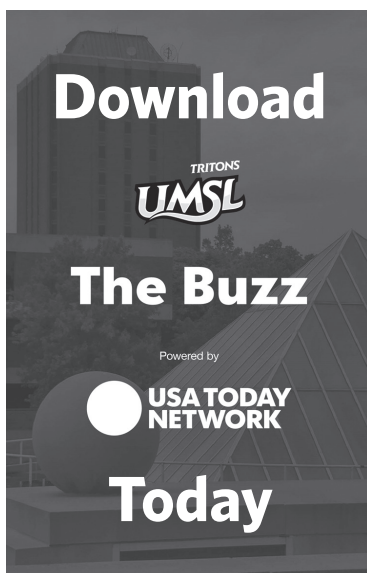
Math Problem of the Week



Yesterday, at a hot dog stand, 100 people bought a single hot dog. Among these 100 people, 80 added mustard, 85 added ketchup, 80 added relish, and 90 added onions. What is the least number of hot dogs which had all four toppings? Email your solutions to covertdj@umsl.edu.

CONTACT US

388 MSC, 1 University Blvd
 St. Louis, MO 63121-4400
thecurrent@umsl.edu
thecurrent-online.com
 Newsroom
 314-516-5174
thecurrenttips@umsl.edu
 Business/Advertising
 314-516-5316
thecurrentads@umsl.edu
 Fax
 314-516-6811
 Editor-in-Chief
thecurrenteic@umsl.edu
 Internships and Volunteer Positions
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NEWS BRIEFS

Beware of OneClass Chrome Extension

ON DECEMBER 14, information security officer Mark Monroe sent a mass email to the student body regarding the OneClass extension, a malware that steals its victims' passwords and attempts to send messages through MyGateway, tempting others to download the malware. A warning on the MyGateway site reads, "Do not install the OneClass extension in Chrome. A phishing attack is asking students to install it. Installing this plugin may result in identity theft for you and your classmates." It is advised that any students who erroneously downloaded the extension immediately uninstall the software and reset their SSO ID passwords.

Digital Signage Dimensions Change

AS OF January 11, the Campus Life digital signage image size has changed to 1340 pixels x 754 pixels in the Millennium Student Center (MSC), Oak Hall, Provincial House, and the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC). Templates in the new size are available for Microsoft Publisher, Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and Adobe InDesign. For those who have already submitted signage to run at the previous size, 1551 pixels x 990 pixels, the Office of Campus Life will continue to run those signs as is, but all future submissions must match the new size. Visit umsl.edu/DigitalSignage for more information.



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Western Cape Students Visit UMSL



Students from Western Cape and SGA members discussed relevant issues on their respective campuses on Wednesday.

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student government,” Dordoni said. “You guys have light problems,” said Nolukholo Mabharwana, Deputy President of the SRC. “[At our university], we have problems ... very big problems.”

The UMSL students and the visitors, however, also found some similarities in the issues they face on their campuses and how those issues are handled. One commonality they discovered was that of the progress towards LGBT rights at their universities.

“One of the similar problems which I think we are kind of progressing in ... it’s the issue of LGBT [rights] ... As much as it’s a society where I can say there’s still that stigma ... I will say it is progressing when it comes to such issues and

you can be who you want to be. On campus they will do their marches. ... They can come to [the] student center and get the attention of all [the] students there and talk about their issues,” said Ganda.

The University of the Western Cape is a public university located in the Republic of South Africa. Total enrollment for the university was 20,583 in 2014.

According to the university’s website, “The Student Representative Council (SRC) is the highest decision-making structure of student governance. ... It represents and advocates for rights of all students at UWC, and their overall interest and social well-being, on University committees. It is highly involved in policy-making and co-operative decision-making at UWC.”

The SRC is made up of 11 student members who are elected annually by the student body, according to the website. The council’s activities include academic development, exclusions, services, entertainment, and transformation.

In addition to the luncheon on Wednesday, the students from Western Cape visited various spots on campus, attended presentations pertaining to local issues in St. Louis, and toured several attractions around the city, including Ferguson City Hall, the Gateway Arch, the Basilica, and Forest Park.

After leaving St. Louis, the students traveled to the University of Missouri-Columbia and will then visit the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

CAMPUS CRIME REPORT

LORI DRESNER
NEWS EDITOR



THE FOLLOWING is a series of daily crime and incident reports issued by the University of Missouri-St. Louis Police Department between January 20 and January 26.

January 20: At 11:18 a.m. an UMSL student turned in a wallet found at the Metrolink North Station to UMSL PD. Later that day, UMSL PD verified a sex offender registration.

January 21: At 12:01 a.m. a single-vehicle crash occurred on Natural Bridge Road at West Drive. There were no injuries; a tree was uprooted during the crash.

January 22: No incidents were reported on this date.

January 23: At 12:33 a.m. UMSL PD and Residential Life responded to a drug violation at Oak Hall involving an odor of marijuana.

