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The Dateline



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Los Caimanes: New Mariachi group set to shine

By Ana Gonzalez

It all started with an idea. Jose Vasquez, Assistant Director of Student Activities did not expect to lead a group of talented musicians with a bit of Mexican flair.

Then it sparked. "Los Caimanes" – which is Spanish for "the gators" – are born and ready to shine bright, with plans to bring stellar performances as well as to compete in the near future.

According to Vasquez, the Mariachi group was highly requested for a long time by UHD administrators.

"[President Dr. Juan Sanchez Munoz and many other administrators were supportive of the idea," he said, "the school could

use a bit of a music group that can perk the interest, especially since we have a diverse student body."

Vasquez saw the demand increase after he hosted three interest meetings. About 25-30 students showed up. Even if students could not make it to the meetings, they emailed him expressing interest.

The popularity of the forming Mariachi group expanded outside UHD.

In fact, Vasquez says he had received emails from students in other universities in the Greater Houston area wanting to transfer to UHD just to join. "And that is why we're here, to represent the students".

For Jimmy Arredondo, he always wanted to



Assistant Director of Student Activities Jose Vasquez and his Mariachi group, "Los Caimanes" got together for a picture after making their campus debut on October 31 at the Academic Building Mural Area. Photo courtesy of Jose Vasquez

sing. Before coming to UHD, he had to search for a group outside his school. He was involved with the music for six years, practicing on his own.

"I always found the music fascinating; it is part of the Mexican culture," he said, "When I found out UHD was offering a Mariachigroup, I felt that it

was my chance to become a part of it."

Along with Arredondo, trumpet player Jaylene Medina was another student who was ecstatic

about

Mariachi continued on page 2

Glenwood Cemetery: A stroll through the "River Oaks of the Dead"

By Didi Lam

October is here and the first mild cold front has rolled through. Pumpkin patches, pumpkin carving, and pumpkin spiced lattes will soon become a frequent sight around us. With all the fall festivities starting to take place, it would be sinful to forget about Halloween.

Yet, nothing could compare to a spooky stroll in the Glenwood Cemetery.

Glenwood Cemetery is one of those places that is reminiscent of a movie. It's no wonder that photographers and artists come to take in the verdant scenery. It has been called one of Houston's best kept secrets, "River Oaks of the Dead" and



Grave of Howard Hughes at Glenwood Cemetery

Photo by Christopher Charleston

after driving through the gates, its reputation truly precedes itself. Located off of Washington Avenue, hidden from street-side view, and only a mile away from downtown.

When entering the gates, patrons are greeted with a beautiful 3-tiered fountain on the left, believed to have been

installed back in 1888.

Glenwood cemetery was established in 1871, thirty-four years after the city of Houston was founded. It was the first cemetery in Houston to be professionally designed.

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From the Bayou to Taiwan: Connecting cultures through Bayou Connection Program (Part 2)



Ethan Cheng, PJ Lee, and their advisor, Dr. Wang in front of the Girard St. Building. Photo by Jaيدا Doll

By Jaida Doll

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuation of an article published in Issue 3.

Last issue's Professor Spotlight featured Professor Hsiao-Ming Wang, Ph.D. and his Bayou Connection Program, which has created partnerships with five higher education universities in Taiwan and seeks a cultural exchange of ideas centered around criminal justice.

Though a multifaceted program, student exchanges are one of the largest aspects of the Bay-

ou Connection Program. These student exchanges have connected countless students from Taiwan to the University of Houston-Downtown, securing a unique and impactful learning experience for the visiting students.

The Bayou Connection Program currently hosts two students from Taiwan, Yu-Sen "Ethan" Cheng and Ping-Jung "PJ" Lee. Both students have come to UHD from Taipei, Taiwan to complete their Master of Science in Criminal Justice (MSCJ).

Both Cheng and Lee achieved a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Central Police University (CPU), one of UHD's sister schools in Taoyuan City, Taiwan.

Lee became involved in the program when a former student of Wang's and an alum of UHD's Bayou Connection Program brought the opportunity to Lee's attention.

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Oysters and Wine on the shore of Arcachon, Part 2

By Michael Molina

EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuation of an article published from Issue 3 of the same title.

The following day the Gators traveled by train to the city of Bordeaux. The two-hour trip allowed the tired staff and students to catch up on sleep and enjoy the quiet countryside view of France. The beautiful countryside was made up of rolling hills, small houses, and farms similar to the ones that make up the midwestern United States.

After the arrival in Bordeaux and meeting with the new guide for the remainder of the trip, the Gators gathered on the bus before making the drive to Saint-Emilion, where they visited the vineyard Chateau le Grand Faurie.

Chateau le Grand Faurie was founded in 1949 by the Feytit family where they grow their grapes and process them on site in their distillery.

The vineyard shared a tour and a wine tasting for the Gators as the students and staff enjoyed three cups of red wine made up of a decade of different vintages. After completing the wine tasting and being able to buy some bottles to bring home to share with friends and family back in the states, the Gators boarded the bus to begin the trip back to Bordeaux where they stayed for the next

three nights.

The UHD students and faculty gathered together the next morning to travel by rail to the University of Bordeaux-Montaigne. There the staff and students met with fellow students and faculty in a brief presentation in order to learn more about the University as well as what it took to apply and attend school in France.

While the faculty split up from the students in order to meet privately with the faculty of the University of Bordeaux-Montaigne, the students were treated to lunch as well as a tour of the campus by the English club. Working and speaking with their fellow peers, some of the students were able to make friends with the club members and exchange information and share ideas and hobbies before having to return to the main campus building.

After spending the day conversing with students and braving the rainy weather, the students returned to the hotel ready for the trip to the shores of Arcachon the following day.

"My favorite part of the trip was Arcachon," student Michael Molina said of his experience in France. "The beautiful white sandy beach, eating oysters and enjoying a glass of wine at a local cafe, and also being able to ride on the front of a



UHD Study Abroad Trip in France
Photo by Michael Molina

boat while we rode over the waves made for a very rejuvenating and extraordinary experience. I wasn't too big of a what came after however."

Some students had a much more "spiritual experience" such as Robert Olvera after climbing the mountain of sand in Arcachon. Olvera described the amount of energy and the toll it took on his body to crawl up the Dune du Pilat in France, also known as Pyla by the French. Dune de Pilat is known as the largest sand dune in Europe.

The students were dropped off the bus at the base of what seemed to be a mountain of sand that they were determined to climb and conquer. The faculty and students went about their mission to defeat the tumultuous

task set before them.

Although the mountain of sand pushed and resisted hard, the Gators were able to persevere despite the exhaustion and sunburn.

The Gators packed their bags and boarded the bus to begin a long nine-hour trek across France to the city of Nantes where the students and faculty visited the memorial there in honor of all of the slaves that were bought, sold, and transported in and out of what was once the largest slave port in the world.

The Memorial to the Abolition of Slavery is located underneath the port in Nantes. It was a sobering memorial; however it was disappointing that it almost seemed to be placed out of the way and hidden from the world, as if it

was dirty laundry meant to be hidden rather than understood and shared so that we can learn from our history to repeat those same mistakes.

Those emotions carried on for the next day as the students arrived in Normandy to visit the Utah Beach, Omaha Beach, and Overlord Museums which laid out details and historical facts of the events of the D-Day Invasion in Normandy. The heavy loss of lives, the struggles and the perfect storm of situations that had to happen in order for the invasion to succeed seemed overbearing, and the shadows of the men and women that

Oysters continued on page 6

Mariachi (continued from page 1)



Guitarists from "Los Caimanes" began to practice the cords for "Cielito Lindo" one of the songs the Mariachi group plan to perform throughout the year.
Photo by Ana Gonzalez

joining the group. She was involved with the Mariachi group at her previous high school at Northside.

"I was always

inclined with music growing up, thanks to my family. I performed at local community centers and I competed", she said, "when I heard that UHD

has a Mariachi program, I had to join!"

Guitar player Carlos Escamilla came to UHD with expectations that there would be music pro-

grams for him to enjoy for enrichment. When he saw a flyer at Student Activities, he grabbed his guitar and started to practice.

"When I came to UHD, I was disappointed that there were not many things related to music, so I am glad that this exists," he said.

Vasquez has many plans for the Mariachi group, including plans to fundraise for their uniforms, and competitions. "The group is progressing. We are learning a few songs, and our goal is to learn at least 30 songs before the end of the academic year."

You can expect to see them pop up around campus during events,

including a Dia De Los Muertos event on October 31.

Interested students are welcome, however, you must provide your own instrument. If you are interested in joining "Los Caimanes", email Jose Vasquez at vasquezj@uhd.edu, or stop by A436 on Tuesdays at 1 p.m. or Thursdays at 6 p.m.

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Cancer survivorship for more than cancer survivors

By Jaida Doll

Heather Goltz is an Associate Professor of Social Work at the University of Houston-Downtown. Though she began her work at UHD in 2011, she has been involved in the field of cancer research for almost 20 years. Both her clinical work and her research focuses on identifying and remedying the unmet needs of genitourinary cancer survivors and their caregivers.

