

President Wang Unveils IT Plan

By Ivana Airo
Senior Reporter

On December 10, 2015, President Jianping Wang met with Information Technology (IT) staff members and informed them of the possibility of restructuring their department at MCCC. At the time, the IT employees took this news with much surprise because they were not aware of the President's plans nor were they told how the restructuring would look like.

Professor of English and IT advisory committee member, Dr. Edward Carmien explains that this restructuring is less about cost and more about adding different capacity to the IT area. "We need job A done but we have type B people" Carmien told The VOICE.

The President pointed out that there are possibilities to move IT professionals into other areas on campus.

As Carmien explained, "We have a person who does our academic scheduling who has been moved into the academic division instead of working directly for IT" and "someone who has done our public relations web-based works, now works for marketing."

This strategy would open at least 10 positions around the college that IT employees could apply to.



PHOTO | IVANA AIRO

President Jianping Wang at a public hearing held on February 3 in the Communications Building.

Although this has provided job opportunities for several IT staff, there is not enough openings for everyone, thus creating a negative effect on morale. "The way this is being done is disastrous, it has not been an academic institution friendly process" Carmien told The VOICE.

During the public hearing held on February 3, President Wang explained the three plans being considered for restructuring.

The first choice is

maintaining the status quo, and doing nothing. "This the college cannot sustain" stated President Wang.

The second choice is to fully outsource the whole IT operation. "I do not believe that serves the college best in multiple ways, it will disregard the dedication and hard working and expertise of some of our IT employees, we need to take full advantage of their institutional knowledge" Wang explained to the audience.

The final choice being

considered is to adopt a hybrid system, which incorporates external expertise (particularly in the colleague system through a selected vendor) and combining it with the internal expertise of IT staff. The ultimate goal in this plan is to return the complete control of the IT operation back to the college in 5 years.

Chairman Mark Matzen explained that he hopes to have a decision made concerning the restructuring of IT services.

"Hopefully we will be

able to have a decision shortly, I know and I have heard it here a lot that unknowing is causing a lot of angst and causing a lot of nervousness and a lot of undue pressure among everybody" stated Matzen during the hearing.

Currently, the Board of Trustees are in the process of considering the options that President Wang has outlined. Matzen said "It is a process we take very seriously, we want to make sure the IT services is the best it can be."

Vice President Chang says goodbye to Mercer



PHOTO | COLLEGE VOICE

Vice President Eun-Woo Chang saying his farewells to several faculty and staff members who attended a reception on February 4 in the Art Gallery located on the West Windsor site of MCCC.

By Ousman Joof
Senior Reporter

Vice President Eun-Woo Chang of Academic Affairs worked his last day in office on February 8 at Mercer County Community College (MCCC). The Vice President tenured his resignation to accept a position as Provost at Ashland University in Ohio.

Prior to Dr. Chang's departure, the college hosted a farewell reception to say thanks and to wish him well in his new position. The event took place in the Art Gallery on Thursday February 4.

Originally, Dr. Chang was planning to stay at MCCC for at least the next three years. However, in the middle of the previous semester, Chang felt like circumstances started to change and he wanted to see a new beginning.

During Dr. Chang's speech at his reception, he reminded faculty and staff members that "no matter what happens at the college you should never lose focus in the classroom and always take care of your students."

Although Dr. Chang's time here was short, he had greatly influenced MCCC's S.T.E.M program. With his help, the school received a grant in the amount of \$600,000

from the NSF to help provide 116 full-tuition scholarships to students who are pursuing a career in STEM programs.

In a letter to her colleagues, President Dr. Jianping Wang stated "I want to express a final word of appreciation for Dr. Chang's many contributions to Mercer as he move[s] on to his next position as Provost of Ashland University in Ohio."

In response to Dr. Chang's leaving, second year Business Administration major Wai-Kit Fung said that "Although I never personally met [Dr. Chang] I did see a difference between my first year at Mercer to my second. I wish him the best of luck in the future."

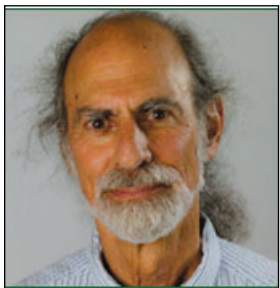
The search to replace Dr. Chang has already begun and the posting of the position will be sent to national publications, like the Chronicle of Higher Education.

The search committee will convene in March and is expecting to deliver recommendations by the end of next month. Finalist will be sent to the Board of Trustees for consideration at their normal meeting on April 21.

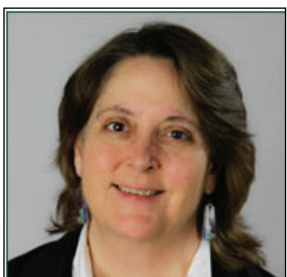
For now, Assistant Vice President for Academic Operations Susan Zambrio will run Academic Affairs until February 22 when Dr. Richard Fulton receives official approval by the Board of Trustees.

Campus Events

The Faculty Corner



Dr. Robin Schore
Dean of Arts and Sciences,
Dr. Robin Schore, has announced that he will be retiring at the end of the current, spring semester.



Dr. Barbara Hamilton
Assistant Professor of English and Coordinator of Peer Tutor Training, Dr. Hamilton has been reappointed and it is anticipated she will receive tenure in the fall semester.



Dr. Daniel D'Arpa
Associate Professor of Spanish, Dr. D'Arpa completed his dissertation last semester and received his doctoral degree from Temple University.



Dr. Matthew J. Kochis
Assistant Professor of English and Journalism, Dr. Kochis completed his dissertation last semester and received his doctoral degree from the University of Tulsa.



Dr. Rena Papafratzeskakou
Assistant Professor of Psychology, Dr. Papafratzeskakou has been reappointed and it is anticipated she will receive tenure in the fall semester.

SGA swings into action this spring



PHOTO | STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

The Executive Board and Advisers of the Student Government Association at MCCC on Club Day, held February 3.

By Robby Rowley
Junior Reporter

SGA is an acronym for the Student Government Association at Mercer County Community College. This association is run by students whose main purpose is to govern the lives of MCCC students and help them do better in school. But their biggest responsibility is that they are entrusted with the care of the students in all aspects of their college life.

Carrie Krewson, Carly Layton, and Richard Ward are a few executive members of SGA who help carry out the organization's mission. Krewson is the secretary of SGA and it is her job to take

the minutes of each meeting, especially at general and finance consultations. In addition to this, she gathers selected information for many of their sponsored events.

Carly Layton is the senate leader. "The senate is a group of students who do volunteer work at SGA events" described Layton. In regards to her specific duties, she said "A senate leader helps administer the events."

Rick Ward serves as the president of SGA. According to him, "When I'm in charge, everyone gets a vote. Democracy is for everybody."

Through the use of public polling and planning, SGA manages to pull off a lot of fun and exciting events for the

student body to participate in. Besides school events, the SGA also does a lot of charity work. As a result, they help people out in both school and around their community. In addition to this, Rick Ward, the SGA president, is planning to build up the Kearney campus, which he sees as a thriving community and essential part of Mercer.

