



Knights Times

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Mountain Air: *Sports and Photography on Mt. Hood*

by Tim Jackson

The night is so deep that the towering structure of Mt. Hood is barely visible to the naked eye. I am so far from Portland that the only remaining evidence of the city is a small amount of light pollution spilling over on the west side of the skies, fading out the starry night like a blanket. Night skiing is still open at Timberline Lodge, the bright lights turned on until 10 p.m. and overexposing any snow that isn't hidden by the valley into which I have hiked.

I set the focus on my camera to the '∞' mark, an unusual setting not easily used in the closed confinements of a city. Mounting my camera onto a tripod, I take over an hour of continuous photos, letting the rotation of the earth drag the stars through the camera's lens. While the camera is doing its magic, I relax against the many speckles of white soft snow, taking it all in; spotting constellations I have become familiar with,

and glimpsing shooting stars I will never see again. I feel infinite.

But these feelings fade, as I sorrowfully look at the unnatural lights that leak into the scene of this beautiful portrait. Many photographers believe that Mt. Hood should never have been turned into a skier's mountain; it was best fit for a photographer's mountain. But even if the ugly chair lifts and lodges were removed, the consuming lights of Portland would still remain a problem. Later, as I stack these photos on my laptop at home to produce the result on the *Knight Times* front cover, I can see the obvious effects that the night-skiing lights have on the light balance of the photograph. I can see the white-stained snow at the base of the steep incline to the peak and right of the mountain along the top edge of the cliff, near where I stood to take the photographs.

The next weekend a different side of me comes out, one that disobeys the cry to keep Mt. Hood free of all chairlifts and unneeded activity. Strapped to a snowboard with the wind blurred against my face, I'm floating down the upper side of Ski Bowl, ducking my legs to the uneven terrain and spotting for cliffs. With my little brother Tom Jackson and buddy Jack Rooney plowing through deep snow at either side, we come across a large cliff that entails clearing rocks and small trees in order to land safely. Pulling out my camera, I set the zoom to a close focus, and crank my shutter speed extremely high to capture Rooney in mid-flight. There is no saying what will happen when a snowboarder jumps off of a cliff. With a six-foot piece of wood coated in plastic and fiberglass strapped tightly to his feet, he can't catch a fall or ditch his ride when things make a turn for the worst.

This is what makes snowboarding so infinite: putting all of life as we know it into a few split seconds. As the French writer Gustave Flaubert said, "An infinity of passion can be contained in one minute, like a crowd in a small space." So many thoughts, emotions, doubts, and fears are pulled out of me when I let myself sail off one of these cliffs. As I capture my friend jumping off this cliff, I'm not only scared for him, but I'm excited for him. My bones tingle because I know what he must be experiencing—seeing what looks like the edge of the earth, how in midair all fear escapes and turns to reachlessness, being weightless for the seemingly infinite amount of time he is no longer on earth, and the release when he lands, spewing up a cloud of powder all around him.

Adrenaline is the natural drug that is stimulated when the body fights for survival. The snowboarder's body is tricked into thinking it might die, and the spirit is ready to ascend to the heavens because it feels the body in its last phases of strug-

gling. Once the snowboarder lands, his spirit comes back—as if it has seen the pearly gates. On the lift back up, Rooney is shaking with the rush, hands white and eyes dilated. "I thought I was going to die up there, he says.

Professional snowboarder Nicolas Müller, who stars in Red Bull Media's snowboarding movie *The Art of Flight* explains: "You could say snowboarding is like church to me, like church is what it is for other people. It's your soul [that picks how you go down a mountain] and it always feels good. When a human being can be creative, that's really when anything is possible."

Abstaining from snowboarding wouldn't make the mountain any more beautiful. It's not my acts that create the lifts. I may fund them with the purchase of each and every season pass, but they'd be up and running regardless—or so I rationalize. Yet the deepest yearning in the photographer side of me wishes that no human or light pollution ever touch the skies of Mt. Hood, or any starry sky for that matter. The awe it stirs inside of me to see so many freckled lights that contain unknown power and mystery is bliss. It makes me wonder what it would take to come together as a human race so that we could once again gaze upon our galaxy untainted.