Goltz was diagnosed with carcinoid cancer, a neuroendocrine disease, during her MSW program. Her diagnosis, along with experiences as a caregiver in Louisiana's "Cancer Alley," led to her decision to study genitourinary cancers such as prostate and bladder cancer.

The term "survivorship" is highly debated among the cancer research community. Though it sounds as if it refers to the period after treatment, when there is no longer evidence of disease, the National Institute of Health (NIH) states that cancer survivorship begins at the point of diagnosis

and continues for the remainder of the patient's life. The term "survivorship" constitutes the entire cancer continuum.

The consideration of this much broader interpretation of the cancer experience sheds light on a plethora of many underlying needs of cancer survivors. This is what Goltz' work aims to identify and overcome – the unmet needs that accompany not only the diagnosis and treatment of cancer patients but also those challenges that accompany the aftermath of the disease.

Goltz says, "It is paradoxical that while cancer is one of the most studied health conditions since the U.S. declared its "War on Cancer" in the 1970s, survivors are often fighting their own battles against the disease outside hospitals and clinics."

Although these battles are usually thought of in a purely physical sense, the challenges that accompany the disease can also have psychological, emotional, spiritual, financial, or cognitive

component. As cancer is a multifaceted disease, it affects nearly every aspect of the patient's life, as well as the lives of all those involved.

One of the largest of these needs in cancer survivorship, is that of financial stability. The number one cause of bankruptcy in Texas is related to medical needs, and cancer is unarguably one of the most expensive diseases. Goltz is an expert in prostate cancer, the most common genitourinary cancer in the U.S. She is also an expert in bladder cancer, the fifth most common cancer in the U.S., second most common genitourinary cancer, and the most expensive cancer per patient in terms of diagnosis, treatment, and surveillance.

As cancer is also a physically taxing disease, the diagnosis and treatment of such largely impacts one's ability to work. This is further complicated if the patient's health insurance is tied to their employer. These individuals need to work to pay for their treatments,

yet they cannot work because of their treatments. This is only one example of the many unmet needs Goltz' research aims to expose and remedy.

Unmet needs are especially prevalent in the areas of childcare, transportation, treatment decisions, spiritual concerns, emotional and psychological concerns such as depression and anxiety, as well as physical and sexual challenges.

"If you don't have the social, financial, or human resources, it becomes challenging... Those things are often unmet needs. Imagine trying to commute to the Texas Medical Center every week for six weeks for your bladder cancer BCG treatment when you don't have a car, you're trying to stay employed, and you live in Freeport. You're too young for Social Security, don't currently qualify for Medicare or Medicaid, live more than 50 miles away, and each treatment day means a day off from work... every week for almost two months. How do you

work through that?" Goltz asked.

In order to assess and overcome these needs, Goltz and other social workers utilize the National Comprehensive Cancer Network's (NCCN) Distress Thermometer. Goltz, who was on the team to create the first unmet needs assessment survey for bladder cancer, hopes the NCCN Distress Thermometer aids social workers as they identify ways in which the cancer care experience can be improved, so as to minimize patients' stress throughout survivorship.

"Cancer diagnoses and treatment can be traumatizing. We keep hoping and we keep working towards ways to improve treatment and symptom management," Goltz explained.

The NCCN Distress Thermometer lists common unmet needs that patients may experience. Social workers like Goltz use the Thermometer to assess the amount of psychosocial stress a patient is experiencing. From there, Gomez works one-

on-one with patients or in small groups with their caregivers to identify the factors contributing to that stress, as well as to devise a means to overcome those challenges.

As mentioned, cancer not only affects every aspect of a patient's life, but it also impacts the lives of his/her family and caregivers. Goltz argues that the impact of this disease reaches even beyond the lives of those personally affected, as it impacts the entirety of our society.

"Cancer is not an individual or family diagnosis," she said. "It is a societal diagnosis. Cancer [...] has an impact on not just individuals and families, but [on] society itself, and we have a lot to learn in terms of how we manage that –

Cancer Survivorship continued on page 7



Heather Honoré Goltz - professor, researcher, advocate
Photo courtesy of Dr. Heather Goltz

Professor Spotlight

Name: Heather Honoré Goltz

Academic Background: Ph.D. in Health Education from Texas A&M University; M.S.W. and M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction-Teaching from University of Houston; B.S. in Biology from Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Position at UHD: Professor of Social Work

Why do you enjoy most about teaching?

"Being faculty means you're not just an expert in your area, but also are always refining your expertise and growing as your field changes. You are always, even as faculty, growing, developing, learning – a lifelong scholar."

Why do you most enjoy teaching at UHD?

"UHD just has been an amazing experience and a wonderful home. The best, most intelligent, most talented people I know work on campus here."

Was there anything in particular that impacted your decision to teach at UHD?

"I'm a first-generation high school, college, and graduate student. I wanted to pay back the great mentoring and teaching I received along the way with a student population that is a lot like my younger self."

In your opinion, what is one way in which UHD can be improved?

"We don't do a great job of helping folks earlier in their academic careers to understand that there are these interdisciplinary areas of study that can really open up different avenues for careers. My message for UHD students is if you think what I or other faculty do for our research is pretty cool, there really aren't any barriers to you participating in this research or eventually making careers in these research areas. We're here as a resource for you."

Igniting Studio Trigger's spark onto the big screen

By Blanca Guadiana

Japanese animated movie "Promare" is set in a world in which a fraction of the human population begins to spontaneously combust, granting the abilities to produce and control fire. Those with these abilities are called Burnish and are chased and captured by the government as soon as they manifest their power. The movie focuses on the fight to end this unjust treatment by way of over the top action and visual flair.

The creation of this movie came as a surprise to many. An original film, not based on any pre-existing anime or manga, it marks the theatrical debut of acclaimed anime studio, Studio Trigger. The movie also marks the theatrical debut of anime director Hiroyuki Imaishi, and writer Kuzuki Nakashima best known for their collaboration on award winning anime "Gurren Lagann" and "Kill La Kill". "Promare" is meant to serve as a spiritual successor to those shows and the connection is clear. Imaishi fills with the same bombastic energy that

gives "Gurren Lagann" and "Kill La Kill" their spark, while Nakashima imbues it's plot with all the action and intrigue that fills the third acts of those shows. It is a narrative arc which showcases exponentially rising stakes until the story comes to a heart pounding climax.

Galo Thymos, the film's main character, works as a firefighter for Burning Rescue -- a team that specializes in rescuing people from Burnish fires using mechanical, ice-shooting, exoskeletons. The first scene centers around a fight between Burning Rescue and Burnish terrorist group, Mad Burnish, led by the secondary main character, Lio Fotia. The greatest focus of "Promare" is the changing relationship between Galo and Lio as they come to understand each other and the truth of the world they live in. The two start as enemies thinking their goals are in opposition to each other, but come to realize that they share the same goal. They both want to help people, and in order to do so they need to burn the

old world to the ground to raze the current power structures that are hurting everyone. Ultimately, the movie contends that people have to entertain ideas that may seem impossible and be willing to work in order to save the world.

The animation is magnificent -- in particular the gorgeous multicolored flames that wreath the Burnish characters. The story is gripping and well-paced, due to its well-written characters and a plot structure which Nakashima has refined in his past two collaborations with director, Imaishi. Lastly, the soundtrack, composed by Hiroyuki Sawano is exceptional, featuring several songs with smooth vocals over industrial sounds and two marvelous themes performed by Japanese rock group Superfly. All this marks an exciting and thoroughly engrossing watch.

Though the limited release has ended, the film will be re-released on December 8th in a special edition featuring new scenes. Tickets are on sale now.



Queen Bey presents a paltry Gift in new documentary

By Varah Thornton

Beyoncé released an hour-long documentary on September 16 to accompany her album *The Lion King: The Gift*. She uploaded the documentary trailer on her Instagram the day before, hyping up fans for another one of her "masterpieces."

It details the process of making an original curated album to accompany the release of the live-action animated *The Lion King* this past summer.

The mini documentary goes through the album track by track with brief interstitials of the various artist who worked on them.

At the beginning of the documentary, it is clear that Beyoncé wanted everything documented. This is more than just a chance to capitalize on a popular classic. This is an opportunity to pay homage to a heritage and showcase a continent.

The album projects

the sense that the album was compiled at break-neck speed judging from the fact that Beyoncé herself is seen in four distinct wardrobes, one of them being her outfit from the July 15 London premier of the film where the Duke and Duchess of Sussex famously broke royal protocol when the respective couples embraced on the red carpet. The album was released a few days later on July 19.

One of the first images that appears is an intimate part of Beyoncé's life making a selfie video with daughter Blue saying, "We've landed in Africa." Interspersed throughout the entire piece are various scenes from their time in Africa to the premiere of the film in London and Los Angeles.

Something that stands out very quickly is that the video feels off. Things do not seem purposefully edited to create the

perfect presentation that is typically presented by Beyoncé's Parkwood Entertainment, her production company.

