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The BG News January 26, 2016

Bowling Green State University

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A GREAT DAY TO BE A FALCON!
SATURDAY, JAN. 30

GYMNASTICS VS. DENVER - 4 PM
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Columnist criticizes University inaction for gender-neutral bathrooms
PAGE 4

USG advocates space for diverse groups, solar project
PAGE 13

Alaska defeated in two straight games by BG hockey
PAGE 10

GIVE US SOME SPACE
Renovations in Union leave students sitting on floor | PAGE 2
Students lose seating to renovations
Relocated services temporarily take over student lounges

By Erika Heck
In-Focus Editor

During the busy lunch hours, seating in the Union can go quickly, leaving some students eating lunch or studying on the floor.

Student Ben Glasure says finding seating in the crowded Union has cut into his break time during class.

“I only have an hour before I have to go to class,” he said. “And it already takes 20, 30 minutes to get your food. By the time you finally sit down, you only have about 15 minutes to eat.”

The University has many changes planned for the Union, though not directly involving seating, but the process to make those changes has cut into some of the space set aside for students.

The University Bookstore, BG1 Card Services and the PNC branch on the first floor are part of a bigger project with the Career Center and Student Employment Services.

According to Vice and Assistant Vice Presidents of Capital Planning Steven Krakoff and Robert Waddle, the Bookstore will be consolidated and stretched to the left, where the BG1 Card and PNC Bank offices currently stand.

BG1 Card Services and the PNC Bank will be moved to the front desk, which will be modified to handle both of those services.

However, before either of these changes can be made, things have to be moved around first.

At the start of the semester, students

Continues on Page 14

SUN., JAN. 17
1:28 A.M.
Christine N. Shepard, 19, of New Albany, Ohio, was cited for littering from a motor vehicle near the corner of Wooster and N. Summit streets.

2:14 A.M.
Derrick W. Croley, 21, of Temperance, Michigan, was cited for disorderly conduct/fighting within the 200 block of N. Main Street.

2:27 A.M.
Kylie A. Smith, 18, of Toledo, was cited for underage under the influence within the 200 block of N. Main Street.

Continues on Page 6
Clazel ends nightclub, keeps events

By Lauren Fitz
Reporter

As the new year ushers in change, the downtown bar, Clazel, made the decision to discontinue their nightclub.

“Our special events business, corporate events/wedding receptions/concerts, has grown exponentially over the last five years leading us to focus primarily on that area of business. We decided to phase out late night/club aspect of our business by the end of 2015,” owner Ammar Mufleh wrote in an email.

Mufleh wrote that University-registered student groups are also welcome to book Clazel for events and many events that are already booked for this year.

So while Clazel won’t be open for University students to go to on a Friday or Saturday night, the space will still remain open for events, such as Live Wire concerts and Jazz Night, which is Wednesday nights from 8 p.m. until midnight.

Clazel first opened as a movie theater but was renovated and opened as a club in 2009, with Mufleh wanting the concept to be something different – where students can go to party but experience something they won’t get from other bars downtown, according to an article published on Toledo.com on Oct. 1, 2009.

Many students weren’t surprised to hear that Clazel was shutting down, and many cited the club’s mixed reviews on the reputation as a main reason they thought the club portion was phased out.

“I can see why when you think about it. It’s got some mixed reviews. It’s going to make the other bars crowded,” sophomore Tori Guyette said.

If students wanted to go to Clazel for some of the special events they’d be holding, a lot said it would depend on what was happening there.

“It would depend on what the special events are and what crowd was there. It was really sketchy sometimes,” senior Cassidy Johnson said.

But not all students would be turned away from events at Clazel. With Live Wire hosting concerts there, some would enjoy seeing live music and bands playing.

“I’d go to a live concert there. My cousin actually met her husband at a jazz event,” sophomore Madaline Norton said.

But even when students heard about the club aspect of Clazel being discontinued, they weren’t surprised it was happening.

“I did hear about it. I’ve never been there. I’ve heard it’s on the lower end side,” third year student Justin Weir said.

Clazel first made the announcement that they were phasing out their nightclub in a Facebook post dated Dec. 17, 2015.
University lags on gender issues

In one of the University’s core values it reads: “We respect one another and foster diversity and a culture of inclusion.”