Like any government, they have real world politics involved within their agenda, so as to keep them on track and as professional as possible. For example, President Ward appears as a recurring guest on the campus radio station where he promotes better moral standards as well as remind the student body of real-world issues.

Another interesting fact

about the SGA is that they have a constitution which is all binding to every club here at Mercer. This means that if things go wrong, they can immediately take action.

For instance, the constitution dictates how they can make sure that everyone votes fairly to avoid a "rigged" election.

If you want to learn more about how to get involved with the SGA, feel free to attend some of their meetings. They meet on February 25th, March 29th, and April 19th in SC104 from noon till 1P.M. All are welcome to come to their executive board meetings to voice any concerns, desires, etc. Any questions, please contact them at 609-570-3428 or sga@mccc.edu for more information.

MCCC Prepares for Middle States

By Onika George
Junior Reporter

Next month, the Middle States Commission on Higher Education will visit Mercer County Community College to assess whether the school will remain on temporary warning for failure to meet two of the Commission's required standards.

Ever since the public was informed that the school might lose its accreditation, everyone has been wondering about the status of Mercer and whether or not it will successfully be taken off the warning list.

According to the Acting Dean of Institutional Effectiveness, Professor Karen Bearce says that the college was put on notice by the Commission since the end of June 2015. Since that time, the school has been diligently working as an institution to meet the accreditation requirements as noted in the

Commission's action report. In preparation, the college has put together a monitoring report that will be submitted to Middle States by March 1, 2016.

Members of the President Leadership team reviewed the document on January 4. Following this, the school's Board of Trustees will provide feedback. If everyone agrees on the document, it will be approved by the February board meeting before it is officially given to Middle States. Once the Commission receives the report, they will then send a small team to campus on March 22 and 23.

Professor Karen Bearce assures the students that if Mercer should fail to receive Middle States' approval, the school will have another year to get back in shape and students currently enrolled will still be able to transfer their credits to four-year colleges.

To better prepare for the

Commission's assessment, the school has hired a Director of Assessment, Dr. Elizabeth Anderson, to make sure that faculty and staff comply with the necessary rules in order to gain approval. Bearce says that the institution is working very hard to pass their "exam."

In addition to evaluating the schools compliance with Standard 7 (Institutional Effectiveness) and Standard 14 (Assessment of Student Learning), the Commission has asked MCCC to further address standard 2 (how the college allocates budget and resources towards standard 7) and Standard 10 (how the college allocates budget to standard 14).

Bearce strongly assures the students that Mercer is doing everything in their power to ace what Middle States are looking for.

Some students expressed that they are anxious to

hear Mercer's results.

Silpa Joseph, a first year student majoring in Cyber Security, told the VOICE that "I did not know that this was happening. Now I am worried about what is going to happen to my credits. Am I supposed to be worried because I need the credits to transfer to a 4-year college of my choice?"

Kwaw Annan, a major in Computer Engineering, similarly expressed his feelings: "This is worrying because I am devoting my time and energy into my studies and my part time job to pay for my tuition, so I hope Mercer is doing what Middle States requires from them."

Professor Bearce assures the students of Mercer that there is no need for alarm because faculty and staff are working around the clock to prepare for the Commission's visit in March.

Local Events

Honoring Martin Luther King Jr

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the college
VOICE 3

The
**Celebrity
Scoop**

By John Flanagan & the
Staff of the College Voice

On January 18, the James Kearney campus of Mercer County Community College hosted a tribute for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The event began at 4:00pm. With the motto, "Change your thoughts, change your life," the celebration began when the Mistress of Ceremonies, Veronica Werner, leading everyone to sing "Lift Every Voice and Sing."

Following this, Monica L. Weaver, the Provost of the campus, welcomed the attendees and introduced them to the entertainment, including a panel composed of prominent community members who discussed matters on race and the future.

Under the Assistant Director Brian Cody's guidance, the Upward Bound Group and the award winning Mercer College Poets read to the audience selections focused on current social justice issues.

Professor of Communications, Alwyn Haywood, served as the moderator for the panel discussion. This discussion was the

centerpiece of the event.

During the event, questions were directed by Professor Alwynod on general questions such as what truly matters in life to more pointed ones referring to how race is treated in the community and whether the criminal justice system needs to be reformed.

In addition, panelists discussed options on how to create meaningful experiences for the youth to better prepare them to become leaders of the future to create a better social climate.

The event was well attended and helped inform the community about how important it is to celebrate Martin Luther King's ideas.

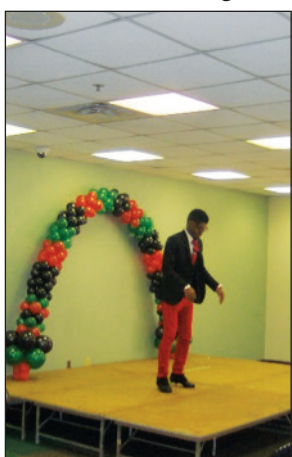


PHOTO | JOHN FLANAGAN

Quinten Couch, a dance teacher and performer, shows the audience his unique style of dancing.



PHOTO | JOHN FLANAGAN

Provost Monica L. Weaver, welcomed attendees to the MLK event hosted on January 18.



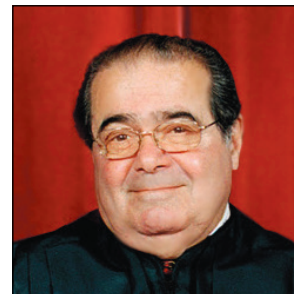
PHOTO | JOHN FLANAGAN

Professor Alwyn Haywood served as the moderator of a panel focused on racial issues hosted at the MLK tribute.



PHOTO | JOHN FLANAGAN

Panelist Members from left to right: Attorney Helen Higginsbotham, Tracy D. Syphax, Bishop Gary Mullings, and Darren Green.



JUSTICE ANTONIN SCALIA

Trenton born Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States of America, Antonin Scalia, died on February 13, 2016. He died in his sleep of natural causes.



POPE FRANCIS

Pope Francis met with Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill in Cuba this week. This is the first time that the heads of both religions have convened since the two separated in a schism nearly a thousand years ago. The meeting took place at Jose Marti International Airport in Havana where the leaders jointly issued a plea for persecuted Christians.

Snowstorm Juan Wallops Local Area

By Albert Bainbridge IV
Junior Reporter

In the early hours of January 23, Winter Storm Jonas made landfall in New Jersey, hitting the state with record breaking snow accumulation.

In our local area, according to the National Weather Service, Trenton received a total of 22 inches which is equivalent of almost 2 feet of snow from Jonas. While kids loved playing in all of the snow during the weekend, it left parents, plowmen, and adults the task of cleaning up all the snow for hours.

Along with record breaking snowfall, Jonas was also one of the deadliest storms in recent memory as well. According to Weather Channel, Winter Storm Jonas left at least 50 people dead throughout states located in the northeast. In addition, it could cost up to 850 million dollars for states to clean up the mess, thus placing a strain on the local economy.