It is not long before you see that a trashcan made it onto the album. Everyone worked in a rapid fashion, trying to infuse musical significance and meaning into a once-in-a-lifetime project. The haste of the album production was shown when both Beyoncé and Jay-Z were shown recording music in their living room.

Parkwood Entertainment has made a name for itself since the singer established it and began using it to produce nearly all of her visual releases since 2010. But this latest documentary seemed haphazard.

Coming from an entertainer known for the lengths she goes through for perfection, this documentary appeared to be an afterthought. It is as though the singer had



Beyoncé dons custom outfit for *Lion King* premiere
Photo courtesy of Beyoncé, Instagram

greater intentions for the footage and decided at the last minute to release it early. Even the announcement for the documentary via Instagram seemed off-hand, opting for a network branded commercial.

The film itself was

not bad, but it showed the hasty environment and an overall rushed compilation of events. Though Beyoncé has made the surprise album drop a hallmark of the music industry, the documentary uploaded was unexpected. Despite

the hectic pace and improvisational work put in by every artist, the album itself is polished. It goes to show what Beyoncé can do even when she is flying through a project.

How society makes a man

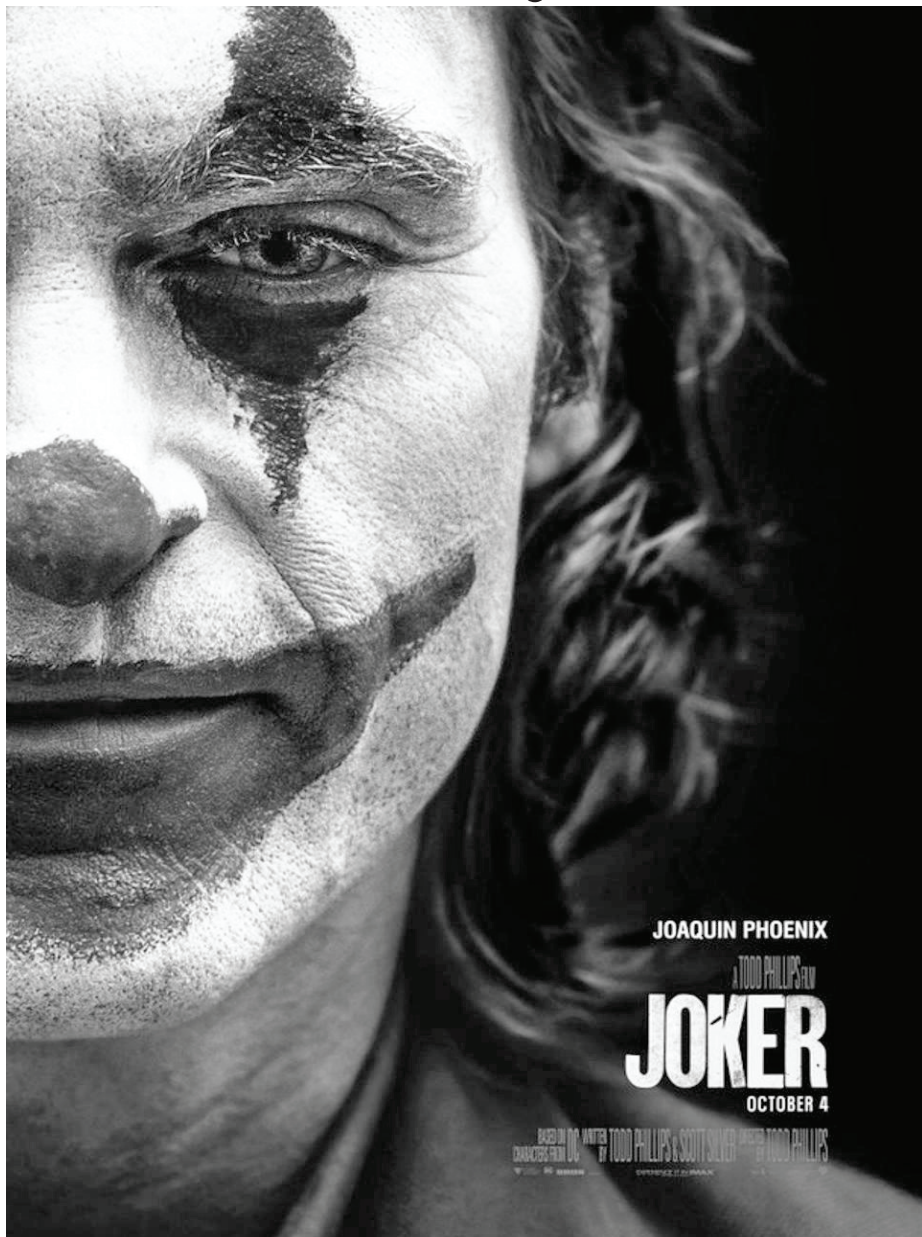


Photo Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures

By Jose Gonzalez

Joker sets out to give a glimpse into the zeitgeist of America, offering insight and an outlet to those who may identify with the Joker. The film offers a macabre tale of the life of Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix).

Fleck is blighted by his own psychological ailments and is afflicted with the apathy of the world. Everything the viewer needs to know is in the opening scene, a single one-shot take. The camera zooms in on an isolated Arthur, searching inside himself for the happiness that one expects a clown to exhibit. While Arthur uses his hands to prop up his facsimile of a smile, a tear rolls down his cheek, as his body cannot conceal the sadness that dwells inside.

This film requires more participation from the audience than other films. Nothing is laid out for the viewers, and the film is highly interpretative in the sense that the viewers are forced to consider if any of the

events in the film occurred at all. This could explain why this film has been both well-received and critically panned. Some claim that the film is a masterpiece. Others, see it as a copy of Scorsese's *Taxi Driver*. Either way, the film revolves around a comic book motif that has been around for decades.

Joker portrays Fleck in a descent into madness. He endures a subway beating, a conniving co-worker, and an indifferent social worker who drops him as a patient due to budget cuts in the program. These challenges contribute to Fleck becoming the Joker. Consequently, this would lead to controversy, denoting the film's purpose as capturing a single perspective of the zeitgeist's dysfunctionality currently experienced in the world today.

The original score, composed by Hildur Guðnadóttir, curates the grim character of Arthur Fleck, foreshadowing his further plunge into psychosis. Once desperate,

Fleck no longer wants to be further victimized in a decaying city; he wants to grow, yet continues to suffer while the opulent elite remain undisturbed. The music also mentions how the actions of the Joker has a cathartic release; it is the self-actualization of himself, becoming who he wants to be.

This film will likely receive an Oscar nomination for Joaquin Phoenix. It is phenomenal acting that is unparalleled in any other film this year. *Joker* as a film, however, may not win best picture. Though the film is a must see for any DC fan, or anyone for that matter, without Joaquin Phoenix, the film would not have received the critical claim that it has garnered thus far. *Joker* is a story about how Gotham equally made *Joker* and *Batman*. It is a poignant tale of a man desires happiness. The film can be interpreted as a representation that American society is itself tired of the rich elite.

Wale should be your favorite rapper

By Christopher Charleston

With the recent release of his sixth studio album, "Wow... That's Crazy" rapper and Washington D.C native, Wale, has continued to solidify himself as one of the most consistent rappers in the industry.

The album -- his first since signing a new recording deal with Warner Bros. Records-- is filled with songs upon songs of positive energy and self-defining lyrics made for the perfect Instagram captions.

Wale shifts through the project effortlessly, displaying a towering new level of both growth and maturity since the birth of his daughter only a few years ago.

His pro-blackness on the 15-song album is concrete, rapping about his well-known love and appreciation of black women on records like "BGM" (Black Girl Magic) and the album's

introductory record, "Sue Me" in which he raps "...I'm rooting for everybody that's black." A nod to actress Issa Rae's popular quote at the 2017 Emmy Awards.

The truest and most important representation of his respect for women however, is shown in his inclusion of them throughout the project. Singers Kelly Price, Ari Lennox, and Houston's own, Rapper Megan Thee Stallion are featured on several songs respectively.

At different times throughout the album, Wale experiments with new rhymes schemes, serving Caribbean vibes on the song "Love & Loyalty" and slowly taking his time to express his feelings of desire on "Black Bonnie."

Still, the substance we have grown accustomed to in Wale albums of the past remains. As an artist who is jointly signed to Rick Ross' Maybach Music Group-- a creative

house for some of your favorite trap records-- Wale has done a tremendous job maintaining his own sound.

Quite simply, it's very easy to like Wale on this project. Anyone who is looking for feel-good music that's rooted in honesty and love would be remiss to tell you "Wow... That's Crazy" is not just that.

Unfortunately, it's hard to escape the feeling that this project, similar to Wale's career overall, is being overlooked. Sure, Wale has had several radio hits since blossoming into the artists his cult-like followers know and love, with 2011's "Lotus Flower Bomb" being the obvious one that comes to mind. Simultaneously, it's not a secret that the 35-year old MC's lyrical talents have never quite been enough to catapult him into Hip-Hop mega-stardom.

