



Vice Presidents Elected



Vice Presidents John Weaver '21, Caroline Foster '21, and Sunjay Riener '21.

HELEN LIU '22 & TIFFANY YEUNG '22 & RICHARD ZHOU '22 NEWS ASSOCIATES

Lawrentians elected their vice presidents this past Wednesday on an online ballot, appointing John Weaver '21 as Vice President of Academics, Caroline Foster '21 as Vice President of Social Life, and Sunjay Riener '21 as Vice President of Honor and Discipline. The newly elected vice presidents will join Student Body President Soleil Saint-Cyrs '21 on the 2020-2021 Student Council (StuCo).

Weaver's platform focuses primarily on "helping students reacclimate after being away from campus so long." One of the highlights in Weaver's platform is his "Clean Slate Initiative," which allows for the first major assignment in the Fall Term to be pass fail. He believes that it will "lower the stakes when we get back...[by] helping the student body better adjust to campus life rather than going into it full force without having resources to help them."

Another aspect of his plan of action is to introduce various games during school meeting, such as LQ Trivia, a spelling bee, and a twist on "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?"—"Are You Smarter than a Fifth Former?" Weaver believes that the academic achievements of many students are not visible to the student body, and he hopes to promote student visibility so that Lawrentians can see what their peers are accomplishing.

Overall, Weaver said, "I feel like we need to think positive after this pandemic, which split our community [and] the entire world apart... Looking at my platform, it

[will help] us get back in the swing of things at Lawrenceville."

Foster, the current Social Representative of Carter House, focused her platform on "implementing some new things, while at the same time advancing things we already have in place at Lawrenceville." She looks forward to collaborating with all groups on campus to drive participation and enthusiasm in existing and new social activities.

Centered on increasing participation and school spirit, Foster's platform includes the idea of Senior Leaders and "Lite" Homework Weekends. With the goal of upping student attendance, the Senior Leaders would lead the school in support at games and events. The "Lite" Homework Weekends would "ensure that students will not have to choose between studying and supporting their peers [at] social events."

Foster is eager to work with the other members of StuCo, citing that as a reason why she chose to run, "I wanted to run for VP of Social Life to not only to help our school increase school spirit and participation, but to also work with this really special group of students to accomplish so much more." In a broader sense, she said, "It's not just a one-person job; it's something where I am able to collaborate with others and make sure that it's not just my voice but the entire school's voice which is being heard."

Riener's platform for VP of Honor and Discipline is "all about providing the students with as much support as possible." Riener's plans are "realistic and achievable" and include reinstalling Honor Representatives in all of the Houses, promoting transpar-

ency, and identifying and improving problems within the current Honor process.

A main highlight in his hopes of improving the Honor system includes compromising and working with the administration to allow students going through the disciplinary process an optional pass from a mandatory event, like sports or meetings. Riener has already begun to discuss this idea with faculty members.

"I think the whole idea behind that is trying to help a student who is facing trouble during one of the most stressful times of [his or her] lives. The thing that probably stresses [him or her] out the most is Lawrenceville because Lawrenceville doesn't stop; it doesn't wait for anyone. Giving someone a tiny break who could use it and use it well would really help... Making it optional would also help because some people take sports as a time to destress," said Riener.

To promote transparency, he also aims to clarify the School Rules and to "continue the work that Makayla [Boxley '20] has done to help make all the rules as transparent as possible so that nobody gets caught for accidentally violating a [School] Rule."

Overall, Riener says that he is ready to help students understand the Honor system and those going through the Honor process. He emphasized that he is "willing to listen to people who have already gone through this process to help improve our current system," adding that because he has experience with the Honor system and knows how the whole discipline process can impact students, he believes he ready to "support [students] in as many ways as possible."

Capstone: Disenfranchisement, Disinformation, Destablization

AUTRI BASU '23

The 2020 Capstone lecture series continued with an online lecture from Princeton University Professor of History and Public Affairs Julian Zelizer. During his speech, Zelizer spoke about three key crises: disenfranchisement, disinformation, and destabilization. According to Zelizer, "our democratic institutions are not working well" because of these three issues.

Zelizer began by first reminding the audience that these crises, although they have been intensified in recent years, have "been in the making for many years." They are "much grander than who the next president is, and won't be resolved even if there is a dramatic change in power" in the nation.

He then introduced the first crisis, disenfranchisement. According to Zelizer, there has been a recent effort by the conservative movement to introduce new restrictions on voting. These efforts have been largely based on the disproven notion that widespread voter fraud exists. To him, this justification is "the current version...of weapons of mass destruction," referring to the false pretenses under which the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003.

Zelizer specifically blamed these changes on the 2013 Supreme Court Ruling Shelby County vs Holder, which struck down two parts of the 1965 Voting Rights Act that prevented certain states from instituting new restrictions on voting without federal approval. By the 2014 midterms, 14 states, mostly with Republican legislatures, had introduced new restrictions on voting, since higher turnout has been shown to benefit Democrats.

The topic then shifted to disinformation. Zelizer noted that since the 1987 repeal of the Fairness Doctrine, an act which required news outlets to broadcast both sides of a political story, the news media has

begun to segment its audience based on political affiliation. With the rise of social media, it has also become a widespread practice to spread fake news due to a lack of editorial standards.

In recent times, there has also been "a systematic attack on expertise itself" in areas such as climate change and the ongoing pandemic. Activists such as the Koch Brothers have attacked climate regulation not on the basis of finding a solution to global warming but rather on questioning the existence of climate change itself. Activities like this have translated into politicians dismissing accepted facts to push their political agenda.

Lastly, Zelizer spoke about destabilization, which is "the way in which partisan polarization...undercuts [the government's] ability to maintain a system of checks and balances." He explained how the amount of centrist politicians in Congress has declined, while each party is enforcing rigid ideological coherence within. Because of this, Congress has stopped keeping the executive branch in check; for example, Presidents Bill Clinton and Barack Obama both appropriated their executive power to pass legislation when it could not get through Congress. This has hurt each party's ability to compromise and pass bipartisan legislation.

Reflecting on the lecture, Elaine Wang '20 said that she had already noticed many of these issues, but Zelizer "was pointing out very specific laws and movements that actually catalyzed those changes," which helped her further understand the causes and repercussions of these problems.

Makayla Boxley '20 believed that in order to address these crises, "it is going to take a step outside what we see as normal, because these problems define our normal right now." She also mentioned that there may not be reform in the immediate future due to candidates' main focuses being implementing their agendas.



Zelizer spoke to members of the V Form Capstone class. Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

The Flaws and Failures of U.S. Healthcare



Tiara McKinney '21 and Ndeye Thioubou '21 discuss how COVID-19 has highlighted the flaws of the U.S. healthcare system.

Gingered Peach: Effects of Shutdown

Ndeye Thioubou '21 speaks with Gingered Peach owner on the economic impacts of the COVID-19 shutdown.



NCAA Reverses Player Endorsements

Perri Kitei '21 evaluates the NCAA's new policy regarding an athlete's ability to receive compensation for endorsements.





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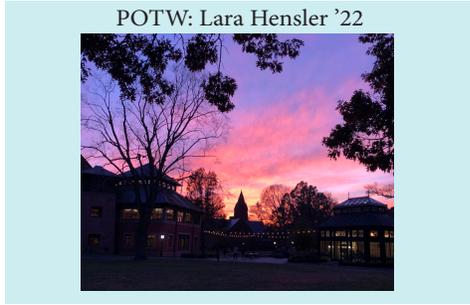
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CORRECTIONS

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Editorial
Improving Faculty Diversity

Diversity and inclusion. We often hear these two words around campus and they have been at the center of many speeches and events planned by both student leaders and the administration itself. It's undeniable that Lawrenceville emphasizes the importance of having a diverse student body; however, creating a community with a breadth of cultures and backgrounds requires more than just focusing on students themselves. Ultimately, the diversity of faculty members should mirror that of the student body in order for more of us to feel fully supported on campus.

increasing faculty from different ethnic and racial groups will ultimately serve to benefit our community. An insufficiently diverse faculty will hinder the development of student confidence, mental health, and a sense of belonging. Lawrenceville does have a wealth of support systems to ensure the mental wellbeing of its students, but in reality, the needs of a diverse community are nuanced. Oftentimes, speaking to an adult who can relate to our cultural troubles can bring us more comfort than if we simply talk

cause we have different sorts of role models to look up to. If students don't see members of their own race, culture, ethnicity, or any other attribute of their identity represented in certain fields of study, they are bound to feel somewhat discouraged and will be less likely to pursue that career path, especially if it is unheard of in a student's community. Our teachers are the gateway to the world of academia and they play a pivotal role in our future academic endeavors. A diverse faculty will help students of minority backgrounds pursue the careers they are passionate about, even if these careers are in fields traditionally dominated by other groups.

