

ACCURACY • INDEPENDENCE • INTEGRITY

## SGC sees less engagement than past semesters

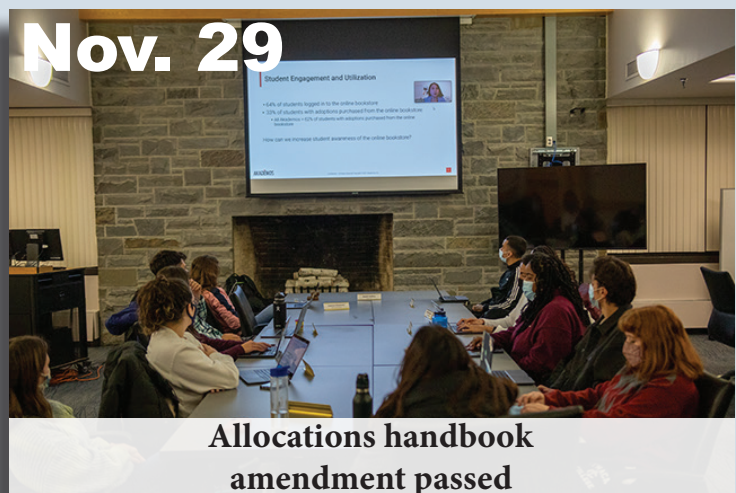
BY MEL ANDIA AND  
CAITLIN HOLTZMAN AND  
SYD PIERRE



Passed employee vaccination bill



Passed varsity athlete senator position clarification bill



Allocations handbook amendment passed



Passed improving campus lighting bill

Throughout the fall semester, the SGC has hosted a variety of guest speakers, including Interim President La Jerne Cornish and hosted listening sessions in partnership with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). However, in comparison to previous semesters, the SGC has passed fewer bills and has seen a decrease in engagement.

The SGC is the representative body for Ithaca College students that aims to improve student life on campus, and one of the ways is through passing bills to address concerns of campus community members

During the 2020–21 academic year, the SGC passed a total of 45 bills and at its last meeting of the semester alone, a total of six bills were passed. The SGC passed four bills by its last meeting of the Fall 2021 semester.

At the Dec. 6 meeting one of the bills, the hybrid education model bill, was tabled with a vote of 8–0 with one abstention. The increasing campus lighting bill was passed with a vote of 8–0 with one abstention.

The SGC passed two additional bills

SGC, PAGE 4

BRENDAN IANNUCCI AND NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

## IC raises COVID-19 risk status to yellow after surge in cases

BY SYD PIERRE

Ithaca College has moved to a Yellow: Low to Moderate Risk COVID-19 operational status following a rise in COVID-19 cases.

In a Dec. 8 email to the campus community, Samm Swarts, assistant director for Emergency Preparedness and Response, said the college is updating its COVID-19 operational status from Green: Lower Risk to Yellow: Low to Moderate Risk. According to the college's COVID-19 dashboard, there are 28 active student cases — 20 on-campus students and eight off-campus students — and six active employee cases.

In a Dec. 3 email to the campus community, Swarts said the college has seen an increase on COVID-19 cases since students returned from Thanksgiving Break on Nov. 19. Swarts said this increase on campus correlates to the increase in Tompkins County. The county reported 37 new positives Dec. 8.

"Shifting to the Yellow: Low to Moderate Risk operational status means that while incidence of the



Following a rise in active COVID-19 cases, the college moved its risk status to yellow Dec. 8, affecting non-academic social events.

THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN

virus remains low, indicators show that mitigation efforts related to certain activities are necessary to control additional spread," the Dec. 8 email stated.

The email stated that the decision to shift was made in order to prioritize finishing the academic portion of the semester and hosting the December

Commencement. The email also stated that there is no evidence that the increase in cases is the result of the new variant, Omicron, of which 12 cases have been discovered throughout the state of New York including Oneida County, according to NBC New York.

COVID-19, PAGE 4

## Council talks about shared governance

BY SYD PIERRE

The Ithaca College Faculty Council discussed a four-credit schedule grid and shared governance at the college at its final meeting of the fall semester Dec. 7.

During the Open Session portion of the meeting, Laura Gras, professor and chair of the Department of Physical Therapy, opened the conversation by talking about concerns faculty members in the School of Health Sciences and Human Performance have about the potential move toward a four-credit schedule grid, where more courses would be four credits.

In the "Shape of The College" document, which was approved as a part of the Academic Program Prioritization (APP) process, the Academic Program Prioritization Implementation Committee recommended shifting undergraduate curriculum from primarily three-credit classes to four-credit courses, in order to create an equitable faculty workload.

"We recognize that this type of curricular change may not be suitable for all departments or schools,

some of which may choose to retain a curriculum based primarily on 3-credit classes," the document stated. "Whether a curriculum consists of primarily 3-credit classes or 4-credit classes, the 1-credit and 2-credit classes could still exist."

Gras said faculty are worried about how the schedule change would impact students' abilities to take other courses outside of their major and electives.

Other members of the Faculty Council in other schools at the college, including the School of Music and the Department of Theatre Arts, expressed concern about the four-credit course schedule grid.

David Gondek, associate professor in the Department of Biology, recommended that the Faculty Council table the conversation and invite the Curricular Revision Liaison Committee (CRLC) to attend a future meeting.

In her report, interim provost Melanie Stein said she thinks the concerns faculty members have regarding the four-credit schedule

COUNCIL, PAGE 4

LIFE & CULTURE | page 11

ART SEMINAR  
STUDENTS HOST  
EXHIBIT GALLERY



OPINION | page 7

LACK OF BILLS  
FROM SGC SHOWS  
INTERNAL ISSUES



SPORTS | page 14

CLUB SPORTS  
EXPRESS CONCERN  
OVER REDUCTIONS



# Cornish addresses key campus issues

Ithaca College Interim President La Jerne Cornish has almost finished her first semester in the position after the college’s ninth president, Shirley M. Collado, announced in August that she was leaving the college.

Cornish officially became interim president Aug. 30. She began the 2021–22 academic year by welcoming the campus community back at the All-College Gathering on Aug. 31 where she and other administrators outlined their goals for the year.

News Editor Caitlin Holtzman spoke with Cornish about her goals and student concerns regarding the return to campus.

*This interview has been edited for length and clarity.*

**Caitlin Holtzman:** How has your first semester as interim president been going?

**La Jerne Cornish:** All things considered, I think it’s going well. This was a surprise, I did not expect to

be interim president coming into this school year. ... I was, I’m going to use the word excited, by the opportunity to be a force of stability and to provide continuity because I had been here as provost for the last three years. I said at the beginning of the semester that we were going to demonstrate how to live with COVID. It is December the sixth, and we are demonstrating how to live within a COVID environment.

**CH:** Regarding the new variant — and I know cases are rising a bit in the county and a little bit on campus — do you have any concerns going into the spring semester and winter break where there might be potential travel for students?

**LC:** I’m sure there will be travel for students because people need to go home and be with their families and rest and renew and restore. ... When 99% of your students are vaccinated, even if they have a positive case, we’ve seen the



La Jerne Cornish officially became interim president Aug. 30 after former president Shirley M. Collado announced she was leaving. The pandemic, staffing and finances are her top issues this academic year.

LEILA MARCILLO-GOMEZ/THE ITHACAN

symptoms are less. They’re not as severe. And so to me, we can live with that. As long as our hospitalization rate stays low, then we’re going to come back in the spring semester and we’re going to keep doing what we did for the fall and we’re going to have an amazing in-person commencement, May 22, 2022.

**CH:** The college is feeling the labor

shortage that is ongoing which has affected some students, faculty and staff around campus. Is there anything that you and the Senior Leadership Team are planning to do to address this?

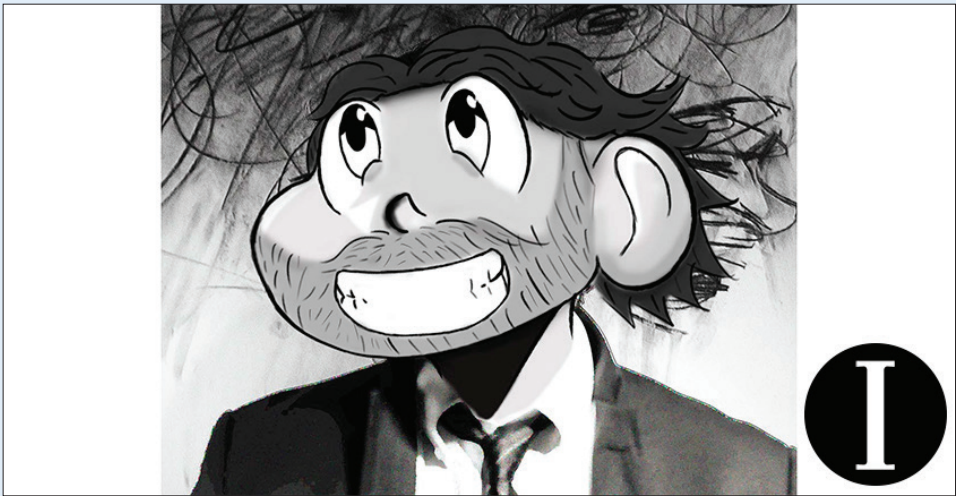
**LC:** I don’t know what we can do. We continue to recruit when there are vacancies, we have a meeting to determine if that position is going to be filled. People are taking stock of their lives, Caitlin, and

they’re trying to decide if they really want to go back to work and if they have options, they are exercising their options. What’s happening with regard to a labor shortage is not specific or unique to Ithaca. This is a worldwide phenomenon ... and we are dealing with it as best as we can.

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## MULTIMEDIA

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### IC Creatives: Bryan Almeida

Junior photography major Bryan Almeida shares his digital art as well as his struggles and successes working as a freelance photographer.




### “In-person Cyberbullying” with Alexis Manore and Frankie Walls


Host Eva Salzman sits down with Editor-in-Chief Alexis Manore and Managing Editor Frankie Walls to discuss the 10 songs that describe who they are.




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The Ithacan

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# IC honors life of CAPS counselor

BY ALEXIS MANORE

On Dec. 6, members of the Ithaca College community gathered to honor the life and share memories of Stephen Karl, mental health counselor for the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) following his unexpected death.

Approximately 90 members of the college community attended the memorial, which was held in person at the Muller Chapel and online via Zoom. Karl served as a counselor for many students since he began working at the college in 2017.

Lauren Goldberg, interim director for the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life and executive director of Hillel at Ithaca College, began the service by reading a poem called “Praise the Rain” by Joy Harjo.

Goldberg said Hieraal Osoroto, former executive director for Student Equity and Belonging and Religious and Spiritual Life, used to say that Muller Chapel held the heartbeat for the college community. She said that night, the chapel held the community’s heartache and heartbreak.

“It was actually gatherings like this where I met Stephen when he was serving as a CAPS counselor,” Goldberg said. “Sitting in the back, being a quiet response for folks who needed a little extra support.”

Interim President La Jerne Cornish offered her condolences



Ithaca College held a vigil Dec. 6 to celebrate the life and legacy of Stephen Karl, mental health counselor in the Ithaca College Center for Counseling and Psychiatric Services, who died Dec. 3.

ASH BAILOT/THE ITHACAN

to those who knew Karl.

“Whenever [students] spoke to him, he was non-judgmental,” Cornish said. “He listened with an open heart, and he always tried to provide them with tips to use to help themselves in between their times together.”

Olivia Honeck, psychiatric nurse practitioner at the Center for Counseling, Health and Wellness, spoke about how Karl helped her feel welcome when she first began working at the college, which was in the middle of the pandemic. She said they became very close friends and would often drink tea together in her office.

“The world will never know another like him,” Honeck said. “Stephen, when it’s my time to join you in the next lifetime, I hope you leave the door cracked open and have a teakettle on the stove waiting to be poured.”

A number of students spoke about their experiences working with Karl. Many of those students said Karl impacted them deeply and helped them through their mental health journeys in unexplainable ways. At the end of every appointment, Karl would tell his students that he was honored to know them.

Owen Karl, Stephen’s son, said he and other members of

his family appreciated learning about parts of Stephen’s life that they were not as familiar with.

“He was tremendously proud that he worked here,” Owen said. “He kept the job offer letter up on the fridge for months and months. ... Obviously I don’t know his students and clients, but I know you all really meant a lot to him.”

*Editor’s Note: Karl served as a counselor for multiple members of The Ithacan editorial board, including Editor-in-Chief Alexis Manore.*

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# Vigil held for longtime dining employee

BY LORIEN TYNE

Somber music made its way through Muller Chapel Dec. 7 as Steven Rorick’s loved ones and his Ithaca College family lit candles and celebrated his life.

Rorick died the morning of Dec. 3. He was a member of the college community for over 30 years. He started as one of the college’s Challenge Industries – a nonprofit that helps people with employment barriers enter the workforce – employees and then transitioned to Terraces Dining Services.

