

In the Wake of Parkland

Florida School Shooting Prompts University to Assure Students About Campus Safety

BY GABRIELLE DEONATH

Over the past two weeks, the safety of students in U.S. schools at all levels of education has been renewed as a hot-button issue. These discussions are the result of the tragic shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla., on February 14, when 17 people – 14 students and three faculty members – were murdered and many others were left injured.

Many citizens are calling for stricter gun control laws and mental health background checks for licensed gun holders to prevent incidents like this from happening again, while those on the other side of the national debate have said that instituting these regulations will not solve the problem, though no alternative has been proposed. The push for change to be made through government legislation is driven by students around the country who wish to feel safer in their schools, including several survivors of the recent shooting.

Adelphi's administration and Department of Public Safety and Transportation are joining the national conversation with a very localized focus: the safety of students and faculty on campus.

Adelphi University President Christine M. Riordan said, "On a personal note, I understand the real concerns—both as the president of Adelphi responsible for thousands of lives on our campuses, but also as someone with children and loved ones on other school campuses where I cannot personally safeguard them. The issue is on the top of my mind constantly. The highest priority for me and our executive leadership is for all our students to feel safe and welcome here."

President Riordan said that Adelphi is ranked very highly in the area of safety—in the top 5 percent in campus safety in New York—and that the university is dedicated to keeping it that way.

"We practice our responses to emergencies. Our Department of Public Safety is trained and prepared. Our local first responders are in contact with us regularly," she said. "Our policy regarding weapons on campus is strict. Section 10 of the Student Code of Conduct prohibits use, storage or possession of any gun, even if the person has a license. That means no guns, anywhere on campus. We enforce this around the clock, but if a student



Shooting survivors mourn the loss of teachers and fellow classmates. Image from AP

knows something troubling, please reach out to Public Safety."

A Pro-Active Approach

Two days following the attack, Adelphi's executive director of Public Safety and Transportation, Robert F. Hughes, sent a campus-wide email reminding the community of the safety procedures in place if a high-risk event were to occur.

"The tragic shootings in Florida have made a deep impact on our community," he wrote. "Those of us who work in Public Safety agree it is a good time to make sure we all know what to do in case of an act of violence on campus."

He included the number of the Public Safety office, also found on the back of IDs issued by the university, and urged every university member to call if they become aware of dangers to an individual's self or others or in any situation that causes fear and severe anxiety.

He also cited an additional measure taken by the university as part of a federal mandate after the Virginia Tech shooting in 2007: the establishment of a threat assessment team.

"It came out after the [Virginia Tech shooting] that a lot of people knew a lot of different things about this guy and the signals and symptoms and signs that he showed, but everyone kind of kept it to themselves," said Raymond Hughes, Public Safety's assistant director of operations. "Nobody knew where to report it to or how to report it...That's why we sent [the email] out, so people know that they can

come to us and report incidents, and this team will take a look at it."

The team is made up of 18 staff members from different departments and offices within the university who meet every two weeks to evaluate reported safety concerns and incidents.

"The purpose is that we assess any possible indication that there is a threat from anybody that we hear of," Robert Hughes said in an interview. "Not only that, but it's a wellness committee too. Let's say we have students who are at risk. If someone has a history of doing attempted suicides, we also evaluate that."

If it is decided by the group that further action should be taken, a counselor will usually meet with the individual in question and will then make recommendations to the threat assessment team based on the information they have gathered.

Accommodating Students

One of the ongoing missions of the department of Public Safety is to making reporting incidents as convenient and easy for people as possible. Both Public Safety administrators agreed that they try to accommodate students' preferences, coming to them if necessary. Robert Hughes recalled a recent instance in which a student requested Public Safety staff to meet her at her car in order to discuss an incident that caused her concern, and they complied.

Adelphi Public Safety officers all have either prior law enforcement or ca-

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Adelphi Tells Applicants Protests Won't Impact Admission

BY DELPHIAN STAFF

In a show of support for the growing student advocacy in the aftermath of the February 14 shooting in Parkland, Fla., nearly 100 colleges and universities nationwide—including Adelphi—are making sure high school seniors know that their participation in peaceful protests to call for school safety and gun control will not negatively impact their chances of getting into college.

Because the Common Application for college admission asks students if they have been disciplined at school, and many colleges specify in their acceptance letters that any offer could be rescinded if the student is suspended or behaves inappropriately, parents and students alike are worried that should a student be suspended or given detention if they participate in upcoming protests, their college acceptance would be affected.



Adelphi is among those schools seeking to reassure students who are organizing or participating in peaceful protests this month. University president Christine M. Riordan said, "It becomes clearer with every shooting that we must change the course of this ongoing issue. I am proud of the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School for turning their anger and grief toward demanding change to protect students from gun violence. We should

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A Word from the Editor

Hello, again. Since the last time we met, I was asked to be one of the judges for the Quill Awards, which are for Adelphi's annual high school journalism competition and a part of Press Day, which took place here on February 28. As I went through the submissions, I was struck by some outstanding submissions by high schoolers around Long Island. It was clear that some of these students had teachers who had taken the time to teach them journalism and AP style basics and the essential parts of composing a well-structured and well-written story. With the guidance of adults, they were able to refine their skills and compose work that exceeded expectations.

