

Community health program hosts forum

BY JUSTIN RHEINGOLD
Daily Editorial Board

A group of students and faculty members from the Community Health Program hosted an informal forum to discuss the state of the major.

Community Health Program Director Jennifer Allen explained that she recently began her position and convened the meeting to discuss students concerns on the program's health amid the loss of several key professors.

"One of the most important things that I feel I can do as the program director is to create opportunities for students to give us input on how things are going, and [to] work together to make things even better — I would like to do this on a regular basis throughout the semester," Allen told the Daily after the meeting. "...I had this meeting because [Assistant Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine Linda Sprague Martinez] is leaving and she is a much beloved faculty member. Students were saying, 'Why are people leaving?' so I wanted to have a forum where we could talk about it."

During the discussion, Allen explained that the among Tufts' interdisciplinary programs, the Community Health Program has major differences in its structure.

"There are a lot of different ways

at Tufts in which interdisciplinary programs work," Allen said. "In a lot of them, the way it works is faculty are tenured in departments but they teach courses for [interdisciplinary fields such as] political psychology or international relations. We're really different [because] ... we're in a unique situation where we have dedicated faculty."

According to Martinez, because the Community Health Program does not offer a tenure track, faculty would officially receive the title of "full-time lecturer." This title difference impacts the faculty when they apply for research funding, Martinez explained.

"When you apply for a grant as a full time lecturer, you can't ... be a Principal Investigator ... you have to ask for permission to lead your own research grant," she said. "For people like me — I'm interested in health research [and] am applying for grants [from] the National Institutes of Health — that was concerning ... When [former Community Health Program Director Edith Balbach] was here as a director she did a really good job any time a hurdle came up ... she did a lot of work in terms of getting us a blanket of approval to write or apply for our own research grants."

In order to overcome this hurdle, community health faculty are

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CAROLINE GEILING / THE TUFTS DAILY

Tufts has withdrawn its proposal for the redevelopment of the Powder House Community School after it determined it would be unable to meet the city's time constraints.

Tufts withdraws from redevelopment of Powder House Community School

BY JUSTIN RHEINGOLD
Daily Editorial Board

The City of Somerville in a March 20 press release announced that it had ended negotiations with Tufts on the redevelopment of the former Powder House Community School.

The university's redevelopment proposal was selected by the city last September, and Tufts had entered into an Exclusive Negotiating Agreement with the city. Over the past two months, however, the university determined that its development of

the property would be delayed, Tufts' Associate Director of Public Relations Alexander Reid explained.

"Tufts University has reached an agreement with the City of Somerville to withdraw from development of the Powder House Community School Project," Reid told the Daily in an email. "While Tufts had hoped to make this project a reality, we have reluctantly concluded that it is no longer feasible given the many and growing demands on our financial resources."

According to a 2012 Request

for Proposals for redevelopment, the Powder House Community School has been vacant since it closed its doors in 2004. The city had hoped to break ground on the redevelopment of the property within three years of selecting a developer, according to the March 20 press release, but Tufts officials told the city that they did not foresee starting the process for at least 15 years.

The City of Somerville will retain the university's \$10,000 deposit according to the press

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Dental school implements streamlined international service program



ASHLEY SEENAOUTH / TUFTS DAILY ARCHIVES

Tufts School of Dental Medicine is implementing a new Global Service Learning Initiative to standardize service opportunities for dental students.

BY DENALI TIETJEN
Daily Editorial Board

Tufts School of Dental Medicine recently began the implementation of the new Global Service Learning Initiative, a program intended to streamline international service opportunities for students.

The initiative, organized by a committee of four dental school professors and university administrators, aims to maximize the benefits of international service learning for both students and the communities they visit by standardizing all stages of these programs, including the application process, pre-service learning, on-site practices and post-service reflection and reports, according to the dental school's Associate Dean of Global Relations, Noshir Mehta.

"Before, we did not have an organized program," Mehta said. "A faculty member would take two or three students to some place for about a week, they'd come back and that would be the end of that. There was no sustainability, no organization and no safety protocol that we followed on a regular basis."

Central to the initiative is the service education lecture series students must attend prior to their trip, John Morgan, a professor of Public Health and Community Service who sits on the Global Service Learning Initiative committee, said.

"It's important that both the students and faculty understand what these programs are

designed to do, the impact we want to have and how we can do that in an ethical manner," Morgan said.

The first half of the 10-lecture series focuses on introducing students to the overall process of global service learning. In the second half of the series, students focus on the specific community to which they're traveling — the dental treatments available to patients in the area, topics of cultural sensitivity and safety protocols, Morgan, who directs the lecture series, explained.

"After the lectures, [students] have a sense of where they are going, how to keep safe when they're there, what they can expect to see and what we expect of them," Mehta said.

Upon returning from these trips, students perform a retrospective analysis and develop seminars to share their experiences, Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs Robert Kasberg said.

"Students report back to the school and host seminars for the rest of the student body, so hopefully other students will gain from their experience, as well," Kasberg said.

While the school has already streamlined its existing service programs in Zambia, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, organizers plan to continue to develop and expand the reach of the Global Service Learning Initiative, Mehta explained.

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Inside this issue

Strong Women, Strong Girls teaches young women in Somerville and Medford important life skills.



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Mekhi Phifer and Maggie Q answer questions from the Daily about their new movie 'Divergent.'



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Somerville to consider alternate redevelopment proposals

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release, and will use the money for neighborhood improvements around the school.

"Tufts University has been a terrific partner for the City of Somerville in the past and will continue to be a great partner for us, especially in the realm of education," Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone is quoted as saying in the press release. "Unfortunately, while Tufts was successful at engaging the community in designing a building and a park, they could not commit to a timetable that meets the terms of the agreement, as well as the community's desires, hopes and expectations for the site."

While both of Tufts' proposals included the construction of additional office space to serve university academic purposes, the university had not decided which employees would occupy the new space, Reid explained.

According to the press release, with the removal of Tufts from the redevelopment process, the city will now reconvene the Technical Advisory Committee to reconsider the committee's previous rec-

ommendations and to determine the next steps in the planning.

In an Aug. 19 report, the committee recommended two proposals in addition to the one from Tufts. These proposals included ones from Diamond Sinacori Real Estate Development and David Square Partners.

"If the first alternate bidder, Davis Square Partners, is determined to still be eligible, prepared and willing to move forward, the process to negotiate the terms of their proposal will commence," the press release said.

Ted Tobin, a principal of Davis Square Partners, which is a joint venture between K.S.S. Realty Partners and Gate Residential Properties, declined to comment on the ongoing negotiations when contacted by the Daily.

According to the city's press release, Tufts was initially selected by the city in part due to its proposal's creation of the "largest contiguous publicly accessible open space."

Davis Square Partners' proposal, however, also consists of publicly accessible green space, which would be surrounded by 30 to 40 residential units instead

of office space. Both proposals met the city's requirement to maintain accessibility from Holland Avenue to Packard Avenue via the property.

This alternative proposal was initially rated highly, according to the city's recent press release. If it is selected, the community participation process in which Tufts was involved will recommence. A community meeting will be held tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Tufts Administration building at 169 Holland Street to discuss the news and steps going forward.

Despite this setback, university officials are optimistic about the school's collaboration with the City of Somerville.

"Tufts truly appreciates the professionalism and collaboration shown by Mayor Curtatone, his team, the Technical Advisory Committee, members of the Board of Aldermen and the Somerville residents who devoted extensive time and attention to reviewing our proposal," the university's statement said. "Tufts remains committed to working closely with the City of Somerville in the future."

Organizers hope to expand service opportunities

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"We want to expand the program so that every student that wants to go abroad and gain this sort of experience is able to do so," he said.

Future service programs organized through the Global Service Learning Initiative will not be limited to third world countries, however, according to Mehta.

"We want to extend these programs to other countries so students have the ability to have community service in France and Italy and those places, too," Mehta said. "We have our own community here in the United States and have programs here, too."

While international service learning trips are voluntary, service learning is central to the Tufts Dental School curriculum, and all students are required to participate in national service programs, Kasberg explained.

"We do have a national program where every single one of our students is exposed to service learning," he said. "They're assigned a public service unit from the Navajo

reservation in Winslow, Ariz. to rural clinics in Maine and Massachusetts and urban clinics all along the coast."

According to Kasberg, while many dental schools have international service learning trips, Tufts stands out because of its dental student exchange program.