As the snow dwindled down and the roadways became safer to drive, the VOICE reached out to a

local resident of Trenton, Mark Schaible, to discuss his reactions to the storm.

Schaible said "by far this was the worst winter storm I can remember. I can't remember vividly a time when I went to bed late Friday night and waking up Sunday morning and it was still snowing. It seemed as though it was never going to stop."

In addition to residents, the VOICE reached out to local businesses to see if they were prepared for the weather. According to Crystal, an employee at the local Lowe's store in Hamilton, NJ who requested that her last name not be used, she said "In the hours leading up to the storm, we sold completely out of snow shovels."

Unfortunately, the wrath of Jonas was felt throughout the majority of the East Coast. Not only was New Jersey hit hard, but other states that were directly affected by it as well were Maryland, Virginia, Washington D. C., Pennsylvania, New York, and Delaware.

As we turned to the New Year of 2016, we left 2015 without much snow or cold weather at all through

the month of December. In fact, according to NJ.com's own Len Melisurgo, in December 2015, New Jersey set an all-time for record high temperatures.

The normal December temperature in New Jersey was averaged at 35.6 degrees. However, in 2015, the average temperature was 47.4 degrees which

is just about 12 degrees higher than the average or normal temperature in past Decembers in NJ.

In the following days, weeks, or possibly months it takes to recover from this natural disaster, Winter Superstorm Jonas will go down as one of the most devastating snowstorms of recent memory.



PHOTO | ALBERT BAINBRIDGE IV

Local resident clears off the mountainous snow amount left by Jonas.



BEYONCE

During the half time show of the 50th Super Bowl game, Beyonce gave a performance that critics say alluded to Black Panthers.

In addition, after the performance, members of her dance troupe joined a protest with the Black Lives Matters organization where they held up signs saying "Justice 4 Mario Woods."



SUE KLEBOLD

17 years after the Columbine High School shooting, Sue Klebold, the mother of one of the killers, finally tells her story in her first ever television interview with Diane Sawyer on ABC News.

Entertainment

Zombie Prom kills at Kelsey Theater

By Maura Dunn

Junior Reporter

From February 5-7, the Kelsey Players and The Tomato Patch Workshop performed an adaptation of *Zombie Prom* at the Kelsey Theatre. This play was directed by Dan Spalluto who is a staff member and director at the Kelsey Theatre.

For some background information, *Zombie Prom* is a horror comic book written by John Dempsey that was brought to life in a thrilling, witty, and comedic musical. Taking place in the 1950's, this story begins with an innocent young high school girl named Toffee (Samantha Phillips) who is dating the rebellious boy named Jonny (Jon Logan).

Toffee's parents force her never to see Jonny again, so as a result he goes down to the local electrical plant and kills himself. Toffee is heartbroken at the realization that her high school sweetheart is gone but a few weeks later she is startled to see Jonny once again as a zombie

Although Toffee is debating whether to take her dear Jonny back again, they go go prom together

because he is her true love. Meanwhile, Miss Delilah Strict, the principal, will do anything it takes for Jonny not to be back at school again even if it means canceling the prom.

Every actor and actress in this play had an amazing voice and wonderful dancing ability to go along with each scene. This musical sets itself apart from cheesy romance plays because it is oddly interesting and leaves every single scene with the audience cracking up. The performance had so much enthusiasm that it really makes it a must see.

Pam Jorgensen, who played Miss Delilah Strict, truly captured the audience's attention with her incredible acting ability and beautiful voice. She truly looked comfortable on the stage and made the entire audience laugh.

Jack Lynch, who portayed "Jake" in the play, said they began preparation in September rehearsing usually two or three times a week. "The overall preparation was a lot of dancing" he stated. The rehearsals obviously paid off as seen on stage. Lynch loved this play especially over other work he has done because "the



PHOTO | MCCC

The cast of Zombie Prom: front, from left: Alexys Pulsinelli, Zamir Gorden, Marissa Marciano and Jacqueline Galli; standing front left, Abby Kenna, Maddy Chartock, Mia Davis, Samantha Phillips, Abigale Valerio, Reva Sangal, Evan Chartock, TaylorRae Carter, Zach Abbruscato, Rachel Rivera, Ava Zoltanski and Pam Jorgensen; and back row, from left, Melissa Logan, Emma Behrens, Jasmine Livingston, Kaitlyn Anthony, Robby Angarone, Jon Logan, Brandon Luckenbaugh, Jordyn David, Zachary Finacchio, Scott Karlin and Jack Lynch.

cast became close quickly."

Audience member Amy Hauer stated that "the storyline was appealing to audiences of all ages" and that "the various plot twists had me

engaged the entire time." I

The performers in *Zombie Prom* worked extremely hard to pull off this knee-slapping, plot twisting, wonderful musical

that would have audience members wanting to come see it a second time. It left everyone in a great mood and appreciative of the talent we have right here in our own community.

Mercer County Artists display work on campus

By Christine Villafuerte

Junior Reporter

The Gallery at Mercer County Community College begins the first exhibit of the spring semester. The annual Mercer County Artists Exhibition. This exhibit will be on display from February 22nd through March 24th.

Any artist who is 18

or older and lives, works, or attends school in Mercer County is eligible to submit recent work for consideration for the show. Jesse Vincent, Education Coordinator at Artworks Trenton, will be the juror for the 2016 County Show.

Over \$1,500 in purchase and merit prizes will be awarded, including the Utrecht Art Supplies Best in Show prize and the annual West Windsor Arts Council

Prize for outstanding work by a West Windsor artist. Mercer County Cultural and Heritage Commission Purchase Award winners become part of the County's permanent art collection.

The Mercer County Artists Exhibit is said to be the highest attended show the Gallery puts on. "We are honored to host the county show once again and to highlight the talent

that Mercer County has to offer" states Gallery Director, Dylan Wolfe.

Opening Reception and Award Ceremony will take place Wednesday, Feb. 24 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. The show is free and open to the public. "All of us at the Gallery are excited to see what this event has in store" explains intern Michael Naples.

The Gallery will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays,

and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The Gallery at MCCC is located on the second floor of the Communications Building on the college's West Windsor campus, 1200 Old Trenton Road. Visitors are welcome to look around and enjoy the art on display.



PHOTO | IVANA AIRO

Interns volunteering their time to install art for the Mercer County Artists Exhibit at the gallery located on campus.

Basketball team “scores” for chairty

By Andrew Casale
Junior Reporter

Mercer County's women's basketball team, The Vikings, lost 24-57 against Union County College. The game was held in the Physical Education building on Mercer's West Windsor Campus Thursday, February 4. The Vikings were down nine points by halftime, bringing the score 15-26. The second half of the game was in favor of Union County with their team scoring 31 points while Mercer scored 9. According to Mercer County women's basketball game recap, “Freshman Nyeema Woodall had 8 points and 6 rebounds and sophomore Brianna Gurdon added 7 points and 5 rebounds. Sophomore Dana Davies

pulled down 8 rebounds and freshman Janine Dennis had 5 rebounds in the loss.” The Vikings record is 5-14.

