

MU Students Provide Information on Poverty at VIA

Matt Barbosa
Staff Writer

Manchester University students Virginia Rendler, Daisy Byers, MacKenzie Weadick and Caraline Fearheller spent their summer giving back to various communities in need through a new partnership with the Shepherd Higher Education Consortium on Poverty (SHECP). Professor Katy Gray Brown and these four students helped forge a path for Manchester University students to become involved by helping people experiencing poverty in the United States. SHECP is a nonprofit organization committed to informing and enriching students' education with information on poverty and how to diminish it through a poverty studies program.

For senior Fearheller, addressing poverty means what she calls "taking a holistic approach to the issue of poverty and understanding it is way more complex and then from that understanding doing actionable things to expose it and eliminate it."

Fearheller spent her internship with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth in Kentucky. This is a grass roots organization that encourages the people of the community to take on responsibility and accountability for their own community.

She worked with feeding the homeless and participating in the Smoketown Get Down for Democracy where Kentuckians for the Commonwealth organized a block party with food and drink as well as voter registration.



Photo by Zander Willoughby
Back row: Ali Goetcheus, director of Center for Service Opportunities and SCHEP internship director. From left to right: Caraline Fearheller, Dr. Katy Gray Brown, professor of peace studies and philosophy, MacKenzie Weadick, Virginia Rendler and Daisy Byers.

Junior Rendler spent her internship at Career Collaborative in Boston, MA. This organization focuses on helping adults that need employment develop skills to find long-term employment through a class offered. These classes are primarily taken by immigrants, ex-convicts, refugees and non-native English speakers. After learning what it is like to work in a professional environment in the United States, the adults move onto

a job search and employment counseling.

Rendler learned an important lesson from this internship. "Poverty colors every aspect of your life," she said.

Senior Byers spent her time in the program at New American Pathways in Atlanta, Ga. This organization defines the "Pathway to Success" in four stages: safety & stability, success, self-sufficiency and service. Primarily refugees and

immigrants are helped through this organization. They are taught how to become acquainted with Atlanta and the United States and they are encouraged to explore their passions. This program emphasizes to the participants the importance of giving back to Atlanta.

Byers enjoyed learning the success stories of these refugees and immigrants and said she believes that hard work matters and will allow the individual to accom-

plish any task he/she sets his/her mind to.

Junior Weadick spent her time with the Young Women's Christian Association in Austin, TX.

YWCA has a mission statement of "eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all." It helps counsel women and helps Austin school children that are at a high propensity to turn to a gang life.

Weadick participated in fundraising outreach, giving information on counseling over the phone, increasing social media presence of YWCA Austin and also participating in the "Families Belong Together" protests. She learned to hope for the best and prepare for the worst and also said that this internship was "emotionally draining" and changed her perspective on poverty.

Senior Amy Weeks attended the VIA. "It is nice to see your friends having a platform to speak about their experiences and sharing the stories of others," she said. Weeks added that story telling is a critical part to bringing about meaningful change.

Senior Ryan Morley also attended. "The students that spoke told amazing stories about their experience working with and helping people living in poverty," he said. "I think it's important that Manchester continues to offer these opportunities for students to help others."

Fearheller says that students can apply to the Shepard Higher Education Consortium on Poverty internship through Peace Studies.

Screen Print Illustrations on Display on First Floor ACEN

Tiffany Williams
Staff Writer

Walking through the first-floor hall of the Academic Center, students are surrounded by artwork of familiar subject matter including popular movies and band concerts from "The Princess Bride" to "Mortuos Plango, Vivos Voco."

Aaron Scamihorn, the creator of the artwork, is a known illustrator, designer and gig poster artist with a passion for comic books, pop art aesthetic, portraiture and graphical illustration.

Scamihorn taught himself how to screen print, creating a business, Ronlewhorn Industries, based in Indianapolis. His work has been featured globally with clients such as Disney and top touring bands. In his business he designs, illustrates and screen-prints by hand, taking immense pride in what he does.

Ejenobo Oke, director of Galleries, at Manchester University invited the Scamihorn to display his artwork in the Academic Center. "I want my students to be introduced to a variety of art—different media, different subject matter, different reasons for making it," Oke said. "In particular, many of our students are interested in graphic design and illustration, so I knew they would be particularly intrigued by this work."