In the last few weeks, there has been another group of high school students who have established a loud voice for themselves in our nation. Unfortunately, their voices have been given a platform because of a tragedy that struck them in the one place that they thought they could feel safe: Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. They have attempted to create change by challenging National Rifle Association representatives, government officials who are against stricter gun laws and even President Donald Trump. Students around the country are organizing school walk-outs and a march on Washington, DC.

The most shocking revelation to come out of this story is how many times adults have failed these children, from government officials to the armed officers that waited to enter the building where the shooter claimed the lives of 14 students and three teachers. Almost 20 years since the Columbine High School shooting and over five years since 20 elementary school children were shot dead at Sandy Hook Elementary School, there has been little done by the U.S. government to protect the safety of students at all levels in the education system. Now these high schoolers who vow to be the last school shooting in the country are looking for every opportunity to push the influential adults in our country to make a difference, to create positive impact in our country. Instead of planning sweet sixteens, elaborate promposals and graduation celebrations, the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School are forced to find ways to guide the adults to make better decisions.

When we're young, we often believe that the older generations have the answers. Even here at *The Delphian*, we have Adelphi alumni give advice to the current batch of undergraduate students. However, we are living in a world where the innocence of childhood is beginning to erode and the youth realize that sometimes the adults just create more questions, rather than provide answers. Children are having to learn how to deal with active shooter situations and about sexual assault at tender ages. They literally are being taught on how to fend for themselves and how to save each other.

Over the last few weeks, between judging the Quill Awards and watching the news, I have come to believe that there are great leaders that will emerge in all fields from this young crop of high school students. Though the future of this world often seems doomed for various reasons, I am hopeful that these children are the type of individuals who will be dedicated and motivated enough to find their way into our government and other positions of leadership. However, I also hope that they turn into adults who provide the answers. Who create change. Who guide the youth.

It is one thing to have a teacher who can educate you and help you develop new skills, but it is quite another thing to have leaders who recognize the importance of keeping the youth safe, even if it interferes with their own personal interests. For more on how Adelphi works to keep its students safe, read our page one story about campus safety procedures and regulations.

-Gabrielle Deonath
Editor-in-Chief

The Delphian

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PACafe Opening: New Eatery on Campus Debuted Last Month

BY TATSUYA HONDO

There is a new eatery establishment on Adelphi's Garden City campus, located on the first floor of the Performing Arts Center. On February 5, a grand opening for the new food portal was held.

PACafe will provide cappuccino, soups, salads, paninis, wraps and sandwiches for purchasing, according to the Adelphi University website. When *The Delphian* visited PACafe on February 15, croissants were the popular food item of the day.

Juliana Pitto, a music performance student, said the PACafe is very convenient. "We're practicing throughout the day," she added. "We want to go get food, but we might have classes, so music students don't have to travel the distance."

Previously, the PACafe was named Interlude Café, which was opened



occasionally. The space was also used a few times for mingling events by the Adelphi University Parent Association, according to meeting minutes available on the university website.

English major Michelle Yakubov said, "Students used to study here. We didn't know there was a kitchen in here."

PACafe is open Monday to Thursday 10 am to 3 pm and will remain closed

Friday to Sunday. Vegan and vegetarian options are available for customers. For further information about PACafe, contact adelphidining@adelphi.edu

Want to join *The Delphian*?
Join us for our meeting Monday, April 2 at 1 p.m.

Adelphi Welcomes 189 Transfer Students, a Slight Decrease From 2017

BY MATTHEW SCHROH

When Adelphi students came back to campus earlier this semester, they were joined by 189 new transfer students from two- and four-year schools, according to Christina Koromi, director of transfer admissions. The new students come from area schools including Nassau Community College, Suffolk County Community College, CUNY Queensborough, SUNY Stony Brook and CUNY Queens College, as well as Sacred Heart University in Connecticut.

The most significant enrollment is in the College of Nursing and Public Health with 73 new students, followed by

39 in the College of Arts and Sciences; 22 in the Robert B. Willumstad School of Business; 19 in the Ruth S. Ammon School of Education; 17 in the Gordon F. Derner School of Psychology; 14 in the College of Professional and Continuing Studies; and 5 in the School of Social Work.

While the 189 represent a slight decrease in transfer enrollment from spring 2017, according to Kristen Capezza, associate vice president of enrollment management, transfer numbers have been on a very slight decline not just at Adelphi, but at several schools due to a decrease in students attending community colleges.

“Other universities are putting a greater focus on enhancing the transfer experience and being more receptive to

transfer students may also contribute to the decline, creating more competition for Adelphi,” Capezza said.

She said students at other institutions seeking an educational environment that better suits them find themselves gravitating towards Adelphi because the school tries its best to “maximize credit transfers and minimize any time or credit loss, in addition to offering customized transfer plans.”

Capezza said that students tend to transfer after their first semester when they initially attend a school across the country, find it isn’t what they expected and want to move back closer to home. Other transfer students may graduate from two-year community colleges, but still desire to further

their education.

The admissions department does their best to “help students make the [adjustment] smoothly,” said Capezza. “We have an orientation for them. We are able to review with them campus services and getting IDs and parking stickers. It makes the students feel welcomed.”

Adelphi’s open and friendly approach to transfer students has seen some success, as the school has been recognized as one of the best universities in the country for the ease of transfer for students.

Capezza explained that the best thing for stressed-out transfer students to do is to reach out to university counselors. “Every transfer situation is different,” she said.