Our present school statistics demonstrate that an active and expanding effort to seek faculty diversity is still needed.

At the end of the day, a more diverse faculty will not only encourage Lawrentians to pursue their interests in less prevalent fields of study but it will also allow us to feel more comfortable at school. Knowing that we have someone who truly understands our personal and culture-specific struggles will reassure us that we are supported and heard, simultaneously alleviating some of the many pressures we may feel in daily life, such as conforming to our own communities' standards. Although the School should not hire members for the mere sake of appearance, there are likely plenty of educators out there from minority backgrounds who are extremely qualified. The entire Lawrenceville community should take it upon itself to call for concrete action in advancing the cause of a more diverse faculty in order to better the experience of the entire student body.

First, it must be made clear that this is not a criticism of the existing faculty at Lawrenceville. Our teachers are capable and intelligent not only in the classroom itself, but as coaches on the fields, advisors in the houses, and mentors throughout our Lawrenceville experience. It is understandable that the need to find people who can not only seamlessly step into multiple roles at once while also being excellent in their profession presents significant challenges when seeking diversity. Nevertheless, despite these roadblocks, our present school statistics demonstrate that an active and expanding effort to seek faculty diversity is still needed. While around 50 percent of our student body is comprised of people of color, only around ten percent of the faculty represent minority groups. Moreover, although about eight percent of Lawrentians are South Asian, there are no faculty members who come from such backgrounds. Lowering the drastic disparity between these numbers by

to a professional. While the Harkness method encourages us to speak our minds, many of us, understandably, are not openly vocal about personal issues and even less so about issues pertaining to our identities. Thus, a student would greatly benefit from being able to turn to a faculty member of the same culture or background. Many of us carry the baggage of certain family issues or conflicts unique to their communities that outsiders, regardless of extensive research or insight, cannot fully grasp; thus, a faculty member from a similar background could serve as a valuable source of support.

This editorial represents the majority view of The Lawrence, Vol CXL.

Cracking Under Pressure

How COVID-19 Exposes Flaws and Failures of the U.S. Healthcare System

TIARA MCKINNEY '21 & NDEYE THOUBOU '21

Scrolling through social media during quarantine, we came across a post of a woman from New York who had recently lost her sister because hospitals had failed to diagnose her with the coronavirus. Despite her sister's efforts to get tested, she was ignored by healthcare officials, and eventually died, because she came from a lower socioeconomic background. We are living in unprecedented times, and Americans need healthcare now more than ever; however, our own system is failing us. Despite America's status as the wealthiest nation in the world, COVID-19 cases have surpassed one million in number, and deaths have soared to over 65,000, far beyond the figures of many other countries. Moreover, these are only the confirmed cases and deaths—the true numbers are likely higher than this. Although America's healthcare system was struggling to protect its low income citizens even before the pandemic, the global health crisis has truly exposed the underlying inequalities deeply rooted in this system, and the critical need to reform it.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, about 11 million Americans have lost health insurance because they were laid off from work. Nearly half of all citizens depend on their employers for healthcare. Thus, if people lose their jobs, they would have to shell out thousands of dollars for medical treatment, including treatment for COVID-19. According to the Consumer News and

Business Channel (CNBC), in 2018, the average American household spent around \$5,000 in order to gain basic access to privatized health care systems and so that every member maintains their right to live. As a developed nation, Americans pay more than half the amount that other developed nations of the world pay, yet the coverage is not insured. Too much

of the money citizens pay is spent on medication costs (especially brand-name pharmaceuticals), expensive tests and procedures, and administrative costs, causing medical bills to skyrocket.

Moreover, citizens who cannot afford healthcare are hit with a huge decision if they contract COVID-19, as the United States is notorious for overcharging citizens for procedures or medical care. While those with medical insurance do not have to pay the majority of the inflated medical bills, citizens without medical insurance have to pay the full cost. Currently, uninsured Americans infected with COVID-19 could face up to a \$70,000 medical bill to receive a six day treatment. Only those who are financially stable can truly afford healthcare, even during a crisis. The virus has already struck low-income households the hardest, as these are often the people who work in fields that require constant interaction with others; therefore, many low-income in-

dividuals who have contracted the virus are choosing to stay at home because of high treatment costs. Over the past two months, there were likely thousands of Americans who died at home because they are unable to afford visiting a hospital. Healthcare costs should

never be high enough to make people afraid of seeking medical treatment, is a fundamental right that all Americans should be able to enjoy at least a degree of social security. Regardless if low-income can afford the same quality as wealthier citizens, the weakness of the American healthcare system is the disparity of aid for private hospitals versus publicly funded ones. For example, while all New York City

hospitals struggled to obtain resources during the peak of the pandemic, public hospitals were even more deprived of funding and supplies, an issue that is highly ironic considering the number of patients they have to attend to compared to those in private medical centers. During this pandemic, many have

questioned why communities of color have been hit the hardest. Although COVID-19 has been called the "great equalizer," Latinx and black people are much more likely to die of the coronavirus than people of other races. Yet it is the disparity in funding between public and private hospitals that explains why COVID-19 disproportionately affects people of color—the majority of communities of color are lower income and are consequently treated in public hospitals.

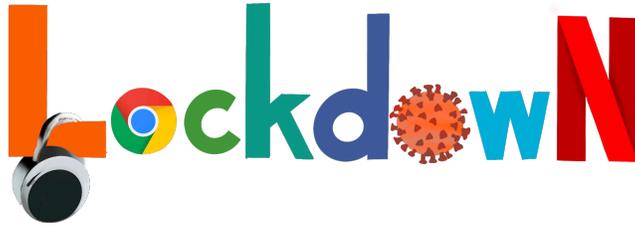
On the other hand, wealthy private hospitals in Manhattan like The Mount Sinai Hospital can utilize their connections to secure aid. For example, the hospital managed to obtain N95 masks, courtesy of Warren Buffet. This access is unfair when compared with the publicly funded University Heights hospital, which resorted to GoFundMe in a desperate attempt to get protective

gear. Spain, meanwhile, solved this issue by allowing the government to take federal control of private insurance and private hospitals, guaranteeing that the quality of care in both types of hospitals was equal. This also allowed for more effective and affordable care to be implemented. It's clear that Spain prioritizes the health of all its citizens, but the same cannot be said for the United States—the very nature of the U.S. health system puts those working in and being served by public hospitals in danger. While the pandemic has made these disparities more apparent, these issues are nothing new. There is inequality within the system that will not be solved without healthcare reform.

If the United States does not make a change to its healthcare system, many lower income households will continue to suffer, especially during the current pandemic. In order to make healthcare equal and accessible to all American citizens, the United States needs to change from a privatized healthcare system to a public one which can sustain everyone. According to Bernie Sanders, eliminating tax loopholes, using tax revenue from richer people, and an employer payroll tax could make implementing Medicare For All feasible within the next 10 years. Eventually, the benefits of the program would outweigh the costs and save thousands of American lives. The current American health system harms those who are already marginalized in society. Healthcare for all is not socialism; it is simply a basic human right.



Rania Shah '23/THE LAWRENCE



Pro-Con: On the Purpose and Necessity of Lockdown Measures

Ineffective and Damaging

MICHAEL ZHANG '21

Like all responses to the coronavirus, the choice to lockdown our country has been little more than an educated guess and an expensive one at that. Despite claims that the measure could “flatten the curve,” the true benefits of lockdown guidelines remain unquantifiable without a representative control group or reference model. As we continue to shelter in place, the detriment from the quarantine becomes increasingly clear. Our country is on the precipice of its worst economic fallout since the Great Depression, with investors losing any and all market gains since the 2008 Great Recession. Small and large businesses across the nation have suffered tremendously, with even our very own neighborhood bakery, The Gingered Peach, being pulled to the verge of bankruptcy. Despite the incredible toll it has taken on our country, the quarantine has only failed to significantly prevent the spread of coronavirus, demonstrating that this draconian approach is ultimately not worth the suffering it is causing.