The Academic Center has an abundance of traffic which allows students to view it more effectively as opposed to hanging it in a gallery where few people visit. "Over 500 people a day will experience the work I hang there," she

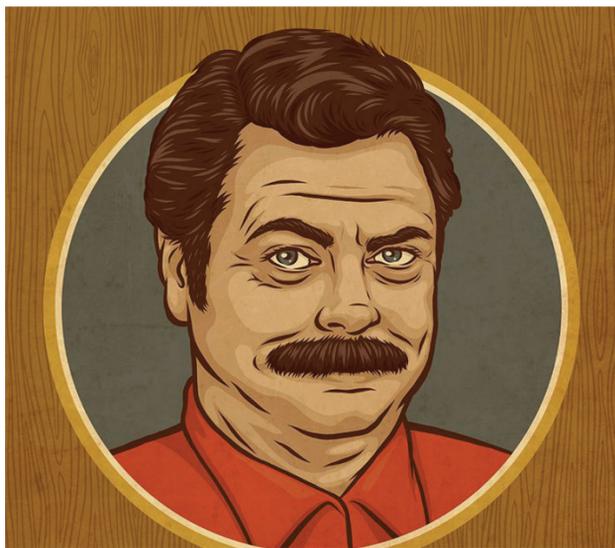


Photo provided



Photo provided

remarked. "That makes that format a very effective one for reaching students."

Students can meet the artist and find out more about the visual arts in general on the Visual Arts Career Day, which will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3, from 9-12 p.m.

at the Academic Center in room 101. The meet-and-greet with Aaron Scamihorn will be followed by a panel discussion by alumni art majors, artists, art professionals and other professionals who use art in their careers in some way or another.

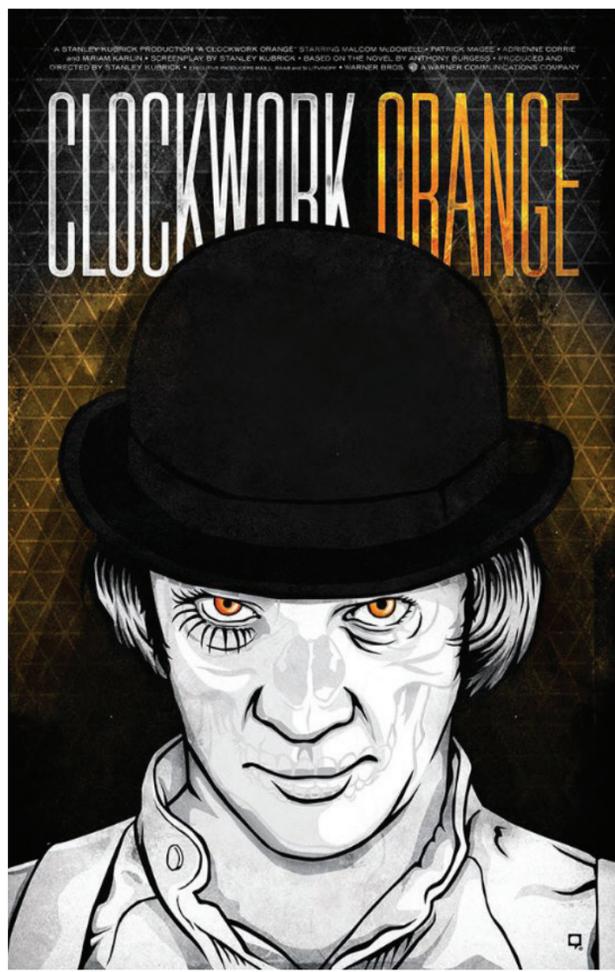


Photo provided

Anyone is invited to come to this event, whether they are pursuing an art career or otherwise. Participants in Visual Arts Career Day have a chance of receiving a free gift of original art by the artist at the end of the event. At the beginning of the event there will be

breakfast, however, refreshments will be provided throughout the event.

For more information on Aaron Scamihorn's work, visit his website at www.ronlewhorn.com. On his website you can look at, purchase and sign up to see his work.

Students Enjoy a Weekend Getaway at Camp Mack

Kaleigh Gabriel
Staff Writer

Students bonded with friends and enjoyed an eventful day by the lake at Camp Mack on Sept. 8.