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University Assures Students About Campus Safety

reer security experience and are licensed by the state. In addition to annual training necessary to maintain their license, they also participate in trainings multiple times a year at the university. Several of the officers are also skilled fire fighters.

However, Robert Hughes also emphasized that any imminent threat should be reported to 911 immediately. The next call should be placed to Public Safety, he said, so they can send out a rave alert to the entire campus, informing everyone of the dangerous situation and what steps should be taken to maximize safety – like staying away from a particular building.

Students have their own reactions to what is happening nationwide and how it impacts them here. Senior communications major Ellie Marie Folias had a safety proposal of her own.

“I absolutely agree that we need to take action toward making schools nationally safer,” she said. “There are a number of ways that schools all over the world can create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students who attend. I believe that metal detectors should be used in all schools as a safety precaution to reduce the risk of any dangerous activity occurring on school grounds.”

Sophomore exercise science major Abid Shah said he’s not sure if the school’s measures will be enough to protect students from a motivated aggressor. “Overall, I feel like although we are based in a fairly safe neighborhood, we are too open of a school, and it’s accessible to almost any person possible,” he said.

According to Raymond Hughes, one of Adelphi’s biggest assets in a serious emergency or in an active shooter situation is the local police department.

“We’re very fortunate,” he said. “We have the Garden City Police Department. We don’t really have to wait for Nassau County to respond, which could take maybe five to seven minutes. With the Gar-

den City police in close proximity, we’re talking immediate response, just a couple of minutes.”

He added that, on most days, there is a sector car driving through the streets bordering the university. Another strength of the university’s security system is its 400 cameras around the campus and in many buildings, allowing for close mon-



Students urge government to pass stricter gun control laws in light of recent tragedy. Image from AP

itoring, if necessary – a resource Stoneman Douglas High School did not have.

President Riordan said that a recent student survey indicates that our students do feel safe and welcome, but she implored “anyone who calls our campus home, school, work or a place to visit—please report anything that makes you feel unsafe. If you raise a concern, we are committed to investigating it.”

To report a concern to Public Safety, call 516-877-3511 or dial 5 from university phones. For anyone feeling anxious or scared due to these recent events, student counseling services are provided in the University Center, room 310.

support them, be open to considering all options, and work collectively to be part of the solution.”

To that end, Kristen Capezza, associate vice president of enrollment, issued a statement that any disciplinary actions for a high school student’s participation in peaceful demonstrations will not affect their admission decision at Adelphi. The

minutes — one for every person killed at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The March For Our Lives, which has been organized by the students from Parkland, is taking place on March 24 in Washington, DC, as well as cities across the country and around the globe.

“My heart goes out to the victims of the Parkland school shooting and I offer my condolences to anyone personally connected to it, or any gun violence. Each event is heartbreaking and also increases our fears and our desires to do something about it.”

— **Adelphi University
President Christine
M. Riordan**

statement said: “Some accepted students or applicants may be wondering how Adelphi University’s Office of Admissions will react if they participate in peaceful demonstrations. Please be assured that Adelphi University fully supports any student’s desire to stand up for their beliefs. Your participation in non-violent demonstrations will not affect your status as an accepted student, or your application status, in any way.”

Planned events include the March 14 National School Walkout during which at 10 am in every time zone, organizers are encouraging teachers, students, administrators, parents and allies to walk out for 17

The staff and contributors to *The Delphian* have been inspired by the acts of courage demonstrated by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School students. As students ourselves, we support their efforts to create change through protest against gun violence and lax gun control laws. We vow to do our part to keep the conversation going and push our lawmakers to make school safety a top priority in our country.

University Honored Black History Month With New Exhibition by Canadian-Haitian Artist

BY GESELLE MALDONADO

At the Adelphi University Center art gallery, as part of Black History Month, visitors found themselves facing airy walls of colorfully striped paintings throughout February. Upon closer inspection, they found that each stripe of paint had its own unique texture and a slightly distinguished shade of color.

Haitian-Canadian artist Rafaele Roy's art exhibition titled *Kreyon Bondye Pa Gen Gonm* (Creole for: God's Pencil Has No Eraser) represented the lives of Haitians who were lost during the earthquake in Haiti on Jan. 12, 2010. Close to 300 works from the Haiti Memorial were displayed in the center of the gallery, and Roy's imaginative and critical interpretations of Haiti's invasion by Columbus and the consequences thereafter surrounded it on the walls.

Dr. Ann E. Holt, the interim exhibitions curator, worked on this installation alongside fellow curator John Duff, Dr. Marsha Darling, Director of Caribbean Studies, and Fabian Burrell, coordinator for community engagement. Holt said she regarded the installation to be "a mutual belief between us in the power of art, and we wanted to create a space that would both respect the artist's voice and teach the Adelphi community an aspect of black history."

Over 70 people visited a reception on Sunday, Feb. 18 to see Roy's artwork and hear the artist speak about her practice. Those who attended the reception, as well as Roy's meet-and-greet at Alumnae Hall's Homeplace on the following day, heard the



Pieces from the *Kreyon Bondye Pa Gen Gonm* exhibit in the UC in honor of Black History Month.

artist speak about her childhood experience in Haiti, her family's exile and continued connection to the country in spite of living far away from it, and of her hopes for the future generations.