Photos by Tim Jackson.





Study Spaces: Finding your niche on a cramped campus

by Rebecca Schrader

Finding a private place on campus to get in some quality study time without interruption can prove to be quite a task for both residential and commuter students. Studying in dorm rooms, the library, the cafeteria, or Tabor Grind works for some students, but these spaces do not provide the ideal environment for every student looking for a study space.

Senior Ben Conn says that he generally studies in the library, his dorm room, or the cafeteria. "I feel there are adequate places to study on campus; however, some of them could be redesigned to be more inviting, with a better atmosphere for studying." He said that, while the café can be a nice place to get homework done, there are not enough outlets for students to charge their computers. "Also, people in the library are often too loud. I wish the librarians would put their foot down when there are too many people for me to ask to be quiet," Conn said.

With these objections to the currently available study spaces on campus, it may seem like common sense to suggest that students study in their own campus housing. However, difficulty with roommates is a big contributor to the growing need for additional study spaces outside of the dorms and apartments. One student who wishes to remain anonymous described a tense living situation within the dorm room that she shared with her roommate her freshman year. "Living in such tight quarters with someone who is difficult to get along with and who does not respect your space and privacy is a very stressful situation to be in—it makes studying

feel impossible." This student went on to describe trying to study in places outside of her dorm room, such as the study lounge in Smith Hall and the library. However, she still struggled to be productive since both spaces were often quite noisy. "It is very frustrating to be trying so hard to keep up with classes and get good grades, but not even have a comfortable and quiet place to do homework," she said.

It is obvious that roommate disagreements can make studying difficult, but even students who get along with their roommates often find it challenging to have productive study time in their living quarters. Senior Kate McGregor loves living in the Sandy House with her three roommates. The four girls enjoy chatting, watching funny videos, cooking, working out, and even pulling some good-natured pranks on each other. "The only downside to having such great, chummy roommates is that sometimes we have so much fun together that we end up sidetracking each other when we really need to be getting our homework done," McGregor said with a laugh. She has tried to study at places outside of Sandy House in order to stay a little more focused—primarily the library.

When asked about the growing complaints about the library being too loud, Electronic Services Librarian Doug McClay said that the library staff is aware of the issue. "One of the things we have done to address the excess noise in the library is to create a designated quiet area by putting signs on tables, but the problem is that the library is an open space, and sound doesn't respect space." He also said that if someone has a noise complaint, the student should simply

ask a librarian or a student worker to help keep the noise down, and library staff will address the situation. However, McClay did go on to explain the downside to this aspect of his job. "The problem is that people generally have this preconceived idea about the 'shushing librarian,' which is an impression we librarians don't want to give off. We don't want people to be quiet all the time. We want encourage them to have productive conversations in the library without disturbing others." McClay said that he needs to be accessible and approachable to students, which can be hard to do if he constantly has to tell students to hush.

the situation. "I hope to improve upon at least a couple of study spaces this summer, and figure out how these spaces are managed," he said. Some of the spaces that Stenberg is looking to improve include the library and the study lounge in Smith Hall. Stenberg is also in the process of figuring out a way to make the classrooms that will be in the new addition to Egtvedt Hall (to be completed the summer of 2013) double as study rooms.

In the meantime, many students have gone off-campus for their study sessions, primarily to coffee shops. Rain or Shine Coffee

"One of the things we have done to address the excess noise in the library is to create a designated quiet area by putting signs on tables, but the problem is that the library is an open space, and sound doesn't respect space." - Doug McClay

So, what are some solutions? The good news is that the administration is aware of the problems surrounding the current on-campus study space situation. There are plans for more designated study areas within the new academic building that will be built within the next few years. Vice President of Operations Steve Stenberg explained that many of the classrooms and offices that are currently in A. F. Gray Hall will be moved into the new academic building once it is completed. This opens up additional space that could possibly be used for quiet study spaces and group project rooms. "The long term solution really is to build our new academic building, but that is still a few years away. We already have the preliminary designs, but still have to fundraise about 12 million dollars." However, Stenberg said that he has more immediate plans to address

House on 60th and Division is a popular favorite thanks to its proximity to campus and its friendly atmosphere. During a long study session, odds are good that you will run into other students or even a professor while you sip your mocha. Another popular coffee shop is Southeast Grind at 13th and Powell. This one is not within easy walking distance, but it has an advantage over Rain or Shine: it's open 24/7. No matter what time it is, you can always hop in your car and head down to the Grind for some late night caffeination and essay writing.