As much as I believe that the University attempts to hold this value together and exonerates it through service and community programming, the idea of total diversity and a complete culture of inclusion could use some work.

For the past couple years, I have watched the administration try and sometimes succeed at moving toward a more progressive stance on topics that many universities around the country are trying to reconcile, such as: gender neutral housing and bathrooms, improvements on disability services, working with queer students and students of color, etc, etc.

The attention that I wish to be drawn from this editorial lies in the word “sometimes.” The University and the administration could be doing better at fostering diversity and a culture of inclusion. A lot better, in fact.

For all intensive purposes, I will draw on one example that I’m sure has haunted Undergraduate Student Government meetings for years: gender neutral bathrooms.

Why is this a hard concept to imagine?

The action of not considering placing gender-neutral bathrooms in every building on campus is not simply an option anymore, but rather a refusal to be pioneers in college campus inclusion and to practice a culture of true safety and security.

Granted, the University takes most of their capital planning from the numbers based off demographics, but who are we to deny students who feel uncomfortable using either bathroom their basic human right of living a true, authentic life.

To play devil’s advocate with myself, I would ask, “Why the rush and why the need for immediate accessibility?”

However, to discuss accessibility so lightly is to place the problems of trans students lightly.

In an already hetero-normative dominated society and attending a hetero-normative dominated university, trans students are always subjected to the idea of intolerance, bullying and blatant aggression with each waking day, along with dealing with the complexities of potential gender dysphoria (the condition of feeling one’s emotional and psychological identity as male or female to be opposite to one’s biological sex).

Having to haul around to specific buildings on campus to alleviate the triggering affects of picking and choosing which bathroom to use due to their gender identity or harassment is quite frankly a joke.

There is no campus where specific buildings and certain corners designated for differently identifying students is acceptable.

Money being used for buildings that would stand stronger for the next few years I’m sure would be a little sacrifice in the name of being inclusive.

This is your call to action, administration. This is your movement, USG. This is an issue that needs to be solved quickly and efficiently without much of a fuss.

Let us foster diversity and a culture of inclusion deep within the campus instead of on a pretty orange and brown colored poster.

Respond to Michele at themnews@bgnews.com
Women, glass ceiling and dignity in football

Last Wednesday, the Buffalo Bills announced that Kathryn Smith, 30, has been promoted to Quality Control-Special Teams coach. This advancement makes her the first ever full-time female coach in the NFL. Smith began her career as the New York Jets' game-day and special events intern. Shortly after, she accepted a college scouting internship for two seasons, and later worked as a player personnel assistant in 2007. After over 10 years with the team, Smith followed then-Jets Coach, Rex Ryan, to Buffalo.

On the Bills' website, Kathryn stated, “I might be the first, but I think very quickly there are going to be many other women in the league. ... I don't think I'll be the only one for very long.” In fact, she's not entirely alone in the realm of female coaches at the professional level of a male-dominated sport. In August 2014, the San Antonio Spurs named former WNBA player Becky Hammon the first full-time female assistant coach in NBA history. Nancy Lieberman of the Sacramento Kings claims the same title.

Narrowing our focus back to the NFL, the Arizona Cardinals hired Jen Welter as an assistant coaching intern for training camp in July of 2015.

In the NFL, there have been female owners, executives, administrators and scouts, but Smith’s path is unlike anything we’ve ever seen.

Her job description includes: working alongside the Special Teams coordinator and assistant to diagram plays, scout the blocking stratagem of opposing teams, analyze kicker and punter tendencies, break down film and help the Bills prepare for their opponent’s offensive tactics overall.

Smith succeeds Michael Hamlin, former NFL safety, so being an NFL veteran isn’t a requirement for the coaching position [much like having a Y chromosome]. For anybody who loves, supports and respects women, this is huge.

Unfortunately, Smith has encountered a slew of misogynistic retorts from disbelieving Neanderthals.

Cleveland-based radio show host, Kevin Kiley of the Kiley and Carman Show, called Smith’s promotion “abused.” Furthermore, “she couldn’t possibly be qualified to the same level that a man could be qualified to. There’s no place for a woman in professional sports, in football coaching men,” he stated.