Camp Mack Day is a long tradition at Manchester University. It's a day where students can enjoy kayaking, swimming, playing volleyball and frisbee, and roasting marshmallows for s'mores.

The Camp Mack tradition began in 1939 when a parade of students numbering 500-600 marched

to the railway station for a ride to Lake Waubee. Since then, the event has been annually put on by the Student Activities and/or Religious Life. Starting at 10 a.m. the festivities begin and continue until 2 p.m. In that time students are free to choose what activities they do.

"I was excited to go to Camp Mack so when I arrived it met all my expectations," said first-year Jojo DeLaRosa. "I did want to go swimming so I was disappointed that it was too cold. I expected shorts and tank top, not sweatpants and long sleeves." The weather was in the low-

er 60's with misty rain all day, which prevented swimming due to the cold. However, she says it was a great experience.

DeLaRosa also recounts a story from her favorite part of the day when her friends took a rowboat out in Lake Waubee. "I pointed out a turtle and it appeared to not be moving. We moved closer to the turtle only to find out it was an eel-like fish," she said. "We thought it was dead so when we scared it and it moved we freaked out and almost tipped the boat over. We also tried to catch up to the swans on the lake in our row-

boat."

Camp Mack Day is also a great time for friends to bond and for people to embrace new experiences. "It was my first time being able to go to Camp Mack and I am glad I did," said Sophomore Julia Macias-Ramirez. "It is definitely a good time to forget about homework for a bit. I think that if someone goes to Camp Mack they should definitely go with a group of friends. I also loved that I had the ability to experience it with some of my SOL students; it was such an amazing time with them. Camp Mack is definitely a time to bond."

The day also included tug-o-war, hiking, and a fire to chat with friends around. Camp Mack is home to the "flying squirrel," a full-body harness that can be hoisted 35 feet into the air. People can take turns yanking their friends up into the air.

Further, Camp Mack is home to the Living Cross, a tree that has grown into a cross shape. "My favorite part was being able to see The Living Cross," Macias-Ramirez said. "It was an awesome experience seeing the tree myself."



Photo by Destinee Boutwell

Construction of the Lockie and Augustus Chinworth Center is causing parking issues for students, faculty and staff alike. Or is it?

Parking 'Not' a Problem

Marcus Zwiebel
Staff Writer

OPINION

The situation of campus parking is as complex and varied as the attitudes and perspectives regarding it.

The limited campus parking has seemingly always been a concern for individuals at Manchester, regardless of demographic: commuter and resident, faculty, staff and student. However, the recent and large construction of the Lockie and Augustus Chinworth Center has cleared an area that was formerly a visitor and faculty/staff parking lot and thus created a renewed interest in parking concerns.

The predominant attitude towards limited parking on Manchester's intimate campus has been summarily "deal with it and arrive earlier." However, this motorist mantra has grown weaker with the addition of construction and subtraction of numerous parking spots. Simply arriving early no longer guarantees students, staff, or faculty an accessible walking distance to their venues.

While it is true that the parking dilemma does pose understandable concern, it is ultimately found to go little past inconvenience, considering the long-term benefits of the construction and the subsequent community beneficence the facility will have.

The duality of the perspectives concerning parking is represented well by junior Maddie Shultz, a Manchester University commuter. "I always hear about paving Paradise to put up a parking lot," says Shultz with a sardonic grin and slight laugh, "but the opposite is happening this year. We are gain-

ing what I'm sure will be a wonderful new building, but in the process, are temporarily losing valuable parking spaces for commuter students, visitors and staff."

In a recent Oak Leaves article, head of Campus Safety Tina Edwards explains that she is doing all that she can to make parking this year easier for students, faculty, and staff—including physically counting and documenting available spaces for concerned students.

While it is true that students and professors alike are becoming inconvenienced and actually showing up late to class or meetings, the Chinworth construction and its subsequent parking limitations parallel adolescent growing pains for the community of Manchester: they may be uncomfortable, but are ultimately temporary and necessary.

The Chinworth Center will contain a variety of services that will render the temporary parking dilemma understandable, such as a new location for the Registrar, Student Financial Services, Student Activities, several classrooms (to accommodate Manchester's growing student body) and a new commuter lounge. The second floor of the Center, which will be a connected extension of the Jo Young Switzer Center, will also include the new Arthur L. Gilbert College of Business.