The game was held for Mercer's 6th Annual Think Pink Breast Cancer Awareness Night. All proceeds from the night's game benefitted the Breast Cancer Resource Center of the Princeton YWCA.

John Simone, the Athletic Director, Assistant Dean, and Student Services stated, “The girls team play on Thursday's game was very good and I hope they continue with that.”

Simone later said, “The girls have to remember there is no superstar in the game. They have to act as one cohesive unit at all times in order to win.” Senior Dylan Albertson was impressed with the girl's perseverance saying, “The game was very good up until the very end. Even



PHOTO | IVANA AIRO

President Jianping Wang at a public hearing held on February 3 in the Communications Building.

though The Vikings lost, the girls didn't stop playing to their fullest until the last buzzer.” Last season, The Vikings ended with a 4-20 ratio. Comparing this to their record now, John Simone said, “I'm very happy

with the progress the girls have made.” The leading scorer this season is Freshman Delila Mena with 183 points. The Vikings play their next game against Raritan Valley College on Saturday, February 6th.

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EVENTS IN OUR
AREA?

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Super Bowl's commercials for 2016

By Dylan Moran
Junior Reporter

In 2015, 114.4 billion people had eyes on the Super Bowl when it aired, breaking records for the most watched broadcast in the United States. However, all of those viewers were also tuning in to the second reason to watch the Super Bowl: the commercials. The Super Bowl has been a hotspot for commercial advertisement since the first broadcast in 1967. Back then a 30 second ad would cost around \$40,000, compared to this year's cost of a 30 second spot marked at nearly \$5 million (not counting the actual costs of production).

Clearly most businesses find this expense to pay off in the long run, as common commercials continue to serve as a pop-culture phenomenon. In recent years, Super Bowl commercials have changed from interruptions or nuisances, to little nuggets of entertainment that, for many non-sports fans, serve as the primary draw for the sporting event. Some ads over

the years have caused laughter and tears, and became viral hits on Youtube and social media. And yet, some were still just boring filler commercials perfect for bathroom breaks and beverage fetching. Also, to the other extreme, other commercials were just bizarre.

After previewing a few advertisements for this year's Super Bowl online, one particularly enjoyable commercial was the 1 minute long ad for Avocados From Mexico. This commercial depicted an alien museum tour showcasing human “artifacts” like the Rubik's Cube and Chia Pets before the aliens chow down on earth's greatest contribution, the aforementioned avocado dip.

The one minute advertisement had just enough time to deliver

a few genuinely funny jokes, while not taking too long to get to the actual product, and as we have seen in the past, good humor can turn a decent commercial viral on the web.

An advertisement that was not quite as effective would be the minute long LG commercial starring Liam Neeson. The ad depicts a man trying to evade pursuers in a CGI maze after receiving a mysterious briefcase from Liam Neeson. Only at the very end does the viewer realize that the product being promoted was a television.

Where the previous advertisement did well, this one faltered in its attempt to draw people in. For instance, the flashy CGI action was just corny and Liam Neeson was no doubt an expensive waste of a cameo.

The strangest commercial this year had to be a 30 second spot for Mountain Dew's Kickstart, which completely split viewers on twitter: some adoring it, some vowing to never purchase the Mountain Dew again.

Within the advertisement, it depicts a strange puppet creature with the head of a dog, the torso of a monkey, and legs of a baby marching into a room where three

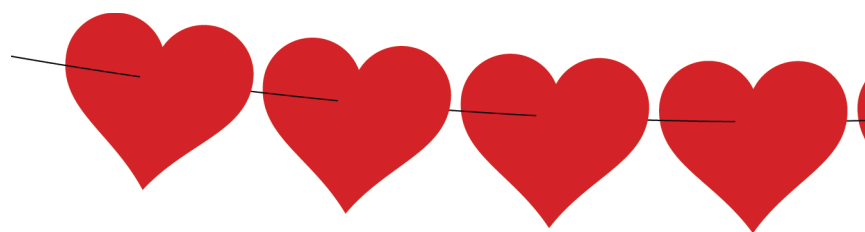
guys are drinking Mountain Dew. The creature then proceeds to lick their faces.

It is difficult to describe in detail, but it ends with the tagline, “Three awesome things combined,” alluding to the three ingredients in the beverage: Dew, juice, and caffeine.

While the commercial definitely managed to leave a long lasting impression, It also managed to weird out many people.



Celebrating Val



Valentine's Day is a favorite holiday to people who want to reveal their love for one another. It varies from person to person. Some people think that Valentine's Day is just a day to love.

But the actual meaning of Valentine's Day dates back to the 5th century. A St. Valentine, it also shares origins in the Roman holiday Lupercalia. Various religious sects such as Anglican Communion, Eastern Orthodox Church. Interestingly, Valentine's Day actually has two days on which it is celebrated.

The VOICE went around campus and reached out to students in order to gather their thoughts. A first-year Education student Megan Knamm, Valentine's Day has its positives and negatives. She told The VOICE, "Valentine's day is a holiday in which I can share my love not to a person, but to a group. I like receiving chocolate and flowers during the holiday. However, she also dislikes