"We have a very robust student exchange program that goes hand in hand with what we're doing now," Kasberg said. "For instance, we have a global service learning trip that goes to the Dominican Republic. We also have a student that will go to the Dominican Republic's dental school and have students from their school study here for a couple of weeks. They're somewhat separate, but also somewhat the same in that they're both an effort to introduce our students to international dentistry."

Mehta added, however, that the program is meant to go beyond helping the global common good.

"It's not just community service. We want these programs to serve as educational service for our students, as well," he said.

Lack of tenure option considered obstacle in faculty recruitment

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actually appointed at the School of Medicine, Martinez added.

"In the beginning, we all thought this was going to be a great idea, myself included," she said. "I thought 'this is great, now we finally have a title, assistant professor.' But I think in retrospect, that for me, I see it that we're not necessarily part of the medical school because we're arts and sciences people, but we're not arts and sciences people because we're part of the medical school ... It has blurred our relationship to both campuses, to some extent."

Martinez explained that she is leaving for a tenure-tracked position at Boston University in part due to the lack of a tenure option at Tufts. She said it is easier for faculty to obtain resources when tenure tracked.

"Assume that your scholarship and research informs your teaching and there's a relationship between the two as there should be in my opinion," she said. "If I'm not out there doing cutting edge research being funded by a national institution ... it's a very different perspective I bring as someone who is in the field ... There [are] more opportunities I can provide for students [with research grants], so it is important to be able to balance research and teaching."

In addition to Martinez, two former faculty recently left their positions, albeit for different reasons. Assistant Professor of Public Health and Community Medicine Cora Roelofs explained, however, that tenure remains an important issue and could impact the program's ability to recruit new faculty members.

"When those scholars have options, a non-tenure track job at Tufts versus a tenure track job at another university, even if it's not as desirable as a university, is going to look more appealing," Roelofs said. "If we are going to be competitive as a university, we want to compete for the best scholars, the best teachers, ... Community health is at a disadvantage by not offering a tenure track position."

During the forum, students and faculty expressed concern that the department will lose courses that focus on racial and ethnic issues involving healthcare, topics on which Martinez performs research and focuses her teaching.

"I think that they should pay very close attention to the job description because depending on how the job description is written is whether or not it will attract folks focused on racial inequity," Martinez said. "I think they should be very explicit in the job description that [it] is a requirement to teach classes around racial inequality ... I think they also need to think about hiring a person of color [because] there are no people of color in community health."

Roelofs added that the lack of tenure will likely impact this recruitment process.

"[The lack of tenure] may make it more difficult to recruit a top candidate who is a person of color doing racial inequity," she said. "In terms of integrating a discussion of racism, racial inequality as a determinant in quality of health, I do that in all of my classes and I try to do that as much as possible. And I want to do that even harder in trying to create a better space for a discussion of racism in the classroom as it relates to health and well-being."

A desire for increased variety in courses was an additional concern among students.

"I'm a senior and this is the first time I'm taking a class on community mental health," Sarah Diaz said. "We know that it's very significant but we [never] go into it because it's not a focus in many of the classes."

Students also expressed a desire for the creation of an alumni network, the development of a mentorship initiative, and the simplification of program communications.

"The [Bachelor's/Master of Public Health dual degree] program is difficult to navigate in all of its assets," junior Becky Goldberg said. "We don't have our own [undergraduate] email distribution

list so I often do not read the emails because they do not pertain to me."

The requirement that community health be a second major was also discussed briefly.

"The biggest problem is that it can only be a second major," junior Yaniv Rait told the Daily before the discussion. "It kind of just forces us to have to focus on things that aren't just community health. In the beginning I really didn't like that, I wished I could have focused on community health more, but I guess I've kind of realized that ... it's good that we have to have a first major because I think it really gives us a wider view. Instead of focusing solely on community health, we get to look at it from a different perspective."

In addition to discussing room for change within the Community Health Program, students also spoke about the benefits of the program including its interdisciplinary approach, course assignments that teach useful life skills and its applicability to everyday life.

"What I really value from the Community Health Program is the applicability as an undergrad," Goldberg said. "I feel like I can really apply everything I learn to extracurricular [activities] and life. I feel that even as an undergrad, you can still make a difference."

Senior Caitlyn Lahousse added that the program enabled her to keep her studies focused.

"I like being able to do a lot of my distribution requirements within community health," she said. "Since I'm not really a humanities person, it was great to explore those topics within [the program]."

Allen said that she hopes to hold additional forums on the Community Health Program and believes that many of the suggestions can be implemented.

"We're all on the same team making sure that we're doing the absolute best in terms of the program we create, in terms of the classroom environments that we create and in terms of the relationships both within and outside Tufts that provide [students] with opportunities to learn" she said.

Seniors meanwhile are seeking broader participation in the discussion of the program.

"We're still gathering more people for our survey so we're going to be canvassing," Diaz said. "We'll also be trying to show up en masse to the town hall meeting with [University President Anthony] Monaco and we also have some meetings setup with [Dean of Academic Affairs for Arts and Sciences James Glaser]."



Students and faculty discuss the state of the Community Health Program during an open forum yesterday evening.

ETHAN CHAN / THE TUFTS DAILY

Features

tuftsdaily.com



COURTESY TUFTS STRONG WOMEN, STRONG GIRLS

The Tufts chapter of Strong Women, Strong Girls holds an annual "Jump into Spring" event, which celebrates the founding of the national organization.

Strong Women, Strong Girls impacts over 9,000 girls nationally, assisted by Tufts chapter

BY MENGQI SUN
Contributing Writer

Since 2008, female Tufts students have worked with the national non-profit organization Strong Women, Strong Girls (SWSG) to help girls in the surrounding Somerville and Medford areas. The chapter has attempted to encourage female empowerment and promote service work by mentoring local young women.

SWSG is committed to utilizing lessons from "strong" historical female figures to inspire young women to become leaders and role models themselves, according to its mission statement. Over the past few years, the national organization has expanded significantly, with now more than 3,000 active college mentors across the country. In 2013, the organization worked with elementary school students in over 60 communities, according to its national 2012-2013 Impact Report.

"We have offices in Pittsburgh, Boston, Miami and a pilot office in New York City," Mikki Pugh, program manager for the Boston headquarters of SWSG, said. "In Boston, we have been officially [around] for 10 years, since 2004."

Victoria Gibson, co-director of Tufts' SWSG chapter, described a similar expansion.

"We have currently 36 participants working this semester, and we are [working] at 10 sites in Somerville and Medford," Gibson, a sophomore, said.

The mentoring program includes two parts. In the fall, the program focuses on a "Countdown to Success" curriculum, where girls learn about various concepts, such as goal-setting and communication. In the spring, the mentors advocate service-learning to students. Working in teams of three, Tufts mentors facilitate groups of third to fifth grade girls in Somerville and Medford elementary schools once a week, according to Gibson.

Junior Nikki Bank, chapter coordinator for SWSG at Tufts, helped develop the spring curriculum with the Boston headquarters, and described what a typical mentoring session looks like.

"We follow the same general format ... to give consistency to the girls," she said. "We always begin with a check-in, in which you share your high and lows. Then we do a review from the prior week, [and] then we read a biography of a 'strong' woman."

According to Gibson, the curriculum designed by the national organization tries to cultivate certain skills in women starting at a young age.

"The skill curriculum includes things such as goal setting, stress management or critical thinking," Gibson said. "Those are things that you don't necessarily think about when you are younger."

The spring curriculum provides the elementary students with an opportunity to put the skills they learned in the fall into practice through a specific service project.

"This year, we are making fleece-tie blankets to donate to organizations of the girls' choosing," Bank said. "They are really simple, but it's really fun for the girls to create something tangible."

In addition to the mentoring sessions and service projects, Tufts SWSG has organized field trips that bring the girls to the Tufts campus. Junior Enxhi Popa, the other co-director of the Tufts SWSG chapter, explained some of the highlights from last year's trip.

"Our theme was 'Around the World,'" she said. "We had three different stations of ... activities. The first one was Salsa. ... We also had one [station] about a puppetry show."

"We took them on a tour around campus," Gibson said. "That ... [provides] a fun way to talk about college and the importance [of going] to college and what that looks like."

According to Gibson and Pugh, at the end of each year SWSG measures the impacts of its activities on the girls through surveys.

"We have surveys that ask girls questions such as, 'What [do] I want to be when I grow up?' [or] 'I have two adults that I can talk to — is that true?'" Gibson said. "We ask them the same questions at the beginning and end of the year, and we measure the impacts based on if there is any change [in the answers]."

