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# Admin commit to transparency

#### JOE LINDBLOM-MASUWALE NEWS EDITOR

During ASWU's final meeting of the year, a crowd of students and faculty gathered to hear President Stephen Thorsett and Dean of Campus Life David Douglass discuss concerns over administrative transparency and Willamette Academy.

After suspending Robert's Rules of Order, acting ASWU President Rebecca Brownlee asked the crowd filling the Ford Hall lecture room to remain civil when speaking to the administrators. Before taking questions, Thorsett acknowledged the pain, hurt, confusion and unhappiness around communication and transparency.

"I am really sorry for my own part in that," Thorsett said.

During the meeting, the administration made a number of future commitments to students and faculty. Next semester the University will be welcoming newly hired CLA Dean Ruth Feingold, coming to Willamette from St. Mary's College of Maryland. Thorsett said one of her primary responsibilities will be to work and meet with the ASWU president. He also recommended that Feingold retain a sounding board to help out in decision-making processes. Thorsett also acknowledged difficulties in maintaining long term relationships between departments as University presidents come and go.

"The way communications have been structured, president to president, has been challenging for maintaining a type of communication from admin to students," Thorsett said. "Even when person-to-person [interaction] works well, it means communication goes through this long path to get to where it needs to be."

Thorsett also requested that the ASWU Council communicate more regularly with the administration. Junior Senator Liz Gill, who was elected to be ASWU president next academic year, said it would be beneficial to create space for other groups on campus to have their voices heard as well.

Thorsett agreed. "It is a challenge in a student body of 2,000 to figure out how to move beyond the idea of representative governance as the only point of contact." He said it was important for those in power on campus to hear from students before making decisions. The administration wants to develop a broader set of students that it's hearing from.

During the meeting, Thorsett also made clear the divisions between the faculty and the administration in regard to hiring processes, particularly for faculty of color.

"The admin can overrule the faculty, but in practice it never does," Thorsett said to one faculty audience member. "The faculty has a process to figure out priorities including diversity, curriculum, maintenance, et cetera. The admin's view is to let that committee do that work with little intervention."

The president also acknowledged problems of institutionalized racism at Willamette. He said it was a problem that all universities face, and that the goal of his administration is to make Willamette a better organization. "It will never be perfect, but we can work to make it our best."

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## Flashback: closing down the Graduate School of Education

GIANNI MARABELLA LAYOUT EDITOR

With all the talk on campus regarding administrative transparency, the issue of the circumstances surrounding the closure of the Graduate School of Education (GSE) in 2013 has been brought back up. It has been noted that the GSE's destruction parallels many of the topics of debate on the minds of those in the Willamette community today.

In the 2012–2013 school year, President Stephen Thorsett announced that the Board of Trustees had closed the GSE due to an increase in cheaper programs elsewhere and issues with the economy.

"Dr. Thorsett came to us and told us that we weren't financially viable," former GSE professor Neil Liss said. "There was a hiring slowdown all over Oregon, especially in the Salem area, and the impression we got is that we would have to fight if we wanted to keep the school alive."

According to Liss however, no one at the GSE ever got the chance to plead their case.

"We found out that the decision had already been made, and it was shocking. Many of us believed that we were a net asset to the University and all sorts of projections showed we would rebound, but that information never made its way to the Board."

The problems raised by those who were part of the GSE back in 2013 are the same as the ones that have been raised in the community these past few semesters. Willamette Academy and the Center for Equity and Empowerment both faced major changes that were proposed without the input of those involved. Within the faculty, changes to the number of tenure-level faculty members caused controversy due to the fact that they were made without faculty consultation.

66 Many of us believed that we were a net asset to the University and all sorts of projections showed we would rebound, but that information never made its way to the Board. **?** 

-Neil Liss, former GSE professor

"Students and faculty were frustrated when the GSE was closed, but the frustration we're seeing now is something completely different," senior Joseph Good said. "Issues have compounded, and this year morale has taken one hit after another with all that's going on. The atmosphere is much more intense now than it was then."

The common theme in the community's dissatisfaction is a lack of communication from the president and the Board of Trustees.

"We definitely felt like we had more support back when Dr. Pelton was president," Liss said. "While it is unfair to compare the two, Dr. Thorsett was very hand- off in all of the ways that Dr. Pelton was hands-on."

M. Lee Pelton, the previous president of the school, greatly increased the size of the faculty and the percentage of minority enrollment before he left in 2011. The treatment of race and the faculty on campus since then have both been major issues within the community.