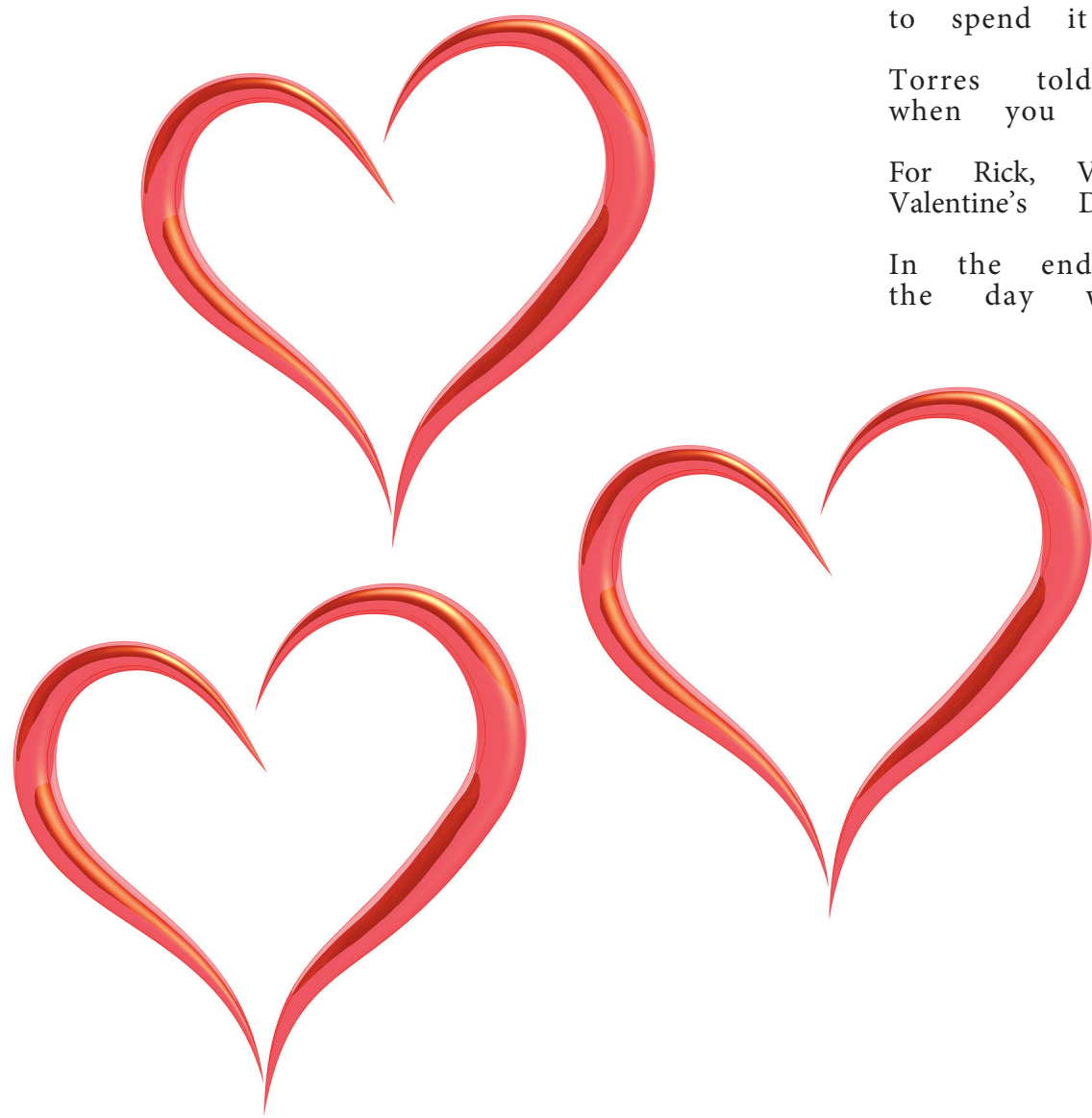
"I believe that there shouldn't be a specific day to show your love or love someone, you should do everything possible to show your love every day."

Dakota Torress, a first year Business student, and Anastasia Rick at Mercer. Now the couple is excited to celebrate their first Valentine's Day together, both Torres and Rick have their own ideas on how to spend it.

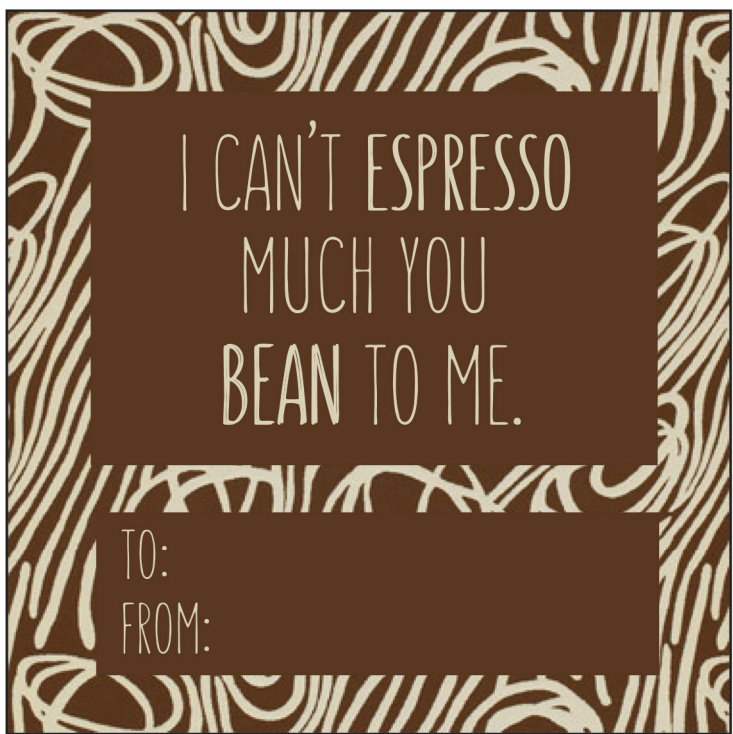
Torres told The VOICE, "This holiday doesn't hold the same meaning when you could spend it with someone, it doesn't have the same meaning."

For Rick, Valentine's Day means that it is a day to spend time with someone. Valentine's Day she thinks about the Hallmark cards, chocolate, and flowers.

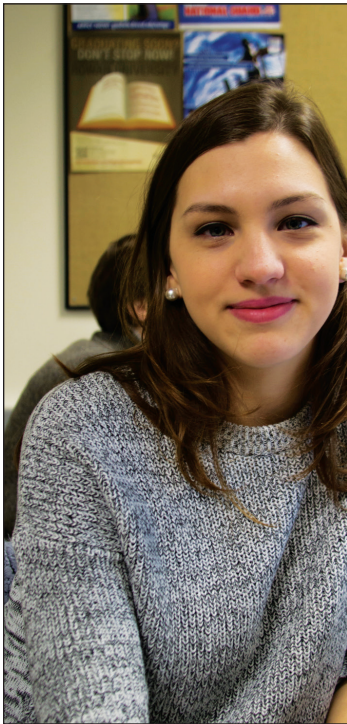
In the end, it does not matter if you have a romantic relationship or not. The day with your loved ones, including family, friends, and pets.



Nick Geremia: "Brunch in the city with the Mrs. and relax at home."

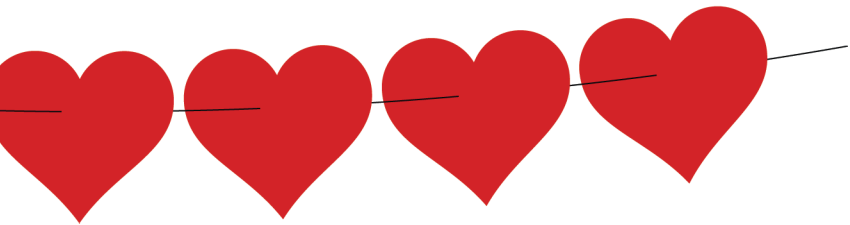


Wendy Humphrey: "My husband and I will be visiting his family in Vermont and I will be make dinner."



Lizzie Mayer: "My girlfriend and I are going to the Valentine's day party. I'm making a cookie cake. It's going to be wild."

Valentine's Day



For one another. From sending cards, chocolates, and roses, the meaning of the holiday is just a day to love your significant other while others use it as a day to reveal a crush.

th century. Although the holiday is named after a Christian martyr named Valerius. Valentine's Day is celebrated all around the world including the Eastern Orthodox Church, Lutheran Church, and the Western Christian Church. It is celebrated, February 14 and, for the Eastern Orthodox Church, July 6.

er to gather their thoughts on this holiday and what it meant to them. For first- and negatives. For Knamm, this holiday is a reminder of what it is to love someone. "I love not to a special person, but with my family." Knamm also told The VOICE that he also dislikes Valentine's Day for its misconception of the meaning of the holiday.