"We do surveys with our mentors [to see] if they notice any differences in the girls and also what changes they experience," Pugh said. "We also do surveys with parents and the site facilitators, who are the people working at each of our schools."

According to the national SWSG 2012-2013 Impact Report, 85 percent of the participants reported improvement in

their skill set. The mentors at the Tufts chapter, however, still had suggestions on how to improve the curriculum.

"Something that I would like to see in the curriculum is teaching girls more practical skills," Popa said. "I know there is an organization called Junior Achievement, which teaches elementary school students about business. I want to be able to incorporate some more practical career skills, [in order] to get the girls think about business in middle school."

SWSG at Tufts has also worked to attract a diverse range of mentors through various means.

"We have a partnership with [the Leonard Carmichael Society]," Gibson said. "In the past and this semester, we have been reaching out to cultural [groups], such as the Africana House, Asian American Center and the Latino Center, because we do have lots of girls of color, so [diversity] is very important to us."

Although Tufts SWSG is a part of the Leonard Carmichael Society, the organization does its own fundraising, according to Gibson and Popa.

"We are financially independent as a chapter," Gibson said. "One thing that we have done this year, which has been pretty successful, is our 'strong' stickers [to promote SWSG] ... We also have a letter writing campaign in the fall."

"This year we are going to do a big sale at the Sarabande show, and we will be selling baked goods and stickers," Popa said.

The leaders of Tufts SWSG also discussed their desire to increase group unity.

"We are working on strengthening the community of the Tufts mentors," Bank said. "Because so much of the program takes place off campus, we are working on making all the mentors here more cohesive."

"Our plan also includes [gaining] visibility on campus so that people know our organization," Popa said. "Our mission is to empower women — not just [to do] mentoring. So, we need to do lots of other things to gain [a] presence on campus."

Gibson agreed, and explained that she views her work as much more than just another extracurricular activity.

"We want the mentors to be really committed to SWSG," she said. "This isn't just a resume builder. It's about girls' lives."

REBECCA HUTCHINSON | WHAT'S POPPIN'

The Disney takeover



I'm not usually one to complain about not having a car on campus, since driving is the absolute worst, but I do miss one thing about being able to drive myself around: the radio. Having gone months without listening to the radio, I have no idea what songs are popular right now. I have no doubt that they'll get to me eventually — once they've been overplayed into oblivion, and everyone else is already sick of them. I don't know how people who don't drive are able to stay on top of the latest in pop music, because, as of now, when a new song hits the airwaves, I have absolutely no idea what it is.

I realized how out of touch I am with the latest and greatest in pop music when I went home for break and drove a little bit. Just to give you an idea with how out of touch I am, I heard the song "#Selfie" by the Chainsmokers (2014) for the first time just a few days ago. I'm pretty sure that that song is the definition of old news by now, but I guess that's life without a radio (no worries, I've listened to it at least 20 times since then to catch up).

One day, I was listening to my usual station, which features pop-ish music (Fresh 102.7, for anybody who knows their tri-state area radio), and a Disney song comes on. The song was "Let it Go" from "Frozen" (2013), which you've definitely heard even if you haven't seen the movie, because lately people have been all about channeling their inner diva, screaming the song at all hours of the day and night.

I can't say I was all that upset hearing "Let it Go," because who doesn't love a good Disney song? But, I was surprised. The station had just played "Timber" by Pitbull featuring Ke\$ha (2013). I didn't know that the same audience was supposed to appreciate a song by somebody who rose to fame by bragging to world about how she wakes up in the morning feeling like P Diddy, and a song that is performed by an animated princess. The movie and the song have won all kinds of awards, but these accolades have primarily emphasized the movie's youth audience.

I, of course, have seen "Frozen" more than once and probably enjoyed it more than any of the "adult" movies I have seen recently. Then again, I am very into all things Disney and generally enjoy all kinds of movies, TV shows and music that are probably aimed at a much younger demographic. I am not surprised that I loved "Frozen," and I certainly would have played its entire soundtrack on the radio if anybody gave me that kind of power. But, I am surprised that so many other people love it — especially people whose tastes are mature and sophisticated or whatever.

The reality is that people are crazy for this movie (and not just psychos who still occasionally whip out their Jonas Brothers' playlist when they are attempting to work out). It is slowly seeping into pop culture, and not just the pop culture that only nine-year-olds care about. There have been approximately a billion Buzzfeed articles about it, Facebook went wild when it won a Golden Globe and it seems as though the whole world has seen it.

Maybe "Frozen" is so popular because of its "girl-power" message, or maybe because the soundtrack is just that good. Either way, if the hugeness of "Frozen" isn't a sign that Disney is taking over literally everything, I don't know what is.

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RESCHEDULED:

SURVIVORS SPEAK



Rwanda Darfur Holocaust Cambodia Bosnia

Join Tufts Against Genocide for a meaningful evening as survivors from five genocides share their compelling stories with our community and discuss how we can take action to prevent future atrocities.

Moderated by Reverend McGonigle

Sponsored by the Cummings/Hillel Program for Holocaust and Genocide Education

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MOVIE REVIEW

'Divergent' does book justice with focused plot, strong cast

BY MICHAEL MERILLA
Daily Staff Writer

Dystopian young adult novels have risen in popularity among teenagers and adults alike. The genre depicts future worlds with

Divergent



Directed by **Neil Burger**

Starring **Shailene Woodley, Kate Winslet, Theo James, Ashley Judd**

flawed governments and complex characters. Film studios have begun to transition these novels onto the big screen, but, for devout fans, the movie's quality often does not equal that of the book. However, in "Divergent," the movie is just as good, if not better, than the book.

Set in what remains of a futuristic Chicago, society is divided into factions: Abnegation (selfless), Amity (peaceful), Erudite (intelligent), Candor (honest) and Dauntless (brave). Each faction has its own school, dress code and job. At sixteen, everyone takes a simulation test to discover which faction they identify with. At an event called the Choosing Ceremony each person is free to join any of the five — regardless of where that person grew up, or the test results.

Tris Prior (Shailene Woodley) and her brother Caleb (Ansel Elgort) are raised in Abnegation, but Tris does not feel she belongs there. This is confirmed when she receives her simulation results, conducted by Dauntless member Tori (Maggie Q). Her results are labeled "inconclusive:" she shows attributes of three factions, not just one. Tori explains that this ability, called



Shailene Woodley brings author Veronica Roth's wildly popular heroine, Tris, to life on the big screen.

Divergent, is rare and that Tris should keep it a secret because the Erudite faction sees it as a danger.

At the Choosing Ceremony, Tris shocks everyone: She chooses Dauntless, cutting herself off from Abnegation and her family. Though the freedom associated with Dauntless excites Tris, the initiation after the Choosing Ceremony involves a series of brutal challenges — run by Dauntless leaders Four (Theo James), Max (Mekhi Phifer) and Eric (Jai Courtney) — that aim to push her mind and body to the breaking point. Tris has successfully accomplish each to remain in Dauntless — all while keeping her Divergent status a secret.

"Divergent" also stars Miles Teller as Peter, a cruel Dauntless member willing to do anything to be ranked first among his fellow initiates. Kate Winslet plays Jeanine, the leader of the Erudite faction.

"Divergent" fans will notice details in the movie that differ from the book, but all changes made are used to streamline and narrow the focus of the plot. Because the bestseller itself is 500 pages, director Neil Burger worked with author Veronica Roth to cut out unnecessary and repetitive plot points found in the novel. There are a few big differences between the book and the

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INTERVIEW | MAGGIE Q AND MEKHI PHIFER

'Divergent' stars discuss preparing for their roles

BY MICHAEL MERILLA
Daily Staff Writer

Although Mekhi Phifer and Maggie Q are best known for their performances in TV series, the actresses can be seen on the big screen this month. Both star in the new film "Divergent," based on the first book in Veronica Roth's best-selling trilogy. Phifer, who has had roles on "ER" (1994-2009), "Lie to Me" (2009-2011) and "Torchwood" (2006-2011), and Q, of "Nikita" (2010-2013) fame, play, respectively, Max and Tori, members of the Dauntless faction in the dystopian film. The Daily participated in a college roundtable interview with Phifer and Q, in which they discussed the challenges of playing their roles, the adaptations made to the book and their experience filming.

The Tufts Daily: What specific experience or what past roles have really helped you guys with this film?