Makeup shaming has gone on for too long

This is in response to “Makeup shaming is unacceptable” originally printed January 13, 2016

To The Editor,

As you know, I am a fan of your articles; I love the latest.

In my twenties, older women chastised me for wearing makeup; I was too young. In my forties, they chastised me for wearing make-up, I was too old. Two or three years ago, I gradually stopped: my make-up, light skin colored, seem to run into my white hair; blush made the rest of my face look tired; I could not wear mascara (I have weepy eyes and I did a fab imitation of a raccoon). I have always worn lipstick; believe it or not the non-lipstick wearing younger grad students in the late 1980s, also getting their Ph.D., made fun of me because my coffee cup or water glass was the “mommy” container because of the lipstick stain and only old women wore lipstick.

You are right. Each of us should do what we like and forget the, from Shakespeare, “the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune” and “sticks and stones,” from somebody that I forgot!

Dr. Lynda Dixon

Get a job.

Or at least a well-respected volunteer office experience where you get to read the newspaper during your shift, eat Wendy’s, wear flip-flops and still have a great portfolio of highly professional work to show for it.

Come copy edit.
thenews@bgnews.com

SUBMISSION POLICY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters are to be fewer than 300 words. They should be in response to current issues on campus or in the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS: Guest Columns are generally longer pieces between 400 and 700 words. Two submissions per month maximum.

POLICIES: Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Forum page permits. Additional Letters or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-MAIL SUBMISSIONS: Send submissions as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked “Letter to the Editor” or “Guest Column.” All submissions are subject to review and editing for length and clarity before printing.
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Continued from Page 2

2:28 A.M.
Mitchell A. Gentile, 19, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was arrested for underage under the influence and criminal trespassing within the 300 block of N. Grove Street. He was lodged at the Wood County Justice Center.

2:38 A.M.
Stanley J. Kuron, 20, of Bowling Green, was arrested for criminal damaging and underage under the influence within the 100 block of S. Main Street. He was lodged at the Wood County Justice Center.

8:47 A.M.
Richard L. Delaney II, 21, of Bowling Green, was cited for failure to maintain a litter-free premise within the 100 block of Manville Avenue.

5:15 P.M.
Complainant reported that someone had stolen a 5-foot stuffed dragon from her residence within the 1000 block of Clough Street.

MON., JAN. 18
12:34 A.M.
Joshua J. Gutbrod, 20, of Bowling Green, was arrested for assault and disrupting public service within the 400 block of Frazee Avenue. He was lodged in the Wood County Justice Center.

9:07 A.M.
Complainant reported that $145 has been stolen over the last two weekends from an office within the 500 block of Pearl Street. There were no signs of forced entry.

11:23 A.M.
Complainant reported a jacket and a water filter were stolen from his vehicle within the 300 block of S. Church Street. The items are valued at $170.

7:47 P.M.
Hunter L. Baum, 22, of Bowling Green, was arrested for theft/shoplifting within the 1000 block of N. Main Street. She was lodged in the Wood County Justice Center.

5:03 P.M.
Complainant reported the outer casing of the driver's side mirror was broken off their vehicle within the 1000 block of Fairview Avenue.

WED., JAN. 20
11:50 A.M.
Complainant reported that on two separate occasions someone entered his residence when no one was home and took multiple Xbox items within the 200 block of S. Mercer Road. He believes he lost a key to the residence.

4:55 P.M.
Sydnee P. Armston, 19, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was arrested for theft/shoplifting within the 100 block of W. Gypsy Lane Road. She was lodged in the Wood County Justice Center.

THUR., JAN. 21
9:43 P.M.
Jordan T. McGraw, 25, of Bowling Green, was arrested for operating a vehicle under the influence and drug abuse within the 1000 block of Finch Drive. He was lodged in the Wood County Justice Center.

FRI., JAN. 22
1:04 A.M.
Bridget A. McGowan, 19, of Bowling Green, was cited for underage under the influence within the 200 block of E. Wooster Street.