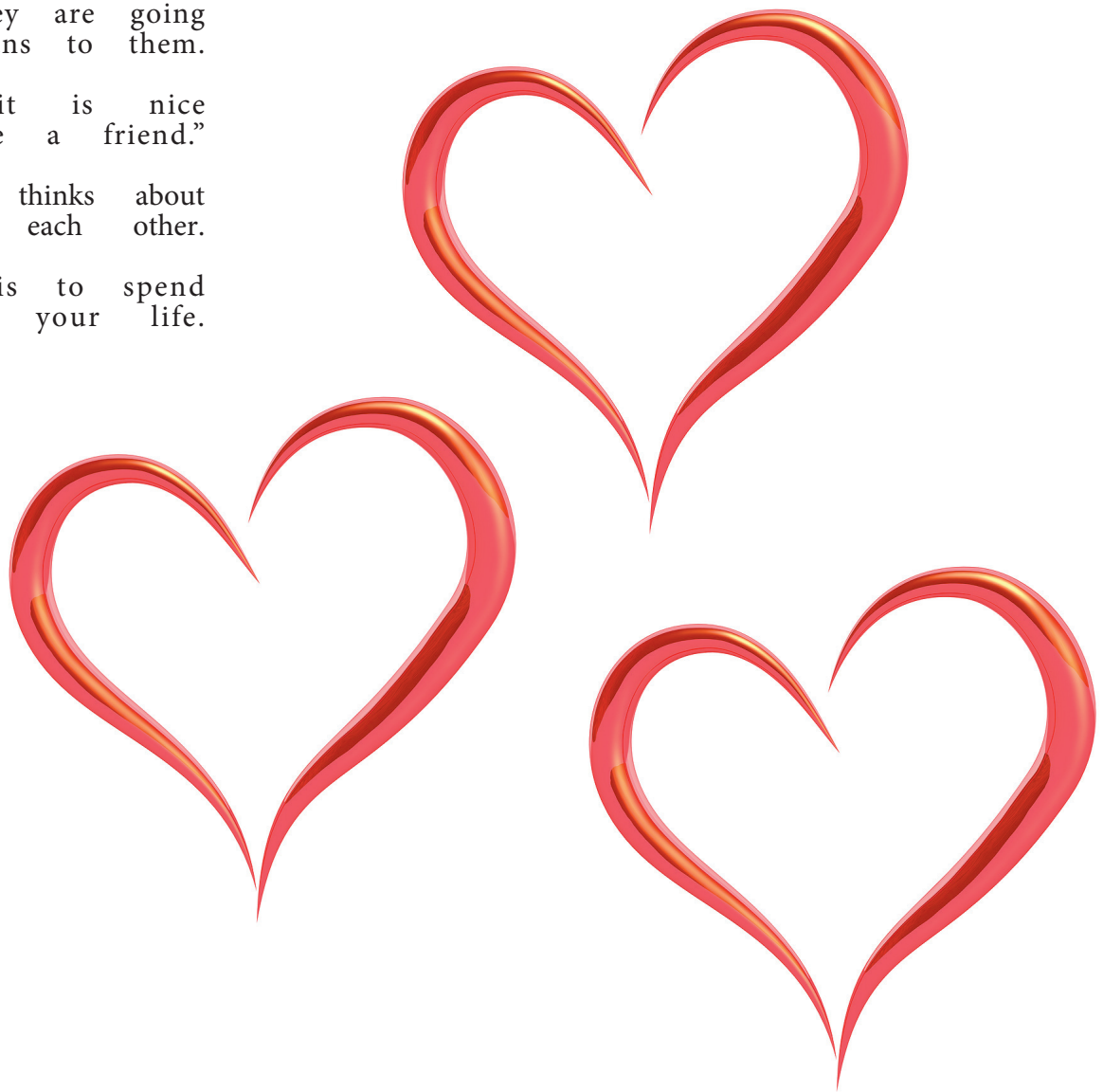
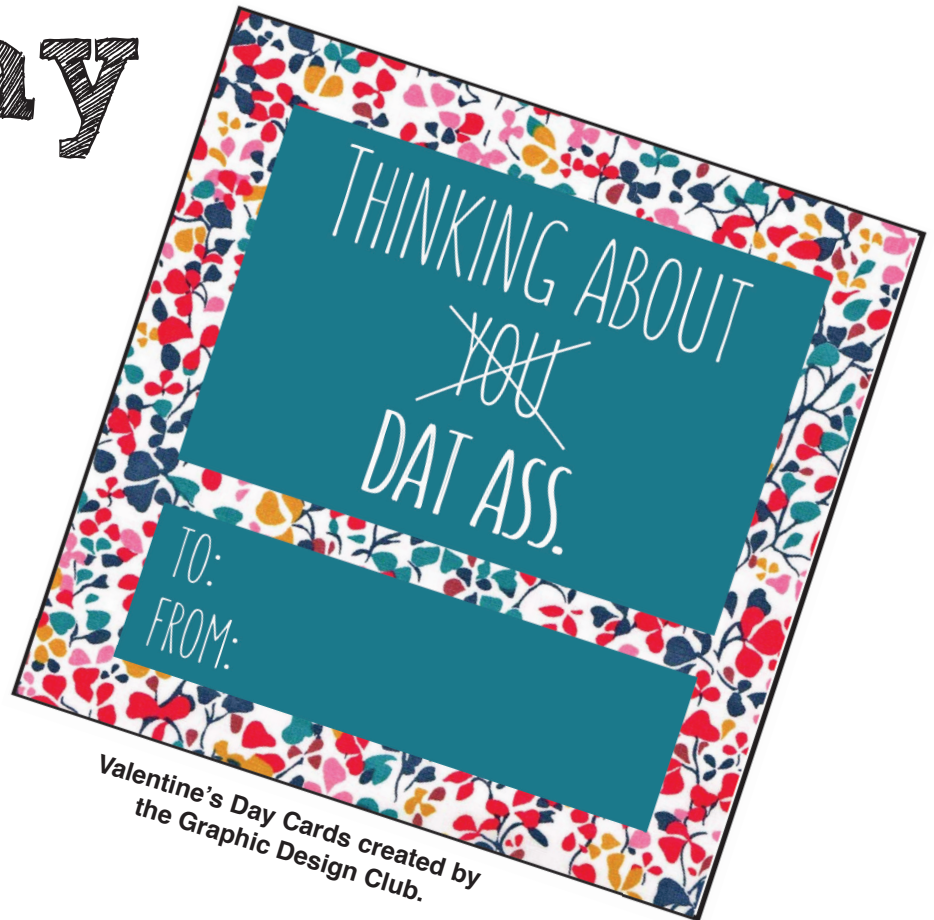
show your love to a special someone. If you really liked someone, you would show your love every day, not just on this one day".

anastasia Rick, a second year Education major, met each other on their first Valentine's Day together. Although they are going to have their own interpretation of what Valentine's Day means to them.

hold that much meaning to me, but it is nice to have to be a love one, and it could be a friend."

to spend time with her love ones. When Rick thinks about Valentine's Day, chocolate, and the surprises others give to each other.

romantic interest or not. The important thing is to spend time with family, friends, and anyone that is special in your life.