ASWPC is eager to hear feedback from students about what they feel could be done to create a more study-friendly campus. If students have any ideas or suggestions, please email them to President Adam Ristick at aristick@warner-pacific.edu.



The library Loft is quiet and has some seating for studying.



Rain or Shine Coffee House is a popular off-campus study space for students. Photo by E-Chiao Huang.



Students work on assignments in the study space in the bookstore and in the 24-hour computer lab in A.F. Gray Hall. These places have been recently added or renovated in an effort to meet student needs. Above photos and top photo on right were taken by Rebecca Schrader.



HUM 410: Paradox in Denial

by Daniel Young

Last year, Amy Vaught was sitting at her kitchen table early in the morning, putting the final touches on her paper for HUM 410: Senior Humanities Seminar, the capstone course that every student must take before they can graduate. Vaught, now an alumnus with a B.A. in History, was lightly scanning her massive paper, making occasional grammatical edits. On her last page, she confidently placed a quote. It was the perfect ending. William Wordsworth, the poet, had wrapped it all up into a nice ball: the capstone of her academic achievement.

"I emailed the last page or so to Professor Goble, just to get the okay," Vaught said. "I was on my way to campus to turn in my final draft in a few hours and I was feeling about as confident as anyone could at that point. I had already printed copies of everything but the last page. I was not going to be that kid that showed up at 11:59am to say that I had printer problems. I had the project in small binders, there was a title page, it was pretty and ready to go. Except for that last stupid page."

She stared in horror at her professor's email response. Vaught summarized it like this: *You have missed the point of this assignment. You cannot end it like that. There is no formal ending. This is a paradox; it cannot be solved. And you certainly cannot end it with someone else's words.*

"I knew the last lines of the paper before I was even able to articulate my paradox," Vaught said. "I had heard that quote and fallen in love with the poem before I was ever enrolled in HUM 410. The entire project thrives on ambiguity; I had found one point of certainty, one fixed point in this whole intellectual cacophony and it was gone."

"I had a not-so-minor meltdown, stormed around my apartment for about two hours, drank more coffee (always smart), and then headed to campus. I got to the library and glared at a computer screen. How in God's name was I going to find an ending for a paper that had become the embodiment of the last five years of my life? So, I did something stupid. I took a risk. I got personal. I asked myself questions I had managed to dance around since I started writing. This was the make or break point; this was when I had to make a decision: did I want a paper or a paper that mattered? My nicely packaged ending exploded into about four new pages of revelations I wasn't expecting. It was my baby. A literary represen-

tation of my life. I was heart-broken to turn in my paper because I knew it wasn't finished. It has doubled in size since I graduated."

Warner Pacific didn't always have HUM 410. It's a remnant of a series of classes from the 1970's called the Culture of Western Man (CWM). According to Dr. Lou Foltz, professor of Educational Psychology, this class was mandatory for all freshmen and sophomores (a two year sequence), but it was discontinued ultimately because freshmen were unprepared for the content. CWM covered a wide array of political, religious, and social topics. The school was trying to incorporate the scale and significance of a liberal arts education into what it meant to be a Christian. After CWM was discontinued, HUM 410 was added to maintain the themes of struggle with the human condition.

"At first, 410 was primarily an art project," said Foltz. "It had artistic freedom but had to incorporate paradox. Next, a commentary piece was required alongside it, and eventually it developed into a purely written piece. Even in its written form, it can still be an exciting process. That's the thing about paradox, it cannot be answered, and that's ultimately what we want students to discover from the class."

All of the humanities classes are meant to help prepare students for this kind of thinking: about

life, self, and the world. It can be daunting—and paralyzing—to think of writing your paper in its entirety. Hopefully, this article will give you solace, as well as a game plan. Here is some advice for constructing your masterpiece.