Peace Lutheran Church
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Prayer • Silence • Song

Taize Evening Prayer
6:00 p.m.
Thursday Evenings

Continued from Page 2

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Shuttle drivers spend days serving students

By Taylor McFarland
Reporter

On a typical day on the University's campus, four to five different shuttles navigate throughout the Bowling Green area. Some travel off-campus to retrieve students who live in apartments or take students to the grocery store. Others navigate through the campus by residence halls and other buildings to accommodate students in getting to class or back to their rooms for that life-restoring, afternoon nap.

Typically, when students ride a shuttle, they're mainly concerned with finding seats, having their phones or other music player with headphones in hand and keeping watch for when the shuttle arrives at their destinations.

But let's rewind.

Take out those headphones, put your phone back in your pocket, get up from your seat and walk backwards down the aisle, down the steps, outside the shuttle doors as they close, then stop.

Typically, when the shuttle doors fly open and await your entrance at the head of the bus, which is the first face you see? Have you ever wondered about the story behind the one in the driver's seat?

Tom, the night driver for the main route, has been working for the University Shuttle Services for about fourteen years. “I love my job,” he said. “I really like communicating with the students, talking to them about studies, sports, perspectives on issues, as well as where they are from and how they like BGSU.”

Originally from Toledo, Ohio and a current resident, Tom is a Woodward High School graduate of 1975. He was hired at the University Shuttle Services in December 2012. It began as a part-time job, but he was eventually offered full-time. He and fellow shuttle driver and long-time friend Richard Van Horn were hired the same day.

Tom is also a member on the Classified Staff Council at the University. Here, he is able to participate in conversations regarding issues on campus as well as plans for the University as a whole.

Before coming to Bowling Green, Tom was an auto mechanic for twenty-seven years.

“I wanted to do something different,” he said. “I went and got my CDL (commercial driver’s license) and worked as a substitute bus driver.” A CDL is needed to drive certain vehicles, including buses and semi-trucks.

As a substitute bus driver, Tom worked for Perrysburg Schools for twelve years. At one point in time, he had been working for the cities of Eastwood, Maumee and Perrysburg at the same time.

Thanks to his supervisor’s sister who worked in Eastwood with him, Tom found out about a job opening in Shuttle Services at the University.

“I was absolutely excited when I heard about the opening.” he said.

Curtis, another shuttle driver, is mostly known for the night route that travels downtown Thursdays through Saturdays. “It is an exciting job. I enjoy working with students. It’s a great school,” he said. “I see a lot of interesting things, especially when driving the night routes.”

Being from Findlay, Ohio, Curtis was familiar with the Bowling Green area before he started working for the University. In addition, his wife had attended the University.

Before working with the University, Curtis worked in a factory now known as CBC. His position was known as the machine op.

“It is the person who keeps the line running,” he explained. “If the machine wasn’t running right, no one else could do their job properly.”

After about four years, he earned his Class B CDL then applied to Shuttle Services.

Curtis has been working with Shuttle Services for six years. He started working in April 2010 and it is his full-time job.

Curtis has attended Owens Community College of Findlay and is now attending the University as an Early Childhood Inclusive major for his second semester. He is not quite sure if that will change in the future.

Both Tom and Curtis are fans of the University and its students.
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Spring enrollment headcount
The official 15-day headcount statistics for student enrollment at the University

Students, Spring of 2016
13,397

Students, Spring of 2015
13,116

Difference
281; 2.1%

Students, Spring of 2016
2,639

Students, Spring of 2015
2,411

Difference
228; 9.5%

Students, Spring of 2016
2,232

Students, Spring of 2015
2,034

Difference
198; 9.7%
Falcons win two straight games against Alaska

By Zane Miller
Sports Reporter

The Falcons dominated the Alaska Anchorage Seawolves on Thursday and Friday night, winning both games by scores of 6-2.

The team’s offense, which had been struggling to score goals before the series began, put up 12 combined goals, the most they have scored in a series this season.

“IT had a lot to do with our process this week,” sophomore forward Brandon Hawkins said. “We all chipped in with shooting pucks (in practice), we all tried to score 50 goals a day- without the goalie in the net of course- but that was our deal between each other. We went and did that and I think that’s paid off all year.”