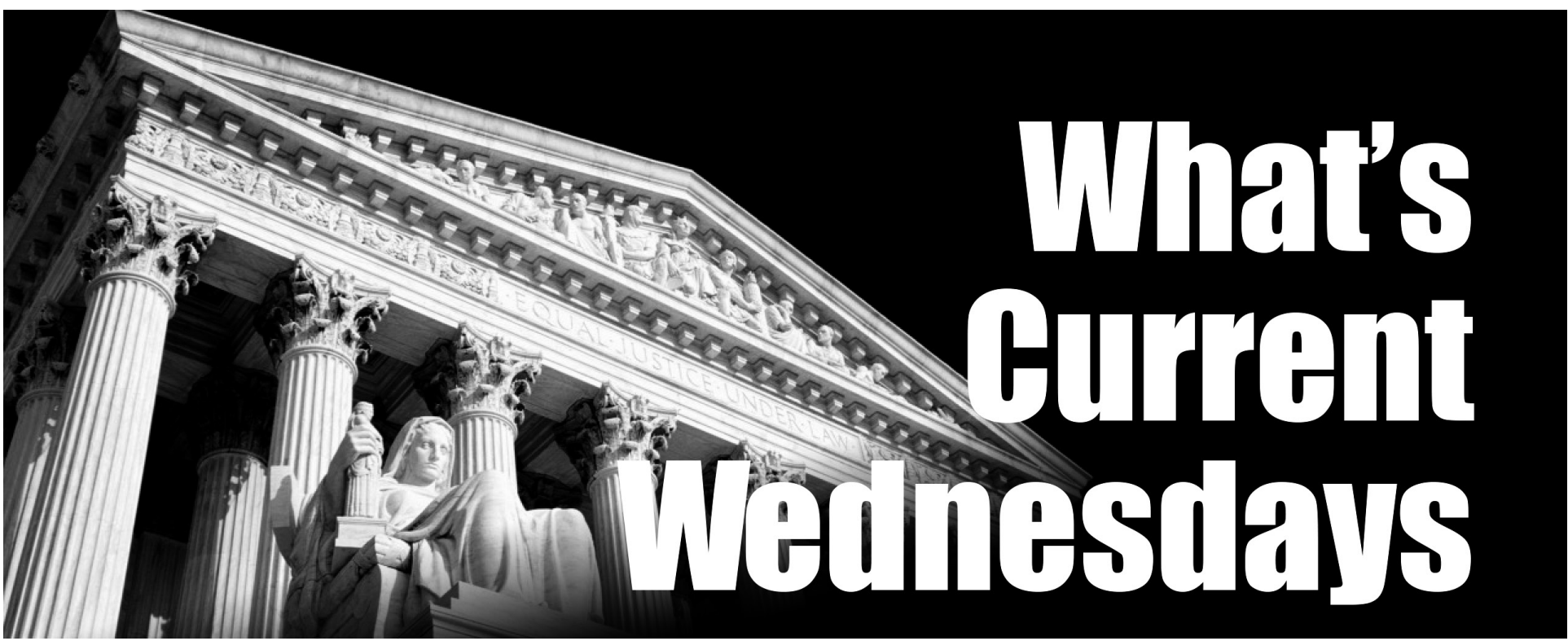
January 24: No incidents were reported on this date.

January 25: At 8:30 a.m. a driver’s license found at Mansion Hill Apartments was turned in to UMSL PD for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 12:30 p.m. an UMSL student reported that their car parked

in the Millennium South Parking Garage had been struck and damaged. At 5:07 p.m. UMSL PD assisted the Des Peres Police Department in locating a student at the Social Sciences & Business Building (SSB). At 7:22 p.m. an UMSL student was transported from Clark Hall to the hospital after falling earlier in the day.

January 26: At 12:11 a.m. a credit card found in SSB was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping. At 8 a.m. an UMSL staff member at the Science Learning Building reported injuring their arm; the staff member sought personal medical attention. At 11:56 a.m. a checkbook found at the Mark Twain Athletic & Fitness Center was turned in to UMSL PD and held for safekeeping; the owner was notified. At 10:50 a.m. an UMSL student reported that their car parked in the West Drive Garage had been struck and damaged. At 4 p.m. a phone lost in the Recreation and Wellness Center was reported to UMSL PD; the phone was found before the report had been completed.

Campus Police:
(314) 516-5155



Peril or Promise: Will the Trump Presidency Transform the Supreme Court?

Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2:00 PM
MSC Century Room C

Join The Current and discussion leader Barbara Graham, Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science, for a lively, student-centered discussion. During the 2016 presidential campaign, both Clinton and Trump promised to appoint Justices to the Supreme Court who would carry out their ideological agendas. With his presidency, will President Trump be able to nominate Justices who will shift the Court? Will it affect controversial issues such as abortion, a Muslim ban or registry, limitations on immigration, LGBTQ rights, voting rights, the use of torture or increased government surveillance? In this session, we will discuss a variety of important factors that help us understand to what extent a sitting President can transform the Supreme Court.

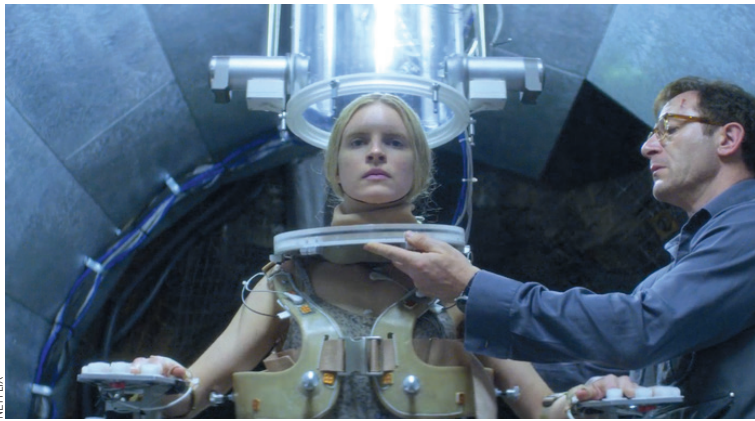
Science Fiction and New-Age Trauma Therapy: "The OA"

LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR

PART SCIENCE fiction drawing from new-age trauma therapy and part mystery/thriller, "The OA" debuted on Netflix on December 16 to generally high reviews. Zal Batmanglij and Brit Marling created the eight-episode-long show, which currently has received eight out of 10 stars on the International Movie Database (IMDB) and about four and a half out of five stars on Netflix.

Both review websites call it "weird," and with good reason. "The OA" follows the story of Prairie Johnson (Brit Marling), a young, blind woman who reappears after having disappeared seven years earlier. During the time that she was gone, she not only regained her sight but also acquired mysterious scars and refers to herself as "the OA." Her adopted parents (Scott Wilson and Alice Krige) refuse to institutionalize her in a psychiatric ward, though they are torn about whether or not to medicate her when she begins to have terrifying dreams and sneak out of the house. Though the show starts off without many science fiction elements, as the OA tells her story to a group of local misfits, viewers learn about her capture and imprisonment by Hap (Jason Isaacs), a scientist studying near-death experiences, or NDE's. Prairie and the other captives work through the trauma of their NDE's and their imprisonment with a series of movements which they receive from "the other side" in order to gain access to another dimension and process some of their traumatic experiences.

Some of the characters are a bit predictable, following well-tread stereotypes: the mad scientist; the hysterical mother who has done something she is ashamed of; the violent bully with a good heart (Patrick Gibson); the smart and hardworking kid who overcame adversity and earned a college scholarship (Brandon Perea); and the quiet weed-smoking kid who just needs to cope with the death and absence of his parents (Brendan Meyer). Some of the characters are a little less predictable and surprising, notably the uptight teacher who comes around



Brit Marling and Jason Issacs star in Netflix's "The OA."

earlier and therefore has more time to develop as a character struggling with her own loss (Phyllis Smith). The representation of a transgender teenager (Ian Alexander) also adds some much needed variety.