While our community is blessed with not having to worry about bare life necessities, we must consider the millions of Americans living paycheck to paycheck when assessing the effectiveness of our lockdown. This policy has impacted all Americans on a personal level—especially those of a lower socioeconomic status. A hidden cost of stay-at-home orders and school shutdowns is meals for children of poorer families. Over 32 million children across America participate in free or reduced-fare lunch programs. With schools closed, these families are struggling to provide their children three meals a day, an issue that many of us take for granted or even forego for “health reasons”; however, our lockdown has in fact made basic necessities inaccessible to millions. As if this were not outrageous enough, workers across the nation have faced steadily reduced pay as corporations try to stem their losses. The only glimmer of hope those workers have is the \$1,200 stimulus check that Congress promised them, but even those have been delayed as underfunded and overworked government agencies struggle to keep the country afloat. Without proper income, many Americans will struggle to pay for the exorbitant price of healthcare in this nation, whether to treat pre-existing health conditions or even the coronavirus itself. The lockdown risks starving families and may exacerbate minor health issues into long-term burdens for the medical system after the pandemic fades away. These hardships have been caused by government policy, so it should rest upon those same legislators to provide their constituents with a solution.

We are now in a crucial moment of our epidemic, one that will define the progression of coronavirus and the nation for the coming weeks. As the infections appear to taper, Congress is presented with a rare opportunity to learn from other nations and adjust its response to the pandemic in a way that can restore civil liberties while amending the damage caused by our quarantine. By doing so, the U.S. is not only helping its hardest-hit constituents, but also pioneering a hybrid solution that can inspire other nations in their own recovery efforts and return the world to economic stability.

What’s worse, it’s likely that a lockdown was never necessary in the first place. While scientists are still uncertain about the true extent of coronavirus infections, recent studies by two Stanford University labs revealed that far more people have been infected than currently stated, suggesting that the coronavirus is more infectious but less fatal than previously thought. As our detection methods improve and become more widespread, scientists are realizing that most of the now-confirmed coronavirus cases remained undetected for weeks during this lockdown period, suggesting that the virus may continue to spread quickly despite our best efforts. Furthermore, lockdowns have not prevented health systems from failing in cities across the nation, most notably in Chicago and New York, which was the original intent of the safety measure. Thus, even amidst our supposedly ironclad quarantine measures, the lockdown has failed to achieve its primary purpose of stemming the spread of the coronavirus.

And it may not have been the only option. Not all countries have turned towards draconian measures to combat this virulent disease; Sweden, for example, is the only country in Europe to resist a lockdown and opt instead for a “slow burn” approach. Shops have remained open, and citizens are allowed to roam free. This controversial approach has caused an uproar across the globe as citizens petition for their governments to follow Sweden’s example, and for good reason; while the overall effectiveness of Sweden’s strategy is still being assessed, it has certainly prevented an overload of the country’s health system like the ones seen in New York, Italy, and China. Furthermore, this open country strategy combats the spread of COVID while also preserving personal freedoms, a delicate balance that any fair government ought to maintain. Considering the current catastrophe caused by its severe anti-COVID measures, clearly Congress should adopt Sweden’s coronavirus containment model instead of continuing to drain our economy, which may lead to worse consequences in the long run.

We are now in a crucial moment of our epidemic, one that will define the progression of coronavirus and the nation for the coming weeks. As the infections appear to taper, Congress is presented with a rare opportunity to learn from other nations and adjust its response to the pandemic in a way that can restore civil liberties while amending the damage caused by our quarantine. By doing so, the U.S. is not only helping its hardest-hit constituents, but also pioneering a hybrid solution that can inspire other nations in their own recovery efforts and return the world to economic stability.

Saving Lives Above All Else

HELEN LIU '22
NEWS ASSOCIATE

In the past few weeks, thousands have gathered across the United States, toting signs like “Freedom or Death” to protest lockdown orders as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Some have expressed legitimate concerns over skyrocketing unemployment rates and access to essential supplies. Yet many more simply hope to return to “regular life” for convenience’s sake. These demonstrators argue that not only is the virus not as deadly as the government claims, but that the stay-at-home order is an infringement on personal rights.

However, regardless of how upsetting COVID-19’s interference is on daily plans, it is not an excuse for people to endanger others’ health by resisting quarantine.

The lockdown is an absolutely necessary and effective method of preventing the spread of COVID-19, which, according to the existing models and studies, appears to be nearly 10 times as deadly as the seasonal flu. According to a report published by the Imperial College of London, without implementing strategies like lockdowns to reduce the spread of the novel coronavirus, there would have been seven billion infections and 40 million deaths in 2020 alone, overwhelming the U.S. healthcare system. This is due to a combination of COVID-19’s lengthy incubation period and high infection rate—an infected person can unknowingly spread the disease for a longer period of time. As this is an entirely new disease, there is no natural immunity and no vaccine, increasing the chances of contracting the virus and spreading it.

In times such as these, we can look to other countries like Taiwan and South Korea which have been praised as model nations against the virus. While their quarantine regulations have been strict, their success is clear proof of a lockdown’s functionality. In contrast to the U.S., where death counts

are numbered in the tens of thousands despite the White House’s repeated downplay of the virus, Taiwan has taken active measures to contain the virus with the full support of its people, resulting in only six deaths out of the population of 23 million. Furthermore, thanks to these lockdown measures, these countries have been able to return to a higher degree of normalcy than

the rest of the world. South Korea has planned to resume classes due to confidence in their containment and tracing abilities. Amazingly, schooling, offices, and restaurants have resumed normal operations in Taiwan with minimal risk of additional cases. These countries’ actions reveal that if done correctly, lockdowns aid in a swift economic recovery rather than hinder it.

From the market’s perspective, the U.S. and much of the rest of the global community has experienced a severe economic decline. In late March, President Donald Trump himself tweeted, “We can not let the cure be worse than the problem itself,” hinting at the reassessments of restrictions. His statement could not be any less disturbing, especially when it is already a common reaction. The notion that American deaths are the lesser of two evils in comparison to the tanking economy is inconsiderate to hundreds of thousands of Americans susceptible to COVID-19 as well as their family members. Moreover, the argument that a possible economic recession may lead to more suffering and deaths in the long-run is an over-exaggeration of how unemployment is hurting individuals. By allowing citizens to return to their daily lives, the government would be jeopardizing the lives of many Americans who would be otherwise safe if the lockdown was in place. Ultimately, prioritizing the economy over quarantine would impose a greater negative impact on the country, because there are many possible ways to maintain people’s livelihoods financially, but a lockdown is the only plausible means to halt the spread of the virus.

Recently, such measures to address unemployment have begun to transpire, as growing concerns over the economy increase. The Internet has made it possible for the majority of white-collar Americans to do their work safely from home, thus maintaining their jobs. As for blue-collar workers, the U.S. economic

relief package has been notoriously unable to aid a number of paycheck-to-paycheck workers and struggling businesses, many of which did not properly receive packages. In other countries like Denmark, however, their governments have been directly paying businesses to maintain their payrolls to their employees to avoid the mass layoffs similar to those occurring in the U.S. The Danish government has recently told private companies that it would pay 75 percent of their employees’ salaries, and although aggressive, it could be the solution to preventing another Great Depression for the U.S. After all, allowing large companies to go bankrupt and employees’ private expenditures to be ruined would take far longer to recover. Furthermore, this would protect the livelihoods of blue-collar workers without needing a cessation of the lockdown and prepare the nation for a full economic recovery in the future.

Moreover, even if our government decided to go through with ending the lockdown, without a healthy population, there simply will not be a healthy economy. Behind the American economy is an intricate system of employers and employees working around the clock, and the virus adds several variables to the economic equation — how could companies prosper with the majority of its workforce either sick themselves or attending unwell family members? With the government busy keeping the swamped healthcare system afloat, how can it focus its resources on anything else?

Now more than ever, we need Congress to guide this nation back from this catastrophic pandemic. An immediate lockdown would only lead to a resurgence in COVID-19 cases, overwhelming hospitals. We, as a collective community, need to continue with isolation measures in order to keep the daily number of disease cases at a manageable level for medical personnel. As for those struggling to maintain their income,

our government should learn from other succeeding nations and play a stronger role in maintaining citizens’ livelihoods. It’s not too late to implement new policies to help the economy, prevent long-term issues, and guide the U.S. towards normalcy. Consequently, the lockdown remains our best solution.



Sara Chiang '23/THE LAWRENCE

The Meaning of Spirit: Brown on What Matters to Him

HELEN LIU '22
NEWS ASSOCIATE

This past Tuesday at 7:00 PM, the Religious Life Council (RLC) hosted Mathematics Master Timothy Brown, Ph.D. H'84 '04 P'04 '08 for this term's installment of "What Matters to Me and Why," a series of talks in which staff and faculty speak about what is important to them.

According to Co-President of the RLC Danica Bajaj '21, this event "aims to bring light to stories of faculty members on campus that you wouldn't hear otherwise." Bajaj selected Brown for this term's lecture because she knew he was retiring at the end of this year. According to Bajaj, "it's really hard to have your last term be virtual, so I was thinking that this would be a nice way to make him have a special ending."

