

## VIA Speaker to Discuss National Opioid Crisis



**Evan Harris**  
Staff Writer

Vivek Murthy, former Surgeon General of the United States, will deliver the annual Harry '35 and Jeanette Henney Lecture on April 2 in Cordier Auditorium at 3:30 p.m.

His topic, "A Nation in Pain: Understanding America's Opioid Epidemic," draws on his extensive experience as Surgeon General from 2014–2017. He issued the very first Surgeon General's Report on Substance Use and Addiction, calling the nation to action to address this deadly disease.

Also, during his term as Surgeon General, he launched the national TurnTheTideRx campaign to address the opioid crisis, and he was the first Surgeon General to issue a letter to health professionals across America calling them to action to reduce opioid addiction and overdose deaths.

Murthy is currently professor of internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School.

The endowed lecture is a gift from former Manchester Trustee Jane E. Henney, a 1969 Manchester grad and nationally recognized public health administrator and academic leader. It is in honor of her parents, Harry and Jeanette Henney.

## Manchester Welcomes New Director of First-Year Experience

**Avis McGovern**  
Staff Writer

Scott Secrist joins the Manchester University staff as the new director of First Year Experience and Transition.

Secrist grew up in Rochester, Ind., and went on to receive his undergraduate degree in biology-chemistry at Purdue University. While studying there, Secrist was heavily involved in student orientation on campus. His involvement led to a three-year commitment as a member of Student Success while attending PU.

Secrist also attended Loyola University of Chicago, where he pursued his Master of Education (M.Ed.) in higher education and student affairs. Furthermore, he studied at Michigan State University as a doctoral candidate in higher, adult and lifelong education. His research interests include undergraduate student success, social network analysis, queer theories and post-modern epistemology related to higher education.

Although Secrist is still in the midst of making Manchester University his new home, he says, "It is my life," when talking about being a part of the First Year Experience team. Secrist, along with other office branches, strives to help increase the number of Manchester University student applicants, and works to retain students as each year goes on. As director, Secrist is working on digital resources for perspective and first-year students, while also putting focus on Student Orientation and Welcome Week.

Outside of campus, Secrist spends time raising horses. He enjoys being able to show and train quarter horses. He also has interests in drawing and painting.

Secrist also makes sure to stay tuned in with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) news, and really enjoys the celebration and history that MU reflects on and recognizes on campus.

Secrist's office can be found in Calvin Ulrey, room 214. He encourages students to stop by, get to know him, or give feedback to help improve the experience for first-year students.

## MU Community Members Participate in Nation-Wide Walk Out

**Kelleen Cullison**  
Freelance Writer

Members of the Manchester University community walked out of class and work on Wednesday, March 14, to show support for increased gun control.

Community members congregated in front of Peter-sime Chapel at 10 a.m., exactly one month following the tragic shooting at Parkland High School in Florida. Armed with signs and silence, students bore the cold weather for 17 minutes, commemorating the 17 people who lost their lives to gun violence at the Parkland school shooting on February 14, 2018.

"Picture someone you love," said Jamie Dowdy, Peace Studies Coordinator. The crowd of over 70 pushed forward as she called for silence and read aloud the names of the 17 people killed in the Florida shooting. No one spoke but Dowdy as she briefly called for action, and left the remainder of the minutes to silent reflection.

The nationwide school walkout was coordinated by students and members of the Women's March Youth Empowerment movement calling for reformed

gun legislation in the United States as a response to the rise in gun violence. In the first seven weeks of 2018, there were eight school shootings, and the number continues to rise since the tragedy on Valentine's Day of 2018. Students, teachers, parents and communities have rallied to protest against the continued government inaction following the Parkland Shooting.

Junior political science major Caraline Fearheller participated in the walkout, and joined the call for reform. "It needs to happen now," she said. "If we don't do something, this is going to be our generation's genocide." Why does she think reformed gun legislation was necessary? She remarked, "Maybe we need gun reforms so gun lobbyists can stop buying people."

Other students were surprised by the amount of people who walked out, considering the mere 24 hour notice for MU's walkout. "I wish we would have known further in advance," said Delaney Ray, junior. "That way more people could have come."

The walk-out occurred just days after President Trump announced he was backpedaling on his previous support for a decision to raise the age that citizens are allowed to buy assault rifles from 18

to 21, but will move forward with his plan to arm teachers in schools.