"A lot has gone backwards it seems, and to not be transparent about that is a big problem," Liss said. "When that trust is missing, it doesn't matter who comes and goes, the system just won't work."

While some individuals have gone so far as to call for Thorsett's resignation in light of these events, there are members of the community who are wary of such drastic action.

"There are some very real potential implications of our actions, and we as students need to consider those when we are demanding that select administrators leave our school," Good said. "Projects like the upcoming five year fundraising campaign are getting underway, and because of that we need to think about the damage we could unintentionally inflict on Willamette and consider our options accordingly."

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## CAMPUS SAFETY

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AD April 28, 10:24, a.m. (Campus): Campus Safety received a request to transport a student from with the student and gather more information while another officer searched for the individual. Campus Safety was able to view the security footage and capture the video from the theft. The student made a report with Salem Police

had their rear bicycle tire stolen. The rest of the bicycle was still locked to the rack. to call local law enforcement to take a police report for the damage. Facilities was contacted and someone drove out to

Bishop Wellness to their on-campus residence. When the officer arrived, the student requested to be transported to the Emergency Room.

April 30, 1:10 p.m. (Twelfth Street): Campus Safety received a call from a student who was bit by a dog. The officer responded and transported the student to the Emergency Room to be cautious. The officer searched the area for the dog and its owner, but was unable to locate them.

#### HARASSMENT

April 27, 11:04 p.m. (Fine Arts East): Campus Safety responded to a call regarding a suspicious person who had just sexually harassed a student. An officer went to meet POSSESSION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE April 28, 3:25 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): Campus Sofetty received re-

Hall): Campus Safety received report of marijuana and paraphernalia to be confiscated. The officer documented and confiscated the items.

April 28, 3:39 p.m. (Lausanne Hall): Campus Safety received report of marijuana and paraphernalia to be confiscated. The officer documented and confiscated the items.

#### THEFT

May 1, 10:35 p.m. (Sparks Center): Campus Safety received a report from a student who had their phone stolen from the Sparks Athletic Center while exercising. and offered the video to help apprehend the suspect.

May 2, 1:30 p.m. (Olin Science Center): Campus Safety received a report from an employee who had their phone stolen. The employee was encouraged to file a report with Salem Police as well.

May 2, 2:30 p.m. (Olin Science Center): Campus Safety received a report from a student who had their phone stolen. The student was able to give a description of the suspect. The student was encouraged to file a report with Salem Police.

May 3, 4:30 p.m. (Eaton Hall): Campus Safety received a report from an employee who

#### UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE

May 4, 5:00 p.m. (Sparks Parking Lot): Campus Safety took a report from a student regarding their car that had been stolen from the parking lot. The student had already filed a report with Salem Police. On May 6, Campus Safety was notified that the vehicle was recovered by Salem Police and returned to its owner.

#### VEHICLE ACCIDENT

April 30, 10:45 a.m. (Off Campus): Campus Safety received report that University vehicle had been in an accident. The driver reported that she and all passengers were uninjured. The student was advised pick up the students and return them to campus.

April 30, 11:30 p.m. (Campus): An employee backed their golf cart into a light post, causing the post to fall and break. The employee did not sustain any injuries. The damage to the golf cart and light post were documented. Maintenance was notified.

\*PLEASE CONTACT CAMPUS SAFETY IF YOU HAVE ANY INFORMATION RE-GARDING THESE INCIDENTS. (503) 370-6911 safety@willamette.edu

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# Senior Spotlight Athletes



Jacob Shafi **x-country** 

My athletic experience at Willamette has been crucial to my development as an individual. The coaches have instilled a sense of drive, compassion, and responsibility in a way that I will not receive from anyone else.

I feel extremely lucky to have ran here at Willamette and will cherish the relationships I have made forever. Lessons learned on the track are lessons that will carry me through the difficult times I may face in the future.

The coaches have done an excellent job in showing me what it takes to achieve success and reach goals. The coaching staff on the track and field team are genuine individuals who care so much about the athletes. This is a quality very unique to this University. At other schools it is easy to feel insignificant.

The coaches really make the athletes feel important and significant. I am so grateful to have been provided this opportunity.



Leah Freeborn swimming

If you take me back four years ago, I didn't really like competitive swimming. Honestly, if you ask me now, I still kind of hate it. I mean who really likes swimming back and fourth over and over again? There is nothing creative about it. As I am getting ready to graduate and I look back at the last four years of swimming, I don't remember all the hard practices I endured. I remember my coaches bribing me with chocolate so I would swim a race faster.