Brown opened the evening by describing his view of the world. "I'm a resolutely secular person clinging firmly...to my doctoral training as an ecologist and evolutionary biologist as a basis for explaining how the world is the way it is. I'm utterly comfortable with randomness and natural selection as a creative force," said Brown. However, he acknowledged that in his talk, he will eventually need to reference the word 'spirit,' which he described as "some form of serenity or peace" that he



Brown addressed members of the Lawrenceville community on Tuesday, May 5.

has been able to experience.

Brown then transitioned into his time here at Lawrenceville and all the people he has encountered. Speaking to each of his students, Brown said, "I have an enormous pleasure in seeing you all grow in the few years you're here. You all discover so much about the world, about other people, and about yourselves."

He then continued to speak about why he decided to teach math. According to Brown, he had "an agenda that was partly political. Most of [his] generation [were] convinced that mathematics was something that only a small proportion of

people...were interested in." Not learning math was "almost a point of pride because it meant you were somehow more creative and less coldly rational," Brown said. He believes that this "misguided attitude" is a large reason why his generation has left a huge mess for the next generation to clean up. "You're going to need math to fix things. Climate change, election reform, income inequality, poverty, racism. There are statistical and mathematical truths about these issues that more people need to understand."

On a less serious note, aside from the topic of his profession, Brown said that laughter is something that

Ankita Suri '21/THE LAWRENCE

is important to him. "Those of you who have been in my classroom know this already. I need to get laughs for my spirit," he mentioned. Brown added that one of the reasons why he wanted to teach was because "every day, [he has] a captive audience that enjoys laughing. Math can be a hard sell, and when people think they get a chance to laugh, it's a lot easier to come to class, read it, and learn something too. So hopefully, [he's] contributing to people's well-being as well as satisfying [his] own needs."

For Brown, what really feeds his spirit is experiencing awe. On what inspires him, Brown said, "I admit,

ideas in mathematics and statistics sometimes move me more than you think. Music can inspire all as well." However, above all, he is most drawn towards the natural world. He said, "I grew up in a small town in Maine...When I was on the water or in the mountains, I was filled with a sense of ease that I don't feel anywhere else."

Brown ended his speech by contemplating the greater ripples of his action. Leaving his audience with a closing statement, he said, "Everyone talks about being in the moment. Those times are usually fleeting...All those moments I've described...about...are times when I [lived] in the moment. I know other people find those feelings elsewhere...but those moments nourish your spirit, whatever spirit is. Find what works for you, and keep at it."

Reflecting on Brown's speech, Kelsey McAlister '20 said, "Dr. Brown's ingenuity as he explored math's purpose in all of our lives sparked me. It was interesting to hear how math has transformed to serve a key role in disciplines such as government and policy today... My favorite part, however, was the question and answer dialogue after his talk because those thirty minutes truly encapsulated just how much of an impact Dr. Brown has had on this community."

Bagaria '20 Wins Frezza Scholarship

SABRINA YEUNG '22

Anika Bagaria '20 has been selected as the 17th recipient of the Robert Mammano Frezza Memorial Scholarship. The award is granted each year to a V Former who has shown personal ambition and a strong moral force of character. It covers \$6,000 of the student's college tuition fee annually, an aggregate of \$24,000 over the course of their four years at college.

After being nominated for the scholarship by a faculty member and then selected as a finalist by the Nominating Committee, Bagaria completed a questionnaire consisting of ten essay questions. After the questionnaires were read by the Selection Committee, Bagaria was chosen as the recipient of the scholarship.

Reflecting on her receiving the scholarship, Bagaria said, "Being named the recipient of this year's Frezza Memorial Scholarship truly means a lot to me. Bob Frezza was an absolutely incredible individual who was deeply loved by the Lawrenceville community and left a great legacy here. It's an honor to be recognized for a scholarship in memory of him. I'm very grateful."

In terms of how she plans to use the scholarship money, Bagaria said, "The scholarship will contribute to my college tuition, which will free up other opportunities and allow me to devote money towards further pursuing my independent interests."

Bagaria will attend Harvard College next year where she hopes to concentrate in government or

economics while further pursuing her studies in history and Spanish. During her time at Lawrenceville, Bagaria has shown commitment to activities both inside and outside the classroom, exhibiting academic and athletic caliber as well as investing many hours in community service and extracurricular activities.

Bagaria is the founder and president of Prevention by Attention, an international non-profit organization with a goal of preventing child trafficking and sexual abuse through interactive health lessons and resources. She is a prefect in Girls Lower and former News Editor of The Lawrence's 139th Editorial Board. Bagaria serves as co-president of Model United Nations Club; the Religious Life Council; Humanitarian Aid Society; Nachale, Lawrenceville's co-ed Indian dance team; and the Hindu Student Organization. Additionally, she is the co-captain of the Girls Varsity Golf Team, of which she has been a member for the past four years.

She is a member of the Heely and Hutchins programs for achievement in history and science, respectively. Bagaria was also a winner of last year's all-school Woodrow Wilson Speaking Competition and the recipient of the Stephens House's Joukovsky Prize for character.

Reflecting on her experience at Lawrenceville, Bagaria said, "Overall, what I've enjoyed the most... is the people and community I've found here...Lawrenceville has been an extraordinarily transformative experience for me."

Hip-Hop Hits Big Red Zoom

JESSICA LI '23

Yee Xin Cher '22 from LCR3W hosted a hip-hop masterclass of her own choreography on Zoom as part of an Inter-Arts Council initiative this past Saturday from 8:30 to 9:30 PM. An experienced dancer and a new choreographer, Cher composed her dance to AJR's "Bang!" and taught it to members of the Lawrenceville community.

Cher began her dance career when she started to learn ballet at around five years old. After coming to Lawrenceville, she has been an active member of dance on campus, partaking in many opportunities such as the Lawrenceville School Dance Collective, Lawrenceville Dance Team, LCR3W, and the Spring Dance Concert.

LCR3W, a hip-hop dance club which Cher taught on behalf of, became active again this year with the help of Kajal Dongre '22 and Cher. They wanted to share their passion for hip-hop and make it more accessible to the community. On the topic of how they changed LCR3W, Cher said, "It was a more exclusive dance group but we're reshaping it to the way we like to learn hip-hop, which is not necessarily to prepare for performances, but really just to learn the choreography for fun and to train and work out."

When choreographing "Bang!," Cher described how there was "a lot of trial and error," and that she had to "replay the song over and over again." Cher has always been interested in choreographing, but she has never gotten the chance to choreograph until now. "Choreographing was honestly pretty hard.



Cher '22 taught her choreography of AJR's "Bang!"

Ankita Suri '21/THE LAWRENCE

I'm used to just learning from a teacher so to have to come up with the steps yourself can be pretty intimidating. However, I try to make sure that I like it and that others will too," she said.

With Cher being in Malaysia, one of the challenges in organizing this masterclass was the time difference; she had trouble getting up at 8:00AM because many of her online classes ran late into the night. In regard to other challenges while teaching the class, Cher said, "I was just nervous because I've never taught a class in real life, let alone...virtually, so I was worried that I might go too fast or too slow...But it turned out it was really fun. I think watching video dance lessons helped. I picked up on some tips professional people made like cutting the piece down to sections, connecting the choreography to music, and giving more specific tips with movements."

Concerning her future plans in

dance, Cher said, "I want to continue to grow as a dancer, take classes, learn more combinations, explore more genres, and hopefully get more chances to choreograph for individuals, pairs, or groups—for anyone really."

Reflecting on her experiences in her first virtual hip-hop class, Yendi Foo '22 said, "I felt like there was a lot of positive energy, even when people weren't speaking and focusing on dancing." As someone who has experienced dance classes at Lawrenceville, Foo compared learning hip-hop to other styles of dance, "In [some] dance classes, you don't get to learn dances immediately because people focus more on technique...With hip-hop you can just jump in and try it out."

Kate McCann '22, who is new to the style, agreed, "I was surprised at how fun it was and the way everyone came together to learn the choreography and figure things out...It was so fun, I would definitely go to another class."

Culture & Commercialization: Demystifying Cinco de Mayo

DANIEL ZHU '23
FEATURES ASSOCIATE

Thousands are gathered on the streets of Puebla, Mexico, to witness the traditional celebrations of Cinco de Mayo. An iconic reenactment of the Battle of Puebla kicks off the annual commemoration, in which citizens dress up as Mexican and French soldiers, donning crimson-red and navy blue uniforms, respectively. They march in unison, carrying flags, bayonets, miniature cannons, and patriotic memorabilia.