So, as students, faculty and staff pull onto campus for a class or meeting, they should perhaps ponder the benefits of the Chinworth Center, the temporariness of construction, and the people physically trying to accommodate the Manchester community—especially since they will probably have a nice, long walk to do so.

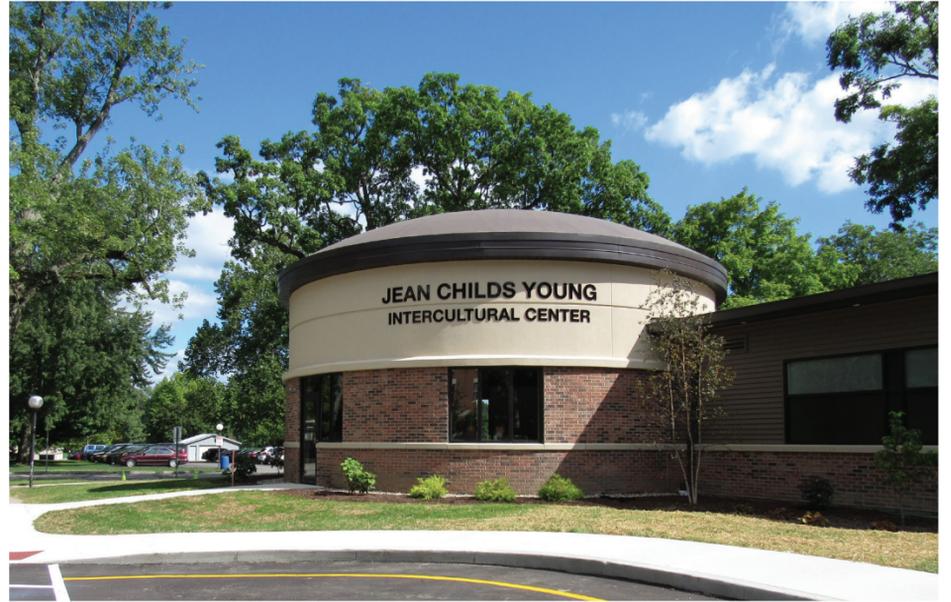


Photo by Chloe Arndt

The official open house for the Jean Childs Young Intercultural Center took place on Sept. 14. Students, faculty and staff are welcome to pay a visit to the new building.

New Intercultural Center Welcomes All

Kylie Mitchell
Staff Writer

Jean Childs Young Intercultural Center welcomed the campus to take part in an open house on Friday, Sept. 14.

The building serves as a second home for international students, but accommodates all ethnicities, and provides an insight to different nationalities, experiences and backgrounds.

Students from all over the world hang out in the living area where there are multiple sources of entertainment like board games and electronics. Clubs and organizations also utilize the area for various meetings and gatherings. However, if the entertainment isn't enticing enough, there's always food being made in the kitchen.

Apart from the living area and dining room, the Center includes the Toyota Round, three offices, computer lab, library, conference rooms, three bathrooms, and several storage rooms. The layout is practical and convenient for those who intend to utilize the space.

The Center also provides a class for first-year international students taught by Michael Dixon from 2 to 2:50 p.m. on Friday. However, it remains open to the public

at all times.

The Center underwent major reconstruction over the summer. Everything had to be packed and relocated to the new building provided by an MU graduate who donated \$250,000 in Toyota's name.

Fotini Kristuli, an employee at the Intercultural Center, greatly enjoys the environment. "It's amazing," she said. "It just feels like family."

Senior Daisy Byers agrees. "It was a safe haven for international students, but for me personally it is a home away from home," she said.

The Intercultural Center welcomes all on campus. "It's an open door policy," Byers said. "People always think it's only for international students. It's for any race. We prefer to have more diversity and that's why it's open to the whole campus."

It is a facility that embraces diversity and remains a second home for numerous students on campus. "The Intercultural center is an amazing place," Byers said. "Go there, we have free food. Who doesn't like food? Just come to the organization meetings and check it out because it's open to everyone." Providing entertainment, food, and a sanctuary for all, the Jean Childs Young Intercultural Center opens

its doors to the community.

Jean Childs Young, the building's namesake, was an educator and activist who graduated from what was formerly known as Manchester College in 1954. She was the first black Mayday Queen and married Andrew Young, a close friend of Martin Luther King Jr, who gave his last speech in front of a college audience in North Manchester on Feb. 1, 1968.