SCHEDULE YOUR TIME You don't want to burn yourself out. If you run a marathon, you don't sprint for ten miles, because you will drop dead like Phidippides. Make to-do lists and keep a planner. Eat healthy food and get an adequate amount of sleep—consistently. Choose a good work place. The library, the cafe, the 24-hour lab, an isolated attic; anything that is a dedicated, quiet space for you and your daily work. Build a community: two readers, fellow 410ers, roommates, friends, family, and other professors. This can help you run into tangents and sources you would never have found otherwise. Let the discussions around you shape your paper.

20 PAGES / 14 WEEKS = 1.5 PAGES PER WEEK The length of the paper is not that bad—as long as you make a running start at it. I did the math for you, and it breaks down like

"That's the thing about paradox, it can't be answered, and that's ultimately what we want students to discover from the class." - Dr. Lou Foltz

this: there are precisely 14 weeks before the final draft is due. That's 70 school days (minus six days off for fall semester, or seven for spring. The 410 requires a minimum of 20 pages, and 20 sources. Think of it as a three to four page paper due to your professors and friends every other week (along with three sources). By breaking it up into a bunch of smaller papers, it becomes much less daunting. If you don't do too well on one week's paper, it will be okay. Just keep writing. The last thing you want to do is procrastinate.

DON'T PROCRASTINATE It's the easiest way to lose traction on this paper. "Start brainstorming right away," says alumnus Jeannie Whitten. "Brainstorm ideas for your paradox through several different disciplines and choose the disciplines that you feel have the most meat. Then, start writing."

Set up rewards and punishments. Give yourself an expensive coffee if you finish a draft early. Give an envelope with a hundred dollars inside to your professor, and say that you can only get the envelope back if he or she receives the first draft on time. According to the course syllabus, you need two readers to be eligible to earn an A. So why not use two readers? The more help the better! Choose your readers wisely. Pick one who can give you technical advice, and another who can give you a million ideas. Also make sure your readers' schedules are complimentary with your own so you can coordinate individual meetings.

MAKE A MIND MAP Put your general ideas in bullet points and try to organize them in a logical order. Getting your ideas and arguments organized before writing aids tremendously in writing drafts and moving towards your final copy. List as many subtopics and supporting evidence as you can think. For some writers, their topic naturally divides into several chunks. If you can't think of smaller arguments to build your paradox on, it's probably too small. If your list of subtopics is more than two pages it's probably too broad.

Visualize your argument by creating a mind map. Connect words with lines based on how they are related. The resulting image looks as though it were a brain full of neurons, or an

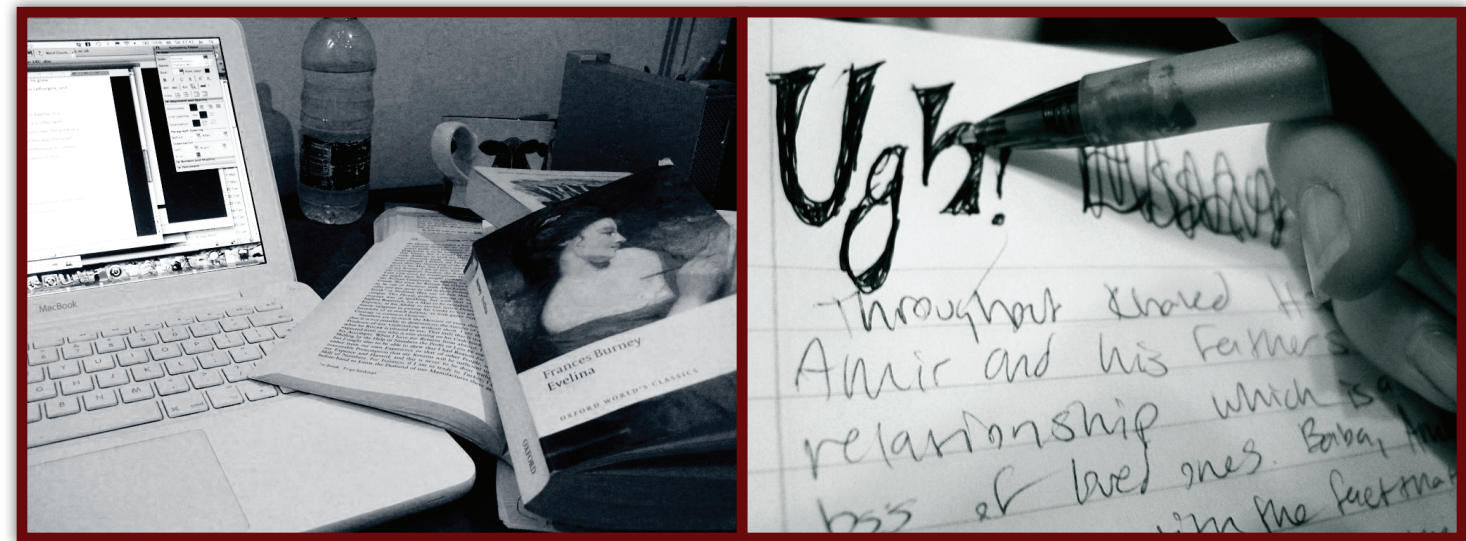
intricate spider web. Mind maps are utilized in many different classes. Once you try a brain map, it is likely you will be hooked.