I remember what it felt like to watch my team break records. I remember my coaches supporting me both in and out of the water. I remember my teammates encouraging me when I wanted to give up. I continued to swim because I was lucky enough to have teammates and coaches who made waking up at 6 a.m. and constantly smelling like chlorine not quite so bad.

Ask me if I'll miss swimming and the answer will be "no." Ask me if I will miss my team and coaches and the answer will be "every single day!"



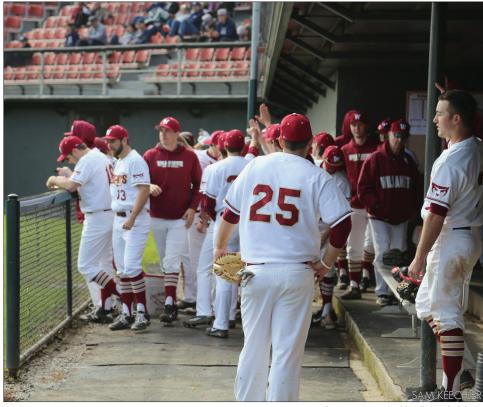
Jackson Watt BASEBALL

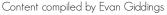
Willamette student-athletes (or athlete-students, as I preferred to be called) face an incredibly demanding schedule on a daily basis. Early on in my career here at Willamette I realized that I had no time to do anything. Yet, somehow, in all this, I was able to make friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.

When I look back at my time at Willamette, I'm not going to remember every pitch or every practice. I'm gonna remember all the ping pong and pool we played in the Belknap basement my freshman year. I'll remember all the disgusting trips to Goudy for dinners. And all the late nights I spent in the lib with my teammates not getting much done at all.

After four years, I'm leaving here with great friends, good memories, a lack of vitamin D and a better understanding of one-way streets. So, with that being said, it's been real, it's been fun and it's been real fun.











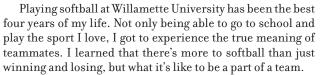


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Ashley Pender SOFTBALL



These past four years I can honestly say that I have made the best memories with my teammates—or shall I say life long friends. Whether it was winning or losing on the field, conditioning (sweatin' buckets), late-night study sessions, team bondings, camping trips or white water rafting, those are memories I'll cherish forever and I have my teammates to thank for that.

If I could give my teammates any final advice I think it would be, "They tell you it goes by fast, but you don't believe them until it's gone." So make the most of what you have in the moment and never give up. I am truly going to miss you guys and I wish you all the best of luck during your 2017 season and the best of luck with your futures.

As for my future plans, I will be attending PMI in Mesa, Arizona to pursue my future career as a radiologist assistant. I can't thank Willamette University enough for giving me such an amazing four years, I honestly can't believe it's already over. Henry Adelman FOOTBALL

My experience playing football at Willamette has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Not because we had a bunch of success or the wins and losses, but because of the lasting relationships and friendships I've made. They say that the strongest bonds are formed through times of adversity, which, as a program, we had plenty of. There's the adversity of losing, but also the adversity the WU athletes face in every day life.

Whether it's the late nights studying, or the early mornings lifting and running. Whether it's the questionable dinner at Goudy, or the fact that you ran out of meal points a month into school. Whether it's missing that one party because of Saturday workouts, or having to miss your brother's game for your own.

This is the every day adversity that the WU athlete faces, but I'm thankful for it all. It's formed me into the person I am today. Because of this, I'd like to pass on a piece of advice. DON'T GIVE UP! Too many athletes leave WU because of the load school puts on us, but if you make it through, you will come out the other side a much better person because of it.

With that, I plan on pursuing a career in Strength and Conditioning with my well-earned BA in EXSCI. Thanks to all my teammates and classmates at WU for always being there for me. I couldn't have done it without you guys. Go Bearcats! Veronica Ewers soccer

Coming into Willamette, I was fortunate enough to be welcomed by the women's soccer team. They were my family and support system from the beginning and have stayed that way until the end. Though being a member of a team like the women's soccer team comes with disadvantages, such as having a dry season and being anti-social for the first half of the first semester, and 5 a.m. practices several times a week during the spring season, the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages.

My experience at Willamette was highly influenced by my time on this team and I wouldn't have traded it for anything. I know the majority of my memories of this team won't be from games, but rather from goofy times during practices and bus rides.

My advice to any student at Willamette, athlete or not, is to really value and reflect on the moments that may not seem necessarily significant.