Suddenly, the “war” breaks out. Thwarting an aggressive intervention from the French forces, the outnumbered Mexican army emerges victorious against all odds. The French forces retreat from Puebla, and Cinco de Mayo celebrations officially commence. From 20,000 performers parading through Puebla to children dancing to the beat of mariachi music, poblano culture is on full display. Nonetheless, Cinco de Mayo is a celebration of more than just a famous Mexican victory; rather, the holiday serves as an important reminder of a gruesome, but pivotal, turning point in Mexico’s history.

Widely misinterpreted as Mexico’s Independence Day, Cinco de Mayo actually commemorates the Mexican army’s unexpected victory over the French forces of Napoleon III in the Battle of Puebla. In the mid 19th century, Mexico was in substantial debt, mainly due to internal conflict, resulting in President Benito Juárez reneging to pay the debts the country owed to European governments. In response, Spain, France, and Britain sent naval forces



Left: Cinco de Mayo Parade. Right: Battle of Puebla 1862.

to Veracruz, Mexico’s main commercial port, to demand payment. While Mexico ultimately reached a settlement with Britain, leading to the withdrawal of British troops, the French ruler, Napoleon III, took advantage of this opportunity to attempt to conquer the territory. In 1861, the robust, well-armed French fleet entered Veracruz forcing the Mexicans to retreat. Expecting victory, the French forces pressed inland, ultimately arriving at Puebla, a small city in central Mexico. Much to the dismay of the French forces, Juárez was one step ahead of them; he had stitched together an army of 2,000 rag-tag soldiers, consisting of natives and those of mixed-heritage to defend Puebla. Even though his army was outnumbered and significantly less-equipped, the soldiers successfully held off the French invaders, forcing them into retreat. Ultimately, the Battle of Puebla not only allowed Mexico to thwart a French invasion at the time, but also

to protect its sovereignty as a nation.

According to Alexis Gonzalez '22, though Americans tend to view Cinco de Mayo as a grand celebration, the event is seen as more “of historical war that [Mexico] won than a big event.” Growing up in a predominantly Latino community, Gonzalez explained that the holiday was initially a “symbol of empowerment” for those of Mexican heritage in the late 1860s. However, as time passed, Cinco de Mayo’s importance evolved into a distant memory when the early 20th century rolled around. Reminiscing on their childhood, both Jessica Fernandez '22 and Gonzalez recall only exclusively celebrating the holiday as a day set aside by their teachers. Attending a bilingual school at the time, Fernandez said she and her classmates were “taught to celebrate” Mexican culture on Cinco de Mayo rather than focusing on the details of the event itself. The daughter of Mexican immigrants, Natalia Ibarra '20 came



Courtesy of NBC Today/Encyclopedia Britannica

to know of the holiday because she “grew up in America, not because of [her] Hispanic heritage”; she also noted that Cinco de Mayo is “just like any other day” for her family.

The Americanization of Cinco de Mayo began in the late 1980s and 1990s, when marketers in the U.S. capitalized on the rise in Hispanic consumers in the spirits industry. Cinco de Mayo has since evolved into a heavily-commercialized celebration of Mexican culture, subsequently leading to false assumptions about its history. The widespread misconception that Cinco de Mayo is Mexico’s independence day serves as a prime example of the ambiguity surrounding this holiday. Due to commercialization, Fernandez feels that the holiday has “lost its touch” and merely serves as “an excuse to party.” Echoing these sentiments, Marlene Guadian '22 wishes that people understood the holiday’s historical significance, noting that “it’s important to know

what they’re truly celebrating.”

While the holiday originated in Mexico, present-day celebrations primarily take place in Puebla. In fact, Language Master Josefina Ayllón-Núñez lived in Mexico until she was 11, but she had never heard of the holiday as a child. It was only in college when people had asked her, “oh, why don’t you celebrate Cinco de Mayo?” did she realize how widely acknowledged the event was in the U.S. As an undergraduate, Ayllón-Núñez studied abroad and lived with a host family in Puebla. Prior to the main Cinco de Mayo parade, Ayllón-Núñez recalls her host brother practicing baile folklórico—a traditional Mexican dance—at a community museum. In fact, she was informed that many students who were participating in the parade, “El Festival del Aniversario de la Batalla de Puebla,” were excused from a full week of classes to prepare for the parade. “For them, this was a big deal...they really feel pride for the battle that they won against the French,” Ayllón-Núñez said.

Although commercialization has overshadowed the true meaning of Cinco de Mayo, Ibarra believes that Mexican-Americans have had the chance to “celebrate their heritage [in the U.S.] in a way they might not have gotten to.” Despite the circulation of certain misconceptions, Cinco de Mayo has raised awareness for Mexican culture in the U.S., while providing a time for families to commemorate the battle that served as a moral victory for the nation—one that has undoubtedly left a lasting legacy in Mexico’s history.

Inside the Gingered Peach: Staying Afloat Amidst Shutdown

NDEYE THIOUBO '21

The Gingered Peach bakery, fondly referred to as “GP,” is beloved by Lawrenceville students, parents, and faculty alike. Since its founding in 2011, the bakery has become an all-time favorite among members of the Lawrenceville community. From freshly baked almond croissants to warm blueberry scones, most Lawrencevillians have experienced the all-too-familiar excitement of indulging in a classic baked good from GP. Not to mention, the cozy ambiance and welcoming staff make the experience of visiting the bakery all the more enjoyable. Whether you need a quiet place to study, a pick-me-up during finals week, or something to satisfy your sweet tooth, you can count on GP to come to the rescue.

Due to the current COVID-19 pandemic, though, many small businesses, including GP, have been forced to shut their doors. Owner Joanne Canady-Brown created five data-driven phases to prepare for percentage cuts in her business. She initially thought “the five-phase plan would realistically stretch three weeks” and provide her adequate time to institute operational changes. Unfortunately, the rapidly evolving global crisis blindsided her, leading to the business going from “phase one to phase five in a matter of two days.”

First, local educational institutions such as Lawrenceville, Lawrenceville Elementary School, and Princeton University shut down. According to Canady-Brown, “The major

contributing factor [to the escalation in phases] was the moment the schools closed. That was a huge signal that...COVID-19 was a really big health risk.” The situation worsened when wholesalers also shut down, and Canady-Brown received notice of nine confirmed cases of coronavirus in Lawrenceville. With a heavy heart, Canady-Brown ultimately decided to suspend operations, believing that the health and safety of her employees was of utmost priority.

In addition, she believed it was the logical decision to furlough her employees, since stimulus packages and unemployment assistance would serve as adequate compensation for the time being. Canady-Brown emphasized that “people don’t realize how low margin food service is.” “You look at us and [think] a cup of coffee is three bucks and a latte is five dollars, [but] we only make 40 cents on that cup of coffee,” she added. While the U.S. government has permitted takeout and delivery, GP has continued to experience financial struggles. Eventually, Canady-Brown had no choice but to use her savings to pay wholesalers, the electric bills, and her mortgage. While

these payments covered GP’s expenses until June, this outcome came at a heavy price. As Canady-Brown heartbreakingly recounts in an interview with Forbes Magazine, “The saddest part...is that for five years I’ve been saving for our expansion, and now I don’t know how long that’s going to be on hold.”

While her expansion project, Marmalade, has been put off for the foreseeable future, Canady-Brown is now faced with a new challenge:

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Stephanie Xu '23/THE LAWRENCE

tions while adhering to social distancing guidelines. She needed to consider many variables when developing an effective plan of attack: “Do I bring my employees back? Do I bake by myself? Do I change our operations?” Although many questions remain unanswered, Canady-Brown hopes to continue operations in some capacity, either through curbside pickup, online ordering, or even pop-up bake sales. With that said, her main priority is maintaining the safety of her employees and the greater community. “We’re watching a lot of states

surrounding us try to rush us back into business. Their intention is to get tax revenue up again and get people off of unemployment. I’m not putting my staff at risk because they want to save the economy...We have to make smart, socially thoughtful decisions,” Canady-Brown said.

In the best case scenario, GP could potentially reopen this September, but at this point, she is still “playing second chair” to the virus’s curve. While Canady-Brown is “in the mode of putting out fires everyday,” she always asks

the following question to herself: “How do I fix this one problem right now so that we can move forward?”

This bite-sized approach has not only helped her navigate day-to-day business operations, but allowed her to remain calm in these times of uncertainty.