Fundamentally, the story deals with trauma, the importance of being able to tell one's story and create a coherent narrative of one's experiences in trauma recovery (and by extension, the importance of being believed), and the recent attention to bodily movement in trauma recovery. However, the travel between dimensions, the absurd movements, and the fact that "the OA" turns out to be an acronym for the "original angel" make the story feel contrived and more than a little ridiculous at times.

The show feels so ridiculous and removed from viewers in part due to the fact that many viewers may not have enough background knowledge about some of the recent work in trauma therapy from which the show is drawing. Movements such as somatic experiencing move away from the traditional psychotherapy and talk therapy with which most viewers will be familiar. Dr. Peter Levine pioneered some of the work in this area in his 1997 book "Waking The Tiger," in which he explores the role of the body in trauma and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and the role of bodily movement in releasing and healing trauma. In "The OA," the emphasis on the strange bodily movements and moving back and forth between dimensions, reflects this recent turn in trauma therapy. However, since this is a developing field in psychology,

laymen viewers may not know about some of this work, making the show somewhat inaccessible.

Additionally, the show demonstrates some conflicting views on disability. Hap trusts Prairie more than the other captives because she is blind and this grants her some power, which troubles some of the existing narratives of blindness as an inherent lack of power. However, Prairie is portrayed as better and more powerful when she regains her vision, further perpetuating the idea that blindness is inherently a negative thing, instead of seeing it as a variation in human form and functioning. The questions about whether or not Prairie should be institutionalized or medicated further highlight some problematic socially constructed views about mental disabilities and the value of—and stigma around—things like medication. However, the show challenges some of the stereotypes around PTSD specifically, since the traumatized characters in the show commit the least violence.

Overall, "The OA" was not a complete swing-and-a-miss. It was entertaining enough for me to finish the show, though I was not so engrossed that I found myself rushing back to my computer either. It also seemed to tailor itself to an audience with more specific background knowledge, which I think could have alienated some viewers. While it challenged some stereotypes and problematic social views on physical and mental disabilities, it also engaged in some of those same stereotypes as well.

Cuties, Marijuana, and Superheroes: Nothing Off Limits for Hip-Hop Artist Kyle



Kyle the rapper meditates. Kyle's fame has ballooned since his latest album drop.

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

LAST YEAR was another spectacular year for hip-hop. Early in the year, we were treated to Kanye West's seventh studio album, "Life of Pablo;" Drake released his fourth studio album, "Views;" and Chance the Rapper blessed us with his third mixtape, "Coloring Book." With so

as many likes as the unattainable girls who get millions. From there, breakout artist of 2016 Lil Yachty adds his own perspective to the track, rapping about going from a nobody to gaining popularity after releasing hit songs.

After discovering Kyle, I decided to go back and enjoy his 2015 project, "Smyle," which features another breakout artist of 2016, Chance the

Kyle's particular musical style reminds me of Childish Gambino, Chance the Rapper, and Kid Cudi—meaning that Kyle is just as comfortable rapping as he is singing.

many big names putting out projects, it was hard to keep up with new and upcoming artists. I would be lying if I told you I wasn't upset that the Ventura, California native named Kyle escaped my radar.

My first exposure to Kyle came from his single "I Spy," featuring Lil Yachty. In "I Spy," released last December, Kyle and Lil Yachty sing about spotting cuties online.

The beginning of the song features Kyle and Lil Yachty talking about how haters have affected their personal lives. Lil Yachty gives Kyle advice, telling him that instead of focusing on the haters, he is supposed to focus on the beautiful things in life. Kyle has the first verse; he talks about smoking marijuana, infrequently responding to texts, and even the track itself, which he says won't make the cut for his next album. In the chorus, Kyle sings, "I spy with my little eye, a girlie I can get 'cause she don't get too many likes, a curly headed cutie I can turn into my wife, wait, that means forever, ever, hold up, never mind," which roughly translates to Kyle searching for girls on Instagram who don't get

Rapper, on the track "Remember Me." In the song, Kyle talks about people who were never there for him and how his newfound fame is bringing them back around. On the hook, Chance sings, "I said, you gon' remember me, you say, what's your name again? Finally don't call and it's alright, I'll re-jog your memory." Among other tracks I enjoyed were "SuperDuperHero" and "Don't Wanna Fall in Love."

Kyle's particular musical style does remind me of Childish Gambino, Chance the Rapper, and Kid Cudi—meaning that Kyle is just as comfortable rapping as he is singing. I was able to find "I Spy," "Smyle," and one other album from 2013, "Beautiful Loser," to catch up on the future hip-hop superstar on Spotify. The songs on Kyle's album offer enough diversity so as not to have listeners thinking that he is just the weed and party rapper he may portray himself as on "I Spy." When it comes down to it, I believe Kyle can appeal to many different listeners in the hip-hop community and have them coming back for more.

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Politics, Promises, and Protests: Women's March on St. Louis



Women and allies hold signs of protest at the Women's March on St. Louis last Saturday.

LEAH JONES
FEATURES EDITOR

THE DAY after Donald Trump addressed a crowd of disputed size at his inauguration on January 20 saying that, "You [the American people] will never be ignored again," millions of women around the world, including in St. Louis, tested this declaration by taking to the streets to send "a bold message of resistance and determination" to the incoming administration, according to the website of the Women's March on St. Louis.

Alison Dreith, Executive Director of NARAL Pro-Choice Missouri and University of Missouri–St. Louis political science alumna, attended the march in St. Louis. "Trump's words in his inaugural speech mean nothing, as we can see by his continued tweets, actions, and cabinet appointments. He has promised to punish women, immigrants, and Muslims. If he wants to transfer power back to the American people,

with diverse religious beliefs, the LGBTQIA+ community, and those with disabilities. According to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, police estimated that around 13,000 people marched in St. Louis on Saturday, though organizers claimed that that number was closer to 20,000. Marchers carried signs and chanted slogans as they progressed east down Market Street from Union Station to Luther Ely Smith Square under the Arch. After the largely peaceful march, participants attended a rally and an action fair.