My plans post-grad are to move to Seattle and work with the Language Access Coordinator at the UW Medical Center in developing educational programs for providers on the use and incorporation of medical interpreters in the medical care team. After doing this for a year, I hope to go to grad school at UW. HEADSHOTS BY CHRIS SABATO

## SENIOR REFLECTIONS

LANCE ROSSI

Time is weird. There'll be a lot of things that can get you down. Be a better friend than a student. Critique your expectations. Remember that everyone's a human (even you).



#### BETHANY HLADICK DISTRIBUTOR

My first experience writing for the *Collegian* began when my best friend Holly, the previous Sports Editor, asked me to cover men's soccer. I willfully obliged after realizing that writing weekly articles gave me an excuse to talk to cute soccer boys to get quotes for my article.

But this wasn't my true calling. I really belonged in a position where I wouldn't have to talk to anyone or feel the need to dress in anything other than athletic shorts. Disenchanted with the men's soccer team, I found my place as Distributor of the *Collegian*.

Every one of my Thursday mornings this year began the exact same. First, I would wake to my iPhone's "sencha" ringtone reverberating aggressively through my pillowcase. Then, as I stayed tucked in the tightest blanket burrito, I would contemplate my life purpose and more specifically why I was up at 5:36 a.m.

Quickly I'd remember it was distribution day and I needed to leave the warmth of my cocoon in nine minutes to distribute the 2,000 copies awaiting my pick-up on the cold hard concrete outside of the dark UC.

SHAYNA WEIMER

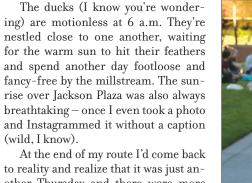
I once read an article about how 20 of the most "successful" people wake up around 4:30 a.m. each day. I've redefined what success means based on this finding, but let me tell you from extremely personal experience, it doesn't make getting out of bed any easier.

The difficulties associated with converting myself to a morning person aside, distribution day was like Christmas and I will always self-identify as the *Collegian*'s very own Santa Claus. I unfortunately didn't have a reindeer drawn sleigh (I often contemplated the repercussions of borrowing campus safety's golf cart) nor did I adorn a fuzzy red jumpsuit, but I did deliver the paper across campus each week as secretly and stealthily as possible. No one left me cookies and it was usually raining, but it was an utter joy to sprinkle copies of the paper about like leaving presents under a tree.

There's something about Willamette at this time of day that I'll never forget – peaceful, serene and full of beauty. 99 percent of campus is completely still. I'd pass the occasional facilities, grounds or Goudy employee bustling about to ensure our campus was going to be as pristine and smoothly functioning as the day before. ERIN GANGSTAD

Before you graduate, make sure you go on twitter and delete all the stupid shit you said freshman year.





to reality and realize that it was just another Thursday and there were more important things to worry about than my Instagram aesthetic (like my thesis?). Nevertheless, distributing was a part of each week I will treasure – a time to reflect on the week's happenings and carry out the important duty of sharing campus news.

The *Collegian* is one of the most unique windows into Willamette's community, and one of the most prominent platforms for student voice. The amount of time and phenomenal work put in by the talented writers, creative artists and dedicated editors each week is truly remarkable. I will fondly remember my Thursday mornings and the opportunity I had to be a part of this team.



ILLUSTRATOR

During my time at Willamette, I've seen the University face multiple problems — starting with the Sigma Chi drama my freshman year and now ending with Willamette Academy. Each time these things have happened, I'm astounded at how powerful the student and faculty reaction is even if the University doesn't quite reach it's motto's expectation (non nobis solum nati sumus), the compassion of the students is beautiful to see and be a part of.



As I join the many other seniors about to walk across the stage next Sunday, I can't help but think about the past four years here. Somehow I went from falling asleep in the hallways of Matt Third to actually turning in a thesis. I'll never forget Austin Guimond's millstream duck (Stanley). To all my fellow seniors, let's get drunk, because why not? And to everyone else, never stop Jazzercising.



LIFESTYLES





#### NATE BALK

I know it is cliché, but Willamette made me the person I am today. Coming into my time here, I had no idea about what I stood for or what I wanted to do with my life. But quickly, the people, classes, and events sculpted me into the type of person who I wanted to be. From lectures, to hanging out with friends, baseball practice and everything in between, Willamette has taught me how to challenge ideas, pave new paths and develop friendships that will last a lifetime.