While Canady-Brown has found ways to keep GP afloat, owners of small eateries are disappointed by large corporations taking advantage of the government loan program, which, according to Canady-Brown, “was not meant for them in the first place.” For example, the restaurant chain Ruth’s Chris Steak House received a \$20 million loan from the program, although they were later pressured to

return these funds. Big businesses lobbied for a small change in employment qualifications, ultimately creating a “loophole for corporate brands.” Canady-Brown believes that reverting back to the original qualifications would “make a world of a difference.” While the government loan program is beginning to cater to small businesses, other organizations have been instrumental in advancing relief efforts. In fact, GP received a grant from the Beard Foundation’s Food and Beverage Industry Relief Fund allowing the bakery to begin rehiring efforts, increase its inventory, and work towards opening for good.

In addition to managing their own businesses, small owners in the food industry are simultaneously working to support their families and employees. From attending to the needs of her young children to providing for her staff, Canady-Brown has been juggling various responsibilities outside of GP. However, she is no stranger to hard work: “I did not get here with help. I got here because I wanted to get here.”

With that said, Canady-Brown is “extremely humbled” by the Lawrenceville community’s tremendous support: “They are showing that they want us to survive and make it to the other side. I am eternally grateful. I don’t know how I will ever pay back that love.” While Canady-Brown’s plans for expansion are temporarily on hold, rest assured that when the time is right, the GP we know and love will return better than ever.

Two Behind-The-Scenes Looks at Hollywood

True Talent or Leaching Off Nepotism?

SYDNEY MCCORMACK '21
ARTS ASSOCIATE

If you turn on your television to watch one of Hollywood's most popular movies, there most likely exists some form of nepotism behind its scenes. Nepotism, the practice of favoring friends or relatives in job or role selections, is especially prevalent throughout the inner workings of the Hollywood entertainment industry. The practice is so common that, often, instead of asking, "Who is this new actor?" we should be asking, "Who is this new actor related to?" Relations in the art and entertainment industry serve as the golden ticket for aspiring actors, screenwriters, and directors. These connections mean more introductions, more internships, and better access to coaches to start an individual's path to fame. In addition, access to the red carpet culture may benefit individuals' skill sets as it exposes them to an elite circle of fame and experience from a young age. This may entail even easier entrance into the entertainment scene, whose exclusivity makes it nearly impossible for other aspiring young actors to even take

the first step.

Nepotism shadows many of our beloved actors and actresses. Before her well known role as Serena van der Woodsen in *Gossip Girl*, Blake Lively got her first role with help from her actor and director father Ernie Lively in his 1998 movie *Sandman*. As for Kristen Stewart, protagonist of the *Twilight* saga, her career was supported by her producer father John Stewart and screenwriter mother Jules Mann-Stewart. Sometimes, parent-actors even use their status to act alongside their children. Actor Will Smith starred alongside his son, Jaden Smith, in the 2006 movie *The Pursuit of Happiness*. This role served as Jaden's major debut role into the Hollywood world, jumpstarting his current career as an actor, rapper, and songwriter.

With help from their relatives and friends, these actors and ac-

tresses have been given a leg-up in a very competitive cinematic world. While they have had help getting a foot in the door, other aspiring ac-



SALLY LEE '23/THE LAWRENCE

tors and actresses do not have such access at all. Clearly, the call to "pursue your dreams" is much easier said than done. So, how do we measure talent and success in this exclusive industry?

First we need to acknowledge that individuals should not be favored or treated differently due to something completely out of their control. Ideally, by working hard to differenti-

ate birth-given advantage from true talent, roles and opportunities should be awarded based on merit. True talent should be able to stand up and stand out for itself. Therefore, we should measure talent over the course of an individual's long term career, and not based on a single success story.

While achieving this change may be idealistic if we simply rely on directors and those within the industry to take action, we, as consumers, can actually serve as the driving force to initiate this adjustment. Hollywood is largely based upon consumerism. If the public and viewers begin to acknowledge nepotism as an issue, the industry itself will begin to mold to the different expectations and

new demands. It's not as if similar incidents have not happened before. In the past, sexual assault and body stereotypes dominated Hollywood; however, in recent years, both the public and activists have raised enough public awareness to spark change—the #MeToo movement brought enough influence to alter public knowledge on body positivity and sexual abuse.

Similarly, the main issue with nepotism is the lack of public awareness. Some of the world's favorite characters are played by beneficiaries of nepotism; for example, Daniel Radcliffe. He embodies the iconic image of Harry Potter in our minds, yet that image could have been different if it wasn't for his father's acquaintance with producer David Heyman. At the end of the day, it is up to Hollywood's consumer market to recognize and bring about change. Entertainment viewers should be aware of the backgrounds of their beloved stars and make an effort to support productions that cast based on merit. Art should exhibit true diversity and welcome anyone who has a passion for the craft, not just the people who were born with a golden ticket into the industry.

Beyond Representation: The Underlying Flaws of Asian Portrayal



The director and cast of Hollywood's hit film *Crazy Rich Asians*.

Courtesy of *The New York Times*

ADELINE ZHOU '23

We all have our go-to film favorites to watch: classic comedies, passionate romances, or gripping thrillers. Whether it be creating captivating storylines or bringing to life heroic characters, Hollywood does an impressive job of producing films that we can all enjoy. However, despite the immense success of entertainment media, a heavily scrutinized problem is the representation of racial and social minorities in films and TV. Often, when Hollywood produces films incorporating minority actors and characters, the producers' focus is not so much on accurately representing their cultures as much as it is on their presence. This results in misrepresented stereotypes and a confined depiction of culture. Although Hollywood has been

making appreciable attempts to diversify its films, we still question the authenticity of these cultural renditions and their true impressions on viewers.

In recent years, racial minorities, more specifically Asians, have gained significant prominence in popular films. Movies such as *Crazy Rich Asians*, *Parasite*, and *To All the Boys I've Loved Before* have received widespread acclaim and popularity. By featuring an Asian cast and leads, these movies break the trend of having minority actors play only minor roles and are influential stepping stones in advancing modern filmmaking. A recent University of California, Los Angeles Hollywood Diversity Report documents that the percentage of lead roles played by people of color as of 2019 is 27.6 percent. Another study from the

University of Southern California shows that Asian-American actors with lead roles represent a mere one percent. Although this number is still meager, the industry has undoubtedly seen immense growth in cultural diversity. By spotlighting minorities, these films hold many possibilities, such as appealing to a larger demographic that boosts box office gross rates.

On paper, it seems as if Hollywood is on track to fully accepting diversity. However, more cultural representation within the industry goes beyond just plastering stereotypical aspects of a minority culture on-screen. As of today, television and film have become one of the most influential methods to disseminate information, reaching diverse audiences. Viewers are influenced by the content they watch and are given insight into the

unique and unknown. While film is a powerful tool, the portrayal of foreign cultures on screen are often incomplete and can perpetuate stigmas and stereotypes.

For example, *Crazy Rich Asians*, a movie that has received great publicity and featured Hollywood's first all-Asian cast in 25 years, brings to perspective many traditional Asian practices that many western communities are unfamiliar with. Yet these customs, as seen in the Mah-jong scene or dumpling scene, are rather conventional and predictable. Although they're portraying trivial details in order to maximize cultural authenticity, the producer's emphasis on these scenes actually accentuates the image of stereotypical Asian heritage. Suddenly, a dense and rich culture is compressed into a gambling game and one traditional dish. More shockingly, the movie is set in Singapore, but it disregards ethnic minorities such as Indian, Malay, or Indo-Singaporeans that make up 24 percent of the entire population; the majority of the main characters are Chinese. After acknowledging this disparity, we must further recognize the storyline's emphasis on the leitmotif of class and wealth. Emphasizing the wealth and class disproportion in Singaporean society may, on the contrary, leave negative impressions. While the film gives Asians a voice and allows their cultures to be shared and enjoyed, it is not representative of Singapore. It's simply a westernized rom-com that accentuates the existing stereotype that Asian cultures are racked with disparities; it does not offer new insight into a society that many people are still largely unfamiliar with.

Similarly, the Oscar-winning movie *Parasite* addresses stereotypes concerning South Korean workers in order to cleverly depict capitalism; however, it only reinforces pre-existing negative impressions of the country's wealth imbalance. This is not at all representative of South Korean society. Here, we see that both *Parasite* and *Crazy Rich Asians* stray away from cultural authenticity to create a captivating plot that fits the mold of a westernized story.