Young was a Manchester trustee from 1975 to 1979 and awarded an honorary doctorate in 1980. Although she died of liver cancer in 1994, her memory lives on through the intercultural center.

The Center also commemorates three students who were killed in an automobile accident on Feb. 21, 2016. Nerad Mangai, Brook Dagnew and Kirubel Hailu were returning with friends from a visit at Ball State when they were struck by another vehicle while changing a flat tire. A fourth student, Israel Tamire was treated at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

A Peace Pole was permanently installed outside the building after construction. It displays "May Peace Prevail on Earth." In spite of tragedy, the community came together to honor those who died and lean on one another.

'Duo No. 2' Features Modern, Postmodern Compositions

Victoria Heishman
Staff Writer

The Wine Recital Hall filled with music played by Elizabeth Smith, violinist, and Robert Lynn, cellist, on Sunday, Sept. 16, at 3 p.m.

Focusing on modern and postmodern compositions, the performance started with "Duo No. 2," composed by Bohuslav Martinů, which consisted of Allegretto, Adagio and Poco adagio. The second performance was "Theme and Variation for Violin and Cello," composed by Marlene Schlieffen (1961). This was a slightly longer list, being made up of Theme, Marcato, Slowly, Fast, Gigue, Chorale and Fugue, March and Finale.

Upon finishing, Lynn stood and gave a small announcement that filled the crowd with laughter. He explained how 20th century music is filled with a dissonance that was heavy within the previous songs, but would be less noticeable in the coming songs.

The collection following his announcement and a short break was "Mikautadze Tryptich" (2018) which consisted of "Company," "David and Elizabeth" and "The Vibe," composed by Debra Lynn.

The final two performances were "Four Miniatures for Violin and Cello" (2010), a series composed by Tim Reed. This collection is one that they've played in the past, and play rarely due to the difficulty of it.

Finally, the concert was wrapped up by "The Graham Vibe" (2018) composed by Debra Lynn. Upon the end of the song the crowd rose in applause.

During 2007, Elizabeth Smith and her husband Tim moved to Indiana. She serves as concertmaster of the Manchester Symphony Orchestra and teaches applied violin and viola, and string ensembles, as listed on the event program.

Dr. Robert Lynn teaches Music History, as well as classes in World music, American Music and Introduction to Music. Dr. Lynn also teaches music fundamentals and aural skills, as well as applied study in cello and low brass.

Advice, Answers for First-Years

Allyson Fogerty
Staff Writer

OPINION

For many first-years, this step into college comes with questions, fear and excitement.

Without the gilded wings of an upperclassman constantly over the shoulder or a professor's encouraging word always at the ear, it can be hard to know the secrets of a successful college year, but many campus personnel are more than willing to give out words of wisdom to any first-year when asked.

A running consensus with individuals on campus and off is to get to know your professors. Do not be afraid to ask them for help, especially when it comes to homework. It is okay not to know what you are doing, but utilize the help offered on campus and by your professors.

Desiree Blum, junior, says to study ahead of time, but offers a caveat. "Do not compare your accomplishments to other students'

because you are all at different stages in your academic and working career," she said.

Beate Gilliar, a beloved and respected professor on campus, says to embrace what is new. "Learn from others," she said. "Remain open. Everyone has a story. Yours is also in the making."

She advises students to treasure their time here and says that one must allow themselves to learn even if it seems impossible. You must meet your timelines, a planner is a must, and go to class even if you are unprepared.

Gilliar's final thoughts on the subject were to "meet, meet, meet" Manchester's international students. "Visit the new center," she said. "You will miss out if you do not; and their programs are awesome!"

Not only are there upperclassmen and professors willing to share their advice, but there are many former Manchester University students in town who are willing to share what they find important as well.

Heidi Lovett, who took classes at Manchester and who lives in town with her husband and child, had some words of wisdom when it came to having a successful college experience. She says to wash your dishes as soon as you use them. If you live in a suite, make a cleaning schedule so you and your suitemates can take turns keeping the common areas clean. She advises students to buy their books on Amazon or eBay to help cut the cost, and to go to class even if it you do not like it.

Lovett also advises students to stay on the weekends. "Don't take a single second for granted," she said. "It will be over so quickly, and you'll look back on it as one of the most magical times of your life."