"I felt both humbled and honored by the presence of so many visitors," Roy said. "It is for them, also, that I paint and tell my stories. My hope for the future is that our leaders begin to see that every life is indeed deserving of care and that our environment has to be fiercely protected and not ruthlessly exploited with no regard to the consequences."

Students who observed the gallery were greatly moved by Roy's art and message.

Charlotte Astre, a senior fine arts major, said that the current exhibit is "by far one of my favorites of the university's gallery" and was attracted to Roy's "use of bright color and composition."

Brian Testa, a junior art and design education major, said, "Roy transforms the most important concepts into en-

ergy, imagery and emotion. The immense love Roy has pours through the pigments placed perfectly on paper."

According to Holt, she believes art can help one understand the inner dimensions of their own experiences and those of others and that it can allow our imagination to envision a new narrative.

"I believe that Ms. Roy's work is empowering, critical, and can provoke one to a sense of compassion and hope and healing," she said.

Roy expressed that art is what gives her life purpose. "To an artist, there is always the hope that one's art manages to convey one's thoughts and emotions to the viewers of one's art," she said. "As an artist exhibiting in a place of learning, a place where the new generation shapes its views of the world and prepares itself to take over, I am simply tempted to say 'Go! Take it from here. Heal the tumultuous world we are passing on to you and do better than we did.'"

An Adelphi Alum's Tips for Success

BY GABRIELLE DEONATH

In this column, established Adelphi alumni reflect on their own college experiences and the lessons they learned, as they pass down advice to the current generation of college students.

For most of his career, Dennis Walker was an American studies, economics and special education teacher at Huntington High School, where he also became a dean. He was an educator there for 30 years and also coached track for 25 years.

However, Walker's love for track and field can be traced back to his time as an undergraduate student at Adelphi. He participated in track and field for all four years and eventually became captain of the team. Off the field, he was a history major and the treasurer, and then president, of Black Students United. He was part of the graduating class of 1973.

Walker went on to pursue a graduate degree in special education at Queens College. He acquired his first job out of Adelphi at IBM through a pilot program they had to help athletes, but he only re-

mained there for two months because of the time commitment. Before graduating from Queens College, he had already begun teaching at Huntington High School.

After a long career in education, Walker retired a little over 10 years ago. However, remaining open to new opportunities, he became involved with A1 Universal Care, a non-profit agency that provides support to developmentally disabled individuals in Westbury. He believed that he would help out in a supervisory role for a few weeks, but weeks turned into months and then years. Walker retired from his job as a service coordinator supervisor and compliance officer just last year, 10 years after he first joined the organization.

Now living in Dix Hills, Walker said that he still maintains friendships with other Adelphi alumni, and he visits from time to time for Black History Month celebrations and Spirit Weekend.

Dennis's Tips for Longevity, Preparedness and Enjoying the Ride:

1. "Do your background work. If you're approaching a career or job, do

your due diligence. If you're going for a job, know that company. Once you have that, you have to know your strengths and how you can use them in what you're going towards."

2. "The other thing is being able to adapt, to understand that change is going to come inevitably. Education changes on a daily basis. We all have to keep learning."

3. "Develop your network. And, by developing your network, it's not necessarily going out and getting cards from people, but your family, friends, coworkers, the people that are close to you – that's your network. I still have people I developed friendships with at AU, and we communicate until today. It's amazing how conversations with them will open doors and give you different ideas."

4. "Enjoy the experience. Travel, meet people, get out of your comfort zone and keep an open mind. Your career is not necessarily going to look like how it started out. You may be looking at one area, and you may end up totally somewhere else, but be open-minded to it, and you'll be all right. It'll be a fantastic ride."

What's on Your Phone?

BY RACHEL SIERADZKI



The "What's on Your Phone" series allows students and faculty to share their favorite and most useful apps that they cannot live without. Share your favorite apps with us at delphian@adelphi.edu.

Phone owner: Joanna Templeton, Associate Vice President for University Communications and Marketing

1. Train Time "Because I commute every day to and from Adelphi, I am addicted to Train Time. It lets me know exactly when the next train is coming. I use it so that I can get to work on time and so that I can get home to be with my kids. There are often delays and cancellations on the LIRR, especially in bad weather, so Train Time always keeps me up-to-date on service status."

2. Whistle "I have a rescue dog named Grits who likes to run away. He has a radio collar, and when he runs away, I can track him on my phone. We have found him many times using this. Once, I found him in a horse barn."

3. Meltwater "This is a useful app that tells us where Adelphi is in news media, locally, nationally and internationally. This way, I know exactly what articles Adelphi is mentioned in, and I'm able to count them up and then read them. When I see an article we are mentioned in, I have it sent it out to the school."

4. Bitmoji "Everyone uses Bitmoji. This is how I send little picture notes to people without using words. I use it to make people smile."

5. Forest Flyer "My little girl plays this game a lot. She is 21 and has disabilities, and she loves this game. The game is like 'Angry Birds,' except it's a sweet bird."

Final Ride

(Continued from page 7)

Q: What are your individual and team goals for the 2018 season?

A: A goal I have on my mind constantly is to help lead my team to a national championship. To win no matter what the circumstances would be, above all, is my main goal. That aside, earning a spot as an All-American would be an accomplishment I feel I have worked my whole life for as a player.