Kevin Foss: "I'm taking my girlfriend Breanna to Reading, Pennsylvania to the Pagoda which is a Japanese tower overlooking the city. After, we'll go home and I'll make her subpar macaroni and cheese."



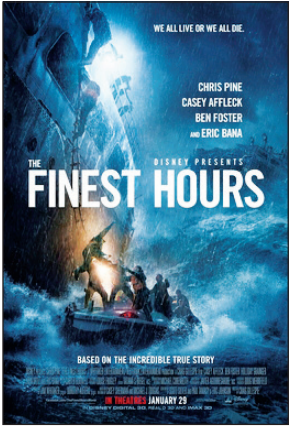
Mayer: "My girlfriends and I are going to throw a Gal-day party. I'm bringing a cake. It's going to to



Jaren Taylor: "Probably hang with my single friends and play Dance Dance Revolution."



Reviews



By Jaren Taylor
Junior Reporter

Going back in time is something that the movie *The Finest Hours* is able to render. By setting us up in the true story that took place on February 18-19, 1952 in Chatham, Massachusetts. Where Coastguardsmen Bernard C. Webber (A quite but conscientious Chris Pine) risked his life with a small crew, to preform one of the greatest rescue missions known to the United States Coast Guard. This hard to watch but brilliant movie can be observed in a relaxing environment that takes the stress and tension off of your feet at AMC Market fair 10. Reliable with reservable reclining sits, that makes your adventure out to the movies feel like you are sitting at home watching history. While learning history you are experiencing an action movie that does not leave out the emotion and

terror that the crew members of the SS Pendleton faced. When their ship ripped in half from a powerful “nor’easter” off the coast of Cape Cod. Or a hero Raymond Sybert (A laid back Casey Affleck) who kept the crew members alive while working with multiple human emotions that the crew faced on the verge of death. With the human experience not ending in the bottomless sea but also on land. Where Bernard C. Webber (Chris Pine) dealt with his fiancée Miriam Webber (A slowly modern Rosie the Riveter Holliday Grainger) but also the other three brave and selfless heroes Andrew Fitzgerald, (Kyle Gallner), Richard livesey (Ben Foster), and Ervin Maske. (John Magaro). The movie is heavy with nautical terms and phrases that might get you a little sea sick. However, director Graig Gillespie and screen scripters Scott Silver, Paul Tamasy ,and Eric Johnson did an amazing job of capturing the essence of the source material. While still following the book *The Finest Hours: The True Story of the U.S. Coast Guard's Most Daring Sea Rescue* by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman, the movie captures the truth of what happened on sea back in 1952. The *Finest Hour* is a must see for anyone who seeks the knowledge and entertainment of a relaxing rescue movie.



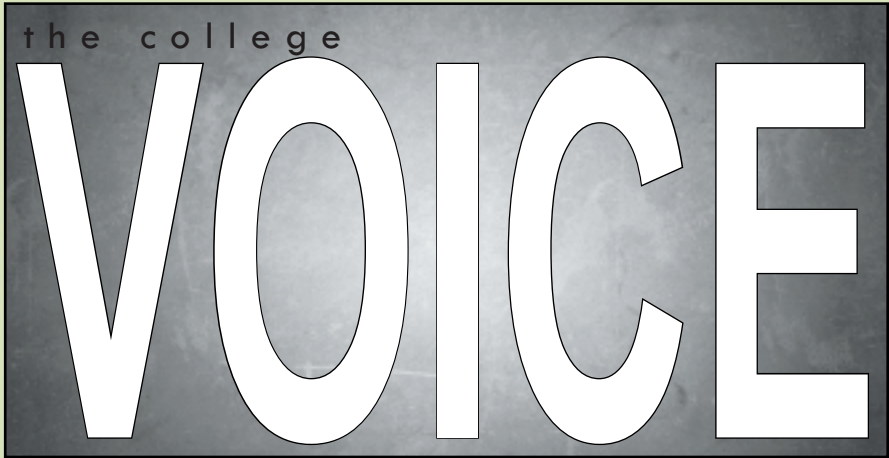
By Maria Mora
Junior Reporter

We all know the good old stories about dolls coming to life, and bad spirits terrorizing inanimate objects to get revenge on someone who did them wrong while they were alive. I am sure we have also been disappointed by those same old, extremely predictable stories with their very unamusing endings. To say the least, I was expecting *The Boy* to be very mediocre, after experience a horrible time watching *The Forest* about two weeks prior to *The Boy's* premier. I decided to take my friend along, just so I could have another viewers perspective. We made our way to AMC Neshaminy 24, in Bensalem. We arrive to the 9:30 showing, and it was immediately packed with very excited adults also children and toddlers. The plot is your typical outsider coming into the family's home, without

knowing the situation that they are about to encounter. Greta (Lauren Cohan) flees her home to get away from an abusive relationships. She decides to take up the job as a Nanny to a boy named Brahms, who she has no idea is actually a Porcelain Doll. She travels to the United Kingdom to meet the family who she will be working for. The movie starts out very slow, nothing really happens except for the fact that she has to play along to the game of being a nanny to this strange, creepy Porcelain Doll. No one in the crowd seems to entertained at this point, but after about thirty minutes, the plot thickens. The suspense grows when weird sounds start terrorizing the Nanny, as well as the people watching everything unfold. But aside from the terror, the movie also provides the viewers with laughable parts. Brahms, a porcelain Doll, has a perverted side. The Doll can be seen taking things from Greta, such as her dress, jewelry, and even a piece of her hair while she sleeps. Martin Tsai from “The LA Times” also agrees, “Brahms is not only creepily scary but also creepily pervy.” There is definitely a variety of reactions and emotions that we all went through in that hour and thirty-eight minutes. Fast forward to the end of the movie, this is where it really got entertaining.

A certain guest who no one had any idea they would get the pleasure of meeting, shows up. And immediately after, everyone got hit with an unexpected twist, in which the Porcelain Doll makes a strange and creepy transformation. The theater was filled with screams, and a whole lot of gasps. I was also very taken back by how the ending comes together. I think its still your typical creepy killer doll movie. However, *The Boy* actually brought back some of that suspense and unexpected twists. All I can say is, don't judge *The Boy* till you get a chance to meet him.

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This is Russ

Russ was a New Media major at Mercer and pays the bills working at Petro Lube in Bordentown. But as a staff reporter for The College VOICE he covered the arts and entertainment scene, interviewing local bands, covering ComicCon in NY for his blog, even checking out the local ostrich farm looking for stories.

“Joining the VOICE helped me find purpose and direction for my life and career. It also lead me to meet some of the most excellent people in the world.”

-Russ Chizek

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The life of an international student at MCCC

By Onika George
Junior Reporter

If you asked an American citizen what is their intended major, most of them would tell you they are unsure, or they thought they wanted to do Psychology but changed their mind. Now think to yourself, how many international students have you heard give this answer? If the answer is none or not many, this article will chronicle the journey of the international student and expound on why the answer is none.