WRITE EVERY DAY "Even if you only edit the punctuation of a single sentence, writing everyday is the only way you will stay on top of the assignment," advises Dr. Pamela Plimpton, one of the professors who teaches HUM 410. Write as you read your sources; nothing is worse than not being able to find that perfect quotation again! Don't worry about writing a hook until the paper is nearly finished; it's the last thing you should do. If it's difficult to think of an appropriate story, instead try to explain why this is important.

Jeannie Whitten suggested you keep a notepad by your bed. "If you're doing this right, you won't be able to stop thinking of ideas when you lay down to sleep for the night." If you have had a life changing experience, incorporate it into your paper. Whitten's 410 included her personal encounters with radical poverty and malnutrition in Africa. In the paper, she asks "at what point does one's own necessities supersede the needs of others?"

Stories have power, and are one of the best ways to win your readers' hearts and minds. However, I have yet to see a 410 which incorporated a single, original work of fiction at the beginning of the essay that weaves literary analysis into its argument. Will anyone accept my challenge?

WRITE YOUR PASSION Choose a paradox that motivates you; something that you feel you can talk for hours and hours about. Your paradox ought to be concise, elegant, and powerful. Choose your passion, and find a paradox in it. Own this paper. Picking something that you can comfortably write about everyday is vital to writing a masterpiece. What interests you, and why? This is just as much about emotions and interpretation as it is observation and research. *Continued on page 9.*



Photos by Joanna Dobson (left), hanzabean (right), and Björn Nordqvist (background).



Kaylee Krout: MANY HATS, BIG HEART

by Kate McGregor & Rebecca Schrader

A frantic student walks into Kaylee Krout's office in Smith Hall. *My roommate and I aren't getting along, the heater in my apartment is broken, and I really need to talk to a counselor,* the student thinks. She dreads running all over campus to get all of these issues resolved. She is about to find out that she has come to the right place for all of these concerns—and more.

On a typical day Kaylee Krout can be seen pivoting from one desk to another—emailing, signing documents for students, taking calls—then running all over campus to other offices she networks for students. To most people, that would be classified as a crazy day; to Krout, it's just normal life. She wears many different hats around campus and is the “go to” person for just about everything. With her bright cheery demeanor, students feel comfortable talking to her and confiding in her with their problems.

Krout's current official title is Student Affairs Coordinator. She is responsible for various aspects of student housing such as housing placement and roommate requests. She is also active in helping Peer Assistants (PAs) in student housing. She also helps with the more technical side of housing, which includes maintenance requests and housing leases. Krout is in charge of setting up and scheduling student visits with Denise Haugen, Director of Career and Life Counseling, and Stephanie Mathis, Director of Spiritual Life. She is also the contact person for the Off-Campus Study Program, which provides students with semester-long study opportunities at U.S. and international sites through a partnership with the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities.