Student Leaders Place the FOCUS on Self Love

BY DANIELLE MCDUGALL

During the week of February 19, Females of Culture United For Success (FOCUS), a student-led organization on campus, brought just a little bit more self-love and empowerment to the Adelphi community. The week marked the return of “FOCUS Week,” a week-long series of events each semester that is centered on a specific theme that promotes empowerment, particularly the empowerment of women of color. As this semester’s theme “Love Yourself” suggests, the objective of this FOCUS Week was to promote self-love among participants. *The Delphian* sat down with FOCUS president Nadege Debrosse to learn a little more about the work that went into making the event the success that it was.



Aftermath of “Smashing Stereotypes”
Photos provided by Nadege Debrosse

The Delphian: What is the purpose of FOCUS Week? How does it tie into FOCUS’s larger mission as an organization?

Nadege Debrosse: The purpose is to engage our members in a week of events with a key theme that ties into our mission as an organization, which is to encourage female empowerment and a diverse spirit among all females at Adelphi. We unite and empower women by giving them a voice and by preparing them for success in their future endeavors.

Delphian: What was the purpose of each day’s event?

Debrosse: This semester’s FOCUS Week was all about self love because it is important for our members to love and be proud of who they are, so each day of the week honed in on that key factor of self love. Monday was “Karaoke Night,” and we encouraged everyone to take their chance at the mic to show our members that they do have people who love them and are accepting of exactly who they are. We wanted to spark the thought, “If I am loved by others, then I, too, can love myself.” On Tuesday, we wrote love letters to ourselves. There was the option to freely write whatever you wished, or we gave out some prompts for people to use as a jumping off point. One of these prompts was, “Define what love is to you, and how do you display love to yourself and others?”

On Wednesday, we had an event with the Chemistry Club called “Smashing Stereotypes.” In the chemistry lab, people were able to dip roses that had stereotypes written on them into liquid nitrogen and smash them over a table. The purpose of this was for our members to know that they are so much more than those words

on the table. When the event was over, you couldn’t see one stereotype on the table because they were covered by the roses.

Thursday was all about boosting confidence. We had an open discussion about the meaning of self worth and the difference between confidence and self-esteem. Finally, on Friday, we ended the week by making some DIY face masks with aromatherapy for our members to take home so they could enjoy some “me time.”

Delphian: How did members respond to the events? How did the E-Board respond?

Debrosse: Our attendees commonly enjoy our events. We make sure that our events are fun and engaging, but they have a lesson for our members to take home with them. Our E-Board is always looking for new information to share with our members and are excited to host meetings with topics that convey our mission.

Delphian: What events do you hope to bring back or do more often?

Debrosse: FOCUS Week is based on coming up with new and exciting events and meetings, but we definitely intend to build off of these events to continue to have a variety of topics so our members never get bored. We listen to our members, and we had a great turnout for “Love Letters to Yourself” and “DIY Face Masks,” so we will definitely bring these into the next semester.

Delphian: What do you want the Adelphi community to learn from this semester’s event?

Debrosse: We want the community to learn the empowerment that you feel when you truly love yourself. I firmly believe that love is not a feeling; it is an act. It is important to make the time to focus on yourself and make sure the acts you do for yourself are loving. We are an organization that only wants to facilitate the betterment



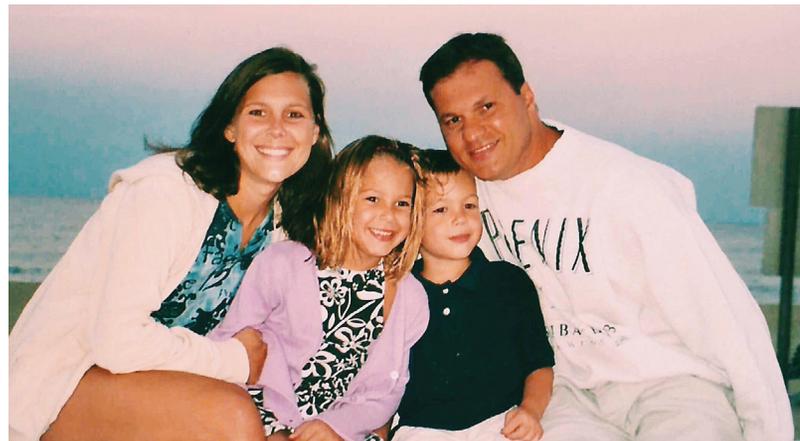
FOCUS members write self-love letters.

of our members and the entire Adelphi community.

In keeping with its work to better the Adelphi community, FOCUS will be holding its annual FOCUS Gala on March 9 at 6 pm in the UC Ballroom, and the proceeds from the evening will be going to the Caroline Mungai Foundation. If you’re looking for some food, good company and good music, please RSVP on the organization’s MyAULife page.

Panther’s Podium: An Open Letter to the Parents Who Gave Me the Best of Everything

(Continued from page 7)



Allie joined with her parents and her brother not long after she was implemented.

being a part of my team is our dance parties before every home game. I sing at the top of my lungs, damage my teammates’ ears and dance it out with my friends. This is the best way for my teammates and I to get into game mode, and after that last song is played, we mean business. I am truly going to miss being a part of this team next year, and to the younger girls, please update Snapchat daily so I can still keep up with the team.

Lastly, I don’t let my deafness define me because there is so much more to

me than my inability to hear.