Approximately 30 people joined the vigil in person and more attended virtually through Zoom. Numerous stories were shared describing Rorick’s infectious joy that made all who crossed his path reflect his smile. Many of his coworkers, including Scott McWilliams, director of Dining Services Administrative, shared words in memory of Rorick.

“He was just a fantastic guy and he made everybody smile,” McWilliams said. “He made me smile and feel grounded every day. [He is] deeply missed.”

Several people walked down to the altar which held pictures of Rorick and lit candles in honor of his life.

Terry Rorick, Steven Rorick’s older sister, joined the campus community in the chapel as well.

“Wow, he was quite a guy,” Rorick said. “He didn’t meet anybody that wasn’t his friend. Once he met you, you were his friend for life.”

Interim President La Jerne Cornish expressed her deep sadness at Rorick’s passing.

“Stevie was a part of this community for



Lauren Goldberg, interim director of the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life and executive director of Hillel at Ithaca College, spoke at Steven Rorick’s vigil Dec. 7.

BRENDAN IANNUCCI/THE ITHACAN

more than 30 years,” Cornish said. “He was here longer than many of us ... At the end of the day, I always said hello and he always smiled and said hello back, and so we will miss him. As I said earlier, may his memory always be a blessing.”

Many tears were shed during the vigil, but stories of Rorick also created echoes of laughter in the chapel. Those who gathered were reminded of how hard the past couple years have been because of the COVID-19 pandemic and that Rorick lifted everyone’s spirits through the worst days. One attendee shared during the vigil how they would always find Rorick picking up tasks outside of his job

just to help his coworkers.

Lorri Eastman, senior supervisor in Dining Terraces, spoke fondly of Rorick. She was not the only one that told stories of how much Rorick impacted her life.

“Steven has been a friend of the family for a long time,” Eastman said. “I’ve worked with him for quite a few years. These past six months, he has worked pretty close to me. He has actually been my best friend at work. He was a blessing to work with. I’m really gonna miss him.”

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# LGBT Center screens ‘Fauci’

BY CAROLINE GRASS

The Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach and Services held a virtual screening, that could be watched at any point over the week, of the documentary movie “Fauci” from Nov. 29 to Dec. 4.

The documentary was screened to give students and community members an opportunity to learn about Anthony Fauci, the director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). Fauci held leading roles in the response to the AIDS epidemic and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fauci is widely regarded as the top infectious disease expert in the country. The documentary explores his medical background, his work and the controversy and recent distrust of scientific findings and guidance around COVID-19.

Luca Maurer, director for the LGBT Center at the college, said the documentary was chosen because of its relevance to current and historic events. He said many students talked with him about how the pandemic influenced their lives and did not know Fauci was a central figure in the AIDS epidemic and LGBTQ+ life in the 1980s and 90s as well.

“Having insight into the past can help inform our present and our future,” Maurer said. “Particularly when it comes to public health, discrimination, stigma and the AIDS epidemic and the way that unfolded in the 80s and the 90s.”

Maurer said the LGBT Center has a long history of hosting documentary screenings of films and other events with relevance to LGBTQ+ and non-LGBTQ+ communities, and he thought learning about Fauci would be relevant.

Stewart Auyash, associate professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Physical Education, specializes in public health policy. Auyash said he was involved in activism and followed and supported ACT UP’s work, which was an activism group that started in 1987 and fought for increased medical research to help end the AIDS crisis.

The documentary was available to watch at any point during the week, and Maurer said about 60 people signed up including alumni, faculty, staff and community members in addition to students. The center will be holding a post-screening discussion in the coming weeks.

Jennifer Karchmer ’91, an independent journalist and member of the Ithaca Alumni Board since July 2020, said she watched the movie as a part of the screening because she loves documentaries and wanted to learn more about the man who is at the forefront of providing the country with information about the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fauci is the chief medical advisor to the president of the United States and makes numerous press appearances to provide guidance on COVID-19.

“While we’ve made strides in HIV and AIDS, it’s important to know the origins of it, and how our government and our society has handled it,” Karchmer said. “And I think the same is going to be true of COVID.”

Auyash said he thought the documentary showed Fauci, a person who has become a cultural icon, in a favorable light. According to a study from the Annenberg Public Policy Center conducted in July 2021, 68% of Americans said they are confident Fauci is providing trustworthy advice on COVID-19.

“It showed him as a person, not just a scientist or doctor,” Auyash said.

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FROM SGC, PAGE 1

throughout the fall semester like the Employee Vaccination Recommendation bill and the Varsity Athletic Senator Position Clarification bill.

The Employee Vaccination Recommendation bill recommended that the college make it a requirement for employees to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The Faculty Council voted in support of the recommendation at a meeting Oct. 5. The SLT declined to act on the recommendation.

Sophomore James Zampetti, vice president of communication, said in a statement to *The Ithacan* that he believes every member of the SGC has been an advocate for students and improve students' experiences at the college.

"Our e-board was able to achieve some amazing and unprecedented things this semester, like sending out campus wide emails and hosting a sit-down with [the Senior Leadership Team] and the student body," he said in the statement.

Zampetti said he felt this semester was successful and is looking forward to Spring 2022.

Engagement

SGC has seen a decrease in student engagement over the years, leading to vacancies in the senate and fewer students voting in SGC elections.

In the 2018–19 academic year, only about 1.1% of students voted. Compared with about 7.7% in the 2017–18 and



From left, Jimmy Johnson, college events coordinator, and seniors Colin McCarthy, Matt McNulty and Stella Campodonico present their bill at a SGC meeting Dec. 6 in the Taughannock Falls Room.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

2016–17 academic years and about 18.9% in the 2015–16 academic year.

There were 20 senators for the 2020–21 academic year with five seats not filled. The 20th senator was confirmed at the Dec. 7, 2020 SGC meeting.

There are currently 10 spots filled on the SGC senate out of 25 total positions for the 2021–22 academic year.

Changes during Fall 2021

This semester, the SGC also faced a change after its president, junior Déontae Guy, resigned shortly before the SGC's Nov. 15 meeting. His resignation was effective Nov. 29.

The executive board of the

SGC submitted a statement to *The Ithacan* after the Nov. 15 meeting. In a message to *The Ithacan*, Guy did not have anything to add.

"In light of the resignation of our student body president effective Nov. 29th, SGC wants to reaffirm our commitment to these goals to improve the Ithaca College community," the statement said.

Guy also served as the student representative on the Presidential Search Committee. Guy was the only student representative on the committee but was replaced by senior Leticia Guibunda, SGC vice president of campus affairs, as of Nov. 29.

With the resignation of Guy, there is no president, and the constitution does not state what to do when a president resigns.

Connor Shea '21, former SGC president for the 2020–21 academic year, said in a comment to *The Ithacan* that he believes the SGC is working hard for students.

"I cannot imagine what it has been like leading the student body back onto campus amidst this ongoing pandemic," Shea said.

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FROM COUNCIL, PAGE 1

are valid, but reminded members of Faculty Council that it would not be mandatory for departments to fully switch to a four-credit schedule.

"The current task is that folks are thinking about whether they want to change the balance in their departments, and what kind of accommodations we might want to make in a grid to accommodate a change in the balance," Stein said.

Thomas Pfaff, professor and chair of the Department of Mathematics, said he is concerned about the small amount of shared governance at the college. Pfaff said he thinks faculty at the college have no say in decisions the board of trustees makes. Currently, there is one student, one faculty member and one staff member on the board.

"I'm fairly certain that the board had charged Shirley Collado with decreasing the campus size and [Thomas] Rochon was charged to cut costs," Pfaff said. "We have no say in any of those things at all. One token faculty representative doesn't really change that at all. We're not usually even aware necessarily what the charge to the president is."

For the student, faculty and staff trustees who are on the board, the trustees are recommended to the Governance & Compensation/Assessment Committee by the other governance bodies at the college, like the Ithaca College Alumni Association Board of Directors, Faculty Council, Student Governance Council (SGC) and Staff Council. Then, the Governance & Compensation/Assessment Committee nominates a new trustee to the full board.

Trustees are elected for an initial term of four years, and may be reelected for up to two additional three-year terms. Trustees are



The Ithaca College Faculty Council at a meeting Sept. 5, 2017. The Faculty Council met Dec. 7, 2021 to discuss faculty representation on the Ithaca College Board of Trustees.

FILE PHOTO/THE ITHACAN

rotated off of the board for at least one year after their first three terms, after which they may be reelected for up to three additional three-year terms.

Ellen Staurowsky '78, professor in the Department of Media Arts, Sciences and Studies and a former alumni trustee on the board of trustees, said she thinks it is unusual for a college to have voting representatives from faculty, staff and the student body.

Pfaff said he thinks there is zero accountability on the board of trustees, which he finds problematic, given the college's fiscal status and how morale is low on campus.

Some members of the Faculty Council said they would like to see increased representation of people who know more about higher education on the board, to decrease the corporate feeling of the board.

Other members of the Faculty Council instead recommended meeting with the Tri Council — Faculty Council, Staff Council and the SGC — while others had ideas for ways the

Faculty Council could provide checks and balances on the board of trustees by being able to veto certain decisions.

Courtney Young, assistant professor in the Department of Theatre Arts, said she feels like faculty members are not valued at the college, which impacts the experience of students.

"I don't even know who this board is," Young said. "I can look up their pictures. I don't have any idea what they want. How do we effectively communicate with them, and how do they effectively communicate with us? And do they care to effectively communicate with us? Are we being naive to think that our veto would count? ... We can spend a lot of time finger-pointing and writing emails. We're not very effective at that right now. So what do we do differently in order to move forward in a positive way?"

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FROM COVID-19, PAGE 1

On Campus Changes

The shift does not impact the final exam schedule or other in-person academic gatherings. However, all scheduled in-person gatherings and other events on campus that are not associated with any academic coursework are canceled — including club and organization meetings and non-academic programming.

The Ithaca College Library, Fitness Center, and Wellness Clinic will remain open for their scheduled operating hours through Dec. 17. The email stated that intercollegiate athletics will be allowed to continue with athletic competition, subject to sports medicine's guidelines.

The email strongly discouraged residential students from unnecessary visitation between residence hall buildings and off-campus students from hosting social gatherings with individuals who do not live in their residence.

The email also discouraged campus community members from traveling outside of the Tompkins County area until the end of the fall semester.

"We recommend that students who are not experiencing active symptoms of COVID-19 and plan to return to their permanent residence for Winter Break should do so immediately following the completion of their final exams," the email stated.

Visitors and guests, unless planning to attend the December Commencement or a pre-registered campus tour, should refrain from coming to campus, the email stated.

December Commencement

The email stated that the December 2021 Commencement will proceed as originally scheduled Dec. 12. All campus community attendees should complete their Daily Health Screening the morning prior to the event. Families and supporters of students will be able to attend the ceremony, but will be required to wear face coverings regardless of vaccination status and maintain physical distance from others outside of their household at all times.

"Ithaca College also strongly encourages that anyone attending the event be fully vaccinated for COVID-19," the email stated. "The college asks that anyone currently experiencing any symptoms associated with COVID-19 refrain from traveling to campus for this event."

There will be a livestream of the ceremony available for family members and supporters who are unable to travel to Ithaca, the email stated.

Testing

All members of the campus community received an email Dec. 6, encouraging them to participate in surveillance testing.

Asymptomatic faculty, staff and students are encouraged to participate in regular surveillance testing by dropping off a saliva sample at the Campus Center Lobby, A&E Center Lobby and Peggy Ryan Williams Garden Level. Employees can submit a sample at Farm Pond Road. Submissions should only be made on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday in conjunction with sample pickup times.

The testing site at Emerson Hall is open from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. seven days a week and is the primary location for students to be tested if they are experiencing symptoms.

Employees who are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to seek out local resources for testing including urgent care facilities, pharmacies or the Cayuga Health System mall testing site.

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# The Ithacan Diversity Report

BY ITHACAN STAFF

In late August, *The Ithacan*’s editorial board received a short survey designed by the community outreach manager which asked for demographic information with the intent to collect information for what would become the paper’s first diversity report. A report of this kind is used to quantify the diverse makeup of an organization. It can also highlight a lack of diversity and inspire goals to address inclusion in the workplace.

The survey consisted of seven questions. Some were answered by multiple choice and others were open-ended. While the responses remain anonymous, the findings were charted and compared with available Ithaca College student population data. All 26 of the current editorial board members completed the survey.

Before publication, the results of this report were available internally and used for reflection during *The Ithacan*’s diversity training workshop Oct. 8, led by the Center for Inclusion Diversity Equity and Social Change (IDEAS) peer educators. The focus of the workshop was on implicit biases, which are unconscious stereotypes or attitudes that can manifest in our behavior and society. The findings of this report were available as a tool to help understand how implicit biases have an effect in a newsroom.