Krout came to Portland from a small town in Washington called Chewelah, which is north of Spokane. She graduated from Warner Pacific in 2006 with a B.S. in Human Development and Social Work. During her senior year, she was a PA, which led her into her current job. She was hired in a temporary position in February of 2007 and became full-time in August of the same year. Krout has always been great at juggling jobs. When she was a part-time employee, she worked at Starbucks as well. She used to open at Starbucks, do the morning shift there, and then come here and work for the rest of the day. “Kaylee is such a hard worker, very loyal, competent and so good at multitasking,” said Jared Valentine, Director of Student Life.



Husband and wife Jon and Kaylee Krout both work at WPC. Photo by Traci Vogt.

There are actually two Krouts here on our campus. Kaylee's husband, Jon Krout, is a maintenance technician at the college. The two of them met in college, and he graduated with a Religion and Christian Ministries degree in 2007, the same year they were married. Although they didn't actually date during college, both Krouts said that after graduation they realized just how much they liked each other—“and the rest is history.”

When asked about his wife, Jon said that the top five things he loves about her—in no particular order are: “One, she has a big heart. Two, she has a good sense of humor. Three, she's organized, unlike me. Four, she puts up with my crap. And five, she makes a great road trip partner.”

One of the things Krout enjoys doing in her spare time is leading a small group on campus. “I lead a small group every week for women athletes where we come together to hang out, get to know each other and be in community together,” said Krout.

FIVE THINGS JON LOVES ABOUT HER:

1. She has a big heart.
2. She has a good sense of humor.
3. She's organized, unlike me.
4. She puts up with my crap.
5. She makes a great road trip partner.

On weekends she likes going out with her girlfriends or her husband to try out new restaurants. Krout said that her favorite restaurant here in Portland is probably Baiyok on 82nd, but she loves both Thai and Mexican food. When asked about the rumor that she likes to run, Krout said that she wouldn't use the word like; however she does run. She has actually completed a few marathons as well as half marathons. She is a strong supporter of the Knights, and enjoys traveling to see the basketball teams play on the road.

Jared Valentine also mentioned Krout's great sense of humor. He said that she is always there to give people a joke or smile. He recalled one time when he was relentlessly teasing her, and she blurted out, “I don't know how I became the sheep goat here!” Of course, she had meant “scapegoat,” but the word mix-up made the whole situation just that much funnier. “That's the wonderful thing

about Kaylee,” commented Valentine. “Not only is she wonderful to work with, but she is also very funny, and a great friend.” Dr. Connie Phillips remembers that during the 2008 elections, Krout dressed up as Sarah Palin—with Logan Walton as Barack Obama. The two had a mock debate, and Phillips reminisced about the way that Krout was spot on in her interpretation of Palin. When asked if she has done any comedy shows outside of the campus Krout said no; however she has been the emcee for talent shows like the Undees here on campus.

Kaylee Krout is one of the many exceptional employees here on campus. She is constantly going above and beyond in order to serve the community, and though she is extremely busy, she always keeps a positive attitude and a warm smile on her face. Contact her with your questions—or just to let her know what a difference she makes: kkkout@warnerpacific.edu or (503) 517-1007.

Continued from page 7.

“The easiest part is the writing,” said Amy Vaught. “It's easy to put words on paper. What is hard is mulling over the ideas, and whittling them down. Your paradox should not be so broad and vague that it has no cohesive topic. But it also should not be so narrow as to exclude other disciplines from entering your discussion.”

CHOOSING A PARADOX If you are having trouble finding a good paradox, I recommend perusing Wikipedia's list of paradoxes, tunneling into the HUM 410 archive available on the library website, or flipping through a glossary of philosophy. Here are a few popular paradoxes:

- Love and Hate (or Joy and Suffering) - These are undoubtedly driving forces in our world, and yet they are inescapably ill-defined. Humanity is driven to diminish either internal or external suffering. Yet without suffering, joy seems to cease existing.
- Death and Life - This can be a hard pill to swallow. In the movie *Donnie Darko*, death is the only ending in which life can continue. In another example, periodic fires are crucial to maintain healthy forests.