Kat Wheeling, senior, communications and media studies, also attended the St. Louis march. She said that she did not attend the march to oppose Trump though. "I'm a concerned citizen because I care about the well-being of my fellow citizens, in particular those less fortunate who are facing financial hardships or critical healthcare concerns," said Wheeling, who cited the cutting of federal programs and the resulting diminished social safety nets, her

local writer and educator, Marshata Caradine-Randall; Missouri State Senator, Maria Chappelle-Nadal; U.S. Senator, Claire McCaskill; assistant professor of philosophy at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, Saba Fatima; neurologist and current member of Interfaith Partnership/Faith Beyond Walls, Dr. Ghazala Hayat; lesbian rights and feminist activist, Margaret Flowing Johnson; 8th grade activist, Lauryn; Planned Parenthood representative and member of the Teen Advocates for Sexual Health program, Macy; board member of Forward Through Ferguson and Creative Reaction Lab, De Andrea Nichols; poet and doctoral student researching global feminisms in communities of color, Treasure Shields Redmond; Ferguson activist and Rabbi of the Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis, Susan Talve, and others.

The march faced some concerns about the inclusivity of the event, despite the array of voices at the rally. Many of the speakers addressed this in their speeches. "There are deep divides between white women and other women, the rest of us, in this country," said Nichols. "Time and time again our livelihoods and our well-beings have been placed in the hands of your complicity and to white supremacy [and] patriarchy."

Mya Petty, a young local poet and activist, read her poem citing the wage gap between white men, white women, and African American women, saying that she was angry that while white women make 77 cents for every dollar that a white man makes, African American women only make 64 cents. The Pew Research Center found these numbers to be slightly different based on data from 2016, with white women making 72 cents for every dollar that a white man makes, and African American women making 65 cents. The point, however, was not lost and remained a salient statistic for the crowd.

Nichols called for "radical listening," and asked for white women and allies to use their privilege to aid other groups who feel threatened

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ISI Provides For International Students



The International Student Inc. (ISI) logo.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
in which international students dealt with crises, including a story in which a man was killed by a drunk driver, leaving his family without his support. ISI helped the family. "It's very multifaceted in that way. We try to provide as much intervention as possible," Whitman said.

ISI also provides counseling services for international students, but Whitman hopes that the university will do more for students. Though UMSL provides international students with services through the International House on campus, Whitman says that it works more specifically with students who are engaged in leadership training activities, and he would like to see a more general space for international students. Whitman lamented the loss of the International House at Washington University as well, and said of the Fireside Lounge, "I kind of consider this is like the campus living room. It's just like somebody's home, and to offer that to them, it would be a great thing if we just had a place where students could go [and] use their own language, ... to be able to be able to just chat in their own tongue, that would be a great thing," he said.

ISI started on UMSL's campus in 2009, but the organization formed in 1953 after the Korean War. Whitman said that at that time there were more than 37,000 international students living in the United States, and that number has since grown to over a million, with 8,000 living in St. Louis alone. ISI needed

to overcome some hurdles to serve food on UMSL's campus though. The campus food contract with Sodexo prohibits people from bringing food onto UMSL's campus, even for community events such as this one, but Whitman said that he came up with an arrangement with Sodexo to use the Subway in the Nosh, since they are on the campus.

"I got to be friends with the people who run the Subway here. They're from Afghanistan. ... We've built a very good relationship with them ... and [we have] a good relationship with Sodexo because we try to be cooperative," Whitman said.

Since the English Language School at which ISI holds its other lunches is not a part of UMSL's campus, local churches often bring other food to those events.

Though many of the students who flocked to the free subway sandwiches in the Fireside Lounge on Wednesday had to leave for athletic practices and classes, most of them dropped by to thank Whitman as they left, shaking his hand and often sharing a hug. Though Whitman hopes for more for International Students on UMSL's campus, students expressed gratitude for the services that ISI can offer. "Everyone is so welcome here," said Golinski. "And of course there is free food; athletes are always hungry."

ISI will hold their next free lunch for international students at the English Language School behind UMSL's Music Building on February 9.

"It is the work of white women and men to put our bodies on the line and show up for communities of color moving forward if we ever want to dismantle racism."

he would not be appointing millionaires and billionaires to his cabinet," she said. "America is not the bleak picture he paints. This country is already great, and the resistance to his presidency will continue to show him that."

DefendHERS LLC, a non-partisan grassroots social justice organization, hosted the march in St. Louis. Lead organizer and co-founder of the organization, Valerie Brinkman, and other local activists organized the local march to coincide with the Women's March on Washington to call the incoming administration's attention to the rights of marginalized groups, including, but not limited to, women, African Americans, Native Americans, those

opposition to the repeal of the Affordable Care Act, the wage gap between men and women, the threat of a Muslim registry, and her concern that the marriages of LGBTQIA+ individuals could be nullified as some of her reasons for attending.

She added, "I marched because I have grown weary of friends and family saying 'get over it' in reference to the outcome of the presidential election. I will not get over it! Now is the time to send a message to the new administration: We are watching and taking action. I truly hope the new administration proves me wrong."

Speakers maintained the march's momentum at a rally near the base of the Arch. The speakers included



Protestors wave signs advocating for intergroup support at Luther Ely Smith Square.

LEAH JONES / THE CURRENT

ISONLINE.ORG

LEAH JONES / THE CURRENT

The Attendance Problem: The Missing UMSL Sports Fan

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri—St. Louis has many qualities to be proud of. In the fall of 2015, the Recreation and Wellness Center (RWC) opened its doors, adding approximately 100,000 square feet of space for open recreation, intramural sports, and wellness education. The Princeton Review ranks UMSL's business program in the top 3 percent of business schools in the nation. U.S. News and World Report has continued to rank UMSL's international business program among America's top 20 for the past 14 years. But the highlight of any college campus is its sports teams. In the fall of 2016, the men's soccer team ranked sixth in the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) and the women's soccer team ranked third—both accolades not easily achieved in a competitive division.

Across the country, collegiate athletics are seeing a decline in attendance. Even Division 1 NCAA schools are also seeing a hit in home game attendance. According to an article published by Jon Solomon of CBS Sports in 2015, home attendance at major college football games declined for the fifth consecutive year. Among the top 25 leaders in attendance, the biggest percentage declines came from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) (13%); Florida State (11%); Louisiana State University (LSU) (8%); and Iowa State (6%).