Demonstrations in support of gun reform, specifically towards the accessibility of assault rifles, have occurred with increasing prevalence since Parkland student survivors have taken it upon themselves to call for the government to tighten its grip on who has access to guns.

With the anniversary of the Columbine School Shooting looming in the near future, and with minimal reform progress made since the incident in 1999, citizens are applying mounting pressure to their state and federal representatives to enact legislature

to better protect America's schools.

Manchester University stood with those citizens lobbying for change on March 14, and on April 20th, the 19th anniversary of Columbine, Manchester's Peace Studies Institute is planning a campus wide "Teach-In" on the modern history of gun violence in America.

Dowdy concluded the walk-out this past Wednesday by restating the names of those who died a month ago by passing her phone around the circle to have students say the names, students much like those who lost their lives, and with just as much to lose at the barrel of a gun.



Photo provided  
More than 70 students, faculty and staff participated in the walk out on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, to commemorate the deaths of the 17 Parkland shooting victims.

## Students Provide Health Care during Medical Practicum Trip

**Kaity Collins**  
Staff Writer

The 2018 January Session was full of snow and freezing temperatures, but not all students had to endure the winter experience. The Natural and Health Sciences 310 class spent their January session in Nicaragua, providing health care and medical attention to Nicaragua citizens on the 34th annual Medical Practicum.

The trip started Jan. 4 with class and packing and then the students boarded a plane on Jan. 5, arriving in Nicaragua and spending their first day in Managua. They spent 22 days in Nicaragua and returned Jan. 25 with first-hand experience on what it was like to provide medical support to those in a third-world country. "It's an opportunity to help the underprivileged," senior Alexis Figueroa said. "It opened my eyes."

The two flights took 5 hours overall, and after staying in the capital for a day, there was a 12 hour bus ride. The next day there was a 7 hour canoe ride. "It was an intense trip," junior Rebecca Mundroff said.

Figueroa agreed. "It's an adventure," he said. "You get to explore the world and it gets you out of your comfort zone."

Twenty MU students went on the trip, taking up roles as physicians, physician assistants, dentists, pharmacists and translators. Two MU translators handled the English to Spanish translations while 11 translators from Nicaragua were in charge of the Spanish to Mayagna (native language) translations. There was even one Nicaraguan veterinarian that assisted the team.



Photo by William Southern  
Senior Alex Figueroa and sophomore Marie Bougher take a break from patient care with the rest of the Medical Practicum group.

"We got to assist the professionals, like with checking blood pressure, for instance," junior Alexa Callaway said. "We get a two-fold experience; it's more hands on."

All the students and faculty who attended were glad to have the chance to participate in such a project. "In this short-term experience in global health, we work hard to accompany local health care workers in providing health care to these underserved populations," said Dr. Jeffrey Osborne, associate professor of chemistry. "But I think the most important outcome is how the experience changes the students, the providers, me and all the participants of the trip."

Figueroa said: "One thing to remember would be the people. It's such a tight-knit community."

Callaway agreed that

helping people was the best part. "As a professional, the patient comes first. People are people, and you never want to forget that," she said.

For others, the trip was a learning experience. "I felt very comfortable down there in an uncomfortable situation," Mundroff said.

Sophomore Marie Bougher added: "It was redefining. A lot of the students hadn't really seen any of that stuff before."

Multiple students from the trip would recommend it to others. "I would absolutely go on this trip again," Callaway said. "Especially as a professional."

Mundroff agreed. "I highly recommend the trip to anyone who wants to work in the medical field or travel to a Third-World country," she said. "You get really immersed in the culture

there very quick."

Figueroa added: "I feel most people who go feel the need to go back as a medical provider. It allows students to see life from a different perspective."

Some of the students explained their experiences as a participant in the medical practicum. "I got to translate for a day," Callaway recalled. "I was really cool for me; I learned what I can do."

Bougher treasured the experience overall. "Anyone who is even a little bit interested should consider going," she explained. "You won't regret it."

The trip to Nicaragua is open to students of any major and is organized every year. The next trip will be January 2019. For more information, visit [www.medical-practicum.org](http://www.medical-practicum.org).