Mekhi Phifer: Well, I would think, you know, when you talk about a career and a body of work, I think they all help you to the next stage ... [In] each film you learn something new. You deal with a whole different multitude of people on each project. That's one thing that I really love about the film and the television industry: you get to meet so [many] diverse people that you would normally never come across in life. And [learning] from each project helps you take it to the next level. I mean, you never really want to do a repeat performance of the same character, so you always try to find creative ways to make this particular character [different from another one].

Maggie Q: I played a mentor on my show,



Despite changes from the book, Mekhi Phifer believes fans will enjoy the movie adaptation of 'Divergent.'

but I was the mentor [who] was willing and able and eager and my student ... was a little resistant to it. And this is the opposite. I'm the unwilling mentor, and she's after me, you know, trying to get information. So, that was interesting — to

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ALBUM REVIEW

MØ's full-length release introduces powerful new artist

BY NIKA KORCHOK
Daily Editorial Board

Since emerging on the indie music scene in 2013 with her driving vocals featured on Avicii's "Dear Boy,"

No Mythologies to Follow



MØ
RCA

Danish singer Karen Marie Østed, better known by her stage name MØ has proven that she not only has a unique sound, but also the musical prowess to give her strong staying power in the industry. With her first full-length studio album, "No Mythologies to Follow," MØ's official debut demonstrates incredible potential for this new European songstress.

MØ's slow and sultry songs are the perfect background soundtrack to long car rides and lazy pool days, yet her mature songwriting deserves more than a mindless, half-hearted listen. With tinkling chimes and a strong but shifting percussion beat to back her up, MØ's singing is enhanced by both its syncopated nature and orchestral accompaniment. Her voice is enchanting and punchy, smooth enough to ease the listener from song to song, but also distinctively powerful — keeping listeners on their toes when a signature wail emanates in the middle of a track.

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RYAN BUELL | THE BEAT

Hip-Hop's cross pollination



In 1979, The Sugar Hill Gang released hip-hop's first hit song, "Rapper's Delight," topping out at No. 36 on American charts. Seven years later, in 1986, the Beastie Boys' "Licensed to Ill" became the first hip-hop album to top the Billboard albums chart. Since then, over 100 hip-hop albums have reached that zenith. By 1995, the Grammys had an award for Best Rap Album.

Hip-hop has spawned pop culture icons in Jay-Z and Kanye West; rappers do product endorsements and their songs earn commercial spots. Eminem is a generally respected figure, something that was completely unthinkable back in 2000. Hip-hop's rise to popularity is far from a new phenomenon, but a distinctly different trend is emerging, one that is pushing the genre from simply popular music to actual pop music.

Today, the Billboard Hot 100 features a rapper/singer/hip-hop producer holding the top spot — Pharrell for his song "Happy" — and two trap rappers with guest verses on top five hits: Juicy J on Katy Perry's "Dark Horse" (2013) and 2 Chainz on Jason Derulo's "Talk Dirty" (2013). In other words, it includes one rapper-turned-pop artist, and two rappers featured on pop artists' songs. Rappers are collaborating with pop artists, and hip-hop musicians are making music targeted towards the traditional pop music audience.

As long as songs that blend rap delivery and hip-hop beats with the accessible, catchy hooks and lyrics of pop music continue to succeed, they will fuel the rise of more rap-pop collaborations and crossover artists seeking access to that expanded audience. Nicki Minaj has established an entire career on bridging the gap between pop and rap. The line between genres has never been thinner, and it's only going to become more obscure.

In recent months, songs have been released by duos such as Chance the Rapper and Justin Bieber, Kendrick Lamar and Imagine Dragons and Rick Ross and The Weeknd. Electronic music has made inroads in hip-hop, as well, as West's "Yeezus" (2013) attests. The Skrillex-produced A\$AP Rocky song, "Wild for the Night" (2013), is another example. These combinations represent unions of formerly dichotomous genres.

Mashups and remixes further dilute the differences, chipping away at the ever-crumbling lines between these genres. It doesn't even matter if a rapper actually works with an electronic dance music or pop artist; their music may still end up blended together in some corner of the Internet. This cross-pollination has opened hip-hop up to an audience well beyond its original scope. Where hip-hop was once a niche genre, it now wields influence over traditional mainstream domains. Nor does this influence go only one direction; hip-hop is increasingly shaped by the desire to reach those intersectional audiences.

In many respects, the growth of hip-hop and its culture is a good thing: artists have higher ceilings, the music earns more widespread respect and its legacy is further solidified. However, such growth into the mainstream brings a host of problems to hip-hop, not the least of which is the predominantly white connotation that "mainstream" refers to. Hip-hop began as a form of cultural expression for African Americans and as a response to inner city life. Searching for radio plays and audience crossover risks losing touch with those cultural roots. As rap grows more intertwined with other genres, it may lose its cultural expression and ideological power — the very things that made it great to begin with.

Moreover, it presents the troublesome quandary of whether such coalescence represents a reduction in racial and social barriers or a more subversive cultural annexation. These are not questions with cut-and-dried solutions, but one thing is clear: pop rap is here, and it's here to stay, even if its impact is still undetermined.

Ryan Buell is a sophomore who is majoring in psychology. He can be reached at Ryan.Buell@tufts.edu.



COURTESY JAAP BUITENDIJK VIA SUMMIT ENTERTAINMENT

Erudite leader Jeanine, played by a convincingly sinister Kate Winslet, has an amplified presence in the film.

First 'Divergent' film provides solid basis for next two stories

DIVERGENT

continued from page 5

movie, specifically penultimate scenarios. Yet the film's ending works as a compelling conclusion to this chapter of the series.

Woodley, best known for starring in "The Secret Life of the American Teenager" (2008-2013) and her supporting role in "The Descendants" (2011), has blossomed into a compelling actress, stealing the show in "Divergent." She deftly embodies the complexity of Tris and the character's growth in Dauntless. Although James also makes a strong appearance as Tris' love interest, Four, some of their initial interactions feel a bit forced. This progresses and, by the middle of the movie, their romantic connection is more convincing.

Woodley and James' costars, Teller and Winslet, are strong additions to the story. Teller adds humor to his character Peter, which is a refreshing change since, in the books, Peter has no redeeming qualities. Winslet, as always, is on point with her

acting as Jeanine, whose role, though relatively minor in the book, was developed significantly for the movie.

Full of action sequences and romantic scenes, "Divergent" is fast-paced, keeping the audience's interest throughout the movie. It is impossible not to compare "Divergent" to Suzanne Collins' "The Hunger Games" trilogy, whose first two installments were already successful on the big screen. Though both are dystopian stories, "Divergent" focuses on the power of personal choice rather than survival.

Divergent is, at its core, a young adult story, and the film's certainly reflects this mainstream commercial appeal. However, despite its 150-minute runtime, the movie provides constant entertainment. The rest of the trilogy, "Insurgent" and "Allegiant," are in the works and should be released in 2015 and 2016. This first installment leaves room for improvement but also provides a strong platform for this movie trilogy to really take off.

Maggie Q discusses book adaptations, her character's recklessness

INTERVIEW

continued from page 5

sort of be the mentor that's running from your student. Not that [my character] Tori runs from anything [necessarily], but it's interesting because there's really a lot to build on. And I think Mekhi and I, in [this first movie], both feel like we looked at the roles as a base to build from into the next [movie] ... and that's what made it interesting for me.

TD: Do you guys know what's ahead for your characters or are you taking it one script at a time?

MP: One script at a time.

MQ: Mekhi was saying earlier that you never know what the adaptations [are] going to be [like], so you really have to not get so married to the book. Because depending on how the film works out, some things may pop up, some things they may play down ... If we suck, they're going to ... you know. [Laughter.]

TD: So would you say you were pleased with the adaptations compared to the book?

MQ: I would say yes.

MP: I think it's a fun ride.

TD: Was it difficult to balance staying faithful to the book for the fans and also having that creative freedom?

MP: I think we have a certain amount of artistic license that you get when you do adaptations. Obviously, you

can't [keep] ... word for word [what the book says]. I mean you have to sort of tweak it a little bit. But I think ... people will be pleasantly surprised and pleased [with] the film adaptation — what our creative forces put together.

MQ: I think a good indication, too, is that Veronica is really happy. You know, she was on set a lot, and she was really supportive of the process. And a lot of times, when you're reading a novel, it's ... in your head [but] people don't necessarily speak that way. It is different. That's why adaptations are so important because you're taking situations, scenarios and characters that, in a novel, are fine, but, in [a movie], it's sort of not the way it goes.

