



FROM THE POLITY

Opinion: On the Honor Code

For those who missed it, Annapolis Dean Susan Paalman has recently announced plans to implement a student honor code to combat academic dishonesty. While I am highly skeptical of any innovation in the running of the St John's, this one certainly merits consideration. In an institution which professes to be not merely a community, but a true polity, it is appropriate that students should think of themselves as citizens with a real stake in the wellbeing of the College. Since a sense of personal honor and integrity is vital to meaningful citizenship, any system which promotes it should be beneficial to the health of the polity. There is, of course, the matter of enforcement. It might well be asked whether people who are prepared to cheat on their assignments will be phased by lying about doing so. To this problem I propose a two-pronged solution. 1) the creation of a body whose sole purpose is the investigation and punishment of honor code infractions. Since (to my way of thinking) the reason for the creation of an honor code is to foster good citizenship and self-governance, this body would ideally be composed of students or feature students in an executive capacity. Self-government is both an individual and communal exercise.

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CITY PLANS TO BUILD PATH ON COLLEGE CREEK

College Creek Connector would Link Bike Infrastructure Across Annapolis, Cross our Campus

Claiming that College Creek is underutilized, the City of Annapolis seeks to 'activate' it. The city's plan is to connect King George Street to Calvert Street via a boardwalk along College Creek, which would pass under Rowe Blvd and along the edge of St. Anne's cemetery and connect to the trailhead of the West East Express.

On May 9th, Anna Dayton and I spoke with Andrew Romiti, who heads the Campus Planning Committee, about this. The city reached out about 10 years ago, but little came of it, and only reached out again about two years ago. The initial proposal given by Mayor Gavin Buckley and city officials Special Projects/Arts Coordinator Brian Cahalan and Chief of Comprehensive Planning Eric Leshinsky was to cut across what is currently the gravel road between the lower field and water, which was rejected by the College as it would cut the campus in two and fully invite the outside world to come in unhindered. The city went back to the drawing board and in June 2022 came back with the current proposal to accommodate the objections of the College: an elevated boardwalk above the water which would be separated from the campus by a gate. This also met opposition from the College, particularly over concerns about access to the creek from the boathouse. After these two rejections,

Mr. Romiti assumed the proposal was dead,

until only about a week before our meeting, when the city reached out again, showing renewed interest. Knowing now who was in charge and wanting to understand their perspective, we sent emails to Mr. Cahalan and Mr. Leshinsky, who both responded by inviting us to a community meeting on May 30 at the People's Park on Calvert St. A notable proposal offered by Mr. Romiti during these meetings with the City was to cut around Prince George's St., but the Mayor let us know this was rejected as it would have too much opposition, with many businesses on Main St. relying on the parking here.

At the May 30th meeting, we saw this situated within the City's broader plan to make Annapolis less reliant on cars, their specific goal with the C.C.C is to have it connect the Baltimore-Annapolis trail to downtown Annapolis, also planning the 'West-East Express', a bike path parallel to West St.

We had a number of concerns, including the safety of the ducks, light pollution, loss of isolated space, the creek becoming unsafe and the potential inability for freshmen to collect lab samples, which we weren't able to get an in-depth response on from the City at this meeting, so scheduled a meeting with Eric Leshinsky, one of the officials in charge for June 5.

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This Week in Seminar

Freshmen:

- 9/14: Homer, Odyssey, XVII-XXIV
- 9/18: Plato, Meno

Sophomores:

- 9/14: Bible, Psalms (See official list for selections)
- 9/18: Bible, Amos; Jonah; Isaiah 40-55

Juniors:

- 9/14 Milton, Paradise Lost, I-III
- 9/18: Paradise Lost, Books IV; V; VI Argument only; VII Argument, 1-39; VIII

Seniors:

- 9/14: Hegel: Phenomenology of Spirit, Unhappy Consciousness; Reason
- 9/18: Hegel: Phenomenology of Spirit, Conscience and The Beautiful Soul

Friday Night Lecture:

Vital Exuberance: Goethe on What Plants Want by Daniel Carranza

Upcoming Events:

Friday 9/15

- Rosh Hashanah begins at sunset

Saturday 9/16

- 5 a.m. Homerathon, Part II
- 4 p.m. Pan's Labyrinth showing, Mitchell Gallery
- 8 p.m. Sailing Under the Stars, Boathouse
- 9 p.m. Gimme Gimme Disco, Great Hall