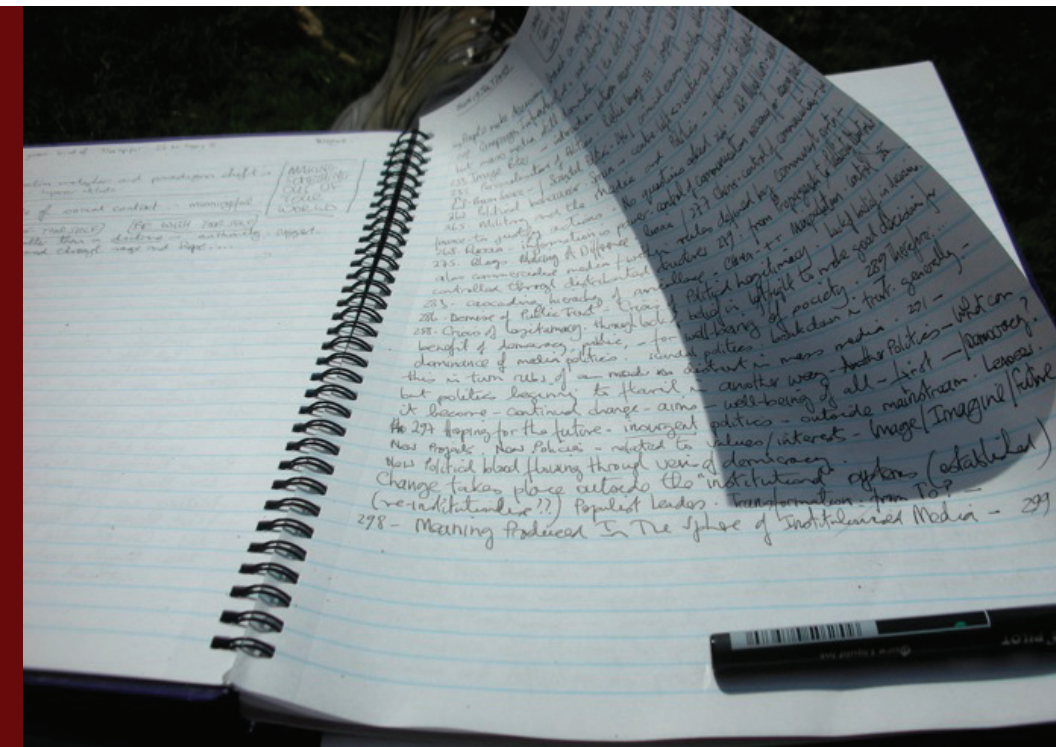


Photo by Tony Hall.

- Freedom and Responsibility - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said that freedom cannot exist without responsibility. It is responsibility which gives us the option of a different path.

HAVE FUN “Trust me,” said Whitten. “I finished mine a month early with 18 credits, three jobs and a son.” Writing the 410 can be terrible or it can be the most worthwhile and purposeful experience of the whole undergraduate career.

HUM 410 is a transformative class that forces you to really think about your life, and what you want to leave behind.

“I loved writing my 410. Loved it. I learned more about myself and the world in those few months than I have through almost any other process—besides having my son, of course,” said Whitten. “The thoughtfulness that goes into this paper ought to change one's understanding of reality and purpose.”



I HAVE A CONFESSION: facebook page engages our community



by Kyle Bliquez

Among us walks a Knight who traverses the halls modestly, blending in with the other students. This person hides his/her secret identity to a tee. Although this person may not be a super hero, he/she has managed to bring our community closer together with an unexpected and unorthodox project. This person, whoever he/she may be, is the moderator of the Facebook page "WP Confessions." The page allows students to anonymously submit their own "confessions," which could be anything from admitting their love for a girl, revealing classified information from their past, or sarcastic comments about themselves, professors, or friends.

Because the posting of secret admissions allowed anonymity, the moderator believed that it was only fair to keep his/her identity under wraps as well. "I figure that if the people writing the confessions get to keep their anonymity, then I should, too. I just want this to be a safe place where people aren't worried about who is reading their secrets, even if they are completely anonymous."