TD: Do you have any inclination as to what faction you would identify with?

MP: Well, you know, as you saw in the film, [Dauntless] are more carefree, edgy, fun, no inhibitions kind of folk. You see them catching the train. You see them climbing up stuff. [You see them] running and jumping and [stopping], dropping and rolling. So, it just seems like that would definitely be more [fun]. If I had to choose a faction, then I think I would go with that.

MQ: I mean, yeah. It's reckless, and when do we ever get to celebrate that part of our personality? We don't. In [the] world [of "Divergent"], that celebration becomes its own faction, and they are a specific group of people who ... are the protectors. And so that recklessness has a place in this society.

Indie European crooner MØ brings new energy to popular genre

MYTHOLOGIES

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"Never Wanna Know," a track that was also featured on her "Bikini Daze EP" (2013), is a highlight of "No Mythologies to Follow." Drawing comparisons to Amy Winehouse, her vocal talents are undeniable. The track is slow and haunting, showcasing the versatility in her songwriting and musical composition. "XXX 88," another number from "Bikini Daze EP," is included on this new album, as well. While not every song from the EP made it onto MØ's latest effort, it's clear why this one did. The surprising upswing of a horn section on the chorus elevates the energy and focus of the song. The tune builds with tongue-in-cheek lyrics packed with bubbling fury such as, "Cause life is cynical despite your heart of gold / ... oh the sky is blue forever."

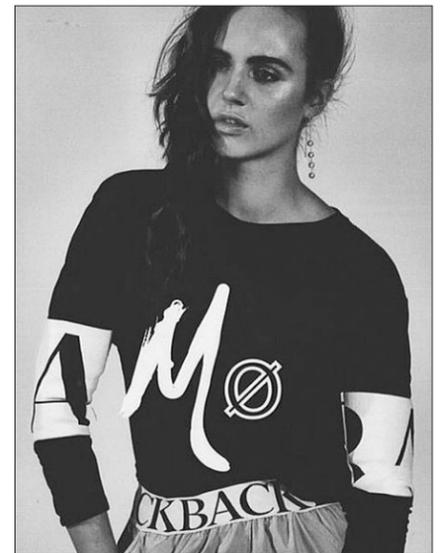
"Don't Wanna Dance," is one of the only disappointments on the album. With an enticing hook and perfect club beat, the track is a danceable and fun pop tune. However, it leaves the listener craving so much more. When compared to the rest of the record, the song is lackluster and easy, particularly for an artist who clearly has more to say than simply, "I don't wanna dance with nobody."

"Red in the Grey" is a pounding electronic-influenced track. With consistently punchy keyboard notes, MØ's voice shines through, revealing a wilder and energetic side to the album. "Waste of Time" follows in the same vein. With melancholy vocals juxtaposed with aggressive shouts from a male background vocalist, the song contains a layered musicality that, although not the strongest on the album, is a good example of the artist's command over her own work.

On "Pilgrim," MØ follows punk and electronic dance music influences, with a sound that falls somewhere between urging listeners to run and imploring them to stand still. It is tracks like this that make it hard to pigeonhole MØ into a single genre. With lines like, "Old wild river, take me to the sea / be free / like pilgrims on the Camino / I go, I go," MØ demands a focused and attentive listen even when underlying beats

encourage movement.

To be pushed and pulled along through her album is a strangely riveting roller-coaster of an experience. The deluxe album, as described by MØ on her website, is composed of four "sides." Side A contains the six



ODASERVISI VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

MØ has made waves with the release of her debut album, "No Mythologies to Follow."

high-energy tracks, followed by the six slower tracks on Side B. Side C features four syncopated dance-centric tracks, and Side D is host to four so-called "Night Versions" of tracks.

What could be a chaotic listening experience, due to her wildly eclectic yet fascinating range of influences, is centered around MØ's consistently pure and chilling voice. It is this focal point that makes "No Mythologies to Follow" such a success. Indeed, with so much hype for the artist going into 2014, this album could be the deciding factor in determining MØ's permanence. Yet as the album's title seems to state, there will be no mythologies about her work after this release. While not entirely polished, the overall strength of this release is a sure indicator that MØ is not one to be brushed aside. Indeed, this album seems set to be the first in a string of successes.



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EDITORIAL

Tufts Dental program highlights active citizenship

Tufts Dental School is raising the bar by making active citizenship and public service a core component of its student experience. The school's new Global Service Learning Initiative, which works to make international service opportunities for students more accessible and sustainable, speaks volumes to how Tufts prioritizes community service across its many schools. Along with the recently announced Tufts 1+4 program — which will allow select, incoming undergraduates to embark on a gap year devoted to national or international service on Tufts' dime — the dental school's program is a promising step forward by instilling service opportunities as one of the central parts of a Tufts education.

Service learning is already a part of the educational philosophy of Tufts Dental: Students are required to participate in some form of community engagement as part of the existing curriculum. Beyond building a basis for new experiences and chances

to network with those in the public and private sectors, in-school service opportunities provide Tufts students a foundation upon which they can build character and gain new insights about their community and the world.

The dental school's Associate Dean of Global Relations Noshir Mehta explained that one of the school's main goals is to develop and expand the Global Service Learning Initiative, in order to enable "every student that wants to go abroad and gain this sort of experience." This objective not only demonstrates a strong dedication to active citizenship, but also speaks to the theme of globalism that is so prevalent on Tufts' campuses. Though Mehta alludes to a different kind of international experience in service work, his emphasis on equalizing who can participate in this abroad work is something that would also benefit those on the Medford/Somerville campus, where the Office of Undergraduate Admissions frequently stresses the university's atten-

tion to international perspectives to prospective students.

Having a dental school that lives up to Tufts' standards of global engagement means a great deal. Further unifying the many members of the Tufts community under a similar ideological umbrella makes each branch of the university more connected.

Active citizenship means examining the motivation behind certain actions and reflecting on the lessons learned from those experiences. The initiative's lecture series and trips seek to do more than just send students to an exotic location to do good; the program will encourage them to think deeply about the significance of their service and enable them to share their experiences through seminars. We commend Tufts Dental School on insisting that service is critical to a competitive and world-class education, and establishing a supportive and expansive new program, instead of simply boasting a buzzword.

JEHAN MADHANI



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The op-ed "An oasis of diversity in the Middle East" by Ariella Charny, published in the Daily on March 12, contains offensive denials of oppression and exploitation of peoples within Israel and the occupied territories both through omission and blatant dismissal.

While I am pleased to see a 2012 alumna still reads the Daily, I find it unacceptable that someone could so easily deny oppression based on religious and ethnic biases by saying that she "lives with" people of different backgrounds. That's just like if I were to say, as a European American, that by having friends who are people of color I, and my country, are incapable of discrimination.

I won't deny Israel's tendency to import minorities and give them piecemeal rights (disregarding the 30-plus laws passed by the Knesset that give rights only to Jewish citizens), but her "oasis" analogy highlights the nature of the conflict as intrinsically linked to white, western supremacy.

In terms of water, as a true oasis entails, Israeli settlers are able to fill swimming pools with 73 percent of the West Bank's water while Palestinians are not even allowed to drill new wells. This "oasis of diversity" is stifling people and robbing them of their natural resources in an illegal, racist and religiously intolerant occupation. She can't see white supremacy and racism in Israel (as well,

since having Titi Aynaw does not make you an enlightened nation, just as having President Barack Obama doesn't mean we are done with racism in the US) because it's largely behind an apartheid wall.

It is not Israel's democracy, modernity or its unofficial status as the "51st State" in terms of US funding that makes it an apparatus of white supremacy. It is its aggressive pink, green and brown-washing campaigns, its foundation on the Nakba and its continued settler colonialism in the West Bank.

Sincerely,
Clayton Woolery
First Year Tufts/SMFA Dual Degree student

Correction

In the March 24 sports article "Jumbos stay perfect in NESCAC over break," senior tri-captain Kane Delaney of the men's lacrosse team was misquoted as saying, "They're defending national champions, and we went into the game fully expecting for them to dominate." In fact, Delaney's quote was, "Even though they're defending national champions, we went into the game fully expecting to dominate every phase of the game."

OP-ED

University pass: a benefit for all

BY EVAN JOHNSTON, ROBERT JOSEPH, EYOB SHAREW AND EMILY LANSKY

Five years from now, Tufts University will be a vastly different place from the one we know today. The recently passed Strategic Plan will play a large role, but the greatest impact will be felt from the 2017 arrival of the new Green Line T Station at College Avenue.