While the workshop was available only to editorial board members, *The Ithacan* plans to implement future sessions open to all staff and mandate attendance to peer education workshops held by the Center for IDEAS in the future. While the paper has made conscious efforts to report inclusively and unbiasedly, there has never been a formal process in place to ensure the newsroom is actively working

to do so.

This diversity report serves as a benchmark for future use as *The Ithacan* sets a standard of transparent reporting of the makeup of its newsroom. As a paper designed to represent student voices, it is important that there is a sustainable effort encouraging representation on the editorial board and equitable coverage of all student populations. *The Ithacan* recognizes that it has not completed a diversity report before, and is actively working to remedy past indiscretions. By preparing and publishing a diversity report for the end of the fall semester, the paper is working to hold itself accountable in its goal to create a more inclusive publication. Given that this survey is the first of its kind, it may not be all-encompassing. A public forum where members of the campus community will be able to have an open conversation to discuss the findings will be held Jan. 31, 2022.

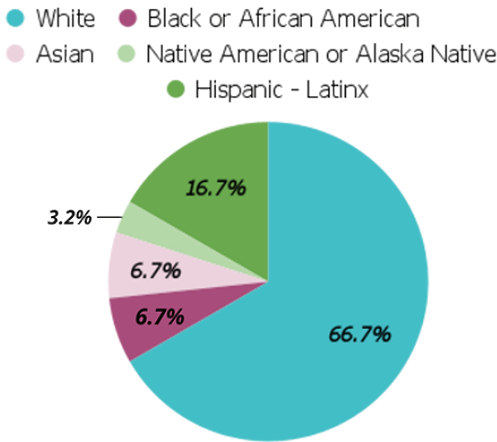
## Racial and Ethnic Background

In accordance with the U.S. Census Bureau’s standard of collecting racial and ethnic background data, this survey question had six multiple choice options. *The Ithacan* editorial board is predominantly white. While there was no mixed-race option, this survey question allowed for multiple answers.

The findings show that no one on *The Ithacan* board is Alaskan Native or Pacific Islander. Black, Indigenous and persons of color (BIPOC) on *The Ithacan*’s board represented 33.4% of the newsroom. This is 10.1% higher than the BIPOC population at Ithaca College. Population data for the campus is located under the Office of Analytics and Institutional Research (AIR) on the college’s website. Its data classification is different, as the college includes international populations. While the survey did not have an international option, there are no international students on *The Ithacan*’s editorial board.

For comparison, Ithaca College students are 72.4% white, 5.4% Black or African American, 10% Hispanic/Latino, 3.9% Asian, 0.1% Native American/Alaskan Native, 0.1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, 3.8% two or more races, 1.8% unknown and 2.4% international. There are 5,239 total Ithaca College students.

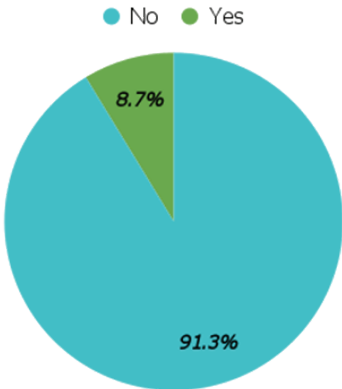
Racial and Ethnic Background



## First Generation

According to the college’s website, 15% of the student body is first-generation students. First-generation is defined as having parents who did not complete or begin a four-year degree in higher education. While the college’s data has not been updated for the 2021–22 academic year, it is clear the editorial board needs improvements in order to reach a higher level of first-generation representation as it currently has only two board members who are first-generation.

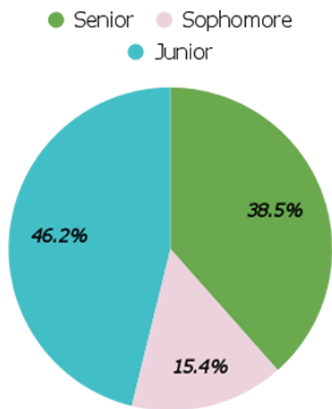
First-generation Student



## Class Year

The majority of the editorial board is upperclassmen with 46.2% being juniors, 38.5% seniors and 15.4% sophomores. The editorial board for the fall semester is hired during the previous spring semester so there were no incoming freshmen on campus, and therefore, they are not represented on the editorial board.

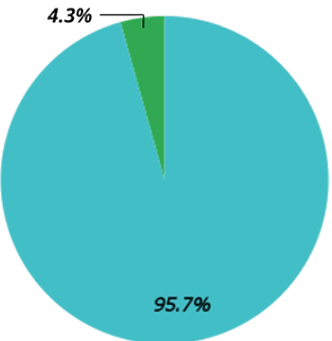
Class Year



## Ability

Like other categories, there is no publicly available data to compare the larger student body with *The Ithacan*’s board. However, 95.7% of the editorial board is able-bodied.

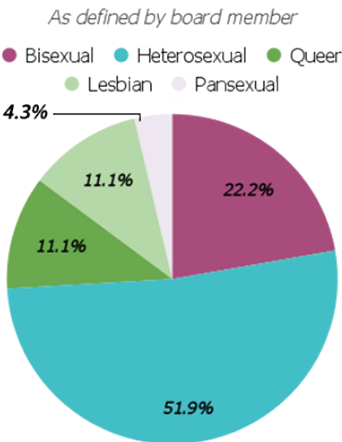
Able-bodied



## Sexuality

This survey question was not multiple choice and each board member wrote their answer in a text box. This means the categories for sexuality data are specific to how the board member completing the form identifies. The majority of the board identified as heterosexual while 22.2% identified as bisexual, 11.1% queer, 11.1% lesbian and one individual identified as pansexual. For this and the following categories, there is no readily available data to compare with the college’s student body.

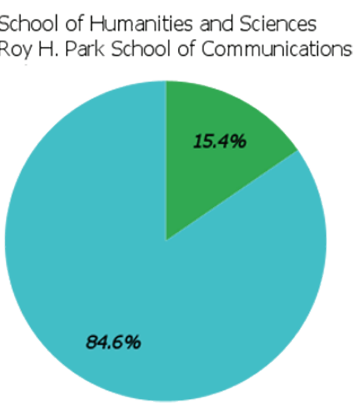
Sexuality



## Major

The majority of board members have majors in the Roy H. Park School of Communications. Four members, or 15.4% of the board, have a major in the School of Humanities and Sciences. *The Ithacan* is currently looking for ways to recruit students from other schools.

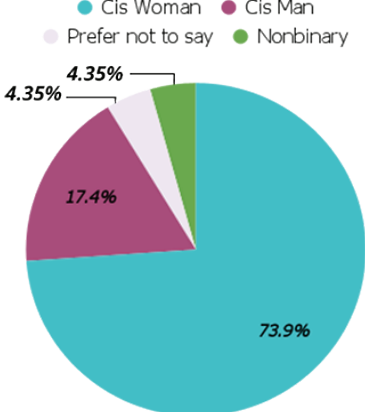
Major



## Gender

*The Ithacan* board is predominantly composed of cisgender women with cisgender women making up 73.9%. The student body of Ithaca College is reported as being 56.7% women and 43.3% men. Nonbinary representation on the editorial board is low, at 4.3% and transgender representation is nonexistent.

Gender



GRAPHS BY CASSANDRA LOGEDO

CONTACT ITHACAN STAFF  
ITHACAN@ITHACA.EDU



COLLEGE BRIEFS

School of Music professor named Fulbright Scholar for 2021–22

Jorge Grossmann, a composer and professor of music composition in the School of Music has been named Fulbright Scholar for 2021–22. Grossman joined Ithaca College in 2010 after receiving the 2010 Guggenheim Fellowship.

This is his second time as a Fulbright Scholar. Grossmann will spend four months in Florianópolis, Brazil, as a visiting professor in the post-graduate program at University of the State of Santa Catarina (UDESC), where he will teach a seminar and deliver lectures on his creative work.

Recently, Grossman had his second commission from the Sao Paulo Symphony for a concerto for cello and orchestra that will premiere in Fall 2023.

Winter Break housing form open for students living on campus

Only students living in the same room for the fall and spring semesters are eligible for Winter Break housing.

Circle and Garden Apartment residents who need to stay in their apartments during Winter Break — Dec. 16 through Jan. 22 — need to complete the Winter Break Registration Form. For Towers, Terraces and Quads residents, traditional residence halls are open for break housing at 1 p.m. Jan. 2. If residents need to return to campus between Jan. 2 and 22, they should complete the Winter Break Registration Form.

Residence halls are closing at 3 p.m. Dec. 16. If students are leaving later than the closing date, they must submit a Late Departure Request Form on IC Workflow. The Late Departure Request Forms should be submitted by Dec. 14. No one can stay after noon Dec. 22.

Students who are not living on campus for the spring semester, or are living in a different room for the spring semester, may submit a December Late Departure Request, or a Spring Early Arrival Request. Approval is not guaranteed. Individuals with questions can contact the Office of Residential Life in the East Tower at (607) 274-3141 or email Break Housing at breakhousing@ithaca.edu.

Wellness Council seeks members from the IC campus community

The deadline to apply to join Ithaca College’s Wellness Leadership Council (WLC) is Dec. 15. Those who are interested can complete the Wellness Leadership

Council Interest Form online to submit their application.

The WLC has identified three separate work groups that will organize this process. The groups include the Communication Workgroup, the Curricula Workgroup and the Wellness Wheel Workgroup. Interested individuals looking to participate as active members of the WLC can expect a time commitment of 3–5 hours per week.

This time commitment may include regular workgroup meetings, as well as active time spent working on goals and initiatives. The WLC is looking for new members who are passionate about reimagining wellness support systems at Ithaca College.

Opportunity to work with WCNY in spring broadcasting course

Diane Gayeski, professor in the Department of Strategic Communication, will be heading a communicating with stakeholders course (CMD 31100) where the students will be working with the leaders of WCNY to develop a new strategic plan.

The course will be taking place at 1:10 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Students will be using key concepts of the course in identifying major community stakeholders, soliciting their input, understanding regulatory requirements and developing strategic communication plans that can shape the future programming of their four TV channels and four radio channels.

The class will also be hosting professionals in employee communications, government and community relations, investor relations, reputation and crisis management, corporate social responsibility, nonprofit and association outreach and fundraising to learn about career opportunities and trends in these areas. Students should contact Gayeski at gayeski@ithaca.edu if they are interested in learning more.

Apply now for financial support to help with buying course materials

The Student Emergency Relief Fund (SERF) is now taking applications to apply for Spring 2022 course material financial support. Students requesting financial support to buy needed course materials can apply for a \$200 maximum amount of aid.

The financial aid will come in the form of vouchers that can be used to buy required materials like textbooks through the college’s provider, Akademos.



IC Unbound leaps back onto the stage

Performers dance in IC Unbound’s fall showcase, “Limitless,” on Dec. 5 in the Emerson Suites. This was IC Unbound’s first solo performance indoors since Fall 2019. During virtual instruction, the group held its performances outside.

MALIK CLEMENT/THE ITHACAN

Winter education studies courses offered through virtual instruction

Students with course requirements for the education studies minor and teach in five pathway can sign up for online asynchronous classes through Ithaca College.

The Winter 2022 courses will run from Jan. 3 to 14 and students will take them from home. Education courses being offered include EDUC 21010: educational psychology, EDUC 23900: educating students with special needs in diverse classrooms and EDUC 34000: social and cultural foundations of education.

Registration is open for enrolled students to add and drop courses on HomerConnect until 11:59 p.m. Jan. 3, 2022.

Campus members invited to dean search listening sessions via Zoom

Students are encouraged to attend a series of listening sessions with the goal of assisting in the development of a position profile for recruiting applicants.

The virtual event will be held from 4 to 4:50 p.m. Dec. 13 on Zoom. Participants are invited

to share their opinions about what characteristics are needed in the next dean for the Roy H. Park School of Communications.

Those interested should visit Park News for the Zoom link. For anyone unable to attend or wanting to provide additional feedback, there is an input survey also available on Park News.

Stillwater seeking submissions from student creators for spring

Stillwater Magazine is accepting submissions from students for their Issue 61, which is launching in the Spring 2021 semester. The publication is accepting submissions for many genres: creative writing, artwork, photography, video compositions, musical compositions and any other hybrid forms.

All submissions are due on a rolling basis by Feb. 14, 2022 and students can find more information on guidelines for submissions on the Stillwater webpage. Stillwater blog is currently open for submissions and will be accepting and uploading the work for the remainder of the academic year.

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG

SELECTED ENTRIES FROM NOVEMBER 22 TO NOVEMBER 28

NOVEMBER 22

**SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCE**  
LOCATION: Conservatory Drive  
SUMMARY: An officer reported people running in a roadway. The officer issued a warning. Master Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded.