Mom, you are my best friend and someone I can always confide in, and Dad, even though we bicker, you are the first person I come to talk to after a game – and let’s be real, I like to go to you when I need some cash, too. I could not envision my life any other way, and because of you both, I have achieved more in life beyond anything I could even imagine. Thank you for everything.

Love, Allie.

Your Impact.
Your Cause.
Your University.



GIVING DAY

Wednesday, March 21, 2018

Join us online or on campus.

We’ll be in the
Ruth S. Harley University Center lobby
from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

adelphi.edu/givingday



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President Trump: One Year Later, for Better and for Worse

BY MATTHEW SCHROH

In 2015, Donald Trump announced his candidacy for the highest office, entering a crowded primary race as a controversial frontrunner that few pundits seriously entertained as a long-term prospect.

In 2016, the primaries and caucuses began. The media assumed that Ted Cruz, Marco Rubio and Jeb Bush would gradually overtake Trump, but kept a cautious eye on the billionaire. Trump won his first primary in New Hampshire and then won 37 more. The media still ascertained that Hillary Clinton would crush the real estate mogul when the general election came around. And then, on November 8, Trump was elected the forty-fifth president of the United States.

Last year began with Trump's move into the White House and the start of his job as commander-in-chief. It turned out to be a fairly insane year for politics, particularly because of Trump. The first president elected without experience in politics or the military, Trump, regardless of how you feel about him, immediately set out to reward his loyal followers with as many serious campaign promises as quickly as he could. In his first year, he continually tried to set up a temporary immigration ban against certain Muslim-majority countries. He withdrew from the Paris climate accord, promised to move the U.S. Israeli embassy to Jerusalem, joined the Republican movement against Obamacare and continues to seek funding for his U.S.-Mexico border wall.

On the domestic front, Trump is sort of a mixed bag. He has not expressed any serious interest in repealing the 2015 Obergefell v. Hodges Supreme Court case that recognized gay marriage nationally, but he has also tried to ban transgender Americans from serving in the military. He

has made the fair argument that amnesty for illegal immigrants could come as an insult to those who come to this country legally, but quietly supported lowering the quota for legal immigrants as well. His administration has expressed at least a little acceptance of manmade climate change, as Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared, are firm believers, but the EPA director Scott Pruitt is a climate change denier, and it does not seem that Trump or Vice-president Mike Pence have ever seriously challenged him on environmental matters, especially considering the fact that Trump took the United States out of the Paris climate accord.

I am similarly undecided about how I view his foreign policy decisions. Under Trump, ISIS has been almost totally defeated. Relations with Russia and China are not as strong as they need to be, though it's hard to blame this on Trump since the same thing could be said under Bush and Obama. Controversially, I find myself mostly agreeing with how he's handling North Korea, facing the nuclear dictatorship head-on, instead of looking the other way, like generations of presidents before.

Then, there's Twitter. Perhaps it's just a sign of the times, but Trump is the first president we've seen with an especially active social media presence. Having politicians on social media is not inherently bad, but problems arise when Trump brings internal White House conflicts and detrimental foreign policy statements to a platform where anyone with internet access can see it, airing the administration's dirty laundry with posts ridiculing those he should consider close allies. However, perhaps because he's a businessman, he comes across as more open to reaching across the aisle than previous presidents, though this has yet to come into real fruition.

This is all without addressing the elephant in the room: Trump is a recorded sexual deviant. Women have come forth

and accused the president of having affairs with them, and more women have accused him outright of sexual assault. The claims are extremely hard not to dispute since there is a recording of Trump stating that he can treat women however he likes due to his wealth and power. The only reason Trump was fortunate enough to still get elected after this bombshell was because his opponent, Hillary Clinton, has been accused of covering up her husband Bill's sexual assault accusations in the past, and if you read that right, it means that it is quite possible that the 2016 presidential election was between a sexual predator and the wife and accomplice of a totally different sexual predator. Then, people wonder why voter turnout was so low.

It is possible that Trump is saying controversial statements about women and minorities for a greater purpose. It can be speculated that Trump recognized the disconnect between the aging white voters that have long been associated with the Republican Party and the younger, more diverse crowd that the Democrats have attracted. Realizing that this election could be one of the last times where the aging white voters were still the majority, Trump did as much as possible to show support for the "back in my day" generation. Now, obviously, old white people were not all of Trump's supporters. There is something to be said for the fact that he secured a third of the Hispanic vote and has inspired a plethora of young Republicans.

With no viable candidates as a successor except for Mike Pence, who is a more traditional evangelical Republican, and Ivanka Trump and Jared Kushner, who are both much more liberal, it seems like Trumpism as we know it is probably going to end with The Donald, but the effects of this presidency and what it stands for will no doubt cloud the Republican Party and American politics for years, for better or for worse.

Who Needs Cable Anymore?

BY MARIA GIOVANNA JUMPER

Do you prefer to watch most of your favorite TV shows using streaming services like Netflix or Hulu? Most people do because of the flexibility that streaming services offer them. Streaming services have changed the way we watch TV and brought new audiences to older shows. Streaming services have brought back "comfort food" shows, fan-favorites made up of relatable scripts and memorable casts, with an experience improved by the ability to watch them at any time.