With the arrival of the Green Line Extension, Tufts students will enjoy unprecedented mobility between Somerville, Boston and anywhere the T goes, increasing access to jobs and internships, nightlife in the city and all the cultural amenities Boston has to offer. Tufts will continue to market itself as a city-centric university, and Boston will continue to play an integral role in student life. There is, however, one major caveat — not all students will be able to afford to use the T. Today, a round trip ride without a Charlie Card costs five dollars. An internship downtown twice a week can cost a student \$40 per month out of pocket. While some students are lucky enough to receive funding from groups such as Tisch Scholars, these resources are not available to all.

Rather than resign ourselves to this inequity, we — the Tufts Transit Coalition, a student group committed to sustainable and equitable transportation at Tufts and across Boston — propose a University Pass (U-Pass) program in which Tufts University will partner with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority to purchase substantially discounted, unlimited T passes for all students.

As part of this effort, today we are announcing a petition campaign to continue the push for a one-year pilot of a U-Pass program at Tufts. Neither the MBTA nor the administration at Tufts is fully ready to commit to a U-Pass program, but we believe action is necessary. 95 percent of students surveyed at Tufts support the creation of a U-Pass program, and the TCU resolution supporting a one-year pilot passed unanimously. A window of opportunity exists and we must utilize every lever available.

For students, the immediate benefit is clear: unlimited and unequivocal access to transportation across the Boston area. At a limited cost, all students who attend Tufts, regardless of income, will have increased access to transportation and be able to fully participate in the university experience.

There are benefits for the university as well. A University Pass is a concrete action Tufts can take to improve campus sustainability in a revenue neutral manner. In the long run, a U-Pass program should reduce demand for parking and, in turn, save space on campus, creating room for new dorms or cutting-edge labs rather than half-filled parking lots.

A U-Pass program will also prepare Tufts for the coming Green Line Extension. The extension will create the highest demand for public transit in the school's history and will likely be a major draw for incoming students. With this massive change to transit at Tufts quickly approaching, it's time to act in favor of a sensible and sustainable future. Tufts has the ability to reshape how its students engage with the community, and a U-Pass program will further familiarize the student body with mass transit.

As the first school in Boston to create a U-Pass program, Tufts will stand as an institutional leader in innovative public policy, with a student body engaged in active citizenship and their surrounding community. While the Green Line Extension will attract students in the future, the extensive press coverage that would stem from a U-Pass program will promote the Tufts brand now.

Furthermore, the impact of a U-Pass program far surpasses the gates of Tufts. Part of the benefit of a U-Pass program is that it generates guaranteed revenue for the T. This revenue could be leveraged to create greater equity in transportation fares across the whole system by supporting a Youth Pass for high school students in Boston. Currently, one in five high school students in Boston report having missed a full day of school because they could not afford their T fare. Pairing a University Pass with a Youth Pass would form a new

"Transit Generation" and improve both the connection and relationship between Tufts and the surrounding community.

Further, a guaranteed stream of MBTA revenue from Tufts provides the university with a valuable bargaining chip and would likely improve the working relationship that Tufts has with the T. Consider the potential benefits of a U-Pass if half of all college students in the Boston area took part in U-Pass programs: the MBTA could receive approximately \$40 million in revenue annually. While this would not solve its immense financial burdens, this is a substantial amount of revenue that could truly strengthen the T and support the whole community.

In the long term, there is no doubt that every stakeholder — students, the university, the T and the community as a whole — will benefit from a U-Pass program. Yet, one or two schools have to test the waters first to illustrate the true benefits and vitality of such a program. Tufts (along with a potent student movement at Harvard) should take the lead in creating a one-year pilot of a U-Pass program.

While there is currently a relative lack of data on exactly how often students take the T, a recent Tufts Transit Coalition survey indicated it is very likely that a U-Pass program could be structured to generate revenue for the T in addition to benefiting Tufts and its students. Running a pilot program would gather further data in this area — the T could track when and where every university pass was used from day one. With this data, the MBTA and Tufts could easily gauge the success of a U-Pass Program and adapt accordingly. This petition campaign is not the end of the conversation, but the beginning. Please, join with us, to Free the T.

Evan Johnston, a senior, Robert Joseph, a junior, Eyob Sharew, a sophomore and Emily Lansky, a freshman, are members of the Tufts Transit Coalition. The group can be reached at tuftstransitcoalition@gmail.com.

ADAM KAMINSKI | THE COOL COLUMN

Happy thoughts or no thoughts?



I'd hate to be that guy who brings his faithful readers — who deserve anything but to return to the grueling college admissions process — back to the grueling college admissions process. But I'm going to be that guy, so hang in there.

The Tufts supplement is a good one (let's ignore the #YOLO strife, please). It's not the best, but it's engaging and thought provoking.

One question that Tufts Admissions poses is "What makes you happy?" It was one that I did not answer last year on account of being miserably through with college applications, but this year, it struck me as compelling. At times, we should all reassess the important — arguably, the most important — emotion that is happiness.

Although on average, I'd estimate that I'm happier now than I have been in the past. Happiness doesn't presently mean to me what it typically has before. And I am afraid to admit that its preoccupying importance is diminishing, albeit slowly and inconsistently. Seeking, discovering and thinking (save this column, maybe ...) about what makes me happy has lost some significance.

I have suddenly become a seemingly passive participant in this human emotion, largely ignoring its onset but reveling in its presence. This unintentional "switcheroo" has posed a question slightly different than that of Tufts Admissions: Why does what makes you happy make you happy? It's like that curious, relentless preschooler who makes his parents question why they had kids in the first place.

The "switcheroo" may be better explained in another way: The sorts of things that make me happy are becoming less important than the sorts of moments that make me happy. Moments of nostalgia, content and anticipation are all generally happiness-inducing. There may be, however, a common theme in that these are all moments of focus and forgetfulness.

In an effort to test such a thought, I spoke with a wise and wild friend of mine from my hometown. We've known each other for as long as I can remember (memory develops around two or three years of age, I've been told) and, for this reason among others, I consider him a quasi-brother.

We spoke late at night, after our minds had given up for the day and our stomachs had finally come to terms with what we had stuffed into them earlier. He shared that what makes him happy, maybe even happiest (but maybe even not), is longboarding, a sport at which he is just about as talented as I am pathetic. You see, not risking permanent bodily damage usually makes me pretty happy.

But my friend loves the risks, with all the speed, freedom and "flow" — whatever that turns out to be. Flow was described to me as a feeling of nothingness, a feeling of pure potential, where nothing is but anything could be, where, while speeding down a hill without thinking, one has a whole repertoire of tricks available to him. I wonder how his mother feels about this.

I enjoyed my friend's analogy. Like the joyful moments that I am lucky enough to experience, my friend loves longboarding at least partly because of the necessary focus and consequent forgetfulness it offers — an escape from hedonistic pleasures, from daily qualms and, as I'm all too aware, from answering your cell phone.

Really, it's a forgetfulness of the importance of anything else. The moments when I'm utterly preoccupied with contentment are where I find happiness. So what sorts of things make me happy? I'm afraid any specificity would be futile. I guess if I applied to Tufts again I wouldn't get in.

Adam Kaminski is a freshman who has yet to declare a major. He can be reached at Adam.Kaminski@tufts.edu.

OFF THE HILL | UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

A pledge against Greek hazing

BY BRIAN REINKEN
The Minnesota Daily

In a move to reduce hazing, the fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon announced a national ban on pledging this month. Pledging is the period during which prospective fraternity or sorority members familiarize themselves with their organization's traditions and history. Horrific hazing rituals infamously plague this period, and sadly, this has been slow to change.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon is one of the deadliest fraternities in America, with 10 deaths related to alcohol, drugs or hazing since 2006. Unfortunately, it is not the only Greek letter organization whose members mistreat their pledges.

One hardly needs to recount the hazing stories that commonly make headlines nationwide. Each seems more horrific than the last. Last year, in one particularly gruesome incident, fraternity brothers in Wilmington College's Gamma Phi Gamma so viciously towel-whipped their pledges that doctors were forced to surgically remove one victim's testicle.

Violence, however, is only one of hazing's three strains, according to the University of Minnesota's student conduct code. Another type is harassment hazing, in which victims must endure undue amounts of stress or discomfort. For example, perpetrators may deprive their victims of sleep or force them to wear humiliating clothing. The third strain is subtle hazing, which can include name-calling, discipline or social isolation.