**HARASSMENT 2ND DEGREE**  
LOCATION: 150 College Circle  
SUMMARY: A caller reported a person was leaving unwanted messages at their residence. Patrol Officer Mark Jones responded.

NOVEMBER 23

**SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL**  
LOCATION: 106 Flora Brown Drive  
SUMMARY: The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards

reported two people referred for underage possession of alcohol. Lieutenant Michael Nelson responded.

**SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL**  
LOCATION: 143 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards reported one person referred for underage possession of alcohol. Lieutenant Michael Nelson responded.

**SCC UNDERAGE POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL**  
LOCATION: 282 Lyceum Drive  
SUMMARY: The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards reported that four people were referred for underage possession of alcohol. Lieutenant Michael Nelson responded.

NOVEMBER 24

**ASSIST ITHACA POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
LOCATION: 120 East Clinton St.  
SUMMARY: An officer requested information on an off-campus trespassing. Communications Specialist Laurenda Denmark responded.

**CRIMINAL TRESPASS 2ND DEGREE**  
LOCATION: 110 College Circle  
SUMMARY: A caller reported unknown people entered their residence while the caller was sleeping. Master Patrol Officer Joe Opper responded to the call.

**FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL**  
LOCATION: 123 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire

alarm. Patrol Officer Mayra Colon reported that the alarm activation was caused by burnt food.

NOVEMBER 26

**FIRE ALARM ACCIDENTAL**  
LOCATION: 123 Tower Skyline Drive  
SUMMARY: Simplex reported a fire alarm. Patrol Officer Mark Jones responded and reported that there was an unknown reason for the alarm activation.

NOVEMBER 28

**SUSPICIOUS PERSON**  
LOCATION: 318 Grant Egbert Blvd.  
SUMMARY: A caller reported an unknown person was lingering in the area and making them uncomfortable. The officer reported that the person was identified and that they voluntarily left the area. Master

Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded to the call.

**MEDICAL ASSIST/ INJURY RELATED**  
LOCATION: Roadway Substation Road  
SUMMARY: A caller reported that a person slipped and struck their head on icy pavement. The person declined medical assistance when it was offered to them. Master Patrol Officer Bryan Verzosa responded.

Full public safety log available online at [www.theithacan.org](http://www.theithacan.org).

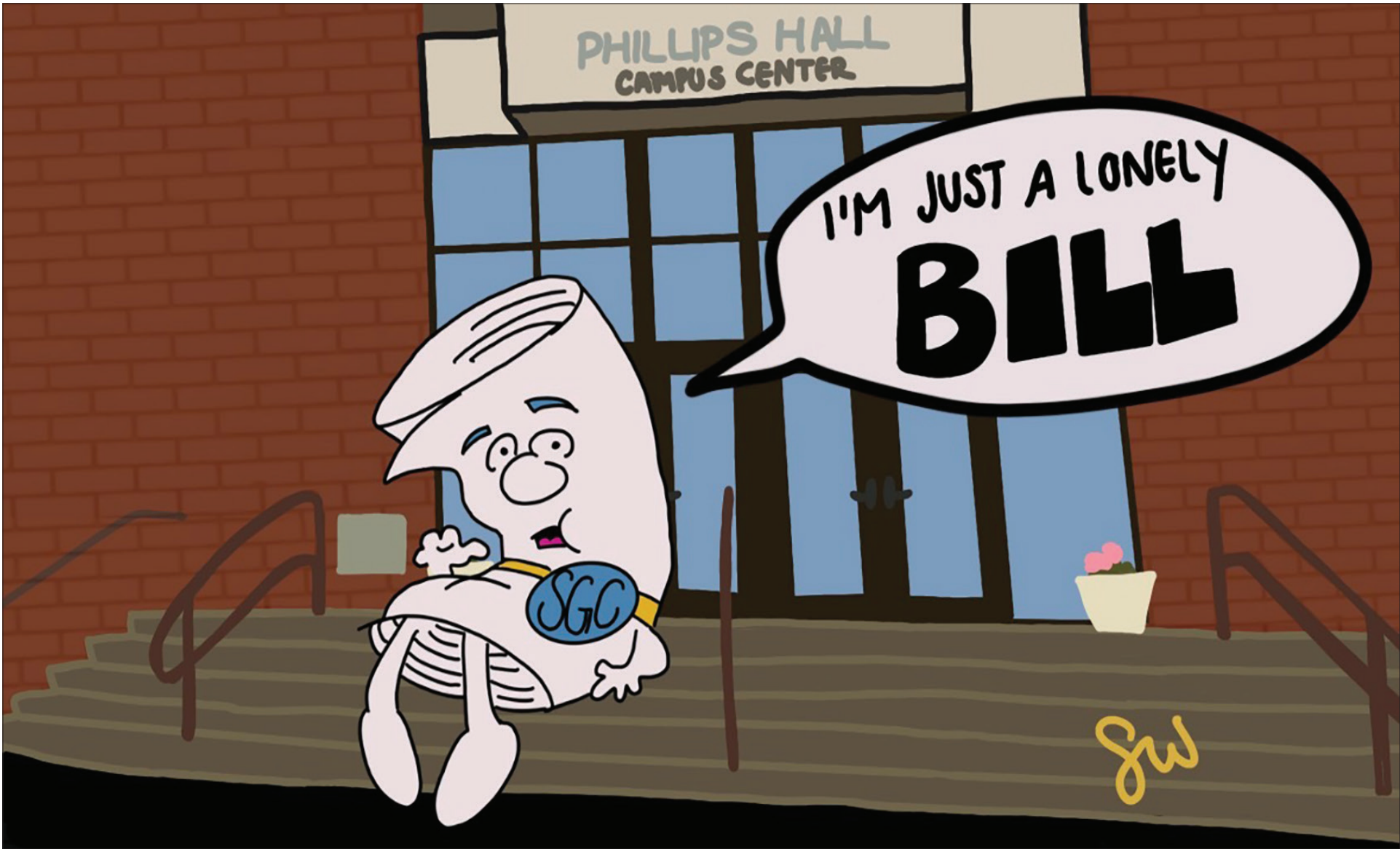
KEY
SCC—Student Conduct Code
V&T—Vehicle & Transportation
AD—Assistant Director
IFD—Ithaca Fire Department



# OPINION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2021

7



FRANKIE WALLS/THE ITHACAN

## EDITORIALS

### SGC struggles to uphold its own responsibilities

Ithaca College’s Student Governance Council (SGC) struggled with passing bills and communication this semester. To begin with, this semester only six bills from the SGC were passed. Some reasons that could’ve led to this outcome could’ve been the decline in members, new senators who are adjusting to being part of SGC or the adjustment to in-person classes from over a year online. However, these members represent the student body and act as voices for the students’ needs and challenges. On top of the open positions that weren’t filled this semester, the SGC’s president resigned before the SGC meeting Nov. 15, which proves that there seemed to be a disconnect between the student body and the SGC, but also within the SGC. Every member of the SGC ran for and earned their position, and with these positions comes certain responsibilities to uphold the SGC goals and promises they have for the students. This council isn’t meant to please the

Senior Leadership Team (SLT), it’s meant to be critical and observant. The SGC started the semester strong with the Employee Vaccination Bill, which aimed to make it mandatory for all Ithaca College employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Unfortunately, the college declined to act on this recommendation, which is quite frustrating.

The SGC is meant to speak up when necessary and make the appropriate initiatives to ensure that changes students need are brought to the attention of the SLT. The SLT has a history of rejecting previous recommendations that the SGC has proposed, which can lead to a sense of helplessness. The SGC must keep asking difficult questions and passing bills to hold the administration accountable and increase the student body’s quality of life. Hopefully next semester, with a senate and executive board with more experience, the SGC can increase its outreach and pass more bills to bring change and help its constituents.

### Club sports facing issues with funding and staffing

Club sports at Ithaca College are as important as varsity sports. They offer students the ability to participate and be active in the community through sports without being a part of a varsity team that comes with a longer time commitment and a different selection process. The main concern as of right now is the lack of resources, funding and staff members that are allotted to these club sports.

Lauren Hoffman, program coordinator for Recreational Sports, and Sean Reiley, associate director of Recreational Sports are the only members that are overseeing the 39 clubs, 27 of which are competitive club-sports teams. Both are trying to serve the clubs to the best of their abilities, but at the end of the day, there’s only so much two people can do. There needs to be more staff members, or how else can each team receive the attention and resources they deserve? Understaffing is a current issue sweeping across the campus, extending to club sports as well.

The club-sports program is facing a large budget deduction, lowering from \$90,625 to under \$50,000 this year. The issues the club sports are currently facing are issues seen across the campus and they need to be addressed soon.

Sports in any form, varsity or club, are vital for students. These organizations provide opportunities for students to make friends, build valuable skills and have fun outside of classes. These clubs need to be given the attention and resources they deserve, rather than pushed aside and allowed to struggle by themselves.

If students are the college’s “why,” why is the college neglecting a vital part of college life that students obviously care about?

By increasing staff, ensuring that all teams have time and space to practice and even just recognizing that club-sports teams are valuable activities for students to participate in, the college can affirm its commitment to club sports.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Send to [ithacan@ithaca.edu](mailto:ithacan@ithaca.edu).

ALL LETTERS MUST:

- Be 250 words or fewer
- Be emailed or dropped off by 5 p.m. Monday in Park 220

## GUEST COMMENTARY

Send to [ithacan@ithaca.edu](mailto:ithacan@ithaca.edu) or to the opinion editor [gguzman@ithaca.edu](mailto:gguzman@ithaca.edu).

ALL COMMENTARIES MUST:

- Convey a clear message
- Be written by an individual or group who has an educated opinion or is an authority on a specific subject
- Be between 500–650 words. Whether more or less space is allotted is at the discretion of the editor



GUEST COMMENTARY

Native American issues are ignored

BY JENNY ROSE

*Editor's Note: This is a guest commentary. The opinions expressed in this piece do not necessarily reflect the views of the editorial board.*

I have always felt closely connected to my culture. I'm Choctaw, which means I'm Native American, but you can't tell by just looking at me. Simply put: I've always looked white. Movies and television shows have long depicted Native Americans in such a way that stereotypes of what I should look like are ingrained into the general population's mind. My skin tone isn't enough, even though I think I look exactly like my cousins and have very Native features.

My culture has continually been erased, and I want to have conversations about these issues, but it's never brought up because my race and ethnicity are never questioned based on how I look. Or even after I say I'm Native, I am forced to explain how I am. The government, which has no understanding of how tribes define their own communities, created laws to put Native Americans into groups. In this way, the idea of blood quantum, or how much "Native" blood you have, became the defining attribute on whether you are Native or not.

This continues to create issues



Sophomore Jenny Rose discusses her experience being a white-passing Native American student. She talks about how her identity is questioned and how the college ignores indigenous issues.

LEILA MARCILLO-GOMEZ/THE ITHACAN

for Native communities as it is another way, by the government, to try and eliminate Native peoples hoping that eventually, we would completely assimilate to European culture. It also allows the government to keep taking land as it allows them to refuse to recognize Native people as legitimate. These conversations need to be had, and Native voices need to be heard. Indigenous women and children go missing every day. I'm terrified of getting a call that another family member is missing without a trace. These issues need to be addressed, but it seems no one listens until it's a spectacle of a Native dancing in a traditional headdress that aligns

with the perceived Native stereotypes. The general public can then continue to participate in cultural appropriation in costumes and laugh at the traditions they can't begin to comprehend. The issues don't matter to them because it doesn't affect them. So, what can you do to stop participating in colonization? You can probably think of at least one instance where someone mentioned land acknowledgments; for instance, at the beginning of class or a speech from one of the representatives at Ithaca College. As someone who is Native American, it's an internal struggle whether to appreciate or complain about land acknowledgments.

While these are important and the first step to righting stolen land, to be honest, it's not enough and it doesn't fix the problem going on in Native communities that colonizers have caused. There are many charities and local organizations that could be donated to or volunteered to help indigenous communities. Words mean absolutely nothing to me if an action doesn't follow it, and I would love to see Ithaca College put on an event and raise money to donate to Native organizations.

JENNY ROSE (she/her) is a sophomore theatre studies and English major. Contact her at [jrose@ithaca.edu](mailto:jrose@ithaca.edu).



MINDFUL TALKS

ALLIE RICHTER

Shedding light on OCD truths

What comes to mind when you think of obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)? Do you picture someone who is extremely neat and tidy? Someone touching the doorknob seven times before leaving the house? For some individuals with OCD, that is their reality. But it is not the case for everyone diagnosed. From the outside, you would never know I had OCD. And for the first 18 years of my life, I didn't even know this was what I was struggling with. It was when I talked with my therapist and was diagnosed with OCD that I finally understood that some of my thoughts and actions were not "normal."