When we normally name our favorite rappers, "The Big Three" of today's time are usually



Photo courtesy of Atlantic Records

Drake, Kendrick Lamar & J.Cole. If the conversation shifts towards all-time best, Jay-Z, Andre 3000 and Kanye West, are sure to be mentioned. Wale is rarely brought up, and it's now time for that to change.

In a generation where negativity fuels our everyday lives like vibranium fuels Wakandana, Wale is the honest hero we all

need. There is nothing superficial about this album, and there is seemingly nothing superficial about Wale. How could there be? On "Wow... That's Crazy" he tells us his faults. He tells us what he hopes, and where he's failed. Most importantly, he shows that he is a better person because of it.

Wale is probably not your favorite rapper, but

he should be. Because if you're reading this, odds are, you're in college, and for most people, that's four years (minimum) of a whirlwind of different emotions. Sorting out and dealing with them is what's both necessary and important.

On Wale's newest masterpiece of an album, he attempts to do just that.

Oysters and Wine (continued from page 2)

fought and lost their lives on these beaches seemed to remain as the students and faculty of the University of Houston-Downtown observed in relative silence of the sacrifices made that day in the name of freedom and uprooting a tyrant's hold in Europe.

Later that evening the Gators would arrive back in Paris, France where they would spend their final night together before enjoying a free day to explore the city on their own and finally preparing for the long journey back home.

The final day of the trip the students and faculty split up to explore and enjoy the city in their own ways. Some of the students went to explore the ancient catacombs

where millions of people are buried and the walls are covered with human bones and skulls to celebrate the dead and give them their final resting place. Others traveled to the Palace of Versailles which was the home to the royalty of France up until the beginning of the French Revolution in 1789. There was also a student who enjoyed the world of Disney in Paris with several of the peers from the University of Bordeaux-Montaigne where they were able to enjoy the rides with newfound friends.

The trip home was short-lived compared to the long flight to Paris, however the memories and the stories they gathered together were able to

allow them to relive the last ten days together as the plane began to land in Houston from the London airport nine hours later.

For students and faculty alike, the trip to France was a very important experience where it helped expand the lives and worlds of students that believed that they would never have the opportunity to do so. The trip allowed these twenty-five men and women the ability to explore and live in the historic city for ten days where they could enjoy the nightlife, climb the tallest mountains, sail on the high seas, relive the wars of our past, and bring history to life as they wandered the museums and historic streets of the "City of Lights."



Peaceful scenery at Glenwood Cemetery
Photo by Christopher Charleston

Glenwood (continued from page 1)

in incorporating one of the few places people can view rolling hills in Houston. The curving roads will have visitors going in circles, winding around, or getting lost for a while. The tranquil grounds on this immense 88-acre property allows visitors a chance to see the Houston skyline, Buffalo Bayou, and thousands of beautiful tombstones and mausoleums in peace.

Native Houstonians may recognize a few names (Allen, Brown, Cooley, Hermann, Hobby, Jones, Rice, Wortham), alongside other notable

figures (I.e. governors, mayors, last president of the Republic of Texas). Billionaire, aviator, and film director, Howard Hughes' family plot is one of the most frequented sites.

Visitors won't find it by reading along the tombstones. Once close enough to read behind its gates, visitors can pick up a map at the cemetery office and they'll gladly give hand over a pamphlet that lists the notable interred and where to find them.

The well-maintained grounds of Glenwood

cemetery has plenty of shade thanks to the magnificent trees that line the paths in and around the cemetery. But do not miss the Cemetery Oak, one of the largest oak trees in Harris county. Its mighty trunk leads to sprawling branches that almost reach the ground. Known to be at least a hundred years old, it is just a glimpse of how large it can become. If planning a visit, remember that the cemetery's gates close after sundown. But make sure not to get locked in after dark.

Emerging Scholars of Color


Wednesday, November 20, 2019

Students:
10:00am: "Latinx Parental Involvement in Student's Educational Success" Teaching Demo by Dr. Stephany Cuevas, in Milam Room
11:30am: "Muslims and American Citizenship," by Hajer Al-Faham, in Milam Room


All Welcome:
1:00pm: Lunch Meet and Greet, Room S431

Faculty & Staff:
2:30pm: "Apoyo Sacrificial: Understanding Undocumented Latina/o Parents' Engagement in Students' Post Secondary Planning and Success," Research Presentation by Dr. Stephany Cuevas, Room N1042
4:00pm: "Conceptualization of Muslims' American Identity & Engagement in American Political Life," by Hajer Al-Faham Room N1042

Featured Scholars



Dr. Stephany Cuevas

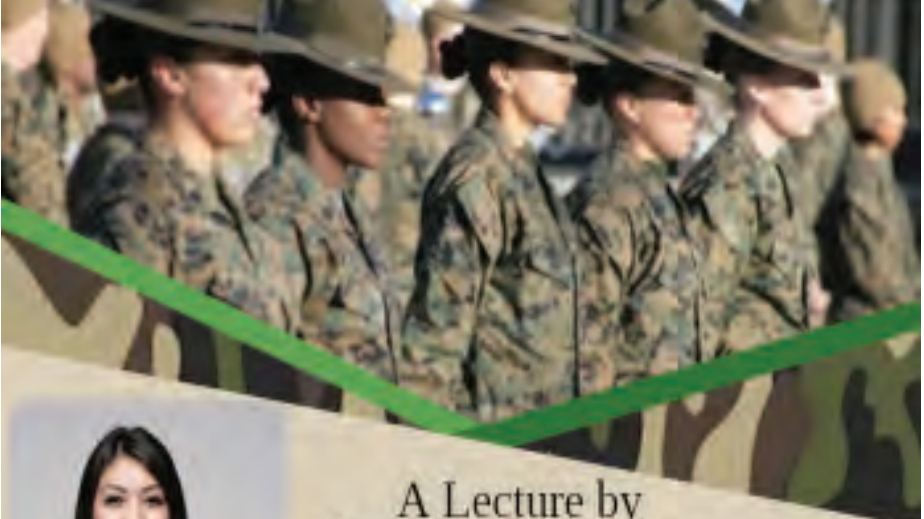


Hajer Al-Faham

Latinas Achieve

UHD
University of Houston
Downtown
Center for Latino Studies

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DR. HORRIE LUCERO AT LUCERO@UHD.EDU



A Lecture by
Dr. Valerie Martínez

Tuesday, November 12, 2019
UHD, Milam & Travis Room
3:30 - 5PM

LATINAS IN THE MILITARY

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Bayou Connection (continued from page 1)

At the time, he worked to protect government officials – a position equivalent to that of an American Secret Service agent. He worked in this field for nearly a decade before coming to Houston, and he plans to graduate in May 2020.

Cheng, on the other hand, worked as an instructor at CPU before a fellow professor recommended that he finish his MSCJ through the Bayou Connection Program. He connected with Wang and began his UHD studies in August 2018. He plans to graduate by the end of the year.

Lee had previously visited the U.S. a handful of times, but it was Cheng's first time braving the fourteen-hour flight from Taipei to Houston. With the two countries being so far apart, there are a plethora of differences that separate them, yet they are connected through the Bayou Connection Program. Regardless of how smoothly Wang and his program facilitate that connection, the students must adjust to a new culture, a mostly

new language, and an almost entirely new way of life.

Cheng remarked on this challenge, "When we came here, the biggest challenge was [...] to get used to everything. It's a brand-new life."

Lee expanded on this and remarked on some of the specific differences between Taipei and Houston. One of the larger differences for Lee is the differing transportation accommodations between the two cities.

"Like I said, it's different, [especially] the tempo and the ways you move," Lee said. "In Taipei we can take different types of public transport systems [...]. It's very convenient in Taipei; we don't have to buy a car to go anywhere. Here, you need to have a car."

Cheng commented on the irony of being forced to drive a car (due to the lack of public transport), only to be stuck in traffic for the entirety of the drive.

"The traffic in Houston is so bad," he complained.

Well... at least

they're getting the true Houstonian experience. But Houston traffic is not the only irritant of a study abroad student. Cheng and Lee also faced many difficulties concerning the technicalities of traveling abroad. Cheng detailed the many obstacles foreign students face such as securing a bank account and housing without a social security number.

Furthermore, exchange students also face many financial challenges. Though the Bayou Connection Program covers half of their UHD tuition, students are expected to provide the remainder of tuition, as well as the funds to cover their textbooks, flights, food, transportation, and housing accommodations.

Lee explained his personal financial challenges.

"I think the challenges are from every aspect, not just the language barrier and the culture barrier," he said. "When I graduated from CPU, I started to have a salary, so I never had this type of situation [where I had] to live without salary. Economic insecurity is a

big challenge because we have to live by saving – everything is on budget."

Although Lee and Cheng faced many challenges in their student exchange experience, such experience has revolutionized their education. Cheng stated that the opportunity to study at UHD has taught him more than what he could have learned in Taiwan. Though it was a challenge to adjust to the differences in the American education system, it was an adjustment that proved worthwhile to Cheng and Lee.