The Decision

The first step an international student has to take before s/he can even decide upon a major, is decide upon if they want to study in the United States. This decision is the first major hurdle that they have to overcome. This occurs since research on studying in the US has to be cleared and given the approval seal by parents or guardians of the said student. If the parental authority does not approve, students can find themselves railroaded and their journey ends before it begins. However, if both student and parental authority are on board the journey can continue. However, making the decision is just the easy part.

Choosing a College, Applications and Visa Process

After putting together their resumes, international students then have to choose a college within their sponsor's budget, especially if the program does not guarantee a scholarship. In some cases, despite having a score of 1900 on the SAT or 30 on the ACT, the student is offered a partial scholarship to the school that they choose and it can be a tedious task finding a sponsor if their family does not have the finances to support their studies. In addition, international students have to already have a vision in mind of what they want to do. This vision comes from knowing that every penny counts and every moment of uncertainty means more money their family will have to provide and with that knowledge comes a burden or responsibility. In order for international students to enter the United States of America, they first have to be accepted to the

college of their choice. Once they have been accepted, they will receive a I-20 form which allows the student to apply for an F-1 or student visa. This visa allows them to gain access into the United States of America.

This entire process normally takes about 3 months. This allows them to gain access into the U.S. Unfortunately, they cannot leave the U.S unless it is to their homeland for a vacation.

Why Mercer Community College?

Did you know that International Students pay tuition of almost twice as much as the American citizens and permanent residents? This is why for international students, community colleges are just the right fit for them in terms of costs. Because Mercer County Community College offers the American Honors program, international students tend to see that as an asset and a guaranteed spot in an accredited 4-year college of their choice, as long as they receive with great grades, of course.

Accommodations and Living Expenses

The international student has made it to the United States and is ready to settle in and start the school that they have worked so hard to get to. Yet the issue remains of where do I stay if there is no on-campus housing. Here is what one of Mercer's students had to say. "My name is Zoey. I am 18 and I was born and raised in Vietnam. When I first came to New Jersey it was very hard to find a suitable place to stay. I chose Mercer County College because we as international students do not have the luxury of in-state tuition and so this community college cut my cost significantly with the opportunity to be a part of the American Honors Program. My first accommodation was with a family but it was too expensive so I moved in with two other international students who have an apartment that is very close to school. The main problem is transportation, accommodation and costs which are very high compared to my homeland."

Working while studying? Another downfall of being an international student is that they are not allowed to have paying jobs on or off campus.

If they decide they would like to be a part of an organisation, all they can do is an unpaid internship since they cannot accept money but only do it for experience or additional credit. Therefore, it is up to them to find ways to save and budget wisely because they cannot accumulate income. The most they can do is work hard, do a lot of volunteer work and internships and hope to transfer to a 4-year college with a scholarship.

How has Mercer Helped?

Mercer, however, has been helping significantly in accommodating their International Students with transportation by implementing the shuttle service at the Quakerbridge Mall which is very reliable given that is the hub for the public buses. Also Mercer has incorporated the International Student Organization which has really helped unite different cultures. The secretary of the organization, Peppina (her nickname) said, "they really try as an organization to bring together not just international students but persons who are interested in meeting people from all over the globe."

Peppina said that the organization hosts



PHOTO | ONIKA GEORGE

International Student, Zoey Nguyen prepares for her second semester here at MCCC.

different events from very large scale like fun days to small scale like a movie.

Even though being an international student sounds tough, they still manage to pull it off. Also colleges and universities are always pushing for diversity and are always doing things to attract international students to their college because it makes the institution look good thus they are very welcoming and supportive when we enter their institution.

Do you see a
typo?

Then join the staff and
fix it!

Wednesdays 12noon ET 127

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Write to The College VOICE!

Do you have something to say? The College VOICE accepts letters to the editor. Submissions should be no more than 300 words; longer submissions may be shortened. Submit materials in electronic format, and include your name and status at Mercer (major and year, faculty or staff position or alumnus). All materials submitted become the property of The College VOICE, which reserves the right to reject or edit material based on length, taste or clarity.

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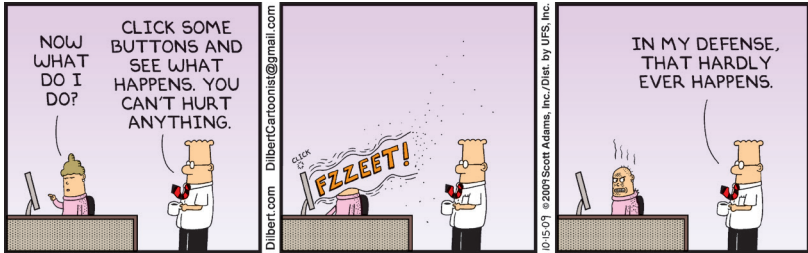
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Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 19

You possess an amazing ability to remain focused on the task at hand. Use this to not only further yourself but to help out friends and family.



Aquarius

Jan. 20 - Feb. 18

New year, new you! Take the opportunity to reinvent yourself from the ground up. Be adaptable but firm, and always happy with yourself.



Pisces

Feb. 19 - Mar. 20

You seek to move forward in life and work, but refuse to rush into decisions. This month, you will ask all the right questions and receive what you desire the most.



Aries

Mar. 21 - Apr. 19

This month, you will be oozing with charm and the people in your life will benefit from your presence. Seek out the company of friends and family with little to no stress.



Taurus

Apr. 20 - May 20

Beware, obstacles will appear in your way as you seek to find financial success. Slow down, focus, and keep your eyes on the prize.



Gemini

May 21 - Jun. 20

Your love life will take an interesting turn this month. Some forgotten feelings will resurface



Cancer

Jun. 21 - Jul. 22

Romantic fantasies may beckon from time to time. Enjoy the escapes and come back refreshed.



Leo

Jul. 23 - Aug. 22

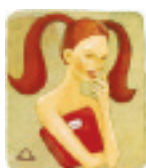
Your natural social skills will be in high demand this month. Where others struggle, you will shine and your talents will smooth the way for success.



Virgo

Aug. 23 - Sept. 22

Be patient. You will be tempted to solve everyone's problems but may end up creating more havoc than peace. Focus on keeping your friends close to avoid social pitfalls.



Libra

Sept. 23 - Oct. 22

2016 is looking a lot like 2015. But don't worry, the slow start will grow into something new and exciting. Before you know it, you will be wishing you had more time on your hands.



Scorpio

Oct. 23 - Nov. 21

Personal goals and dreams are just within your grasp this month. Don't be shy! Speak your mind and get what you sweetly deserve.



Sagittarius

Nov. 22 - Dec. 21

Feel more bold about money, possessions, and your self this month. The gamble will be worth it and remember, without great risk comes no great reward.

SUDOKU

Difficulty: 1 (of 5)

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PREVIOUS SOLUTION

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HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

Get Fuzzy