Although Hollywood has made significant efforts to progress and diversify their productions, there are still many steps that need to be taken to ensure that minority cultures are accurately depicted. Despite the traction and publicity that films like *Crazy Rich Asians* and *Parasite* received, they are merely the gateway towards authentic cultural portrayal. To walk through that gate requires Hollywood's continuous integration of not only Asian actors into casts but also different elements of Eastern culture that the outside world is unfamiliar with. Asian representation in films should become a normality and not rare attempts of outside-the-box thinking that reinforce stereotypes. As director Jon M. Chu claims, "It's not a movie, it's a movement." With more productions involving Asian participation, varying movies can respectively hone in on specific aspects of Asian culture, such as language, customs, and art that collectively create an accurate depiction of different countries' traditions. Ultimately, the exceptional but foreign aspects of each culture are things that should be embraced and celebrated through careful renditions and artistic decisions.

NCAA Reverses Player Endorsement Policy

PERRI KITEI '21

In 2014, a class action lawsuit filed by Ed O'Bannon, a former University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) basketball player, and Sam Keller, a former Arizona State University quarterback, claimed that the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) violated antitrust laws, which are designed to prohibit companies from monopolizing markets and obstructing competition by preventing athletes from sharing the revenue generated from their likenesses in broadcasts and video games. The EA Sports video game series NCAA Basketball and NCAA Football incited the lawsuit, as they used unnamed players with the same skills, features, and appearances as former or current players without their permission. The suit eventually settled for \$60 million and compensated over 29,000 athletes, consequently stopping production of the games after 11 successful years to avoid further controversy and continuing to pay players. However, aside from the money NCAA athletes earned from that singular lawsuit, they have not previously been allowed to accept money in any way whatsoever. Players were even required to ask the NCAA for permission to work a summer job, until now.

On April 29, the NCAA Board of Governors moved towards allowing student-athlete compensation for endorsements and promotions, with the

new rules ready to be implemented as soon as the 2021-22 academic year begins. Annually, the NCAA rakes in around \$11 billion in profit, yet its players are not allowed to receive any money for their efforts. Thousands of college athletes from low-income backgrounds are left to fend for themselves; oftentimes, even accepting something as trivial as a gift of a bag of groceries could see them suspended, which happened to UCLA line-backer Donnie Edwards in 1995. While the NCAA thrives, a 2013 National College Players Association study found that 86 percent of Division I (D-I) football players live under the poverty line. Although some qualified recruits have the prospect of earning scholarships, even then, there are only six collegiate sports where scholarships are fully guaranteed: such opportunities in football are rare. Not to mention, the average out-of-pocket annual expense for a D-I athlete is just over \$3,000, paid for by families, savings, or loans because players can't

alleviate the cost with any earned income. Without means to pay for these costs, players can suffer both athletically and academically.

The new endorsement rules will allow the players to use their name, sport, and their school's name but block the use of any trademarks, phrases, logos, clothing, or anything else associated with the

with more financial support, the new rules raise another notable concern: a legalized form of cheating. Boosters, individuals or organizations who support schools by donating financial resources, can offer guaranteed endorsement deals or sponsorships to entice a recruit to attend their school.

Schools with similar resources at their disposal could compete with each other, nullifying some financial advantages, but underfunded programs will be severely disadvantaged.

With the exception of competing for recruits with financial incentives, allowing student-athletes to receive compensation benefits all parties, as players can earn well-deserved money and companies will benefit from the players' images, with universities getting a marketing boost for free.

There have always been star athletes, but college athletics generally perpetuate a strong pack mentality: Win together, lose together. Previously, players could not afford to demand

special treatment because getting benched could end one's career. With these new rules, college superstars could make millions before graduation, which would greatly disrupt their team's power dynamic, including the group mindset.

Still, all players stand to benefit: The higher caliber players will make the most money, but the small-time bench players who are heroes in their hometowns can still make some change at a local sports camp or autograph signing. Even the ability to pick up a part time job could greatly improve the lives of these players who make sacrifices for their sport.

Without a doubt, these new rules will change college athletics forever. While certain changes may compromise the recruiting process and the power dynamic between schools, giving athletes the opportunity to financially sustain themselves will ultimately create a greater positive impact. Even though a handful of players will prioritize their new sponsorship on Instagram over being on time for practice, for athletes living under the poverty line, this sponsorship money may make the difference between providing three meals a day or two for their families, an extreme but possible example. NCAA athletes have given so much of their freedom, time, and energy to their schools, so being able to use their talents to benefit themselves and their families by making money is well deserved and long overdue.



Courtesy of Min Kim '21/THE LAWRENCE

school itself. Endorsements via social media and paid autograph signings will now be permitted, but sharing the profit of one's jersey sales will not be, as any money received directly from the school would classify the athlete as an employee, not a student. However, although such regulations have their benefits and provide college athletes

Lebron Fulfills His Promise: The 2016 NBA Finals

RICHARD ZHOU '22
NEWS ASSOCIATE

With the National Basketball League (NBA) indefinitely suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic, basketball fans will be able to reflect on some of the best playoff performances in NBA history. While there have been many great NBA Finals in the history of the NBA, the championship duel between the Cleveland Cavaliers (Cavs) and Golden State Warriors in 2016 certainly contends for the top spot.

The Return and Revenge Story

In 2014, LeBron James returned to his home state of Ohio and signed a deal with the Cavs. The Cavs drafted him in 2003 and James played seven seasons there, coming close, but never winning a championship. In 2011, James made a controversial move to join two other superstars on the Miami Heat. The move left fans around the world shocked and angry, as they felt he had chosen the easy path to a championship.

While James would go on to win two championships with the Heat, he felt as though he had some unfinished business back in Cleveland. The return was emotional for both the city and James, who promised Cleveland he would help win his first championship. In his first season back, James would help lead the Cavs to the 2015 finals with the support of star guard Kyrie Irving and star forward Kevin Love, but the Golden State Warriors won the series in 6 games. Yet to fulfill his promise, the upcoming 2015-2016 year would be his 'revenge season,' making the Finals victory a tad sweeter.



The Cavaliers' LeBron James chases down the Warriors' Andre Iguodala for a crucial block. Courtesy of Bleacher Report

Legendary Seasons and Player Matchups

The Cavs finished the 2015-16 season as the first seed in the Eastern Conference, while the Warriors, on the other hand, finished with 73 wins in the regular season, a record feat that made them favorites for the 2016 Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy. The playoffs progressed, and the two teams found themselves in the same position as the previous year, a Finals matchup with a widely projected Warriors win. The Warriors were one of the most dominant teams of the decade, revolutionizing three-point shooting with the marksmen duo of Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson, commonly known as the "Splash Brothers," while lockdown defenders Draymond Green

and Andrew Iguodala embodied the team's positionless playing philosophy.

On the Cavs, James led the way with an unmatched combination of finesse and physicality, backed by Irving, arguably one of the best one-on-one scorers in the NBA at that time, and lastly, a sharpshooting power forward in Love who could stretch the floor and grab key rebounds. While the Warriors' offense focused around its three-point shooting and ball movement, Cleveland used size to its advantage and looked to get points closer to the basket. Every possession, fans would witness Iguodala or Green guarding LeBron, or see Kyrie Irving chase one of the "Splash Brothers" around the court. These star-studded lineups, each with differing play styles, were key to this legendary Finals series.

A Comeback for the ages

The Warriors won the first two games of the series, including a blowout in Game 2 by 33 points. It seemed as though the Warriors would sweep the Cavs, leaving James unable to fulfill his promise of winning a championship for Cleveland once again. A Cavs victory in Game 3 brought a sliver of hope to the team's fans, but the Warriors quickly dashed it, winning the following game, leaving the Cavs down 3-1. A comeback from this deficit had never been accomplished before, so the Warriors seemed a lock for becoming back-to-back champions.

However, in Game 5, LeBron James put the team on his back to spark a comeback run with 41 points and 16 rebounds, and then followed that up

with another 41 points in Game 6 to tie the series at 3-3.

While the Cavs had proved themselves to be a formidable force, a Game 7 in the Warriors' home stadium, Oracle Arena, where the Warriors had only lost 2 games all season long, put one final obstacle in the team's path to victory. With four minutes left in the fourth quarter, the score was tied at 89-89. The Warriors found themselves in a fast break two-on-one situation and Iguodala seemed set to score an uncontested layup. However, James sprinted the full length of the court to block the ball off the backboard, an amazing defensive recovery to keep the game tied. With less than a minute remaining, Irving went to work on an isolation play against Steph Curry, pulling off a sequence of dribbles before taking a contested stepback three, hitting nothing but net. The Cavs would hold on to win the game, leaving Cleveland with its first ever championship, fulfilling LeBron's promise.

The win would be one of the most emotional moments in NBA history. Two years after James had returned to the Cavs, citing his "unfinished business," he would lead the team with historic performances to an unprecedented comeback from a 3-1 deficit and would be appropriately awarded the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award. The journey to the 2016 Finals and the Cavs' victory was truly bigger than basketball, as James put up legendary performances in the face of enormous pressure, overcoming a seemingly insurmountable Warriors team to keep his promise to his city.