Streaming services have become popular because of the diversity of programs available to consumers. They offer old shows no longer on air, current seasons of renewed shows and new original shows and movies. Netflix and Hulu have brought shows from the past, like

"Friends," "That 70's Show," "The Office" and "Parks and Recreation," into the spotlight again. These shows are fun and easy to digest, covering audiences in a wave of nostalgia. The act of revisiting these shows becomes a form of visual comfort food. Re-watching old episodes feels like flipping through an old photo album, reliving old memories that leave you with a smile on your face and a comforting feeling in your heart.

Because of limited time and busy schedules, watching a show at its allotted time on cable has become more difficult. Netflix and Hulu offer new seasons of shows that are on cable a few months after they aired. While watching shows on Netflix or Hulu, people don't have to wait a week before watching the next episode after being left on a cliffhanger.

Increasingly, the most popular

and critically acclaimed shows today are original shows made by these streaming services. A great example is "Stranger Things," which has become one of the most well known shows in modern entertainment and can be viewed exclusively on Netflix. With whole seasons being released all at once, the culture of TV watching has been altered all together, as binge watching becomes more prevalent.

With all the options presented on streaming services, cable TV is becoming more and more outdated. Most people find it pointless to have cable because they get many of the same benefits from services like Netflix and Hulu, often at a cheaper price. When people can get news from phone apps and stream TV shows and movies, there seems to no longer be a need to pay for cable TV, and it could soon become an obsolete form of entertainment.

Alexa's Home: How Artificial Intelligence Invaded Our Lives

BY VICTORIA GRINTHAL

Since Amazon released its personal voice assistant, Alexa, in 2014 as a counteraction to the rise of Apple's Siri and Microsoft's Cortana, the lines of technology have continued to blur together. The Amazon Echo products that enable Alexa's entrance into our homes has now spawned some more competition: the Google Home device and newly-released Apple Homepod are very similar to the design and abilities of Alexa. Millions of people around the world use these devices in their homes as a way of entertainment and collecting information.

Amazon Alexa has become the most popular program of its kind in recent years, featuring even Super Bowl ads with celebrities like rapper Cardi B and actress Leslie Jones. It's almost normal to refer to Alexa as "she," since the system's feminine voice responds to anyone who calls her name. Using it at home myself, I find that my family and I talk about asking "her" a question or relaying a corresponding command.

To be fair, these systems are pretty cool. Alexa, Siri and the Google assistant are always being improved and updated with new features. For example, the assistant in the Google Home devices has been shown in ads to be able to distinguish between the voices of users. In other words, each registered user could ideally be recognized and responded to according to his or her individual preferences. More features include song recognition and personalized commands to make Alexa a more integrated part of daily routine.

So, when is the line crossed between intelligence and intrusion? It's one thing if the device is more mobile, like Siri on Apple phone, but transferring the application to a personal atmosphere is kind of creepy.

Think about it. No matter which device is being used, a microphone is always on and listening to what you say until you initiate its actions. People complain about a lack of privacy, but they neglect to notice the remote device that is always listening to every sound they make in their own homes.

How is that normal? I'm always in awe of the technology that has defined our past and present. However, we need to realize when that technology has started to consume us. Do we we need to ask a robot to do simple tasks, like checking the weather and playing a radio station? Especially since these devices are becoming more common in our homes, it worries me that we as a society are becoming too dependent on these objects. If our actions at home consist of questions and commands to inanimate objects instead of modes of natural and physical discovery, I can't imagine how our lives can evolve passed this point for the better.

Panther's Podium: An Open Letter to the Parents Who Gave Me the Best of Everything

BY ALLIE SCHNEIDER

Welcome to the Panthers' Podium, where Adelphi student athletes get a chance to use their voice and introduce themselves to the Adelphi community through personal experiences. In this installment, lacrosse player Allie Schneider writes an open letter addressed to her parents.

You all are probably wondering why I am writing a thank you letter on an open forum. So many times, I am asked to share my story, but while doing so, I never take the time to acknowledge the two most important figures in my life.

Mom and Dad,

When I was as young as nine months old, I would cry non-stop in the car when music played. Where it would soothe others, it would not do the same for me. I would not react when my name was called. It was evident to you both that I could not hear.

Mom, after numerous doctors with the same response – “She can hear!” – and even one response along the lines of “Deaf babies don’t laugh like that,” you still insisted that I did not hear. They don’t call it a mother’s intuition for nothing. That must have been so upsetting for you both to find out because you thought I was able to hear when you talked to me since the day I was born.

In the “deaf community,” there is a bridge that connects those who believe in the cochlear implant and those who think that if you were born deaf, there is no reason to change it. Dad, we both know we don’t see eye-to-eye on most decisions, but I can confidently say that you made the right move to have me implanted.

For those who are unsure of what

a cochlear implant is, it’s a medically inserted device that is implanted in the cochlea, the auditory portion of the inner ear. It connects to a transmitter worn over the ear that captures and transfers audio to the brain. I was implanted before my second birthday, making this March my twentieth “earniversary.”

I can only imagine how nerve-racking those 24 hours were for you both and my grandparents, especially my grandpa, who is a worrywart. I cannot fathom the fear you both endured knowing a doctor was drilling a hole into my skull during this invasive surgery. I know from where my strength and perseverance originate.

From the moment that it was turned on, you guys saw the glow that beamed through my eyes from that first sound I heard and knew that this was my “rebirth.” This was the most significant start to a new chapter in all of our lives.