For those of you who do not know what OCD is, it's a disorder that is comprised of obsessions, which are recurring unwanted thoughts, and compulsions, which are repetitive behaviors in response to these obsessions. The compulsions oftentimes help soothe the anxiety that is created by the obsessions. These obsessions and compulsions can be extremely time consuming, distressing and can impair work and socializing.

When I would sit down to do work, I found myself having random thoughts, and when I would try to ignore them, an immense feeling of panic filled me. I felt that I had to do whatever thought came into my brain. Once completed, it would give me a short amount of relief from that anxiety. This pattern has been going on for a while, but I never thought anything of it. I discussed these thoughts with my therapist and told her how distressing they are, how I felt as though something bad would happen if I didn't do them. When she told me that these thoughts are obsessions and my actions are compulsions, at first I didn't want to believe her. At the time I would think about how I couldn't have OCD. I'm not "crazy," I am "normal."

I think what caused these immediate thoughts for me was No.1, a lack of education and No.2, the stigma OCD holds in our society. People will say "Omg I am so OCD" when they like things to be neat, but in reality they don't even understand this disorder. Or if they do know what OCD is, they just discredit the individuals who struggle with it and just say that they are being neurotic and weird. Creating awareness around it and letting people who are dealing with it understand that what they are going through is normal and that they aren't alone can be really life changing. So if you are someone with OCD, no, you are not crazy. No, you are not weird. You are just someone battling with their brain just like any other mental illness. This is something that I am coming to understand and accept and hopefully you can too.

MINDFUL TALKS is a column on mental health, meant to destigmatize and educate. ALLIE RICHTER (she/her) is a freshman psychology major. Contact her at [arichter@ithaca.edu](mailto:arichter@ithaca.edu).

GUEST COMMENTARY

Ithaca College fails BIPOC students again

BY GIANNY GUZMAN

I chose Ithaca College for many reasons — the financial aid package I was offered, the advertised diverse and inclusive community, the distance from home and in part because of Chris Holmes, associate professor and chair of the Department of English.

Of those reasons that I chose this college, many of them overlap with the reasons I am choosing to leave the college — except Chris Holmes, who has remained a helpful advocate for me in my first few semesters.

It wasn't just one moment that made me choose to take a semester off and possibly leave the college. It was a series of difficult situations I had to experience at the beginning of each semester since Fall 2020, where I would be forced to go back and forth with the Office of Student Financial Services at the college until I was able to somewhat figure out what was going on.

As a first-generation student, I always knew I would be completely alone with my finances. I knew this and I still chose a private college because it seemed like the best fit for me and I was okay with having the number of loans that I calculated I would have. Each semester something seemed to change and I was left in the dark, despite going around asking everyone I could about what I should be doing or could do. I came to this college under the impression that first-gen students would be guided and that I wouldn't be



Sophomore Gianni Guzman is the Fall 2021 opinion editor of *The Ithacan*. She shares her personal experience with financial aid and the community at Ithaca College.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN

alone in dealing with navigating college. But I did — I navigated the last three semesters, one online, one hybrid and one in person, all on my own. This isolation made me feel like the college only cared about me when it wanted me to enroll and afterward I was disregarded and fell immediately through the cracks. There is little to no diversity at least in terms of race, and the college continues to idealize this false statement without attempting to make it true. I did not expect to go months without speaking Spanish, attend multiple classes where I was the sole person

of color in the room and educate and correct my own peers on racial matters when the college and professors failed to do so. I was given many false promises that contributed to the decline of my mental health and college performance.

This is my experience, and I had to learn the hard way that Ithaca College was my perfect fit on paper, but not in reality.

GIANNY GUZMAN (she/her) is a sophomore English major. Contact her at [gguzman@ithaca.edu](mailto:gguzman@ithaca.edu).



# What I Wish I Knew...



This week, our seniors responded to the prompt, “What is your experience with finals?”

Almost every week of college, classes and life can feel jam-packed with assignments, responsibilities and daily activities, but the week of finals heightens these feelings. The nature of finals and the weeks approaching finals is naturally overwhelming, and for most students, there is much at stake academically. However, after managing through several final exam seasons, finals have become less and less daunting to me over the years. It took being retrospective about previous performances and working to understand how I function as a student and learner to change my approach to final exams and projects. I found that my biggest challenge wasn't being able to comprehend the material, but the worry I would feel about understanding the material well enough to do well on an exam. My expectations of myself were getting in the way of getting ready for an exam, so I started by accessing my mental and emotional perspective of situations that made me nervous. One of the first things I learned was how to handle certain situations that seem out of my control, like having to take a final exam, and I realized that one thing I do have control of is how I respond to a situation or event and how to proceed. This is something I am still actively working on, but it has really served me well in dissolving these emotional blocks I sometimes experience with exams. Finding effective study strategies was in constant development for me, as I would imagine for other students, because I would have to adjust my techniques and how I practiced based on the course, how assignments were graded and the overall style of my professors.

Finals can be the most stressful time of year for a college student anywhere. From last-minute assignments to finish, to planning out how to attack the many, many tasks you have during finals week, trying to navigate this time is difficult for every one no matter their year. As a senior in my second to last finals season, there have been a few tips and tricks that I've learned along the way that have made this week a little less painful and stressful than it already will be. First things first, establish some sort of schedule or plan for how you want to attack all of your assignments. For me, much of my work is centered around research papers, so I like to plan out a starting phase, an editing phase (if necessary) and a finishing touches stage in my schedule. Within this system and the last one, I like to also incorporate a timed aspect so that I can stay on task and reward myself with a break without going off task. Making sure you are balancing your time working and time relaxing during finals is incredibly vital to your success when you start to approach the end of finals week. I know in my first year here I was so concerned about just studying that I burnt myself out and was in a position where I didn't want to study or finish up any projects that I had. Not only is time management and a schedule important for success in finals, but understanding that while this might be the most stressful time of the year, it's not the end all be all.



NYA  
EVANS

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN



ALYSSA  
SPADY

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

Coming back from Thanksgiving, we have such a small amount of time to prepare for finals before they actually begin. Every year without fail, I have convinced myself to get ahead of upcoming work during the break, but simply do not. That means the week after break is pretty stressful — when I realize I probably should've done something over break and panic. I usually start with a list. The long list of assignments that need to be done sits on my desktop as a reminder every time I open my laptop. As I type this, I probably have 10 open just in this one window and then some other windows minimized down below. Being in marketing and communications, a lot of my finals consist of group or individual projects. Instead of tests during finals week, we have presentations mostly. It may seem better than a test, but this means all my work has to be finished before finals begin. Then, I have to ignore my social anxiety to share my work in front of my class. With many projects, I find it easiest to skip around. I'll do one project for a bit before switching to a different one. This way, I can also make sure every one of them is making its way toward completion. Taking care of mental health is also so important during this time. Actually considering how to keep myself sane during these few weeks is important. Recently, I have found serenity in lighting my holiday-scented candle, sitting by some Christmas lights and sipping hot chocolate while doing work. When even this still makes me feel like I want to throw my computer out the window, I watch Netflix or leave to work out.

To read the rest of the blog entries head to [TheIthacan.org](http://TheIthacan.org).



EMILY  
GUDERIAN

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

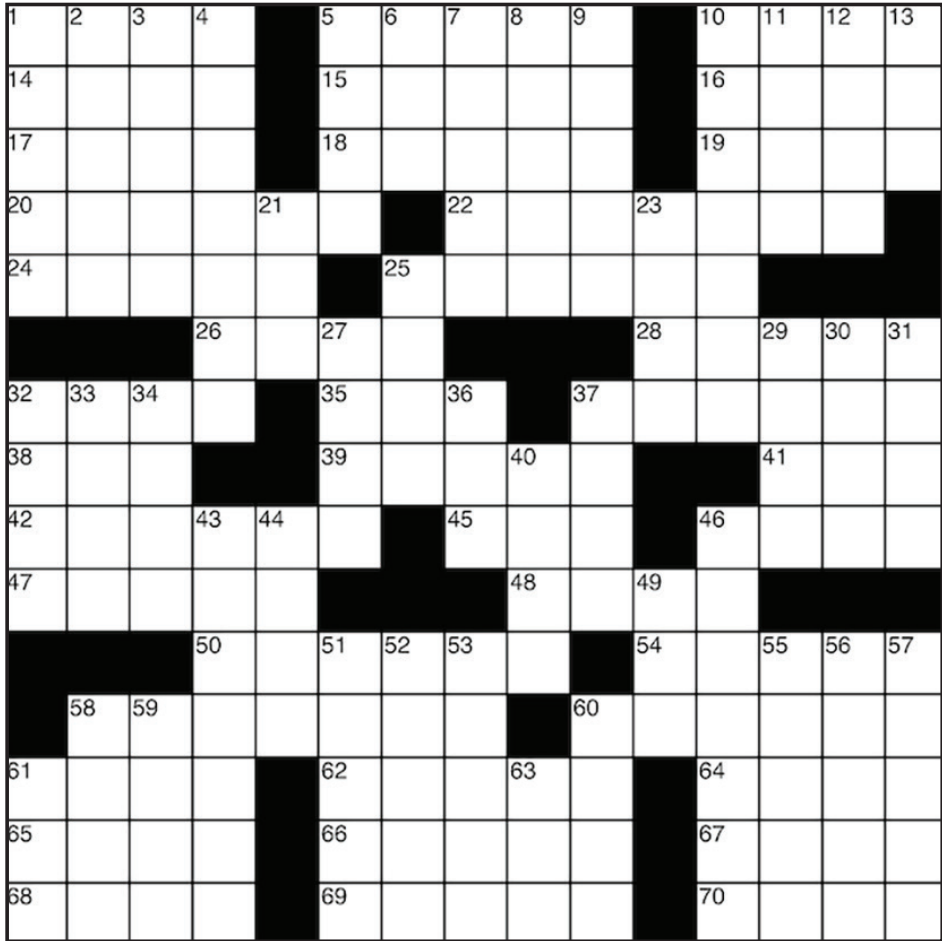




# DIVERSIONS

## crossword

By Quill Driver Books



ACROSS

- 1 Kiosk lit.
- 5 Musical sound
- 10 Bean used in falafel
- 14 Just touch
- 15 Less green
- 16 Film director — Kazan
- 17 Proboscis
- 18 Single-celled being (var.)
- 19 Highland lake
- 20 Eggnog topper
- 22 Second draft
- 24 Molecule components
- 25 Collapsed
- 26 Noble rank
- 28 Linguine topper
- 32 Produced, as eggs
- 35 Up till now
- 37 Flowed out
- 38 Ernie of the PGA
- 39 Make pretty
- 41 Week da.
- 42 Place for a brawl
- 45 Yes, in Cherbourg
- 46 Movie theater
- 47 Courtroom word
- 48 Draw on glass

- 50 — over (fainted)
- 54 Uttered shrilly
- 58 Gunslinger’s wear
- 60 Courageously
- 61 Robin Cook Book
- 62 Asian capital
- 64 Archaeologist’s find
- 65 Cold War capital
- 66 Levels off
- 67 Winemaking valley
- 68 Lose control
- 69 Fix the clock
- 70 Hidden valley

- 13 “Open wide” word
- 21 That, in Acapulco
- 23 Agents
- 25 Escaped
- 27 Clancy hero Jack —
- 29 Muslim mystic
- 30 Gull cousin
- 31 Comics cousin
- 32 To a smaller degree
- 33 — — unto itself
- 34 Ait
- 36 Undoly
- 37 Monogram ltr.
- 40 Was sorry for
- 43 Bay Area city

- 44 Blast-furnace inputs
- 46 Ringing
- 49 Tax pro
- 51 The heavens
- 52 Move on
- 53 Osprey relatives
- 55 Organ feature
- 56 Avoid a big wedding
- 57 Protest song writer
- 58 Fasten
- 59 Former Atlanta stadium
- 60 Main idea
- 61 Big rigs’ radio
- 63 Individual