With all the support on campus, and all the help that is offered, there is no reason that this year at Manchester University should not be a well-fulfilled, exciting year for the campus's first-year students.



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Editors-in-Chief
Carly Kwiecien and Destinee Boutwell

Web Editor
Maddie Jo Shultz

Faculty Advisor
Dr. Katharine Ings

Staff Writers
Alexandria Collins, Allyson Fogerty,
Camron Canniff, Emily Ryder, Erin Brock,
Kaleigh Gabriel, Kylie Mitchell, Marcus Zwiebel,
Mariella Angeles, Noah Tong, Tiffany Williams, Victoria Heishman

Photographers
Chloe Arndt, Joe Bivens, Laura Mayorga Mejia

Delivery Manager
Chloe Arndt

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To contact the editors:
oakleaves@manchester.edu

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Photo provided

Senior Justice Smith spent last spring in Dunedin, New Zealand. He sits on the Cedars of Lebanon Cone in the Dunedin Botanical Garden.



Photo provided

MU senior Jensen Lassister and her friends visited Buckingham Place in London, England, after class one afternoon. They were able to take a tour of the inside, too.



Dr. Lucas Dargo.

Photo provided

Dargo Joins Athletic Training Faculty

Camron Canniff
Staff Writer

Dr. Lucas Dargo, new professor of athletic training has been training himself—to land a job at a school like Manchester. He has worked his way up from being a student, teacher and now a professor.

He began his journey by becoming a graduate assistant at Ohio University for athletic training and worked at a nearby high school as well. “I was already wanting to be a health teacher and an athletic trainer at a small school,” he said. “A small school like the one in North Manchester for example, that’s the type of school that I went to, called Delta High School.”

While working on his doctorate he was teaching at Mount Vernon High School in southern Indiana. “I took the job because I wanted to be a clinical resource,” Dargo said. “I was the only athletic trainer at the time.”

He said that he wanted to be “the best of best” for his athletes and he knew he can do that. He wants to be that resource for Manchester students as well.

“I always thought that Manchester was a very prestigious school,” Dargo said. “Actually one of my formal colleagues was a Manchester grad.”

He learned more about the university through connections with graduates. “I knew that Manchester was a wonderful school,”

Dargo said. “I’m so thankful to be here.”

He also observed that the faculty among all levels are great and the connections the students have here are amazing to be a part of. And he’s looking forward to success for the students he teaches and the students that are a part of the school.

Dargo’s experience as a student at a large school has helped him to appreciate the small class sizes here at Manchester. “I took a class in nutrition and I was one of two athletic trainers out of 200 students,” he said. “So having that small group helps not only me but my students as well. I hope that my students will remember what I say in the classes and I hope that they can come to me for any type of help.”

Dargo recently married to his wife, Ariel, who took a position at Hamilton Heights primary school in Arcadia, Ind., as a 1st grade teacher. Dargo took the teaching position at Manchester so he could remain close to her. “We were getting ready to get married and I was told that you’ll find a new job,” he said. After a lot of tears and soul searching and a lot of job searching I found a position with ATI Worksite Solutions.”

The newest professor of athletic training has made some sacrifices to be here and he has a lot of gratitude toward his wife and his position at MU too. And he is ready to keep his success going.

Study Abroad with Endless Opportunities at MU

Samantha Bontrager
Staff Writer

You can take a January session, a semester, or a full year of your time in college and use it as an opportunity to learn in another part of the country—or even the world—with the Study Abroad or Study Away programs offered at Manchester University.

Although the idea of leaving the country, or even the state, can be scary and intimidating, the opportunities are endless and as Manchester students indicate, experiences can create once-in-a-lifetime, unforgettable memories.

Thelma Rohrer, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities does double duty as the director of the Office of Study Abroad and Off-Campus Academic Programs. She said that Manchester offers three different programs: January sessions, one-semester programs, or full-academic-year programs.

She also noted that Man-

chester sends students to a wide variety of places like Brussels, Belgium; Cheltenham, England; London, England; Dublin, Ireland; Marburg, Germany; Strasbourg, France; Barcelona, Spain; Valladolid, Spain; Quito, Ecuador; St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago; Dunedin, New Zealand; Dalian, China; and Sapporo, Japan, for semester and full-year programs.