According to the anonymous moderator, "WP Confessions is a place where people can initiate conversations that a lot of us may want to have, but don't necessarily feel comfortable enough to share with others. I hope that it is the start of healthy conversations that can lead to true intimacy and a close community."

While Facebook messages and comments cannot be kept anonymous, a site that was designed to pull data for surveys, SurveyMonkey.com, does keep the sources of information secret. "Confessions" submitted through Survey Monkey are sent to the moderator, who then decides which are safe and relevant enough to be posted.

With over 300 "likes" on the social networking site, the page has become quite visible in the Warner Pacific community. With around 75-100 posts coming in daily, and around only 30 of those being posted per day, the page has become a full time job for the moderator. Some confessions that are submitted are actually posted a day or two later because of the immense backup the moderator has been facing since the arrival of the page on the web. In fact, he/she never imagined the page would become so popular so quickly. The moderator had no idea that the page would grow at this pace, but also revels in the excitement. "No, I had no clue it would be this big of a deal. People have taken it a lot more seriously than I had ever expected, and I love it."

Warner Pacific prides itself on being a tight-knit community, and this page, as insignificant as it may seem, has become a microcosm of the attitudes of the students here, in that everyone is here to support one another through the thick and thin, whether they know the individual or not and whether or not they have been through the same issues and experiences. The moderator acknowledges this fact, and has become the orchestrator for something that is much more than random, anonymous people posting their secrets, but a community that is overflowing with love and care for others.

"As soon as I started seeing more and more heartbreaking posts about depression and suicide, something that I used to struggle with, all I could do was hope that people would love their neighbor a bit better than they did yesterday. I think the fact that these confessions could have been submitted by your best friend, your teammate, or even your roommate gives people a heightened

awareness of the hurt and brokenness circulating in not only our community of Warner Pacific, but in the world all around them."

While the hope remains that the page has brought the Warner Pacific community closer together, there are also questions and doubts that exist. For one, with the fact that the posts are anonymous, some may very well be exaggerated. Of course, this is not to say that those garnering enough courage to let their feelings be known are faking these posts, but rather pointing out the possibility that they could be falsified.

Recently, within two months of its debut, the moderator started to receive profanity-laden "confessions" directed at him/her for unknown reasons. Since this is a completely anonymous system, the submitter of these comments is impossible to track. The verbal abuse and disrespectful remarks have forced the moderator to take an undisclosed amount of time away from the website. February 20 marked the final day of his/her career as the overseer of the page. "Due to being emotionally, spiritually, and physically drained from the responsibilities of this page, I will be handing it over." The moderator is stepping down and will give full rein of the page "to someone that I know and trust."

As the community waits for the new moderator to become official, the original facilitator described his/her ideal view and outlook for the page: "The most important thing that I hope people understand about this page is the fact that it's not about judgment or criticism. To grow closer as a community, we need to be able to accept the uncomfortable. It's not about getting people to agree with you, or telling people they're wrong, or forcing your beliefs on someone. It's about addressing the truths of living in a diverse community."



WP Confessions

February 3

"Some of the replies on some of the confessions make me so angry because some of them sound so condescending and judgmental. Half the time, I don't blame people for thinking they know how to help but if you think about it from the person who wrote the confession's point-of-view, it angers me. I only read confessions. I don't comment on them nor do I like any of them because I just want to listen to them. This is my first and my last confession."



WP Confessions

February 3

"I am secretly married and NO one knows. I love my wife."



WP Confessions

February 3

"I attempted suicide recently, and I'm having a hard time adjusting and being back at school."



WP Confessions

February 3

"I go to a Christian school and I am not a christian. I feel like I have to lie about it, since I worry I will be judged. I haven't told anyone in fear that I might get shunned or even removed for not having the same beliefs. I try to believe but it fails. I start to believe less and less every day."



WP Confessions

February 4

"My favorite part of the year is when all the freshmen girls finally realize that doing their hair and make-up and looking cute every day is a complete waste of time. We're all hotter in sweats."



The Knight Times

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