DOWN

- 1 Miracle food
- 2 More or less
- 3 Zest
- 4 Halted
- 5 Rocky ledge
- 6 Male
- 7 Kind of house or hat
- 8 Mutinous person
- 9 Prolong the vowels
- 10 Furry pets
- 11 Oodles (2 wds.)
- 12 Police squad

last issue’s crossword answers



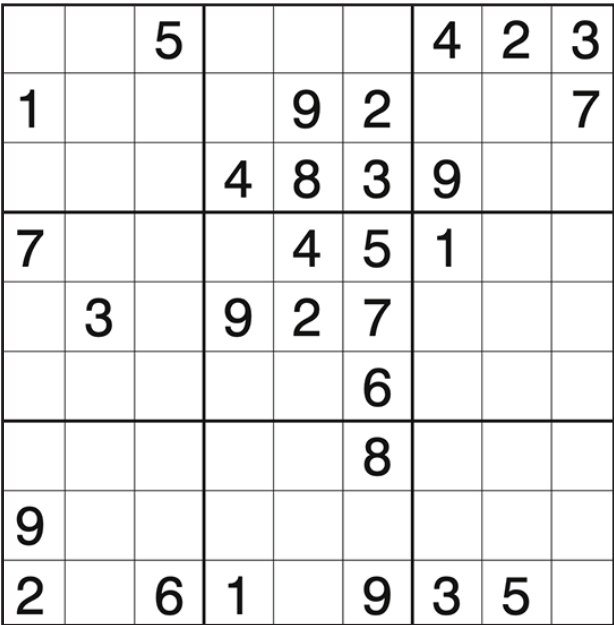
WE’VE GOT MULTIMEDIA

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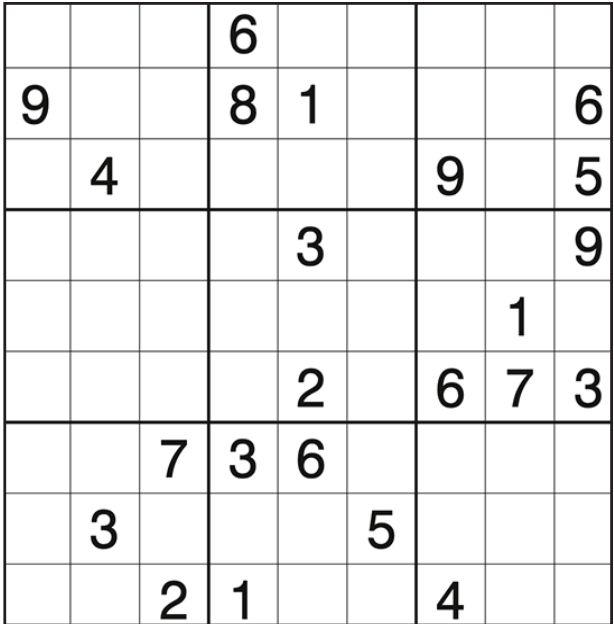
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## sudoku

medium

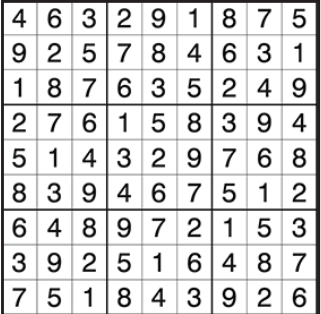


very hard

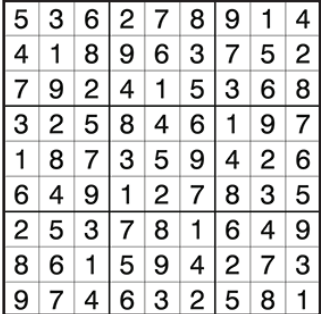


answers to last issue’s sudoku:

medium



hard



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## Art students display work

### IC seminar allows for art students to showcase their creative talents



Junior art major Amber Lobos arranges her piece, "Untitled," using ink and acrylic paint on book pages in preparation for the "Several Utilitarian Chambers" pop-up exhibition that opened Dec. 3 at Artist Alley located inside of the South Hill Business Campus. The exhibition is open to the public from Dec. 3 to 12.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

BY M MINTON

Entering inside from the windy, early winter temperatures outside, students and faculty of Ithaca College along with locals from the community join together at the South Hill Business Campus in the appreciation of art. Along every wall of the hallway are paintings and sculptures made from oil, ink, pastel, acrylic paint, flowers, ceramic, watercolors, charcoal and colored pencil.

Students in the theories and art practice seminar had the opportunity to participate in an art exhibition titled "Several Utilitarian Chambers," which was chosen by three students randomly placing their fingers on art books; the invitational pop-up exhibition will continue to run through Dec. 12. Students featured in the exhibition include seniors Julia Bertussi, Guinevere Fullerton, Fatima David, Sara Dolnick, Taylor Fried, Lauren Reid and Melanie Sabia, juniors Rhiannon Augustine, Angelica Ballard, Emma Gregory, Amber Lobos, Peter Walz and Dylan Zink and sophomores Luke Asente, Jack Hassett and Leanna Yacilla.

Bill Hastings, assistant professor in the Department of Art, said all nine students from his seminar are represented in the show, and he

was able to invite one additional student to have their art shown as well. Hastings said the class decided to have an open invitational with no specific theme for the art to be designed around, allowing for students to be creative in their designs.

"I think [the art] showcases what's strong in our department," Hastings said. "We have in this space prints, paintings, drawings, sculpture and then a mixed media piece. It's a real sort of overview of what we teach."

Junior art major Angelica Ballard said she thinks Hastings' seminar has been informative, and his class is all about how students can put their art out in the world through exhibitions, along with the business aspects of the industry.

Ballard said her art in the exhibition is an abstract depiction of the ocean. She also said her art series on mental health has changed over time, with more disorderly paintings that depicted her depression at the beginning.

"I was painting a lot of darker paintings and a lot more chaotic, not really balanced [images]," Ballard said. "Now towards the end of the series, it's kind of more delicate and gentle."

Junior art major Dylan Zink said he found the seminar class to be helpful, opening his eyes to what opportunities lie ahead in the

real world outside of the classroom.

"It's been extremely beneficial in even setting up an exhibition," Zink said. "That was ... the first time I've ever done anything like that."

Zink describes his art in the exhibition as a visual representation of a philosophical paradox, Zeno's dichotomy — the idea that two objects can never touch. Zink said that throughout his entire life, he felt abstraction was too vague and the lack of visual precision bothered him.

"I started realizing the potential and what kind of emotions you can bring to the table through abstraction," Zink said.

Senior Lauren Reid, a double art and psychology major, said she doesn't believe in the discourse around "good" or "bad" art because she believes people take in what resonates with them the most.

"I want people to be moved by [my art]," Reid said. "I think it's also cool for people to just take in what they take in ... they can see their subjective experiences."

For her own personal piece, Reid said she drew from a recent personal experience in which her friends were all struggling during a particularly stressful week. All the people Reid said she talked to during this week expressed the difficulties they were facing, which Reid's oil on canvas painting displays and reflects on.



Senior Lauren Reid poses with her piece that reflects people exploring the highs and lows of emotional exhaustion.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

"It's about how we have presentable mental masks to each other," Reid said. "It's about taking those mental masks off ... being in emotional instability together."

Reid's large painting depicts figures emerging and disappearing within the picture plane, including abstract imagery of human bodies. She said the concepts in her piece are similar to much of her other art, with a theme of humans connecting with each other and understanding life as a collective experience. She uses many bright colors, faces and bodies to express herself.

Sophomore art major Jack Hassett was selected by a student in the seminar class to have his art shown in the exhibition.

"I think [art] is very cathartic," Hassett said. "Art allows me to express myself in ways that I wouldn't be able to normally."

Hassett said his piece is a juxtaposition of one of Ithaca's gorges. His visual piece symbolizes the hopefulness for the future ahead with the city landscape blending into the natural environment.

"The ability to create something visual, and then show that to someone," Hassett said. "It makes conversation a little easier."



From left, senior Lauren Reid, junior Dylan Zink and sophomore Luke Asente are students in the Ithaca College Department of Art. They helped to display sophomore Leanna Yacilla's painting Dec. 2.

LAUREN LEONE/THE ITHACAN

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# Broadway star invited to speak with IC Showchoir

BY MIKE ROSS

The Ithaca College Showchoir welcomed Tony-nominated Broadway actor Grey Henson, who has starred in roles like Damian from “Mean Girls” and Elder McKinley from “The Book of Mormon,” to a meet-and-greet via Zoom Dec. 2.

Students met in the James J. Whalen Center for Music, Room 2105 for approximately one hour of conversation with Henson. Henson’s Q&A was part of IC Showchoir’s “Night with Broadway” series. The next Q&A in the series will feature Christy Altomare, best known for her role as Anastasia in the musical of the same name.

Junior Linnea Carchedi, president of IC Showchoir, said the series started last year during the COVID-19 pandemic when students were attending classes remotely.

“We found this website called Broadway Plus. They organize programming with different Broadway stars,” Carchedi said. “Last fall we did four Q&As with different Broadway stars in the fall, and four more in the spring.”

High attendance rates for the events and positive feedback on Zoom led IC Showchoir to continue the series after students returned to campus.

IC Showchoir usually chooses which actors to contact based on the popularity of the shows they are in. Previous guests include former “Wicked” cast member Kara Lindsay

and Kevin Chamberlin, who is best known for his role as Bertram on Disney Channel’s 2011 children’s show “Jessie.”

Henson was invited to talk with students about his career and college experience, speaking primarily about his time in the 2020 musical “Mean Girls,” adapted from the cult classic 2004 film by Mark Waters. Henson said the show holds a special place in his heart because unlike his time in “The Book of Mormon,” which began its Broadway run in 2011 with Rory O’Malley as McKinley, Henson was the first actor to play his “Mean Girls” character’s role on Broadway. Henson also spoke about working closely with famous actress and comedian Tina Fey, as Fey was closely involved with the show and coached him through his role as Damian.

“I don’t normally get starstruck by famous people,” Henson said. “But there’s some part of her I felt so comfortable with. She’s nothing like her character on ‘30 Rock’ Liz Lemon, she’s so reserved and put together, yet still warm.”

Henson’s time in “The Book of Mormon” also included some celebrity mentorship, as the show’s creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone worked closely with the cast. Parker and Stone are best known for creating the popular animated comedy series “South Park,” which has been airing since 1997.

“Trey and Matt were great. They were so involved with the show



Ithaca College Showchoir invited Broadway star Grey Henson to join a virtual conference for an open Q&A with the college community Dec. 2 at the James J. Whalen Center for Music.

KEVIN YU/THE ITHACAN

from the beginning, it’s like their baby,” Henson said. “They were always present for rehearsals and working to make the show as good as possible.”

Carchedi said she believes the benefit of the Q&As is the advice Broadway stars give to theater students and Broadway fans.

“One cool thing about these events so far is how genuine these artists have been,” Carchedi said. “Artists even offer to look at videos of students’ performances, they build really genuine connections with us.”

Freshman Sam Wurdemann attended the Q&A and has been to other “Night with Broadway” events in the past. A film, photo and visual arts major with a passion for musical theater, Wurdemann said the ability to talk to such big stars is inspirational and valuable.

“Damian was always my favorite character, so when my friend told me about this event I thought ‘Wow, I have to RSVP while I still can!’”

Wurdemann was able to ask his question regarding doubts

Henson has experienced while following his passion, directly to Henson, turning the Q&A into a personal conversation.

“I knew I wanted to ask him about the moments in his career when he had doubted himself,” Wurdemann said. “He gave me a really good answer about how all performers feel that way at times, we had a great conversation about it.”

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# Student musicians rebuild Ithaca College music culture

BY EVA SALZMAN

On a windy Friday night in December, junior Wallace Petruziello took the make-shift stage in a group of students’ apartment alongside seniors Justin Lindsay, Gabe Levin and Peter Jensen to perform as Library of Egress. The group played for a crowd of enthusiastic Ithaca College students — for the first time in almost two years.

What may look like a regular college party from the outside is what regular performers and attendees call a house show — a deeply influential and communal aspect of the music culture at the college. For years, off-campus houses have hosted student bands from the college to perform for their eager, supportive peers. These performances gave growing bands the opportunity to perform live and to build a following before branching out into the local music realm. But the ever-expanding scene came to a halt when the COVID-19 pandemic sent students home in March 2020. Groups like Library of Egress were forced to put their careers on pause, until a group of students hosted the first organized house show since February 2020 on Dec. 3.

Petruziello said the band hit its stride right before the pandemic began. He emphasized the importance of the most recent show in getting the band back on its feet.

“The only way to keep a scene alive is if there’s people that really take

initiative to make it happen,” Petruziello said. “And that’s why it was so great, it ended up being the best night of the semester. I felt like I was at Ithaca College again, the same way I did as a freshman.”

Lindsay said he worried that with the absence of house shows, music students wouldn’t be inspired to form bands anymore.

“[House shows] fuel the music scene here and they inspire kids to start their own bands,” Lindsay said. “A huge part of [shows] is just inspiring the next generation of musicians here.”

More well-known student groups like Quail were able to gain a following at house shows before the pandemic hit. Because of this, Quail was well established enough to perform at local venues like The Haunt in February 2020 — but newer groups haven’t been so lucky.

Junior Athena Rajnai said they teamed up with Petruziello to form the duo Vestments after the COVID-19 pandemic began. Rajnai said that because of the lack of house shows, Vestments has not gotten any opportunities to perform live. Rajnai also said they frequently attended house shows during their freshman year, and as a student in the School of Music, has watched older student bands build their fanbase through these performances.