Cheng states that in his previous education, classes were more formally structured. While students at universities in Taiwan are expected not to speak until called on, Cheng explains that students at UHD are encouraged to speak freely and even challenge the ideas of a professor.

"The teaching style in Taiwan – the school system – is different [...]. Here, professors give students more space to say what they want to say," Cheng said.

Lee agreed with Cheng's statement of the stark differences between the countries' universities.

"The two systems are totally different," Lee

remarked. "In the system [in America], the professors [...] teach students how to think. They give students the tools, but not the answers."

He compares this to Taiwan's system, where rote memorization is the main learning tactic. Students are taught to memorize the answers to test questions but more than they are taught how to answer those questions through the power of their own critical and logical thinking.

This polarization in learning techniques, though beneficial in the long run, was a challenging adjustment for Lee and Cheng.

Cheng explains how, in readjusting their learning techniques, they had to entirely restructure their way of thinking.

"We also needed a lot of time to change our concepts [of learning]," Cheng said. "We used to learn something by memorization – write down, memorize, write down, memorize, take test – [...] but in America, the professors accept that you can express your thoughts and [...] apply your theories."

On top of adjusting to these new learning techniques, Cheng and Lee had to adjust to them

while immersed in a foreign tongue.

"We read English in Taiwan, but we seldom speak and write. We just read and listen. Speaking and writing is harder for us," said Lee.

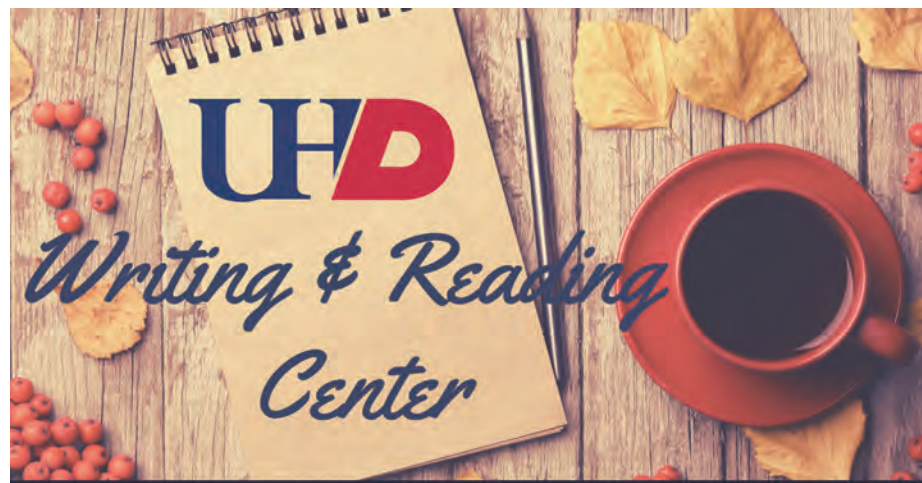
Tackling assignments is difficult enough for the average UHD student. But Cheng and Lee tackle these assignments in an educational setting and in a language that is second to their own.

Fortunately, they had the help of their professor and mentor, Dr. Wang. Cheng speaks about the importance of a mentoring aspect of the Bayou Connecting Program.

"So it's hard for us – students in Taiwan – to come to America," he said. "When we come here [...] we will encounter some hazard or barrier in front of us."

Cheng continues that these hazards and barriers are much more easily overcome with the help of mentors like Wang. Cheng and Lee made it a point to thank Wang for his mentorship throughout the Bayou Connection Program.

Cheng said, "We need to thank our professor, Dr. Wang. He's the reason why we're here"



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Cancer survivorship (continued from page 4)

– not just for individuals and their families – but also as a society that doesn't have a very complete social welfare safety net."

The findings of Goltz' research helps to identify the gaps the healthcare system as her patients navigate through that system over the course of their diagnosis, treatment, and aftercare.

"A lot of my research focuses on individuals and couples, but there are lessons that we can learn for the wider society about how we need to address healthcare systems[...]"

The information she gathers from her patients does not simply identify the unmet needs in the healthcare system, but she argues that such informa-

tion can be applied in a much larger context.

"The findings and results of my research don't just impact how we can do individual care, but they can inform how we set up health care systems and how people flow through health care systems – from diagnosis to end of life care – [...] and can teach us from a societal perspective, what kind of changes or policies do we need to put in to place in order to minimize the impact of cancer on patients, families, and the public," said Goltz.

Though Goltz largely impacts the lives of her patients, the impact of her work reaches far beyond those with whom she personally works. By working alongside patients to

identify their unmet needs, she is able to identify the changes that are needed to create a more competent healthcare system.

"I view my role not just as a clinician or a researcher, but as an advocate," she declared.

In addition to Goltz's impact as a clinician and a researcher, her work informs the public of the often-unnoticed struggles faced by cancer patients and their families. She identifies ways in which those barriers can be overcome, while endorsing the societal changes that can alleviate many of those struggles altogether.

Controversial candidate seeks mayoral seat

By Sheila Delgado

On November 5, Houstonians will decide who they want to lead the city. One of the candidates on the ballot is Council Member Dwight Boykins.

A Houston native, Boykins ran and won for Houston City Council, District D in 2013 for which he is currently still serving.

As a respected member of the community and a mayoral candidate, Boykins was invited to speak to a group of young high school students about “the real world” in May 2019. It started off as a normal day for the students of the Youth Advocacy Summit, who were hoping to meet delegates who impact their community.

The large group of students were split into two groups. One was to meet with Mayor Sylvester Turner and the other with Dwight Boykins. Unfortunately, Boykins was running late so both groups joined Mayor Turner. By the time Boykins arrived at the Marriott Hotel, Mayor Turner’s meet and greet was over and the students were released to speak with Boykins.

It seemed as though the energy in the room changed. Unlike Turner, Boykins came across as unpolished and disconnected. The first topic discussed was mental ill-

ness. A voter spoke deeply about his experiences with issues he had previously dealt with.

An eyewitness recalls the conversation as such, “one of the guys in the group... [began] to talk about his personal experience and how he had [dealt] with depression... Mr. Boykins made it seem like it was his [the voter’s] problem... that depression is not really a mental illness at all and that it was “made up”... the guy [felt] bad.”

Things were off to a rocky start, but it would not be the first controversial statement Boykins would make during the meet. The next topic was women’s rights (i.e. Reproductive Health, Sexual Abuse, etc). When Boykins was asked about his views, he made crude, sexist remarks.

At one point, he brought a young girl to stand next to him, an attendee describing Boykins as stating, “Imagine if she was my girlfriend... girls need to learn that in college the way you act and how you dress will [define] the way a guy treats you... basically, to keep our legs closed because if we didn’t, [a] guy... [will not] want to marry us in the future because we wouldn’t be pure anymore.”

Another attendee recalled the same statement

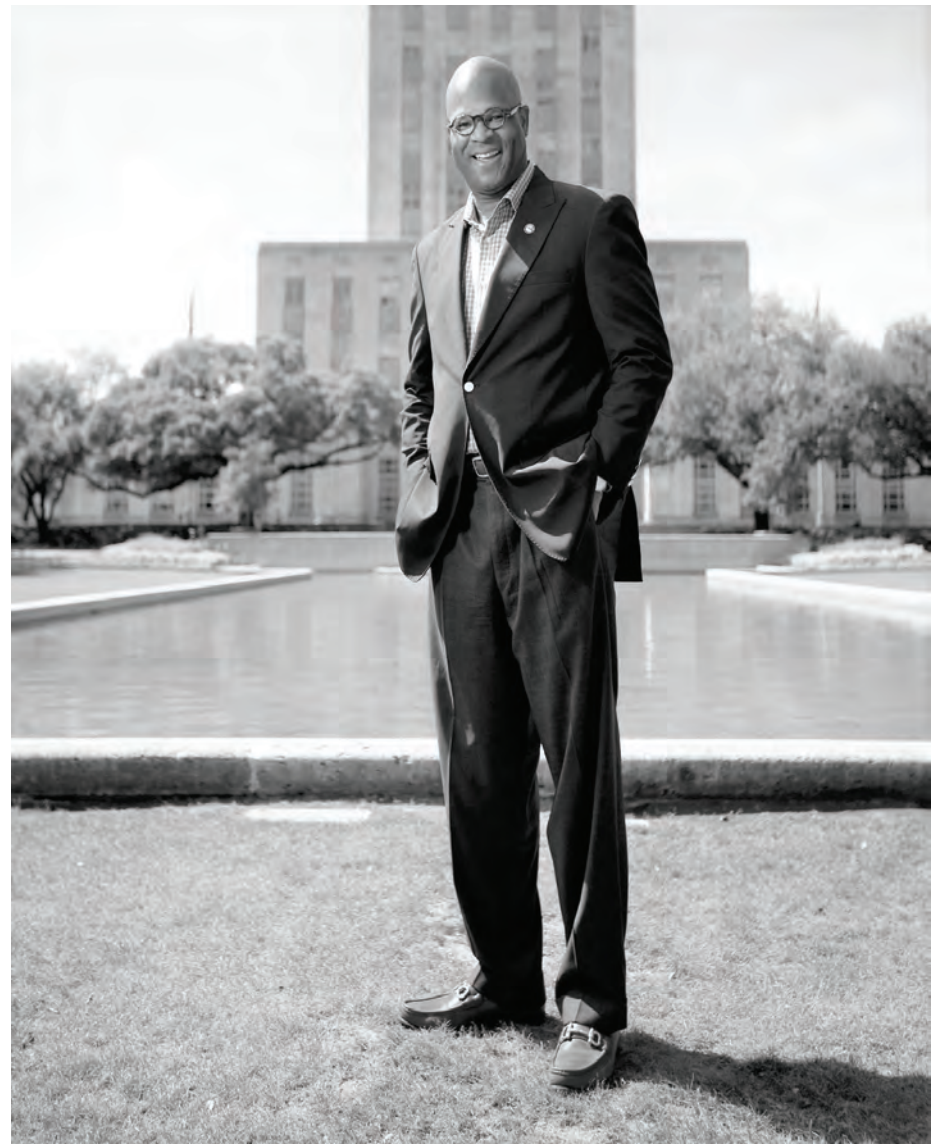
as they recalled how uncomfortable and ashamed it made them feel of themselves and their body during Boykins’ response.