These larger universities, however, have issues different from those at UMSL. Iowa's issues rose that year from their team's disappointing performance compared to previous years. Flooding caused many LSU fans to purchase fewer tickets during the season.

But what is wrong with UMSL's attendance? Jim Brady, UMSL's head baseball coach, may hold the answer.

His office is decorated in photos of past and current teams. In the center is a photo celebrating the team's 800th win this past 2016 spring season. Outside the huge window in his office, you can clearly see the tennis courts, Express Scripts Hall, and Highway 70.

"The [baseball] field used to be out here. It's hard to imagine, but Express Scripts wasn't here. We had great teams here. My 2003 team was the first team to win the GLVC conference from UMSL. There wasn't enough room for people to sit. It was so full and our stands were limited to 100 people who could sit. And we had over 1,000 people here," Brady said.

Coach Brady, who enters his 32nd year as head baseball coach in the 2016–2017 season, has a few critiques of the university as a whole and is not afraid to let the university know it.

"They had meetings. They've spent money. When they changed the name from Rivermen to Triton. The name Triton sucks. Okay? It sucks. You know what a Triton is? It's a merman," Brady states.

"For the amount of money that they spent, \$10 to \$20 thousand, they could've come to me for \$20 and I would've gave them the perfect name, 'The Admirals.'"

The Tritons beat out several other possibilities, including the Red



A crowd cheers at an UMSL basketball game last year. Attendance at UMSL sporting events has been less than expected.

Thunder, the Archers, the Aviators, and the Mudcats.

Not finished with his critique, Brady addresses the university as a whole and what issues lie with the way the university has addressed itself since its creation.

"A blind man can see it," Brady said. "In the 1960s when this place was built, what label did it get? A commuter campus. That was the label they gave it."

Missouri State University in Springfield went from being a Division II to a Division I institution. They were not a commuter school, but they were a Division II school, much like UMSL's athletic programs today.

"Why did that happen so quickly?" Brady asked, referring to the change in divisions.

"All [of] their student body during that time ... had intermural, clubs, [and] activities on campus that kids could get involved with. So when it was time to give to the alumni program, the money [came] flowing in. Now, they're right there, almost eye to eye with the University of Missouri [St. Louis] because their alumni had a great experience."

As a commuter campus, UMSL has students who go to class and then go home. It can be difficult for some commuter students to find love or pride in their campus, let alone attend a sporting event. When it does come time to give back to the university as an alumnus, some alumni may be hesitant in their donations. "We built the foundation, but now we have to build the front porch and walls of the house," Brady said.

Brady believes those walls could be built with the help of potential students from Illinois. Right now, 22 counties in the state of Illinois do not have to pay UMSL's out-of-state tuition rate and instead pay in-state tuition.

The Associated Press counted at least 50 public colleges and universities nationwide that have lowered nonresident tuition by more than 10 percent in recent years without making similar reductions for

in-state students.

Brady believes that 22 counties isn't enough. "We need to expand that to all of Illinois, and especially Chicago," Brady said.

Illinois currently has 102 counties. Whether such an expansion can actually take place will be up to UMSL administration. But say it did happen. How do we do it? How do we convince the first-time college student in the Windy City to come down to St. Louis?

"You go in there and let them

What is a Triton?

A Triton is a mythological sea god with the head and torso of a man and a fish tail instead of legs. Triton is also the seventh moon of Neptune and a tropical mollusk, a colorful semi-aquatic salamander and the nucleus of a Tritium atom. A university committee was formed to study possible new mascots and came up with the Tritons in early 2007.

know of our programs. Our business school takes a back seat to nobody in the Midwest—number four in international business, number 17 of all of them." Brady said, highlighting UMSL's business program as an example.

Generating new out-of-state students will call for new student housing. Brady calls for 4,000 beds—beds that will be occupied by UMSL's new population once UMSL accumulates the new students from Illinois.

"No more status quo! This institution needs a commitment to bona fide student housing that brings in another 4,000 to 5,000 beds on this campus. It is imperative in keeping this window open, so that it allows us to move from the retro 50s and 60s mentality to actual modern day millennial progress. Today's college bound millennial must have the entire university experience in order to be a 'whole and complete' person," Brady said.

Coach Brady doesn't care who it offends, because he feels it needed to be said, in regards to the Tritons name, and the "commuter" campus label. But, he sings the praises of the current administration, from athletics to involvement to admissions.

"Alan Byrd in admissions, Curt Coonrod in Student Affairs, Yolanda

Weathersby in the Welcome Center, as well as the steady leadership and yeoman work of Lori Flanagan and her staff in Athletics. The efforts by these individuals is exemplary, and because of our academic excellence remaining in place, we are now at the 'perfect' moment in this university's history to break through and truly prosper in this critical

window of opportunity. [The] truth is, this window will close abruptly, if we continue to follow the same path and remain [in the] status quo," Brady said.

As Current Dean of Enrollment Services, Alan Byrd attends as many athletic events as his schedule will allow.

"Unfortunately, that is not many these days. I regularly attend home basketball games, and I usually make it to one baseball and one softball game a year," Byrd said. So when Byrd is able to catch a basketball or softball game, he is somewhat disappointed at the relatively small turn out at games.

"We have great student athletes at UMSL and some very competitive teams. We simply need to figure out how to make attending athletic events part of the culture for UMSL students, faculty, and staff," Byrd said.

As Dean of Enrollment Services, the native St. Louisan is responsible for providing leadership, direction, and planning for all undergraduate recruitment initiatives at the university. Being the go-to guy in recruitment at UMSL, Byrd is also not a fan of the commuter label.

"It would definitely help our recruitment efforts if UMSL was not perceived to be a commuter school. Most prospective students choose a

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Triton basketball stumbles against Rockhurst

LANCE JORDAN
SPORTS EDITOR

THE UNIVERSITY of Missouri—St. Louis men's and women's basketball teams were defeated by the Rockhurst Hawks in their Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) games on January 26 in Kansas City, Missouri. The Triton women's team battled the Hawks first, but fell to their opponents by seven points, with a 68-77 loss. The Triton men's team subsequently took a nine-point loss to the Hawks with a final score of 68-77.

The Triton women's team had a good start, leaving the first quarter just three points behind with a score of 13-16. Jordan Fletcher, senior, business administration, was able to get the last point of the quarter with a layup. The Tritons and Hawks continued battling in the second quarter, but it was the Hawks who walked out with a six-point lead at 31-37 to close the second quarter.