Every day, Willamette always had something new for me to grapple with and challenge my own ideas and perceptions of the word. Willamette also sent me on a trip that forever changed

my life. Not only do I have a home here at Willamette, but I also have a home in Morocco. Again, because Willamette gave me another opportunity. It is truly an amazing place with incredible people and I am so be proud to be a Bearcat! I also cannot say thank you enough to all the people who have been there for me, especially in the past year and a half with things going on at home. Whether it was a smile on your way to class, a Bistro treat just because or studying with me for twenty minutes, I would not have been able to complete college without you. I'll always be grateful for time at Willamette and I am so happy with my decision to come here. Good luck to everyone in their future endeavors and I wish you all the best!



#### MARA BRASHEM

Up until about a week ago I thought I was so ready to graduate and get out of here, but now that the last classes of my undergraduate career are over, I'm finding myself incredibly apprehensive. I had always been told that my time at Willamette would fly by in a blink, and although I didn't believe it at first, it's true — four years is barely any time at all.

It's crazy to think about how much Willamette has helped me to grow into who I am today. Coming from a tiny school with a graduating class of 21 students, I remember being overwhelmed my first week of college by the "vast" number of people here, and calling my parents to say that this was probably a big mistake. But it was not. This was the best decision I have ever made and the greatest accomplishment I have ever achieved.

From working in the Admissions Office, to joining Pi Beta Phi, playing with the Taiko club, spending a semester in England, and the many late nights spent working in the Art Building, Willamette has shown me that I can be anything and do anything I imagine if I just put in the effort. I have also been taught not to choose a path because it seems the most solid and safe; do it because it is what you truly want, even if it might seem difficult and not as secure. And I know I am not saying anything novel here - all of us could probably say the same thing, but this is a lesson that I will carry forward with me as I make decisions on what to do now as I begin to apply to graduate schools.

Thank you Willamette and congratulations to my fellow class of 2016!

#### RACHEL FLEENER

Go all out for themed parties. If that cute person isn't into you while you are getting down in your onesie or cow suit, they don't deserve you. COMMIT TO THE THEME, DAMMIT! BE WEIRD! BE YOU!

a place that has really become a home to me. I wouldn't change my experience here for anything. Not many places will you find people as kind and as accepting as here.?? -BEN KELLER

66 Willamette has been

OTHER PHOTOS CURTESY OF ERIN GANGSTAD, MARK ANDREONI , NATE BALK, MARA BRASHEM ADN RACHEL FLEENER





# VORDS OF WISDO/

Read books.



#### **BIANCA MURILLO** ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Here's to the class 2016, especially to all the first generation students, the first in your family to attend college. You have graduated despite it all. You are the reason I do this work. And thank you to the fierce feminist and critical thinkers who speak out in our classrooms, organize actions to hold us accountable, remind us what is at stake for underserved and underrepresented students, show us the importance of solitary and collective action, inspire us to be better and do better and help us imagine alternative futures. You make one of the most important places on campus, the Center for Equity and Empowerment, possible and do much of the invisible work that makes this University better for everyone. With gratitude and love. Keep on.

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#### SCOTT NADELSON ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH, HALLIE FORD CHAIR IN WRITING, DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Efficiency is overrated. Take the slow, meandering path. Follow interesting diversions. Backtrack when necessary. Linger with engaging company. Allow for into opportunities. Stay curious and open to discovery. Occasionally ask yourself if the life you're living is the one you've envisioned. Ask yourself if that matters.



FRANN MICHEL DEPARTMENT CHAIR, PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

Read books on paper, at least some of the time. Watch movies on big screens, at least some of the time. Be as aware as you can of as much of the world around you as you can. Listen. Pay focused attention to a few things. Ask questions. Follow the money. Find like-minded people and spend time with them. Drink before you're thirsty. Remember you are not a loan. Remember graduate school is free in Germany, and

not worth going into debt over anywhere. Try to exercise skepticism. Try to exercise compassion. Try again. Only connect.

Look up the words you don't know, at least some of the time.

Give prudent consideration to the size of this advice before swallowing. Skip the sunscreen. Wear a hat.

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#### JAMES B. THOMPSON PROFESSOR OF ART, CURATOR

To the graduating class of 2016: You were here, and you were invested. You took up time and space while in a state of becoming, so you might think about what you have given back in return that speaks to your individuality and our collective culture. Be mindful of the traces, marks and impacts that you leave upon this Earth as you continue to travel the globe in a constant state of becoming, evolving and changing. Make your presence felt in a way that celebrates the best of humanity through your individuality. Embrace this thought because we are never done or whole or complete in a fragmentary world.