When Boykins asked the youngest girl at the summit to stand up, the students were shocked and walked out to call another adult into the room. Boykins then realized the effects his words were having; he began to recant what he had said before, but the damage was done. “He was apologizing by saying that we shouldn’t put any of these things on the internet because it could have big consequences in the future, not only for him, but for us” said one participant.

Another student stated that “[they] hope [Boykins] does not win the mayoral city election and that he is removed from the city council because we should not have someone like that representing us.”

His remarks did not silence the students. #BoycottBoykins began to trend on Twitter, but it did not attract the attention or awareness as #MeToo or #TimesUp.

Boykins later issued a public statement stating, “My words were meant to inspire and I deeply regret the extent to which they caused anyone hurt or discomfort. That was never my intention, and to anyone who may have



Councilman Dwight Boykins outside city hall
Photo courtesy of Texas Medical Center

taken offense by what I said, I apologize.

Though this event occurred over three months ago, this incident should be brought to the public’s attention, as election day approaches. Early Voting has begun, with many unaware of Dwight Boykins’ remarks. Boykins not

only made inappropriate condescending remarks to a group of high school students; he made them feel uncomfortable and ashamed.

Both interviewees recalled the same incident as the one that struck the most, “[Dwight Boykins] said he would rather run

in front of a car than lose his career.” Perhaps someone like that is too controversial to run for mayor.

Bayou Ballot: Could a name change benefit UHD?



By Christopher Charleston

In 2007, officials at UHD began a two-year process of discussing the possibility of a name change for the University. Stamats, a higher education marketing company, was hired to oversee the operation. A couple of years and \$50,000 later, a

change (quite obviously) never came. Years later, strong opinions on the possibility of a University rebrand still exist.

For many UHD students, it is no secret that telling strangers where you attend college often involves an additional level of specification.

The University of Houston-Downtown is often confused with The University of Houston-Central Campus, and though the two are both in the University of Houston system, they are completely separate institutions.

A fair comparison might be the University of

Texas at Austin (UT) and The University of Texas at San Antonio. (UTSA)

Proponents of the name change at the time, stated the possibilities of countless opportunities for the university, such as becoming a tier-one institution.

That feeling still resonates among several students today.

“I’ve loved my time at UHD,” Daniel Stinson said. “At the same time, a name like Southeast Texas State University sounds cool. I’m not sure if the University’s goal is to grow its sports teams into D1 or D2 programs, but a name like that might help.”

Southeast Texas State was one of the names considered back in 2007. Others ideas for names included Houston University, Downtown Houston University and City University of Houston.

Those opposed cited the avoidability of having to explain a name change for the next few years. Stability and continuity is something current students wish to maintain as well.

“In my opinion UHD is a stable name,” said Diana Carreon. “We’re neighboring sisters of UH. More people recognize us that

We would like to know: Do you think UHD could benefit from a name change?

+Yes, it would help us grow as a university. No matter what it takes.

+No, I like UHD the way it is.

+Yes, but only at a reasonable cost.

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way.” She added, while also stating her fondness of Southeast Texas State. “I do like the sound of that.”

The cost of a University rebrand is nothing to be scoffed at. Rumors

that the actual cost of the hiring of Stamats could have been as high at \$350,000 have circulated campus, though this has obviously never been confirmed.

Downtown Dollar: Let's talk about Loan Repayment Plans

By Christopher Charleston

Let's take a step into the future, to January 20, 2021. In this imagined time ahead, the citizens of the United States are preparing to inaugurate a new President. I suppose, we could also be re-inaugurating our current Commander-in-Chief as well, but for the sake of my argument, let's just assume that either way, the new leader of the free world is not Vermont Senator, Bernie Sanders.

This would mean that we now live in a world where the President's top priority would likely not be eliminating \$1.6 trillion in student loan debt, virtually guaranteeing (at least partial) financial aid repayments for students all over the country.

This future—for the sake of financial and personal responsibility—is one we should all prepare for. Here are three loan repayment plans that qualify for student loan forgiveness.

An "Income Based

Repayment Plan" (IBR) is a popular payment plan for individuals tasked with paying back loans while seeking to closely monitor their monthly expenses. If your loan was taken out after July 1, 2014, your repayment will not exceed 10 percent of your discretionary income, which is calculated by a formula that includes family size and income. The loan will be forgiven after 20 years. tax returns.

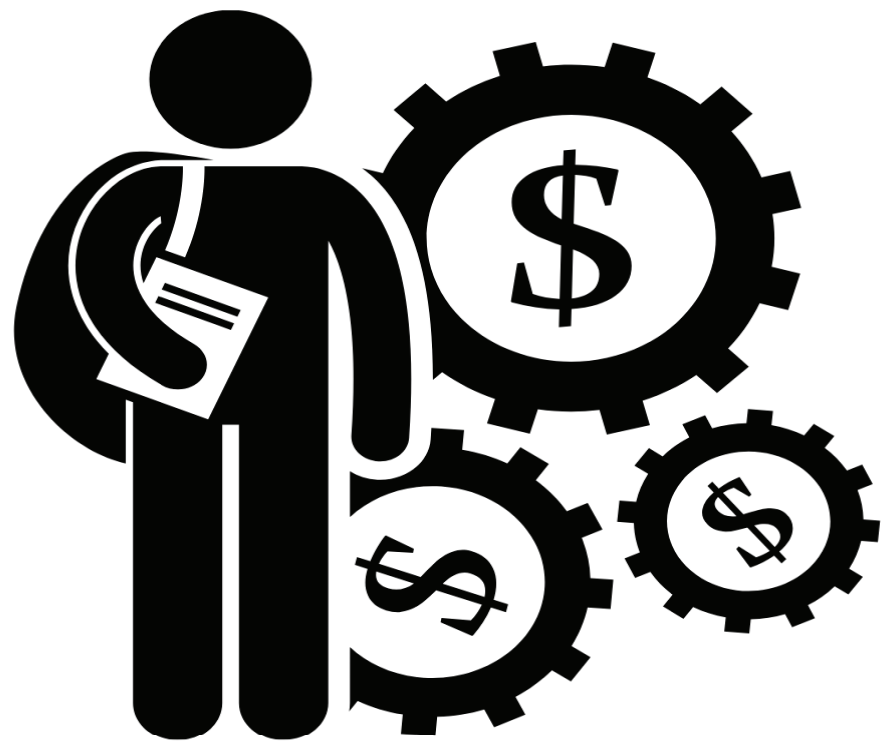
The "Pay As You Earn Repayment Plan" (PAYE) is also known as Obama Student Loan Forgiveness. It is similar to IBR in that you will never pay more than 10 percent of your discretionary income, and the loan will be forgiven after 20 years. However, student loans dating all the way back to 2007 may qualify for this plan.

If you are employed by a not-for-profit or government organization, you may qualify for a "Public Service Loan Forgiveness Plan" (PSLF). Combine IBR or PAYE

with this plan to get the maximum value. PSLF forgives the remaining balance of your direct loans after you have made 10 years of qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan, while working for a qualifying employer.

It is worth nothing that many repayment plans may lead to tax consequences when it comes time to file. You may or may not be required to pay income tax on any loan amount that is forgiven. This should not stop you from applying however, as you are likely to still save in the long run.

The simple matter of the fact is that there are many options when it comes to loan repayment. In a perfect world, we're hired into an incredible, high-paying job right after graduation, and paying back your loans is as easy as a Netflix automatic draft.



Pessimistically, this likely will not be the case. And even if the funds are available to you, life happens, and you should always have a backup plan installed. Do your

own research and determine what's right for you. Whether or not the next president decides to entirely wipe out student debt, we should all be prepared, and there are

tools online especially for this. Visit LoanBuddy.us and search for the loan repayment plan that's right for you.