The Hawks held a five point lead over the Tritons during the third quarter, still making it anyone's match-up. The Hawks went on a six-point run to open the fourth quarter, taking their largest lead with 68-56 at just under four minutes to play. Laura Szorenyi, sophomore, communications, put UMSL back on track with four straight baskets to help cut the deficit to 69-64. However, even the three-pointer scored by Chelsey Jacox, graduate, social work, at the 51 second mark wasn't enough to propel the Tritons to victory.

Despite the loss, there was

strong shooting from Fletcher, who racked up 22 points. Jacox added 15 points to the Tritons score, a season best for her. Szorenyi, also added 11 points to the Tritons score.

The Triton men's team started off strong in their game. Things were looking good for Steven Davis, junior, business management, who fired off back-to-back three-pointers for an early 11-10 lead. But a strong showing of offensive by the Hawks helped Rockhurst catch up quickly, making it a 36-22 game at the end of the first half.

The Hawks 10-4 run at the start of the second half helped to take the team to a 46-26 lead at the 16:45 mark. At the 11:05 mark, Rockhurst took a 21-point advantage, making it a 61-40 game. UMSL began to rally back, but not soon enough. The Hawks secured two free throws in the last 34 seconds to secure the nine-point victory over the Tritons.

The Triton men gave a strong showing. Joseph English, senior, communications, had a season best of 15 points, with six rebounds and three assists. Dre Holmes, senior, business management, and Kevin Swanson, senior, liberal studies, also accumulated 10 points each.

Following these defeats, the Triton women's record stands at 9-9 overall, and the men's record stands at 9-11 overall.

The Triton men and women both took on William Jewell College on January 28, and will be back in action February 2 against Illinois Springfield. To follow these matchups and other Triton sports stop by umsltriton.com.

Kill Yourself: Thoughts on the State of Online Discourse

ABBY N. VIRIO
STAFF WRITER

TO THE man whose response to an online article on the Women's March was "all the crybaby protesters should be lined up and shot:" Seriously, dude?

For a moment, let us forget that you are just an internet warrior, a coward leering over your computer while those of us brave enough to accept reality leave our desk chairs and do something about injustice. Let us forget that you have long abandoned reason and peer-reviewed scientific information and that you subscribe to hateful and delusional ideologies that feed off under-educated, lower-class, white Americans. Let us—for a moment—forget that you are a cog in a machine made for your own destruction but too lazy and irresponsible to recognize this.

Let us put all else aside and visualize something. Visualize more than one million people lined up along a two-lane highway. Many are women. Many are men. Some are non-binary. Many are children. They are black, white, Latinx, Native American, Middle Eastern, Pacific Islander—the list goes on. Now

consider this: They are silent. They have participated in elections. They have called their representatives. They are seeing their medicine, surgeries, and birth control denied. They are getting sick. Some are hiding behind the posters they once held so proudly, covering their babies and shielding their wives. Their last effort to make their voices heard has led them here, to you.

That is when you, sir, approach. You lift your weapon of choice—or, if you do not have the idiomatic male reproductive organs to do it, you stand back, and watch somebody else lift theirs. You watch a party of soldiers approach, lift their weapons, and fire on as many people as they can. The bodies fall in a dull succession of thuds. Once satisfied, they move on to the next group down the line. They continue this until more than one million men, women, and children are lying at your feet, as far as the eye can see.

What does this look like to you? Because make no mistake, it has happened before. I have witnessed hatemongering, conservative extremists like yourself watch "Schindler's List" and fail to make the connection; so I apologize if it

insults your intellect, but I doubt you understand. Allow me to explain: When you threaten one million people—online, in the grocery store, in a classroom, in the recesses of your own mind—you are sowing the seeds of genocide.

What's that? You do not share the protesters' opinions? You think that, despite its peaceful nature, the Women's March was a disruptive plague on American society? Surely you are not serious. Spare me your excuses; you are partly responsible for future atrocities. Every time you make inflammatory and hateful comments like this, you make it a little more okay for those atrocities to happen. And God forbid it does happen, you will be held accountable—maybe not to me, as I will be lying motionless in the ravine with one million corpses for company—but to whatever power you put your faith in. Or at least to your own conscience, if you have one.

No, I am not intimidated by the vile, uncreative remarks you and your ilk make on social media. But you should be afraid, because if I am getting there first, Hell will be a liberal paradise for us both.



ABBY N. VIRIO / THE CURRENT

When Scientists Stop Doing Science: The Doomsday Clock

NATHAN WATSON
OPINIONS EDITOR

AMONG CERTAIN groups along the ideological spectrum—I'm thinking particularly of the "alt-right" and ultra-conservative Christians—science is considered a field of mostly empty speculation; scientists, for their part, are posturing pseudo-intellectuals whose self-perceived authority is merely a form of all-too-human hubris.

Such views can hardly be described as anything other than foolish. The scientific method has served humanity relatively well—much better than voodoo, mythology, and other forms of superstitious inquiry have. Unfortunately, however, the views towards science held by many more moderate- to left-leaning people also tend towards an unsupported extreme.

In many other communities, the role of the scientist has morphed. Those whose profession once involved the testing of scientific hypotheses have now taken on the simultaneous roles of public intellectual, philosopher, and political leader. Those who have misunderstood the methods and purpose of science have helped create a public arena in which any statement is "scientific" so long as it is uttered by a scientist. Bill Nye has become an expert on the ethics of abortion because he is "The Science Guy"; clickbait news headlines feed readers questionable political or philosophical claims, bolstering their perceived legitimacy with the words "scientists say"; and, in the latest attention-grabbing headline of spectacular scientific discovery, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists has moved the minute hand of the Doomsday Clock 30 seconds forward, signaling that the world is ever closer to global, existential catastrophe.

The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists (the Bulletin, for short) was

founded in 1945 by a group of Manhattan Project scientists concerned about the moral and pragmatic implications of their work in the atomic sciences. Those scientists were rightly and admirably concerned for the safety and health of the global community and did what they could to make their voices heard. When they did this, they did so not as scientists but as global citizens and as human beings. Where the scientist starts talking about what should be done—about what is right and wrong—she has stepped outside of her role as scientist and entered into that of an individual exercising her freedom of civic duty. Obviously, there is nothing wrong with this. Yet, scientists occupy a peculiar position in today's world—especially in the media. Today, more so than in 1945, it is easier for the lines between science and nonscience to blur.