## Students, Faculty Excitedly Await Various Spring Break Plans

**Teresa Masteller**  
Staff Writer

Many students and faculty members at Manchester University are excitedly planning vacations and activities for the long-awaited Spring Break that officially starts once class is dismissed on Friday, March 16.

Student Colin Stephen will be spending his Spring Break in Colorado for what he calls "some hiking and cultural enjoyment."

Like Stephen, other students are also making their way out of the Midwest. Delaney McKesson is heading all the way to the West Coast. "I will be flying out to Los Angeles to visit my friend who is going to school at the University of Southern California," McKesson said. "I'll be there Saturday through Wednesday so he can show me around USC, and so I can get a

feel of a bigger school on the West Coast." She also hopes to act as a proper tourist and visit Universal Studios, as well as the Walk of Fame in Hollywood.

Also traveling to California, Associate Professor of English Stacy Erickson-Pesetski will be spending the second half of her Spring Break at the Shakespeare in Prisons Conference (SIPS), which will be held March 22–25 at the Old Globe in San Diego. "In addition to catching up with a lot of the other prison arts practitioners I have met over the years, I will go to workshops, presentations, and film screenings," Erickson-Pesetski said. "Since many of the people at the SIPS are either actors, theater directors, prison administrators and even ex-offenders who participated in Shakespeare programs—there are few professors like me."

Spring Break is also used

as a time to see distant family members. Senior Logan Williams is taking a plane to Arizona to visit his sister and brother-in-law. "I am looking forward to seeing them and enjoying the warm weather!" Williams said.

Junior Brianna Hill will be road tripping with a group of her friends to spend five days in the famous Spring Break spot, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. "We are hoping to make a few pit stops along the way; Nashville is one of our priorities as well as Maryville, Tennessee, in order to visit my great grandma," Hill said. "While we are in Fort Lauderdale, we plan on making trips to the Everglades, Miami and many other destinations. I would also love to go parasailing while I am there."

Hill wants to use this Spring Break as a way to relax and de-stress from the struggles of everyday university life; she also plans

to ditch some screen time. "I want to spend as little as I can on technology, and I want to truly live in the moment," Hill said. "The best memories are those spent not staring at a phone screen. I hope to make some great memories with some even better friends on Spring Break of 2018!"

Visiting Assistant Professor of History and Political Science Tara Saunders is staying close to home this Spring Break. Saunders is also staying close to her bed as she is "planning to sleep in as often as possible," as she put it. In addition to some downtime, she's planning to visit a friend in Chicago to go shopping for her wedding dress. "And I may try to go see friends in Bloomington," she added.

We will only know if all these plans came to fruition when Spring Break ends, and class resumes on Monday, March 26.



# SPARTAN SPORTS

## Late-Inning Heroics Power MU to Two Victories over Huntington



Photo Provided

Senior Madisyn Walter pitched first on the mound against Huntington on Saturday, March 10. The team embarks on a trip to Orlando, Fla., this upcoming weekend and will play 10 games from Sunday, March 18, through Friday, March 23.

**Kody Smith**  
Freelance Writer

The 2018 home opener was a success for the Manchester University softball team, as the Spartans swept a double-header against the Huntington University Foresters on Saturday, March 10, winning both games via 7th-inning walk-off hits. MU took game one by a final of 6-5, followed by a contest that saw 23 combined runs, with the Spartans edging out the Foresters 12-11.

Senior Madisyn Walter started the afternoon on the mound, as the right-hander pitched a complete game in route to her first win of the season. Over her seven innings of work, Walter al-

lowed nine hits and five earned runs, striking out two Foresters in the process. Although Huntington struck for five runs off of Walter, the MU offense provided the extra strength needed to secure a victory for the Spartans.

Manchester piled up 13 hits off of the Huntington pitching staff, which was led by a three hit effort by senior Sydney Thompson. Sophomore Makenzi Nyland crushed a solo homerun in the fourth inning, giving Manchester a 4-2 lead half way through the ball game.

However, in the top of the seventh, Huntington's Abby Keaffaber hit a two-run shot to tie the game at 5-5. MU would respond with three consecutive hits, as the bases would be loaded with black-

and-gold uniforms. First-year Alexis Mokos would stride to the plate, delivering her lone hit of the afternoon, as she found the grass in left center field, scoring senior Laurren Ladwig, and guiding MU to its first victory of the 2018 campaign.