Once the game got underway, both teams were tied 1-1 until the 7:51 mark of the second period, when freshman forward Stephen Baylis scored to give the Falcons a 2-1 lead. Fellow freshman forward Joe McKeown scored his first collegiate goal just eight seconds later to give the Falcons a two goal advantage. The team’s offense was dominant for the rest of the second period, as Hawkins, Cooper and sophomore defenceman Mark Friedman scored later in the period to make it a 6-1 game.

The five goals scored by the Falcons in the second period were the most scored in one period since Dec. 30, 2005, when the team scored four goals in the second on their way to a 9-2 victory over the Connecticut Huskies.

“I know our guys were excited, it was a great crowd,” Falcons head coach Chris Bergeron said. “Our guys had energy tonight, wanted to play well in front of the home fans and they did.”

The second game of the series got off to a similar start, as the teams were tied at 1-1 early on. However, the Falcons took advantage of a five minute power play to score two goals while on the main advantage, the first by freshman defenseman Adam Smith, who scored his first collegiate goal at 10:23 of the first period. Senior forward Brent Tate scored his second goal of the season to give the team a 3-1 lead.

“We’ve been getting good efforts every weekend, at least one, and we want to find a way to make it two,” Bergeron said. “The difference between good and great in college is the consistent effort over the course of a weekend, it was nice to get that this weekend.”

The team remains in second place in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association standings, due to a two game sweep by the first place Minnesota State Mavericks. The Falcons are just one spot ahead of the Michigan Tech Huskies, whom the Falcons will play next Friday and Saturday night.

“The difference between good and great in college is the consistent effort over the course of a weekend, it was nice to get that this weekend.”

Chris Bergeron, Head Coach

Sophomore Forward Brett D’Andrea fights for position this past weekend against Alaska Anchorage. He had four shot attempts in two games.

PHOTO BY PAIGE APKARIAN

UPCOMING GAMES

TUESDAY, JAN 26
Mens Basketball:
@ Western Michigan | 7pm

WEDNESDAY, JAN 27
Womens Basketball:
vs. Eastern Michigan | 7pm

FRIDAY, JAN 29
Womens Tennis:
vs. University of Dayton | 12pm
Womens Swim:
@ Eastern Michigan | 5pm
Womens Track:
@ SPIRE Midwest Open | 7pm
Hockey:
vs. Michigan Tech | 7:07pm
Freshman Guard Carly Santoro drives past a defender earlier this season.

**Womens Basketball win second straight at home**

**By Elias Faneuff**
Sports Reporter

The BGSU womens basketball team recorded their second win in a row against Kent State at home on Saturday. They are now 3-4 in the Mid-American Conference and 7-9 overall.

Sydney Lambert and Rachel Myers lead the way for the Falcons with a solid performance in the backcourt. Lambert ended the contest with 20 and Myers with 15. They were the only players in double digits for Bowling Green.

The duo was lights out from behind the arc, combining for 11 makes out of 15 attempts from long range.

The three point shooting overall proved a valuable asset against Kent State as the team shot nearly 52 percent from behind the arc. After trailing in the first quarter by two, BG was able to regroup defensively and held Kent State to 11 points in the second quarter.

The Falcons continued with their defense in the third quarter, holding Kent to 11 to open the second half.

The Falcons were also aggressive to open the quarter, scoring 25 points against the Kent State defense.

The BG bench gave solid contributions as guard Carly Santoro ended with 9 points, 4 rebounds and 2 steals. Every member of the bench saw the court for playing time as the game went out of reach for Kent after the third quarter.

"After Wednesday's win we were pretty excited. We just need to continue to have high emotion, high intensity and keep getting wins," said Myers.

Myers also noticed the poise and confidence from her teammates, particularly after the first quarter.

"We started shooting the ball well after the first quarter and I think we just had the momentum throughout the game," she said.

Meanwhile, head coach Jennifer Roos was satisfied with the team's effort and impressive shooting form behind the arc.

"Everything is about effort and we got that today," Roos said. "When you make shots you're going to play better on both ends of the floor."

The team will aim to go for its third straight win in the MAC as they host Eastern Michigan on Wednesday at the Stroh Center.