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Need to feel included? You are not alone

By Leysla Barbosa
Verdinez

It is difficult to think that an individual would feel inferior to someone else because of something that they cannot change or control, right? Wrong. Knowing that you cannot control your situation gives you feelings of helplessness. Realizing that because one cannot control it makes whatever someone might be going through even worse. Such malignant conditions can have a debilitating effect in the way in which one lives day to day. It can make a person compare themselves to others who do not have a disability, thus not only being affected by one's illness, but also by negative feelings.

We all are aware of how difficult it can be to balance college, work, personal life and other commitments. It is important to be considerate of those who have to add a disability to the mix. That is why I want to create a safe space for those who feel they need a safe space to share and receive the support that

they might not know is available!

I myself am epileptic and it has been very difficult to focus on the positive, but together we can do it. The goal of the group is to bring together people who might have similar thoughts of being "less than" due to things outside of their control. If you have a disability, you should not let that stop you from reaching your goal. Instead, let us come together to aid and encourage each other. Whether it is to have a good laugh, a hug, to cry, or encouragement.

The support is here, you just have to encourage yourself to seek it. This group can serve as a place to share positives happening in our college career such as getting a good grade on a test we studied hard for, or even stepping out of your comfort zone and meeting new people you were scared to share with!

My goal is to create a culture of inclusiveness and positivity. If you need a shoulder to provide that support, as a fellow student, I sincerely

ly hope to see you join our group.

If you would like more information, contact me and I would be more than happy to answer your questions! (Leysla Barbosa at barbosal2@gator.uhd.edu).

As we continue to pursue our degrees, we should come together and encourage each other to be "Gator strong!"



Do you feel alone? Do you have any disability? Do you feel like you need someone to talk to?

You are **NOT** alone, come share with us!

Refreshments will be provided

You don't have to have a disability to come, everyone is welcomed!



“What we can’t do...”— A column by Dr. Mike Duncan

I've never been good on the phone.

I have a professional 'phone voice' which sounds very not-me, at least until the cable company explains their billing policy. I prefer face to face, one-on-one encounters, as I tend to mimic whatever the mood and language the other person is using. It's hard to do that with someone that has had the upper and lower registers of their voice forcibly removed. Same thing with texting. Body language and inflection are gone, and emoticons can't also make up the difference.

I have had exactly one job that dealt exclusively with phone work. It was for the alumni association of my undergraduate school. When I took it, I was struggling with having to pay double rent as my roommate at

the time had flipped out, laminated his pet fish and wrapped the contents of a VHS tape around our shared off-campus hovel, among other things that I can't print here that gently point to directions other than reality.

I needed money badly. The position paid more than minimum – five dollars an hour. I took it. The first day started at noon with four hours of training on how to call up alumni and ask them to donate to the university. Techniques, quotas, that sort of thing. After a break, they brought me to an ancient computer with an auto-dialer and a timer, and I made calls from 4-8 pm.

If you work for a living, you may be familiar with the hours of 4-8pm. They are hours when you really don't want to be cold-called for money.

In that sense, they are exactly like the other 20 hours of the day, except you are trying to stuff what remains of your life into the disappointingly short period between work and bed.

And there I was, calling people I've never met, right as they are getting home, fixing dinner, doing child care, taking care of the detailed requests in the mail - in coming years, email, but this was mid-1990s.

I wasn't doing it right, of course. Most calls were unanswered or promptly hung up on, and as for the rest, they were not enthralled by my deeply apologetic demeanor. I was sorry I had disturbed their family meal, sorry they were barely making ends meet, sorry for my general state of continued existence, and above all, very sorry.

Around 7 pm, a veteran leaned over to me and whispered, "You need to be more aggressive."

I considered this advice.

How, I wondered, does an undergraduate student in a phone bank get "aggressive" when calling for alumni donations? Do I sharply question my prospective donor's commitment to higher education? Perhaps I explain to them at length how they owe all they have to their dear alma mater? Or do I mention Luca Brasi will be coming by with an offer they can't refuse? Hmm. Perhaps this subtle phone bank approach was all wrong. If we went to a sporting goods store and bought up enough baseball bats, we could cover as many houses in the suburbs as we could call. We wouldn't even need to restrict ourselves

to alumni.

The logistics seemed sound. But I balked. "Right," I said. "Aggressive. Got it."

In the last hour I mimicked what I was hearing the other callers try. I asked loaded questions about valuing college and supporting students. I added another layer of faux-reasonableness on top of the previous shaky one. I stepped up my game. I would not let a caller go but kept up the patter as if they did not have better things to do with their life, like living. Most drastically, I stopped apologizing.

At 8 pm, I removed my headset. I took stock of my situation.

I had not raised a cent for the university. I had cost them forty dollars in pay. I also hated myself more than a little. But I really needed the job.

However, there are some things I cannot do, not just because I am unsuited for them, but because they make the world a little worse, rather than a little better.

I told my supervisor that I would not be returning and walked out. Eventually, I found another, better position, one that paid a bit more, and did not make me hate myself. Janitors bother no one and the floors do not need to be persuaded that they are dirty.

Mike Duncan is an associate professor in the English department. He teaches technical communication and rhetoric.

Astros, Nationals clash in 2019 World Series

By Ana Gonzalez

Fans say this would be a season to remember, as the Houston Astros made it to the World Series for the third time in franchise history. But they weren't the only team chasing history.

On October 30, the Washington Nationals won their first ever World Series since 1924, when they were called the Washington Senators at the time. Their rise to the playoffs was noticed when they beat out the Milwaukee Brewers during the National League (NL) Wild Card game.

On the other hand, the Houston Astros were hoping to regain their traction after losing their spot last year to the

Boston Red Sox, which eventually won the 2018 World Series against the Los Angeles Dodgers. Their only goal was to "take it back."

Comparing to the Nationals, who had a longer rest time before the World Series after sweeping the St. Louis Cardinals during the NLCS, the Astros had a tough outcome during their ALCS run against the New York Yankees. During Game 6 held in Houston's Minute Maid Park, a slamming home run during the ninth inning by second baseman Jose Altuve was the ticket to the finale.

The Nationals won their first two World Series games on the road in Houston, making

history by winning their first ever World Series game in franchise history. The Astros swept the next three games at Washington D.C.'s Nationals Park, which included a Grand Slam made by third baseman Alex Bregman during Game 4.

With high hopes, the series returned to Houston after leading three games by two. But the Nationals rebounded with a score of 7-2 thanks to stellar performances by Houston native and Rice alumnus Anthony Rendon, as well as Stephen Strasburg. The Astros' offense was not enough to win them a second trophy on the same night.

Game 7 was granted by the Nationals. At the



The Houston Astros celebrate Alex Bregman's grand slam run during Game 4 of the 2019 World Series
Photo courtesy of Associated Press

same time, ticket prices for the game were falling, with the lowest being at around \$300. The Nationals trailed at the beginning thanks to a home run by Astros first baseman Yuli Gurriel, but later brought their score up towards the end with a blow by Howie

Kendrick.

It became a bitter-sweet moment for the Astros and their fans, as shattered hopes emerged throughout the Houston area. However, the Nationals join them in the "trophy club" as this was their first time winning a

World Series.

Currently, pitcher Gerritt Cole filed for free agency, and fans are hoping the Astros would bring him back for next season along with his spectacular pitching. The Astros hope to "take it back" one more time in 2020.

On Hong Kong, the NBA, and when speaking up takes precedence over everything else

By Christopher Charleston

On October 4th, Houston Rockets General Manager, Daryl Morey sent out a tweet. The next day, the entire world seemed to explode around him.

The tweet-- one that sent support to the thousands of Hong Kong protesters currently fighting for their promised rights against a Communist Chinese government-- has since shaken the National Basketball Association to its core.

This has culminated in a standstill between The NBA and China, where there are an estimated 500 million fans of the league. China has refused to show several NBA games, and several of their business partnerships remain in jeopardy.

The protests, stemming from many Hong Kong citizens's opposition to an extradition bill that would allow those in the city to be transported to mainland China after being charged with a crime, have not let up. They've even included several rallies ripe with protesters chanting Morey's name, thanking him for his support, and burning the jersey of Los Angeles Lakers star Forward

LeBron James, after the 17-year veteran seemingly sided with China, referring to Morey's tweet as "uninformed."

The entire ordeal has sparked a global debate on when it is the right time to speak on issues that both affect you, and do not.

James has been an outspoken supporter of athlete's right to freedom of speech in the past, using the slogan "More than an athlete" in numerous ways, such as on his game-worn shoes, and on his social media accounts.

His lack of support for the protesters in Hong Kong caught many off guard, especially when remaining mum on the issue, at least until the controversy regarding Morey's tweet died down, was seemingly an option.

To be fair, James later attempted to walk his comments back, suggesting that his statements referred more to Morey being misinformed on how his tweet would affect the relationship between the NBA and China, and not an examination of the tweets actual substance.

But if millions of people are subjected to an abusive government, being thrown in jail and wrongfully ostracized and oppressed for simply

wanting the rights they were promised over 20 years ago, should simply stating your support for them not take precedence over the many business deals that you and your employer willingly entered into with the oppressor?