Baylee Swank, for instance, spent last spring in London. She experienced a sense of reverse culture shock when she got back to Manchester for this fall semester. “I couldn’t believe how much I learned about who I am as a person,” Swank said.

Manchester also has a strong partnership with the Chicago Center, which is usually used for semester-long internships and student teaching opportunities. Rohrer said that New Zealand, Ireland and England tend to be more popular for students seeking English-speaking placements. She also recommended that prospec-

tive travelers visit both the BCA Study Abroad website and the Chicago Center’s website which can be found at bcastudyabroad.org and chicagocenter.org, both of which give more in depth details about the whole Study Abroad process.

Often times, Manchester people talk about studying abroad and about all of the wonderful experiences that are available, but what about the idea of “study away”? This term refers to students taking off-campus courses in cities in the United States rather than going abroad. Kendal Whitford spent a January session in Atlanta. “I came back from that trip with a whole new understanding of what it means to be an educator,” she said.

So, if you are looking for a one-of-a-kind learning experience, stop by and talk to Thelma Rohrer in the Otho Winger Music Building, room 115, and pick her brain about your potential study away experiences.

Staudenmaier Is New History Professor

Emily Ryder
Staff Writer

Michael Staudenmaier, a new professor at Manchester University, joined the history and political science department this year as an assistant professor.

Staudenmaier achieved a PhD, in history at the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. His teaching fields include United States history, Latin American history, histories of race and ethnicity and histories of social movements.

He explains that he started his career on what he calls a particularly “odd path.” After earning a philosophy degree from a small, liberal arts college, he began working at an alternative high school, Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School, located in the Humboldt Park neighborhood in Chicago, Ill. While there, he was able to engage a variety of talents such as teaching history, book-keeping, working with budgets, and working as an accountant. “That’s what I thought I wanted to do,” he said.

Ten years later, Staudenmaier ambitiously enrolled in graduate school, ultimately receiving a PhD in history. With his wife’s encouragement, he was inspired to do what he wants to be doing; he is passionate about teaching, researching and writing about history.

Staudenmaier describes himself while growing up as a “nerd kid.” From enjoying “The Lord of the Rings” to Ursula Le Guin’s Earthsea series, he loves to read. Currently, he is writing a book, as that is another one of his hobbies. His book project dives into his knowledge and work experience of how racial identity has changed



Dr. Michael Staudenmaier.

Photo provided

throughout time for Puerto Ricans in Chicago, as he can be considered a historian of race and ethnicity.

The high school he taught and worked for was very “community driven,” and presented him with a question throughout his profession, “how can we make life better for the people in our communities?” inspiring his research and book.

Aside from working hard on his book, research and teaching history courses, Staudenmaier enjoys spending time with his family. A few of his hobbies are bicycling, being out in the woods, watching the Green Bay Packers, and spend-

ing time with his three kids and wife, which are all among his favorite things to do.

While at Manchester University, Staudenmaier is trying to expand the offerings the history department. Additionally, he explains that he is “excited to be at Manchester; everyone has been wonderful.” He is currently teaching Aspects of American Social History, with a focus on slavery and emancipation, and US history to the Civil War (two sections). In the spring he will add Recent American History to his schedule and focus Aspects of American Social History on U.S. Latino history.



MU Football Looking Forward to Conference Opponents

Noah Tong
Staff Writer

After a tough start to begin the season, Manchester football is looking to flip the script as conference play continues. The Spartans were victorious at home versus Defiance College and will now travel to Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology the following weekend.

Head Coach Nate Jensen knows Manchester has their work cut out for them going forward. "Rose-Hulman will be our fourth and final night game this season," he said. "They finished first two years ago. They finished second in the conference last year, so obviously they are a really good program."

Jensen's side began the season ultimately suffering defeat at Trine University and Alma College.

"The biggest thing we need to do is keep improving," he explained. "We made huge strides between game one and game two, now we need even greater strides. We had the game wrapped up against Alma, and we didn't finish."

"We need to learn how to win," he continued. "In the future, we have to finish."

The Spartans entered



Photo provided

On Saturday, Sept. 15, Spartans beat Defiance at the season's home opener with a score of 57-26.

the 2018 season knowing they needed to replace talented upperclassmen at key positions. Naturally, Jensen sees opportunity for new names to stake a claim for playing time.