The Spartans would fall behind early in game number two, as HU would strike for seven runs in the first two innings, securing a 7-2 lead heading into the bottom of the second. However, Manchester would explode for 18 hits in game number two, rallying to a 12-11 victory, thanks in large part to four homeruns.

Ladwig went four-for-five at the plate in game two, which included a two-run homerun in the first inning and a solo shot in the bottom of the fourth. She tallied

four total RBI's, as well as three runs scored. Nyland utilized her power once more in game two, going two-for-three with a solo homerun and two RBI's. Thompson would add two hits in the game, including a clutch solo homerun in the top of the seventh to tie things up at 11-11.

Following two more MU at-bats, senior Mallorie Jennings would step into the batter's box, lofting a sacrifice fly to right field, scoring Ladwig to secure a 12-11 victory, and the two-game sweep of Huntington University.

Manchester is now 2-2 on the season, and is back in action on Sunday, March 18, as the team will travel to Orlando, Florida, for its annual spring break trip. The Spartans will play in ten games over

## Schedule

### March

- 18 vs. Williams
- 18 vs. New Paltz
- 19 vs. Wis.-Oshkosh
- 19 vs. Elmhurst
- 21 vs. Benedictine
- 21 vs. Maryville
- 22 vs. Wooster
- 22 vs. Allgheny
- 23 vs. Juniata
- 23 vs. Union
- 26 St. Mary's (H)
- 29 @ Hope
- 31 @ Mt. St. Joseph

### April

- 04 @ Anderson
- 07 vs. Franklin (H)
- 11 vs. Defiance (H)
- 14 @ Alma
- 15 vs. Kalamazoo(H)
- 18 @ Rose-Hulman
- 21 vs. Hanover (H)
- 24 vs. Calvin (H)
- 25 vs. Bluffton (H)
- 28 @ Transylvania

a five-day stretch, concluding their trip on Friday, March 23.

The team will return home on Monday, March 26, for a double-header with St. Mary's (Ind.) beginning at 3:30 p.m. Live audio will be provided for the March 26 contests at <https://www.manchester.edu/spartanstudios/stream>, with live statistics and video provided by muspartans.com.

## Manchester University Softball 2017 Review/2018 Preview

\***Bold Names** signify a player that is still with the team.

### Offensive Leaders

- Batting Average Leaders-
- 1) **Kate Skeens**- .339
  - **Laurren Ladwig**- .339
  - 2) **Shakira Perez**- .336
  - 3) Emilee Liston- .292
  - 4) **Mandi Boggs**- .269

### Homeruns

- 1) **Laurren Ladwig**- 6

- 2) **Kate Skeens**- 5
- 3) **Sydney Thompson** - 1

### Runs Batted In

- 1) **Kate Skeens**- 31
- 2) **Laurren Ladwig**- 19
- 3) Emilee Liston- 12
- 4) **Shakira Perez**- 10
- 5) **Mandi Boggs**- 9

### Runs Scored

- 1) **Laurren Ladwig**- 30
- 2) **Shakira Perez**- 20
- 3) **Mikayla Deisler**- 12
- **Kate Skeens**- 12

- 4) **Mallorie Jennings**- 11

### On-Base Percentage

- 1) **Laurren Ladwig**- .391
- 2) **Shakira Perez**- .358
- 3) **Kate Skeens**- .347
- 4) Emilee Liston- .322
- 5) **Mandi Boggs**- .310

### Pitching Leaders Wins

- 1) **Madisyn Walter**- 8
- 2) **Tristyn Koon**- 4
- 3) **Mallorie Jennings**- 1

### Earned Run Average

- 1) **Madisyn Walter**- 3.35
- 2) **Tristyn Koon**- 4.01
- 3) **Mallorie Jennings**- 6.58

### Strikeouts

- 1) **Madisyn Walter**- 37
- 2) **Tristyn Koon**- 32
- 3) **Mallorie Jennings**- 1



## 2018 Spartan Softball Seniors



Mallorie Jennings #4  
Pos.: P



Laurren Ladwig #5  
Pos.: 2B/OF



Andrea Hernandez #7  
Pos.: 3B



Madisyn Walter #8  
Pos.: P



Mikayla Deisler #13  
Pos.: OF