“If you didn’t play house shows or anything before that, you don’t really know who your audience is going to be,” Rajnai, singer and



From left, juniors Wallace Petruziello and Athena Rajnai make up the music duo Vestments. The band has not had any opportunities to perform live this semester.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

guitarist in Vestments, said. “[Shows] give you a reputation within the college community that is within the greater Ithaca community and people will want to come see you because ... you have a reputation.”

Petruziello said that although there have been on-campus opportunities to perform, they are a rare occurrence and don’t offer the same culture as house show performances do. Petruziello said that Library of Egress performed at an on-campus event called “Terrace Rocks” in Fall 2019, but that the event has not offered live music since then.

As an attendee and a performer, Rajnai emphasized the role that house shows have in bringing students together.

“I think students need to build a sense of togetherness a little more sometimes, especially between performers,” Rajnai said. “Everybody’s waiting for the scene to bring itself back, I don’t know if that’s really an option within our time here ... Let’s create opportunities for ourselves so we can rebuild everything and leave something behind for the students who haven’t experienced this yet.”

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# Film tells story behind Gucci empire

MOVIE REVIEW: “House of Gucci” United Artists Releasing



**BY ABBEY LONDON**

Love, family legacy, decadence, betrayal, revenge and murder. These themes take the audience on the whirlwind story of the “House of Gucci.”

“House of Gucci” is Ridley Scott’s adaptation of Sara Gay Forden’s book “The House of Gucci: A Sensational Story of Murder, Madness, Glamour, and Greed.” The film was under the renowned direction of Scott, also known for titles like “Alien,” “Gladiator” and “Hannibal.” The film illustrates the rise and fall of the Gucci empire.

The timeline begins when Patrizia Reggiani (Lady Gaga) meets Maurizio Gucci (Adam Driver) at a party. As the relationship picks up, doubt and concern are raised for Patrizia due to her humble background. Her ambition is her biggest strength and weakness and, in the end, her downfall when she organized Maurizio Gucci’s murder.

Though Lady Gaga has spent her career earning her popstar title, she has garnered a multitude of acting credits along the way, with previous appearances in “A Star is Born,” “American Horror Story,” “Machete Kills” and “Sin City: A Dame to Kill For.”

In “House of Gucci,” the chemistry between Gaga and Driver is kismet. Both actors beautifully characterize the all-too-common “date, marry, children, divorce” relationship trope. Driver does a lovely job

convincing the audience of the story, while Gaga truly holds to her Italian accent, feminine energy and raw emotion.

The film has an odd sense of feminism, featuring characteristics of an anti-hero. During press tours, Gaga is quoted saying, “I don’t believe in the glorification of murder. I do believe in the empowerment of women.”

The plotline paints the picture of Patrizia making space for herself within the Gucci dynasty, with little regard for what others think of her. While a ruthless and manipulative character, Gaga’s portrayal holds a sense of empowerment for women.

As for the rest of the cast, there was an attempt to carry out the same Italian accent Gaga holds, but ultimately most fall short. Actors would occasionally break, taking the audience out of the cinematic fantasy.

The most common moments are when Jeremy Irons is on the screen as Maurizio’s father, Rodolfo Gucci. Actor Jared Leto (Paolo Gucci) gives Al Pacino (Aldo Gucci) a run for his money for the strongest supporting actor.

With a runtime of 2 hours and 38 minutes, it’s hard not to get pulled in and out of the film. Toward the end, audiences will become antsy, but focus can be somewhat regained during and after the murder of Maurizio.

Patrizia was dubbed the



Lady Gaga, Adam Driver and Jared Leto dominate the screen in “House of Gucci,” an epic telling of the Italian fashion dynasty.

COURTESY OF UNITED ARTISTS RELEASING

“Vedova Nera (Black Widow)” when she was caught two years after Maurizio’s murder from an anonymous tip. Maurizio’s father must be rolling over in his grave, thinking he predicted that Patrizia was interested in the Gucci name. Maurizio was cast out of the family for some time due to his intended engagement and subsequent marriage to Patrizia instead of listening to his father. Though audiences may never know if

she loved Maurizio or was just in it for the money, the film ends with the judge in her court trial addressing her as Patrizia Gucci.

Staying on brand, Patrizia was able to be put on parole with work release but refused, saying, “I’ve never worked in my life, and I’m certainly not going to start now.”

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# Disney’s latest has top-tier animation and storytelling

MOVIE REVIEW: “Encanto” Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures



**BY AVERY ALEXANDER**

Over the years, Walt Disney Studios has produced many animated films. The company has had its fair share of hits — like “Beauty and the Beast” and “Moana” — and its fair share of misses, like “Chicken Little” and “Home On the Range,” just to name a few. However, its 60th feature-length animated movie, “Encanto,” directed by Byron Howard and Jared Bush, is an undeniable hit.

The film follows the 15-year-old Mirabel (Stephanie Beatriz). She is a member of the magnificent Madrigal family and lives in an enchanted house in Colombia. Every member of the family has been blessed with magical gifts — everyone except for Mirabel.

The film is a masterclass in animation, something audiences have come to expect from Disney. With colorful visuals and smooth, fluid animation that looks unbelievably real on-screen, “Encanto” is just as, if not more visually marvelous as all of the company’s films to date.

This is not to say that “Encanto” blends in with Disney’s body of works, however. Because of its Colombian valley

setting, “Encanto” stands out from the rest.

Not only is “Encanto” an example of diversity in visuals, it is also an example of diversity in storytelling. Disney has multiple white stories under their belt — “Snow White and the Seven Dwarves,” “Cinderella,” “Pinocchio,” “Mary Poppins,” “Alice in Wonderland,” the list goes on. “Encanto” truly makes it seem like the days of monotonous, eurocentric storytelling are over.

All the characters are beautifully designed. Nobody in the Madrigal family looks like another, although they all look related. For once, audiences see brown people who are not all just the same shade of brown and people with naturally curly hair who don’t have the same hair texture.

Also, “Encanto” offers a female-centric narrative. Not only is the main character Mirabel Madrigal a teenage girl, but the Madrigal family itself is a matriarchal unit.

While there are supportive male characters who have very important roles in the narrative, like Mirabel’s younger cousin Antonio (Ravi Cabot-Conyers) and her uncle Bruno (John Leguizamo), it is the



The latest Disney animated film has an emphasis on progressive storytelling.

COURTESY OF WALT DISNEY STUDIOS MOTION PICTURES

young Mirabel who saves the day.

This film demonstrates Disney’s apparent commitment to making visually interesting movies instead of just recycling old concepts that worked before. One element that Disney did recycle, however, was using “Hamilton” creator Lin-Manuel Miranda for song writing. Miranda wrote music for Disney’s other successful animated musical “Moana,” and he brought the characters to life through his masterful music making.

Whether it’s because the company is changing with the times to cater toward more diverse audiences or because the animators have hit their stride with 3D animation, “Encanto” is a fantastic peek into the animation studio’s bright future.

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## POPPED CULTURE

# ‘X-Men’ could lose its mystique

BY AVERY ALEXANDER

I spent a lot of time as a kid reading my dad’s old X-Men comics. When I was in my Japanese comic phase, I tracked down two X-Men manga, one about my favorite X-Men hero, Kitty Pryde, and the other about my second favorite, Wolverine.

I think what drew me to the X-Men was the narrative of feeling othered from the rest of the world. The mutants were discriminated against, treated poorly and perceived as dangerous. As a little brown kid who was bullied for being different, I often felt like an outcast too. Having a franchise that dealt with that subject matter so openly was powerful.

Liking movies is subjective, but when you look at the overall reception of some of these movies, it becomes clear that the X-Men Cinematic Universe has struggled.

The film franchise started in 2000 with “X-Men,” followed by the similarly popular “X2.” Then, we got the critically panned “X-Men: The Last Stand,” and “X-Men Origins: Wolverine” which made so many questionable choices that Deadpool (Ryan Reynolds) went back in time at the end of “Deadpool 2” to virtually render the entire film obsolete.

Next was a string of well-received offerings — “X-Men: First Class,” “The Wolverine,” “X-Men: Days of Future Past” and “Deadpool.” “X-Men: Apocalypse” wasn’t great, “Logan” was spectacular, as was “Deadpool 2.” Then came the disappointing “Dark Phoenix,” followed by the disliked “The New Mutants.”

The X-Men franchise feels inherently dark at its core. After all, one of its main, recurring themes is genocide against mutants. While other films like “Dark Phoenix” attempted to lean into the grittiness, the confusing timeline caused by endless retcons and recasting made those movies hard to enjoy.

Writers have intentionally left out important backstory points like Quicksilver (Evan Peters) being Magneto’s (Michael Fassbender) son. In short, the movies have historically deviated from the stories that made me fall in love with the X-Men in the first place.

Now, after Disney’s acquisition of 21st Century Fox, the X-Men are in the hands of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU), and it’s likely that these superheroes will end up involved with each other.

Trying to tie the X-Men into a universe they were never supposed to exist in will only further obscure the storylines that fans have already lost. How would the MCU justify introducing a new Quicksilver? It wouldn’t be able to, not without making things confusing and convoluted.

However, there is hope. The MCU has been playing with the idea of multiple realities. The upcoming “Spider-Man: No Way Home,” is a film that will include dimension-hopping hijinx and will see previous Spider-Man franchises clashing with the MCU. The only way I can see X-Men working is if the MCU were to introduce them in their own timeline, untouched by the rest of the franchise.

**POPPED CULTURE** is a weekly column, written by Life & Culture staff writers, that analyzes pop culture events. Avery Alexander is a senior English major. Contact her at aalexander2@ithaca.edu.

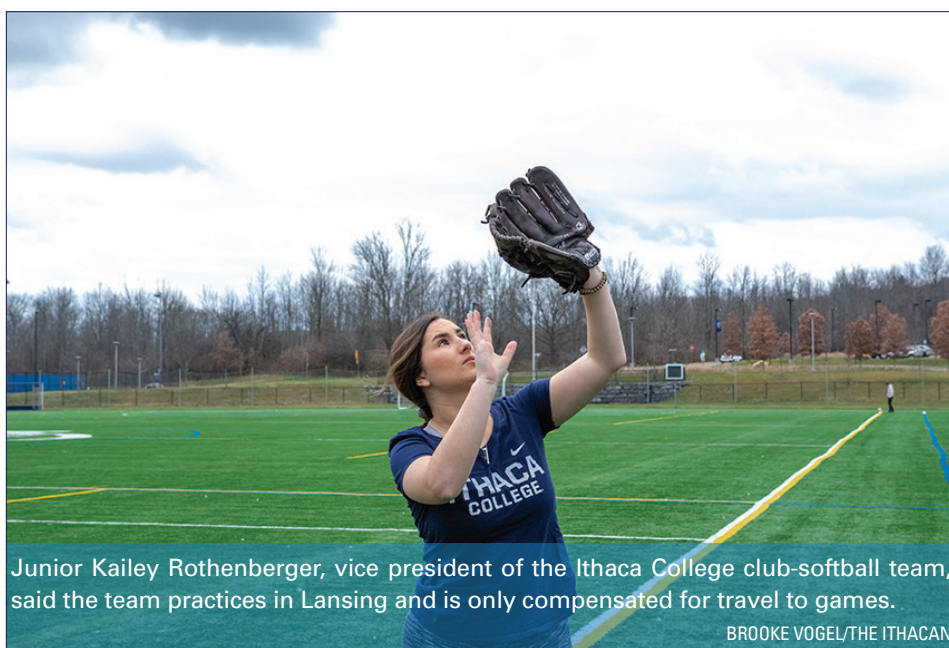


# REDUCTIONS CAUSE DIVIDE



THOMAS KERRIGAN/THE ITHACAN  
ILLUSTRATION BY MALIK CLEMENT

## Club sports have concerns over resources



Junior Kailey Rothenberger, vice president of the Ithaca College club-softball team, said the team practices in Lansing and is only compensated for travel to games.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN

BY TOMMY MUMAU AND ARLA DAVIS

Club sports play an integral role in the lives of many Ithaca College students, giving them the opportunity to further pursue their passion for athletics. However, many club-sports members have concerns that the Office of Campus Recreation is unable to properly meet the needs of these clubs because of a lack of resources, funding and staff members.

The Office of Campus Recreation manages a total of 39 clubs, including 27 competitive club-sports teams. There are more clubs for students to participate in than varsity sports, as the college has 25 varsity teams. The clubs are overseen by Lauren Hoffman, program coordinator for Recreational Sports, and Sean Reilley, associate director of Recreational Sports. Both Hoffman and Reilley are the contacts for around half the groups, as Reilley primarily aids 19 clubs and Hoffman supervises 20 clubs.

The program also had a third staff member prior to the pandemic, Bradley Buchanan, former assistant director for Intercollegiate Athletics and Recreational Sports. Buchanan retired from the college in May 2021, but had not worked with club sports since the 2019–20 academic year. Senior Brady Elster, president of the men's club-lacrosse team, said that while he believes Reilley and Hoffman are making a strong effort to accommodate each club, he feels that the program could benefit

from additional staffing.