Violent hazing's lurid nature frequently places it under media scrutiny. Fraternities are often the focal point of hazing stories, such as The Atlantic's cover story this month, but sororities are equally guilty.

While sorority hazing may not include gratuitous violence, members often mistreat pledges in a different way. Victims have reported physical humiliation, such as body shaming or members classifying them by their breast size.

Perhaps because sorority hazing is not always as theatrical or violent as that of fraternities, the media seems to give it less attention. The implication is disturbing: unless hazing results in surgery or death, it's tacitly acceptable behavior, and it doesn't constitute news. Hazing has become ingrained in American culture.

This reality may jeopardize Sigma Alpha Epsilon's efforts to end hazing merely by banning the pledge period. Most schools, including the University of Minnesota, already enforce strict anti-hazing rules, and yet the problem persists. Perpetrators merely find new and more secretive ways of seeing out their crimes.

The difficulty with hazing is that its victims are not random. Rather, they seek inclusion in a particular community, and they understand that initiation may include hazing. Their desire to belong discourages them from reporting their negative experiences. In time, moreover, hazing's victims often become its perpetrators; those who successfully endure hazing become part of the system that perpetuates it. Universities, parents and/or the media may view this internal cycle with dismay, but it's difficult to disrupt from outside.

From this viewpoint, hazing seems to be a fundamental flaw of the Greek system's structure, rather than something that arises from individual members' misbehavior. Certainly, individuals should face punishment for barbaric behavior — and the Greek industry is notorious for shifting the blame

of hazing lawsuits to students, thus ensuring that they are — but something is enabling their violence in the first place.

Many Greek letter organizations are more than 100 years old. Generally before admission, pledges must memorize their organization's history and traditions. However, college life and American culture have significantly changed over the past centuries, and not every tradition should survive.

Anti-bullying and social inclusion campaigns are perhaps more prominent now than ever before. Education, moreover, is no longer solely a privilege of fortunate white men. Why, then, should an archaic and elitist institution — especially one we can so often associate with violence and debauchery — remain so close to the core of college life?

Professional, cultural and LGBT fraternities and sororities are valuable alternatives to traditional social Greek letter organizations. Because these societies' prospective members already share a common interest, cause or identity, their loyalty to the organization is unquestionable from the beginning. This stands in stark contrast to traditional social organizations, whose members may apply because of family traditions, vague notions of future financial success or simply a desire to fit in with a crowd.

Of course, hazing is not just a problem of Greek letter organizations, and it's extremely doubtful that every organization includes hazing as an initiation ritual. However, many of these organizations do have an undeniable connection to hazing.

Thus, while Sigma Alpha Epsilon's ban on pledging may not end hazing, it will hopefully foster discussion about how to rethink the traditional Greek letter system. Brutality is inimical to higher education. We should not permit it to reside within college culture.

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Tufts finishes in top 16 in three events

MEN'S SWIMMING

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championship. Overall, Schmidt contributed 35 points to the Jumbos' point total — 15 from his fourth-place finish and 20 from his one-meter victory.

As talented as Schmidt is, neither he nor diving coach Brad Snodgrass expected him to win, making his victory even more special.

"Frankly, the Dennison divers looked unbeatable, and I was hoping Johann would stay close to the top and have a little luck go his way," Snodgrass said. "In the final, Johann nailed his fourth and most challenging dive — a reverse 2.5 somersault tuck — for sevens and eights, and scored over 60 points. That was the luck he needed, and it put him in the running for first."

"It was an unexpected win ... [and] definitely a high note to end my collegiate career on," Schmidt added.

Freshman diver Matt Rohrer also

stepped up, placing 10th in both the one-meter and three-meter competitions to score 14 points for the Jumbos in his first NCAA meet. He outperformed his preliminary scores in both events, finishing with 467.40 in the three-meter and an almost identical 467.30 in the one-meter.

"Matt dove very well and just missed making the final on each board by ... a few points," Snodgrass said. "He was very competitive with the field, and I see him returning to this meet as a sophomore and making a huge impact. To go from never having competed in the three-meter to being top 10 in the country in one season is a phenomenal achievement."

"He should be so proud of himself for how he placed at NAAs and how far he has come this season," Schmidt said of his teammate.

The two Tufts swimmers also flourished in the championship events. Sophomore Michael Winget broke his

school record in the 100 backstroke preliminaries with his time of 49.65, topping his record by roughly a half second. In the finals, he raced a 50.40, good for 16th place and one point for his team. The following day he finished 25th in the 200 backstroke preliminaries with a time of 1:50.64.

Freshman William Metcalfe also set a school record in the preliminaries, racing the 200 butterfly in 1:50.70 to beat sophomore Anthony DeBenedetto's time of 1:51.08 from last season. Metcalfe just missed making the top 16, falling short by only a half second. On Wednesday, he placed 39th in the 200 individual medley with a time of 1:53.36.

"Having all four guys step up at the biggest meet of the year — and of their careers — is a statement about what it means to be a Tufts swimmer and diver," Hoyt said. "They're mentally tough and physically strong, and the future is bright for our team."

SAM GOLD | THE GOLD STANDARD

Downfall of the powerhouse



It's not just that the University of Dayton comprises the most triumphant, if not improbable, portion of my bracket, but it also certainly doesn't hurt that it (almost) singlehandedly buoys my bracket.

Some big-name schools have taken a shellacking, mid-majors have bowed out and the only previously undefeated team in the country, Wichita State, has fallen. Notably, three of four No. 12 seeds defeated their respective fifth-seeded opponents in the first round, which, along with Mercer's ouster of Duke, spearheaded "upset fever."

Any number of teams merit being written about in the wake of a slew of Davidic victories. But Dayton has won two games — two more than your typical No. 11 seed — by a combined three points against two staples of March Madness: sixth-seeded Ohio State and third-seeded Syracuse.

Now, Dayton prepares for its first Sweet 16 matchup since 1984. (For perspective's sake, a list of major events that occurred 30 years ago: the inaugural flight of Virgin Atlantic, the summer Olympics in Los Angeles, the Soviet boycott of said Olympics and \$1.21 was the average price of a gallon of gas.)

Under the tutelage of head coach Archie Miller, whose monotonous southern drawl could lull a locker room abuzz with victory to sleep, the Flyers have garnered a Twitter shout-out from President Obama. Were their run to end here, at least they could take solace in recognition from the most powerful man in the free world.

As it happens, though, they have other accolades of which to be prouder.

Dayton is one of the 16 best — or hottest, depending on the school of thought — teams in the nation. Hailing from the Atlantic 10, they're still considered a minor conference despite boasting six entrants into the tournament. Dayton has toppled its in-state rival Ohio State, followed that with an upset against an even more storied program, Syracuse. But Dayton's greatest accomplishment is that it graduates every one of its players.

One of just seven schools in the tournament with a 100 percent graduation rate, Dayton embodies the elusive student-athlete ideal — a rarity illuminating the misplaced emphasis of college basketball.

With each defeat it hands to a bigger, badder opponent, Dayton bucks the notion that only the star-studded rosters can achieve greatness. Should a Dayton or two or three crop up in the tournament annually, it could disrupt the pipelining that has come to characterize college basketball, rendering it an assembly line rather than a sojourn.

No longer will the likes of John Calipari — head coach of the Kentucky Wildcats, recruiter extraordinaire, and cunning rule-violator — attract players with the promise of glory and little else. Education will gain equal footing with the sport itself, striking a necessary balance.

Quixotic? Sure, but the more an operable reality morphs into fantasy, the more exigent its implementation becomes.

As fans of the sport, we yearn for the days of Jimmy Valvano's N.C. State, for Marquette's defiant un-tucked jerseys, for Phi Slamma Jamma, for a dominant Big East Conference fraught with torrid rivalries — a veritable golden age, when four-year tenure was the norm and donning school colors meant something. Coaches were both mentor and teacher, oftentimes father figure, too. And the players, who warred with one another over sheer pride, were beholden to a god loftier than materialism.

The funny thing is, college basketball was at its best then. If maturation, longevity and substantive education tend to go hand-in-hand — I firmly believe they do — then the solution has been hiding in plain sight all along.

Sam is a junior who is majoring in religion. He can be reached at Samuel_L.gold@tufts.edu.

Team-wide success for Tufts in culminating meet

MEN'S TRACK

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"I was pretty nervous about the prelims going in," Bhalla told the Daily in an email. "Making the final seemed like both a distant and doable possibility. Things went really well in the race. I managed to get out well and stay out of trouble on my way to a [personal record]."