I love LeBron James as a basketball player, and as a voice for the African American community.

But he's dead wrong on this. In the following days after Morey's tweet, many NBA figures such as Steve Kerr and Gregg Popovich declined to comment on the situation, both citing the need for additional education on what was going on in Hong Kong

The bottom line (pun intended) is that a fractured relationship with China is not good for the NBA's bank account, and many players-- who sell thousands of (un-burned) jerseys and shoes in China on a daily basis-- are skeptical to condemn the Chinese government, as it could have the same effect on them.

Summer world tours, with a with frequent stops throughout China, have become somewhat of a necessary thing for NBA players looking to build their global brand in years.



Photo courtesy of NBA

The ultimate truth however, is that the NBA's skepticism to support Daryl Morey has nothing to do with a lack of knowledge pertaining to what is going on in China (remember, these guys are practically over there every Summer.) It's about money.

Criticizing the Chinese government means less NBA revenue in China, and, furthermore, the angrier the NBA makes China, the worse China looks, and the worse NBA looks for ever entering into business with them in the first place. It truly seems to be a situation that the NBA cannot win. They've collectively decided to shut the hell up.

So when is the right

time to speak up? When can you simply send encouragement and positive energy to a party you feel is being wronged? Personally, I won't try to tell the NBA how to handle their current situation, because I don't think Commissioner Adam Silver reads The Dateline, but I believe the answer to both of these questions should be a resounding "Any time you would like to."

In addition to this, something else that is also worth examining is the appropriateness of entering into partnerships with those whom we do not necessarily see eye to eye.

We must understand that while both sides may receive something positive in return at first, there still runs a risk of the whole

thing imploding when someone makes a wrong move.

UHD has a study abroad program that runs through China, and from what I have heard, it's fantastic. I would also hope that any criticism of the Chinese government or support of Hong Kong protesters would not lead to the dissolution of it.

It's important to feel secure in your stance and well versed when it comes to your opinion. No matter how any response or public outcry attempts to sway you.

For in the end, if we choose silence over justice -- no matter what we believe -- we will lose who we are.

Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



GRIN and BEAR IT



Just Like Cats & Dogs

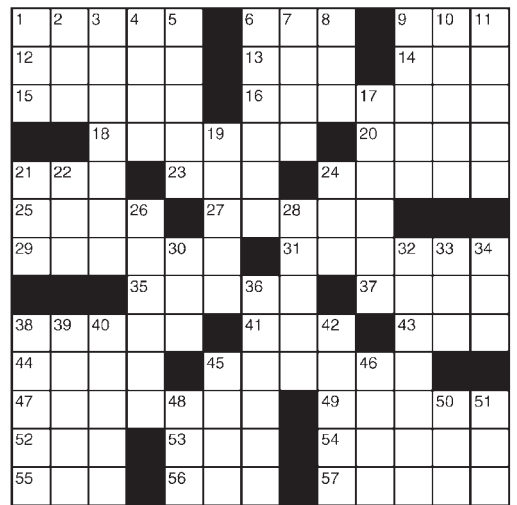
by Dave T. Phipps



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Birth-related
- 6 Sphere
- 9 "Great!"
- 12 React to rev-eille
- 13 Spelling contest
- 14 "— not choose to run"
- 15 Bottled spirit?
- 16 Madison Avenue music
- 18 Eden, for one
- 20 Agts.
- 21 Crony
- 23 Moment
- 24 Nuts
- 25 The same, in bibliographies
- 27 Primly self-restrained
- 29 Hide and —
- 31 Fails to
- 35 Buckwheat porridge
- 37 Catastrophic
- 38 Wit
- 41 Lubricant
- 43 Tandoo-baked bread
- 44 Hibernia
- 45 In the course of
- 47 Rubs elbows
- 49 Lightweight wood
- 52 Light touch
- 53 Lemieux milieu



- 8 Stein or Stiller duels
- 9 — mignon
- 10 Skilled
- 11 Domineering
- 17 Marked a report card
- 19 Classroom array
- 21 Glutton horse
- 22 Big bother
- 24 Life story, for short
- 26 Vietnam river
- 28 Legendary firefighter Red
- 30 Listener
- 32 \$1 bills
- 33 2nd Amdt.
- 34 X rating?
- 36 "Monopoly" buys
- 38 Jute fibers
- 39 Dickens' Mr. Heep
- 40 Like some mouthwashes and tooth-pastes
- 42 Written slander
- 45 Art —
- 46 California wine valley
- 48 Cover
- 50 Prepared
- 51 Balaam's carrier

DOWN

- 1 Rundown
- 2 Exist
- 3 Prickly sensations
- 4 One side of the Urals
- 5 Villainous looks
- 6 Thing
- 7 Check
- 8 Stein or Stiller duels
- 9 — mignon
- 10 Skilled
- 11 Domineering
- 17 Marked a report card
- 19 Classroom array
- 21 Glutton horse
- 22 Big bother
- 24 Life story, for short
- 26 Vietnam river
- 28 Legendary firefighter Red
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- 32 \$1 bills
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- 46 California wine valley
- 48 Cover
- 50 Prepared
- 51 Balaam's carrier

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Strange but true

By Samantha Weaver

* It was influential American theoretical physicist Richard Feynman who made the following sage observation: "It doesn't matter how beautiful your theory is, it doesn't matter how smart you are. If it doesn't agree with experiment, it's wrong."

* Those who study such things say that an eagle's feathers weigh twice as much as its bones.

* You've probably read about the unprecedented casualties suffered on all sides in World War I. You probably didn't know, though, that 60,000 of those casualties were due to avalanches caused by gunfire in the Alps.

* In 1962, a group of oceanographers sailed off to watch an undersea volcano off the coast of Japan whose eruption seemed imminent. It seems that they got the timing right, but not the location; or, rather, they got the location *too* right. The eruption occurred directly beneath their vessel, destroying it.

* If you ever visit the Alpine village of Saint Veran, take a good look at the construction of the early buildings -- none of the walls meet at a 90-degree angle. Why aren't they square? According to the beliefs of early townsfolk, the devil lurks in square corners.

* Studies show a correlation between tight shoes and larger appetites.

* Do you find it attractive when you see a person with a point of skin attached to the underlying muscle? You might not realize it, but many people have this condition; that's what a dimple is.

Thought for the Day: "A premarital lovers' quarrel should never last more than three minutes. In the first year of marriage, a four-minute quarrel should be acceptable. After six years, and eight-minute quarrel is allowed. A 10-minute quarrel is permissible after a decade. Those married longer have more to quarrel about." -- E.V. Durling

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6		9				8
1			2					4
	3			5		6		
6		1				5		
	9					8		2
		4		7				3
7				3				9
		1	6					2
	8					5	1	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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MAGIC MAZE

MOVE LAST TWO LETTERS TO THE FRONT TO MAKE A NEW WORD

A V R O L I F C Z W T Q N K I
 F C Z W U R P M J H E C Z X U
 S Q N L J G E C Z X V T R P N
 L J H E C R A Y W V T R P N L
 K I R G R I E C B Z X W U N S
 R P O A D N N M L J L N A L E
 I G N E D G I E D B A E Y A Z
 X O A W S E H T O U L T W Y A
 S S T S Q R C M N G P S O O R
 N L K J H G E T S E P I R L B
 F D C Y D D E V P U D L O H B

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- | | | | |
|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Bowel | Dentin | Ideas | Ripest |
| Braze | Eddy | Listen | Sonar |
| Cedar | Glean | Loyal | Verse |
| Demo | Holdup | Ringer | |

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

	+		÷		3
+		÷		×	
	×		÷		6
÷		+		-	
	+		÷		2
2		9			12

1 3 4 5 6 6 7 8 9

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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Solutions to last issue's puzzles

— King Crossword —
Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

B	E	E	R	J	U	T	B	O	L	O
U	R	G	E	A	S	H	E	M	I	L
M	A	G	A	Z	I	N	E	T	I	E
L	I	L	H	I	A	T	U	S		
C	R	A	M	P	R	A	N	K		
R	A	G	S	M	A	G	N	E	T	I
A	G	O	B	O	N	U	S	I	D	O
M	A	G	R	I	T	T	E	F	E	L
A	D	O	S	B	E	R	E	T		
S	A	L	V	E	R	A	I	D		
A	R	E	A	M	A	G	N	O	L	I
L	I	N	G	A	P	E	R	A	M	S
K	A	T	E	N	O	D	A	M	P	S

— Go Figure! —
answers

6	-	2	×	7	28
-		×		-	
1	+	9	×	2	20
×		+		×	
4	×	8	-	5	27
20		26		25	

— Weekly SUDOKU —
Answer

7	6	2	1	3	5	8	9	4
8	5	9	7	4	6	1	2	3
4	3	1	9	8	2	5	7	6
3	7	4	2	5	9	6	1	8
6	1	5	8	7	4	2	3	9
2	9	8	6	1	3	7	4	5
5	8	3	4	2	7	9	6	1
9	4	7	5	6	1	3	8	2
1	2	6	3	9	8	4	5	7