"[The Office of Campus Recreation staff] is essentially two people, when it used to be three," Elster said. "So I think maybe that is overwhelming or overburdening [Reilley and Hoffman]. ... So I think maybe because of that it's just harder to manage and successfully address each club's needs on a given day, just because they're trying to tackle so much."

Reilley said the exact number of funding dedicated to club sports for the 2021–22 academic year will be determined when the department pays its athletic trainers.

"Relative to our last normal budgeting year, the total amount of money available to club sports has decreased very dramatically," Reilley said. "That's kind of in line and to be expected with the current financial state of the college and just getting things back on track."

While the budget for club sports is significantly lower than previous years, Reilley said he believes that the program has sufficient funding to help each club meet its needs.

"We're not in a place where we wanted to be financially," Reilley said. "[But], we are in a place [where] everyone's going to be able to have what they need for the rest of the year."

Many clubs also expressed concerns that the program is unable to provide each club with sufficient practice time. Elster said there were multiple occasions in which his team was unable to practice at the Athletics and Events Center because another club-team's practice

took precedence. He recalled an instance in which the rugby club's regular practice field was in poor condition due to weather and the club was in season, displacing the men's lacrosse club from its practice facility.

The clubs utilize several of the college's varsity facilities, including Higgins Stadium, Glazer Arena and the Kelsey Partridge Bird Natatorium. The programs also have access to multiple fields, like Emerson Field and Yavits Field. He said the program works to distribute facilities to the clubs that are most in need.

"While we do have a lot more space available to us than some campus recreation programs, it's never going to be enough," Reilley said. "More is always better. What we've tried to do is prioritize in-season clubs, those that are actively competing in their primary season for first priority for scheduling."

While on-campus facilities are accessible for many clubs, not all of them are. In order for club softball to be able to practice on an actual softball field, junior vice president Kailey Rothenberger said the team has to commute to a facility in Lansing every Friday. She said that while the club can practice at Yavits Field other days of the week, it is not the same as being on a proper field. Rothenberger also said the upperclassmen in the club are responsible for driving teammates to and from practice, and the club is only

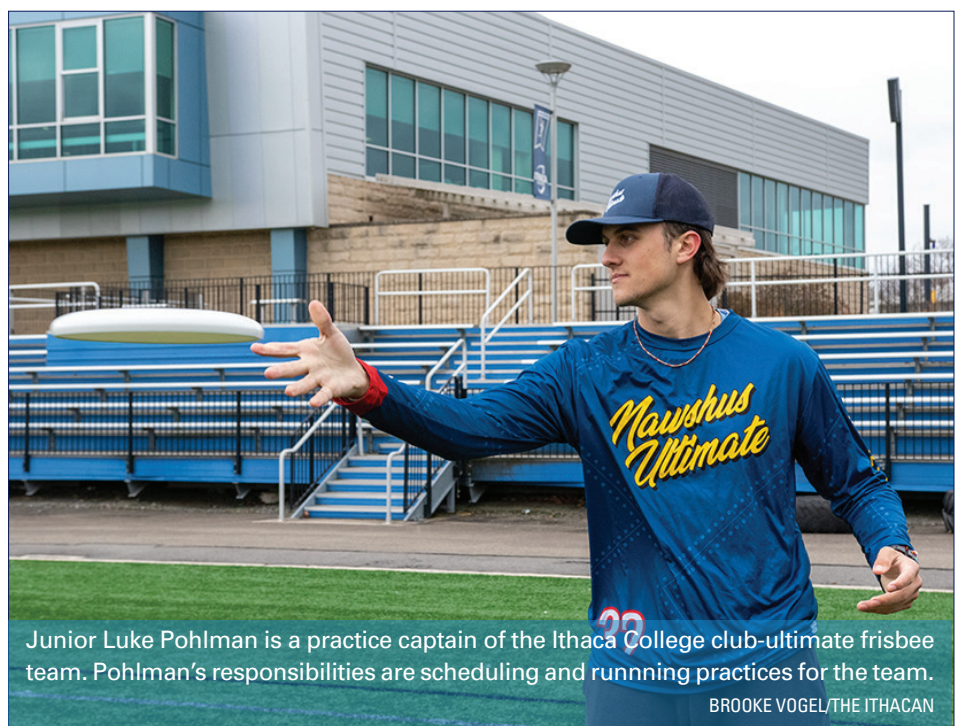
compensated for gas money to home games.

"Every time we drive to practice, that's just on us," Rothenberger said. "It's just the role of the older people on the team, like when you get to be older that's just expected."

Junior Luke Pohlman is a practice captain, which means he is in charge of running and scheduling practices for the ultimate frisbee club. He said his team has also been facing challenges with getting field time at Higgins Stadium, where the team usually practices. However, ultimate frisbee is considered an off-season sport right now because its main season is in the spring. Pohlman added that if the team is going to get field time, it often doesn't find out until the night before — or even just a few hours prior to — the allotted time. He said this can be frustrating and feels as though club sports are not taken seriously.

"We all get the impression we are an afterthought," Pohlman said. "I don't want to speak for the other club teams, but I think that's kind of the general gist. I see a lot of value in varsity sports ... but I also see a lot of value in club teams and the value they add to the campus community."

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Junior Luke Pohlman is a practice captain of the Ithaca College club-ultimate frisbee team. Pohlman's responsibilities are scheduling and running practices for the team.

BROOKE VOGEL/THE ITHACAN



# Three wrestlers earn first-place titles in brackets

BY ROCCO DI MAIOLO

As the Ithaca College wrestling team wrapped up the first half of the season, three members of the wrestling team brought home first place at the New York State Championships. Senior Eze Chukwuezi, juniors Matt Beyer and Travis Jones were each first place winners in their respective weight classes Nov. 20. While this was Beyer's first title of his collegiate career, Chukwuezi and Jones took home New York state titles in 2019. Jones has tallied four titles, and Chukwuezi has won eight titles. Chukwuezi's 2019 title came at a weight of 184 pounds, 13 pounds lighter than his weight class in this tournament. The senior won the 197-pound title and said this tournament helped him improve his competitive mindset. "Coming out ready to wrestle in all three periods instead of waiting a little bit until the third or the second to really turn it on," Chukwuezi said. "I feel like if I turned it on earlier then a lot of those matches wouldn't be as close as they were." Chukwuezi said it helped that he did not have to go through the feeling of a break between periods, and he is happy that his hard work during the offseason has paid off quickly. He added that the biggest area of improvement for him thus far is going into each match with an organized approach and a well-structured game plan. "I don't think I'm the most

technical wrestler in the country, but I know that I [have a better] game plan than anyone in the country," Chukwuezi said. "Just knowing to have an executed plan, not making mistakes, not letting the guy take me down and picking my shots wisely going into matches, I know I'm just in a much better spot than anyone else I compete with." As Jones earned the first-place title in the 141-pound bracket, he said he worked to keep his composure throughout his matches. In his preparation, he also attempted not to over-train and to maintain his focus. "For me personally, I get super nervous before almost every one of my matches," Jones said. "I just have to clear my head and basically just pep-talk myself the whole time." Beyer won his first career New York State Championship that week-end, competing in the 149-pound weight class. He said he is confident that the first place accolade sets a good tone for himself and the rest of the team going forward. "We have a good, put together team right now, and a team that's looking to win titles later in the season," Beyer said. "So it's nice to have like a few tournament wins behind it, so now we can really go and just continue to build on it." The wrestlers also had much praise for head coach Marty Nichols, who is currently in his 26th season with the Bombers. Chukwuezi said Nichols adds much strategy to each



From left, juniors Travis Jones, Matt Beyer and senior Eze Chukwuezi each won titles at the New York State Championships on Nov. 20 in Cortland. Both Jones and Chukwuezi won championships in 2019.

RICHEL MORRIS/THE ITHACAN

close match, noting that he is very good at studying the flow of the match and knows exactly what to do in crucial moments. Beyer said his progression as a wrestler was aided by how Nichols and the rest of the coaching staff have helped him improve in tactical areas of his matches that he struggled with in the past. "Coach Nichols has been focusing on a lot of different positions with me this season," Beyer said. "Stuff that I used to make mistakes with in the past made huge improvements with now, especially on my feet and the neutral position and a lot of my hand

fighting. Me and coach have been going over a lot of different things, as well as Coach Ricardo, Coach Dafinee and Coach Israel. So, all of them really played a big role in helping me figure out a good game plan every time I go out there." Jones said there are technical aspects of wrestling that he learned, which he believes will benefit him for the second half of the season after wrestling four matches in the tournament. "That experience of knowing during the match what worked and what didn't work and what I need to work on," Jones said. "For me,

there was a little weakness that was exploited and now we're working on it. So definitely having that experience is super useful and I'm glad that it happened now so that won't be to my detriment at the big show at nationals." With the winter break approaching, the Bombers will have the next month off to prepare for their next tournament, which begins at 9 a.m. Jan. 7 at the Budd Whitehill National Duals at Lycoming in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

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# IC Esports club working to reach the postseason

BY CONNOR GLUNT

Following a second-place finish in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) 2021 Fall Invitational, IC Blue, the Ithaca College Esports club team that participates in competitive League of Legends tournaments, has its sights set on a bid to the national tournament this spring. The Ithaca College Esports club was founded in March 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic and began competing in tournaments in Spring 2020. Since the club and team's formation, IC Blue has accumulated an 87-52 record over the span of eight League of Legends Tournaments. League of Legends is an online multiplayer battle arena video game that has competitive tournaments played both semi-professionally and professionally. The team is composed of five players: seniors Matt Krueger, Tenzin Namgyel, Manny Sanchez, Eli Robinson and junior Matt Pulsifer. Sanchez, the IC Blue captain, has played competitive League of Legends since 2015. Sanchez, who used to play soccer and baseball, said he uses Esports as a competitive outlet after injuries steered him away from participating in other sports. Since he joined the team during his sophomore year, he has had the ability to build the roster for IC Blue and watch the team grow each semester. "When I got here, I was like, 'It would be sick to make a League [of Legends] team, but it didn't exist,'" Sanchez said. "It's been really cool because all of them came in

new... nobody has a super big ego, it's super productive in practice and in games, everyone's just trying to learn and get better." Sanchez said his current role has allowed him to still compete while also taking a step back in a managerial style. As the only member of the team with competitive experience, he has set aside his former aspirations of playing professionally and helped his teammates step up their games. "I got to ... help these guys get a lot better than what we were when we started," Sanchez said. "Now, I think everyone on the team is better than I am, which is saying something." Namgyel said that it has been fun playing with Sanchez during their time with IC Blue, and that he has been a key factor to each player improving. "Each team operates in its own unique way, and finding each nuance and decision each individual player makes instinctively takes a long time," Namgyel said. "What benefits us is that Manny knows a lot about how other organizations, ones with more funding, operate. He knows how they practice and how to both analyze your own performance as well as your teammates.' Since we're self-coached, all students with no paid full-time coach unlike other schools, it's our responsibility to teach ourselves and grow, and Manny's insight on that part of the esports world really helps." The team's spring competition will take place within the ECAC, but Sanchez said he believes the conference will have taken a step



From left, seniors Tenzin Namgyel and Manny Sanchez will look to help the Ithaca College Esports team earn a trip to the national tournament next semester.

ELEANOR KAY/THE ITHACAN

back from last year. He said due to the ECAC being a partner conference, only one team receives a bid to the national tournament. With an anticipated weaker conference, IC Blue's expectations have steadily increased over time. Senior Jared Anderson, a primary commentator for IC Blue, said the team's biggest competition will be against ECAC rival Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute after Farmingdale State College left the conference following its ECAC Fall 2021 Invitational victory. "I feel like our performance really was a good showing for what they can do in the spring," Anderson said. "I know that this group can make the finals and even win it all." The club competes against several colleges that offer athletes scholarships to compete

on its varsity teams. This makes it difficult for the club to maintain a successful team, considering its opponents are able to attract top players. Namgyel said he hopes the college embraces the budding program to help it stay afloat once the majority of the team graduates after Spring 2022. The team already faces an uphill battle in competing against teams that are provided with more resources than IC Blue, but Sanchez said that does not deter the team. "We want to at least make the finals in the spring," Sanchez said. "We made it to the finals [in the ECAC 2021 Fall Invitational], so I think we have to return and do it again."

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Senior Jordan Brown performs an original song at the Senior Semi-Formal on Dec. 2 at IC Square in the Campus Center, which was hosted by the Class of 2022 senior council. Brown performed in between sets by Chris Washburn '08, a local DJ who provided music and entertainment for the final senior class event of the semester.

NOLAN SAUNDERS/THE ITHACAN