Part of the Bulletin's fame is due to the Doomsday Clock, a metaphorical clock used to depict the likelihood of imminent, global catastrophic risk. Whenever the Bulletin observes societal or natural changes that threaten human existence, the group presents a new "time," with the closeness to midnight symbolizing the closeness of the world to global catastrophe. Although it once tracked only the fluctuations of the world's nuclear threats, the Bulletin has since introduced the risk of catastrophic climate change to its calculations. When, at the end of last week, the group moved the clock 30 seconds closer to midnight (moving the metaphorical time to just two and a half minutes to midnight) and released its official statement, one of its messages was made loud and clear: Donald Trump's projected policies on climate change and nuclear war pose a substantial and unwanted risk to the global community. When the media got ahold of these claims, the response was predictably problematic.

On Saturday morning, one of Facebook's trending stories linked to a large photograph that included famed physicist, cosmologist, and popular-science author Lawrence Krauss standing next to a graphic poster. "It is two and a half minutes to midnight," the looming poster reads, referring to the newly updated time. The choice of Krauss, among the dozen and a half or so board members, as one of the two presenters of the new time was no doubt deliberate. Of all the others, he is undoubtedly the closest to a household name among scientists, having made it on the New York Times bestseller list with his 2012 book *A Universe from Nothing*. "These findings are the findings of our most brilliant scientists," the PR-savvy Bulletin wished to convey to the public.

The problem, however, is that the "findings" of the Bulletin are not actually science. This is not, in itself, a bad thing—plenty of the timeliest and most insightful messages come from intellectual disciplines outside of science. Indeed, the Bulletin's publication fits neatly into the already well-established academic field of Future studies. What is a bad thing, however, is that such an organization continues to use its credentials as scientists to pad its opinions and political aims with an air of authority.

Actually, this may be partially unfair. I do not know whether the Bulletin's rhetorical strategies or the media's irresponsibility are more to blame for this misappropriation—perhaps it is both. Regardless, the effects can only be negative.

Regardless of the truth value of any of these scientists' claims, interpretations of scientific evidence—in other words, beliefs about how we should act in response to this evidence—must be verified on grounds other than perceived authority. To be clear: There is nothing wrong with Professor Krauss or any of the

other committee members publishing their opinions and predictions for public readership. What is wrong, however, is doing so—even if implicitly—under the banner of science. As astute as any of the observations made may be, it does a grave disservice to both the scientific community and the ideal of intellectual integrity to make such underhanded appeals to authority.

Most importantly, the Bulletin's statement reeks of politicization, and it is hardly a mystery what kind of response it will evoke in anybody skeptical of the concern granted towards global climate change. After all, those who were, for instance, won over by Trump's bold assertion that climate change is a Chinese-manufactured hoax likely believe that the scientific evidence to the contrary has been doctored for political gain. If anybody is to win over conservatives and convince them to take climate change seriously, showing them a statement by a group of scientists with obvious political agendas will not be the way to do it. The best science is science that is unbiased—and

obviously so. Those who deny the facts of climate change do so more out of partisan distrust of agenda than blatant disregard for empirical evidence.

Further, although scientists are almost univocal in their claim that global climate change is a reality—a reality whose main causes have been of human origin—there has never been and never will be scientific consensus on the consequences of unchecked climate change. Even if the personal convictions of every working scientist were identical, this would not amount to "scientific consensus"—not because it is not a consensus, but because, in itself, the prediction of future global-scale social and political events is not science. Any scientist can tell you that.

In fact, most scientists do not consider global climate change an existential risk. We know that its consequences would be drastic, but whether those consequences are to be welcomed is a matter for philosophical discussions. Perhaps we've reached the point of no return, and our time would be best spent answering the question "what now?"



THE BULLETIN.ORG

Missouri Marches in International Movement

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by the incoming administration. “I am here today to put my life on the line for you, but I must ask: Are you willing to put your body on the line for me?” she asked. “Until each and every one of us can say that, ‘Yes, we can,’ until this fight, our women’s fight, assures that the most vulnerable, most targeted, and most forgotten of us can access the resources, opportunities, and protections of the most privileged of us, we must continue to resist.”

Talve also called for women to support each other. Talve cited the story of Exodus, in which two Egyptian midwives, Shifra and Puah, used their privilege and power to disobey the orders of an evil pharaoh to save the infant Moses. “We are women and allies of all faiths and races and genders and lifestyles and ethnicities, and like those midwives, we are determined to use every bit of privilege and power that we have to stand together,” Talve said. “White supremacy and patriarchy hurt all of us, and I vow in front of all of every one of you, to stand with our Muslim families, and I promise if they register you, they are going to have to register me.”

Dreith said that she thought that the event organizers did a good job at working towards inclusion for the march. “I think that the march itself could have had more diversity,” she said. “But I also understand why some women of color didn’t feel like it was a safe place. People of color are often the ones targeted by police, like we saw during the Ferguson uprising. Fifty-three percent of white women voted for Trump because they chose white supremacy over the patriarchy, which go hand in hand. It is the work of white women and men to put our bodies on the line and show up for communities of color moving forward if we ever want to dismantle racism,” she said.

Wheeling reflected on the overall experience of the march, saying, “I have attended marches before, but nothing on the scale to what we witnessed on January 21 in St. Louis. The entire experience on Saturday exceeded every expectation I had in a very positive way. The organizers were focused, responsive, and kept the lines of communication open with all interested participants.”

After the rally, participants could attend an action fair at the Phyllis Wheatley Heritage Center YWCA. The event connected people with local organizations to encourage them to remain active in the issues, and to complete the “10 Actions in 100 Days” campaign promoted by the Women’s March on Washington.

Dreith tabled for NARAL Pro-Choice at the event. “NARAL’s mission is to develop and sustain a constituency that uses the political process to guarantee every woman the right to make personal decisions regarding the full range

of reproductive choices, including preventing unintended pregnancy, bearing healthy children, and choosing legal abortion,” she said. “The march was important to us because Missouri is the third-most restrictive state in the country for abortion access, with one remaining clinic, which is located in St. Louis. With a hostile state government and a new president that has promised to punish women, we wanted to send the message with millions of other women across the country that women’s rights are human rights.”