"I'm proud of our effort today, playing in front of our home fans as well as getting two wins in a row and we got a big game on Wednesday night against our western division rival Eastern Michigan," Roos said.

**Why the Cleveland Cavaliers won’t succeed**

**By Evan Hayes**
Sports Reporter

The Cleveland Cavaliers sent shock waves rippling through the NBA last week when they announced the dismissal of head coach David Blatt. The news blindsided many in the NBA community, as the Cavs hold the best record in the East and were only hours removed from an impressive win over the LA Clippers. In the hours and days that followed, the Cavs started to become even more of a circus.

Tyronn Lue, the league’s highest paid assistant coach who had been brought in to help Blatt transition smoothly to the NBA, signed a three year contract to become Cleveland’s head coach immediately. Reports about LeBron James’ involvement in the firing also became a point of debate, with many analysts claiming he caused the firing while James himself denied any knowledge or involvement.

The move was made in the sense of progress, with General Manager David Griffin claiming that the move was meant to increase the Cavs’ chances in their pursuit of a championship this season while fitting their personnel and vision better. But firing a coach who had an 83-40 record and a Finals appearance while coaching an upper tier offense and defense is a clear symptom of a deeper issue within the organization, and it will ultimately be the Cavs’ undoing in the championship pursuit.

While the team has been the best in the East, that distinction is not something many teams choose to hang their hat on these days. The Cavs would be in fourth place in the Western conference with their 30-12 record, and the way they have played this season has not lend any hope to their chances of beating either the Spurs or the Warriors.

The San Antonio Spurs and Golden State Warriors have been the two best teams in the league this season, and both may be in the conversation for the greatest team of all time. The Warriors hold the best record in the NBA after rattling off a record 24 game win streak to begin the season, while the Spurs are posting the best net rating as a team (14.9) ever in the history of the league.

Both teams are blindingly brilliant, and the Cavs have little hope of knocking off either of them in the postseason. They have not won against either of the two teams yet this season, and their last game against the Warriors resulted in a 34-point blowout.

The franchise is also clearly conflicted as to what to do with Kevin Love. The versatile power forward was under utilized under Blatt, but he has struggled to adapt to a tertiary role behind James and Kyrie Irving.

His defense is poor, and has such little support within the organization that it was reported when the players were called together to be told of Blatt’s dismissal, some of his teammates thought Love was being traded. Ultimately, it seems that Love is a square peg trying to fit into a round hole of the Cavs franchise.

LeBron James’ involvement in the franchise’s procedures has become toxic, and may be the ultimate undoing of the Cavs.

While LeBron is the greatest player of his generation, his lack of postseason success has been an ongoing narrative throughout his career. This season, ultimately, will follow suit as the Cavs become more and more dysfunctional.

"LeBron James' involvement in the franchise's procedures has become toxic, and may be the ultimate undoing of the Cavs."
Pay gap hard to isolate among other factors

By Tiffany Jackson
Reporter

As The New York Times writes on how to bridge the pay gap between men and women, the same problem is hard to identify at universities, if it exists there at all.

In a Jan. 15 article, The New York Times reported that the “stubborn” pay gap exists in a wide variety of occupations.

In an article by The American Association of University Women, it was reported that women currently only make about 79 cents to every dollar that men make. Women of minority groups, however, make even less than this. In 2014, the pay gap was largest for Hispanic and Latina women who only made 54 percent of what white men were paid.

As women fight to have their wages raised to equal that of men’s, this type of discrimination doesn’t appear to be present on campus. Wages differ from professor to professor for multiple reasons. One of these reasons that is more prominent is the lower number of female tenure-track professors compared to male professors.

Director and Graduate Coordinator of Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality studies Sandra Faulkner said there is a “disproportionate amount of female representation of women in non-tenure-track faculty.”

Faulkner also said that adjustments to pay are often due to rank and not to gender. A full time professor on a tenure-track is more likely to make more money than an associate professor that is not on a tenure-track. If a pay gap was present and due to gender it might be difficult to find because of other factors.