Senior tri-captain Jamie Norton, who ran first in the mile-run qualifier, squeezed into the final with a time of 4:13.63 — good enough for ninth out of 10 qualifiers.

In the final round of competition, Tufts pressed on through to the end, as five athletes earned All-American honors: Beutler, Black, Bhalla and sophomores Francis Goins and Alex Kasemir.

"We did pretty well as a team," Bhalla said. "It was exciting to have seven total [All-American awards] in one Nationals."

The top seed in the 800-meter going into the meet, Black earned his third career All-American honor in the 800-meter final. Maintaining the lead for

approximately the first 700 meters, he relinquished it over the closing stretch but held on to finish third. Bhalla, who finished 1.61 seconds behind his classmate, snagged the eighth and final All-American slot. No other university, including the powerhouse Wisconsin schools that consistently assemble dominant distance squads, boasted two All-Americans in the 800-meter.

"I went into the final relatively stress free, just trying to see what I could do," Bhalla said. "Unfortunately, I didn't have my usual kick, but I'm ... pleased. Mitch [Black] did great and it was really nice to have two of us on that podium."

Though unable to replicate his record-breaking performance from the preliminary round, Beutler earned his third All-American honor in the 400-meter, despite running nearly six-hundredths of a second slower.

The meet ended just as successfully as it had begun for Tufts, this time in the 4x400-meter relay. The quartet of Beutler, Black, Goins and Kasemir fell

milliseconds short of the school record it had established a few weeks prior at the Open New England Championships, but the strong performance ensured the group was rewarded with All-American honors. While the winning team from Mount Union pulled away from the rest of the field, the race was far tighter down the ranks; Tufts finished the race sandwiched between two Wisconsin teams, distinguishing itself by strides to finish sixth.

"I think we took it to every team ... and left it all on the track," Goins said. "We proved we could hold our own against some of the top dogs. We even changed our order an hour before our race and still managed to almost break the school record again."

With Nationals complete and spring break over, a memorable indoor season has also come to a close. Upon their return — some back from San Diego, Calif., where team members in need of a change of pace elected to train over the spring recess — the Jumbos will come out riding a wave of momentum into the outdoor season.

Hieber breaks pentathlon school record, places third

WOMEN'S TRACK

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Sophomore sprinter Alexis Harrison and sophomore distance runner Audrey Gould competed in their first Nationals. Harrison competed in the 60-meter dash and placed 16th overall in the preliminary round, running a time of 7.81 for fourth place in her heat. This time was just off of her season-best time of 7.78 that she set at Div. III New England's last month. She failed to advance to the final.

Gould, who qualified for the 5000 final by running a time of 17:20.32 at the BU Valentine Invitational last month, had an impressive race, running a time of 17:25.80 to secure 12th place.

"The experience was amazing," Harrison told the Daily in an email. "The meet venue and the campus were both really nice. My goal going into Nationals was to run a [personal record] and make the finals. Even though I was unable to achieve those goals I still had a lot of fun and I hope to make Nationals this outdoor season as well."

The Jumbos will have their next full force ready for action at the annual Tufts Snowflake Classic, held this Saturday at the Ellis Oval, which will kick off the outdoor season.

"This outdoor season, I will be focusing on the 400-meter hurdles and, like every



CAROLINE GEILING / THE TUFTS DAILY

Senior Jana Hieber ended her outdoor career on a high note, finishing third in the pentathlon at the Div. III Championships with a score of 3,691.

other athlete on this team, I want to PR, finish my season off with good performances and keep the momentum going from indoors," Hieber said.

The defending outdoor NESCAC champion Jumbos return a squad that is

among the top of the league — and prepared to stay there.

"As a team we have to make sure that we stay focused and work hard everyday at practice to produce some strong performances at NESCACs," Harrison said.

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

Jumbos shine at Nationals

BY TYLER MAHER
Daily Editorial Board

Four members of the men's swimming and diving team competed at the NCAA Div. III Championships in Indianapolis, Ind., last week. The quartet performed exceptionally, scoring 50 points to place 19th at the national meet — Tufts' highest finish since 2010.

"It's a huge accomplishment to qualify for the NCAA Championships in swimming and diving," head coach Adam Hoyt said. "To go to the meet and compete the way we did is special. Right now we're trying to soak it in and enjoy the moment."

Nobody enjoyed the moment more than senior tri-captain Johann Schmidt, who, in the final competition of his collegiate career, was named the 2014 NCAA Div. III Diver of the Meet. On the first day of the championships at Indiana University Natatorium, Schmidt placed fourth in the three-meter event with a score of 520.10.

"I was pleased," Schmidt said. "I had worked hard all season on [it], and I had a great meet."

The four-time NCAA qualifier's performance was even better on Friday, when he placed third in the one-meter preliminaries and scored 522.95 points in the finals to win the

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CAROLINE GEILING / THE TUFTS DAILY

The men's swimming and diving team had an impressive performance at Nationals, with three athletes contributing to the team's final score of 50 points, which was good for 19th at the meet.

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD



SOPIA ADAMS / THE TUFTS DAILY

Members of the men's track and field team scored seven total All-American honors at the Div. III National Championships, including two in the 800-meter.

Five Jumbos earn All-American honors at Nationals

BY SAM GOLD
Daily Editorial Board

After a long cross-country trip, a small contingent from the men's track and field team arrived in Lincoln, Neb. on March 13 to compete in the Div. III National Championships. The next day — Friday, March 14 — marked the first of two days of competition, which saw the Jumbos get out to a fast and successful start.

The Tufts runners were a perfect four-of-four in qualification, as all individual participants advanced to the finals in their respective events, some in a particularly remarkable fashion.

Seeking to end his indoor career on a high note, senior Graham Beutler put up one of the best performances for the Jumbos in the opening qualifiers of competition. In the first 400-meter preliminary race, Beutler crossed the line in third place

with the Tufts indoor record in hand, which was previously set in 1996 by All-American James Lavalley (LA '96), by a mere one-hundredth of a second.

Sophomore duo Mitchell Black and Veer Bhalla finished fourth and sixth, respectively, in the open 800-meter preliminary, together comprising one-fourth of the top eight runners in the event.

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WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Gould, Hieber, Harrison, compete in Nebraska

BY CHRIS WARREN
Daily Editorial Board

Three women's track team members wrapped up their season at the NCAA Div. III Championships last weekend in Lincoln, Neb. Each athlete earned her ticket to the Devaney Center by setting a nationally ranked mark (top 15) in her event during the 2014 indoor season.

In the meet, Tufts finished 14th after the first day, but ended the competition in 32nd place overall. Their standing is more indicative of the low number of athletes who competed than their performances, which were impressive.

Senior Jana Hieber concluded her senior indoor campaign by placing third overall in the women's pentathlon with a new school record of 3,691 points. This topped her old school record of 3,644 points that she set at the Tufts Stampede Invitational in January, on a day in which she virtually competed against herself.

Hieber began the day placing sixth overall in the 60-meter hurdles, as she ran a time of 9.06 to set a season best. It was Tufts' second fastest time in the event this season, trailing only 60-meter hurdle specialist and school record holder, sophomore Marilyn Allen.

In the high jump, Hieber cleared 5' 1.75" for eighth overall, giving her 701 more points towards her pentathlon score. She next ventured into the thrower's circle for the shot-put portion of

the program, and placed 11th overall by heaving the weight 32' 10.5" across the infield. This mark was only 1 1/2" away from her season-best mark, which she set at the Stampede.

Later, Hieber competed in one of her best events, the long jump, but was slightly off her game as she jumped 17' 8.25" for third in the competition. She was 14 centimeters off her personal best, which she set this year.

"I had a really good day in the hurdles, where I [set a personal record], and [had] solid days in the long jump and high jump," Hieber said. "The shot put could've been better but overall, it was fine. I just always want to do better."

Hieber saved her best performance of the day for last in the 800-meter. Hieber obliterated her previous personal record of 2:17.86 with a 2:14.90 performance that gave her the victory in the event by over 1.5 seconds, sealing her third place finish. Hieber went out in 66 seconds for the first 400 meters, and closed in roughly 68 seconds.

"The 800 was definitely not expected," Hieber said. "It was the last race of my senior indoor career, which I think unleashed an extra storage of energy in me that definitely gave me a boost on the last lap. Although the time wasn't expected, I definitely was hoping to run close to it because my 400 splits in relays over the past few weeks have been very solid."

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