Wheeling did not attend the action fair, but she said that she intends to remain active in political and social issues. “Longer term here in Missouri, we need to select and support strong, viable candidates during the November 2018 midterm congressional elections. We need to get behind the re-election efforts of Senator Claire McCaskill,” she said. “Personally, I will likely run again for a local political office; I ran unsuccessfully for mayor of Woodson Terrace back in 2010. The outcome of this past election has spurred me to throw my hat back in the ring.”

Dreith agreed that the political activism sparked by the march should not end now that the marches are over. “Moving forward, people should just stay engaged. [They should] make sure they vote. The city of St. Louis has an important mayoral election on March 7. Get involved with an organization, donate, lobby, talk to your friends and family,” she said. “NARAL is currently working on Board Bill 203 in St. Louis City, to add protections for reproductive health decisions and pregnancy to the city’s current non-discrimination ordinance, so that nobody is discriminated at their job or in housing.”

Beyond individual action, Wheeling said that she hoped for dialogue on a larger scale. “I did not march in St. Louis because I’m opposed to Donald Trump; this march was not about him. I truly hope [the] POTUS and the new administration will lead the country in the right direction, but I’m not optimistic,” she said. “I hope someone in the new administration will make an effort to reach out to the organizers of the Women’s March. I hope the dialogue starts immediately. I also recognize that hope is not a strategy, so that is a key reason I showed up on Saturday.”

In response to Trump’s promise to not ignore the American people, Wheeling said, “There is a flip side to not ignoring a particular group. The flip side is to pay attention and listen. It’s easy to say, ‘You will never be ignored again,’ because there is no follow-up or onus implied by that statement. The follow up sentence should have been, ‘I am listening, and I will work with you.’”

Where Are UMMSL’s Sports Fans?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6
college based on a combination of academic and social experiences. If we continue to be one dimensional, it really limits the number of students who will enroll at our institution,” Byrd said.

Along with losing the commuter campus perception, Byrd and universities all across Missouri all agree that opening their doors to out-of-state student prospects seem to be the answer in order to increase enrollment. “Reducing out-of-state tuition rates is a common recruitment strategy being used by most public institutions in the Midwest to maintain or increase enrollment. Due to declining numbers of local prospects, Missouri colleges and universities are opening their doors to more non-resident students. Nearly all of our public competitors have developed scholarship programs or tuition agreements to cater to non-resident students over the last decade. Now UMMSL is currently exploring similar opportunities to expand our recruitment boundaries to more states,” Byrd said.

As for increasing turn out at games, Byrd has his own thoughts about how to go about it.

“My first suggestion would be to strengthen the relationships between our student athletes and the general student body. Students are much more likely to support the athletic teams if they know the

players personally. I also believe we could do more to market the games and give students an incentive to participate (spirit contests, food, give-a-ways, etc),” Byrd said.

GABRIEL JIMENEZ, freshmen, engineer, is a swimmer who I interviewed for the October 30 edition of *The Current*. At that time, the Mexico native held three individual meet wins against Lindenwood University and two event wins against Maryville University and William Jewell College at a tri-meet.

Since then, Jimenez and the rest of the swim team have traveled to Saint Charles for Lindenwood’s swim meets, winning four events. They have traveled to Rolla for the Miner Invite, where the Tritons finished third in the team standings behind the host Miners and Ouachita Baptists. They also traveled to Oxford, Ohio, for the Miami Invitational, where the UMMSL women’s swim team added three more school records; the men added two school records on the third and final day of competition. Unfortunately for the team, few of their peers were able to catch their great moments.

Wanting to hear from a student athlete, I emailed Jimenez. Instead of responding with just his thoughts on the issue of attendance at UMMSL’s games, he collaborated with some of his fellow teammates to answer my questions.

With the team only hosting Lindenwood so far in the 2016–2017 season, I asked the team about the audience attendance at the home swim meets.

“Audience attendance was poor at the home swim meets here at UMMSL. Unfortunately there was more audience members from the opponent side,” they said.

When asked if they notice more audience attendance at other universities, the group said, “Absolutely. Undoubtedly the attendance was way bigger at all other universities we visited during this semester.”

The team feels swimming is getting less support, advertising, and turnout compared to the other sports on campus, such as basketball and volleyball. The lack of support from other sports teams is also disappointing to the swim team, which they hope will change.

“Not even athletes from other UMMSL athletics teams attended, not like when basketball and volleyball teams are playing”

Like I suspected when starting the story, athletes have noticed the lack of a turnout in stands during sporting events. It seems that at UMMSL we are currently seeing a divide between the general students—residential and commuter—and student athletes.

As the team put it, “We don’t think this is forming a healthy environment between us.”

Take a Stroll, See Gold Scrolls



This folding screen painted by sixteenth-century Japanese artist Kaiho Yoshio is part of a larger St. Louis Art Museum exhibit.

DANIEL STRAWHUN
A&E EDITOR

PULLING FROM a collection of over 2,600 pieces, the St. Louis Art Museum chose four works to display in the rotating exhibit “Japanese Painting and Calligraphy: Highlights from the Collection.” The pieces currently on display—three hanging scrolls and one large folding screen—will soon return to the climate-controlled storage whence they came. The exhibit is set to be rotated once again on February 12.

The focal point of the exhibit is

a large folding screen from the sixteenth century by Kaiho Yoshio. The screen, which stretches the length of the gallery and depicts a shoreline, is strikingly modern. The faint ink wash abstracts the landscape into a state of constant disappearance, and the few concrete objects that interrupt it bleed into Rorschach-esque blots.

The oldest piece in the exhibit is a fourteenth-century hanging scroll titled “Poetry Contest between Poets of Different Eras.” The scroll depicts an imaginary dialogue between Prince Motoyoshi of the Heian period (794 to 1185) and the famous poet

Fujiwara no Teika of the Kamakura period (1185 to 1333). The scroll is one of a series of 50 such scrolls that depict similar dialogues between Japanese luminaries.

Other pieces featured in the exhibit include “Death of Sakyamuni Buddha,” a painting of the Buddha entering the state of nirvana, and “Old Pine and Crested Mynas,” a playful nature scene. “Japanese Painting and Calligraphy: Highlights from the Collection” is free and can be viewed in gallery 232 of the St. Louis art museum until February 12.

See all of *The Current’s* coverage of the Women’s March on St. Louis on thecurrent-online.com