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#### CHRISTOPHER SMITH ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY; DEPARTMENT CHAIR

Live boldly. Whatever it is that you long for but are afraid to pursue, do it. Whether it's climbing K2, coming out to your parents, launching your startup, speaking out for what is right or just finally asking that guy for a date, swallow your fears and do it. It is far better to regret your mistakes than to regret that you never took a chance. If you fail, the consequences are never as bad as you feared, and if you succeed, the rewards will be far beyond your imaginings.

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#### ALEXANDRA OPIE DEPARTMENT CHAIR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ART

I've had a fortune at work for most of my adult life that says, "Work hard and everything else will work out." Be smart, work hard and show up. Don't worry too much about having a big plan. As you make choices about what comes next, always keep at least a foot in what interests you. In this way, you can build yourself a life doing what you love.

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Things I wish I'd known when I graduated from college:

College doesn't have to be the best time of your life. It can keep getting better.

You never have to decide what you want to do when you grow up.

Follow your passion. Just make sure you have a side job that allows you to support yourself (and a family, if you have one).

Hard work and attention to detail will make up for a lot of weaknesses.

There will always be people who are smarter than vou are.

The boss may not be smarter than you, but the boss is the boss.

Don't try to show off. It usually backfires. Be nice, courteous and respectful toward everyone. What goes around, comes around.

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PHOTOS BY FRANK MILLER



#### WILLIAM DUVALL PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

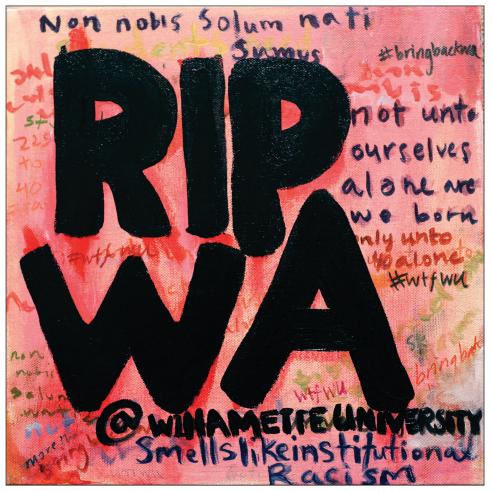
It's all about cracks and small spaces locating them and creating them. For in those cracks and spaces, as Leonard Cohen suggests, light comes through. In them, one need not be afraid to be angry and to direct that anger in positive ways. In them, one finds possibilities for revolt and resistance to power and subjugation. And in those cracks and spaces, one can affirm, practice and cultivate one's self and begin to imagine new possibilities for community.

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DICK HUGHES ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR, JOURNALISTIC WRITING I AND II



# A year in review



Student artwork following the announcement of the changes at Willamette Academy.



WU students protest the changes to Willamette Academy.





Willamette cross country had another stellar year, keep it up Bearcats!



Willamette breaks the Red Light, Green Light wolrd record... again.



# Collegian staff 2015-2016



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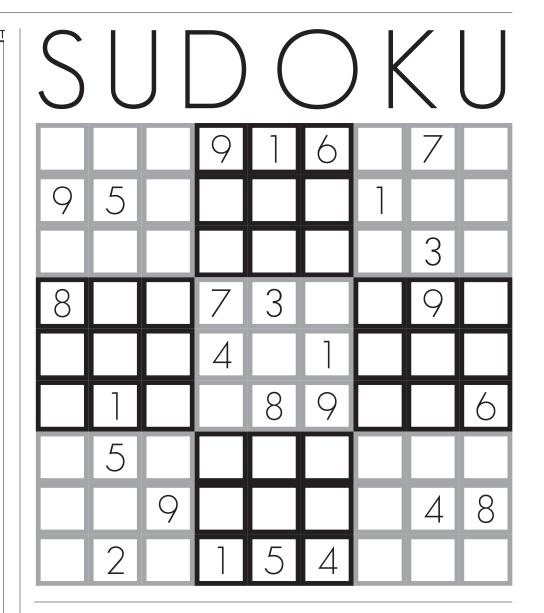
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Pamplin School of Business

### **Employers have taken note:**

Pepsico/Frito-Lay, Nike, Daimler, Blount International, Columbia Sports-wear, Adidas, Cambia and Audigy Group are just some of the global employers, Fortune ranked and fastgrowing companies that have hired our OTM students

### Deadlines

July 15: Priority Deadline for Fall Semester Start December 15: Priority Deadline for Spring Semester Start

**Contact: Melissa McCarthy, Program Director** (503)943-7225 or McCarthy@UP.edu

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