"The offensive line played really well last against Alma," he said. "We started three freshmen in that group. We have young wide receivers really

coming along as well. They keep working hard every day. All these young guys are eager to show what they can do."

These factors allowed junior running back Donovan Henderson Jr. to rush for a career day, amounting towards 187 yards and three touchdowns against Alma College. "The team is hungry," Henderson said. "We're just

going to keep working hard to be the best." It was his fifth 100-yard performance as a member of the Black and Gold.

"Obviously, our long-term goal is to win a conference championship," Jensen said. "But we reevaluate goals every week. This week is about finishing, and it will be the same thing until we do finish."



Photo provided

Spartans roared out to a 34-0 lead early in the second period and carried their drive until the end.



Photo provided

Spartans registered seven tackles during the home opener.

Men's XC Keeps Pace with Competition

Alexandria Collins
Staff Writer

The men's cross country team looks like it has a smooth road ahead. This past weekend on Sept. 15, the Spartans placed 4th with 26 points at the Blue River Invitational.

And the runners are pleased. "So far this season is a better start than last year, so I feel that we are heading in the right direction," said Cameron Kimmell, junior.

Lucas Fontanez, sophomore, agrees, but with caution. "Season has been going well besides some injuries we have had, and it has cost us some very valuable runners," he said. "Overall all, we have been running well."

He added that they need to focus on running as a team, and build momentum off each other in the future. Kimmell agreed. "The meet went well in the beginning, but we need to execute better through the middle," he said. "Not just individuals."

Manchester University has a tough conference, especially for the men's cross country team. The runners mentioned they need to really focus in on conference games. It becomes very competitive, so they have to be on their toes.

So what does the team need to improve on? Fontanez



Photo provided

Junior Cameron Kimmell passes his opponent on the path.

replied with more of a health comment. "Strengthening our core, and staying physically healthy is important to our team," he said. "Our core group especially needs to be strengthened."

Kimmell chimed in

and stated that aggressiveness of the runners can be worked on. "We need to close down the gap between our front runners, and work more towards running in packs," he added.

Men's Soccer Battles Exhaustion

Mariella Angeles
Staff Writer

After an 11-0 win last week against Blackburn, the Spartans experienced two losses. On Saturday, Sept. 15, the men traveled to Kalamazoo, MI, to go toe to toe with Kalamazoo College. The game remained scoreless until the 41st minute when Kalamazoo scored.

Josh Gonzalez, a sophomore forward exploring a major in environmental studies and biology, had five shots throughout the game. He earned the honor of the United Soccer Coaches national men's and women's Players of the Week for NCAA Divisions I, II and III. He was also named the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference's Offensive Player of the Week and also the Division III's Men's Player of the Week.

Even with the numerous accolades, Gonzalez has plans to improve. "I want to finish more chances and get more confident on the ball," he said.

Matthew Roop, junior center-back and a sport management and marketing major and also one of the captains on the team, noted that if they played like they have been during practice, then the games this week should have favorable outcomes, but that was not the case. "I played a poor ball across the middle [of the field] that got intercepted, (which led to Kalamazoo scoring)," Roop said.

He noted it was a frus-

trating feeling to concede a goal right before half-time. The team almost had it this game, but the efforts were not enough. The Black and Gold fell to Kalamazoo 1-0.

On Sept. 16, the men travelled to Greencastle, IN, to face DePauw University. Sophomore Alex Baker noted that during half-time he did not have much energy and his goal going into the second half was to get a goal back.

Gonzalez was feeling exhausted, given he played a full 90-minute game just the day before. Albeit feeling out of energy after the half, Gonzalez had an optimistic view that they were going to turn things around.

Joshua Jordan, a junior seeking a major in mathematics, was also experiencing frustration during half-time. He mentioned that they were not completely out of the game and he said that all they needed was once chance to get level with DePauw.

Justin Winterboer, a junior in management and sales played as the Spartan's goal keeper for the whole duration. The cycle of frustration continued and he said that the talk the team had with the coaches during half-time was a good one and thought they were going to be able to pick it up. But despite their efforts and feelings of frustration, they fell to Kalamazoo 2-0, ending the weekend with back-to-back losses.

They finish this week heading to Warsaw, IN, today, Sept. 21, to face Grace College.