Chaput Reflects on His Big Red Coaching Career

ANDREW LEE '22
SPORTS ASSOCIATE

As many Lawrenceville faculty do, Program Director of the Lawrenceville Track and Field Team Erik Chaput fulfills many campus roles, including teaching in the history department and leading over the Griswold House as an Assistant Housemaster. But perhaps most notably, Chaput's tenure as Program Director has seen many successful, record-breaking track seasons.

In his role, Chaput organizes workouts, meets, and travel schedules in conjunction with the Athletic Department. He also works with the College Counseling Office and the Admission Office. "I spend time in our Admissions and College Counseling Office, helping kids think through what it would be like to compete for Big Red and then to think about what an athletic career could look like post-Lawrenceville," said Chaput.

Many outsiders do not see the dedication track and field demands. Chaput takes pride in creating training modules that maximize an athlete's chance of hitting a personal best during their cham-



Courtesy of The Lawrenceville School

ampionship season. Track and field athletes also have to buy into the program, as they have to "train properly day in and day out" and manage themselves under pressure. But throughout Chaput's years with the program, he has seen the hard work pay off.

He recalls the 2017 season when Lawrenceville's "Girls 4x400 meter race team broke the coveted four minute barrier at the Penn Relays, setting a school record in the process at [the] historic Franklin Field" just a few months after Lawrenceville's "Boys Indoor 4x400m

team broke a 30-year-old record on the historic...Army [Track] at the Eastern States [Indoor] Championship[s]," a mark he admitted he thought would never be broken. Both accomplishments have left a significant mark in the team's history, raising the bar.

This past indoor season, the Big Red Track and Field team, including Amy Aririguzoh '20 and III Formers Charlotte Bednar and Kiera Duffy and IV Former Laila Ritter, boasted "one of the top girls distance medley relays in the U.S." Chaput praised Bednar, who

"[doubled] in the 1600m and 3200m [in] grand fashion" at the 2020 Mercer County Indoor Track Championships, a feat he does not expect to see in another 25 years.

Chaput loves seeing his athletes reach personal success and contribute to the team's positive character. He was impressed watching the pole vault squad, led by Coach Carl Huff, hit new heights this season, and he commends Ritter for moving up to the 800m and setting a positive example for II Formers. Despite the inevitable difficulty in instilling a team-first attitude, Chaput saw male and female athletes coming together for a common purpose this year.

With the V Form athletes' careers cut short, Chaput makes a heartfelt appraisal. He recognizes "the most talented girls high jump squad in [New Jersey] for several years," made up of High Jump Captain Aririguzoh, Jordyn Ford, and Ashley Warren. Aririguzoh and Warren are "the greatest track athletes [Chaput has] ever had the pleasure to work with." Secondly, he thanks Carolyn King and Maggie Ross for their dedication, and he praises Captain Ashley Raynor for

raising the bar and "propelling the girls team [during] numerous relays at [the] New Balance...Nationals Outdoor." Chaput also thanks Theo Bammi and Alex Pessendorfer for their contributions to multiple championships, and he recognizes Jakob Kunzer, who "has cemented his legacy as one of the greatest 400m runners in school history." Chaput says he will deeply miss watching Jax Floyd, Reid Mario, and Jack Wragan in the pole vault as well as Mykael Canady, CJ Vilfort, and Brandon Henry in the throwing events. Finally, Chaput thanks Vishnu Rajakannan, who set a good example with his positive attitude despite his season-stopping injury.

Though Chaput cannot be "at the historic Penn Relays and [get] ready for the Mercer County Championship[s]," Chaput has been going to the track to train his kids. Through dedication and persistence, Chaput has coached and managed one successful track team after another, and despite the unforeseen events of COVID-19, he and his team will surely get back to competing at the high level they expect again come next winter and spring.

Federer vs Nadal: A Rivalry Years in The Making

KEN MUANGSIRI '22

The 2008 Wimbledon Championship Men's Singles Final saw Roger Federer face off against Rafael Nadal for the third consecutive Wimbledon Championships, in which Nadal defeated Federer three out of five sets (6-4, 6-4, 6-7, 6-7, 9-7). While it certainly was an action-packed final, the unique rivalry, and legacies that followed make it one of the greatest matches in tennis history.

With a history of entertaining matchups between the two, anticipation for the match was high. While Federer won the previous two Wimbledon Finals against Nadal and was ranked No.1 at the time, there were some concerns over his form. The winter before the Wimbledon Championships began, Federer had glandular fever and heavy fatigue that lingered throughout the season. He lost several matches that season due to his sickness but managed to keep his No.1 ranking. Similarly, Nadal received the same amount of pressure before the match at Wimbledon. Federer defeated Nadal the past two Wimbledon finals, the second of which left him "utterly destroyed," according to his autobiography. Nadal had also been stuck right behind Federer's No.1 ranking for three years. Before the match, feeling they had to prove something, both men



Courtesy of ESPN

shook hands, exchanged smiles, returned to their respective lockers, and turned their focus towards the match.

Following a 35-minute rain delay, the two men marched on to the court. With the first point of the match coming from a 14 stroke rally, the audience knew they were in for a show. In the first set, Nadal's aggressive strokes trailed by his signature overhead follow through were quite evenly matched with Federer's aesthetic but explosive hits. Federer, however, seemed unusually agitated and worked up throughout the set. For instance, when a fan yelled, "Cmon, Roger," during Federer's backswing, he turned around and yelled, "Shut up!" Federer rarely shows derogatory behavior

like that. Eventually, Nadal won the first set with the game score of 6-4, as well as the second set at 6-4. Another 80-minute break occurred; beneficially, that break seems to have "woken up" Federer. He was able to take the next two sets at 7-6, 7-6. In the fourth set, the world witnessed one of the most exciting rallies of all time. Nadal had a spectacular serve causing Roger Federer to return it shallow, and after both men advanced to the net for two or three clashes, Federer suddenly lobbed the ball over Nadal's head. Known for his outstanding athleticism, Nadal leaped into the air and returned the lob with a backhand smash, a rare move that shocked the audience. However, the smash wasn't strong enough as Federer

sprinted across the court and returned the ball back deep to win the point. The crowd roared with satisfaction and excitement as if they witnessed a soccer goal. Another rain delay sent the players back to the locker for 30 minutes, with the break shifting the momentum once more as Nadal, at the 15th game of the set, broke Federer's serve and served out the match the following games. After 4 hours and 48 minutes of playtime, Nadal fell to the floor in celebration as he took the last set 9-7.

Of course, this championship match received worldwide attention. Federer and Nadal both gained immense popularity and labels among the greatest players of all time. They were constantly

asked about the match by their fans wherever they went. Nadal, who's usually more competent with clay-courts, proved to the world that he's truly adaptable and defeated the top-ranked grass-court champion. On the other hand, the loss for Federer showed the world that Federer would not sit easily at the top, with Nadal being a tough opponent that would snatch his long-reigning No.1 title and continue to challenge him in the years to come. Although years passed since Nadal and Federer competed in Wimbledon together, Nadal defeated Federer more and more, especially in Nadal's French Open clay-court habitat.

While Nadal won on that day, one cannot deny either player's greatness, as Federer and Nadal have 20 and 19 Grand Slam wins, respectively. Despite the match being considered to be one of the greatest of all time, both players chose to not focus on it. In an interview with ESPN, Nadal stated that he tries not to think about the final every day, but instead about what he is doing in the present. Federer, similarly, wiped past the loss, going on to win the Wimbledon title again in 2009. While both men are fiery competitors on the courts, their rivalry in tennis extends into a friendship off of the court. In an interview with ESPN, Federer even joked that one day, Rafael and he will be sitting in rocking chairs talking about "how good it all was."

140 Sibling Picks

	Leonard Lee Izzy's brother	Brandon Li Carina's brother	Lucy Hallinan Jack's sister	Matthew Gaw Gabe's brother	Jeffrey Cheng Christine's brother	Andrew Wetherill Lucia's brother	Ilter Canberk Alper's brother
One thing you hate about your sibling	Her work ethic makes me feel lazy	she has caught one species of fish that I have not	doesn't get a haircut even though he needs it	always late to the dining table	lack of showers	Sometimes she's really annoying	way too loud
Qualities you wish your sibling had but doesn't	Something bad for me to talk about	bioblitz champion potential	actual style	Being short	a brain	Not being smart all the time	be less loud
Biggest difference between you two	Gender	our GPAs	I won't do the dishes ;)	Our height	she's more talented than me :(She's kind of a nerd	the time at which we were born