Most importantly, thank you both for bringing me to the best preschool to learn how to speak and taking me to the best speech therapists there ever was, even though I don’t remember them or anything they taught me. I was fortunate to have an amazing teacher for the deaf from kindergarten to fifth grade and form an incredible bond with her, since I saw her every day for six consecutive years. What I do know is that because of all of them, I am able to have conversations with peers and speak so well that people don’t realize I am deaf.

Growing up, you both always told me it was okay to be different and that I will have trouble hearing in crowds and experience a lot of background noise. I did everything “normal kids” did, like playing on sport teams, including becoming a competitive swimmer, going to sleepaway camp and everything in between. (Thank



“Sports has and will always be my outlet and escape from life.”

goodness I got the Schneider genes for my athleticism because, Mom, we’ve all seen you try and attempt to play a sport.) Because of all the opportunities given to me, I learned how to be independent like you, Mom.

I had to learn to be responsible at such a young age because I – okay, maybe my mom, grandma, teachers, etc. – had to carry my own batteries and change them as soon as they died. This happened anywhere, whether at home or even away on a vacation.

With being deaf, I discovered my ability to become a good lip-reader. I have and still take full advantage of this talent. My dad and I can have full conversations without speaking a word. Dad, I’ll never forget that one time when I was in first grade and a trainer came to one of my basketball practices to explain all the lines on the basketball court. You’d mouth me the names of the lines, and I’d raise my hand and say the term. The trainer was so impressed that I knew all of the names.

Certain aspects of school were a struggle for me, especially reading comprehension and taking notes when the teacher would read the passage out loud. Because of the accommodations I was given, I was able to hear the passage as many times as I wanted and was allowed to ask the reader to stop so I could take notes. I had a speaker box on my desk, and my teachers wore a microphone. Sometimes, they would forget to turn it off when they would speak to another teacher in the hallway. The entire class would hear the (not so) private conversation.

Allowing me to come to Adelphi and continue playing lacrosse was the greatest gift you guys could have given to me. Sports has and will always be my outlet and escape from life. Going to practice every day makes me happy, no matter how hard it is. When I am on the field, I forget that I am different – until someone calls my name and I don’t hear them. I have the most supportive friends and teammates, along with an incredible coaching staff that are all accommodating and understanding. They bear with me when I answer yes to questions like “What time do we have to be at the field tomorrow?” and we always laugh when I ask a question about something that was said a week prior. Is it annoying when I cannot hear my coach screaming on the other side of the field? Not always, especially when he’s yelling at us for whatever we did at that moment. Sorry, Coach.

The thing I love most about being a part of the team at Adelphi are the bonds that my teammates and I share with one another. This happens partly because we see each other almost every hour of every day, but our friendships continue because we want them to. My favorite thing about

(Continued on page 5)

Final Ride Series: Adelphi Men’s Lacrosse Ian Kirby

BY OLIVIA FRANKS

In this series, we’ll be interviewing seniors playing in their final year of eligibility in their respective sports. These Q & A’s will be a chance for athletes to say goodbye and to reflect on both their athletic careers and the sport to which they have dedicated much time and effort.

Massapequa native, Ian Kirby, is looking to have a strong finish to his athletic career at Adelphi this spring. Kirby, an attack wearing number 23, has aspirations to coach lacrosse one day, and he reflected on his successful seasons as a Panther.

Q: Why did you want to play college sports?

A: I chose college sports for the love of my sport. I hold lacrosse close to my heart. Since a young boy, I have played lacrosse and dreamed of playing at the college level. So, you can say I have been chasing my dream.

Q: What made you choose Adelphi over other schools?

A: At the time of picking where I



Senior Ian Kirby in his final ride as an Adelphi Panther.

wanted to go, I was planning on staying home, which narrowed down my choices. I had a meeting with my current coaches. The coaches were willing to take me in with open arms and showed unconditional love and support for my family and me. It took a sense of trust and finding the right fit.

Q: How do you prepare for a game?

A: Music, [watching] film on the opponent and of myself and I try to think about specific situations I could be in before it happens. For example, I can be on the bus listening to music, and in my mind, I’ll be thinking about a certain dodge and pass I will need to make if a defender comes at me from a certain angle. This way, I just constantly focus on the specific goal set out and try to be as best prepared for every situation as I can be.

Q: What is your favorite memory from your time as a student athlete at Adelphi?

A: My favorite memory was last year’s lacrosse season. It might seem odd for me to choose a whole season as one memory, but I can see now, when I’m old and wrinkly, how significant this specific season will be. The 2017 Adelphi men’s lacrosse season was more than just games of lacrosse. If I could capture one moment, it would have to be going to the Final Four and just competing my heart out. This sea-

son was more than games; it was a brotherhood, an unbreakable bond that only the people in that room can understand. That’s what it’s all about.

Q: What have you learned from playing college sports?

A: College sports have taught me countless attributes that I will carry with me forever: responsibility, hard work, passion, a will to win and mainly learning how to overcome adversity. As one of my coaches would say (and even though this game is about winning), “In life, you will lose more than you win, but it’s about how you overcome adversity and how you react. That’s what matters.”

Q: How can you apply that to a future career?

A: I plan on being a college lacrosse coach in the future, and I have been gaining knowledge from coaches my entire life. I pay close attention to all my coaches and what goes into their jobs. I plan on chasing that goal after I graduate and finish my college years here.

(Continued on page 4)

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