Tuesday 9/19

- 7:30 p.m. Homer Trivia with Mr. Nelson, General Hartle Room

Wednesday 9/20

- 4 p.m. Reader's Theater, Agamemnon, General Hartle Room

Honor Code

(Cont. from page 1)

In order to be truly effective, however, this formal rules-based system must be accompanied by an informal relationship-based system which reinforces it. Therefore, we would also need: 2) a vigorous culture of shame regarding academic dishonesty. If the creation of a polity which values honor and integrity is to succeed, it needs to be unpleasant to be dishonorable. It needs to be costly to lack integrity. While I recognize that this may be a somewhat controversial position, a more full-throated defense of the importance of shame will have to wait for a sequel.

Augustus Pananas

College Creek

(Cont. from page 1)

He gave answers to a number of these concerns: any lighting would be dark sky compliant, the College would be able to close a gate which would give access to the bridge at any time, and they’ll need environmental safety certifications for any plan, but the core of the proposal still has its inherent tradeoffs, like the loss of a quiet, isolated space on campus. He estimated that the City is two years from breaking ground, so despite having 65% funding, it’s still a ways off, also shown by our interview with President Demleitner, who said that the President’s office hasn’t received any updates in a year.

William Marchman



Rendering of the proposed College Creek Connector, provided by the City of Annapolis

STUDENT ATTENDS TWO SEMINARS IN ONE NIGHT

“Bear in mind, Sancho, that one man is no more than another, unless he does more than another.” – Miguel Cervantes, *Don Quixote*

Mr. Peter Quinn (Junior Undergraduate, Resident Assistant, Greenwave Captain, Accomplished Cook, Loyal Friend) attended his first seminar, which was scheduled from 4-6, without much fanfare. After all, attending the first seminar of the year is nothing remarkable.

However, when he sat down with the author of this short article after his seminar, neither knew that by the simple act of attending a 4-6, he had begun a great adventure. The author informed Mr. Quinn that he was in fact scheduled to attend her seminar, which was scheduled from 7:30-9:30. After a quick check of mysjc, he confirmed this. His schedule had changed since the morning.

Other students might be compelled to remedy the mistake in the next *Quixote* seminar on Monday, figuring that they had done their due diligence for the day. However, Mr. Quinn is not like other students. He approached this gamely, one might say with a kind of knightly valor, shrugging his shoulders and proclaiming, “Then I guess I’ll just go to two seminars.”

And indeed, he did, and participated well in both of them, a quiet act of heroism that deserves to be known by the college. If the quote that this article opens with is true, then Mr. Quinn may be more than all other men – all other students – on campus. - Georgia Green

DC UPDATE

This week, the St. John’s Delegate Council met twice, on Sunday and Tuesday. The council elected the following representatives to the Student Committee on Instruction: Sophomores Millie Ransohoff and Ian O'Donnell, Juniors Jackson Green and Jack Domanski, and Seniors Hannah Fodor and Dolan Polglaze. They have also continued to hear club budgets, which will be detailed in a budgeting update next issue.

MISCELLANEA

A friend of mine recently sent me a manuscript he discovered, claiming he had unearthed it from the depths of the Underquad. I am always skeptical of such things, especially since I have yet to see conclusive proof of the Underquad’s existence, but having read its contents, I begrudgingly accepted they may be worthy of publications. They include a series of aphorisms, attributed to ‘the Sage of Gorman Street,’ which I shall publish here weekly.

“The poor turn into a multitude; the rich turn into a magnitude. Either way, there is no room for human quality.”

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This was submitted anonymously:

They walk to the quad,

And step on the college seal.

They shan’t graduate.

ABOUT THE ST. JOHN’S COLLEGIAN

The St. John’s Collegian is the weekly newspaper of St. John’s College Annapolis. We work to bring quick and timely coverage of important events going on, to help develop a more informed student body. If you’re searching for more in-depth investigations and reporting, as well as essays, art and culture, check out the Gadfly, our affiliated publication, which is published once every three weeks.

Want to submit an article? We always need more writers, whether for opinion or reporting! Submissions for news articles should be between 300-400 words, while opinion should be kept short at 200 words. Just email enicholskaufman@sjc.edu with your article, and we will work to get it in print! Longer form articles and more in-depth exploration of ideas should go to the Gadfly, which accepts submissions at djnathan@sjc.edu.

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