Some other reasons that wages differ is the differences in different types of occupations, rank, market value and years of experience. Some areas of study tend to make more than others. Determining if a pay gap problem is present would require combining a number of factors in with the differences in salaries.

Another contributing factor to a pay gap would be negotiation.

Department of Economics Lecturer Katherine Kontak said, “Men tend to negotiate and push for a higher salary, women don’t.”

Women who don’t negotiate at the beginning of a job could lose out on raises and future salaries that are based on starting salaries, according to the New York Times.

Kontak also said rank and years of experience could be reasons for a pay gap and that these are “OK reasons why I might get paid less.”

With multiple factors contributing to a potential pay gap it doesn’t seem likely that the University has an issue with a gender related pay gap on campus. Current differences in salaries are more likely to be because of the factors previously listed rather than discrimination.
USG promotes new space

By Michele Mathis
Managing Editor

At the past Undergraduate Student Government meeting, Director of Capital Planning Patrick Nelson spoke about the changes happening in the Union.

Nelson presented a map of the Union and showed the completion of “Phase 1” in the Union parking lot.

Nelson said that the parking lot will be slated to be mostly complete over the summer, but will be done officially by the fall.

When the discussion turned towards the inside of the Union, a large portion was dedicated to the ideas and plans for the implementation of a new multicultural lounge and space.

Dr. Sidney Childs, interim director of Student Affairs, was asked by Nelson to answer the questions about the multicultural space.

“There have been preliminary discussion with Call to Action where they have been helping us determine what that space is going to look like,” Childs said. “It would include the multi-cultural affairs, TRIO and the (LGBTQ) resource center.”

Childs said that the administration decided not to put together a “make-shift” space for multicultural students.

“It was agreed that we should not make-shift the space because what I didn’t want in terms of the presentation … as it relates to multiculturalism, or underrepresented groups or marginalized groups, it has been make-shift,” Childs said.

He said that they will not know when the multicultural space will be open and ready to use, but are trying to move the room up on the capital planning agenda.

Luke Savot, a diversity affairs representative, said that this multicultural space is critical for any students who exist with a marginalized identity.

“I hope that the space will improve on what we already have,” he said. “Right now the resource center and the ethnic student center both are not private spaces, they’re very small … and they are only open during office hours.”

Savot looks forward to the new center having more accessibility.

“This is important because the space represents the University’s dedication to students with marginalized identities,” he said.

During lobby time, Lily Murnen, president of the Environmental Action Group, and Matthew Cunningham, an at-large senator, presented an open letter to President Mary Ellen Mazey asking her about a solar project that the University has been researching.

The project is based off a city solar project that would influence and reduce campuses carbon footprint by 2040.

Cunningham said that in 2012, the University and President Mazey signed a document entitled the American College Climate Plan, that ensured that the college will do everything available to reduce its carbon footprint by 2040.

“It is our understanding that our project is not being taken on by the University,” Cunningham said. “We are asking, President Mazey, are you staying true to your commitment to clean energy … and what can we as concerned students to make this project a reality?”

Cunningham said that he hopes it sparks discussion on how they move forward with the solar project.

“We don’t want to hear an excuse that this project cannot be a reality. We want to compromise and see it through,” he said.
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living on campus now have to pick up any packages they receive in the multicultural lounge, where students could often go to sit and do homework.

Adjacent to the multicultural lounge on the second floor of the Union, the commuter lounge, which also provided seating for students, has now been closed off to become a temporary location for Ziggabyte, the Union’s technology store.

The use of the lounges for these moves has resulted in a shortage of seating for students. The lack of seating has become quite inconvenient to students who come to the Union during lunch hours to take a break to either study or eat.

Sophomore Jessica Cunningham thinks the Union should add more seating until the changes are complete.

“I just think they need smaller tables instead of the big ones,” she said. “I feel like they don't utilize space well.”

The Office of Capital Planning did say they were nearing completion on a space study, but they are hoping to increase the space available to students. The Office of Capital Planning has said they’re trying to use the building in the best way possible, calling the new changes “a nice add to the Union.”

The Union parking lot will also be renovated, adding 200 parking spaces for students, staff and event parking.

A student sleeps on the floor of the Union, unable to find a chair to nap in during the busy lunch rush.

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